

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES.

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935.

Volumes I and II.

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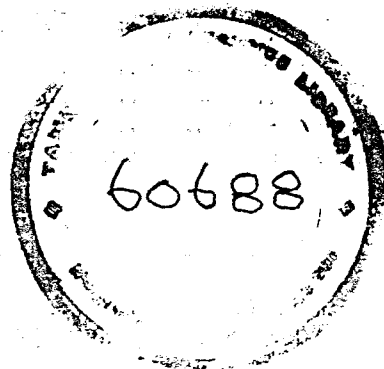
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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

His Excellency Lord ERSKINE, G.C.I.E. Took his seat on the 15th November 1934.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

The following Ministers (except the Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN who was out of India at the time) took their seats on the 14th July 1937 and the business of the Government was allocated among them as mentioned against the name of each :—

- (1) The Hon. Mr. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR to be the Minister in charge of the Public and Finance Departments.
- (2) The Hon. Mr. T. PRAKASAM to be the Minister in charge of the Revenue Department.
- (3) The Hon. Mr. YAKUB HASAN to be the Minister in charge of the Public Works Department.
- (4) The Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN to be the Minister in charge of the Education and Legal Departments.
- (5) The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN to be the Minister in charge of the Public Health Department.
- (6) The Hon. Mr. Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI to be the Minister in charge of the Agriculture and Rural Development Department.
- (7) The Hon. Mr. V. V. GIRI to be the Minister in charge of the Industries and Labour Department.
- (8) The Hon. Mr. S. RAMANATHA PILLAI to be the Minister in charge of the Administration Reports and Public Information Department.
- (9) The Hon. Mr. K. RAMAN MENON to be the Minister in charge of the Courts and Prisons Department.
- (10) The Hon. Mr. B. GOPALA REDDI to be the Minister in charge of Local Administration Department.

Note.—Till the Hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN assumes the duties of his office they will be performed, in his absence, by the Hon. Mr. S. RAMANATHA PILLAI.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Abdul Hameed Khan ..	Madras City, Muhammadan, Urban.
2 Abdul Hakim, Nawab C. ..	North Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Abdur Rahman Ali Rajah, Arakal Sultan.	Chirakkal, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 Abdur Rahiman Khan, K. ..	Kurnool, Muhammadan, Rural.
5 Abdul Rawoof, D. ..	Bellary, Muhammadan, Rural.
6 Achuthan, P. ..	Calicut, General Rural. ✓
7 Adikesavulu Naicker, P. M. ..	Madras City North, General, Urban.
8 Adimoolam, Jamedar ..	Ranipet, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
9 Ahmad Thambi Muhammad Mohideen Maracair.	Tanjore, Muhammadan, Rural.
10 Ammanna Raja, Srimathi G.	Ellore Town, Women, General, Urban.
11 Anantachar, B. ..	Hospet, General, Rural.
12 Anjalai Ammal, Srimathi ..	Cuddalore, Women, General, Rural.
13 Annamalai Pillai, N. ..	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural.
14 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Madras cum Chingleput, Indian Christian.
15 Ari Gowder, H. B. ..	The Nilgiris, General, Rural.
16 Arunachalam Chettiyar, Muthu. Kr. Ar. Kr.	Sivaganga, General, Rural.
17 Attakoya Thangal, P. M. ..	Calicut, Muhammadan, Rural.
18 Balakrishna Kudumban, K.	Palni, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
19 Bapineedu, M. ..	Ellore, General, Rural.
20 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed ..	Chingleput cum South Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
21 Batchelor, B. W. ..	European.
22 Bhaktavatsalam, M. ..	Tiruvellore, General, Rural.
23 Bhakthavathsalu Nayudu, B.	Ranipet, General, Rural.
24 Bhashyam Ayyangar, K. ..	Chingleput, General, Rural.
25 Bhaskara Rao Mahasayo, Sri-man Y. V. A.	Palakonda, General, Rural.
26 Bhuvarahan, V. ..	Tanjore cum Kumbakonam Towns, General, Urban.
27 Bower, I.S.O., E. H. M. ..	Anglo-Indian.
28 Browning, W. M. ..	European Commerce (Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association).
29 Buchappa Nayudu, P. ..	Ongole, General, Rural.
30 Chandramouli, K. ..	Tenali, General, Rural.
31 Chelvapathi Chetti; G. ..	Textile Workers' Trade Union (Madras), Labour.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

The Speaker.

The Hon. Mr. B. SAMBAMURTHI.

Deputy Speaker.

Mrs. A. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI.

Secretary.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary.

M.R.Ry. M. SURYA RAO Garu, B.A., B.L.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
32 Chengam Pillai, O.	Tiruvellore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
33 Chidambara Ayyar, S.	Villupuram, General, Rural.
34 Chinnamuthu, P.	Koilpatti, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
35 Chokkalingam Pillai, T. S. ..	Tinnevely, General, Rural.
36 Congreve, C. R. T.	European.
37 Damodaram, M. P.	Kottayam, General, Rural.
38 D'Mello, E. M.	Anglo-Indian.
39 Doraikannu, M.	Tiruttani, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
40 Doraiswami Nadar, A. R. A. S.	Tuticorin, General, Rural.
41 Ghouse Mohideen, S.	Cuddapah, Muhammadan, Rural.
42 Giri, The Hon. Mr. V. V. (Minister).	Bobbili, General, Rural.
43 Gopala Reddi, The Hon. Mr. B. (Minister).	Kavali, General, Rural.
44 Govinda Doss	Bellary, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
45 Govindan Nayar, C. K.	Kurumbranad, General, Rural.
46 Gupta, V. J.	Vizagapatam, General, Rural.
47 Guruvulu, S.	Chicacole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
48 Halasyam Ayyar, N.	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
49 Hussain, H. S.	Mangalore, Muhammadan, Rural.
50 Isaac, D. R.	Northern Circars, Indian Christian.
51 Ishwara, K.	Coondapoor, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
52 Jebamoney Masillamoney, Mrs.	Tinnevely cum Palamecottah cum Tuticorin Towns, Women, Indian Christian, Urban.
53 Kaderkutti, A. K.	Kottayam, Muhammadan, Rural.
54 Kadirappa, D.	Penukonda, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
55 Kala Venkata Rao	Amalapuram, General, Rural.
56 Kaleswara Rao, A.	Bezwada cum Masulipatam Towns, General, Urban.
57 Kamaraj Nadar, K.	Sattur, General, Rural.
58 Kannan, E.	Malappuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
59 Karant, K. R.	Puttur, General, Rural.
60 Karunakara Menon, A.	Malappuram, General, Rural.
61 Karunakaram, S.	Vizagapatam cum East Godavari, Dock and Factory Labour, Labour.
62 Khadija Yakub Hasan, Mrs...	Madras City, Women, Muhammadan, Urban.
63 Khalif-ul-lah, Khan Bahadur P	Trichinopoly, Muhammadan, Rural.
64 Kolandavelu Nayanar, K. ..	Mannargudi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
65 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, General, Rural.
66 Krishna Rao, G.	Northern Central Landholders.
67 Krishnakudumban, S.	Pollachi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
68 Krishnamachari, T. T.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
69 Krishnamurti, G.	Railway Trade Union, Labour.
70 Krishnaswami Bharathi, L. ..	Mehur, General, Rural.
71 Kulasekaran, K.	Tindivanam, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
72 Kumararaja M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.	The Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
73 Kumaraswami Raja, P. S. ..	Srivilliputtur, General, Rural.
74 Kunhammad Kutty Hajee, P. I.	Calicut cum Cannanore cum Tellicherry Towns, Muhammadan, Urban.
75 Kuppaswami Ayyar, K.	Dindigul, General, Rural.
76 Kurmayya, V.	Bandar, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
77 Kuttimalu Amma, Srimathi A. V.	Tellicherry cum Calicut Towns, Women, General, Urban.
78 Lakshmanaswami, O.	Kurnool, General, Rural.
79 Lakshmanaswami, P.	Amalapuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
80 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi ..	Sermadevi, General, Rural.
81 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi K.	Dindigul, Women, General, Rural.
82 Lakshmi Devi, Dr. N.	Bellary, Women, General, Rural.
83 Langley, W. K. M.	Madras Planters.
84 Madhavan, P.	Chirakkal, General, Rural.
85 Mahboob Ali Beg	West Godavari cum Kistna, Muhammadan, Rural.
86 Manickam, R. S.	Sattur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
87 Mariemuthu, M.	Tanjore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
88 Marimuthu Pillai, S. T. P. ..	Musiri, General, Rural.
89 Maruthai, R.	Ariyalur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
90 Mir Akram Ali	Vizagapatam cum East Godavari, Muhammadan, Rural.
91 Moideen Kutty, P.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
92 Muhammad Abdul Kadir Ravuttar, K. S.	Madura, Muhammadan, Rural.
93 Muhammad Abdur Rahman.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
94 Muhammad Schamnad, Khan Bahadur.	Puttur, Muhammadan, Rural.
95 Muhammad Rahmatullah, K.	Anantapur, Muhammadan, Rural.
96 Muniswami Pillai, The Hon. Mr. V. I. (Minister).	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
97 Murti, B. S.	Cocanada, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
98 Muthuramalinga Tevar	Ramnad, General, Rural.
99 Nachiyappa Goundar, K. A.	Omalur, General, Rural.
100 Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, General, Rural.
101 Nagappa, S.	Kurnool, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
102 Nagaraja Ayyangar, N.	Namakkal, General, Rural.
103 Nagiah, S.	Cuddapah, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
104 Nanjappa Goundar, K. N.	Gobichettipalayam, General, Rural.
105 Narasimha Raju, D. L.	Sarvasiddhi, General, Rural.
106 Narasimha Raj, P. L.	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
107 Narasimham, C.	Chicacole, General, Rural.
108 Narasimham, V. V.	West Godavari <i>cum</i> Kistna <i>cum</i> Guntur Factory Labour, Labour.
109 Narayana Raju, D.	Bhimavaram, General, Rural.
110 Narayana Rao, K. V.	Bezwada, General, Rural.
111 Natesa Chettiyar, M. G.	Dharmapuri, General, Rural.
112 Natesa Mudaliar, P.	Saidapet, General, Rural.
113 Obi Reddi, C.	Anantapur, General, Rural.
114 Palaniswami Gounder, V. C.	Coimbatore, General, Rural.
115 Palaniswami Gounder, V. K.	Pollachi, General, Rural.
116 Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
117 Pallam Raju, M.	Cocanada, General, Rural.
118 Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	Tanjore <i>cum</i> Madura <i>cum</i> Ramnad, Indian Christian.
119 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, General, Rural.
120 Pedda Padalu, P.	Backward Areas and Tribes.
121 Periaswami Gounder, K. S.	Erode, General, Rural.
122 Periyaswami Gounder, K.	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
123 Periyaswami, M. P.	Namakkal, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
124 Perumal Chettiyar, V. R.	Salem Town, General, Urban.
125 Perumalla Nayudu, B.	Kandukur, General, Rural.
126 Ponnuswami Pillai, R.	Chidambaram, General, Rural.
127 Prakasam, The Hon. Mr. T. (Minister).	Madras City, South-Central, General, Urban.
128 Raghava Menon, R.	Palghat, General, Rural.
129 Rajagopalachariar, The Hon. Mr. C. (Prime Minister).	University.
130 Rajah, Rao Bahadur M. C.	Chingleput, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
131 Raja of Vizianagram (Mirza Raja Sri Pampati Alakh Narayana Gajapathi Raj Manne Sultan Bahadur of Vizianagram).	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
132 Raja Rao, B.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
133 Raja Rao, J.	Guntur <i>cum</i> Nellore, Indian Christian.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
134 Ramachandra Reddiyar, A. K. A.	Tirumangalam, General, Rural.
135 Ramakrishna Raju, R. B.	Tiruttani, General, Rural.
136 Ramakrishna Reddi, T. N.	Madanapalle, General, Rural.
137 Ramalinga Reddiyar, D.	Cheyyar, General, Rural.
138 Ramalingam, A.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
139 Raman Menon, The Hon. Mr. K. (Minister).	Ponnani, General, Rural.
140 Ramanatha Pillai, The Hon. Mr. S. (Minister).	Mayavaram, General, Rural.
141 Ramaswami, D. V.	Viravalli, General, Rural.
142 Ramaswami Goundar, K. S.	Palladam, General, Rural.
143 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	Velloré, General, Rural.
144 Ramaswami Nayudu, N. G.	Textile Workers, Non-Union, Labour.
145 Rami Reddi, A.	Guntur, General, Rural.
146 Ranga Reddi, N.	Rajampet, General, Rural.
147 Rangiah Nayudu, G.	Madras City, North-Central, General, Urban.
148 Ratnavelu Tevar, P.	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam Towns, General, Urban.
149 Read, G. B.	European.
150 Roche Victoria, J. L. P.	Tinnevely, Indian Christian.
151 Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Mrs. (Deputy Speaker).	Madras City, Women, General, Urban.
152 Sahajananda, Swami A. S.	Chidambaram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
153 Saiyed Ibrahim	Ramnad, Muhammadan, Rural.
154 Sakthivadivelu Gounder, K.	Periyakulam, General, Rural.
155 Salam, M. A.	Nellore, Muhammadan, Rural.
156 Sambamurti, The Hon. Mr. B. (Speaker).	Cocanada Town, General, Urban.
157 Samu Pillai, V. J.	South Arcot <i>cum</i> Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore, Indian Christian.
158 Samuel, Dr. M. J.	Central Districts, Indian Christian.
159 Sarma, P. R. K.	Madras City Dock and Factory Labour excluding Textile and Railway Labour, Labour.
160 Saptharishi Reddiyar, K. S.	Southern Central Landholders.
161 Sattanatha Karayalar, L.	Koilkatti, General, Rural.
162 Shaik Rowther, S. K.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
163 Shaiku Muhammad Laljan	Guntur, Muhammadan, Rural.
164 Shoik Dawood, Khan Sahib K. A.	Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore <i>cum</i> The Nilgiris, Muhammadan, Rural.
165 Shoik Mansoor Tharaganar, V. S. T.	Tinnevely, Muhammadan, Rural.
166 Shetty, A. B.	Coondapoor, General, Rural.
167 Shanmugam, K.	Gudur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
168 Shanmuga Mudaliyar, K. A.	Tiruppattur (North Arcot), General, Rural.
169 Soshadrichariyar, B. T. ..	Gudiyattam, General, Rural.
170 Sitarama Reddi, H.	Bellary, General, Rural.
171 Sitarama Reddiyar, K.	Cuddalore, General, Rural.
172 Sivashanmugham Pillai, J. ..	Madras City, South-Central, General, Urban (Scheduled Castes).
173 Smith, J. M.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
174 Sri Raja Vasi Reddi Durga Sadasiveswara Prasad Bahadur Manne Sultan.	Bezwada, General, Rural.
175 Srinivasa Ayyar, D.	Gopichettipalaiyam, General Rural.
176 Srinivasa Ayyar, P. S.	Conjeevaram, General, Rural.
177 Subba Rao, K.	Penukonda, General, Rural.
178 Subbarama Ayyar, N. M. R. . .	Madura Town, General, Urban.
179 Subbarayan, The Hon. Dr. P. (Minister).	Tiruchengode, General, Rural.
180 Subbiah, P.	Ongole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
181 Subbiah Mudaliyar, C. P.	Coimbatore Town, General, Urban.
182 Subbaraya Chettiyar, A. M. P.	Negapatam, General, Rural.
183 Subramanian, A.	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural.
184 Syamasundara Rao, P.	Tekkali, General, Rural.
185 Unnikammoo, Khan Sahib V. K.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
186 Valliappa Chottiyar, V. S. R. M.	Tiruppattur (Ramnad), General, Rural.
187 Varadachari, K.	Chandragiri, General, Rural.
188 Varadachari, N. S.	Madras City, South, General, Urban.
189 Varkey, C. J.	West Coast, Indian Christian.
190 Vedaratnam Pillai, A.	Mannargudi, General, Rural.
191 Vonaudaya Gounder, S. V.	Dharapuram, General, Rural.
192 Venkanna, G.	Ellero, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
193 Venkata Reddi, Gopavaram.	Nandyal, General, Rural.
194 Venkata Reddi, Grandhi	Narasapur, General, Rural.
195 Venkata Reddi, K.	Narasaraipet, General, Rural.
196 Venkatachalam Pillai, B.	Ariyalur, General, Rural.
197 Venkatachari, P. T.	Hosur, General, Rural.
198 Venkatanarayana Reddi, B.	Gudur, General, Rural.
199 Venkatappa Chottiyar, S. C.	Salem, General, Rural.
200 Venkatappa Nayudu, R.	Gooty, General, Rural.
201 Venkatappayya, K.	Guntur cum Tenali Towns, General, Urban.
202 Venkatarama Ayyar, P.	Kumbakonam, General, Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
203 Venkataramiah, R. S.	Palni, General, Rural.
204 Venkatarao Baliga, B.	Mangalore, General, Rural.
205 Venkatasubba Reddiyar, R. ..	Tindivanam, General, Rural.
206 Venkatasubbayya, V.	Nellore, General, Rural.
207 Vooaraghavayami Nayudu, K.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
208 Viswanatham, T.	Vizagapatam Town, General, Urban.
209 Wright, Sir William Owen ..	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
210 Yagnoswara Sarma, K. P.	Tinnevely cum Palamcottah Towns, General, Urban.
211 Yakub Hasan, The Hon. Mr. (Minister).	Chittoor, Muhammadan, Rural.
212 Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (T. V. K. Kamaraja Pandiya Nayakar).	Southern Landholders.
213 Zamindar of Challapalli (Zabdatul Aqran Sreemanthu Rajah Yarlagadda Siva Rama Prasad Bahadur Zamindar).	Bandar, General, Rural.
214 Zamindar of Chemudu (Vyrichorla Narayana Gajapathi Raju Bahadur).	Northern Landholders I.
215 Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Sri Raja Moka Venkataramaiah Appa Rao Bahadur).	Northern Landholders II.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 14th July 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, Madras, at eleven of the clock.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

Sir William Wright, Kt., O.B.E., M.L.A., who had been appointed by His Excellency the Governor under section 65 (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, to perform the duties of the office of Speaker till the Speaker or Deputy Speaker is elected, first made the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown before M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. V. Krishna Ayyar Avargal appointed for the purpose under section 67 of the Government of India Act, 1935, and then took his seat in the Speaker's Chair.

* Sir WILLIAM WRIGHT (Temporary Speaker):—“ Hon. Members will be aware that I have been appointed by His Excellency the Governor under sub-section (3) of section 65 of the Government of India Act, 1935, to perform the duties of the office of Speaker till the Speaker or Deputy Speaker is elected. I need not remind hon. Members that the first business to be done is for them to make the oath required by section 67 of the Government of India Act.

“ Hon. Members of the Council of Ministers have already made the oath required under that section before His Excellency and need not make the oath now.

“ To shorten the time required for this ceremony, I will ask the hon. Members to come to the Secretary's desk in single file in groups of six and make the oath. I will call out the names of hon. Members in the order in which they appear in the alphabetical list of Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly.”

The following Members then made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and took their seats:—

Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Achuthan, Mr. P.
Abdul Hakim Sahib Bahadur, Nawab C.	Adikesavalu Nayakar, Mr. P. M.
Abdur Rahman Ali Rajah Sahib Bahadur, Arakal Sultan.	Adimoolam, Jamedar.
Abdur Rahiman Khan Sahib Bahadur, K.	Ahmad Thambi Muhammad Mohideen Maracair Sahib Bahadur.
Abdul Rawoof Sahib Bahadur, D.	Ammanna Raja, Srimathi G.
	Anantachar, Mr. B.
	Anjalai Ammal, Srimathi.

[14th July 1937]

Annamalai Pillai, Mr. N.
 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Arunachalam Chettiyar, Mr. Muthu Kr.
 Ar. Kr.
 Attakoya Thangal, Mr. P. M.
 Balakrishna Kudumban, Mr. K.
 Bapineedu, Mr. M.
 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
 Bhaktavatsalam, Mr. M.
 Bhakthavathsala Nayudu, Mr. B.
 Bhashyam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
 Bhaskara Rao Mahasayo, Sriman Y.
 V. A.
 Bhuvarahan, Mr. V.
 Bower, I.S.O., Mr. E. H. M.
 Browning, Mr. W. M.
 Buchappa Nayudu, Mr. P.
 Chandramouli, Mr. K.
 Chelvapathi Chetti, Mr. G.
 Chengam Pillai, Mr. O.
 Chidambara Ayyar, Mr. S.
 Chinnamuthu, Mr. P.
 Chockalingam Pillai, Mr. T. S.
 Congreve, Mr. C. R. T.
 Damodaram, Mr. M. P.
 D'Mello, Mr. E. M.
 Doraikannu, Mr. M.
 Doraiswami Nadar, Mr. A. R. A. S.
 Ghouse Mohideen Sahib Bahadur, S.
 Giri, Mr. V. V.
 Gopala Reddi, Mr. B.
 Govinda Doss, Mr.
 Govindan Nayar, Mr. C. K.
 Gupta, Mr. V. J.
 Guruvulu, Mr. S.
 Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
 Hussain Sahib Bahadur, H. S.
 Isaac, Mr. D. R.
 Ishwara, Mr. K.
 Jebamoney Masillamoney, Mrs.
 Kaderkutti Sahib Bahadur, A. K.
 Kadirappa, Mr. D.
 Kala Venkata Rao, Mr.
 Kaleswara Rao, Mr. A.
 Kamaraj Nadar, Mr. K.
 Kannan, Mr. E.
 Karant, Mr. K. R.
 Karunakara Menon, Mr. A.
 Karunakaran, Mr. S.
 Khadija Yakub Hasan, Mrs.
 Kolandavelu Nayanar, Mr. K.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishna Rao, Mr. G.
 Krishnakudumban, Mr. S.
 Krishnamachari, Mr. T. T.
 Krishnaswami Bharathi, Mr. L.
 Kulasekaran, Mr. K.
 Kumaraswami Raja, Mr. P. S.
 Kunhammad Kutty Hajee, Mr. P. I.
 Kuppuswami Ayyar, Mr. K.
 Kurmayya, Mr. V.
 Kuttimalu Amma, Srimathi A. V.
 Lakshmanaswami, Mr. P.
 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi.
 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi K.
 Lakshmi Devi, Dr. N.

Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
 Madhavan, Mr. P.
 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
 Manickam, Mr. R. S.
 Marimuthu, Mr. M.
 Marimuthu Pillai, Mr. S. T. P.
 Maruthai, Mr. R.
 Mir Akram Ali Sahib Bahadur.
 Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur, P.
 Muhammad Abdul Kadir Ravuttar
 Sahib Bahadur, K. S.
 Muhammad Abdur Rahman.
 Muhammad Schammad Sahib Bahadur,
 Khan Bahadur.
 Muhammad Rahmatullah Sahib Baha-
 dur, K.
 Muniswami Pillai, Mr. V. I.
 Murti, Mr. B. S.
 Muthuramalinga Tevar, Mr.
 Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
 Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
 Nagappa, Mr. S.
 Nagaraja Ayyangar, Mr. N.
 Nagaiiah, Mr. S.
 Nanjappa Gounder, Mr. K. N.
 Narasimha Raju, Mr. D. L.
 Narasimha Raj, Mr. P. L.
 Narasimham, Mr. C.
 Narasimham, Mr. V. V.
 Narayana Raju, Mr. D.
 Narayana Rao, Mr. K. V.
 Natesa Chettiyar, Mr. M. G.
 Natesa Mudaliyar, Mr. P.
 Nuttall, Mr. J.
 Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
 Palaniswami Gounder, Mr. V. C.
 Palaniswami Gounder, Mr. V. K.
 Pallam Raju, Mr. M.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Pedda Padalu, Mr. P.
 Periaswami Gounder, Mr. K. S.
 Periyaswami Gounder, Mr. K.
 Periyaswami, Mr. M. P.
 Perumal Chettiyar, Mr. V. R.
 Perumalla Nayudu, Mr. B.
 Ponnuswami Pillai, Mr. R.
 Prakasam, Mr. T.
 Raghava Menon, Mr. R.
 Raja Rao, Mr. B.
 Raja Rao, Mr. J.
 Ramachandra Reddiyar, Mr. A. K. A.
 Ramakrishna Raju, Mr. R. B.
 Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. T. N.
 Ramalinga Reddiyar, Mr. D.
 Ramalingam, Mr. A.
 Raman Menon, Mr. K.
 Ramanathan, Mr. S.
 Ramaswami Goundar, Mr. K. S.
 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
 Ramaswami Nayudu, Mr. N. G.
 Rami Reddi, Mr. A.
 Ranga Reddi, Mr. N.
 Rangiah Nayudu, Mr. G.
 Ratnavelu Tevar, Mr. P.
 Reade, Mr. G. B.
 Roche Victoria, Mr. J. L. P.
 Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Mrs.

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Saiyed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
 Sakthivadivelu Gounder, Mr. K.
 Salam Sahib Bahadur, M. A.
 Sambamurti, Mr. B.
 Samu Pillai, Mr. V. J.
 Samuel, Dr. M. J.
 Sarma, Mr. P. R. K.
 Saptharishi Reddiyar, Mr. K. S.
 Sattanatha Karayalar, Mr. L.
 Shaik Rowther Sahib Bahadur, S. K.
 Shaiku Muhammad Laljan Sahib Baha-
 dur.
 Sheik Dawood Sahib Bahadur, Khan
 Sahib K. A.
 Sheik Mansoor Tharaganar Sahib Baha-
 dur, V. S. T.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Shanmugam, Mr. K.
 Shanmuga Mudaliyar, Mr. K. A.
 Seshadriachariyar, Mr. B. T.
 Sitarama Reddi, Mr. H.
 Sitarama Reddiyar, Mr. K.
 Sivashanmugham Pillai, Mr. J.
 Smith, Mr. J. M.
 Sri Raja Vasi Reddi Durga Sadasives-
 wara Prasad Bahadur Manne Sultan.
 Srinivasa Ayyar, Mr. D.
 Srinivasa Ayyar, Mr. P. S.
 Subba Rao, Mr. K.
 Subbarama Ayyar, Mr. N. M. R.
 Subbiah, Mr. P.
 Subbiah Mudaliyar, Mr. C. P.
 Subbaraya Chettiyar, Mr. A. M. P.
 Subrahmanyam, Mr. A.
 Syamasundara Rao, Mr. P.

Unnikammoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan
 Sahib V. K.
 Valliappa Chettiyar, Mr. V. S. R. M.
 Varadachari, Mr. K.
 Varadachari, Mr. N. S.
 Varkey, Mr. C. J.
 Vedaratnam Pillai, Mr. A.
 Venaudaya Gounder, Mr. S. V.
 Venkanna, Mr. G.
 Venkata Reddi, Mr. Gopavaram.
 Venkata Reddi, Mr. Grandhi.
 Venkata Reddi, Mr. K.
 Venkatachalam Pillai, Mr. B.
 Venkatachari, Mr. P. T.
 Venkatanarayana Reddi, Mr. B.
 Venkatappa Chettiyar, Mr. S. C.
 Venkatappa Nayudu, Mr. R.
 Venkatappayya, Mr. K.
 Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. P.
 Venkataramiah, Mr. R. S.
 Venkatarao Baliga, Mr. B.
 Venkatasubba Reddiyar, Mr. R.
 Venkatasubbayya, Mr. V.
 Veeraraghavaswami Nayudu, Mr. K.
 Viswanatham, Mr. T.
 Yagneswara Sarma, Mr. K. P.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Challapalli (Zabdatul Aq-
 ran Sreemanthu Rajah Yarlagadda
 Siva Rama Prasad Bahadur Zamin-
 dar).
 Zamindar of Chemudu (Vyricherla
 Narayana Gajapathi Raju Bahadur).
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Sri Raja
 Meka Venkataramiah Appa Rao
 Bahadur).

SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT:—"This Assembly will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

The House accordingly adjourned at 12-10 p.m.

II.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. G.O. No. 161, Finance (Ways and Means), dated 26th April 1937, laying before the Provincial Legislature the agreement between the Government of Madras and the Reserve Bank of India.

2. G.O. No. 2312, Development, dated 21st December 1936, issuing amendments to the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Rules, 1935.

3. G.O. No. 205, Development, dated 28th January 1937, issuing amendments to rule 8 of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Rules, 1935.

4. G.O. No. 908, Development, dated 20th April 1937, making amendments to the rules issued under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922.

5. G.O. No. 2135, Development, dated 26th November 1936, confirming amendments to rule 16 (1) and new rule 22 (B) of the rules issued under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932.

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6. G.O. No. 216, Development, dated 29th January 1937, confirming amendments to rule 22 (11) and (12) of the rules issued under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932.

7. G.O. No. 1109, Development, dated 17th May 1937, confirming amendments to rule 22 of the rules issued under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932.

8. G.O. No. 1148, Development, dated 21st May 1937, confirming amendment to rule 22 (7) (d) of the rules issued under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932.

9. Notification appended to G.O. No. 67, L.S.G., dated 5th January 1937, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of South Arcot.

10. Notification appended to G.O. No. 5477, L.S.G., dated 22nd December 1936, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of Tinnevely.

11. Notification appended to G.O. No. 343, L.S.G., dated 26th January 1937, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of Trichinopoly.

12. Notification of the Local Self-Government Department, dated 16th March 1937, superseding the Tadpatri Municipal Council for a period of two years with effect from the 1st April 1937.

13. Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No. 3016, Home, dated 2nd November 1936, exempting from payment of the tax leviable under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the motor vehicles including lorries, buses and hired vehicles of Travancore, using the public roads in the Presidency of Madras in November 1936 in connexion with the transport of His Excellency the Governor of Madras and party from Thekkadi in Travancore State to Theni in the Madura district.

14. Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No. 3765, Home, dated 22nd December 1936, cancelling with effect on and from 1st January 1937, the Home Department Notification No. 161, dated 15th May 1936, under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

15. Notification appended to G.O. No. 85, Home, dated 8th January 1937, cancelling with effect from 1st April 1937, the Local Self-Government Department Notification No. 863, dated 15th June 1934, under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

16. Notification appended to G.O. No. 331, Home, dated 25th January 1937, making an amendment to Local Self-Government Department Notification No. 89, dated the 16th December 1931, under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

17. Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No. 463, Home, dated 3rd February 1937, exempting from payment of the tax leviable under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the motor vehicles of the

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Mysore State which used the public roads in the Presidency of Madras in connexion with the journey of the Special Representative of His Excellency the Viceroy of India from Mysore to Mettupalaiyam via Ootacamund in November 1936.

18. Notification appended to G.O. No. 540, Home, dated 6th February 1937, specifying the tax at reduced rates on motor vehicles intended to be used only during the later portion of a half-year or year.

19. Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No. 1766, Home, dated 3rd May 1937, exempting from payment of tax leviable under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the motor vehicles of the Mysore State which used the public roads in the Presidency of Madras in connexion with the journey of the Earl and Countess of Mar and party from Mysore to Mettupalaiyam and back in January 1937.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 15th July 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, Madras, at eleven of the clock, Sir William Wright, *Kt.*, O.B.E., M.L.A., Tempora Speaker, in the Chair.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—SWEARING IN OF A MEMBER.

* Sir WILLIAM WRIGHT (Temporary Speaker).—“The only item of the hon. Members who have not taken the oath to come to the Secretary's table, and do so.”

Swami A. S. Sahajanandam made the prescribed affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat.

II.—ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

* Sir WILLIAM WRIGHT (Temporary Speaker).—“The only item of business for to-day is the election of the Chief Officers of the Chamber, viz., the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, under section 65 (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935.

“We will now proceed with the election of the Speaker.

“Under rule 7 (4) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I have first to read out to the Assembly the names of members who have been duly nominated for the Speakership, together with those of their proposers and seconders. They are—

Member nominated.	Proposer.	Seconders.
Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti.	Mr. K. Venkata Rao.	Mr. M. Pallamraju.
Do.	„ B. Gopala Reddi.	„ K. Venkata Rao.
Do.	„ P. S. Kumaraswami Raja.	„ S. Chidambaram Ayyar.
Do.	„ M. Bhaktavatsalam.	„ R. Raghava Menon.
Do.	„ A. Kaleswara Rao.	„ Baru Raja Rao.

“As only one Member, namely, Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti, has been nominated under rule 7 (4) of the Assembly Rules, I declare him elected. (Cheers.)

“It only remains for me to tender to the Hon. Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti my sincere congratulations on his election, and I call upon him to occupy the Speaker's Chair.”

The Hon. Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti was then conducted to the Chair by the Hon. the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition, and when the Speaker took the Chair, there was loud cheering accompanied by cries of ‘Mahatma Gandhi-ki-jai’ and ‘Vande Mataram.’

*Mr. SPEAKER:—“Sisters and brothers, I heartily thank you for the honour you have done me in electing me to the Chair. Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar will now give a prayer.”

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Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar then recited the 'Vande Mataram' song, all the Members standing. When it was finished, there were cries of 'Bharatha Matha-ki-jai' from the Members.

* The Hon. Mr. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, my first duty and the first duty of all the hon. Members of the House is to congratulate, I shall not say you, Sir, but congratulate ourselves on this occasion for securing you to preside over the deliberations of this House. It is unfortunate that my own experience now is so novel that I may not fulfil this happy function of congratulating you in the manner in which I should, after the whole function is finished, feel that I should have done. When the heart is full and when you are undertaking a responsibility for the first time in your life, you are not best fitted to make a speech. All the same, I wish to remind my own colleagues, not on the Treasury bench only, but all the others that are colleagues in the undertaking that we have before us for the sake of the Nation, that the Speaker's duty is one which is not easy and that the Speaker's duty covers not the success of the party to which he had hitherto belonged but the success of the undertakings of the House as a whole. The Speaker represents the dignity and authority of the whole House. The Speaker is the guardian of the rights and privileges of the whole House, and not the least of his duties in this respect is, as I understand it, the very careful and diligent protection of the rights of those who may not count as many as those who are in power. I do not remind you, Sir, of those duties because you do not stand in need of any such thing, but I am reminding my colleagues in this House of this, because in the new experience that they are going through along with me, it is just possible that we may not always remember this so accurately or so well. I congratulate the whole House of which I have the honour of being the Leader to-day on securing one who has literally given his all to the Nation, who has been associated with the movement of freedom for our country from the time when the intense phase of the non-violent struggle began; and it is only because we have elected him that he moves out of the battlefield into the Speaker's Chair. He is worthy of it and the Chair also, from the traditions of the Speaker's Chair in the democratic countries of the world, is worthy of him, I can say. To us all who belong to the great Indian National Congress, one figure comes before our minds when we talk anything in connexion with the office of Speaker, that is, the figure of the late Sjt. Vithalbhair Patel. I think that our Speaker will give by his work in this House something to be proud of for Madras just as all India is proud of the memory of Sjt. Vithalbhair Patel and his speakership.

"If you will permit me, Sir, to wander a little out of the particular duty I am discharging and to speak the mind of the House just to relieve myself, so to say, of a few thoughts on this, to me strange, occasion, it is my duty on this first occasion when I speak on the floor of this House, to reiterate and inform the Members and, through them, our countrymen, that I am here along with my colleagues to fulfil in part and to the best of our ability, our duty as soldiers of freedom.

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"Alongside of that struggle, there are matters which cannot wait; there are grievances which cannot even be temporarily overlooked. There are many who feel that these matters and grievances are so important in themselves that even the struggle for freedom should wait. But without trying to answer this question of comparative importance, my colleagues and myself will endeavour our utmost to co-ordinate our efforts in both these directions. The programme of the party to which I belong and which has the honour of being in office is well known. It is fortunate that we are not a party composed of members chosen *ad hoc* or a party that has been formed for the first time after election and therefore the programme of which should be fully explained and debated upon. It is fortunate that the aims and objects and the programme of the Indian National Congress, not only in general, but in particular with reference to the Legislature, have been fully published, discussed, appreciated and accepted by the electorate. So, every one knows, Sir, for what my colleagues and I stand, and particularly because on this occasion I should not take more time than what is absolutely necessary, I shall not go into any further details. Once more let me tender you, Sir, the hearty congratulations of the House and in particular of my colleagues and the party to which I belong." (Applause.)

* Kumararaja M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIAR of Chettinad:—"Mr. Speaker, I beg to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Gentleman the Leader of the House, in felicitating you on this unique occasion. I wish to tender you, Sir, my most sincere congratulations on my own behalf and on behalf of the party which I have the honour to lead in this House, on your unanimous election as Speaker to-day. To be elected unanimously as Speaker is an honour which every member of this House would grant is a covetable distinction, for to be elected as the first among equals is a great honour that any individual should be proud of, irrespective of his great career in the past. The House has to-day expressed in appropriate manner its appreciation of your work and shown great confidence in you.

"In offering you our felicitations, I can truly say that all of us are really happy that on this occasion of the opening of a new era of political advance in this country we have been enabled by Providence to elect one of us as Speaker unanimously. It augurs very well indeed for the future of this country's cause. I think, Sir, to an audience like this consisting of large number of persons who have been your colleagues and co-workers in your long period of public life, it will be preposterous on my part to recount your great services in the cause of the country. Suffice it to say that though I do not belong to that party, I have watched, during the short period of my public life, your great work for this country and your sufferings in the cause of the country. As the Hon. Gentleman the Leader of the House has rightly said, you have given your all for the country. It is a perfectly true statement. I can but only add that your election as Speaker is but a small token of appreciation of public regard and esteem for you and an expression

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of the belief that the Chair and the House are really honoured by your election as Speaker. I wish to assure you, on my behalf and on behalf of my party, that we shall give you our loyal allegiance and support in your work as Speaker and I shall also add that we shall take all rulings cheerfully and I think that is the most essential characteristic which every member of this House should develop.

"The Hon. Gentleman the Leader of the House, has rightly referred to the traditions that have grown round the Presidential Chair. Though the Speakership has been introduced only to-day, the Presidential Chair is a thing with which we have been familiar during the last seventeen years in a democratic way in our Presidency. May I say that great traditions have grown round that Chair, thanks to the great and eminent men who have occupied it? These traditions are as much valuable possessions of yours as of every member of this House and all the House put together. Everyone looks to you for safeguarding the interests, privileges and rights of Members of the House and I have no doubt that in you we have a great supporter and guardian of those rights and privileges. I need hardly give you any words of advice: for I am so young that it will be preposterous for me to do so, especially when the Hon. Gentleman the Leader of the House himself says he feels diffident of doing it. I will only close by saying that the traditions of the House and the Chair will have to be grown in a different manner and in a greater degree in future in consonance with the new reforms that we now have and taking into consideration the aspirations of every Indian to-day. I have no doubt that during your Speakership, we shall have a very good time and by the time we close our term after five years we shall be able to say that we have had a very good Speaker who got on sociably and did his work, fearless of parties or persons. May I also add this, that we all hope that you will not only be able to protect the interests of everyone here but also protect the interests and rights of the House from outside influences which I think is also a duty which falls to the Chair?

"In conclusion, let me once again assure you that the Chair may always rely upon the loyal and whole-hearted co-operation of my party. Mr. Speaker, on my behalf and on behalf of my party I wish you great success in your new office as Speaker."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to tender you my most sincere and hearty congratulations on your unanimous election to the Speakership of this House. As my Friends who have spoken before me have already alluded to the fact, it is not always possible that we could have a unanimous election of the Speaker. We are proud of the fact that a large Assembly such as this consisting of various parties and groups could have come together and elected the Speaker unanimously. Sir, the Speaker's place, as they say, is not a bed of roses. Although during the last 17 years the Gentlemen that have filled the Chair have been of such a nature that no new Speaker need be anxious as to what he has to face in the House. All the same a good deal depends on the relationship between the Speaker on the

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one hand and the Members of the House on the other. So, unless there is unanimity, unless there is co-operation and unless there is understanding between the Speaker and the House, it is always difficult to carry on the day-to-day business of the House. But I have no doubt in my mind that with you as Speaker it will be possible for us to conduct our deliberations in a manner which will be equal to, if not better than, that which obtains in any other House in the world.

"Sir, you deserve the high honour which you have obtained to-day on account of the great sacrifices that you have rendered to the country. Of course the word 'Speaker' is a term which does not mean what is ordinarily understood by it. You will not be called upon to speak but only to hear; rarely a Speaker has to speak. So, Sir, you, as Speaker, will not continue to speak as you have been speaking for the last so many years from the platforms in Telugu and in that way you will feel it as a great restraint. All the same, as Speaker, you will have to put up with hearing others rather than yourself speaking.

"Sir, I do not wish to refer to larger questions which will be considered and deliberated upon in this House. There are various questions affecting various parties. I do not think that this is an occasion when we should express our views on those matters. I have no doubt in my mind that you will get the whole-hearted support and co-operation not only from the party to which I have the honour to belong but from the whole House in your task in carrying on the deliberations of this august body in as useful and orderly a manner as possible."

DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Sir, on behalf of the Indian Christian Members I deem it a privilege to stand up here and offer our most hearty and sincere congratulations on your unanimous election to the responsible and the honourable post of Speaker. Sir, from my little experience of the Legislative Council which this Assembly has just now replaced, I should say that the Speaker's position is not an enviable one and certain traditions have grown around the Speaker's Chair and we have absolutely no doubt that these best traditions will be maintained by you as it is evidenced from the unanimous election that has just now been witnessed. As a member of a minority community in this House, I have no hesitation in saying that our interests are absolutely safe in your hands. As the Hon. the Leader of the House has observed, yours, Sir, is a very responsible position. He has expressed that idea in a language which is all his own. I do not think I will be adding anything to it and without taking any more time of the House, I once more offer, on behalf of the community which I represent, my most hearty and sincere felicitations to you on your election to the Speaker's Chair."

* SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on my own behalf and on behalf of the group to which I belong, I would like to associate myself with all the sincere congratulations which have been offered to you from different parts of the House. As the Hon. the Leader of the House has already pointed out, the dignity and reputation of this Assembly very largely lies in your hands and the office you have taken

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involves the acceptance of very great responsibility. Amongst other responsibilities, a very particular responsibility is the protection of the interests of minorities in this House, by giving them every opportunity to give expression to their views on such matters as might come before this House. The fact that you, Sir, have been chosen unopposed and by the unanimous vote of this House is, I think, an implication that all sections of the House are perfectly confident that they will receive that protection at your hands. On behalf of the group which I represent I wish you every success during the time you hold your office of Speaker of this Assembly and we assure you of our ungrudging support and co-operation."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to associate myself in my individual capacity and on behalf of my community with what has been said by several speakers whom you have called upon to speak before me. Sir, it is said that the Speaker's place is not a bed of roses and that it is not a happy place to occupy. But, I contend that it is a very coveted place and that only those that deserve that honour do get elected to that office. One likes always to rule and the Speaker's place is one from which he rules over the House. To rule is certainly a privilege, but it is not a privilege without responsibility and obligations. And we are all confident that when you rule over this House you will discharge your obligations and responsibility towards every section of it in an impartial manner. I need not remind you, Sir, that in these days of democracy, everyone claims the right to be heard and I am sure that you will allow us that privilege whether the members belong to the majority party or the minority parties. Your genial temper and your keen intellect will always be a great asset to you in enabling you to discern and decide points of order as and when they arise. I am sure also that you will acquit yourself in such a manner as to endear yourself to all sections of the House. Belonging as I do to a small section of the House, I shall only remind you, Sir, that whatever might be the position which we may occupy, you will give us enough opportunity and enough privilege to express our points of view and give your ruling in the real interests of the country at large and in the best interests of the House. The spirit of sacrifice which you have shown in the cause of the nation all these years—the same spirit brought you into this Council and again, it is the same spirit that has prompted you to occupy the Chair of this House. Let me, Sir, on this occasion, express my appreciation of the services you have rendered, of your great capacity and the full confidence we all have in you in the new career that is vouchsafed to you. I once more tender my hearty felicitations to you on your well-deserved and unanimous election by this august House."

* Mr. E. H. M. BOWER:—"Sir, on behalf of the Anglo-Indian community of this Province which I have the honour to represent in this House, I have great pleasure in tendering to you my sincere congratulations on your unopposed election to the Chair. I realize that this is an occasion where brevity will be appreciated and therefore I shall merely say that I associate myself with the Hon. the Leader of the House when

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[Mr. E. H. M. Brown]

he said that the dignity of the Chair was the dignity of the House. Therefore, Sir, we shall do everything we can to maintain the prestige of the Madras Legislative Assembly and of yourself, Sir, as its Speaker."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே தங்களைத் தலைவர் ராக இச்சபைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்ததற்கு எனது மகிழ்ச்சியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இச்சபையைப் பார்க்கும்போது எனக்கு அளவில்லா ஆனந்தம் பொங்குகிறது. இதற்கு முன் சபையில் சாதாரணமான உடைகளோடும் வரமுடியாது. தற்போது பலர் இயற்கையான ஆடைகளோடும் இவன் அலங்கரிப்பதைக்கண்டு இதுதான் உண்மையான சத்திரத்தை விளக்குகிறதென சந்தோஷிக்கிறேன். தலைவர் பதவியை ஏற்பவர் எல்லாரையும் எக்கட்சியாரையும் பொதுவாகவே கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இதற்கு முன் சிலர் கட்சியிமிடமானதால் கட்சிக்கு மாறாகப் பேசினால் நிறுத்திவிடுவார்கள். ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ் ராஜ்யத்தில் எல்லோருக்கும் பேச உரிமை கிடைக்குமென நம்புகிறேன். காங்கிரஸின் விடா உழைப்பால் அது வெற்றியடைந்து தற்போது பதவி யெற்றுள்ளது. இந்தச் சமத்தில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட சமூகத்தாருக்கு ஏராளமான உதவிகள் கிடைக்குமென நம்புகிறேன். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் பொதுவாக நிவாரி முதலியன கெட்டு வறுகிறார்களாயினும் சிறப்பாக குடிவகையால் சர்க்காருக்கு சுமார் ஐந்துகோடி ரூபாய்கள் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இதில் ஒருகோடி ரூபாய்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர் நான்குக்காக ஒரேக்கிவைத்து தொழிற்கமிஷனர் மூலம் செலவழித்தால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு விமேசனமூண்டாகும். மத்தியிமார்கள் நியமனமும் முற்றிலும் பொருத்தமானது. இவ்வளவிற்கும் காரணமாக இருந்த கனம் சர்க்கரவரத்தி ராஜகோபாலசாரியாருக்கு எங்கள் வந்தனம் உரியதாகுக. கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே தங்கள் தலைமையில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு அளவிறந்த நன்மைகளுண்டாகமென நம்புகிறேன். தங்களுக்கு எங்கள் சமூகத்தின் சார்பாக வாழ்த்து கூறுகிறேன்."

Mrs. LAKSHMI SANKARA AYYAR:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கும் மெம்பர்கள் அவர்களுக்கும் வணக்கமான எனது வந்தனத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தேச சரித்திரத்திலேயே இச்சம்பவம் முக்கியமாக கருதப்படுகிறது. இந்த சபை சென்னை மாகாணத்தின் ஜனபிரதிநிதிகளாகிய சபையாக விளங்குகிறது. வரங்காலத்தில் நம்முடைய செய்களை ஜனங்கள் அதிக ஆவலுடன் எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். நம்முடைய சபைக்கு மிகவும் தகுதியுடையவரை தலைமை பதவிக்கு தேர்ந்தெடுத்ததைப் பற்றி எனக்கு மிக்க சந்தோஷம். அந்த தேர்தலை யான் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆனந்திக்கிறேன். அவருடன் கூட நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒத்துவந்து கரியங்களை நடத்தலாமென்று நம்புகிறேன்."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU:—"Sir, as one of the Congress members of this House, I wish to congratulate you on your election. In doing so, I have to refer to one of the remarks made by some Hon. Members who have preceded me. They have reminded you, Sir, of the great traditions that have grown round the Speaker's Chair and expressed the confidence that you will maintain those great traditions. But may I request you, Sir, not to hesitate also in breaking those conventions and traditions, if it is necessary and create new conventions and traditions if they are absolutely necessary in the best interests of the country? In this connexion, with your permission, I should like to refer to one special feature in you, and that is your non-adherence to the conventional dress of the Speaker. Of course time was when you were wearing hat, boots and suit. But in the service of the country, in view of the poverty of the country, you thought it necessary to discard all that dress and began to wear only a loin cloth and not even a shirt. I think it is but fit that you should continue to adhere to your old mode of dress even after you have been elected Speaker. It is absolutely in consonance with

[Mr. D. Narayana Raju]

[15th July 1937]

the ancient culture of India that men in your position should wear only a loin cloth. Did not our great *rishis* wear only a loin cloth? Sir, when we are determined to come into our own, when the country is determined to live a simple life in consonance with the general poverty of the country, I think that your election as Speaker with your loin cloth on is in the fitness of things. Just as you have broken away from the convention in the matter of dress, so also whenever it is necessary in the interests of the country, I am sure you would not hesitate to break the narrow and short-sighted conventions that might have grown round the Chair. Of course, I do not mean to say that you will be unreasonable or improper in breaking those conventions. We have every confidence in you that you will use your discretion wisely and effect only such changes as are necessary in the interests of the country. After all the interests and the dignity of the country are much greater than the interests and dignity of this House. With these few remarks I once more congratulate you on your unanimous election as Speaker."

Mr. MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the leader of my party had offered his felicitations to you already, I thought I need not add my congratulations to you, on your election; but my friends here are anxious that I should say a few words in Malayalam, which they think, should not go unrepresented. I therefore venture to speak, Sir, a few words in Malayalam."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The rules now in force do not allow a member of this House to speak in any language other than English, if he happens to know English."

Mr. MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN:—"I take it, Sir, that the point of order has been already overlooked in the case of Tamil; why should not the same right be extended to Malayalam? This point of order has no doubt been addressed to the Speaker; but as the Speaker has already been requested to break old and narrow conventions, wherever necessary, I hope he will allow me to speak a few words in Malayalam."

The Hon. Member then spoke in Malayalam congratulating the Speaker on his unanimous election.

Mr. C. NARASIMHAM spoke a few sentences in Telugu to the effect that vernaculars could be understood only by a limited number of members, that for instance, Tamil could be understood by Tamilians but not others. So he pleaded for a common language like English which could be understood by all.

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"Sister and brother members of the Assembly, I express my heart-felt thanks for the honour you have done me in unanimously electing me to the Chair.

"A new stage has been reached in the political activities of this country when Congress has decided to accept office. I have been for a long time an active member of the Congress, and I know that the object of the Indian National Congress is the attainment of Purna Swaraj. It is the duty of all to strive their utmost for the attainment of the same.

[15th July 1937]

[Mr. Speaker]

Congress represents all the people of India, irrespective of caste, creed or colour, and it shall be my constant endeavour to serve all, as the Speaker of this House.

"The duties and responsibilities of the Speaker are very heavy, and it will not be possible for me to discharge the same satisfactorily and successfully without the co-operation of you all; and I have no doubt that you will be ready to extend the same to me. You may rest assured that I will do everything constitutional to uphold the rights and privileges of this House and to maintain the dignity and the independence of the Chair.

"I also assure strict impartiality to all sections of this House in the conduct of its deliberations. Democracy implies the full expression of all shades of political opinion, and all members of this House including those that may belong to minorities shall be afforded every opportunity in the expression of their views. India has had the privilege of fighting for liberty on an entirely non-violent basis unknown yet in the history of the world, and she has succeeded partially to-day in the national struggle. It is as a result thereof that Mr. Chakravarthi Rajagopalachariar and his colleagues are sitting on the Treasury Benches to-day (cheers) and I am sitting here as Speaker of this House.

"I thank you once again sincerely for the honour you have done me." (Cheers.)

III.—ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER.

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The next item in the List of Business is the election of the Deputy Speaker. Under sub-rule (4) of rule 8 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I have to read out to the Assembly the names of the persons who have been duly proposed together with the names of their proposers and seconders. They are—

Member nominated.	Proposer.	Seconders.
Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmi- pathi.	Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja.	Mr. Chidambara Ayyar.
Do.	„ M. Bakthavathsalam.	„ R. Raghava Menon.
Do.	„ A. Kaleswara Rao.	„ B. Raja Rao.

"As only one member has been proposed for election, viz., Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi, I declare her duly elected." (Applause.)

Mrs. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Sir, I thank the Hon. Members of this House for having elected me unanimously to the Deputy Speakership of this Assembly. I know that the Speaker's task in many respects is heavy and onerous, and there are too many duties attached to that post; and I may tell you that, as the Deputy Speaker, I shall try to assist him in the discharge of that task and those duties. I know also that the Deputy Speaker will have to preside over this House in the absence of the Speaker. I may assure all members of this House that whenever I happen to preside over the House, I shall make it a point to do my best in assisting the members of the House in the course of their

[Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi] [15th July 1937]

debates. I shall strive my utmost to uphold the honour and the dignity of this House and of the Speaker's chair, and I would also request every member of this House to see that the honour and dignity of this House is upheld. With these few words, I again thank the House for unanimously electing me as the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly."

IV.—STATEMENT REGARDING BUSINESS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"I now call upon the Hon. the Leader of the House to make a statement as regards the business before the House."

* The Hon. Mr. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I suggest to the Chair that the House be adjourned to the 16th of August. The business, I may indicate, will be the consideration and passing of the Budget for the six months remaining. That would be the most important part of the business of the House in that session. I also wish to indicate to Hon. Members that the Government propose to introduce the necessary legislation in that session for carrying out the desire of the Members of Government to reduce their own salaries and get the necessary legislation through for that purpose; because the provision for salaries has to be approved, whether large or small, by the whole House for the remaining period. It is also right that I should indicate to you, on this occasion, Sir, that the Government propose to have the necessary legislation for paying salaries to Parliamentary Secretaries without vacating their seats on account of the rule as to offices of profit under the Crown and membership in the Assembly. I should also indicate, Sir, that it is the intention of the Government to introduce, in the same measure, provision for payment of a salary for full-time ordinary membership in the House. I have indicated enough, and the proposals will be duly notified. It is well that we should get through this legislation quickly, and it will be done in that session. I therefore request, Sir, that the House be adjourned to the date I have indicated. It is unnecessary for me to make a motion to that effect. It is in your power, Sir, to adjourn the House to the 16th of August."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The Assembly will now adjourn to meet again at 11 a.m. on the 16th of August 1937."

PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD ERSKINE, G.C.I.E. Took his seat on the 15th November 1934.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

I. THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR, Prime Minister. Took his seat on the 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

A. CHIEF SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC DEPARTMENT).

Provincial subjects—

- Agency tracts.
- Assumption of office by Governor.
- Business and Secretariat Rules.
- Business of Government—Distribution among Departments of the Secretariat.
- Cabinet—Arrangements for meetings.
- Civil Lists—Preparation.
- Committees and conferences not pertaining to any other department of the Secretariat.
- Correspondence—Objectionable—Censorship.
- Criminal Investigation Department—Other than establishment.
- Elections to the Provincial legislature including election offences and disputed elections.
- Examinations—Government—Departmental—
- Board of Examiners.
- Foreign Governments and Indian States—Correspondence with.
- General—Questions of a general nature which cannot be allotted to any particular department.
- Government House—
- (i) Establishments—
- Band.
- Bodyguard.
- Governor's Secretary's office.
- Medical.
- Military Secretary's office.
- (ii) Grants—
- Contract.
- Furniture.
- Sumptuary.
- Tour.
- (iii) Personal staff of the Governor.
- (iv) Works—
- Construction.
- Maintenance and furnishing.
- Government Servants' Conduct Rules.
- Handbook of Procedure and Precedents.

A. CHIEF SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC DEPARTMENT)—cont.

Provincial subjects—cont.

High Court Judges—Leave.
 Holidays.
 Indian Civil Service and listed posts.
 Internal Security.
 Islands—Laccadives, Amindivi and Minicoy.
 Judicial and Executive functions—Separation of.
 Land returns—General questions.
 Legislative bodies (other than Madras)—Proceedings—Marking of subjects for the perusal of Members of Government.
 Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly.
 Madras Public Service Commission.
 Magistrates (other than Honorary)—Suspension, removal, etc.
 Ministers—Appointments and resignation.
 Newspapers and Periodicals—Perusal of.
 Office procedure.
 Officers—European—Casualty report.
 Ootacamund, Stonehouse Hill—Move to and from.
 Petition Rules.
 Political Handbook.
 Political offences—Prosecutions.
 Precedence—Warrant of—
 Darbari Zamindars.
 Prisoners, State.
 Public Peace—Disturbance of.
 Public Services—
 Communal representation—General questions.
 General questions and commissions of enquiry.
 Notification (including exemptions).
 Revised scales of pay.
 Service associations.
 Services under the control of the Local Government—
 Statutory rules to regulate the method of recruitment, conditions of service, pay, allowances and pension—General revision and amendments of existing rules.
 Special tests—General questions and exemptions.
 Statutory Rules and Orders—
 Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules.
 Superior Civil Services Rules.
 Subordinate Services—
 Discipline and Appeal Rules.
 Passage Rules.
 Religious or communal disputes.
 Reports—
 Fortnightly.
 Matters of political and administrative importance.
 Returns—Next of kin.
 Secretariat—
 Buildings.
 Central Issue Branch.
 Central Records Branch.
 Establishment.
 Library.
 Manual.

A. CHIEF SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC DEPARTMENT)—cont.

Provincial subjects—cont.

Telegrams—Reuters and News Agency.
 Visits—
 Commander-in-Chief.
 Distinguished foreigners.
 Flag Officer, Commanding Royal Indian Navy.
 Governors of other provinces.
 Indian Chiefs.
 Naval Commander-in-Chief.
 Viceroy.
 Warships, British and foreign.

Concurrent subjects—

Periodicals, Newspapers, Books and printing presses—Control of.

Federal subjects—

Conduct of elections to the Federal legislature including election offences and disputed elections.
 Consuls—
 British.
 Foreign.
 Council of State—Nomination of members.
 Defence of India—
 Army in India Reserve of Officers.
 Auxiliary and Territorial forces.
 Ex-army men.
 Movement of troops.
 Naval, military and air forces in India.
 Ecclesiastical affairs.
 External affairs.
 Federal Public Services.
 Federal Public Service Commission.
 French Settlements in India.
 Indian Chiefs and States.
 Naval, military and air force works.
 Political charges.
 Political detenus from Indian States.
 Political Pensions.
 Preventive detention for reasons of State connected with defence, external affairs or the discharge of the functions of the Crown.
 Reforms.
 Regulation of ceremonials, titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform.
 Relations with States in India.
 Territorial Changes.

B. HOME DEPARTMENT.

Provincial subjects—

Police including C.I.D. (Establishment), railway police and village police.

Concurrent subjects—

Persons subject to preventive detention under Federal authority.

B. HOME DEPARTMENT—cont.

Federal subjects—

Central Intelligence Bureau.
 Police—Extension of the powers and jurisdiction of members of a Police force belonging to any part of British India, to any area, in another Governor's province or Chief Commissioner's province, and the extension of the powers and jurisdiction of the members of a Police force belonging to any unit to railway areas outside that unit.

C. FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

Provincial subjects—

Accounts, Provincial (including classification and prescription of units).
 Annual financial statement (Budget).
 Appropriation Accounts and Auditor-General's report thereon.
 Audit of receipts and accounts of stores and stock.
 Commercial accounts.
 Economies in expenditure.
 Famine Relief Fund.
 Federal taxes and duties in which the Provinces are interested, such as income-tax, Federal excises, etc.
 Financial Rules.
 Fundamental Rules (including Revised Leave Rules).
 Loans and Advances.
 Local Fund Audit.
 Provincial balances.
 Public Debt of the Province including borrowings from the Government of India.
 Reappropriations.
 Re-employment of civil pensioners.
 Secretariat—Cash Bureau.
 Service Pensions (including Provident Funds).
 Supplementary Statements of expenditure.
 Taxation and allied measures—initiation of.
 Travelling allowance rules.
 Treasury Rules.
 Ways and Means.

Federal subjects—

Corporation Tax.
 Currency, coinage and legal tender.
 Federal pensions, that is to say, pensions payable by the Federation or out of Federal revenues.
 Indian Audit and Accounts Service examination.
 Post Office Savings Bank.
 Public Debt of the Federation.

2. THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM, Minister for Revenue. Took his seat on the 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Provincial subjects—

Board of Revenue (general).
 City Tenants' Protection Act.
 Constitution of districts, divisions and taluks.
 Court of Wards and Zamindars—
 Impartible Estates Act.

Provincial subjects—cont.

Deputy Collectors.
 District Gazettes and Gazetteers.
 Duties in respect of succession to agricultural land.
 Estates Land Act.
 Famine relief.
 Floods.
 Inams.

Irrigation (minor works)—

Minor irrigation establishments.
 Minor irrigation works.
 Navigation.
 Water-rate.

Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely:—

Alienation of land revenue.
 Assessment and collection of land revenue.
 Buildings.
 Colonization and disposal of Crown lands.
 Establishment.
 Land improvement and agricultural loans.
 Laws regarding land tenures—Easements—Relations of landlord and tenant—Collection of rents—Transfer and devolution of agricultural land.
 Maintenance of land records—Survey for revenue purposes—
 Records of rights.
 Management of Government estates.
 Miscellaneous.
 Revenue Recovery Act.

Lands—

Acquisition.
 Alienation.
 Assignment.
 Encroachment.
 Land records.
 Military lands.
 Railway lands.
 Transfer of lands between Central and Provincial Governments.
 Malabar Tenancy Act.
 Pensions—Hereditary not being political.
 Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
 Procedure in rent and revenue courts.
 Registration.
 Season.
 Settlement—Kistbandi.
 Special funds.
 Stamp duty on documents—Rates of.
 Survey—Boundary disputes.
 Taxes on agricultural income.
 Transfer of villages.
 Treasure trove.
 Treasuries.
 Village accounts.

Provincial subjects—cont.

Village establishments.
Water-supply.
Yeomials.

Concurrent subjects—

Recovery in a Governor's province or a Chief Commissioner's province of claims in respect of taxes and other public demands, including arrears of land revenue and sums recoverable as such, arising outside that province.

Registration of deeds and documents.

Stamp duties other than duties or fees collected by means of judicial stamps, but not including rates of stamp duty.

Federal subjects—

Duties in respect of succession to property other than agricultural land.

Excise duties on tobacco and other goods manufactured or produced in India except those assigned to the province.

Lands vested in or in the possession of His Majesty for the purposes of Federation.

Opium so far as regards cultivation and manufacture or sale for export.

Salt.

Stamp duty—Rates of in respect of bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes, bills of lading, letters of credit, policies of insurance, proxies and receipts.

Survey of India.

3. THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN, Minister for Public Works.

Took his seat on the 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Provincial subjects—

Canals—Irrigational and navigable.

Drainage and embankments, water-storage and water-power.

Gas and gas works.

Hydro-electric schemes.

Inland waterways and traffic thereon.

Irrigation—Major works.

Minor ports.

Minor railways, light and feeder railways.

Public works (buildings, roads, bridges, ferries, ropeways, etc.).

Railway—Accidents.

Railway lands—Jurisdiction.

Rivers—Conservancy.

Taxes on boats.

Tramways—Extra municipal.

Works and buildings vested in or in the possession of His Majesty for the purposes of the Province.

Concurrent subjects—

Boilers.

Electricity.

Shipping and navigation on inland waterways as regards mechanically propelled vessels, carriage of passengers and goods on inland waterways.

Federal subjects—

Air craft and air navigation; regulation and organization of air traffic and of aerodromes.

Carriage of passengers and goods by sea, or by air.

Cemeteries and tombs, including European cemeteries.

Lighthouses, including light ships and beacons.

Major ports—Constitution and powers of port authorities therein.

Marine—Maritime shipping and navigation, including shipping and navigation on tidal waters; admiralty jurisdiction.

Port quarantine and marine hospitals.

Posts and telegraphs, including telephones, wireless, broadcasting, and other like forms of communication.

Railways other than minor railways—Construction and regulation.

Taxes on railway fares and freights.

Terminal taxes on goods or passengers carried by railway, water or air.

Works and buildings vested in or in the possession of His Majesty for the purposes of the Federation.

4. THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN, Minister for Education and Legal Departments. Took his seat on 30th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

A. EDUCATION.

Provincial subjects—

Appeals from educational, medical and public health staff employed under local boards and municipal councils.

Books—

Copyright—

Registration of.

Books and periodicals—Questions relating to their purchase and supply to public offices.

Certificate of age and qualification.

Civil Orphan Asylum.

Education including, European and Anglo-Indian education and educational questions relating to the Corporation of Madras and local bodies.

Epigraphy.

Examinations except Public Service Notification and Board of Examiners.

Government Presses.

Libraries.

Literary, scientific, religious and other societies and associations.

Liveries and clothing.

Madras Record Office.

Museums.

Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts.

Provincial gazetteers.

Stationery and printing.

Translators to Government.

Zoological gardens.

Concurrent subjects—

Legal, medical and other professions.

A. EDUCATION—cont.

Federal subjects—

Ancient and historical monuments.

Archæology.

Copyright.

Federal agencies and institutes for research, for professional or technical training, or for the promotion of special studies.

The Imperial Library, the Indian Museum and any other similar institution controlled or financed by the Federation.

B. LEGAL.

Acts.

Advising Government—

(a) in matters of litigations, appeals, etc.;

(b) on legal questions which are not of sufficient importance to necessitate a reference to the Advocate-General.

Bills, non-official—Scrutiny of.

Government Bills—Drafting and scrutiny.

Law Officers—References to.

Legal assistance to Government servants.

Legal and legislative publications, such as Codes, Acts, Manuals, etc.

Legislation—Secretariat work connected with.

Legislature—Rules of procedure and standing orders of—Scrutiny.

Notifications—Scrutiny of.

Subsidiary legislation, viz., Statutory Rules and Orders (other than Service Rules) and generally assist other departments in all matters of a legal nature that may be referred to it.

5. THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN, Minister for Public Health. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

A. PUBLIC HEALTH.

Provincial subjects—

Adulteration of foodstuffs and other articles.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

Medical administration, including medical questions relating to the Corporation of Madras and local bodies.

Pilgrimages within British India.

Places of Public Resort Act.

Public Health, including public health questions relating to the Corporation of Madras and local bodies.

Registration of births, deaths and marriages.

Sanitation.

Stores—Rules and general questions.

Vital statistics.

Concurrent subjects—

Health insurance, including invalidity pensions; old age pensions.

Lunacy and lunatic asylums.

Prevention of the extension from one unit to another of infectious or contagious diseases affecting men.

B. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

Provincial subjects—

Burial and burial grounds other than European cemeteries. Choultries.

Inns and inn-keepers.

Langarkhanas including the Triplicane poor house.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Town-Planning.

6. THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

A. DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Provincial subjects—

Agriculture including agricultural education.

Agricultural statistics.

Cinchona.

Cottage Industries.

Fisheries.

Forests, including ryots' and panchayat forests.

✓ Money-lending and money-lenders.

Protection of wild animals and birds.

Rural indebtedness.

Statistics for purposes of provincial matters.

Veterinary department including Veterinary Education.

Weights and measures.

Concurrent subjects—

Prevention of the extension from one unit to another of infectious or contagious diseases or pests affecting animals or plants.

Statistics for the purpose of any of the matters in the concurrent field.

Federal subjects—

Botanical survey.

Census.

Fishing and fisheries beyond territorial waters.

Meteorology—Federal organizations.

Standards of weight.

Statistics for the purpose of any of the Federal matters.

Zoological survey.

B. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Provincial subjects—

Excise duties on the following goods manufactured or produced in India—

(a) Alcoholic liquors for human consumption.

(b) Opium, Indian hemp and other narcotic drugs and narcotics; non-narcotic drugs.

(c) Medicinal and toilet preparations containing alcohol, opium, etc.

Production, manufacture, possession, transport, purchase and sale of intoxicating liquors, opium and other drugs and narcotics.

7. THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI, Minister for Industries and Labour. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Provincial subjects—

- Co-operative Societies.
- Depressed classes and labour.
- Development of industries other than cottage industries.
- Economic conditions including wages and prices (not famine relief).
- Emigration and immigration.
- Marketing.
- Markets and fairs.
- ✓ Mines and oil-fields and development of mineral resources.
- Taxes on mineral rights.
- Trade and commerce.
- Unemployment; relief of the poor.
- Unincorporated trading associations.

Concurrent subjects—

- Contracts, including partnership, agency, contracts of carriage and other special forms of contract.
- Factories.
- Indian Partnership Act.
- Industrial and Labour disputes.
- Trade unions.
- Unemployment insurance.
- Welfare of labour—
 - Employer's liability and workmen's compensation.
 - Provident funds.

Federal subjects—

- Banking—Conduct of banking business by corporations.
- Cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other like instruments.
- Corporations—Incorporation, regulation and winding up of trading corporations, including banking, insurance and financial corporations but not including co-operative societies.
- Customs duties including export duties.
- Development of industries where development under Federal Control is declared by Federal Law to be expedient in the public interest.
- Geological survey.
- Import and export across customs frontiers.
- Indian Companies Act.
- Insurance—The Law of insurance and the conduct of insurance business.
- Inventions, designs, trade marks and merchandise marks.
- Mines and oil-fields and mineral development—Regulation of (to the extent to which such regulation and development under Federal Control is declared by Federal Law to be expedient in the public interest) and regulation of labour and safety in mines and oil-fields.
- Provident insurance societies.
- Repatriation.
- Tariffs.
- Taxes on the capital of individuals or of companies.

8. THE HON. MR. S. RAMANATHA PILLAI, Minister for Public information. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Publicity—General.

Publicity—Free or concessional supply of Government publications.

Presidency Administration Report.

9. THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON, Minister for Courts and Prisons. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Provincial subjects—

Administration of justice, civil and criminal, including constitution, jurisdiction, powers, maintenance and organization of courts within the province—

Additional and Assistant Sessions Judges.

Bench Courts.

Civil Courts including High Courts.

Civil Rules of Practice.

Criminal appeals.

Criminal justice report.

Criminal powers.

Criminal Rules of Practice.

Honorary Magistrates.

Presidency Magistrates and Courts.

Remission and commutation of sentences.

Betting and gambling—except State lotteries.

Breach of Contract Act.

Carbide of Calcium.

Child Marriage Restraint Act.

Children Act.

Cinematograph Act.

Civil Law.

Control of motor vehicles—

Motor Vehicles Act.

Control of vehicles other than mechanically propelled vehicles.

Coroners.

Criminal lunatics.

Discharged Prisoners Aid Society.

Escheats.

Hackney Carriages Act.

Immoral Traffic.

Indian Bar Councils Act.

Jails—

Borstal institutions.

Jails and sub-jails.

Prisoners' homes.

Reformatories.

Justices of Peace.

Kazis Act.

Law officers.

Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.

Malabar and Rampa Rebellion prisoners.

Petitions for mercy, from sentences of death.

Provincial subjects—cont.

- Petitions from convicts including Port Blair convicts.
- Preventive detention and persons subject to such detention.
- Prisoners.
- Prisons Act and rules thereunder.
- Provincial law reports.
- Stage Carriages Act.
- Theatres, dramatic performances and cinematographs.
- Village Courts Act.

Concurrent subjects—

- Administrator-General and Official Trustee.
- Adoption.
- Arbitration.
- Bankruptcy and insolvency.
- Cinematograph films for exhibition.
- Civil Procedure including the law of Limitation and all matters included in the Code of Civil Procedure at the date of the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- Criminal law including all matters included in the Indian Penal Code at the date of the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- Criminal Procedure including all matters included in the Code of Criminal Procedure at the date of the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- Criminal tribes.
- European Vagrancy Act.
- Evidence and oaths.
- Indian Christian Marriage Act.
- Indian Poisons Act.
- Infants and minors.
- Insolvency Act and Rules.
- Jurisdiction and powers of all courts except the Federal Court, with respect to any of the matters in the concurrent legislative list.
- Marriage and Divorce.
- Mechanically propelled vehicles.
- Poisons and dangerous drugs.
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.
- Prisoners and accused persons—Removal from one unit to another unit.
- Recognition of laws, Public Acts and records and judicial proceedings.
- Royal Humane Society.
- Transfer of property other than agricultural land.
- Trusts and Trustees.
- Wills, intestacy and succession save as regards agricultural land.

Federal subjects—

- Admission into, and emigration and expulsion from, India, including in relation thereto the regulation of the movements in India of persons who are not British subjects domiciled in India, subjects of any Federated State, or British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom.
- Arms, firearms, ammunition and explosives.

Federal subjects—cont.

- Extradition including the surrender of criminals and accused persons to parts of His Majesty's Dominions outside India.
- Foreign missions.
- Migration within India.
- Naturalization.
- Passports including certificates of identity and visas.
- Petroleum and other liquids and substances declared by Federal law to be dangerously inflammable so far as regards possession, storage and transport.
- Pilgrimages to places beyond India including Hedjas.
- State lotteries.

10. THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI, Minister for Local Administration. Took his seat on 14th July 1937 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

Provincial subjects—

- Appeals from employees of local boards and municipal councils other than educational, medical and public health staff.
- Capitation taxes, taxes on professions, trades, callings and employments.
- Cesses on the entry of goods into a local area.
- Charities and charitable institutions.
- Corporation of Madras.
- Local boards—General administration and all matters relating to them not specifically assigned to other departments.
- Local bodies—Audit reports of.
- Local self-government including village administration and panchayats.
- Monigar Choultry.
- Municipal councils—
- General administration and all matters relating to them not specifically assigned to other departments.
- Taxes on animals.
- Taxes on land and buildings, hearths and windows.
- Taxes on luxuries, including taxes on entertainments, amusements, betting and gambling.
- Taxes on the sale of goods and on advertisements.
- Tolls.
- Towns Nuisances Act.
- Tramways within municipalities.

Federal subjects—

- Local self-government in cantonment areas.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.****Speaker.**

THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI.

Deputy Speaker.

MRS. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI.

Panel of Chairmen.

MR. K. KOTI REDDI.

M.R.RY. DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI AVARGAL.

MR. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED.

SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT.

Secretary.

**M.R.RY. DIWAN BAHADUR R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR AVARGAL, B.A.,
M.L.**

Assistant Secretary.

M.R.RY. M. SURYA RAO GARU, B.A., B.L.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Abdul Hameed Khan ..	Madras City, Muhammadan, Urban.
2 Abdul Hakim, Nawab C. ..	North Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Abdur Rahman Ali Rajah, Arakal Sultan.	Chirakkal, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 Abdur Rahiman Khan, K. ..	Kurnool, Muhammadan, Rural.
5 Abdul Rawoof, D. ..	Bellary, Muhammadan, Rural.
6 Achuthan, P. ..	Calicut, General, Rural.
7 Adikesavulu Naicker, P. M. ..	Madras City North, General, Urban.
8 Adimoolam, Jamedar ..	Ranipet, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
9 Ahmad Thambi Muhammad Mohideen Maracair (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Tanjore, Muhammadan, Rural.
10 Ammanna Raja, Srimathi G.	Ellore Town, Women, General, Urban.
11 Anantachar, B. ..	Hospet, General, Rural.
12 Anjalai Ammal, Srimathi ..	Cuddalore, Women, General, Rural.
13 Annamalai Pillai, N. ..	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural.
14 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Madras cum Chingleput, Indian Christian.
15 Ari Gowder, H. B. ..	The Nilgiris, General, Rural.
16 Arunachalam Chettiyar, Muthu. Kr. Ar. Kr.	Sivaganga, General, Rural.
17 Attakoya Thangal, Khan Bahadur, P. M.	Calicut, Muhammadan, Rural.
18 Balakrishna S. S. ..	Palni, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
19 Bapineedu, M. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Ellore, General, Rural.
20 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed ..	Chingleput cum South Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
21 Bhaktavatsalam, M. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Tiruvellore, General, Rural.
22 Bhakthavathsalu Nayudu, B.	Ranipet, General, Rural.
23 Bhashyam Ayyangar, K. ..	Chingleput, General, Rural.
24 Bhaskara Rao Mahasayo, Sri-man Y. V. A.	Palakonda, General, Rural.
25 Bhuvarahan, V. ..	Tanjore cum Kumbakonam Towns, General, Urban.
26 Bower, I.S.O., E. H. M. ..	Anglo-Indian.
27 Browning, W. M. ..	European Commerce (Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association).
28 Buchappa Nayudu, P. ..	Ongole, General, Rural.
29 Chandramouli, K. ..	Tenali, General, Rural.
30 Chelvapathi Chetti, G. ..	Textile Workers' Trade Union (Madras), Labour.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
31 Chengam Pillai, O.	Tiruvellore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
32 Chidambara Ayyar, S.	Villupuram, General, Rural.
33 Chinnamuthu, P.	Koilpatti, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
34 Chokkalingam Pillai, T. S.	Tinnevelly, General, Rural.
35 Congreve, C. R. T.	European.
36 Damodaram, M. P.	Kottayam, General, Rural.
37 D'Mello, E. M.	Anglo-Indian.
38 Doraikannu, M.	Tiruttani, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
39 Doraiswami Nadar, A. R. A. S.	Tuticorin, General, Rural.
40 Ghouse Mohideen, S.	Cuddapah, Muhammadan, Rural.
41 Giri, The Hon. Mr. V. V.	Bobbili, General, Rural.
(Minister).	
42 Gopala Reddi, The Hon. Mr. B. (Minister).	Kavali, General, Rural.
43 Govinda Doss	Bellary, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
44 Govindan Nayar, C. K.	Kurumbranad, General, Rural.
45 Gupta, V. J.	Vizagapatam, General, Rural.
46 Guruvulu, S.	Chicacole, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
47 Halasyam Ayyar, N.	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
48 Hussain, H. S.	Mangalore, Muhammadan, Rural.
49 Isaac, D. R.	Northern Circars, Indian Christian.
50 Ishwara, K.	Coondapoor, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
51 Jebamoney Masillamoney, Mrs.	Tinnevelly cum Palamecottah cum Tuticorin Towns, Women, Indian Christian, Urban.
52 Kaderkutti, A. K.	Kottayam, Muhammadan, Rural.
53 Kadirappa, D.	Penukonda, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
54 Kala Venkata Rao	Amalapuram, General, Rural.
55 Kaleswara Rao, A. (Parliamentary Secretary).	Bozwada cum Masulipatam Towns, General, Urban.
56 Kamaraj Nadar, K.	Sattur, General, Rural.
57 Kannan, E.	Malappuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
58 Karant, K. R. (Parliamentary Secretary).	Puttur, General, Rural.
59 Karunakara Menon, A.	Malappuram, General, Rural.
60 Khadija Yakub Hasan, Mrs.	Madras City, Women, Muhamma- dan, Urban.
61 Khalif-ul-lah, Khan Bahadur P.	Trichinopoly, Muhammadan, Rural.
62 Kolandavelu Nayanar, K.	Mannargudi, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
63 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, General, Rural.
64 Krishna Rao, G.	Northern Central Landholders.
65 Krishnakudumban, S.	Pollachi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
66 Krishnamachari, T. T.	Southern India Chamber of Com- merce.
67 Krishnamurti, G.	Railway Trade Union, Labour.
68 Krishnaswami Bharathi, L.	Melur, General, Rural.
69 Kulasekaran, K.	Tindivanam, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
70 Kumararaja M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.	The Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
71 Kumaraswami Raja, P. S.	Srivilliputtur, General, Rural.
72 Kunhammad Kutty Hajee, P. I.	Calicut cum Cannanore cum Telli- cherry Towns, Muhammadan, Urban.
73 Kuppaswami Ayyar, K.	Dindigul, General, Rural.
74 Kurmayya, V.	Bandar, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
75 Kuttimalu Amma, Srimathi A. V.	Tellicherry cum Calicut Towns, Women, General, Urban.
76 Lakshmanaswami, O.	Kurnool, General, Rural.
77 Lakshmanaswami, P.	Amalapuram, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).
78 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi	Sernadevi, General, Rural.
79 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi K.	Dindigul, Women, General, Rural.
80 Lakshmi Devi, Dr. N.	Bellary, Women, General, Rural.
81 Langley, W. K. M.	Madras Planters.
82 Madhavan, P.	Chirakkal, General, Rural.
83 Mahboob Ali Beg	West Godavari cum Kistna, Muhammadan, Rural.
84 Manickam, R. S.	Sattur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
85 Mariemuthu, M.	Tanjore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
86 Marimuthu Pillai, S. T. P.	Musiri, General, Rural.
87 Maruthai, R.	Ariyalur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
88 Mir Akram Ali	Vizagapatam cum East Godavari Muhammadan, Rural.
89 Moideen Kutty, P. K.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
90 Muhammad Abdul Kadir Ravuttar, K. S.	Madura, Muhammadan, Rural.
1 Muhammad Abdur Rahman.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
2 Muhammad Schannad, Khan Bahadur.	Puttur, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Muhammad Rahmatullah, K.	Anantapur, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 Muniswami Pillai, The Hon. Mr. V. T. (Minister)	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural (Sche- duled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
95 Murti, B. S. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Cocanada, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
96 Muthuramalinga Tevar ..	Ramnad, General, Rural.
97 Nachiyappa Goundar, K. A.	Omalur, General, Rural.
98 Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, General, Rural.
99 Nagappa, S.	Kurnool, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
100 Nagaraja Ayyangar, N. ..	Namakkal, General, Rural.
101 Nagiah, S.	Cuddapah, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
102 Nanjappa Goundar, K. N. ..	Gobichettipalayam, General, Rural.
103 Narasimha Raju, D. L. ..	Sarvasiddhi, General, Rural.
104 Narasimha Raj, P. L. ..	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
105 Narasimham, C.	Chicacole, General, Rural.
106 Narasimham, V. V.	West Godavari <i>cum</i> Kistna <i>cum</i> Guntur Factory Labour, Labour.
107 Narayana Raju, D.	Bhimavaram, General, Rural.
108 Narayana Rao, K. V.	Bezwada, General, Rural.
109 Natesa Chettiyar, M. G. ..	Dharmapuri, General, Rural.
110 Natesa Mudaliar, P.	Saidapet, General, Rural.
111 Nuttall, J.	European.
112 Obi Reddi, C.	Anantapur, General, Rural.
113 Palaniswami Gounder, V. C.	Coimbatore, General, Rural.
114 Palaniswami Gounder, V. K.	Pollachi, General, Rural.
115 Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
116 Pallam Raju, M.	Cocanada, General, Rural.
117 Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	Tanjore <i>cum</i> Madura <i>cum</i> Ramnad, Indian Christian.
118 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, General, Rural.
119 Pedda Padalu, P.	Backward Areas and Tribes.
120 Periaswami Gounder, K. S. ..	Erode, General, Rural.
121 Periyaswami Gounder, K. ..	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
122 Periyaswami, M. P.	Namakkal, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
123 Perumal Chettiyar, V. R. ..	Salem Town, General, Urban.
124 Perumalla Nayudu, B.	Kandukur, General, Rural.
125 Ponnuswami Pillai, R.	Chidambaram, General, Rural.
126 Prakasam, The Hon. Mr. T. (<i>Minister</i>).	Madras City, South-Central, General, Urban.
127 Raghava Menon, R.	Palghat, General, Rural.
128 Rajagopalachariar, The Hon. Mr. C. (<i>Prime Minister</i>).	University.
129 Rajah, Rao Bahadur M. C. ..	Chingleput, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
130 Raja of Vizianagram (Mirza Raja Sri Pampati Alakh Narayana Gajapathi Raj Manne Sultan Bahadur of Vizianagram).	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
131 Raja Rao, B.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
132 Raja Rao, J.	Guntur <i>cum</i> Nellore, Indian Christian.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
133 Ramachandra Reddiyar, A. K. A.	Tirumangalam, General, Rural.
134 Ramakrishna Raju, R. B. ..	Tiruttani, General, Rural.
135 Ramakrishna Reddi, T. N. ..	Madanapalle, General, Rural.
136 Ramalinga Reddiyar, D. ..	Cheyyar, General, Rural.
137 Ramalingam, A.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
138 Raman Menon, The Hon. Mr. K. (<i>Minister</i>).	Ponnani, General, Rural.
139 Ramanatha Pillai, The Hon. Mr. S. (<i>Minister</i>).	Mayavaram, General, Rural.
140 Ramaswami, D. V.	Viravalli, General, Rural.
141 Ramaswami Goundar, K. S.	Palladam, General, Rural.
142 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	Vellore, General, Rural.
143 Ramaswami Nayudu, N. G. ..	Textile Workers, Non-Union, Labour.
144 Rami Reddi, A.	Guntur, General, Rural.
145 Ranga Reddi, N.	Rajampet, General, Rural.
146 Rangiah Nayudu, G.	Madras City, North-Central, General, Urban.
147 Ratnavelu Tevar, P.	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam Towns, General, Urban.
148 Reade, G. B.	European.
149 Roche Victoria, J. L. P. ..	Tinnevely, Indian Christian.
150 Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Mrs. (<i>Deputy Speaker</i>).	Madras City, Women, General, Urban.
151 Sahajananda, Swami A. S. ..	Chidambaram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
152 Saiyed Ibrahim	Ramnad, Muhammadan, Rural.
153 Sakthivadivelu Gounder, K.	Periyakulam, General, Rural.
154 Salam, M. A.	Nellore, Muhammadan, Rural.
155 Sambamurti, The Hon. Mr. B. (<i>Speaker</i>).	Cocanada Town, General, Urban.
156 Samu Pillai, V. J.	South Arcot <i>cum</i> Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore, Indian Christian.
157 Samuel, Dr. M. J.	Central Districts, Indian Christian.
158 Sarma, P. R. K.	Madras City Dock and Factory Labour excluding Textile and Railway Labour, Labour.
159 Saptharishi Reddiyar, K. S. ..	Southern Central Landholders.
160 Sattanatha Karayalar, L. ..	Koilpatti, General, Rural.
161 Shaik Rowther, S. K.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
162 Shaiku Muhammad Laljan ..	Guntur, Muhammadan, Rural.
163 Shoik Dawood, Khan Sahib K. A.	Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore <i>cum</i> The Nilgiris, Muhammadan, Rural.
164 Sheik Mansoor Tharaganar, V. S. T.	Tinnevely, Muhammadan, Rural.
165 Shetty, A. B. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Coondapoor, General, Rural.
166 Shanmugam, K.	Gudur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
167 Shanmuga Mudaliyar, K. A.	Tiruppattur (North Arcot), General, Rural.
168 Seshadrichariayar, B. T. ..	Gudiyattam, General, Rural.
169 Sitarama Reddi, H.	Bellary, General, Rural.
170 Sitarama Reddiyar, K. ..	Cuddalore, General, Rural.
171 Sivashanmugham Pillai, J. ..	Madras City, South-Central, General, Urban (Scheduled Castes).
172 Smith, J. M.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
173 Sri Raja Vasi Reddi Durga Sadasiveswara Prasad Bahadur Manne Sultan.	Bezwada, General, Rural.
174 Srinivasa Ayyar, D.	Gopichettipalaiyam, General Rural.
175 Srinivasa Ayyar, P. S. ..	Conjeeveram, General, Rural.
176 Subba Rao, Kallur	Penukonda, General, Rural.
177 Subba Rao, Karunakaram ..	Vizagapatam cum East Godavari, Dock and Factory Labour, Labour.
178 Subbarama Ayyar, N. M. R...	Madura Town, General, Urban
179 Subbarayan, The Hon. Dr. P. (Minister).	Tiruchengode, General, Rural.
180 Subbiah, P.	Ongole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
181 Subbiah Mudaiyar, C. P. ..	Coimbatore Town, General, Urban.
182 Subbaraya Chettiyar, A. M. P.	Negapatam, General, Rural.
183 Subramanian, A.	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural.
184 Swami, K. V. R.	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
185 Syamasundara Rao, P. ..	Tekkali, General, Rural.
186 Unnikammoo, Khan Sahib V. K.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
187 Valliappa Chettiyar, V. S. R. M.	Tiruppattur (Ramnad), General, Rural.
188 Varadachari, K.	Chandragiri, General, Rural.
189 Varadachari, N. S. (Parliamentary Secretary).	Madras City, South, General, Urban.
190 Varkey, C. J. (Parliamentary Secretary).	West Coast, Indian Christian.
191 Vedaratnam Pillai, A. ..	Mannargudi, General, Rural.
192 Venaudaya Gounder, S. V. ..	Dharapuram, General, Rural.
193 Venkanna, G.	Ellore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
194 Venkata Reddi, Gopavaram.	Nandyal, General, Rural.
195 Venkata Reddi, Grandhi ..	Narasapur, General, Rural.
196 Venkata Reddi, K.	Narasaraopet, General, Rural.
197 Venkatachalam Pillai, B. ..	Ariyalur, General, Rural.
198 Venkatachari, P. T.	Hosur, General, Rural.
199 Venkatanarayana Reddi, B.	Gudur, General, Rural.
200 Venkatappa Chettiyar, S. C.	Salem, General, Rural.
201 Venkatappa Nayudu, R. ..	Gooty, General, Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
202 Venkatappayya Pantulu, K...	Guntur cum Tenali Towns, General, Urban.
203 Venkatarama Ayyar, P. ..	Kumbakonam, General, Rural.
204 Venkataramiah, R. S. ..	Palni, General, Rural.
205 Venkatarao Baliga, B. ..	Mangalore, General, Rural.
206 Venkatasubba Reddiyar, R. ..	Tindivanam, General, Rural.
207 Venkatasubbayya, V. ..	Nellore, General, Rural.
208 Viswanatham, T. (Parliamentary Secretary).	Vizagapatam Town, General, Urban.
209 Wright, Sir William Owen ..	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
210 Yagnoswara Sarma, K. P. ..	Tinnevely cum Palamcottah Towns, General, Urban.
211 Yakub Hasan, The Hon. Mr. (Minister).	Chittoor, Muhammadan, Rural.
212 Zamindar of Bodinayakanur (T. V. K. Kamaraja Pandiya Nayakar).	Southern Landholders.
213 Zamindar of Challapalli (Zabdatul Aqran Sreemanthu Rajah Yarlagadda Siva Rama Prasad Bahadur Zamindar).	Bandar, General, Rural.
214 Zamindar of Chemudu (Vyricherla Narayana Gajapathi Raju Bahadur).	Northern Landholders I.
215 Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Sri Raja Meka Venkataramaiah Appa Rao Bahadur).	Northern Landholders II.

JOINT SITTING OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 31st August 1937.

The members of the Council and the Assembly met together in the Senate House, Chepauk, at eleven of the clock, with the President of the Legislative Council (THE HON. MR. U. RAMA RAO) in the Chair.

Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar sang the Vande Mataram song, all the members standing.

I.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

His Excellency the Governor then arrived in semi-state, and delivered the following address:—

“ Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Council and Assembly,—In this my first address to you under the Reformed Constitution, I would like to take the opportunity of congratulating the Presidency on the successful inauguration of Provincial Autonomy and to express my confidence that, in the years that are to come, Madras will remain in the van of the Provinces of India, both from the point of view of good administration and of the efficient working of its parliamentary institutions. We have indeed a great reputation to maintain; nor do I fear that the results of your labours will fall short of the hopes that have been raised.

“ With so great a change in the system of Government as has been produced by the Government of India Act, it was not in my view to be expected that the transition from the old to the new Constitution could be brought about without some period of doubts and uncertainties. But in spite of these temporary difficulties we may all of us take pride in the fact that we have so smoothly surmounted our late troubles, and there appears now to be no obstacle to the steady advance of the Province in the paths of self-government.

“ It is not my intention to-day to go into any of those intricate constitutional questions that have been the subject of such detailed debate for the past few months, except to say that it is my sincere belief that owing to those discussions there is now a far better understanding of the real meaning of the constitutional changes that have lately come into effect than there was a few months ago. It is also my confident hope that experience in the actual working of the constitution will sweep away any further doubts that may remain.

“ In this connexion, I would like to state that my Ministers have, with my fullest approval, taken many steps to create a good atmosphere for the establishment of the new order. I trust that those actions will bear fruit in the creation of goodwill and confidence and enable my Ministers more easily to discharge their great responsibilities to the people of the Province.

[His Excellency the Governor] [31st August 1937]

"I would also like to take this opportunity of saying a few words concerning the Civil Services and their relations with the Government of the day, as there may still be certain misconceptions on this score in some quarters.

"Let me make it quite plain that there can really be no antagonism between the Government and the Services for the simple reason that the sole object of the existence of the Services is to carry out the orders of the Executive.

"Whether that executive consists as it did before 1919 of the Governor in Council, or whether it is formed out of a combination of the Governor, Executive Councillors and Ministers as it was previous to April 1st of this year, or whether it is constituted as it is to-day, makes no difference whatever to the ordinary functioning of the administrative machine.

"The individuals who constitute the executive may change, the very form of that authority may alter, as indeed it has done thrice in the Provinces of India in the past seventeen years; but the duty of the services is in no way affected thereby, for their role is to carry out the orders of whatever form of Executive may be established by Law.

"I am well aware that most of you in the Legislatures are perfectly conscious of the axioms as to the relations between a Government and its officers that I have just mentioned, but there may still be some amongst the public outside who may not yet realize the true position; and no doubt a little time may have to elapse before all old misconceptions are completely removed, though I am much encouraged by the present general good feeling to hope that that period will be very short indeed.

"To turn then to another subject, I would like to stress the great differences that have been effected in the Legislature of the Presidency since I last addressed it.

"Instead of one House elected on a restricted franchise with a large official nominated block, we have now two Houses, the Council and the Assembly, the latter of which is responsible to a far larger electorate than the previous single Chamber was and, besides, the official block has disappeared altogether.

"Ministers are therefore now entirely dependent on the votes of the elected Members in the Assembly and they are responsible for their policies and actions to those Members and through them to the electors in the constituencies.

"In fact, in the Provincial field the institutions under which we now alive are of a representative and responsible character.

"It may seem to many that the experiment of introducing what I may call the Anglo-Saxon type of democracy into the Provinces of India is fraught with many and great difficulties.

"We shall be told that already the world is turning from the ideas of representative Government and it will be pointed out that in many other countries an autocratic or totalitarian form of administration has

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lately been erected on the ruins of a representative system. And the moral will no doubt be drawn that the day of democracy is past before it has even really dawned in India.

"But personally I have great faith in the permanence of the Parliamentary system and, if at present owing to the impact of various forces both internal and external certain countries have been driven to suspend their democratic institutions and resort to the rule of a dictator, it does not necessarily follow that autocratic rule is going to be a permanency. Indeed it may well be that most of us now assembled in this Chamber will live to see in Europe a restoration of the political ideals of the nineteenth century.

"However that may be, we cannot pretend that a democratic system of Government is easy to work, and to you is given the great honour of laying sound foundations on which future generations may build.

"In this respect, I would stress the importance of the observance of correct conventions. I am well aware, for instance, that the Officers of both Chambers in Madras are agreed as to the need for establishing the convention of the strict impartiality of the Chair. It is true that there are countries where the Officer who presides over the deliberations of the Legislature is not necessarily impartial, but I am quite sure myself that the tradition of the Speaker of the House of Commons is the best one to follow. For that House is indeed the oldest elected Legislature in the world and it has arrived at its present conventions after many centuries of trial and experience.

"Again, one of the best features of English political life lies in the fact that differences of political opinion are not allowed to interfere with private friendships. No doubt, as time goes on, questions will arise here on which grave and even passionate differences of opinion will be shown on the floors of these Chambers. But that will be a healthy sign, for there are always two possible views on almost every question and it is in the rough and tumble of debate that the correct course to take must needs be thrashed out.

"But, if debate is to be real, then the minority must be allowed to have their say and unpopular opinions should never be prevented from being put forward openly and fearlessly simply because those opinions do not happen to coincide with the ideas of those who may for the moment be in a majority. In fact, for a democratic system to achieve success absolute freedom of debate must at all times be assured.

"And as it is best that the Officers who preside over the deliberations of the Legislatures should be impartial and hold the balance even, so it is essential that the authority and dignity of the Chair should be upheld by all Members quite irrespective of Party. It is only if that course is followed that debate can be conducted under proper conditions and I am sure that the Members of both Houses here present will always support their President and Speaker in the discharge of their onerous and difficult duties.

[His Excellency the Governor] [31st August 1937]

“ Members of both Houses, you are about to enter into a momentous period in the history of the Presidency. You have some five years of life before you and into your charge is committed the fortunes and prosperity of many millions of people. I pray that the results of your deliberations will be fruitful, that during your term many ameliorative measures may become law, and that your efficient conduct of your affairs will serve as a model to future Legislatures in the Madras Presidency. (Cheers.) ”

His Excellency the Governor then left the Chamber.

MR. PRESIDENT:—“ The sitting will now adjourn. The Assembly will meet again here at 12-30, and the Council will meet in the Fort St. George at 2-30 p.m. to day.”

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly met at 12-30 p.m., Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

II.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

The following members made the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and took their seats:—

- (1) MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI.
- (2) MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI.
- (3) THE ZAMINDAR OF BODINAYAKKANUR.

III.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Reduction of the water-cess in respect of lands under the Polavaram Island Project.

* 1 Q.—MR. K. VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the recent Order of the Government reducing the water-cess in the Godavari Delta to Rs. 5 an acre applies to the lands in the Polavaram Island Project; if not, why not?

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“ The Government have not issued any such orders. The hon. Member apparently refers to the recommendations of the Land Revenue Enquiry Committee. Final orders on those recommendations have not yet been issued.”

Proposals for taking over the control of the Rameswaram channel in the East Godavari district.

* 2 Q.—MR. K. VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are negotiating with the Maharaja of Pithapuram for taking over the control of the Rameswaram channel in East Godavari district; and

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to enforce the turn system on the said channel as prescribed by the Maharaja of Pithapuram and agreed to by the Public Works Department officials?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“ (a) Yes.

“ (b) Yes.”

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Extension of the term of the District Board, Vellore.

* 3 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vellore District Board has been extended till the 31st March 1938;

(b) whether the strength of the Board has been increased from 34 to 35; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the orders?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) No.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) No.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask the hon. Minister whether the proposal to extend the franchise so as to bring it in consonance with the Assembly franchise, will have any material effect on the life of this district board?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Along with other district boards I think Vellore also will have the extension.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“If it is so, may I ask the Hon. Minister to kindly consider the question of placing the district boards in charge of the Collectors during the interim period?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes; Government will consider the proposal.”

Proposals for the introduction of the colour-box system with respect to elections to local boards and municipalities.

* 4 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government propose to use the colour-box system for the ensuing municipal and local board elections?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“May I know if the introduction of this colour-box system applies also to the elections of presidents and vice-presidents of district boards and chairmen and vice-chairmen of municipalities?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The proposal is under the consideration of Government.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“May I know if the Government has considered whether in such cases the open-voting system cannot be introduced wherever primary elections are conducted on party lines?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Since we have decided to introduce the colour-box system, the question does not arise.”

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MR. E. KANNAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce the pernicious system of cumulative votes in plural member constituencies?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We have considered the proposal and suitable arrangements are being made for the reserved constituency also.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“Is it a fact that there is a proposal to introduce the colour-box system for the City of Madras?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“My point has not been answered. So far as the primary elections go, there is nothing to say against the introduction of the colour-box system, but after once the primary elections have been held may I know whether it is not desirable . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Order, order. The hon. Member is arguing.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“I am asking whether Government will not consider the desirability of having open-voting system once the primary elections are held?”

THE HON. MR. GOPALA REDDI:—“I am sorry I cannot accept the suggestion.”

Collapse of a portion of the buildings housing the Government School of Technology, Madras.

* 5 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for the collapse of a portion of the permanent building belonging to the Government School of Technology, Madras, in the beginning of July 1937;

(b) the number of the dead and the wounded in the tragedy;

(c) what compensation the Government propose to give to the dependants of the victims; and

(d) how the Government propose to prevent in the future such tragedies by collapse of public buildings belonging to the Government or local authorities subject to the control and superintendence of the Government?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) Careful enquiry and detailed examination by the Chief Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and the Executive Engineer of the debris and the portion of the walls and roofs left standing show that the collapse was not due to defective roof or floor timbers or to any neglect of duty on the part of any one. The Chief Engineer is of the opinion that the collapse can only be attributed to the failure of some of the masonry piers supporting the roof and floor, which were of poor brick work—bad bricks badly laid in poor mortar.

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"The building was constructed more than 75 years ago and calculations of the loads carried by the piers show that they were in excess of what the Public Works Department allows nowadays on brick masonry. Though a safe working load in accordance with modern practice was exceeded the piers would probably have continued to bear it, without crushing, as they have done for years, if the brick work had been good.

"(b) Five people including one woman and one boy were killed.

"(c) The question of the amount of compensation to be paid is under the consideration of the local officers and on 17th August 1937 it was stated that a sum of Rs. 2,750 was being deposited with the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation.

"(d) Such collapses of Government buildings are very rare. Modern Government buildings are so designed that no part of the structure will be overloaded. As regards old buildings, the existing rules provide for their regular inspection by officers and subordinates of the Public Works Department, particularly with reference to their safety as affected by the condition of roof and floor timbers. It would not be economically practicable to examine all old Government buildings in detail as to the theoretical stability of the various parts of their masonry structure, and it is considered that the periodic inspection of the buildings by the officers and subordinates of the Public Works Department is ordinarily a sufficient and reasonable precaution, and that by such inspection a much greater degree of protection is ensured for Government buildings, than for most private or commercial buildings. The Chief Engineer proposes therefore to issue a circular to all ranks of the Public Works Department, describing the occurrence and reminding them again of the importance of their periodical inspections. Special orders will also be issued by him that in future before private buildings are acquired for Government purposes, the stability of the masonry of the building should be examined as far as is reasonably possible, as well as that of its timbers."

(At this stage some members raised complaints that the replies of the Hon. Ministers were inaudible.)

DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"May I ask when the last inspection of this building was done by the Public Works Department?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Notice."

(Some of the members again complained of defective acoustic properties of the hall.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The acoustic properties of the hall are not good; but the best efforts have been made to minimise their disadvantages."

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Proposals for the revival of the peripatetic department for the collection of rare and ancient manuscripts for the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

* 6 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to revive the peripatetic department to collect and secure rare and ancient manuscripts for the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(b) what the annual expenditure incurred on the peripatetic department before its abolition was; and

(c) when it was abolished?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) No.

" (b) The expenditure incurred on the peripatetic party in 1921-22, the last year in which it worked, was Rs. 15,009.

" (c) In 1922-23."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have come to any decision as to the transfer of this Oriental Manuscripts Library to the University for control and administration?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I submit, Sir, that it is not a supplemental question to this."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask, Sir, whether they have, at any rate, discussed the question with the University authorities?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I still contend that that question does not arise out of this."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I rise to a point of order. I want your ruling, as to whether my question does not arise out of this?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I should say that it does not directly arise."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"If according to your ruling it does not arise, it indirectly does. May I know still from the Hon. Minister whether he will be able to enlighten this House on that point?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"You have decided, Sir, that this is not a question arising out of that. I do not think I need answer it."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I make an appeal to the Speaker that the Minister be requested to use the microphone? Unless he does it, there is no chance of our hearing him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Ministers may use the microphone."

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Estimates for the regrading of the Thethurai Supply Channel, North Arcot district.

* 7 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that estimates have been called for the regrading of the Thethurai Supply Channel, Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot district; and

(b) if so, what the estimated cost is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) The proposal is under the consideration of the local officers.

“(b) The approximate cost is reported to be about Rs. 5,600.”

*Measures for combating malaria in the Nellore district.*12-45
p.m.

* 8 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is high mortality due to malaria in the eastern parts of the Gudur and Sulerpet taluks in the Nellore district; and

(b) if so, what measures the Government have taken or propose to take in bringing down the death-rate?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) In some of the villages in the eastern parts of Gudur and Sulerpet taluks in Nellore district, malaria has been prevalent for the past 70 or 80 years. But there are no reports of heavy mortality due to any exacerbation of malaria in these parts.

“(b) From Government of India grant a sum of Rs. 11,938 was spent last year in the areas for anti-malarial measures. The scheme of free distribution of quinine is also in force in the malarious villages. An anti-malarial staff of one Sub-Assistant Surgeon, one Sanitary Inspector and six coolies is maintained by the Nellore District Board for the purpose.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask whether the Hon. Minister is in a position to state whether there has been a progressive diminution in the rate of mortality, and if so, at what rate?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I want notice of the question because it relates to facts and figures.”

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Will the Hon. Minister tell us approximately whether there has been any diminution in the death-rate?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Unless notice is given, it is difficult to answer this question offhand.”

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MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—“But may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the system is working satisfactorily?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“On that point my answer is very clear. All anti-malarial measures have been taken. A Sub-Assistant Surgeon has been appointed; quinine has been distributed to malarial areas and patients are being given free treatment.”

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Were any reports received from the officers working in that area?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Yes; it is on the strength of those reports that the answer has been given.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know what the experience of the working of the anti-malarial schemes during the past few years is?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Notice.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“Is there any special staff employed in the malarial area to carry out this?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“My answer is clear. There is a special staff appointed and it is already working in that area.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether, in the opinion of the Hon. Minister, the money spent on the department, and more particularly on the special staff, is usefully spent?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is a matter of opinion.”
(Laughter.)

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, to whom the quinine supply is entrusted?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Usually quinine is entrusted to the District Collector of the place. It is distributed through the agency of the District Health Officer, the sanitary staff and the mission agencies working in the area.”

Extension of the term of the District Board, Vellore.

* 9 Q.—MR. V. S. RM. VALLIAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the term of the Vellore District Board normally expires on the 31st December and if not, when;

(b) whether the district board requested extension of its term;

(c) whether the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards recommended against any extension of the term of the district board;

(d) whether the Government extended the term by another three months;

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(e) if the answer to clause (d) be in the affirmative, the grounds for the order of the Government;

(f) whether Government consider there was any justification for extension of the term of the district board; and

(g) whether Government propose to reconsider the order and order holding of elections in the normal course?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a), (d), (e), (f) & (g) In their Order No. 2685 (34-S.), L.S.G., dated 9th July 1937, the Government informed the President, District Board, Vellore, that the term of office of the existing members of the Vellore District Board would continue till 31st March 1938; but, on further consideration it was found that the provisions of clause (b) of section 7 of the Madras Act XIII of 1935 were not specific enough to enable the Government to decide about the date of expiry of the term of office of the existing members of the Vellore District Board. Hence in their Order No. 3064, L.A., dated 12th August 1937, the Government cancelled their previous order, and under clause (h) of section 7 of the Madras Act XIII of 1935 fixed 31st December 1937 as the date on which the existing members of the district board will vacate their office; elections will be held in November 1937 in the normal course.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) No.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there are any other district boards the lives of which are extended for similar purposes?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“As far as I know there is none.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know who was responsible for the wrong order issued in the first instance?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The previous Ministry, Sir.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether it is the Interim Ministry or the previous Ministry?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is the previous Ministry.”

Action on the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Land Revenue Committee.

* 10 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the recommendations of the Marjoribanks' Land Revenue Committee as set out in the Government Order will be given effect to during the current year;

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(b) whether all the points referred to the Committee have been dealt with by them; and

(c) whether the Revenue Board has been asked to work out the details for restoring the rates of assessment prior to 1913-14 and for fixing the amount due from each pattadar according to those rates and also for determining the darkhast lands for which assessment is to be free according to the Committee's recommendations?

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) to (c). The recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of the Government.”

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask whether the Interim Ministry has not passed final orders on the recommendations of the Committee?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“No final orders have been passed. That is why the answer is what it is.”

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask whether all the points referred to the Committee have been reported upon?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“The whole matter including this is under the consideration of Government.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know whether the Government have received any report from the Board of Revenue?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“One report has been received.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“With reference to clause (c) of the question, I would like to know whether any report has been received from the Board of Revenue?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“No, it is under consideration. You have to wait until the whole subject has been considered and a reply is given.”

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“May I know whether the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Committee have or have not been considered at the time the Ministry framed the Budget?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“No.”

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“Is the House to take it that the recommendations of the Committee will not be considered and given effect to during the next six months?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“No such inference can be drawn from the answer. It will be known when the budget discussion begins.”

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MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are we to take it, Sir, that the Hon. Minister will consider the various representations made in connexion with the Marjoribanks Committee Report especially from the North Arcot district?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"Not only representations from North Arcot, but representations from other districts also will be considered."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"What will be the approximate time within which the Government will come to a decision?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"It may not be long and it may not be short either." (Laughter)

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"Will it not be decided this year?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"I have nothing to add to the answer already given."

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, in view of the importance of the recommendations of this Committee, may I ask whether the Government will be prepared to give this House a day for the discussion of the report before the Government comes to a decision on it?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"When the Government take up the matter for consideration, they will consider all the aspects of the question, and the hon. Members of the House may rest assured that the matter being important, the question whether it will be placed before them will be decided later."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May we take it that the matter will be placed before the Legislative Assembly before the Government comes to a decision?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The Government must first come to some conclusion before they can place the matter before the House."

DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of printing the report and placing it on the Editors' Table?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The Government will consider that and many other questions, because very much depends on the nature of the question before we can decide to give it publicity."

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Industrial concerns in the Province.

1 Q.—MR. N. M. R. SUBBARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of mills, factories and other industrial establishments in the Presidency;

(b) the various industries they are engaged in; and

(c) the number of labourers employed in each industry, men and women separately?

A.—(a) 1,651 at the close of the year 1936.

(b) & (c) A statement^a is annexed.

Compilation of statistics relating to the wages and living conditions of textile labourers.

2 Q.—MR. N. M. R. SUBBARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether statistics regarding wages, general conditions and the cost of living of labourers employed in the textile industries have been taken in this Presidency, as they have been taken in Bombay and other provinces; and

(b) if not, whether the Government will consider the advisability of taking those statistics?

A.—(a) At the instance of the Government of India, an attempt was made in 1934 to obtain information in regard to wages and general conditions of living of the labourers employed in the textile industry in this Province. Only 15 out of the 28 cotton mills and 2 out of the 6 Trade Unions then existing responded. The figures obtained were thus incomplete; nor could their accuracy be verified for lack of staff.

(b) The Government understand that the Tamil Nad Congress Committee has appointed a Committee to collect these statistics and would, therefore, rather prefer to wait until the results of the Committee's efforts are known. They will, however, be glad if textile mills and Trade Unions would co-operate with the Committee by answering the questionnaire it has issued for the purpose.

Measures for the relief of unemployment among hand-loom weavers.

3 Q.—MR. N. M. R. SUBBARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large amount of unemployment among the hand-loom weavers in this Presidency;

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 92-94 infra.

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(b) whether any attempts have been made to give them relief or employment; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take immediate measures for their relief?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government propose to continue and intensify their effort in this direction.

Measures for the encouragement of hand-spinning.

4 Q.—MR. N. M. R. SUBBARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that hand-spinning is giving employment to thousands of men and women in this Presidency;

(b) whether the Government propose to encourage hand-spinning; and

(c) if so, in what ways?

A.—(a) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Appendix B at pages 223–227 of the Presidency Report on the Survey of Cottage Industries, a copy of which is available in the Assembly Library.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government propose a grant of a substantial amount for the development of the industry.

Revenue suits filed for the collection of arrears of rent under the Madras Estates Land Act.

5 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the number is of revenue suits filed for the collection of arrears of rent in the permanently-settled estates governed by the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908 (as amended by Acts IV of 1909 and VIII of 1934) for the last three years;

(b) what the sum claimed as arrears of rent and interest is;

(c) what the amount of cost awarded to the plaintiff is;

(d) how many decrees were passed;

(e) what the amount of such decrees is;

(f) how many suits were dismissed; and

(g) what the amount of cost awarded to the defendant-tenant for such dismissal of plaints is?

[August 1937]

A.—(a) The number of suits filed for the recovery of rents under section 77 of the Act in each of the faslis 1343 to 1345 is furnished below:—

Fasli year.	Number of suits.
1343 (1933–34)	30,425
1344 (1934–35)	28,052
1345 (1935–36)	28,453

(b) to (g) The Government have no information.

Execution petitions filed for the collection of decree amounts under the Madras Estates Land Act.

6 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the number is of execution petitions filed for the collection of decree amounts in respect of rent decrees in the permanently-settled estates governed by the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908 (as amended by Act IV of 1909 and Act VIII of 1934), for the last three years;

(b) what the number is of execution petitions for the arrest of tenants to recover the arrears;

(c) what the amount of money covered by such executions is;

(d) what the number of execution petitions for the sale of the holding of the tenant is;

(e) what the amount of arrears covered by such executions is;

(f) how many petitions were fully satisfied;

(g) how many are pending; and

(h) what the amount of money recovered through the said execution petitions is?

A.—(a) to (h) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to statement No. III appended to the reports recorded in G.Os. Nos. 1191, Law (General), dated 3rd April 1935, and 3667, Law (General), dated 20th November 1935, and 2350, Revenue, dated 31st October 1936, which have been placed at the disposal of the Press.

The Government have no other information.

Applications to the revenue officers for the collection of arrears of rent under section 112 of the Madras Estates Land Act.

7 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the number is of applications made to the revenue officers in the Presidency for the collection of arrears of rent under section 112 of the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908 (as amended by Acts IV of 1909 and VIII of 1934) for the last three years;

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- (b) the amount of arrears of rent and interest covered by them;
 (c) the cost of such applications awarded to the landholder-plaintiff; and
 (d) the amount recovered by such applications?

A.—(a) Statistics are not separately available regarding applications made under section 112 of the Estates Land Act. The following statement furnishes the number of applications made under sections 112 and 114 of the Act during faslis 1343 to 1345:—

Fasli year.	Number of applications.
1343	105,563
(1933-34)	
1344	83,976
(1934-35)	
1345	55,106
(1935-36)	

(b) to (d) The Government have no information.

Appeals preferred against the decrees of courts of first instance in suits for the rent under the Madras Estates Land Act.

8 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many appeals were preferred against the decrees of courts of first instance in suits for the rent under the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, during the last three years; and

(b) what the sum covered by such appeals is?

A.—(a) & (b) Information has been called for. It is likely that some time will elapse before it is received.

Appeals before the High Court in respect of claims for rent under the Madras Estates Land Act.

9 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the number is of appeals preferred in the High Court in respect of claim for rents under the Madras Estates Land Act I of 1908 (as amended by Acts IV of 1909 and VIII of 1934) during the last three years;

(b) what the sum covered by such appeals is;

(c) how many appeals are in favour of the landlord (under the Madras Estates Land Act I of 1908, as amended by Acts IV of 1909 and VIII of 1934); and

(d) how many are in favour of the tenant?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

[31st August 1937]

Administration of the Forest Laws in the Jalandhra estate by the Court of Wards.

10 Q.—MR. P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Jalandhra estate now under the Court of Wards a number of prosecutions were filed for the alleged infringement of Forest Rules by the tenants and that in all cases they were heavily sentenced;

(b) whether it is a fact that the tenants were enjoying free grazing rights from time immemorial and that only this year, after the Court of Wards' assuming administration, these rights have been interfered with;

(c) the number of prosecutions filed since the commencement of this year, the sentence in each case, the compounding fees collected in each case and the compounding fees collected by the estate out of Court; and

(d) whether in view of the longstanding rights that were being enjoyed by the tenants, the Government will consider the desirability of granting free grazing rights in the estate?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Jalandhra estate belongs to the Vizianagram Zamindari which is under the superintendence of the Court of Wards. The Government have no information about the alleged prosecutions for infringement of Forest Rules, but will call for a report.

Protest against the abandonment of an irrigation scheme in the Jalandhra estate.

11 Q.—MR. P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that in the Jalandhra estate now under the Court of Wards' management an irrigation project which would be of very great use to the tenants now extending up to Phadigam village has been abandoned;

(b) whether the Government have received any representations from the tenants requesting for its completion and consenting to any reasonable enhancement; and

(c) whether the Government would consider the desirability of once again taking up the irrigation scheme forthwith?

A.—(a) & (c) The Government have no information, but will call for a report.

(b) No.

[31st August 1937]

Extension of the flood bank of the Bahuda river up to the limits of Kesapur village, Ichchapur taluk.

12 Q.—MR. P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether on representations made by the ryots of Idipur and other adjoining villages of Ichchapur taluk to extend the Bahuda river flood bank up to the limits of Kesapur village to prevent their lands from being sand-cast the Government promised to take up the work this year;

(b) whether detailed plans and estimates have already been prepared or not; and

(c) if plans and estimates are ready, whether the Government propose to undertake its execution this year?

A.—(a) A petition received by the Board of Revenue from the ryots was forwarded to Government by the Chief Engineer, but the Government had in the meanwhile deferred consideration of the proposal pending the revision of the boundary between the Madras and Orissa Provinces. Subsequently at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 1st December 1936, Sir A. P. Patro brought up the question by means of a cut motion and the Hon'ble Sir Charles Souter promised to bring the matter before the Government very soon. The Chief Engineer has been asked to examine the matter and submit a report.

(b) & (c) Plans and estimates which were originally prepared are now being revised consequent on the revision of the boundary between Madras and Orissa Provinces. The revised plans and estimates have not been received by Government. The question of undertaking the execution of the work will be considered after these are received.

Complaints of interference by local officials in the recent elections to the legislature.

13 Q.—MR. P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any complaints were received by the Local Government, District Magistrates or Divisional Officers against local officials serving in the Revenue and other departments and under Local Boards and the Court of Wards of having interfered in the recent legislative elections; and

(b) whether thorough enquiries were held in every case by the Government; if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) Only four complaints were received by Government. Enquiries were held in each case. A general enquiry was made in respect of complaints appearing in the press. Detailed information of individual complaints received by District Magistrates and Revenue Divisional Officers is not available.

[31st August 1937]

Order of the District and Sessions Judge, Guntur, for the vacation of the Court premises occupied by the Guntur Bar Association.

14 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Guntur Bar Association has been asked by the District and Sessions Judge, Guntur, to vacate the District Court premises from the 1st of August 1937 because the former had used it for political purposes; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any steps in the matter and what it is?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The District Judge has withdrawn the notice given by him to the Association.

Introduction of colour-box system in the municipal and district board elections.

15 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have any idea of introducing colour-box system in the municipal and district board elections?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to starred question 4.

Proposal for inclusion of Kasaragod taluk in the district of Malabar.

16 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the percentage is of Malayalam-speaking people and of Kanarese-speaking people, out of the total population, in the Kasaragod taluk; and

(b) whether the Government have ever considered the advisability of including Kasaragod taluk in the district of Malabar?

A.—(a) There is no precise information regarding the percentage of the Malayalam-speaking people. The prevailing mother-tongue in the taluk is Malayalam. Eight per cent of the population of the taluk speak Kanarese.

(b) Not in recent years.

Proposals for the formation of a cantonment in Cannanore.

17 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the military authorities have approached this Government with a proposal to form a cantonment in Cannanore and, if so, by which time?

A.—Yes. The exact date of constitution of the Cantonment has not yet been decided upon.

[31st August 1937]

Laying out of a road to connect South Kanara and Malabar.

18 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no road connecting South Kanara and Malabar and that at present traffic between the two districts is carried along the Malabar-Coorg and Coorg-South Kanara roads;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that there was a proposal a few years back in pursuance of which the construction of a road to connect the two districts was taken in hand;

(c) why that construction was stopped; and

(d) how many miles of road are required to connect the two districts?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A proposal was under consideration but work was not actually commenced.

(c) The scheme was dropped on account of its prohibitive cost (Rs. 21 lakhs).

(d) According to Mr. Vipin's report the length of the road required would be about 14 miles. Unless actual investigation is made, the exact length cannot be determined.

Alleged hardships in the collection in a single instalment of kists amounting to Rs. 5 and less.

19 Q.—MR. A. SUBRAMANIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government from the ryots of the South Arcot district to the effect that the trial measure adopted by the Government recently of collecting kists amounting to Rs. 5 and less in a lump sum in a single instalment instead of collecting it in four instalments is a hardship to them;

(b) if that is so, what action has been taken on them; and

(c) if no order has been passed till now by the Government, whether the Hon. the Minister will consider the desirability of reverting to the old system of collecting the above kists in four instalments?

A.—(a) Yes. Certain petitions were received from the ryots in November and December 1936 and one representation was received recently from the Provincial Secretary for Tamil Nad, All-India Kisan Federation.

(b) & (c) The Government will consider the proposal.

[31st August 1937]

Withdrawal of licences for possession of fire-arms in the case of the ryots of Venkatagiri taluk.

20 Q.—MR. B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the gun licences of the zamin ryots in Venkatagiri taluk were cancelled in or about 1931 or 1932 and thereafter;

(b) what the number is of such licences cancelled;

(c) whether it is a fact that none of them have been renewed till now;

(d) why the said licences were cancelled;

(e) if the said licences were cancelled, whether the gun licences of the zamindar were reduced;

(f) how many guns, rifles and fire-arms the Zamindar of Venkatagiri is allowed to have, (i) exempted by virtue of his being a zamindar, and (ii) otherwise by licence;

(g) whether the ryots of Venkatagiri taluk in hill areas are not in constant fear of attack by wild animals;

(h) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to reconsider the cases of these ryots and restore to them the gun licences cancelled; and

(i) whether it is a fact that of the licences cancelled that of only one individual, the karnam of Devulapalli, was restored; and, if so, the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government have no information, but have called for it.

Administration reports relating to the Venkatagiri zamin.

21 Q.—MR. B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether reports have been received from the Collectors of Nellore district from 1930 regarding the administration of the Zamindar of Venkatagiri estate; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the said reports on the table; and

(b) whether the said reports have disclosed to the Government any and if so, what defects in the said administration, and whether the Government have taken or propose to take the necessary remedial measures?

A.—(a) Certain reports on the subject were received in 1933. The reports were confidential. The Government regret they are unable to place the reports on the table of the House, as the publication of the reports will be prejudicial to public interest.

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- (b) The Government are unable to disclose the contents of the confidential reports. The Government considered that no action was necessary as the Maharaja of Venkatagiri had taken the necessary steps to improve the administration and had appointed, for this purpose, a retired Government servant as his Dewan.

Measures for the immediate reduction of the land revenue assessment.

22 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether immediate steps are being taken to reduce land assessment by at least 25 per cent, and if so, what they are?

A.—The question of the reduction of the Land Revenue is under the consideration of the Government and orders will be issued shortly.

Extent of relief rendered by Government in Guntur for damage caused by cyclone on 28th October 1936.

23 Q.—MR. K. VENKATAPPAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the estimate of losses incurred by the people on account of damage caused to cattle, crops and houses by the cyclone disaster that occurred in the district of Guntur on 28th October 1936;

(b) the amounts spent by the Government for cyclone relief giving various heads of relief and the amounts spent on each head; and

(c) the sums received by the Government from private donors for relief?

A.—(a) A statement^a showing the particulars of damage caused by the cyclone which was submitted by the Collector of Guntur with his letter, dated 7th November 1936, is attached. The Government are awaiting a detailed report on the subject from the Collector.

(b) An allotment of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned by the Government for the relief of distress during 1936–37. Of this, a sum of Rs. 17,000 was spent during the year ending 31st March 1937 and the balance lapsed. A further allotment of Rs. 2,900 has been sanctioned for the year 1937–38. Details as regards the amounts spent under each head are not available. Further, at the instance of the Government, the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway granted certain concessions in regard to the transport of fodder and building materials to the affected areas. The monetary value of the concession is not known.

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- (c) The information is not available. It has been called for. A sum of Rs. 5,235 was contributed towards the Guntur Cyclone Relief by the local boards and municipalities. This amount was placed at the disposal of the Collector of the district.

Location of the toddy and arrack shops in Karkal, South Kanara.

24 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware—

(i) that the toddy and arrack shops in the town of Karkala in South Kanara are located near the colony occupied by the Raneyars who belong to the depressed class;

(ii) that the said shops are situated very close to the market place to which people from the neighbouring villages resort in large numbers every week on 'Shandi' days;

(iii) that the said shops are very near the junction of the three main roads of Karkala;

(iv) that within a very short distance from the said shops there are two schools, the Hindu Balika Patashala and Sri Venkataramana Temple Higher Elementary School, the pupils of which have to pass through the site of the said shops on their way to and from school; and

(b) whether the Hon. the Minister will be pleased to take immediate steps for the removal of the said shops to some less objectionable locality away from the town?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Legislative measures for the reconstitution of the District Educational Councils.

25 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) what steps are being taken to reconstitute the District Educational Councils to ensure their proper functioning;

(b) whether any legislative enactment is contemplated in the near future with regard to this matter;

(c) whether under the new rules framed under the Elementary Education Act, any steps have been taken to tighten the control over the existing District Educational Councils; and

(d) what savings have been effected thereby out of the 55 lakhs of rupees annually distributed by the District Educational Councils?

A.—(a) & (b) It has been brought to the notice of Government that District Educational Councils have not been a success and this matter is engaging the attention of Government.

(c) Yes.

(d) The aim of the new rules is not to effect any savings, but to pay full grants to efficient schools.

[31st August 1937]

Opinion of Universities in re: the reconstruction of education as recommended by the Central Advisory Board and the Inter-University Conference.

26 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Universities in the Province have given their opinion on the proposal for the reconstruction of education suggested both by the Central Advisory Board and the Inter-University Conference; and

(b) if so, whether the report will be laid on the table?

A.—(a) The views of two of the Universities have been received.

(b) As the whole problem of Educational reconstruction has been dealt with in the Government's Press Communiqué of the 26th June and is under consideration, the Government do not consider it necessary to publish the reports in question now.

Decision of Government regarding the location of the Subordinate Judge's Court, Chicacole.

27 Q.—MR. C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of locating the Chicacole Subordinate Judge's Court permanently at Chicacole has been engaging the attention of Government; and

(b) whether they have arrived at any, and if so, what decision?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The question does not arise.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

IV.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that under Rule 9 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I have nominated the following four Members of the Assembly to be a panel of Chairmen for this session of the Assembly:—

"1. Mr. K. Koti Reddi.

"2. Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.

"3. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.

"4. Sir William Wright."

[31st August 1937]

V.—ELECTION TO THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY SENATE.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to make another announcement. The Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University has requested me to make arrangements for holding an election of three members to the Senate of the Annamalai University from among the members of the Legislative Assembly under clause (3), class III of section 3 of the Annamalai University Act, 1929, according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

"I fix 1 p.m. on Monday, the 6th September 1937, as the latest time by which notice of nominations should be sent to the Secretary.

"If the number of candidates nominated exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, three, there will be an election between 12 noon and 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 16th September 1937."

VI.—MOTION UNDER RULE 17.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I beg to move, Sir, that Rule 17 of the Madras Assembly Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Wednesday, the 1st September 1937. It is merely a formal motion that I wish to make, because that is the date fixed for the presentation of the Budget."

The motion was put and carried.

VII.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

RESOLUTION re DEMAND FOR THE SHAPING OF A CONSTITUTION BY A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I beg next to move that, under Rule 15 (3), item 6 on the Agenda, namely, the resolution with regard to the constituent Assembly, be taken up before the "next item is entered upon."

The motion was put and carried.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"The resolution that I have the pleasure to move reads as follows:—

'This Assembly resolves that the Local Government do forward to the Government of India and to His Majesty's Government, its emphatic opinion that the Government of India Act, 1935, should be replaced at the earliest possible date by a constitution in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress, and that the assumption of office by Ministers in this Presidency should by no means be understood as a surrender of the national demand for a constitution to be shaped by the representatives of the people of India duly summoned to a constituent Assembly convened for the purpose.'

^a The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Bill (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1937).

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1 p.m. "Sir, this subject is not new and whatever I say on this subject cannot be new either, for it is a matter which has exercised the minds of almost all thinking men and women in this country. I wish, therefore, to be very brief and I hope no one will take my brevity to mean that the subject has receded into comparatively small importance. Before saying anything on the subject proper I might explain the expression 'constituent Assembly.' I fear there has been a certain amount of pre-conceived notion which might perhaps explain why many people think that the 'constituent Assembly' is the peculiar property of the Congress and not of other parties. As I understand it, 'constituent Assembly' is an Assembly which shapes the constitution. The word 'constituent' in the phrase 'constituent Assembly' is used because of the fact that the Assembly is convened to shape a constitution. There is a certain amount of original untilled soil when a constitution is framed because there is no constitution which governs the proceedings of that Assembly. This is the reason why an Assembly of any nation that meets together to shape the Government of that nation is given a separate name, viz., 'constituent Assembly.' It is only for the reason that a constituent assembly shapes the form of the constitution, that that name is given to it. It might be a constitution that pleases the Congress, it might be a constitution that may not please the Congress but pleases other people. With this brief explanation I must at once proceed to the Government of India Act.

"It is a very strange thing for the head of a Government functioning under the Government of India Act for the time being to attack the constitution under which he is standing and speaking. But the peculiar situation of our country is such that many strange things may happen and must happen. I voice forth not only my own opinion or the opinion of Members of the Ministerialist Party in this House but the opinion of the vast majority of people all over India belonging to various parties holding various shades of political opinion when I say that the Government of India Act is based on a negation of national self-respect, on a negation of national capacity and on a negation of the principles of democracy. I do not belittle the scope or the opportunities afforded to Provincial Governments formed under the Government of India Act. If I had thought so, I should not be standing here speaking on this occasion. It is very true that there is much scope, much work and much responsibility, but that does not mean much freedom or much independence. It is a very big cage—Provincial Autonomy—but it is all the same a cage. It is not the open air. It is not a consolation to say that the cage is very large. Sir, men and women whom I represent are familiar with prison life. It occurs to me that I may explain my point with reference to things happening in prison. Sometimes men are kept and locked in cells; the cell door is not locked. But sometimes they are in a big block. If they close their eyes they may imagine they are not locked up. But when they look around they find that the yard is locked and guarded all right. Provincial autonomy is very much a thing of that kind and that is the reason why, Sir, though, as the head of the Provincial Government, I have got large scope and large responsibilities

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and plenty of opportunities to do good to the people, still I move this resolution that the constitution must be replaced. I cannot forget the nation to which I belong, I cannot forget the capacity of the nation to which I belong, I cannot give up my ideas of freedom and that is why I say that this constitution is bad and should be replaced, and that we as a Government and this Assembly constituted as such, should send forth our opinion in clear and emphatic terms to the Government and the people who are responsible for forcing this constitution upon us. Under the Government of India Act the smallest British interest, it seems to me, is more important than the biggest Indian national interest. Under this Act the rights and privileges of the servants employed by the nation are to be protected by an outside authority as against any policy that the nation may adopt in its own interest. The services are more than the nation under this Government of India Act.

"Again, Sir, the Heads of Indian States who refuse to give any form of responsible Government to their own people, who are autocratic and who are unable to appreciate or understand and do not have any experience of any kind of parliamentary or democratic institutions, are placed in a dominant position of statutory authority over the provinces in the sphere of legislation and administration and defence. I do not think, Sir, that I need add any arguments to this what I consider to be a truthful and accurate description of this constitution. This Federation is bad. It is bad and unworkable as a mixture. Even if workable, it is intolerable. It is possible to conceive of alliances for military and defence purposes between wholly different states. It is possible to conceive that, for military and defence purposes, Germany may work in alliance with England or Italy. But it is impossible to conceive of a Parliament at London to which the dictators of Germany and Italy can send their representatives to sit together with the Members of the old British Parliament and run a common civil Government for England, Germany and Italy. That is exactly what is sought to be done in the Federation that is contemplated in the Government of India Act, to compare small things with great, if I may say so, even if one considers our affairs to be smaller than the affairs of Europe. To us Indians, Indian affairs are not smaller, and truth is the same whether it is applied to one country or another. The objection of the Indian National Congress to this sort of Federation is not any objection to the idea of Indian unity, nor to the idea of having a central national authority. The objection is to grant authority to the irresponsible Rulers of States, who will also form part of the Federation, to make laws for us or to administer our affairs. As and when each Indian State advances to the level of Government at least of our own Provinces, we may admit responsible representatives of these States to a share in the Federal authority but not until then.

"Sir, our goal had better be restated, though it is well known. It is full Indian National Independence restrained only by the necessary restraints imposed by fellowship in a common humanity. We cannot admit either the wisdom or the right of any other nation to impose its

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own will upon us. Our constitution should be framed by us. We may have British draftsmen; but ours must be the choice as to what we want. The will and the capacity to frame our constitution is not any other than the will and capacity to achieve that constitution. That does not mean that we do not hope to achieve the end without a bloody struggle. We do hope in all earnestness that we shall be able to achieve that goal through the path of peace. Truth and reason must prevail if we have faith in human progress. It is foolish for either side to resort to violence for the suppression of our aspirations or for the furtherance of our cause. The sooner this is realized by both sides, the better it is for both Britain and India and for humanity.

"It is possible for Britain to imagine that she has given all that was wanted to meet the situation, that as we have taken up office, all is well with India, but all is not well with India. That is why this resolution has been moved. I say emphatically that all is not well. Let there be no mistake about it; the problem has not been solved by any means. It is well for us to record a clear expression of this on practically the first day when we meet for business in this House. Therefore I commend this resolution for your acceptance. The Congress Governments will attempt to do all that is in their power to prevent the establishment of a Federal structure which in their opinion is a denial of all the axioms of political science and a contradiction of all the principles of democracy, a Federal structure, which is not wanted either by the peasants of India or the Princes of Indian States. I commend this resolution to the House."

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in seconding this resolution just now moved by my Colleague, the Prime Minister. When the Congress demanded assurances from the Governors before it accepted office, some people who claimed to know the constitutional practice well, stated that in their opinion such assurances could not be given and that the Congress was ill-advised in demanding such assurance. But when they saw that the assurances were given by the Secretary of State, the Viceroy and the Governors they revised their opinions and said that it was a wise move on the part of the Congress to have asked for the assurance. But for this assurance the Congress Party would not have accepted office and begun its work with the same amount of self-confidence as it does now."

Sir, it would be the same case with the demand for a constituent Assembly about which diverse opinions have been expressed by leaders of many parties. I am sure the critics of such a demand would soon find that the creation of a constituent Assembly was not, after all, so impracticable as some of them seemed to think. It is a matter of common knowledge, Sir, that soon after the elections were over in all the provinces a convention was held at Delhi in which the Congress members of all the Provincial and Central Legislatures met under the Presidency of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. In the course of working this constitution so far as the provinces are concerned, the Congress hope to inspire confidence in the minds of all non-Congress parties throughout

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India in its work, and I am sure it would be soon possible to hold a convention in the Capital of India of all the Congress and non-Congress legislators of India where preliminary work might be done. Once joint and united effort is resolved upon by all the Legislators, it will be found that the Constituent Assembly could be brought within the range of practical politics as a next step towards the great end which all parties have in view. Sir, I do not want to say anything more on this subject especially as the Leader of the House has spoken on the various aspects and bearings of the resolution. With these words, I second the proposition."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the amendment which stands in my name, namely—

'Delete all the words after the words "the aspirations of the people of India".'

"I do so with a certain amount of hesitation. I am sorry I have to do it for various reasons which I shall very soon enumerate. The first is that there should be no feeling in the matter that we are all united with regard to the national demand. I do not think there is hardly any Member of this Legislature who does not agree with the demand of the people of India and with regard to their aspirations for the fulfilment of their demands. I do not think that I should, after the very able and instructive speech of the Hon. Gentleman, the Premier, with regard to the reasons why the Government of India Act, 1935, should be replaced by a constitution which will satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country—he has dealt with them so thoroughly say anything more on the subject, except to endorse all that he has said. But the difficulty arises when we remember that this House is composed of not only the party in power but various other parties, and it would be better if we stop with the words '... aspirations of the people of India.' Otherwise it would mean that parties other than the Congress would be accepting a resolution which primarily and wholly applies to one party only. If you read the resolution before the House, you will find that in the latter part of it it refers to the resolution of the Indian National Congress. In that resolution, if I remember right, reference has been made to the fact that the policy of the Congress is to wreck the constitution. Whereas there are other parties not only in the country outside but also in this very House who do not agree with that policy. For instance, the party to which I have the honour to belong holds the view that the provincial scheme of the Government of India Act should be worked for what it is worth. That the difference so far as the policy is concerned, although I know that in actual practice, in actual work, there is no such difference so far as the working of the provincial scheme is concerned. For we see before members of all parties assembled in this House to work the constitution for what it is worth. That is so far as the reference to the resolution of the Indian National Congress is concerned."

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"With reference to the question of the assumption of office by Ministers in this Presidency, even there I am afraid I have to state clearly that the policy of wrecking the constitution stood in the way of the Congress accepting office. But we are all glad, and I am sure there is hardly any one in this country who is not glad, that the Congress has decided to accept office. To-day we have Congress Ministers in this House who will serve the best interests of the people of this Province. Therefore so far as this part of the resolution is concerned, it applies wholly and solely to one party alone and no other party comes in here, for it refers to one party alone.

"Then, Sir, there is a third thing with regard to which also I do not think that there is any reference to any other party by the party in power. And that is with regard to the constitution of a Constituent Assembly for the purpose of framing a constitution for India. The Hon. Gentleman, the Premier, has very kindly explained to the House that if any Constituent Assembly is to be constituted, it is for the purpose of framing a constitution. Might I ask, Sir, how that Constituent Assembly will be constituted? It would have been much better if the Hon. Gentleman, the Premier, had told us more than what he has told us as to how that Assembly would be constituted. For unfortunately in this country we have differences on various considerations. Communal considerations also have their place. The way in which communities and interests have to be safeguarded and considerations like that play their part. Therefore may I appeal to him to tell us if he can in his final speech whether in constituting the Constituent Assembly every care will be taken to see that proper representation is given to all interests and proper share is given in this Constituent Assembly to the minorities in this country? If that point is made clear, I do not think that some of us will have much objection with regard to that part of the resolution. As it is, we are not sure as to how this Assembly will be constituted and whether it will be necessary so far as the minorities are concerned. We are certainly at one with the Hon. Gentleman, the Premier, when he says that the Government of India Act does not satisfy the people of this country. On the other hand we are anxious that it should be replaced as soon as possible by another Act which will satisfy the aspirations of the people of this country. Sir, I move the amendment."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second the amendment, and in doing so I wish to make a few observations. Sir, the Hon. House might have understood by the speech of the mover of the amendment the spirit in which the amendment is moved. It must have been clear to the Assembly that the mover or his party is not antagonistic to the resolution, at least to the former part of it. I may assure the House, through you, Sir, that not only the party to which Mr. Hameed Khan belongs but also all Mussalmans of this House—at least most of them—and outside this Assembly are not satisfied with the constitution that is given to us.

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"May I remind the House that Mr. Muhammad Ali Jinnah was one of those foremost persons who have condemned this Act? He is one of those foremost persons who are opposed to Federation in the shape in which it is given to us. You may take it, Sir, that the majority of the Mussalmans, whether they belong to this side of the House or that side of the House, are not decidedly for the present constitution. At the same time, Sir, this amendment has become necessary. I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House and his band of Ministers who are out to-day to do some good to the country, irrespective of the fact whether the persons whom they are serving are Mussalmans or Hindus, will certainly sympathise with the Mussalmans' point of view. This amendment has been moved in a spirit of fear; a sort of fear in the minds of the Mussalmans. May I ask you, Sir, is it not natural for the Mussalmans to request you to say what sort of Assembly you are going to constitute? When you decide as to what sort of constitution that this constituent assembly is going to frame, what would be the safeguards that the minority communities are going to have? It is really a regrettable thing and a very unfortunate thing, I know, from an idealist point of view, to urge in time and out of time, that this or that community's interests should be safeguarded; and I know also it is very good to say that the interests of all communities will be safeguarded. It is no doubt an ideal to be achieved, to be hoped for, to be desired; but at the same time, I may say that the ideal ceases to be an ideal as soon as it is reached. In that view, Sir, let us reach a certain conclusion, come to a certain understanding, as between the various communities. Nobody is more conscious than myself that in a nation, there is no place for a religious community. I know it; but the facts are staring at us. The Mussalmans say—as Mr. M. N. Roy at Vizagapatam has said fortunately or unfortunately—that the Congress is much saturated with Hinduism, at any rate, with the Hinduistic culture—that is what he seems to have said. I read it in yesterday's *Mail*; but I am speaking subject to correction. No doubt it may not be true, and I also say it may not be true; but yet, as I said, a sort of fear, a *bona fide* fear has crept into the minds of the Mussalmans (an Hon. Member: 'No foundation for it') and that is why this amendment has been moved. No doubt, in the first instance, my hon. friend was somewhat hesitant to move it; but when we said that we should give out plainly what our mind contained on this matter, it was decided that we need not be afraid of moving this amendment. It is better to understand each other in a good spirit rather than keep up appearances; I may also say that it is not the habit of a majority of Mussalmans to keep things secret or to keep up appearances. It is in that spirit, Sir, that this amendment has been moved by my friend.

"Sir, the Mover has also stated that in an Assembly like this, where there are different parties, what has been decided by one party ought not to be mentioned here as the subject-matter of a resolution. It may be that when the resolution was first framed by the Indian National

1-30
p.m.

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Congress, if that clause were not there, there would not have been any objection to this resolution on the part of anybody. What I mean to say is that while the subject-matter may be accepted, it may be said that that is the point of view of a certain section of this House and not of the whole House. I submit, Sir, with due deference to the Premier of this Province, that the introduction of that clause as framed by the Indian National Congress, that at any rate, ought not to have been included in the resolution at all."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"May I just request the Hon. Member to resume his seat for a minute? It is usual for this House to have an interval of an hour for lunch. We have had that interval to-day already between 11-30 and 12-30. I propose, therefore, that this House do continue to sit till 4 p.m. without an interval and finish the business, if possible. May I take it that the House agrees to my suggestion?"

KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, some of us have not had our tiffin yet; but it may not be necessary that we should have one hour for lunch; it is enough if we have time to go home and come back. I think many members will agree that we should have some interval for lunch."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"May I suggest that we may have an interval of 45 minutes?"

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"In that case, we shall sit now till 2 o'clock."

MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"The second point which I want to urge is this: my friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan has made it clear how doubtful Mussalmans are about the constitution of the constituent assembly. He has very pertinently asked how it would be constituted, whether all interests would be represented in the constituent assembly, and whether the decisions arrived at by that constituent assembly will be binding on all minority communities and sections and other interests. May I remind this House, Sir, that in the past there have been many attempts made to frame a sort of constitution? May I remind this House about the Nehru Report? Did the Mussalmans and the Hindus agree to that? They did not. There have been many attempts made by Mahatma Gandhi himself and Messrs. Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali, all to no effect. Recently also, we have been hearing in the papers that some attempts were being made by Messrs. Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Rajendra Prasad. For some reason or other—and it is not necessary for me now to state the reasons—all these attempts to frame a constitution by the Indians themselves, have not been fruitful. Now, unless the persons responsible for suggesting the calling of a constituent assembly make it clear what the constitution of that assembly would be, many persons, Muhammadans and persons belonging to other minority communities, who may be otherwise willing to join hands with others in framing the constitution of a free India and doing away with all the defects pointed out by the Premier to-day, may be hesitant. Therefore, I appeal to the Premier to state in his reply, on the authority of the Congress, what the constitution of the constituent assembly

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would be and how the interests of all the minority communities—of Mussalmans and of such of the minority communities as want protection—will be safeguarded. If the Premier gives the details of the constituent assembly, it may be that this amendment will be found later on to be unnecessary. Sir, it is in that spirit that I have great pleasure in seconding this amendment. I appeal once again to the Premier to consider the matter carefully. I am sure he will do it, because by reputation he is a person who looks at matters from the others' point of view. I hope, Sir, that his explanation will satisfy the mover of this amendment and the amendment may be found to be unnecessary (Hear, hear)."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The question is that the resolution moved by the Hon. the Prime Minister be amended as follows:—

"Delete all the words after the words "the aspirations of the people of India"."

The amendment is now for discussion.

"There is another amendment given notice of by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. In order to facilitate discussion, I would allow that amendment also to be moved and seconded, so that the discussion of the whole subject may be taken up and proceeded with after that.

"Before I call upon Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed to move his amendment, I have to state that the Leader of the Opposition has agreed that the House may sit till 2-15 p.m. and rise for lunch for 45 minutes; we will meet again at 3 p.m. and continue our business till 5 o'clock."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, the amendment that I have given notice of runs as follows:—

"In line 7, after the word "Congress" insert the following words: "and as expressed by the All-India Muslim League and various other parties and bodies in the country"."

"Sir, it is not for me to take any length of time on the main ideas incorporated in the resolution. I might at once proceed to say that I am in full agreement with all that the Hon. the Premier has expressed on this question. The purpose of my giving notice of and moving this amendment is only to strengthen the position of the Congress in the country as well as in this House, so far as its dealings with His Majesty's Government are concerned.

"Sir, the main contention put forth in this resolution is that this House do place on record and convey to His Majesty's Government its emphatic opinion that this constitution should be replaced by a constitution that would be in consonance with the aspirations of India. On that question, Sir, there are no two opinions. No Mussalman, I think, or no Christian for the matter of that, and no Adi-Dravida, in fact, no person who belongs to any political party, will dissent from this expression of opinion. It is true that there are some political parties in this country which disagree on minor details; but the broad

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fact remains—and it remains uncontroverted—that the present constitution, whether it be in its federal aspect or whether it be in its provincial aspect, requires a thorough wiping out, and a constitution which would be acceptable to all the peoples of India should be brought into its place. The Muslim League has already, in its last session, given its view that the present constitution is totally bad and unacceptable and no part of it could be accepted by any section of any community; it has also called upon His Majesty's Government to review, as soon as possible, the whole position, and bring about a fresh constitution in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India.

1-45 P.m. “So that, there is not the least or the slightest disagreement on that issue. Now, the point which remains is only this, viz., whether the Congress should say that that opinion has been expressed by the Congress alone. The purpose, the significance and the implication of my amendment is that none need be under any misapprehension that it is the Congress alone that has expressed its disapproval and condemnation of the constitution but that all other parties in this country including the Muslim League and the other minority parties as well have held the same view. I do not want, Sir, that His Majesty's Government should have any handle to say that this resolution which is to be sent up from this House represents only the Congress view. I wish it should represent the view of all the parties, and in that view, I say, let us have this amendment. Then, it will mean that not only in the opinion of the Congress as expressed in its resolutions is this constitution a mere wastepaper, but that in the opinion of the Muslim League and the various other political parties also it is a bad constitution.

“Next, Sir, with regard to the Constituent Assembly, the Ministers of the Government of the day are desirous to make it clear that the assumption of office by them does not involve the abandonment or the forsaking of the national demand. I do not think, Sir, there need be any difference of opinion on that point. The Congress has made it quite clear even before they accepted and after they accepted office that they do not mean to give up their demand for a constituent assembly and for the constitution to be framed by that assembly. I do not think Mussalmans differ on that point. Every Mussalman thinks that the destiny of this country should be decided not only by the Hindus but also by the Mussalmans, Christians and the Adi-Dravidas. There can be no two opinions with regard to that right in the framing of a constitution. As an integral part of the Indian nation, the Mussalmans and the other communities have a place, and it will be that assembly which shall have to declare the constitution which shall be accepted by India and which shall not be detracted by the British Government. That being the case, I am of opinion that it is too premature to ask as to what the constituent assembly is going to be or what its constitution is likely to be. That is not the point before the House. The real point before the House is that contained in the second part of the resolution, which says that the constitution is to be shaped by the representatives of the people

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of India duly summoned for the purpose. The time will come when the Muslims will consider as to what they should do when the framing of the constitution is taken up. So also the other communities will have their proper and legitimate place in the constitution-making process. So I do not think the Premier is at this moment called upon to say as to how the constituent assembly is going to be composed of (Hear, hear). I therefore earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Premier to accept my amendment and carry with him all sections not only in this House but also outside. I hope the Premier will concede that every party which knows its mind, whether in this House or outside, is at one with me in condemning the constitution that we are now supposed to be working under. It is no doubt true that with regard to the present constitution, so far as it relates to the provinces, one political party says ‘though we are not satisfied with the present position, let us work it for what it is worth.’ That does not mean that that party is wedded to this constitution till eternity, a constitution rotten as it is called and unacceptable to the people of India as it has been demonstrated to be. Even the provincial autonomy has not been accepted in toto by the Muslim League or any other political party for aught I know. Nor does it follow that the differences of opinion with regard to the federation should be brought into the consideration of this resolution. The idea of the proposed type of federation has been condemned outright. I therefore appeal that to be unanimous, is to give the fullest strength and to make it clear to the British Government that the entire House is behind the Premier, we shall have this amendment accepted and passed, so that we may show that not only in the opinion of the Congress but also in the opinion of all other political parties of this country this constitution is worthless and that it ought to be replaced by a constitution which should be in consonance with the aspirations of the country as a whole. I therefore have great pleasure in moving this amendment, and I respectfully commend it for the acceptance of this House.”

MR. D. K. SAIYED IBRAHIM:—“I second the amendment.”

* MR. SPEAKER:—“These two amendments and the resolution are before the House for discussion.”

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. the Premier admitted that there is much scope in the Act for working provincial autonomy, but that it has not conferred full freedom on this country. I remember the reply given by Mahatma Gandhi when he was confronted with the question why he wanted to change the Government as he had once said that the British Government was the best government. Then he said that self-government is better than the best government. So in that sense, the Premier was right in saying that we want to replace this constitution at the earliest possible opportunity by a constitution of our own. But then, having accepted office, he has not tried it and worked it to see how far it is acceptable. It is admitted on all hands that it is not completely acceptable to any party in the country. But having accepted office, is it not worth while trying to work it and see what benefits can be got out of it?

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"Then, there is reference to the constituent assembly in the resolution. The largest minority community, viz., the Muslim community, through its representative body the Muslim League, has also said that the Act is not acceptable but that it should be worked for what it is worth. So, let us work it and see what defects it has and in what all things we shall have to amend it. It was said by the Hon. the Premier that the object of the Congress is complete independence. But on this too, I remember Mahatma Gandhi having once said that dominion status in terms of the Statute of Westminster will be acceptable to him. So, let us be content with dominion status and not ask for complete independence. Why, the Egyptians who were asking for complete independence all along have agreed to be the ally of the British people. So also, the Phillipinos, though they were offered independence, seeing that Japan is trying to swallow everybody before it, now do not want to go out of the United States of America. The position of our party is that we should work for dominion status and we wish to see how far the Act can be worked to the advantage of the country. The Congress has accepted that view and now must try to see how far it can be worked. I have great faith in the sincerity and self-sacrifice of Congressmen. I hope they will work this constitution and give it a trial."

* MR. R. M. PALAT:—"Sir, I wish to say a few words on this resolution. First of all, the resolution reads that we must have 'a constitution in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress.' I have been reliably informed by a responsible individual that if statistics is taken of all the parties in all the provincial legislatures in India, the majority will be found to be non-Congress. If that is so, this statement that the Indian people have expressed an opinion in consonance with the resolution of the Congress is not accurate. I wish to point this out to the Hon. the Leader of the House."

"Then, with regard to the last sentence that the Ministers have accepted office with certain reservations in their minds, it is not for the House to judge or to express any opinion on that. But it is for the Ministers themselves to make a statement and forward it. We cannot by passing a resolution change or certify as to the state of the mind of any Minister or of any member of this House."

"Then, the Hon. the Prime Minister has put his demand on three grounds, one on the ground of national self-respect, another on the ground of capacity, and the third on the ground of democracy. I do not wish to say anything with regard to the first ground, because I quite admit that it is not a very self-respecting thing to be a subject nation. But, with regard to the second and third grounds, I differ entirely from the Hon. the Leader of the House. As regards capacity, are the Indian people capable of defending themselves? What is the good of complete independence without being able to maintain that independence? Is it not like the mere cry of the child for something which it cannot handle? We know that the Japanese and the Chinese

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are dying by thousands for their own countries. How many Indians—among Congressmen—would be prepared to face enemy machine-guns? (Shouts of all, all and laughter.) If it is as you say, that all are so prepared, then you would not be making this demand now. It would have come by itself. If what you say is true, there is no need for this paper resolution. Some Congressmen, no doubt, are prepared to go to jail, and the moment they enter it they ask for a first-class classification. That is the measure of their patriotism. We are not yet capable of defending ourselves, and there is not the least good in pretending to ask for independence when we are not in a position to maintain that independence. Then, what about democracy? Are the Indian people fit for democracy? I very seriously question that. We know that the Congress Party which claims to be the most democratic in the country is governed by a few heads? Is there real democracy in the party? Have any of you any real voice in its decisions? (Question.) I will answer the question. The Working Committee of the Congress has passed a resolution contrary to the resolution of the All-India Congress Committee. That is a few heads have set at naught the Congress resolution about office acceptance. Could they not have consulted the All-India Congress Committee? Is that democracy? A few leaders sit in order and the rank and file obey without having either the will or the power to question the order but blindly follow. This is the position of the Congress and this is not democracy? We know that in his very House the Hon. the Leader of the House when an awkward question is put to him by any of his party men outside the House has asked 'Do you mean to cross-examine me?' Is that democracy? 2 p.m.

"Then as regards the collaboration of the Native States within his federation, the Hon. the Leader has pointed out that it is not practicable for democratic and self-governing India to sit with representatives of autocratic Indian States. I question that. In the League of Nations, which is a federation in embryo, you see representatives of Italy which is practically an autocratic State, of Germany which is practically an autocracy, sitting side by side with representatives of republican France and democratic England. I say that it is possible for democracies to work with absolute monarchies. Finally I would ask if it is not too early to condemn federation. The Congress as such has decided and is working this constitution in the Provinces. Give federation a fair trial; all the other parties are willing to give it a fair trial. As pointed out in the beginning of my speech, if statistics are taken it will be found that Congressmen are not more numerous in the legislatures than non-Congressmen. (A voice: 'Question.') The point can be verified by any person. With these few words, I take my seat."

* MR. C. J. VARKEY:—"I had not thought of speaking on this subject but I want only to correct a few wrong impressions which my esteemed friend has placed before the House. I do not know whether he has studied or is studying the history of our country which we have thoroughly studied for the last several years. I should like

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to remind my hon. Friend that our ancestors were more warlike than those who came to conquer this country. Let him remember the Sikh wars, the Mahratta wars and the Gurkha wars and he will understand that our ancestors were able to face even the fiercest foes of the West. That is the lesson of Indian History. If one does not care to study it, it is not the Congress that is to be blamed.

"As for Parliaments, His Excellency referred to the Mother of Parliaments this morning. We had Parliaments in this country where they enjoyed full self-government. Our village mahasabhas were much earlier to the witenagemots and townmots and other mots or assemblies of the Anglo-Saxon days. To say that there was no self-government in those days is adding insult to injury.

"Our friend adduces statistics. He does not understand their implications. He says that if all the Congress Members in the legislatures and all the non-Congress Members also were put together the non-Congress Members would be found to represent the opinion of the country. I challenge that. Each one of the Congress Members in the legislatures represents the population much more in number than the non-Congress Members he referred to. So when we study history we must look at facts impartially; when we take statistics, we should not distort them. With these remarks I resume my seat."

* MR. A. T. M. MOHIDEEN MARICAIR:—"Sir, I cannot agree with my Muslim Friends who have brought without any warrant the communal question on this resolution moved by the Hon. the Prime Minister. I am afraid it is simply exploiting communalism when one talks of Muslim feeling on this vital question of freedom for our motherland. The Muslim masses are equally thirsty for freedom and they have absolute faith in the Congress, the only national organization working for Swaraj. And I can assert this with authority in the case of my constituency and also the other Muslim masses in the country. I oppose the amendment and I appeal to the House to accept the resolution moved by the Hon. the Prime Minister. I also take objection to the statement made by my hon. Friend Mr. Palat. He referred to Japan, Russia, Australia, Afghanistan and other countries."

MR. R. M. PALAT:—"On a point of order. I referred only to China and Japan."

MR. A. T. M. MOHIDEEN MARICAIR:—"My friend referred to Japan and China. He is wounding the feelings of Indians. When soldiers are being sent to China to support and protect Japanese or the British there, is it not a shameful thing that my friend should refer to China and Japan? Therefore I oppose the amendments moved by my Muslim Friends."

* MR. P. ACHUTHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I do not want to speak anything against the amendment that has been moved by my friend but I uphold the cause of the minority. I say that our Muhammadan Friends have no business to uphold the cause of the Hindu minorities."

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MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"I said, such of the minorities who want protection."

MR. P. ACHUTHAN:—"I know that we have been under British rule for 150 years and how we have been treated. I belong to the depressed class. I know that the Government itself claimed that it existed for interests of these minorities. They demand from us 12 annas for each tree tapped with further licence . . . ? They want to make us stay where we are for ever.

"Then my friends have been speaking of old conquest. I say it is not a question of conquest or non-conquest. Every one wants his liberty. He does not want that his country should be dictated to by other nations. My friend Mr. Palat has spoken in favour of the amendment. In spite of the fact that the British Government have been trying to protect the interests of the minorities, we have not been better off. This untouchability and unapproachability is still there.

"This kind of slavery should be abolished. If there are people who want to remain as slaves for ever, let them, but not the whole people of India. It will be a stigma on them. I would only utter this warning 'Save us from our friends'."

* SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT:—"Mr. Speaker, whatever else has been the effect of the Congress Party agreeing to take office and work this constitution, and whatever may have been the ultimate motive of the party in so doing, their decision at any rate in this Presidency has certainly had the effect of producing an atmosphere of political goodwill. I think that political goodwill was exemplified in the studied moderation of the very able speech made by the Premier in putting this resolution before the House.

"We, on these benches have been looking forward to being able on many points to co-operate with the Party in power although naturally we have foreseen that there will be many aspects of their policy which we will feel it our duty to oppose. It is a matter of some regret that on the first Government resolution put before this Assembly by the Premier, we should find it unfortunately our duty to speak in opposition. This resolution is far too much a party resolution put before this House as a resolution of the Government. That question has been already dealt with by previous speakers and I do not want to take up the time of the House by repeating those arguments. I would, however, like to say that the word 'emphatic' in this resolution is rather apt to convey a wrong idea. Surely, if we are voicing the emphatic opinion of the Assembly, that ought to be the opinion of not only the great majority but it ought to convey that the resolution is practically the unanimous resolution of this House and I think the speeches which have gone before show that this is not the unanimous resolution of the House.

"As regards this Government of India Act, which has been criticised to-day and I think we can say that it began to take shape some ten years ago when the Simon Commission first came to India and it has been

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hammered into its present shape for ten years by various bodies of people who have been trying to evolve this constitution. We, like other people in the House, do not regard it as a perfect constitution in any way. While it is yet on its trial—and it has not been worked in its entirety—and before it has actually been in full operation, we very definitely oppose any attempt at replacing it. Let us therefore do the best we can with this Act now. Possibly, we suffer from narrowness of vision, but we cannot visualize a Constituent Assembly owing its existence to the adult suffrage of four hundred million people. I am quite sure that my friends on the Government Benches would support the idea that Indians in Native States would be allowed to vote members to such an Assembly. I say we cannot visualize how that Constituent Assembly is going to be brought about. My friend the Public Works Minister has rather cut down the suffrage to the Constituent Assembly. I understood him to indicate that what he now visualizes as the Constituent Assembly is an Assembly which is going to be formed by the various legislatures of this country. That is quite a possible method of getting a Constituent Assembly. But I do not think it is a method which has been hitherto visualized by politicians in this country of obtaining a Constituent Assembly."

The Assembly then adjourned for lunch to meet again at 3 p.m.
(After Lunch—3 p.m.)

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sure that when hon. Members speak on the floor of the House, they are anxious to be heard by other Members and also by the Chair. Having regard to the acoustic properties of this Chamber, I put it to them that unless they speak through a microphone, there is no possibility of their being heard. I therefore request any Hon. Member who cannot make himself audible by his natural voice, to come to the nearest microphone and speak through it, even though this may cause some little inconvenience to him and other Members, as he may have to come from his place to the microphone.

"I expect that by the time we meet again on the 14th September, there will be more microphones fitted in the Chamber and that there will be less inconvenience to the Members; but the practice of speaking through the microphone must be cultivated.

"Sir William Wright will continue his speech on the resolution before the House."

* SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT:—"Sir, when the House rose for lunch I was dealing with the question of the Constituent Assembly. Everybody who spoke on this resolution has referred to the Constituent Assembly. If we find there is no possibility of calling a Constituent Assembly, obviously the whole of this resolution will fall to the ground. I feel, however, that the Congress Party are rather making a catchword of these two words 'Constituent Assembly.' It reminds me of this: when I was a very young man, there was a catchword in England, 'That blessed word "Mesopotamia."' The origin of this expression was the

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story of the old woman who told her spiritual Pastor that when reading her Bible she found great support in that comfortable word 'Mesopotamia.' So much was this phrase 'The blessed word Mesopotamia,' in use that the 'London Review' actually gave it a definition. It described it as something high-sounding and pleasing but wholly past comprehension. We cannot help feeling that this Constituent Assembly is something high-sounding and pleasing but wholly impracticable.

"I do not wish, in opposing this resolution, to say anything regarding the assumption of office by the present Ministers. I regard that matter entirely as their own business and for their own consciences and I do not think that any resolution of this Assembly should be asked to interpret what is in their minds.

"Finally, Sir, I should like to say that we do agree with the Hon. Mover of this resolution that we are not dealing with a perfect Act. But where we disagree with him is when he says 'Let us end this Act.' We say, 'Let us begin this Act.' We do not think that this Act can be regarded as the last word in constitution-making. As I said it is only the beginning of the constitution for India. But we do believe that in this Act there is the framework and foundation for a constitution which will ultimately arise in India. We also firmly believe that the greater the goodwill and the greater the success with which this Act is worked, the sooner will the final form of constitution be evolved, in which India will be enjoying full dominion status within the British Commonwealth of Nations and it will be more in consonance with the wishes of the people of India. Therefore, Sir, for these reasons, my friends in the European group whom I represent will be voting with the Government against the amendment, and against the Government on the main resolution."

* MR. MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN:—"Mr. Speaker, in supporting the resolution of the Leader of the House I beg to state that one or two points have to be cleared. During the period of the interim Ministry a sort of propaganda was carried on raising the bogey of defencelessness and the consequent helplessness of India if she were given freedom. I was all along thinking that it was only a propaganda stunt. But from the statements made to-day by some Gentlemen I believe that they really think so. Though I can appreciate their point, I cannot support them. I do really sympathize with them and I want to tell them on behalf of the youth of India that the Indian youth to-day, even if this very day Britain leaves India and withdraws all her defence forces from India, they would not shirk their duty to defend India against any aggressor. I should like to ask one of the previous speakers why should he think that India, even without an army of her own to-day cannot obtain independence? If Iraq, Egypt and other countries whose resources are poor and cannot be compared with the vast resources of India, can be independent, why should not India? Ireland became free by negotiation and treaty! Why not we also be made free by England through negotiation. The resolution moved to-day is only asking for

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that negotiation. India asserts her right to be free and have her own constitution framed by a Constituent Assembly. I find that there are not many who oppose the resolution for the Constituent Assembly on principle. I think therefore there is no need for dilating upon the subject at length.

"I should, however, like to say a word on the amendments that have been moved. One amendment is for deleting the words 'as expressed in the resolution by the Indian National Congress.' I do not know why objection should be taken for expressing that the national aspiration as expressed by the Indian National Congress should be given effect to. In the official statements, we find the very word 'Congress,' the name of 'Congress' scrupulously avoided on all occasions. Is it the idea of the Opposition also to get the word 'Congress' deleted from the resolution for, is it by adopting the resolution that they do not want to express the idea that the Congress stands for the nation? If so, I am sorry to say that the Congress has every right to represent and express the national will and as such I hope nobody will support the amendment for deleting the reference to the Congress in the resolution before the House.

"Again, Sir, I want to say to some of my Muslim brethren in the House who want the Congress to sympathize with the Muslims, that we ought not to beg. We, Muslims, ought not to beg for sympathy. We ought to stand on our own legs. We ought to assert our own rights. If they fear that the Constituent Assembly is not going to be fully representative, I assure them, from the statements of official Congress authorities, that the Congress has given sufficient assurance to us that the Constituent Assembly when it meets would be fully representative and would be broad-based on adult franchise. So there is no need to fear that the representation of the Muslims or other communities will not be sufficiently strong.

"Then again if the idea is that the minorities question has not been solved, I would say that the Constituent Assembly would do it. I do not see therefore the need for the amendment moved. With these words I heartily support the resolution moved by the Leader of the House."

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to support the resolution that has been moved by the Leader of our party and supported by almost all the members of the various parties in the House. I am sorry I am unable to understand the need for the amendment which has been moved by my hon. Friends Messrs. Hameed Khan and Basheer Ahmed.

"As regards the European group. I can understand their opposition. It is their avowed policy to oppose anything and everything.

"As regards my hon. Friend Mr. Palat, I am unable to understand his attitude. I am extremely sorry to find that in his case timidity knows no bounds. He said that if independence is given to India to-day

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Indians would not be able to defend their country. Let the Britishers vacate India to-day by the first steamer with their bag and baggage and let us see whether the Indians are capable and strong enough to defend their country. Moreover, I think my hon. Friend Mr. Palat has forgotten the martial spirit of his own kinsmen. I think he has forgotten the martial spirit of the Punjabees, the Bengalees, the Tamils and the Andhras. (Cheers.) And the followers of Mahomed have enough martial spirit. I do not know what made him, in these circumstances, to be so very timid. Is he not an Indian, Sir! My Hon. Friend is not here. (Laughter.)

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"May I request you, Mr. Speaker, to see that personal references are not made?"

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I think it is better that personal references are avoided."

* MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"I have to say something more, Sir; but I do not want to do so behind the back of the hon. Member, Mr. Palat.

"I conclude, Sir, with a request to my hon. Friends Messrs. Hameed Khan and Basheer Ahmed, to withdraw their amendment and vote for the resolution moved by our Leader. I also appeal to my European friends to withdraw their opposition. To Mr. Palat also I appeal to withdraw his opposition and vote for the resolution and carry it *nem con*. The resolution should be carried *nem con*."

MR. P. MOIDEEN KUTTY:—"Mr. Speaker, I would not have drawn myself into this very interesting debate but for the fact that a reference was made by one of the hon. Members to Federation and the League of Nations. He maintains, if I understand him aright, that if the League of Nations is possible why not Federation that is thrust upon us? I am sure no student of constitutional history will have come across such a Federation that is going to come. The Federation that is going to come suggests to me nothing but the unfortunate fate of a husband who is wedded to 100 wives of divergent religious persuasions. Coming to the League of Nations, what is this organization but another intellectual achievement of British diplomacy? Is it not the very same League of Nations that bungled with Manchuria and threw Abyssinia to the winds? I have no quarrel with the League of Nations as an ideal, but my quarrel is with the League of Nations as it exists to-day.

"With regard to the resolution before the House, I have to agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, not because I feel that the amendment is very necessary, but because, if the amendment is accepted, the resolution will be carried unanimously and His Majesty's Government will know that the whole of India is behind the demand for the Constituent Assembly. That is all I wish to say."

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* MR. KONDA VENKATAPPAYYA:—"Sir, I oppose both the amendments and support the resolution. The resolution is based upon a simple principle of natural justice recognized by all civilized governments that no nation however great can impose its will upon another nation. This principle of self-determination was enunciated by President Wilson in the great European War for the benefit of the smaller nations on the continent of Europe. European nations much smaller than our own, such as the peoples of Roumania, Servia and Poland, enjoy freedom and are governed by constitutions framed by themselves.

"The proposer of one of the amendments asks for the deletion of the words 'as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress.' It is too late in the day to belittle the importance of the Congress in spite of its achievements and in spite of its great following. It is the only political organization in the country which can claim just now to record the will of the great Indian nation.

"Another amendment seeks to delete the whole portion beginning with 'in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress,' and ending with 'to a Constituent Assembly convened for the purpose.' This amendment defeats the whole purpose of the resolution. It aims at removing the kernel of the resolution and keeping only the shell of it. The very substance of the resolution consists in the demand for the framing of a constitution by the Constituent Assembly representing all communities and interests in the country. Again the fear of minorities that their interests might be overlooked is unfounded as the Congress holds the balance evenly between all the various peoples of the land. Nor need we suffer any longer from the inferiority complex that if we get independence to-day we may not be able to defend ourselves. All the battles fought in this country by the English were fought by our own sepoys. It is their blood that contributed to the establishment of British power in India and it is they that maintain it even to-day. Further the question of the Constituent Assembly has been before the country for a very long time and therefore it is not too early, as some one of the speakers here has said, to move the resolution now. The claim of the British people and Parliament to frame a constitution for us, sitting as they do 6,000 miles away beyond the seas, is preposterous. Even granting their claim for it, it must be said they have lost it. They had their opportunity when Mahatma Gandhi attended the Round Table Conference as the representative of the Indian nation. They had failed to make use of the opportunity and thus forfeited the privilege, if any, to frame a constitution for India."

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"Sir, except for one or two discordant notes, there is unanimity in the whole House with regard to the substantive portion of this resolution. There is difference of opinion only with regard to a portion of that resolution. The hon.

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[Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi]

Member, Mr. Palat, having laid a charge against the nation of being incapable of defending itself ought to have been in his place, according to parliamentary traditions, to receive the reply to his criticism. However, we cannot let go this charge without being refuted. Mr. Speaker, my Friend, Mr. Palat, has spoken without knowing the history of Indian chivalry. It is the Madras contingent as well as the depressed classes contingent that did well in the Great Indian Mutiny. It is said there is dearth of valour in South India. From the above it will be seen that it is not so. With regard to martial race inhabiting Northern India, it is not necessary for me to dilate upon that, because they have so finely shown their valour in the Great War, in the field of battle in Flanders.

"Wherever and whenever the British Government finds she is unable to quell any rebellion in her Empire she would send the Punjabis, the Pathans and the Gurkhas and with their help quell the rebellion completely. Therefore the charge that Indians are not capable of defending themselves falls to the ground. Sir, it is very surprising that the son of the late Sir Sankaran Nayar who many years ago—thirty years ago, I think—moved the resolution about Indianization of the army, in the Indian National Congress itself, should to-day be speaking about the incapacity of Indians to defend themselves. Sir, the little said about it the better. Various committees have inquired into this question of the Indianization of the army. There were the Rawlinson Committee and the Skeen Committee. The Rawlinson Committee recommended that there should be complete Indianization of the army within twenty years. Many years have passed since those reports were published but the Government have not taken any steps to Indianize the army. This Constitution does not provide for the Indianization of the army and it is not worth the paper on which it is written. 3-30 p.m.

"Sir, there is unanimity of opinion that this constitution should be scrapped and another constitution acceptable to the people of India should be introduced. There is only difference with regard to the process of bringing about the introduction of such a constitution. My Hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan has not provided any substitute for the process suggested in the resolution and he wants the resolution to stop with the words, 'aspirations of the people of India.' He has not stated how this constitution should be brought about. My Hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed has stated that the constitution should be framed as suggested by the All-India Muslim League and other parties in the country. The constitution of the constituent body which he has proposed is very vague."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I never said that the constitution should be framed in accordance with the views expressed by various bodies. I said that the opinion as expressed by the Indian National Congress, the

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Muslim League and various other parties is that the present constitution should be replaced by another which should be in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India."

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"I did not hear what the Hon. Member said as I was in this corner of the House. However I think that what he said was that the constitution should be as expressed by the Muslim League and other parties in India. That is what he has said, I suppose. I think I am right in saying that. Even then, Sir, I say that it is only the Indian National Congress that can speak on behalf of the people of India as a whole. It is not any other political body that can speak with that kind of authority. However the resolution does not say that the constitution should be as framed by the Indian National Congress alone. It says that the constitution should be framed by the representatives of the people of India through a Constituent Assembly convened for the purpose. That means that all sections of the people—Hindus, Mussalmans, Sikhs—every community that inhabits India, will be represented on the Assembly by means of adult franchise. It is that Constituent Assembly that will frame the constitution of India. It is nothing new. This has been copied from the constitutions of other dominions like Canada, Australia and New Zealand. We do not want a constitution framed some 6,000 miles away by a Government which does not represent us. We want a constitution framed by our own people, by our own representatives elected on adult franchise, a constitution which will be acceptable to the people of India. Until we get that kind of constitution we must keep on this agitation and there will be no peace till we get a constitution acceptable to all. With these words, I support the resolution and oppose all the amendments."

* KHAN BAHADUR P. KHALIFULLA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is only too well known to any student of constitutional history that at no stage in the history of the world has there been a constitution which has been called perfect subsequently. I also think, Sir, that the Reform Act of 1935 is no exception to this rule. At the same time, however, Sir, it must be said that unless India wants a revolution, so long as she wants only a reform of the present Act, it is best undertaken after a fair trial has been given to the present Act of 1935. No one says that the present Act is a perfect piece of lawmaking in the matter of creating a new constitution. The Muslim League has made it only abundantly clear that this Act is wanting in several respects, but at the same time it has made it equally clear that it must be worked for what it is worth. Without working it, the lines on which reforms are necessary may not be clear to us from pure imagination alone. It is in this view that I say that the Reforms Act must be given a fair trial before a reconsideration of the matter can be taken up. It is my humble view, Sir, that the Act must be given at least a few years' trial."

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"Sir, so far as the resolution that has been placed before the House is concerned, what I beg most respectfully to point out to the Hon. the Leader of the House is this. I least expected this wording of the resolution from such an astute and experienced politician of All-India fame. I thought, Sir, he would have taken into confidence not only his own party but also various other parties that are represented in this House and worded the resolution in such a way that it can be accepted as the resolution of the House and not of a particular party. It is a known fact, Sir, and an admitted fact, that the various parties represented in this House, the Justice Party, the Muslim League and the Congress, have their own different views and different aspirations, though in regard to the view that the constitution is imperfect they are all agreed. It is only in that view that my Hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan and my Hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed have moved amendments. Sir, we were told by one of our previous speakers Mr. G. Rangayya Nayudu that he could not understand why Mr. Basheer Ahmed and Mr. Hameed Khan moved their amendments. I only reiterate that he can never understand the view-point of members of other communities and that it has always been my complaint against the party to which this Hon. Member has the honour to belong that it has in its list a very large number of such members. He could never understand. It is only when he understands the view-points of other parties in this House, it is only then that he can talk in terms of the national aspirations of India. When there are Hon. Members who cannot understand what other communities have got to say . . ."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"May I point out that the Hon. Member is repeating himself?"

KHAN BAHADUR P. KHALIFULLA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I will refer to only one or two more observations made by Mr. Abdur Rahman before I conclude."

"He said that the Congress represents and expresses the national will. I do admit that the Congress does represent a fairly good proportion of the population of India, but at the same time, Sir, I must in this House point out that so far as the Mussalmans are concerned it is not so. I am bold enough to say that the Congress does not represent the Muslim view-point. Sir, a question has been raised by one of the previous speakers as to whether the view of the majority of the elected members of the various legislatures in India is not the same as the Congress view. So far as this question is concerned I may say with almost certainty that the numerical strength of the Mussalman members in the Congress all over India is very far below that of the League Members. There can be absolutely no dispute upon that point. Unless and until the Muslim League and the Congress come to an understanding, it cannot be said that the Congress alone represents the nation's will, including in the term 'nation' all the different communities that the nation consists of. Sir, Hon. Mr. Abdur Rahman

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said that he did not like the begging attitude of one of the previous speakers begging for the rights of his community. I am in perfect agreement there with him. I should certainly join with him when he says that we should assert the rights of our community without going abegging for them.

"Finally, Sir, the previous speaker to whom I referred appealed to the House to pass the resolution *nem con*. Yes, I am one of those who would like to have a resolution like this passed *nem con*, but the manner in which the resolution has been worded is not such as to carry conviction to one and all representing the various parties in this House and the various views in this House."

* Mr. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a great surprise to me to see that my Hon. Friends Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed and Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan should have moved some amendments to the resolution. They are tried friends; they have been with the Congress for a long time; they have seen what it is to be with the Congress and what the Congress stands for and what is meant by the Congress resolution. It is not meant to be a paper resolution. I think, Sir, the amendments proposed cannot be accepted. The amendments simply want us to keep the first part of the resolution and leave out the rest, after the words 'people of India.'"

3-45
p.m.

"By whom is the Act to be replaced? By Parliament, by the British people or by Indians? If the resolution is restricted to that extent, it means by the British people or by Parliament. The idea underlying the whole question is this: I do not think my friends would concede that any outside power has got the right to determine the constitution of this country. The question arises: who is to determine the constitution of this country? This country itself, not some outsider, whatever may be his capacity, his ability and knowledge. The Congress denies the right of any outside authority to determine the constitution of this country. The Congress resolution says—

'The Congress does not and will not recognize the right of any external power or authority to decide the political, economic structure of India and every such attempt will be met with organized and uncompromising opposition of the Indian people.'

Later on, the same resolution says—

'The Indian people can only recognize a democratic state in India where political power has been transferred to the people as a whole and the Government is under their effective control. Such a state can only come into existence through a constituent assembly elected by adult suffrage and having power to determine finally the constitution of the country.'

This is the attitude of the Congress. I do not think my Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed will deny this right of the nation. He says he does not; then, what is it that comes in the way of his supporting this resolution? I take it that both my friends on the other side support this resolution, but they take objection to the constituent assembly."

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of personal explanation, Mr. Speaker, I have never said in my speech that I took exception to a Constituent Assembly. I only said: you had better add the words that I suggest in order to strengthen the Congress position itself. That is my idea. I need not be misrepresented."

* Mr. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"I am sorry, Sir. And so, I need not turn my attention to Mr. Basheer Ahmed. My Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan who takes the whole responsibility for deleting the essential portion of the resolution and my other Friend who spoke last, are not agreed; the latter said, let us give a fair trial to the present Act; then, we shall see what happens. That seems to be his attitude; but that is not the attitude of the other hon. Members who have moved amendments."

"Apart from these questions, Sir, I submit that the Congress attitude on this matter is entirely different from that taken by the other parties. The Congress says that India has got the right to determine the constitution and no other power has got any right to determine the same. There are some objections raised to this attitude, principally by my Friend Mr. Palat. He says that we are not fit to govern ourselves. That seems to be his main reason—that we are not fit to defend ourselves, that we have not the capacity to do anything of that sort. I am very sorry for him, because he forgets the fact that even to-day this country is being defended by the Indian army, not by the English army. The English army is only 75,000 while the rest of the Indian army comes to 1,75,000. We have altogether 1,75,000 in the Indian army. Now, some people ask: if the English army leave this country to-day, if the British Government leave this country to-day, can this country defend itself? I want only to put a counter-question: if they do not get the help of India, can the British Empire stand? Could they have stood the Great War? What would have happened to England itself, when the Kaiser said that he would have his lunch in the Buckingham Palace itself. Whose army was it that defeated the armies of the Germans on their own and on the French soil? Is it not the Indian army? You must understand that we have got the necessary material, the necessary heroism and the necessary valour to defend ourselves. We want this power to formulate our own constitution and we are prepared to take up the responsibility of defending ourselves and also perhaps of helping our friends in England. I am sorry that the British nation does not take a long view of things. Let them at least understand what is going on just now in China. Japan wants to occupy the whole of Asia; that is her scheme. After defeating China, she wants to attack India. What would be the position of the British people and the British Empire? Can they defend India unless they train the people of India, give them better military training and allow them to develop themselves? If not, I am sure the British Empire will come to grief. There is no question about it. We have seen what they could do, in the Great

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War. England is far away from the East, and Japan is a menace now. We do not know what Russia would do. Under these circumstances, I think we must be given the authority to frame"

MR. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, are we discussing Far-Eastern politics now?"

MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"I have brought these matters to the notice of the hon. Members of the European group, because I think it is in their own interests that they the English people should give us power to frame our constitution. The British people forget the help taken from us; they forget the ability, the strength and the valour shown by the Indian armies in the Great War; off and on they say that India cannot defend herself.

"With regard to the present Act, I need not say anything more. As regards the Federation that is to come, it has already been stated by the Hon. the Leader of the House that it is useless. I submit, therefore, that all the Members of this hon. House should support this resolution, by giving their votes for the resolution and against the amendments."

* DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the necessity or otherwise for this resolution has not been questioned so far by any of the speakers that have gone before me. The present constitution is based on the Government of India Act, and it has been admitted on all hands that the constitution is not perfect. As a matter of fact, no constitution framed by any human agency can be perfect; that has been very definitely accepted by all shades of political opinion in this country. That being so, the majority party in the country, the party now in power in this House, has been for a long time hesitating to take up office on the ground that the Government of India Act is hedged in by a number of safeguards and that it is not possible for any party to work it satisfactorily. After a great deal of thought and consideration, which I for one would certainly not object, the majority party has accepted office, and there has been, to the satisfaction of all of us, a very good beginning in the working of the constitution. It has been stated by His Excellency the Governor only this morning how heartily he supported all the measures that have so far been adumbrated by the party in power. The Prime Minister said that the measures so far taken by his Ministry have had his full approval. That being the case, one would naturally ask where is the necessity for a resolution of this kind. This resolution purports to place on record the emphatic opinion of the House that the assumption of office by Ministers in this Presidency should by no means be understood as a surrender of the national demand for a constitution to be shaped by the representatives of the people. We know, Sir, to what extent the majority party is committed to work the constitution. We all of us understand the implications involved

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in their acceptance of office and the determination with which they have come to work the constitution. That being the case, it strikes me as a member of the minority community that there is no need for a resolution of this kind.

"Now coming to the wording of the resolution, with due deference to the Hon. Mover of the resolution, I should say that the remarks made in explanation of the resolution were much happier than the wording of the resolution itself. The resolution seems to strike terror into the minds of people like me who think in a manner quite different from the Mover of the resolution. Firstly, the resolution purports to ask that the constitution should be replaced. That strikes at the root of the constitution and all that it involves. I can quite understand if it is a matter of revising the constitution, of modifying it in any manner which may be acceptable to the country at large; but to replace the constitution means and implies that the whole constitution should be scrapped. That implies in its turn that the Federal Assembly, the Federal Executive and the Provincial Legislature and the Provincial executive should all be scrapped. Now, Sir, I ask, as the party forming the Provincial Executive can it lie in the mouth of the majority party to say that the constitution which they are themselves working should be replaced or scrapped? It seems to me, Sir, that it is self-contradictory. That is so far as replacement is concerned.

"Then, Sir, I come to the words 'as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress' occurring in the latter part of the Resolution. Sir, a question is being asked by the Hon. the Minister for Education, whether I am afraid, with reference to this also.

"Yes, Sir, I am afraid to subscribe to this part of the resolution since the opinion referred to is one expressed by one political party in the country. It is not the accepted opinion of all parties functioning in the country. I accept it as the opinion of the Congress Party, but can I accept it as the statement of the party on the other side of the House? That is a stumbling block in the resolution. Besides, the resolution of the Indian National Congress referred to apparently embodies several demands made by the Congress. We on this side of the House feel unable to subscribe unreservedly to this statement. We have all admitted that the present constitution introduced by the New Government of India Act is not perfect. But having begun to work it, to say, with reference to certain resolutions passed by the Congress, that the whole thing must be scrapped, is to say the least a very large order. The outstanding feature of this resolution, apart from what I have already said, is the objective of the Congress as expressed in its last resolution, which is to wreck the constitution. But it does not seem that the party in power as at present constituted is very anxious to wreck the constitution. Working the constitution, one cannot at the same time speak of wrecking the constitution.

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"The next point is this. The goal of the Congress is independence. If we accept this resolution as it stands, it means that we take responsibility for putting forward independence as the goal of the Indian Christians. Sir, I shudder to think of the term 'independence.' I do not wish to say anything which may seem to belittle what the Hon. the Premier has said in moving this resolution. He was very lucid and absolutely appealing. I do not wish for a moment to break the harmony produced in the minds of the Members of this House by his able and eloquent speech. But I shudder to think of the term 'independence.' I do not wish to say anything more on that point. I leave the question unanswered, so that the country at large may answer it. It will be time enough to talk of independence when all the communities and castes in the country have made up their minds once for all to ask for independence and for all that that term involves.

"The next point I would like to refer to in this resolution is the framing of a constitution 'by the representatives of the people of India duly summoned to a constituent assembly.' I was wondering, Sir, the whole time as to how the Premier is going to define the term 'constituent assembly.' Before I came to the House, I asked certain friends who are supposed to be political luminaries as to what was meant by 'constituent assembly.' I could not get a satisfactory reply from them. I entered the House with the belief that the Premier will certainly be able to give a very good definition of the term and that we could think of it thereafter. But the definition he gave clean swept me off my feet. He said 'constituent assembly' is nothing more than an assembly called for the purpose of framing a constitution. This does not take us any further. Sir, from what we have heard so far, a constituent assembly is an assembly of persons brought together by means of an adult suffrage. That is how the constituent assembly was hitherto understood. Well, Sir, if a constituent assembly is to be constituted or got up by means of adult suffrage, the question arises whether this is practicable. Adult suffrage is a thing which several people consider as very undesirable or dangerous to build anything upon. I may, Sir, if I am not unduly taking up the time of the House, invite your attention to the remarks made by the Franchise Committee whose valuable report deals with the question of adult franchise and all that is involved in it. I shall just quote a few sentences from that report with your permission. It is stated:—

'Having regard to the prodigious task of educating a mainly illiterate electorate, the fact that party organization is still in its infancy, and the burden both for the official machinery and for the candidates of dealing with 130 million voters, it seems to us to be the course of wisdom and statesmanship not to attempt to launch the new constitution on the basis of adult franchise, but to seek a more manageable basis, at the same time providing that the system of franchise will give reasonable representation to the main categories of the population. It will then be for the legislatures themselves, after a definite period has passed, to determine at what pace the electorate should be expanded and the date when they may wish to introduce adult suffrage.'

'After a definite period has passed' is the phrase on which I would like to lay special emphasis. As observed by Sir William Wright,

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we have not given sufficient time to work the constitution. Sir, in the very first deliberations of this House, it is very unfortunate that we have to stand here opposing a resolution brought forward no doubt with very good intentions, but unfortunately bristling with difficulties, for, persons like me cannot readily subscribe to it. Adult suffrage is one which is fraught with danger. So far as the minority communities are concerned, the fear is—a very natural fear—that in adult suffrage it is just possible for minority communities to be left aside. That is the point I should like to stress on the floor of this House. With these remarks, Sir, I would respectfully enter my mild protest with reference to this resolution."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no intention of speaking on this resolution, but there have been certain statements made which I would like to refer to. In the first place, the resolution as proposed is a resolution of this Assembly. It is open to hon. Members of this Assembly either to vote for it or to vote against it. But the poll which will be demanded at the end of this discussion will tell to the world at large whether the demand of the Congress that represents the people of this country is true or not. The numbers that stand for this demand would very likely surprise some of the outside world. The constitution as it is given to us to-day is of two portions. The first is the big cage of which my Hon. Friend the Leader talked about. I think it is a small cage, too small for ten men to wander about (laughter). The other part of the constitution is the Federation, which is one that Indian nationalists—it does not matter what party they belong to, whether it is the Congress or the Muslim League—cannot accept. Is it possible to work a constitution in which you will find two different kinds of representatives, one from the autonomous provinces—granting for the moment that the Provincial Governments are autonomous—and secondly the representatives of the Princes who will not be elected by the people of the States, but nominated by the Princes of these States? If you calculate the number of members to be returned to the new Federal Assembly, you will find that the majority party in this country which is composed of all communities will have only 82 members in the new Assembly of 375. Is that granting democratic institutions to this country by a country which talks of totalitarian States? Even His Excellency referred to it this morning and expressed the belief that democracy will come into its own in Europe. I trust it will be so. But from what I have seen while I was in Europe this year, I am afraid that the course that is being adopted by the so-called democratic States in Europe to-day may not tend to the conserving of democracy in Europe. When such is the case, is it wrong of this House to demand that the people of this country should have the right to say what kind of constitution India would like? People seem to mistake the great pronouncement made by the War Prime Minister of the day, Mr. Lloyd George, when he said that all the nations of the world are going to have self-determination, after right has triumphed over might in the Great War in

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Europe. What happened after the War? It is a history of which I am afraid Great Britain should really be ashamed. In spite of the talk of self-determination, the constitution we have to-day has been really imposed upon India. Can anybody get away from that fact? Even the people who were called in to advise on the framing of this great constitution were not heeded when this constitution began to be finally hammered out. It is not the first time. I refer to the report of the Joint Committee of the Indian members, composed of variegated elements, including His Highness the Aga Khan, whom I am sure the Muslim League will adopt as its leader to-day. That Joint Committee proposed certain alterations to the new constitution which might make it acceptable to the people of this country. Were they adopted? No. On the other hand, Sir Samuel Hoare when he piloted the Bill through the House of Commons mentioned that it is for Great Britain to say what the measure of advance of responsible Government in this country should be. Can any Indian who has got self-respect take it lying down? I find here members of the Muslim League speaking differently. Because the Leader proposes one amendment, one of his followers another amendment, and a third gentleman spoke in a different tune altogether. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'You are happy'.) Yes, I am happy. I would also like to point out to the hon. Gentleman who represents the Muslim League on the floor of this House, that members who were elected on the ticket of the Muslim League have gone over to the Congress realizing that the Congress does represent the people of this country. It is that circumstance which has made my Hon. Friend the Leader of the House to propose this resolution. I am sure the day will dawn when not only the six provinces in which we are in a majority to-day, but even the other five also, will vote with one voice on the resolution proposed by my Hon. Friend the Leader of the House to-day. Will the Hon. Member also realize that the six provinces in which the Congress is in a majority to-day represent two-thirds of the population of British India? That is the answer I would give to the hon. Member who talked of India not being properly represented. I contend and I am sure I cannot be contradicted that the provinces which represent the Congress to-day, represent really the public opinion of this country; and the public opinion of this country is strongly behind this resolution; and the public opinion of this country is strongly behind the Working Committee of the Congress. I heard a great deal about the Working Committee dictating to us; but it is a small body elected by a more popular franchise than even this House. That Committee knows its own mind. It is the Working Committee's resolution that is being carried to-day, and when it is carried the people at large will understand that the Working Committee does represent the public opinion of this country."

* KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—

"Mr. Speaker, the first day when we meet here to transact business has become a very notable day due to the resolution proposed by the party in power. It has focussed the public attention, the attention of

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the politicians gathered in this hall and also outside; it has made them concentrate their attention on the merits or demerits of the Government of India Act that has been passed and brought into being now. Probably many will not have expected this turn of events, but so far as we know, we expected that a resolution of this sort would be put forward by the Congress party, as it was one of their avowed objects as unfolded in their election manifestos and other declarations. So nobody can say we were taken aback by it to-day.

"It is but right to face the issues. There are thousands of well-meaning politicians who have the welfare of the country at heart and who may honestly differ from the view-point of the Congress party on this issue. But from what I have seen of the proceedings of the last day and from what I see to-day, I am very happy to find that there is mutual tolerance on the part of the members of the various parties here and readiness to listen to the views of other people. I believe it is the fundamental right which every member has, and to-day I can assure on behalf of my party that we have carefully listened to the views of the Congressmen on the working of the constitution, particularly to those of the Hon. Gentleman leading the House who has in his usual manner clearly indicated what the import of the resolution is. I believe he has clearly brought out the important implications of the resolution on Federation. But he has very quietly omitted and probably advisedly omitted, any reference to the success of the provincial autonomy under good auspices—under the auspices of a party with a big majority.

"Sir, the resolution consists of two parts. The first part mainly relates to the replacement of the present Act by a constitution in consonance with the aspiration of the people of India, and the second offers a negative explanation of the Congress acceptance of office. I wish to deal with the two parts separately. The first part clearly says that this House is emphatically of opinion that the present Government of India Act should go and it should be replaced by another Act in consonance with the aspirations of the people of India. As I have just now pointed out, everybody knows that the Congress party has had this resolution already in their mind but whether this resolution could be accepted by other parties in this House has now to be considered. It is with that object that the Leader of the House has brought in this motion. If he had wanted to pass the resolution in his party of 160 members it is absolutely unnecessary for him to pilot this resolution through this House. It would be quite enough if he had put this through a party meeting and carried in *nem con*. His object now is to see whether the other parties are able to accept it.

"Hon. Members representing various parties have expressed their views. Some have accepted it in part. I should like to place the views of my party; I think that is what is expected of me and my party. Everybody knows that it is not a minority party that is going to have the resolution in its own way; and it is the duty of the minority party here to express to other members and through them to the public

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their views on this important question. Sir, the Justice party to which I have the honour to belong have always made it clear during the last ten years of the constitutional reform period that they would not be satisfied with anything less than Dominion Status and membership of the British Commonwealth, and they have not made any secret of this in all their election manifestos. They have contributed in their own way to the shaping of the Government of India Act and after the Government of India Act of 1935 has been given to us, the party have in no unmistakable terms expressed its opinion on its merits. They have said that it has fallen far short of the aspirations of the people of the country and that it is defective in many respects and contains many provisions which had far better been left out. But at the same time, the party realized and has said that the Act should be given a fair trial and that it should be worked for what it is worth. For it believes that any criticism based on experience would be very valuable in the shaping of a constitution to suit the national demand. In this view the Justice party has the backing of many parties and statesmen in India. It may be that they may happen to be in a minority to-day.

“Sir, I think it is very significant on this occasion to note the implication of the constitutional struggle that ensued soon after the election. During the election, the Congress party had not made up its mind definitely one way or the other regarding office acceptance: whereas the party we belonged to, had always held the view that whichever party was lucky in the elections should shoulder the responsibility. Soon after the election we made it clear that the majority party should accept office; but the Congress found it unable to accept office straightaway and we had the constitutional struggle. But one thing has emerged as a result of the struggle. Great statesmen and parties in India as well as in Great Britain had given expression to various pronouncements on the constitutional issues and various interpretations have been given; and last though not the least, the Viceroy's last statement and the statements of various Governors of provinces giving interpretations on the doubtful sections of the Act helped to dispel the doubts in the minds of the Congressmen. In response to the appeals and the strong public opinion that the majority party should accept office, we were glad to see that the Congress accepted office and began to function as the Government of the country. On a previous occasion I have myself expressed my great satisfaction at the news of the Congress accepting office. It is true to say that everybody welcomed the acceptance of office by the Congress. But at the same time there was the hope, I should say, natural hope, in the mind of every politician in the country, that now that the party has decided to accept office they would endeavour to work the constitution. Though the period they have been in office is very short, I would like to know whether they have experienced any trouble, any hindrance from above, from the sides or from below—from the services, I mean. I can say from what we have seen of the way in which they have been able to

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carry on their work during the last two months, say, the manner in which they have been able to order the release of all prisoners and similar things, we are led to think that there has been no trouble or hindrance in carrying out their programme or policy; and to-day His Excellency the Governor has declared that during the short period, his Ministers have carried through the work which has fallen to them with his full approval. This shows that there has not been a single occasion on which they have disagreed. Further the Hon. the Leader of the House mentioned only one defect in provincial autonomy, that the protection of the services is now under an alien authority. Even with regard to this, His Excellency assured us on behalf of the services, of hearty co-operation and loyal obedience to the Ministry in office. That assurance given, I do not think the party in power should grudge to pay their salary. No doubt they are drawing high salaries, but it is under a contract. I believe the Congressmen would realize that during the transitional period it is inevitable. The Hon. the Leader of the House has said that there is much scope for progress under provincial autonomy, because he knows that with a majority in the House it would be possible for him to carry on provincial autonomy in an effective manner. He has voiced forth the Congress view-point about the Federation as proposed. We know that the Congress to-day has so far committed itself only to the idea of it but they have not agreed to the proposed Federation. I hold no brief for Federation nor do I wish to take the time of the House on this question, because it has been the talk of the politicians all along. But one thing I will place before the House is, that it is a thing which is not fit to be treated contemptuously. How could we have a greater India without a Federation? It may be that the States are not so advanced as the provinces, but should we not begin now? It may be that for a few years to come we may find that the federal system is not working satisfactorily. Just as you have decided very nicely to accept office in the provinces and work the Act for what it is worth, I certainly would say that the Federation also should be worked in the same manner and changes made later. It is my hope and I suppose it is not hoping against hope. (The Hon. Mr. V. V. Giri: ‘That is a good idea.’)

“Then, Sir, hon. Members have expressed doubts about the wording of the resolution and about the reference therein to the Indian National Congress. It has been made clear by the Muslim public that they will not be satisfied with a constitution that a constituent assembly might frame wherein they will not have proper representation. However much one may dismiss their claim to have representation, I believe I am right in saying that it would be impracticable to discard the opinions of the minorities as they are constituted now. It may be several decades before we would be able to say that we have no minority problems in India. But so long as we have that problem here, I think it should engage the anxious attention of politicians for sometime to come and it would not be beyond the wisdom of the leaders of the different communities to come together. If this is done probably we would be nearer the goal.

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"Sir, with regard to serving the country, there are several parties and statesmen in this country who, in their own humble way, are trying to do service to the country though they may not be approved by the majority party. All the same they are doing real service and they are no less patriotic in their service to the country. If they are not asking for independence, it is because they feel that Dominion Status and membership of the British Commonwealth of Nations is as good as independence, if not better, I would crave the indulgence of the hon. Members of the House to tolerate such opinions. In this connexion I could do no better than quote the words of a respected politician of this country who does not at present belong to the Congress party, the Right Hon. Gentleman, Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri. He said at the Second Round Table Conference appealing to the Congress representative Mahatma Gandhi:

"Do not dismiss us as people whose ideas are still evolving and may be long in reaching the heights of Congress ideals. Believe me that with you and your chosen associates we can fashion our constitution to great ends, and India will have cause to be truly thankful that you changed your plans and came here. For, the work of a great country like India, a growing nation like our people, lies in many directions. There is not one road to the salvation of our people and patriotism takes many shapes and works in diverse ways according as circumstances may require."

"Mr. Speaker, lastly I should refer to the last portion of the resolution. It offers a negative explanation regarding acceptance of office. I would only say that it is an unnecessary explanation to give on the floor of this House. The Congress party has already made it clear elsewhere why it has accepted office and, even if a re-statement of it was considered necessary on the floor of this House, it would have been sufficient if the Hon. Gentleman, the Leader of the House, had made a statement about it. I do not think it is necessary to clothe the statement in the shape of a resolution of this House.

"Sir, if the object of the latter part of the resolution is to bring to the public mind prominently the idea of the constituent Assembly I can understand it. About the utility or otherwise of the constituent Assembly many hon. Members have spoken and they have expressed their doubts as to its representative character and as to its utility in creating a feeling of safety in the minds of many prominent groups or communities in the country. I only say that I doubt whether it is a practical proposition. Theoretically a constituent Assembly may appeal to students of political history. But I wonder whether it would be practicable to conduct elections for forming a constituent Assembly. I only ask the Hon. the Leader of the House if it is the object of the Congress to convene a constituent Assembly for the purpose of eliciting public opinion or for the purpose of telling the people that we have behind us the nation and the public, to-day are you not in a position to say—since you have the elected majority—that you have the nation behind you and to demand greater constitutional reforms? Therefore I would say, particularly circumstanced as you are to-day, it is absolutely unnecessary to take all the trouble of convening a constituent Assembly. To-day you are in a fit position to put forth

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your demand, and we, if we agree to some of your propositions we may agree with them and if we have different views we will give expression to them. Now I would say that if this constitution is given a fair trial and with the experience gained you could let us know what the difficulties are that you are able to overcome and what the difficulties are that you are not able to overcome and in what manner you propose to overcome them. It will help you and help us to give our opinion on those great issues. I believe that it will be the best course for the present. We can then evolve a proper and suitable and practical machinery to put forth the united voice of the people of India for greater constitutional reforms. With these few words I have regretfully to oppose the motion of the Hon. the Leader of the House."

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, in one sense the debate has been very useful from the point of view that I like particularly to represent. In another sense I must confess to a feeling of disappointment, and that is because of the reference to many matters which really do not fall within the scope of the debate that I thought I initiated by moving this resolution. It has opened my eyes incidentally to a number of misconceptions which I think it worthwhile to take the time of the House to remove if possible.

"The first thing that I should respectfully explain, Sir, to the House through you, is this: that when in the last clause of this resolution it is stated that the assumption of office by Ministers in this province should by no means be understood as a surrender of the national demand for the constitution being framed by a constituent Assembly, I did not at all intend as some members put it to give an explanation about the mental reservations with which the Congress accepted office. I did not imagine that any such explanation was necessary at any time, and certainly at this stage, it was not necessary at all. I am sorry that a clause of the resolution could be even misunderstood in this manner. If I had time I would have altered the wording so as to remove that possible misconception. The object of that clause is not to give an explanation as to why the Congress took up office, but to remove from the public mind, especially in Britain, the notion, and the wrong notion, that the country is satisfied. Because the Congress has taken office, they might well infer that the Indian problem has been solved and that attempts for framing a better constitution may be postponed. I wanted by this resolution to make it perfectly clear that the issue of the wholly undesirable character of the federal structure that has been proposed, is still a live issue. Because we have agreed to try the experiment of taking up office in the provincial sphere, it does not mean that we believe that the whole of the Act is experiment-worthy. I want to make it clear that, so far as the federal structure is concerned, this experiment that we are making, and this acceptance of responsibility that we have undertaken is not to be misconstrued to be an acceptance of the seaworthiness of the Federation. It is with that object that this clause at the end of this resolution has

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been drafted. It is not because we feel that it was necessary to explain any contradiction of policy on our part that I took this opportunity to move the resolution in this form. I hope I have made myself clear at least now. I do say that there is no explanation necessary from us. There is no mental reservation. I and my party are making this experiment in provincial Government, but that the federal structure is to our minds absolutely ridiculous. The confusion and the incompatible mixture that I referred to have not been referred to or attempted to be explained by any of the many speakers who took up the debate in turn over this resolution. All of them have tried rather to tackle the relative importance of Congress and other parties than bestowing attention on this fundamental question that I wanted to place before the House in regard to the constitution. No one has come forward to defend the introduction of representatives of the autocratic Indian States for the first time in the history of British Government in this country, into the administration of purely, what may be called, British provinces. It was said by some speakers: 'Do not please try to end the constitution. Please begin the constitution.' That was what one speaker said. Very beautiful antithesis, no doubt. But I ask, why should I agree for the first time, that Indian States who refuse to trust their own people, who have no confidence in the capacity of their own people and who refuse to make any progress towards responsible or representative Government or institutions in their own States, may govern me. Why should I allow them to make, for the first time in the history of our country, the experiment of including themselves in all these civil departments of Government that have been reserved for the centre in addition to the defence of the Empire? I can quite understand countries with different systems of Government combining together for the common purpose of military defence.

4-15 P.M. "But why should the Indian States who have no representative or responsible Government in their own country, within their own jurisdiction, be allowed to make experiments in the administration of the income-tax department, of the customs department and of the other civil departments of all India reserved at the centre in addition to defence? Among the various speakers who opposed the resolution, no one has attempted to defend this point. I consider that it is because they have no defence and the case is indefensible that no one has come forward to speak upon it. It is only in the last speech, the Leader of the Opposition attempted to come near the subject. But even he dared not go into it fully. He has touched only the fringe of the subject and asked us to make an experiment. He says 'even as you have decided to try Provincial Autonomy, try this Federation also.' That is not good enough reason. There may be good enough reason to try certain experiments, but it would be absolutely unsafe to try certain other experiments. I have courage to take up a certain risk, to try certain experiments. That does not mean that I should take another kind of risk, wholly different and larger in magnitude and much more dangerous. I submit that unity is a good thing. I admit that all-India unity is a good thing. I am willing to tame the tiger. I want to

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improve its character, but on that account I cannot afford to walk into its mouth. The introduction of autoeracy in the Central Assembly at Delhi or Simla is very nearly walking, for the sake of unity, into the mouth of my friend the tiger. If I could get into the Federal structure with a clear majority or anything like a majority, I would dare do it, and I would dare look upon it like the circus driver who wants to get into the cage. We have carefully measured all the possibilities and we have come to the conclusion that it is not safe for any of us to agree to the Federal structure or try it. This is not a party question. I am no doubt speaking for the Indian National Congress as having been returned by the country on that ticket. I do claim that I represent the Indian National Congress, but I claim something more than that, namely, that the country has accepted the verdict of the Indian National Congress. Let nobody imagine here that we represent only the Indian National Congress. The Indian National Congress has gone through the fire. It has also gone through an election and has won it. The whole country has returned us. My hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, says he has been informed by well-informed friends that a different kind of statistical arrangement might perhaps be produced to prove that the Congress is not in a majority, taking all the eleven provinces into consideration. It all depends upon what scales you weigh with and by what measures you measure. After all, one can control a pocket constituency consisting of thirty or three hundred members and sit along with another member in this House who has got thirty thousand votes. If that kind of scales be used, you may produce any statistical manipulation. (Laughter.) You may produce any kind of statistical manipulation if you are to deal only with small electorates, such as the Chamber of Commerce or similar bodies. I know that statistics can defeat the Indian National Congress and even the British Parliament. I submit this attitude of belittling the Indian National Congress is unwise. The more healthy, correct and wise position to take up would be to recognize that the Indian National Congress has succeeded. It is no use talking of various parties and refusing to recognize what has happened in the election. But now that is not the issue. I am not trying to boost the Indian National Congress in this resolution. My object is only this: that we should condemn this constitution and that we should also say what we consider as the proper method by which we should approach this problem. Some hon. Members have moved amendments. I think they have moved those amendments genuinely. It is perfectly true that if my motive had been to boost the Indian National Congress, it should have accepted the amendments. That is not my object. I know that all parties have condemned this constitution. I know that the Muslim League has condemned it; I know that it has been condemned by almost all Indian politicians; I know that it has been condemned by the Liberal Party; I can also say after hearing the speech of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, that the Justice Party has also condemned it. So it is admitted by almost all people that this constitution is bad. But it

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would be a state thing merely to condemn the Constitution Act in this Assembly. The very election has condemned it; public opinion has condemned it. We are not people who believe that if a resolution is passed inside this House, with all its paraphernalia, then it becomes more important than the public opinion expressed in the election. My hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, said that the idea of a constituent Assembly is a novel one, that it is not for people like himself to accept it and that they are not prepared to accept such a revolutionary idea. He said he trembled in fear to read the resolution. I want to see this fear removed. This 'constituent Assembly' is exactly what the hon. Members who moved the amendments want. Let me prove it in a few words. The parties associated with the Congress do not believe in separate representation, do not believe in communal elections as a guarantee for minorities. It is only for meeting the wishes of parties who think that communal representation is necessary that this proposal for a constituent Assembly was made. If you care to look into the literature on the subject of constituent Assembly, you will find that when this idea was first enunciated, it was made clear in the resolution embodying the idea that every adult citizen in India shall have the right to be represented in that constituent Assembly. That must remove at once any fear that there will be any undue representation of a particular person or party, because if you take into consideration the vote of each man or woman, you will find that it removes all possibilities of gerrymandering. Sir William Wright said that it was impracticable. True, if I had wanted direct representation on adult suffrage, his observations would have been quite correct. Nobody has asked for direct representation in regard to the constituent Assembly. There should be no mixing up of the procedure we used for one purpose with the procedure that we have to employ for a certain other purpose. The executive administration has to be conducted in one way, the legislature has to be conducted in another way; and the constitution-making has to be conducted in a third way. We do not intend to have direct voting on the basis of adult suffrage. When we adopt this procedure in connexion with the constituent Assembly, every adult must have a vote direct or indirect. Adult suffrage on this basis is not impracticable.

" Then it has been asked, what about minorities being protected properly, what about various other parties or interests? Here I want to draw the special attention of hon. Members to the earliest statement that was made in connexion with the constituent Assembly. It is only for safeguarding the interests of minorities and other parties that we agreed for the purpose of the constituent Assembly to have separate representation though we do not favour those who desired it. It is because we wanted to cut the vicious suspicion that we agreed to such a course. Though we do not believe in separate representation, we are prepared to allow special forms of representation and make communal arrangements in forming the constituent Assembly. If people so constituted

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into an Assembly for constitution-making decide that communal representation should be continued let it continue. If they decide that it should not continue, let it not continue. If the separatists decide there should be a joint electorate and no separate electorates, how could there be any objection? In the constituent Assembly we propose, everybody will have equal right to come in and even communal representation may be accepted for that purpose. So the idea of a constituent Assembly is not impracticable. The idea of a constituent Assembly, far from being an impracticable dream or a thing to be afraid of, I may tell the House, that it is the only method of solving the almost seemingly insolvable problem of making a constitution which would be acceptable to all the people of India. The authors of the 'constituent Assembly idea' had no particular bias or prejudice in favour of this or that form which the constituent Assembly should take. They have made statement to this effect in so many conferences. It is because they met with so many failures in the attempt to solve the communal difficulties in other ways, they were driven to arrive at the conclusion such as the one we have referred to in our resolution. There is no other way except this. Of course we may accept any decision which Britain may give us. Is that the only solution for our problem? It is like death that no doubt solves difficulties. I submit it is suicide to adopt the solution of outside control. There is no meaning in throwing this burden on outsiders. That is why I say we must still try to solve this problem. Every one of us may come into the constituent Assembly, have all the safeguards and separatism if he favours it. That is the real meaning of the constituent Assembly. And what does this resolution say? It says that the assumption of office by Ministers in this Presidency should by no means be misunderstood as a surrender of the national demand for a constitution to be shaped by the representatives of the people of India duly summoned to a constituent Assembly convened for the purpose. For certain reasons we have accepted office and responsibility in the Province, and we say from the advantageous position and responsibility which we hold, with all the advantages and experience that we have had, that the federal structure as proposed is wrong and should be withdrawn.

" Sir, this resolution does not talk of wrecking. There is no need in 5 p.m. the debate to refer to wrecking. What this resolution says is not that the Government is going to wreck the Government, however contradictory it may be, not that the Congress asks the Assembly to support the theory of wrecking. All that it says is that the constitution is to be replaced. It was said by one hon. Member that one did not want revolution; and that we want reform. Sir, revolution has been thoroughly misunderstood. We do want revolution; we do want a thorough change. But apart from that, the proposed federal structure is a revolution. I do maintain that bringing the Indian States into the Government of India is a thorough-going revolution and we oppose it. We are not having a gradual change there. Gradual change is what we want. I do want that only those Indian States, for instance, which develop the representative

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and responsible institutions that we have in the Provinces should be permitted to land into the central structure. That would be gradual. The opposition that this resolution contains to the Government of India Act is not revolution. I do submit that the federal structure of the Government of India Act is revolutionary and undesirably revolutionary.

"Yes, we do want revolution, but that does not mean bloodshed. There has been a certain amount of confusion attached to the word 'revolution.' We cannot help it.

"One amendment in particular wants the introduction of the names of the All-India Muslim League and other bodies in the resolution. If condemnation alone had been my object, as I said already, I would have gladly accepted the advice to include other bodies, which would have strengthened the condemnation. But what we want is, and the main part of this resolution is, the recommendation of the constituent Assembly idea. Has the Muslim League accepted it; do the other people who have proposed amendments accept it? No. That is why it would be unfair for me to accept the amendments merely to satisfy those who moved the amendments. Yes, it may be said, introduce the Muslim League and other bodies at the top of the resolution in the condemnation part and leave the rest as it is. But that would give the idea that all these people, even the Muslim League and the others have accepted the constituent Assembly idea. In fairness to them I should not accept the advice given for the introduction of those words, innocent as they may seem to be. I can understand the hon. Member for Madras City Mussalmans saying, "Remove all the words after "aspiration" or simply add "Muslim League and other bodies" and stop there; do not proceed further to the constituent Assembly idea." That was possible. But that would have been merely converting this Assembly into the hundred and first public meeting on this subject. It is not all that we want. I therefore appeal to the House, Sir, that it may accept the resolution without any amendment or doubt." (Cheers.)

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan's amendment was put and lost.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed's amendment was then put and lost.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, may I make a submission? Instead of putting the resolution as a whole, may I respectfully suggest that it might be split into two parts and put to vote separately? I suggest that it would conduce to proper voting if such a thing is done. If the Hon. the Leader of the House will consent to it, I think it will enable several Members to vote on the resolution with a certain amount of interest and intelligence."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I would have gladly accepted that suggestion if the amendments had not been moved. The amendments having been moved, the question having been clearly debated and both the amendments having been lost, there is no doubt that splitting the resolution again will create doubt rather than clear matters."

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* MR. SPEAKER:—"The resolution is one complete whole and need not be split up. I put the resolution to the vote."

The resolution was put to the House and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

VIII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

- * 1. *Draft notification of the Malabar Tenancy (Summary Trials) Rules, 1936.*
2. *Notification appended to G.O. No. 5276, L.S.G., dated 5th December 1936, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of Ramnad.*
3. *Notification appended to G.O. No. 5294, L.S.G., dated 8th December 1936, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of East Godavari.*
4. *Notification appended to G.O. No. 5295, L.S.G., dated 8th December 1936, regarding bifurcation of the District Board of West Godavari.*
5. *Notification appended to G.O. Ms. No. 2513, Home, dated 3rd July 1937, regarding exemption from payment of the tax of the motor vehicles belonging to the members of the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles, Auxiliary Force (India), resident in Travancore, for the period of their stay in British territory in connexion with their annual camp at Coimbatore in July 1937.*

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 1 asked by Mr. N. M. R. Subbarama Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 31st August 1937, page 39 supra.]

Nature of industry.	Daily average number of labourers employed.	
	Men.	Women.
Fisheries	6	2
Coffee-curing	323	2,334
Coffee-curing and manure manufacture	40	236
Coffee, ginger, fertilizers and general produce preparations	35	242
Tea factories	2,032	830
Sugar manufacture	1,957	59
Groundnut decorticating	1,159	729
Groundnut decorticating and rice milling	143	57
Groundnut decorticating and jute pressing	139	69
Groundnut decorticating, rice and flour milling	49	16
Groundnut decorticating, water pumping and oil extracting	23	10
Cotton ginning	2,259	3,461
Cotton pressing	979	1,044
Cotton ginning and pressing	1,377	1,916
Do. rice milling	144	377
Do. groundnut decorticating	3,150	3,013
Do. workshop	23	58
Cotton pressing and groundnut decorticating	124	152
Do. machinery repairing	103	165
Cotton ginning and pressing and groundnut decorticating	491	548
Do. groundnut decorticating and rice milling	153	270
Cotton ginning, rice and flour milling	22	38
Pressing jute, cotton, coir yarn, hemp and hide fleshings	20	17
Pressing cotton, senna, fibre, etc.	54	20
Cotton ginning and pressing cotton, senna, fibre, etc.	348	188
Dockyards	556	4
Drainage works	41	..
Electrical Engineering	324	3
General Engineering	1,852	10
Forage Presses	56	60
Medical Stores	102	..
Ordnance factories	643	17
Printing presses	1,604	..
Quinine manufacture	26	3
Industrial schools	156	..
Soap manufacture and oil refining	46	5
Water pumping stations	107	1
Cotton spinning	16,071	7,939
Cotton weaving	841	368
Cotton spinning and weaving	16,365	2,311
Cotton spinning and ginning	2,035	1,004
Cotton spinning, weaving and ginning	659	238
Cotton weaving and tile making	273	62
Hosiery manufacture	747	279
Jute mills	4,361	1,181
Silk	147	133
Wool baling	15	2
Wool cleaning, etc.	20	20
Carpet weaving	206	129
Lace thread manufacture	46	..
Dress-making and embroidery	3	48
Coach building and motor works	1,333	2
Electrical Generating and Transforming station	330	..

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Nature of industry.	Daily average number of labourers employed.	
	Men.	Women.
Electroplating works	48	..
Engineering and condiment manufacture	45	..
Engineering and brass foundry	17	..
Engineering and aerated water-works	41	7
Engineering and coir pressing	103	..
Engineering, weaving and carpentry	185	13
Engineering, carpentry, shoe-making, modelling and motor garage	164	4
Kerosene tinning and packing	677	6
Railway workshops	11,983	..
Railway signal workshops	22	..
Tramway workshops	286	5
Aluminium factories	537	33
Foundries	435	..
Metal works	557	41
Metal works, rice milling and groundnut decorticating	66	3
Breweries and distilleries	214	16
Refrigeration, bakery, laundry and aerated water-works	203	1
Ice and motor mills	5	..
Rice mills	7,035	3,884
Rice and oil mills	133	38
Rice and oil milling and cotton weaving	15	..
Rice and flour mills	68	67
Rice milling and groundnut decorticating	1,464	694
Rice milling and turmeric polishing	9	4
Rice milling and match materials manufacture	25	16
Rice milling and brick and tile manufacture	17	10
Rice milling, groundnut decorticating and oil extracting	173	286
Paddy boiling	32	80
Sugar manufacture	64	..
Sugar manufacture and distillery	149	..
Sugar manufacture, Co2, distillery and manufacture of confectionery	1,675	65
Confectionery manufacture	99	..
Tobacco	1,599	1,868
Cashewnut roasting	33	616
Cashewnut roasting and tin manufacture	47	465
Coffee-curing and cashewnut roasting	35	525
Coffee-curing, cashewnut roasting, cardamom and manure manufacture	40	1,000
Coffee roasting and grinding and tea blending	68	..
Coffee roasting and grinding, tea blending and tin making	104	2
Turmeric polishing	67	40
Condiments manufacture	8	19
Gram mills	23	45
Groundnut decorticating	35	8
Groundnut decorticating and oil extracting	445	179
Do. and silk weaving	65	47
Do. and tin manufacture	40	23
Do. and turmeric polishing	32	21
Do. and sandalwood oil distilling	23	3
Do. sandalwood oil distilling and weaving	23	3
Do. rice and flour milling	52	30
Do. rice and gram milling	26	16
Do. flour milling and oil extracting	13	7
Do. turmeric polishing and flour milling	8	4
Do. turmeric polishing and rice milling	7	4
Bones and manure works	720	151
Oil mills	284	76
Activated carbon manufacture	18	..
Match manufacture	696	90
Paper manufacture	80	..
Printing and book-binding	4,154	3

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Daily average number of
labourers employed.

Nature of industry.	Men.	Women.
Printing, book-binding, oil extracting and coffee roasting and grinding	27	..
Printers' type foundry	46	..
Tiles and hosiery manufacture	395	29
Tile manufacture and rice milling	35	4
Bricks and tile manufacture	4,284	495
Bricks, tiles and lime manufacture	163	11
Tile and electric light outfits manufacture and sawing timber	43	..
Glass manufacture	120	..
Cement manufacture	191	24
Pipe manufacture	79	..
Cabinet making	390	5
Diamond cutting	85	..
Saw mills	589	20
Saw mills and carpentry	299	..
Enamel works	17	..
Barytes crushing	30	3
Mortar manufacture	16	2
Match materials manufacture	140	98
Pencil manufacture	30	11
Leather and shoes manufacture	228	..
Tanneries	2,020	162
Cotton ginning and flour milling	9	7
Cotton ginning and groundnut decorticating	50	85
Cotton ginning and rice milling	163	271
Cotton ginning and workshop	3	4
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating and flour milling	53	66
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating and oil extracting	760	359
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating and rice milling	790	1,018
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating, rice and flour milling	24	29
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating, rice milling and workshop	9	33
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating, rice milling and oil extracting	35	16
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating, rice milling, turning, casting and fitting works	5	33
Cotton ginning, groundnut decorticating, oil extracting and gram milling	14	11
Cotton ginning and pressing, groundnut decorticating and oil extracting	99	78
Cotton pressing and groundnut decorticating	33	48
Pressing cotton, senna and fibre	64	33
Rope works	1,042	458
Rope works and cinchona bark	50	150
Rope works and printing	136	200
Rope works, garbling pepper and ginger	51	238
Rope works and workshops	85	84
Laundries	15	..
Soap, ink and french polish manufacture	50	..
Umbrella, soap manufacture and sawing timber	156	..
Jewellery works	431	..

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 23 asked by Mr. K. Venkatappayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 31st August 1937, page 48 supra.]

Statement showing the particulars of damage caused by the cyclone occurred in the district of Guntur on 28th October 1936.

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Taluk.	Number of houses damaged.	Number of cattle-sheds collapsed.	Number of human lives lost.	Loss of sheep and goats.	Damage to irrigation works.	Damage to crops.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Ongole ..	350	128	15 died out of a house collapsed in one village. Thimma-samudram.	127	The minor irrigation tanks in Valaparla, Kanaparty, Kanala, Annababolu and Alavalapad brached. Temporary repairs executed.	Damage to crops reported from a few villages. The wet crop under minor irrigation tanks has not suffered. The wet crop under the Buckingham canal in Thimmasamudram village has suffered slightly by submerision. The extent of the damages has not yet been assessed.	It is reported by the Tahsildar that relief is required only in Thimmasamudram village.
Bapatla ..	Almost all thatched houses and a few other buildings damaged including public buildings.	100 in one village. No information available for other villages.	156	56 in one village; Information for other villages not yet received.	The Komperu drain over flowed and caused a certain amount of flooding.	The paddy crop is not in ears and although in several villages it appeared to be damaged, it yet remains to be seen whether it would not come up again. The wet paddy in some area is completely submerged. It is only after the flood water drains away that a proper estimate of the damage can be made. Dry crops were also affected in several villages. The seed-beds of tobacco of the L.I.D. Company at Chirala were buried in sand and damaged. All efforts are being made by the company to clear and revive the seedlings. If the seedlings are all damaged, the ryots would be put to heavy loss.	Cash relief will be required in many cases for people who have lost their homes.
Tenali ..	A few huts damaged.	..	..	..	..	..	The Divisional Officer says that no special relief measures are required.
Repalle ..	Two hundred in one village; figures for the remaining not yet reported.	Some cattle sheds affected. Figures not available	..	210 sheep and 50 cattle.	..	..	The Divisional Officer says that no special relief measures are required.

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Taluk.	Number of houses damaged.	Number of cattle-sheds collapsed.	Number of human lives lost.	Loss of cattle, sheep and goats.	Damage to irrigation works.	Damage to crops.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Guntur	some thatched houses affected.	..	9.	4	Minor irrigation tanks in Kurunoolah and Pratipad breached. Temporary repairs have been executed.	There is no appreciable damage done to crops except in three villages in Mangalagiri sub-taluk which are low lying. Slight damage was done to wet paddy under minor irrigation tanks. Chillies and tobacco which have just been transplanted have been washed away to some extent. Tobacco can be replanted as seedlings are available. On the whole it is no considerable damage to the standing crops. Orange gardens at Vadlapudi badly damaged.	Special relief measures are not required.
Sattenapalle.	Houses and huts damaged but re-roofed subsequently.	..	..	Loss not much; figures not available.	..	This is a dry taluk. Cumin in ears has been spoiled to a large extent but chutani has not been spoiled. Of the standing crop, vadika, red-grain, green-grain, chillies, tobacco have been washed away in many cases and the other standing crops may thrive well. Half of the usual yield is expected in regard to all dry crops. The wet paddy under minor irrigation tanks is benefited as the tanks received full supply.	Do.
Narasaraopet.	some houses damaged including public buildings.	..	3	Twenty-five in one village.	..	Report from this taluk is rather vague. But so no damage is reported to have been caused to the standing dry crops and harvested crops stacked in fields.	The report being vague, it is not possible to say whether relief measures are required or not. From what I have heard I do not think that any special relief measures are necessary. Special relief measures are not required.
Palnad	Some houses damaged; not figures available.	A few cattle-sheds collapsed.	5	Some cattle and sheep are reported to have died. Figures not yet available.	..	The standing crops were affected to some extent. Chutani, cumin and kottu kept in the fields were blown away and scattered all over the fields. Cumin crops such as orange, betel and plantains on the side of Nachani were damaged seriously.	The report being vague, it is not possible to say whether relief measures are required or not, but in all possible cases relief measures would not be required.
Vinukonda.	A few houses damaged including Taluk Office building.	..	1	A few cattle died.	..	The report from this taluk is vague. Apparently information is only just being gathered.	The report being vague, it is not possible to say whether relief measures are required or not, but in all possible cases relief measures would not be required.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 1st September 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Arrest and conviction of Mr. Meherally by the Subdivisional Magistrate, Calicut.

* 11 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that one Meherally, socialist congress worker, was arrested in Malabar and subsequently convicted for six months' imprisonment by the Subdivisional Magistrate of Calicut; and

(b) if so, for what offence he was arrested and convicted?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"The answer is:

"(a) Yes.

"(b) Under the second part of section 188, Indian Penal Code."

Alleged inconvenience to the Members of the old Legislative Council on account of the non-supply of copies of interpellations in advance.

* 12 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether in the old Legislative Council Members were put to great inconvenience as copies of interpellations were not supplied to the Members prior to the date on which they were answered?

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the last Legislative Council under the old Government of India Act. Until February 1932, members of that Council were supplied, on the previous day, with copies of the list containing the full text of the starred questions to be answered on that day. From March 1932 to July 1935, this was dropped as a measure of economy in printing and stationery, with the concurrence of the Leaders of all the Parties in the Council. In February 1935, on receipt of representations that at least the headings of questions with the names of the Members

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putting them might be supplied to Members on the previous day, it was decided at a conference of Leaders, to supply the same. From August 1935 to December 1936, the last meeting of the old Council, such copies were duly supplied to Members, and no inconvenience to Members was thereafter brought to the notice of Government.

"I felt it my duty to give this explanation on behalf of my predecessors."

KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—
"Sir, in view of the difficulties experienced yesterday by hon. Members in not hearing properly either the questions put or the answers given by the members of the Treasury Bench and the consequent inability of members to put proper supplementary questions in time, may I request the Government, Sir, to revise, as early as possible, the arrangement with regard to the answering of questions on the floor of this House? I would suggest that the questions and the answers be both printed and placed on the table of the House half an hour before the meeting; that would enable hon. Members to go through them in time and put supplementary questions and it would also save the Hon. Ministers the necessity of reading the answers in detail."

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I hope, Sir, that we shall not convert question-time into a debate; but I do wish to explain my mind to the Leader of the Opposition. I think that the procedure of printing questions and answers and laying them on the table of the House before the House assembles, thus giving time to hon. gentlemen to study them and get ready some supplementary questions in proper shape to be put at question-time, is not a good procedure. I think that supplementary questions should have more life and spontaneity in them. I think that questions and answers should also have more life in them than mere print can give. I would suggest that even the questions should not be merely printed as is being done now but that the questioner should rise in his seat and put the question to which the Government should then answer. Supplementary questions thereon arising automatically and spontaneously should then be put and answered and all the rest put off for motions and debates on a later occasion. That is what I feel in the matter; but I do not think we can discuss such a matter now. We shall therefore give due consideration to the suggestion made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, in view of the difficulties experienced by almost all the members yesterday, particularly by those unfortunate gentlemen for whom seats have been provided beyond the second block. I think at least for the time being, the Hon. Prime Minister will be well advised in considering their case more sympathetically and not only print the questions but print the answers

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also until better arrangements are made for hearing the answers on the floor of the House."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I am sorry that this is being prolonged. But I should like to know if whenever I use the microphone, which I think I am using properly, members at the other end of the House do not hear me. Am I now being heard in all parts of the House? (Hon. Members: 'Yes, we do.' An Hon. Member: 'It is only the Prime Minister that we hear properly, not the other Ministers.')

MR. SPEAKER:—"I thought the Hon. the Prime Minister would not put questions to the hon. Members of the House."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I wanted to know whether I am right in thinking that when I use the microphone in this manner, all parts of the House hear me. I have been told that I am distinctly heard throughout the whole hall. I request you, Sir, to ask all the other members of the House, Ministers and other members, to follow my example in speaking at the microphone at the proper distance and at a moderate pitch of voice."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members will be well advised in keeping one foot away from the microphone and not more than two feet. If they are more than two feet away, they will not be heard distinctly. I have already mentioned to hon. Members that they must cultivate the habit of speaking through the microphone; they will thereby avoid to a great extent all the bad acoustic properties of the hall."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask the Prime Minister whether a rehearsal will be held for all the members to use the microphone properly?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not the business of the Hon. the Prime Minister to do so; every facility will be given to members to cultivate the art of speaking through the microphone."

MR. SPEAKER: "Question No. 13. Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed. The hon. Member is not present and therefore the question is passed over."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I would request you to kindly give a ruling on this point whether, in the absence of a member who put a question, it is not binding on the Minister, for the sake of the other members of the House who are present here, to give the answer."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I point out, Sir, that it is not usual to do so?"

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—"But that member may authorize another hon. Member to put the question."

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THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, it is for this reason that I suggested that when the question number is called, the member who gave notice of the question should rise in his place and say whether he puts the question and then read it or withdraw it. Or some other member who has been duly authorized by him may read the question. That will facilitate the House knowing whether the question is put or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under the Rules, if a member who is absent when the question is called during question-time, happens to come to the House before question-time is over, he will be permitted to put the question, and the answer will then be given."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I bow to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, but all the same, I may point out with respect that inasmuch as the question has been printed and given to the members of the House, it becomes the property of the House, and as such, the question may be answered, in the absence of the member concerned."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It becomes the property of the House when the question is asked; not till then. When the member is absent at the time it is called, it is passed over, unless he comes during question-time and puts the question. Hon. Members who are absent at question-time may depute in writing other hon. Members to put the question."

Proposals for opening a flush-out system of drainage in the Government Mental Hospital, Madras.

* 13 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any amount has been sanctioned for introducing a flush-out system of drainage in the Government Mental Hospital, Madras;

(b) if so, what the total cost of the scheme is and when the same was approved;

(c) when the work is proposed to be commenced and completed; and

(d) if no scheme has been approved and no amount has been sanctioned, when the Government propose to take up the scheme on hand?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASSAN:—" (a), (b), (c) & (d) Estimates providing for drainage arrangements in the existing buildings of the hospital as well as in the extensions proposed for the hospital, have been prepared. After scrutiny, they will be submitted to Government for necessary action."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Question No. 14. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. The hon. Member is not in his place and the question is passed over."

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Proposals for the installation of a steam laundry for the Government Mental Hospital, Madras.

* 14 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any scheme for installing a steam laundry for the Government Mental Hospital at Madras has been approved by Government; and

(b) what the cost of the scheme is and when the Government propose to put up the same?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASSAN:—" (a) No.

" (b) The estimated cost is Rs. 1,18,000 non-recurring and Rs. 7,600 per annum recurring. The Government have decided that the provision of a steam laundry for the Government Royapuram Hospital is more urgent than the provision of a steam laundry in the Mental Hospital, Madras. It has not been possible to provide funds in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1937-38 even for the former scheme and the latter scheme has not therefore been taken up."

t clearance in the Moparru channel, Moparru village, Tenali taluk.

* 15 Q.—MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI: Will the Hon. the Minister Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any repairs by way of removing the silt, etc., are done in the Moparru channel to the right bank of Nizampatam canal in Moparru village, Tenali taluk, Guntur district;

(b) whether he is aware that the ryots who have to get water through this channel for their lands are being put to great hardship or after year for want of water-supply; and

(c) if the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, whether the Government will take steps to remedy the grievance at any date?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) It is reported that silt clearance work was done during the year 1935 and that the section of the channel was also widened to ensure a better supply to the tail-end lands.

" (b) & (c) Subsequent to the carrying out of the above improvements in 1935, the supply has been satisfactory and no complaints have been received."

MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that in spite of the improvements, there is no good water-supply?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I am not aware."

MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to instruct the concerned authorities to take up the matter immediately to see that some relief is given?"

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THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"As I have already said, silt clearance work was done; I am afraid there is no necessity to issue any more instructions."

MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I may say that nothing has been done for the past five years. I want to ask the Minister to see that the matter is expedited, so that the necessary improvements may be carried out."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I shall have the matter enquired into."

Origin of the Kistna Reservoir Project.

* 16 Q.—MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(1) (a) what the Government mean by "Kistna Reservoir Project";

(b) when it was originated;

(c) when it was dropped and why; and

(2) whether he will be pleased to place on the table the plans and other connected records of the above Project?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (1) (a) The Kistna Reservoir Project provides for the construction of a reservoir across the Kistna river at Pulichintala (Wadanapalle) about 50 miles upstream of Bezwada with an upland main canal about 147 miles long taking off direct from the reservoir with branch channels and distributaries to irrigate 610,000 acres in the Guntur district.

" (b) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to the Legislative Council Question No. 349, dated 22nd January 1935.

" (2) A report on the Kistna Reservoir Project (in three volumes) which contains the necessary maps is available for reference in the Secretariat Library."

11-15 a.m. MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"May I know what the answer was that was given in the last Legislative Council?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I refer the hon. Member to the proceedings."

MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI:—"If questions of this kind are asked and we are referred to certain previous proceedings of a previous Government on a previous occasion, it is not possible to refer to them on the spot and put further questions at once. So I request the Hon. Minister to repeat that previous answer."

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The answer is too big to be repeated."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Question No. 17. Mr. K. Bashyam Ayyangar. The hon. Member is absent."

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"On behalf of the hon. Member, Mr. Bashyam Ayyangar, can I put the question, Sir? I did not hear the ruling given by you previously."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If you are deputed by the hon. Member, you may put the question."

MR. P. M. ADIKESAVALU NAYAKAR:—"In this connexion, Sir, may I request you to adopt the procedure in the Central Legislative Assembly, where a Member who has given notice of a question simply says No. 15 or No. 16, and if the Member is absent, then any other Member who is interested in the question might rise up and put the question on behalf of the absent Member."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If he has been deputed."

MR. P. M. ADIKESAVALU NAYAKAR:—"Not necessarily deputed, Sir, in writing. A Member who is interested in getting an answer to the question may be allowed. Otherwise, there is so much labour wasted after preparing the answer and doing other things."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will resume his seat. A Committee which was appointed to consider the revision of the Rules of Procedure has considered this matter very carefully and it was held that if an hon. Member is deputed, he may put the question. Otherwise, if he arrives before the question time is over, he may put the question himself. This rule has been made in this manner so that he may be enabled to put supplementary questions. If he is absent altogether, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—"The authority must be in writing, Sir, and placed before the Speaker previously. That is the practice in the Central Assembly."

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"In the absence of the Member, what will be the fate of his questions, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is no doubt necessary that the authority on that Member should be in writing. But, for to-day, I allow Mr. Bashyam Ayyangar's question No. 17 to be put by any other Member."

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—"I wish to have an answer to my question, Sir. If on account of the absence of the Member, his questions are not put, what will be the fate of these questions? Will they be taken up later on and answered?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The answers will be printed in the proceedings, if the hon. Member does not turn up to put the question during question time."

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Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi was allowed to put Question No. 17 on behalf of Mr. K. Bashyam Ayyangar.

Sanction of Government to the scheme for underground drainage for South Mylapore and Adyar extensions.

* 17 Q.—MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is pending before the Government for sanction any scheme for underground drainage for South Mylapore and Adyar extensions;

(b) whether the Special Engineer has written to the Government to say that he will be able to do the work from the savings effected in the schemes already sanctioned and executed;

(c) the reasons why there is delay in sanctioning the scheme; and

(d) whether the Government will sanction the scheme at once?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The answer to Question No. 17 is this:—

‘(a) The Government have already sanctioned the scheme and the Corporation has been permitted to proceed with the work without prejudice to the question of grant.

‘(b) No; the Commissioner, Corporation of Madras, addressed the Government on these lines.

‘(c) & (d) Do not arise, as the scheme has been sanctioned.’”

The Papanasam Hydro-Electric Project.

* 18 Q.—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the Papanasam Hydro-Electric Project in the Tinnevely district—

(a) at what stage the project now stands;

(b) whether the preliminary and detailed investigations of the project are over and if so, what the result of the same is;

(c) whether numerous representations have been received by the Government from the Tinnevely landholders to expand the project so as to include an irrigation reservoir as a part of the same; and

(d) what orders, if any, have been passed on the same and what the reasons, if any, are on which the orders are based?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) and (b) The investigation of the Hydro-Electric project of Papanasam is almost completed and a report on the project is expected from the Chief Engineer for Electricity shortly.

“(c) and (d) Three representations were received from the Tinnevely District Landholders’ Association. The Government decided that the scheme should not be sanctioned as a part

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irrigation project as the irrigation part of the scheme when debited with the appropriate proportionate cost of the dam, was definitely unproductive, the return being only 1.81 per cent according to the estimate of the Chief Engineer for Electricity. As the investigation so far made showed, however, that the hydro-electric scheme was likely to be productive, the Government sanctioned the detailed investigation of the scheme as a hydro-electric one.

“A copy^a of the orders passed by Government is laid on the table of the House.”

Representation for the restoration of the Sivillaperi irrigation tank, Tinnevely district.

* 19 Q.—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the Sivillaperi irrigation tank in the Tinnevely taluk—

(a) whether a proposal for the restoration of this tank has been received by the Government from the Tinnevely Mahajana Sangham;

(b) whether the same has been investigated; and

(c) if so, what the result of the investigation is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a), (b) & (c) The Tinnevely Mahajana Sangham made the proposal to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and he has ordered a detailed investigation of the scheme. Steps have been taken to determine the supply available in the Chittar river and for this purpose gaugings at the Gangaikondan anicut are being taken. The results of the gaugings are awaited.”

Proposal for the construction of an irrigation reservoir near Kadayam, Ambasamudram taluk.

* 20 Q.—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the Ramanathi river near Kadayam in the Ambasamudram taluk, Tinnevely district—

(a) whether a proposal for the construction of an irrigation reservoir has been received by the Government;

(b) whether the same has been investigated; and

(c) if so, what its result is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a), (b) & (c) The proposal has been made to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation by the Tinnevely District Landholders’ Association and is reported to be under examination by the local officers.”

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Proposal for the revival of the Ghiriar scheme in the Tinnevely district.

* 21 Q.—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the Ghiriar scheme in the Tinnevely district—

(a) whether a proposal to revive the Ghiriar scheme with the consent of the Travancore State has been received by the Government;

(b) whether the same has been investigated; and

(c) if so, what the result of the same is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a), (b) & (c) The proposal to revive the scheme was investigated in 1936 and dropped as the project was considered not a productive one and the expenditure involved would be out of all proportion to any possible benefits.”

Representations for opening a fruit farm in the Tinnevely district.

* 22 Q.—MR. K. P. YEGNESWARA SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received by Government for the opening of a fruit farm in the Tinnevely district; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take in regard to the same?

THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“(a) & (b) Resolutions passed at two meetings held respectively under the auspices of the Fourth and Fifth Swadeshi Industrial and Agricultural Exhibitions in July 1936 and July 1937 were communicated to Government requesting them to open a fruit farm in the Tinnevely district. In reply, the Joint Secretary of the Buy Indian League who communicated the resolutions was informed that there was already a fruit farm in the Cuddapah district, which is intended to deal with the cultivation of fruits in the plains, and that the Government did not propose to start a separate farm in the Tinnevely district.”

Appointment of a committee to investigate the facilities existing for Sanskrit learning and research.

* 23 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to appoint a committee of inquiry to investigate the adequacy of existing facilities for Sanskrit studies, learning and research in the Madras Presidency and, if necessary, to recommend proposals to make them more efficient and widespread?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government do not think there is any necessity for such an enquiry.”

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Proposal for the appointment of a committee to improve irrigation works in the Cheyyar-Palar Anicut system.

* 24 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to appoint a committee of enquiry to go into the question of the existing irrigational facilities in the Cheyyar-Palar Anicut systems in the North Arcot district and to suggest ways and means to fully exploit the unused waters of the Cheyyar and Palar rivers for purposes of irrigation in the Cheyyar division of the North Arcot district and the Chingleput division of the Chingleput district?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“There is no such proposal. If the hon. Member is referring to the Palar Irrigation Committee, his attention is invited to the answer to Legislative Council Question No. 487, dated 3rd December 1936. Certain statistics since received from the Mysore Government have been referred to the Chief Engineer and the Board of Revenue for examination and report.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Am I correct in assuming that it was the earlier Palar Enquiry Committee that called for the statistics? If the statistics are received, may I know whether Government propose to place those statistics before that Committee again?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“If the statistics are received, we will take such steps as are necessary.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether it is a fact that that Committee has not finished its enquiries and arrived at its conclusions? I understand they only submitted a preliminary report with regard to certain findings on which they arrived at certain tentative conclusions.”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Notice, Sir.”

Grants to the Madras Christian College, Tambaram, for buildings and equipment.

* 25 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) (1) the total amount of non-recurring Government grant given to the Madras Christian College

(i) for constructing new buildings at Tambaram;

(ii) for equipment; and

(2) the amount of recurring annual grant for teaching;

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(b) whether the site on which the college buildings are erected was given free; and

(c) if so, the extent of the site?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) (1) The total grant promised for the building scheme including equipment is Rs. 16.38 lakhs. Estimates aggregating to Rs. 31.52 lakhs rendering the management eligible for a grant of Rs. 15.76 lakhs have so far been considered. The grant actually disbursed up to date is Rs. 10.47 lakhs.

“(a) (2) The teaching grant paid in 1936-37 was Rs. 33,263; the amount varies slightly from year to year.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) 390 acres.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“May I know whether there is any other educational institution which has received grants as much as the Madras Christian College?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Yes, Sir. The Annamalai and the Andhra Universities. They both received Government grants to the extent of Rs. 27 lakhs as grant for investment, Rs. 7½ lakhs for buildings and a statutory grant of Rs. 1½ lakhs per year for general purposes.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“That is no reply to my question, Sir. What I wanted to know was whether any educational institution has received such grants. The Hon. Minister's reply related to grants to Universities?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I do consider that the Madras Christian College is as much an educational institution as the Annamalai or the Andhra Universities.”

KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister for Education to tell the House whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government regarding any building grant to the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I contend that that question does not arise out of this question.”

Taking over by the University of Madras of the management and custody of the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

* 26 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have agreed to the transfer of the management and custody of the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library to the University of Madras;

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(b) whether it is a fact that this was a condition insisted on by the Government of India when they made the block grant in 1912 for the construction of the Madras University Library buildings;

(c) whether the construction of the Madras University Library buildings has been completed; if so, whether the said University has made any provision in their new buildings to house the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(d) whether the Government will place on the table the correspondence, if any, that has been entered into between the University authorities and the Government of Madras on this matter; and

(e) what action the Government propose to take on the question of the transfer of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, to the University of Madras?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) No.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) & (e) The Library will shortly be transferred. The details of transfer are now under consideration. No useful purpose will be served by publishing the correspondence.”

MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR:—“May I ask what the Government propose to do with regard to the staff of the Oriental Manuscripts Library on its being transferred to the Madras University Library?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“As I said, the question is under consideration and it is not possible for me to give a definite answer now.”

Tender for the supply of stationery to the District Board, South Arcot, for 1935-36.

* 27 Q.—MR. A. SUBRAHMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the President, District Board, South Arcot, has addressed the Government on the subject of the acceptance by the previous president of the board of the tender for stationery for 1935-36, and, if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take thereon?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“A communication on the subject has been received from the President, District Board, Cuddalore, and is under the consideration of the Government.”

MR. A. SUBRAHMANYAM (in Tamil):—“Can the Hon. Minister give out the name of the tenderer?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I do not know the name of the tenderer.”

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MR. A. SUBRAHMANYAM (in Tamil):—" May I know whether the tender was duly advertized in the papers? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As far as I know no advertisement was given to the press. "

MR. K. VARADACHARIAR:—" May I know whether it is only the lowest tender that is to be accepted? "

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" The hon. Member is asking for a rule to be laid down. He can only ask for information. "

Extension of the Honorary Medical Service.

* 28 Q.—MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any policy towards the expansion of the system of Honorary Medical Service in Government hospitals with a view to retrenchment in the paid services and, if so, what it is?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question of extending the system of appointing Honorary Medical Officers in Government medical institutions is under consideration. It is not possible to say at present whether this will result in retrenchment in the existing paid services. "

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Will the Hon. Minister enlighten us, if the matter is under consideration, why the Public Services Commission has been examining candidates for employment in the permanent medical cadre? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The recruitment depends on the vacancies that arise in the department, and the Public Services Commission were asked to recruit candidates in view of vacancies that might occur; and in so far as the vacancies have not occurred, the question does not arise. "

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask whether the Government have received the list of names from the Public Services Commission of candidates that have been selected after the examination that was recently held? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The Government have not so far received it. "

Protest against the acquisition of the Tambaram Sanatorium.

* 29 Q.—MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the price paid by Government for the Tambaram Sanatorium;

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(b) whether the Government satisfied themselves as to the suitability of the site for the purpose of running a sanatorium; and

(c) whether the Government are aware of strong public opinion against the acquisition of the sanatorium because of its unsuitability?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Rs. 55,000.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) No. "

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that in view of the fact that the land was given free the price paid is excessive? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question of the value of the site has been enquired into by a committee and the committee considered the award quite fair. "

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know what accommodation is there and for how many inmates, and how many patients have so far been admitted? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I very much doubt whether this question arises as a supplementary question, but still I would answer the hon. Member. In the hospital, provision is made for 40 beds and they are full, but there is a large number still on the waiting list to be admitted. "

Number of Muslims functioning as municipal commissioners or special officers.

* 30 Q.—MR. D. ABDUL RAWOOF: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state how many municipal commissioners or special officers are functioning in this province and of these, how many are Muslims?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Of the total number of 82 commissioners and special officers of municipalities in office on 13th August 1937, four are Muhammadans. "

MR. ABDUR RAHIMAN KHAN:—" May I know whether Government is considering the advisability of abolishing these special officers? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am afraid the answer is in the negative. "

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask the Minister for Local Self-Government whether he and the Government realize that the percentage of Mussalmans in that cadre of service is much less according to the communal Government Order which gives two places out of twelve to the Mussalmans? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Certainly we do realize the importance of the Mussalman community in the services and due consideration will be given when proper applicants come forward. "

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MR. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the inequalities in the appointment of these officers will soon be corrected?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"We will certainly consider the suggestion."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"We cannot immediately discuss the policy of compartmental communal representation; it is not a thing which we can take up at question time."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan rose to put a question.

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is such an intricate question that the matter may well be the subject of a resolution. With regard to compartmental communal representation, the Hon. the Premier says that it needs consideration and that he cannot give a simple answer."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"We are indeed thankful to the Leader of the House for the information that he has given us, but that is very inadequate in view of the fact that certain communal orders have been in vogue all these years. I think since this question has been asked and the answer given that there are only 4 officers out of 82, I think it is not improper or wrong on the part of any member to ask whether the Government will consider following the order that has been in vogue."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I have been completely misunderstood. I did not say that any questions were improper, but I say that it is a very inadequate treatment of the question, to take it up in this manner at question time. There is the communal order and there is the communal principle. But, as far as I can understand, if you take up a particular post, the office of a judge or of a second-grade munsif or of a commissioner, I am not aware that any particular division among communities has been fixed which can be followed without detriment to efficiency. I do think that the question should be considered in the fullest possible manner. All these questions are proper, but I think they should be deferred and should not be taken up in the shape of supplementary questions."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Do I understand that for the present they are suspending the communal Government Order?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"No, Sir."

Disparity in the scale of conveyance allowance payable to Deputy Collector-Municipal Commissioners and non-Deputy Collector-Municipal Commissioners.

* 31 Q.—MR. D. ABDUL RAWOOF: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Deputy Collector-Commissioners of municipalities are paid a conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 per mensem whereas non-Deputy Collector-Commissioners are paid only Rs. 20 though the duties performed are the same and though in several cases

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the areas and road mileage of non-Deputy Collector-Commissioners of municipalities are greater than those of Deputy Collector-Commissioners of municipalities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the health officers and engineers working under these commissioners are drawing more than double the conveyance allowance granted to the commissioners; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to grant them conveyance allowance equal at least to that of the health officers who are subordinate to them?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The rates of conveyance allowance payable to Commissioners have been fixed as shown below:—

" (i) Officers within the scale of Rs. 250—750 (Deputy Collectors and others of similar rank)—Rs. 40 per mensem subject to the maintenance of a motor car.

" (ii) Officers within the scale of Rs. 175—15/2—250 (Tahsildars and others of similar rank)—Rs. 20 per mensem subject to the maintenance of a motor cycle or a motor car in lieu of it.

" (iii) All others—Rs. 15 per mensem subject to the maintenance of a motor cycle.

" (b) Yes; in some municipalities Health Officers and Engineers are drawing conveyance allowances at rates higher than those drawn by the Commissioners.

" (c) No."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether there is a proposal before the Government to-day that Deputy Collector-Commissioners are to be abolished?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Not at present."

MR. E. KANNAN:—"Sir, may I ask the Government whether the efficiency of Administration of these municipalities with non-Deputy Collector Commissioners is in any way suffering on account of the fact that the Commissioners thereof are not getting as much travelling allowance as some of the officers under them?"

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No."

[Note.—An Asterisk (*) at the beginning of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—BUDGET FOR 1937-38.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I rise to present to this Assembly the Budget for the current year 1937-38. Before I approach the actual Budget, I crave the indulgence of the House to make some preliminary observations which the present occasion seems to demand. The present Legislature is the first in the history of the Province to be entirely devoid of any official element,

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For the first time the Treasury Bench is occupied by a body of persons elected by and wholly responsible to the people of the Province, and a representative of the people is charged with the duty of placing the annual estimates before the Legislature and of asking it to vote supply. It is, then, appropriate that I should first refer to the financial changes which have been brought about by the Government of India Act, 1935, with special reference to the extent to which the power of the purse has been placed under the control of the Legislature. The Act of 1919 introduced a kind of financial autonomy, but it was diluted to such an extent as to be practically unrecognizable. Both taxation and borrowing powers of Provincial Governments were severely restricted. The Governor-General in Council and the Secretary of State had large and general powers of superintendence, direction and control. The Governor had wide powers of certifying expenditure and, under his Instrument of Instructions, he was the care-taker of the solvency and the probity of public finance of the Province. It is true that under the present Constitution also the control of the Assembly over the finances of the Province is fettered in three respects. First, the Province may not borrow without the consent of the Central Government so long as a debt to that Government is outstanding or if the borrowing is outside India; but this restriction is coupled with a statutory prohibition against an unreasonable withholding of consent. The second restriction is that certain expenditure which is about 15 per cent of the total in the current year is under the Act charged on the revenues of the Province, and is thereby removed from the vote of the Assembly. The main items so charged are, expenditure relating to His Excellency the Governor and his office, debt service charges, statutory grants for university and elementary education, certain payments to local bodies, expenditure on the High Court, and the salaries, allowances and pensions of a class of members of the Services. The third restriction is that the Governor is empowered to make such provision as he considers necessary for the due discharge of what are called the special responsibilities imposed on him by the Act. But from the discussions which took place in the matter of these special responsibilities from April to the middle of July we may, I think, confidently assume that His Excellency is not likely to seek to exercise this special power. I should perhaps specifically mention that neither under the Act nor under the Governor's Instrument of Instructions do His Excellency's special responsibilities include one for the maintenance of the financial stability of the Province. That responsibility has now been transferred to the popularly elected Government, and I am confident that the Ministry can rely on the support of Hon'ble Members of this House in maintaining the credit of the Province which is our greatest asset. This is the more necessary in that a Provincial Government can now no longer borrow from the Central Government but has to float its own loans on the money market. To the extent that its credit becomes impaired by unwise finance it will have to pay more for its loan money, as also will those to whom the Government re-lend have to do, such as local bodies, co-operative societies and agriculturists.

The new conditions.

11-45 a.m.

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"I pass now to another preliminary explanation. In normal circumstances the Budget for a financial year is brought before the Legislature towards the close of the previous year, and is passed through all its stages before the end of the year, in order that funds may be available for expenditure on and from the 1st April. This procedure could not be followed in the case of the current year as the new Constitution was inaugurated in the Provinces on the 1st April 1937 and there were obvious objections to the old Government preparing and the old Legislative Council passing a Budget for the first year of a Government constituted under the new order. To meet this special situation an Order-in-Council empowered the Governor to authorize expenditure to enable the business of the Government to be carried on from the 1st April until such time not exceeding six months as the schedule of authorized expenditure for the whole year is voted by the Assembly. The object of this device was merely to make appropriation available, in advance of the regular provision of supplies through a Budget Session, to Ministers and the other competent spending authorities. It was not intended to give the Governor any special powers to incur expenditure, nor did it impose on the Ministry any obligation to incur expenditure so authorized. The operation of the Governor's "grants on account" was, as has already been stated, limited to a maximum period of six months. Their total was also limited in amount to half of the revised estimate for 1936-37,—it actually fell some 36 lakhs below that limit—and so far as information is now available there will be no increase over the total amount already authorized. Copies of the detailed estimates making up this total have already been circulated to Members of both Chambers of the Legislature. The expenditure authorized by the Governor, it should be remembered, has been merged in the full year's estimates now presented to the Legislature, which cover the whole year and not merely the second six months. As soon as the Budget for the year has been passed by the Assembly and authenticated by the Governor the so-called "six-months' Budget" will cease to have any operation.

Governor's Budget.

"Before considering the estimates of the Budget year itself it is usual briefly to review the financial working of the two previous years, and it may be well not to break with this tradition. The last year for which final accounts are available is 1935-36, but not much need be said about them. The Budget for that year anticipated a small surplus on revenue account and the year closed in this respect as anticipated. The position under capital and debt heads improved as compared with the Budget anticipations by nearly 29 lakhs, due mainly to a special loan repayment by the Tuticorin Port Trust and to a shortfall in capital expenditure and in the disbursement of loans to the Madras Corporation. The Famine Relief Fund was drawn upon for financing famine relief operations by 16½ lakhs more than was provided for, mainly on account of the severe famine in the Bellary and Anantapur districts. The year 1935-36 closed with a Revenue balance of 186.27 lakhs, Suspense, etc., balances of 57.90 lakhs, and a balance of 44.48 lakhs in the Famine Relief Fund, making up a total of 288.65 lakhs, which was therefore the opening balance for the year 1936-37.

1935-36.

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"There was at one time a considerable risk that the closing balance for 1935-36 might not be the opening balance for 1936-37. As and from the 1st April 1936, certain areas were taken away from the Province of Madras to form part of the newly constituted Province of Orissa, and there was much apprehension that a slice of our balances might accompany the loss of territory. Fortunately the danger did not materialise, and our balances were preserved to us. The changes in the financial position of our Province as the result of the constitution of the new Province have not been to our disadvantage. Our Revenue account has benefited to the extent of 22 lakhs annually, since the average expenditure in the transferred areas has been about 53 lakhs as against an average revenue of only about 31 lakhs. The Provincial debt was reduced to the extent of 47 lakhs by the transfer of this liability to the new Province, while the Madras Famine Relief Fund has been relieved of the liability to contribute to famine relief operations in the transferred areas. Madras's gain in these respects, I may add, is not Utkal's loss, since under the Niemeyer settlement the Central Government provided the Orissa Province with a suitable opening balance and will pay an annual subvention adequate to ensure the solvency of the Province. I am sure that the good wishes of the Honourable Members of this House and of the people of this Province are with the young Province of Utkal, and we trust that it will have a happy and prosperous future in its new-found life.

1936-37. "Coming now to the financial year 1936-37, the Budget for the year was a balanced one, but according to the preliminary accounts there will be a deficit on revenue account of 17.89 lakhs. The deficit would have been less than a lakh but for a special transfer of 17 lakhs which, though not provided for in the Budget, was made late in the year from revenue to the Famine Relief Fund in order to raise the balance to the credit of the Fund to the statutory limit of 60 lakhs. The effect of this contribution has been to relieve the revenue account in the current year to the extent of 5 lakhs, which is the minimum annual appropriation from revenue under the Famine Relief Fund Act so long as the balance in the Fund stands at less than 60 lakhs.

"Under capital and debt heads the Budget for 1936-37 contemplated an outlay of 218.54 lakhs on capital works and on loans to cultivators, local bodies and others. It was proposed to find the amount from the anticipated recoveries of 61.89 lakhs on account of loans advanced in previous years, by borrowing 118.11 lakhs from the Government of India, and by drawal of the remainder of 38.54 lakhs from Provincial balances. The actual outlay was less than the estimate by 46.14 lakhs, due to short expenditure on electric schemes and civil works, while loan recoveries were higher than anticipated by 8.76 lakhs, mainly as the result of an advance repayment of loan by the Tuticorin Port Trust. During the year, however, the Government of India decided not to grant us the loan applied for, with the result that the amount drawn from the balances came to 101.75 lakhs as against 38.54 lakhs contemplated in the Budget.

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"Under Suspense and other heads, the debits and credits according to the budget estimates for 1936-37 worked up to a net drawal of 22.24 lakhs from the balance under these heads, mainly from the Central Road Fund and the Central Government's grant for rural economic development. Consequent however on the enactment of the Madras Famine Relief Fund Act in the course of the year, it became necessary to withdraw all cash balances of the Fund for investment in Government of India securities. On the other hand short expenditure on Central Road Fund works obviated the necessity of drawing on the balance to the credit of the Fund as the receipts during the year were more than sufficient to cover the actual expenditure. The net effect of these variations was that suspense balances were reduced by 39.45 lakhs as against 22.24 lakhs contemplated.

"The total effect of the financial results for the year 1936-37 under all heads was that, as against a total opening balance of 288.65 lakhs inclusive of a balance of 44.48 lakhs in the Famine Relief Fund held with the Government of India, the year closed with a total cash balance of 129.56 lakhs exclusive of the balance of about 60 lakhs held in the form of securities in the Famine Relief Fund under the Madras Famine Relief Fund Act, 1936.

"The Debt position of the Province as on the 31st March 1937 can best be explained as follows. On the 1st April 1921 the Government of India transferred to us a debt liability of 985.12 lakhs, representing outlay incurred by them on our behalf prior to that date in respect of irrigation works, loans to cultivators, and the like. Between the 1st April 1921 and the 31st March 1937 our total borrowings came to 13,53.74 lakhs and our total repayments 763.31 lakhs. A debt of 47.09 lakhs was transferred to Orissa. The debt outstanding on the 31st March 1937 thus amounted to 15,28.46 lakhs, carrying a debt service liability of 87.67 lakhs in the year 1937-38. It will be seen that the total debt of the Province is less than one year's ordinary revenue, and is also less than the value of the remunerative assets owned by the Province, viz., loans given out by this Government, irrigation and electricity works, etc., as set out in Appendix II on page 148 of the Financial Secretary's Memorandum. Even from the most conservative point of view the Debt position of the Province cannot but be regarded as exceptionally sound.

"I may at this point mention the fact that the annual debt service charge of 87.67 lakhs which should have fallen to be met in the current year has been reduced to a figure of about 54.56 lakhs (the actual figure will be known only when the accounts for 1936-37 have been finally made up), as a result of the arrangement for the decentralization of balances and the consolidation of debt which was brought into effect along with the new Constitution. This is more fully explained in paragraph 16 of the Financial Secretary's Budget Memorandum supplied to you to-day. The immediate relief afforded to our Budget by this arrangement is to be welcomed, but we have to remember that it is a relief obtained at the expense of the future. Instead of having to meet

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immediately a high debt charge in respect of our old debts we have to meet in respect of past debts a charge which will remain a basic charge for the next 45 years and to which will be added further annual charges with every fresh loan that is floated. In other words we must anticipate for the next 45 years a continually mounting burden on the revenue account of the Province for the annual service of the Provincial indebtedness, which means that extra prudence and restraint will have to be exercised in borrowing for unproductive purposes.

Special
difficult-
ties.

"The way is now clear for a consideration of the real question before the House, viz., the Budget for the year 1937-38. It is not necessary for me to remind Hon'ble Members that the Ministry assumed the reins of office only in the middle of July last. The obligation to get the Budget through all its stages by the end of September involved presentation of it to this House by the end of August, which in turn involved the final formulation of the Budget proposals by the end of July, so as to allow the time necessary for its preparation in the Finance Department, printing, proof-reading and despatch to the Members of the Legislature sufficiently in advance of the Budget session. Hon'ble Members will therefore appreciate the fact that the time available to the Ministry for giving effect to any new policy in this year's budget was a mere matter of days and not weeks or months. If it is remembered that we had many other special problems to tackle consequent on our peculiar position on behalf of the Indian National Congress, and a considerable amount of study was necessary for us to know what the Budgetary position was, Hon'ble Members will readily forgive any shortcomings that they may be inclined to notice. We have done what we could in the short time available. We had inevitably to work on estimates already prepared, and although we have been able to give it some Congress orientation, the present Budget can hardly be regarded as all that we desired for a Congress Party's Budget.

Seasons
and
prices.

"The position as we found it on our assumption of office was something as follows. The total revenue anticipated for the year was Rs. 16,06.74 lakhs, an increase of 32.81 lakhs over the revenue of the previous year. Notwithstanding that allowance had been made for land revenue concessions in fasli 1347 amounting to 75 lakhs as against 56½ lakhs in the previous fasli due to the collection of arrears of last year in the current year, anticipated extension of irrigation under the Cauvery-Nettur Project, and reduced provision for seasonal remissions in expectation of a normal season, it was anticipated that there would be an increase of 15½ lakhs under the head of Land Revenue. Last year, the south-west monsoon broke earlier than usual and was on the whole defective. Wet crops were restricted in the Carnatic and Central districts and dry crops in the south. The north-east monsoon ushered itself in with a terrific cyclone which worked havoc in some districts, especially Guntur, and the Government had to grant large remissions of revenue and distribute aid to sufferers both in money and in kind. Except for this catastrophe the north-east monsoon was, on the whole, above normal in most districts.

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"The south-west monsoon this year broke later than in last year, and though disappointing at the beginning has generally been normal on the whole, and there were no heavy floods. But in several districts (mostly those not served by it) water-supply was below normal, though sowing and transplanting have been going on as usual and the condition of standing crops as well as of their outturn and of cattle is reported to be fair. Fodder is reported to be generally sufficient and employment available. Prices of paddy, rice and commercial crops have generally been higher than in the corresponding period of last year, though prices of other food-grains and of pepper, sugar and cane jaggery have generally been lower. On the whole, this year both seasons and prices may be more favourable to the ryot.

"Other major anticipated increases were, 4½ lakhs under Excise and 8½ lakhs additional transfer from the Central Road Fund in expectation of better progress on works financed from that Fund. The total expenditure on standing sanctions, usually called Part I expenditure, was estimated at 15.90.49 lakhs. This was slightly less than the total expenditure in the previous year, inclusive of expenditure on new schemes, but I need not trouble you with details of the variations as they are fully explained in the Financial Secretary's Memorandum. The surplus available for schemes of new expenditure was thus a sum of 16.25 lakhs only. The main reason, we found, for the small size of this surplus in spite of the saving of 33 lakhs in debt charges owing to the consolidation of debt was that this saving had been largely mortgaged by our predecessors in advance. In September and December 1936 a large number of new schemes, which under the normal financial procedure should have been made to stand their chance along with other Part II schemes for consideration in connection with the Budget for 1937-38, were introduced by means of supplementary grants and voted by the old Legislative Council. The cost of the schemes so sanctioned which had to be met from current revenues was estimated at 14.01 lakhs recurring and 28.94 lakhs non-recurring, the latter to be spread over a few years. It was of course known that the expenditure which would be incurred in the year 1936-37 would be trifling; but the provision which had to be made on that account in Part I of the Budget for 1937-38 amounted to 19.75 lakhs.

"In spite of the large number of schemes of new expenditure thus introduced out of the normal way in the course of last year, a host of new schemes was brought forward by departments for consideration in connection with the current year's Budget. Their ultimate cost would come to about 25 lakhs recurring and over 2 crores non-recurring, while the cost of getting them started in the current year would of itself be about 50 lakhs. Most of these schemes are admirable in themselves and, if we could only afford them, they would be well worthy of acceptance. But as we have to live within our means, many a good scheme we had to shelve away for better times. We see here an illustration of the soundness of the general financial rule that all new schemes should be considered together at the time of the preparation of

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the Budget, rather than that some should be given specially favourable treatment in advance of and without reference to the general body of Part II schemes. It is a pity that this general rule was not observed in 1936.

Land
revenue
remis-
sions.

“The estimates of revenue prepared before we took office have in the main, with but one exception, been accepted by the present Government, including the Land Revenue estimates. As I have stated already, those estimates provide for land revenue concessions in the current fasli to the extent of 75 lakhs, which is greater than has been given in any previous fasli. We have not yet had time to examine the position and decide as to the manner in which the grant of land revenue concessions should be distributed this year. But we must ask those who consider that the provision now made is inadequate to exercise a little patience. We are fully aware that the burden of the land revenue assessment is heavy, but the grant of relief on a scale which would be of material assistance to the individual small ryot would involve such a dislocation of the Budget of the Province that not even a beginning could be made with other ameliorative measures and reforms for the well-being of the masses which, in the opinion of the Government, are of great and urgent importance, and which it would not be right thus for the Government to disable itself from undertaking. The matter will certainly continue to engage the most careful and anxious consideration of the Government, but I want Hon'ble Members to realise that it is a complex and difficult question which cannot be solved by a stroke of the pen within a month or two of assuming the responsibility of running the administration which, as I have already explained, includes the responsibility of preserving the credit and the financial stability of the Province. We have under our consideration proposals for exploiting alternative sources of revenue, but time and negotiations with the Central Government are required to work them out and bring them into operation.

Indebted-
ness.

“While on the question of the relief of the land revenue burden, I may say, Sir, that my colleagues and I consider that of even greater urgency and value to the agricultural population is the adequate relief of indebtedness and immediate steps will therefore be taken in this direction, which will release the cultivator in our Province from the strangle-hold of unredeemable insolvency and despair and, we hope, make a man of him.

Prohibi-
tion.

“Now I come to the major change which has been made in the estimates of revenue, viz., under the head of Excise. We regard the introduction of the prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs as of such vital and fundamental importance to the well-being of the people, that we felt that, at whatever cost, an effective start must be made at once. The Government therefore decided to close with effect from the 1st October 1937 all toddy and arrack shops in the district of Salem. The problem of prohibition has been complicated by the revenue from Drink having been worked deep into the financial structure of the Province. We have of course problems of enforcement and of finding

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other employment for the families who hitherto derived livelihood in the drink business. These questions have to be faced and tackled, and the Government being serious about it, have therefore decided to proceed step by step and not all at once. The first area to be tackled will be Salem. My colleagues have been pleased, Sir, in choosing the venue of this first memorable step to pay a delicate compliment to the faith and enthusiasm of their Premier in this cause, and have given preference to his native district. (Hear, hear). It is, Sir, not to be regarded as a mere experiment, but it should be understood as a first stage. Our policy is finally settled and there can be no question of withdrawal from it. We deem it wrong for Government to be party to the organizing of evil temptations calculated to ruin weak-willed people and cause the destitution of the women and children of their families. With time for financial adjustments and experience in the work of enforcement, it is confidently hoped that the prohibition of drink and drugs throughout the Province will become an accomplished fact. By losing 26 lakhs we really put no less than a crore in the pockets of the peasants and labourers of Salem District every year. So it will be in the rest of the Province as we proceed. But here, again, we must counsel patience to those who would like to see the whole of the Province become ‘dry’ at one swoop.

“The financial effect of closing liquor shops in the Salem District will, in a full year, be a loss of revenue of 26 lakhs. The loss in the current year will be 13 lakhs, which reduces the sum available for new schemes to the small figure of 3.25 lakhs. In the limited time at our disposal we could make but little alteration in the estimates of expenditure on standing sanctions, except in one respect. Our proposals for the salaries and allowances of Ministers, even including payment of salaries to Parliamentary Secretaries and Members of the Legislature, involved a saving of over Rs. 20,000 on the provision as it stood in the draft Budget when we came into office, but against this had to be set the provision of money for the purchase of cars for the use of Ministers. This latter measure we consider to be reasonable and desirable in view of the fact that the Minister will draw only a small salary and can hardly be expected to put himself to the expense of buying a car which is under present conditions necessary for the discharge of the duties of a political appointment of uncertain tenure (laughter); and this expenditure is not recurring but covers the utility for a number of years.

“In order to increase the amount available for new schemes the Government decided, as a temporary measure until their proposals for p.m. increasing revenue or for reducing expenditure in other directions can take shape and materialize, to meet the expenditure on the commutation of pensions from borrowings instead of from current revenues. This is a departure from past practice, under which, because the cost of commutations of pensions has settled down to a recurring charge at a fairly constant figure, it had been usual, with the approval of the Auditor-General and the Public Accounts Committee of the old Legislative Council, to meet them from revenue as they arise. We are satisfied that

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this practice is sound and, in normal circumstances, not unduly conservative. But circumstances are now somewhat exceptional and we feel that we would not be justified in holding up urgent and desirable schemes until we have devised methods of making good the loss of revenue arising out of our prohibition policy. We are therefore meeting this expenditure for commutation of pensions in the current year from borrowings, thereby relieving the revenue account to the extent of 10.33 lakhs. The amount available for new schemes is thus increased to about 13½ lakhs.

“ Our proposals for utilizing this amount will be found set out in detail on pages 150 to 161 of the Budget Memorandum. Generally speaking, we have turned down for the time being all schemes in respect of buildings and roads, as they can afford to wait better than most. We have accepted all water-supply and drainage schemes put forward by local bodies, and have made provision for the grant of subsidies for the opening of new rural dispensaries and for the employment of midwives in existing subsidised rural dispensaries, which had been under a ban continuously since 1932. We have provided for the installation of some village broadcasting receiving sets, which may serve both as a public amenity and as an instrument for adult education in rural areas.

Grant for hand-spinning. “ We have included provision for the supply of a little buttermilk to our prisoners, and have provided for a grant of 2 lakhs of rupees for assistance to the hand-spinning movement. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the hand-spinning industry for the well-being of rural families in the dry areas of this Province. It is essential that this industry should be given some measure of assistance to enable it to be revived and to grow and become again a source of supplementary income to peasant families which according to the evidence of every one who has investigated rural problems, including the Royal Agricultural Commission, is a matter of vital and urgent necessity for the well-being of the agricultural workers of the country. Such assistance for the effective revival of a lost industry is a reasonable charge on the revenues of the Province. We have under consideration details as to the form in which this assistance shall be given, but we have no doubt that the entire amount provided will be disbursed within the year. We propose to introduce a small licence fee on all cloth dealers in the province exempting those exclusively dealing in hand-loom products. This will bring in some revenue which it is expected will cover at least a part of the grant intended for the subsidy of hand-spinning. We have however not taken credit for any amount of revenue under this head, as it is a new source that has not been estimated and worked out.

A surplus budget. “ The sum total effect of these proposals will be to leave the revenue account for the year not with a deficit, but with a small surplus of about Rs. 6,000, which just represents the Micawberian shilling my predecessor on this bench referred to when presenting the Budget for 1936-37. But we do not propose to follow Micawber's policy of cheering up on a shilling's worth of porter!

1st September 1937] [Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar]

“ The total cost in the current year of schemes of new expenditure which are debitable to revenue is, as shown in Appendix IV of the Budget Memorandum, 13.71 lakhs. I may classify for the benefit of the House the distribution of this new expenditure. It works out as follows:—

	Amount.	Percentage to total.
	LAKHS.	
(1) Primary functions of Government	·82	6 %
(2) Development services	12·64	92·2 %
(3) Charges common to (1) and (2) ..	·25	1·8 %

The major portion of the first item is the additional expenditure under ‘Jails’ on account of our decision to allow the supply of buttermilk to prisoners.

“ As regards capital expenditure, the total amount provided in the Budget for capital outlay on irrigation works, industrial development, electric schemes and civil works, inclusive of schemes of new expenditure relating to irrigation and electricity, is 162 lakhs. Capital expenditure.

“ In addition to the above, as already explained, a provision of 10.33 lakhs has been included for payment of commuted value of pensions. For loans, provision has been made for 75.52 lakhs which include 37.23 lakhs for loans to cultivators, 30.56 lakhs for loans to local bodies (mostly for their capital expenditure) and 5 lakhs for loans to co-operative building and sale societies. Recoveries of loans previously advanced are estimated at 36.46 lakhs, leaving a net amount of 39.06 lakhs to be met from borrowings. Provision for loans.

“ I can now deal very briefly with the ways and means position for the current year. After taking into account the opening balance on the 1st April 1937 and the probable debits and credits under all the heads the position at the end of the year, if no loan were raised, would be an overdraft of 85.38 lakhs. But under our agreement with the Reserve Bank we have to maintain a minimum deposit of 40 lakhs with them, and we have also to provide the cash in the treasuries and sub-treasuries which may amount to a maximum of 19.15 lakhs. The Government therefore decided to float a loan of 150 lakhs, which should leave a free balance at the end of the year of about 5.47 lakhs. The amount of the loan raised is more than covered by remunerative expenditure proposed to be incurred in the form of capital works and loans to cultivators and local bodies. The House is probably already aware that the loan was heavily oversubscribed within a short time of its being opened for subscription, and will appreciate the confidence thus shown by the investing public in the financial stability of the Province. The degree of over-subscription of the Madras loan will be apparent from the fact that allotments are being made on a 30 per cent basis in respect of applications for more than Rs. 1,000. The figure is 50 per cent in the case of the United Provinces loan and 25 per cent in the case of the Punjab loan, but it

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should be remembered that the latter loan is mainly a conversion loan and allotment is made in full in respect of bonds tendered for conversion. Since the Punjab only required 15 lakhs in cash, the cash subscriptions for their loan would amount to a total of only about 60 lakhs, against about 5 crores for the Madras loan and about 2 crores for the United Provinces loan. This indicates how highly the money market rates the credit of our Province.

"This completes the survey of the Budget proposals for the current year. We have not done all that we would have liked to have done, and perhaps we have not done half of what some of our well-wishers and supporters would in their enthusiasm like us to do. But we do feel that in our limited time and with our limited resources we have made an effective start in implementing some of the major parts of our policy. As compared with the preliminary accounts of last year the increase in the provision made under Irrigation is 5½ lakhs; under Education 2½ lakhs; under Medical 4½ lakhs; under Public Health 9½ lakhs; under Agriculture 1¼ lakhs, Veterinary Rs. 75,000, Co-operative Credit 2¼ lakhs and Industries nearly 5 lakhs.

"Budget-making inevitably involves the striking of a balance between the pleasant privilege of spending money in new and additional ways for the well-being and prosperity of the people, and the unpleasant duty of taking money out of the pockets of the people. For after all the Government can spend only to the extent that they are able to tax, and even if schemes are financed from borrowings, borrowed money has to be repaid sometime or other. Much remains to be done, and is indeed already under the consideration of the Government, which does not come within the scope of the present Budget. The most important and perhaps the most difficult, yet the most urgent of these is the problem of how to relieve the burden of rural indebtedness without unduly straining the financial credit of the Province. The present Budget provides for the grant of Government loans for the relief of the indebtedness of ryots to the extent of 30 lakhs. The amount will be increased if necessary, but we wish to evolve a way of tackling the problem on more wholesale lines and provide for more effective relief.

"92% of the total population of our province live outside municipal towns. The problem of an adequate drinking water-supply for these people is still to be solved. Foremost among the things that the school of public service which the present Government represents wishes to achieve, is to make pure drinking water available for the people of every village in our land. Not roads, not even literacy can possibly be a greater or more urgent need. My Hon'ble colleague in charge of Public Health hopes to issue ere long a comprehensive memorandum on the subject. But I may broadly indicate the principles on which we propose to work. There are some 50,000 villages in our province, in which some 80 lakhs of families live. If our experts adopt the urban standards to which they are accustomed we can never hope to solve this problem. We have to fix a different standard and different

Rural
water-
supply.

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varying types of design to suit the varying conditions of the localities in this widespread. Measures have simultaneously to be taken to prevent the source getting contaminated. Small tanks which would be located at some convenient centres provided with taps all round would adequately serve villages and we should not waste money on pipe lines in the rural area or in the smaller towns even. It is possible also to devise a method of drawing water from tanks and channels so as to ensure dependability and non-contamination all through the year.

"Government would examine the possibilities of tapping the existing municipal water-mains for providing water for the rural areas through which the mains pass. The alignment of the mains should be so worked out as to supply water to as many villages en route as may be possible without involving much extra initial cost.

"A survey would be made and data secured in respect of all the districts and a priority list setting out the exact order in which the work should be executed will be prepared on definite principles. With a definite and clear-cut priority list, not only lapses in grants would be avoided but also a predetermined progress in the programme would be achieved. The expenditure will be spread over some years and the amount which could be set apart every year will be fixed. The Government hope to make a definite start on such a programme in 1938-39. The possibility of borrowing and creating a distinct fund for rural water-supply from which money could be drawn according to requirements, thereby solving the problem of uncertainties in budgeting will also be explored. The importance of the subject induced me to dwell on this problem at some length though without a precedent in the presentation of budgets.

"When we think of the pressing needs of the Province in the matter of the supply of clean drinking water for every village, adequate drainage arrangements for all towns and better and more widespread measures for the prevention of disease and the distribution of medical relief; centres of healthy entertainment and culture in all large villages; and the establishment of suitable cottage industries throughout the land, we realize how difficult is the problem of making our limited resources go as far as possible and ensuring that every rupee is spent wisely and to the best advantage. In but about six months' time, God willing, 12-30 p.m. I may be presenting to you the Budget for next year, 1938-39, and the framing of that Budget will be far from easy. We have been able to provide 13 lakhs for new expenditure this year, but on the existing basis that amount will not be available for the same purpose next year as there will be additional loss of drink revenue. There will on the contrary be an outstanding commitment of about 90 lakhs on account of the various water-supply and drainage schemes started in recent years, and if those schemes are not to be slowed down, a much larger amount will have to be provided than the 16 lakhs which appear in the current year's Budget. Even without increasing the land revenue concessions the receipts next year are likely to be more than 10 lakhs below those taken credit for this year, while there is an automatic

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growth in many of our standing charges such as the Government grant equivalent to the elementary education tax (1 lakh per annum) and teaching grants (2 lakhs per annum). We might in view of the improvement in the railway earnings, hope for a share in Imperial income-tax receipts, but obviously we should not count upon it. It is therefore clear that we must use our best endeavours to exploit new sources of revenue without adding to the burden of the poor, and to make up the balance by restricting expenditure in the various departments well below their present level wherever it is found possible to do so. We trust that whatever measures we may bring forward to secure these ends will receive the loyal and ungrudging support of all classes and communities, for it is only with that support and to the extent of that support that the Government can achieve anything.

Reduction of salaries

“A loyal and efficient service is essential for the proper discharge of the duties of Government and without contentment, there can be no loyalty or efficiency. The Government, therefore, fully realizes the importance of maintaining proper standards of remuneration for the important services rendered by the servants of the Crown. All the same, it would be an utter failure of our duty by the people if we shirk the task, however unpleasant, of adjusting the cost of the administration to the taxable capacity of the people. It would be impossible with any sense of justice or proportion to maintain the existing ratio between the earnings of most of the people who pay the taxes and the scales of pay that we disburse for maintaining the administration. Unless the people are made to live a better life, the whole organization of Government will soon break down. In the new political conditions we are in, the very contrast of the lives of the people and those of government officials cannot last much longer without creating dangerous bitterness. Responsible government will not be possible for long under these conditions. Knowing the standard of life that 90 out of 100 people in the countryside have to live, I say what I say in all earnestness. During the year 1933 revised scales of pay were framed by the then Government for the various Provincial and Subordinate services. We consider that these revised scales are still too high and are capable of further reduction, and that new revised scales should be framed on a system of a graded cut on the present revised scales. It will be proposed that the salaries of Provincial and Subordinate services should undergo a cut graded from 2½ per cent to 30 per cent.

“It is our desire that all persons appointed on or after the 1st April 1937 should come on the new scales and that other members of the Provincial and Subordinate services, while remaining on their own scales of pay in respect of the posts now held by them, should, on promotion to a higher service or post, enter on the new revised scale to be fixed for that service or post. We cannot reduce the salary of existing incumbents of offices without obtaining the sanction from the Secretary of State for India for which we propose to apply. The Finance Department has been asked to prepare a detailed scheme on the basis of these

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proposals and I hope that we shall be enabled to carry it out. These reductions may not yield much money but even if the cuts be only a gesture it is worth while and will help to create a new spirit of hope for a juster distribution of the burdens of the State upon the people of the land.

“The work of the Finance Department has not been simple or easy this year—what with the changes brought about by the new Constitution and a new kind of Ministers to deal with. The Finance Department of Madras has always had a well deserved reputation for the maintenance of a high standard of financial administration and adherence to the principles of financial rectitude. Even within the short period that I have had to work with this Department I have seen enough to be able to assure Members of the House that our Financial Secretary and those working with him have maintained the best traditions of their Department (cheers) and are good and able men. Their work is unpleasant to others and these watch-dogs get no thanks from other Departments. Unless we pay heed to the warnings of watch-dogs we are likely to let them develop a feeling that their objections are of no avail and that other Departments have their way always. Their enthusiasm must wane and their vigorous voice may gradually tone down into an inaudible grunt merely to satisfy an instinct. I take this opportunity to render the thanks of the Government to Mr. C. E. Jones and his officers and staff.

“With these words, Sir, I commend this Budget for the acceptance of this House.” (Loud applause).

* Mr. SPEAKER:—“The general discussion on the Budget will take place on the 3rd and 4th instant. Hon. Members are aware that it is usual in these discussions for a large number of Members to take part. With a view to enable as many Members as possible to do so, sub-rule (3) of rule 126 has empowered the Speaker to prescribe, if he thinks fit, a time-limit for speeches. I do not, however, propose to exercise my power under this sub-rule and fix a time-limit for speeches, as I am sure that no hon. Member would make an unduly long speech and thereby prevent another hon. Member from taking part in these general discussions. If, however, it is found in the course of the discussion that a time-limit is desirable, I shall exercise my power under sub-rule (3) of rule 126. I would also suggest that, as far as possible, the reading of manuscript speeches should be avoided.”

III.—THE MADRAS PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATIONS BILL (L.A. BILL No. 1 OF 1937).

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“Sir, with your permission I introduce the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Bill, 1937 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1937). I may state here that the Bill has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in accordance with the rules. Therefore the procedure of asking for leave to introduce is unnecessary. I therefore proceed at once

* Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 17th August 1937.

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to introduce the Bill and to ask for the consideration of the Bill. I move therefore that the Bill as published be taken into consideration at once."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"In moving. Sir, that the Bill be passed into law, I do not think it is necessary for me to read clause by clause the whole Bill. It has been published and I presume that hon. Members have gone through the Bill. I may just summarize what is proposed to be done under this Bill. It is proposed to fix the salaries of Ministers at Rs. 500 per mensem, Parliamentary Secretaries at Rs. 250, the salaries of Speaker and Deputy Speaker at Rs. 500 and Rs. 150 per mensem respectively, the salaries of President and Deputy President of the Council at Rs. 250 and Rs. 150 respectively. The house-rent and conveyance allowances fixed for the Ministers and the Speaker are Rs. 100 and Rs. 150. As regards the President of the Legislative Council, the house-rent allowance is fixed at Rs. 100 and the conveyance allowance at Rs. 150. As regards Parliamentary Secretaries, no separate house-rent or conveyance allowance is fixed for them, but a consolidated allowance of Rs. 150 for both house-rent and conveyance is provided. Then, Sir, I come to the more important provision in the Bill, viz., payment of salaries to Members of both the Chambers. Much has been said in constitutional discussions about the need for the provision of monthly salaries for the Members. Many Parliaments throughout the world have provided for monthly salaries of Members of Legislatures. But in India this year only we have found for the first time provision being made for payment of salaries for Members of Legislatures in various Provinces. The public mind has been compelled to take notice of the fact that for the first time a new class of people are coming as Members into the Legislatures. The old practice of taking up only honorary services of people who can afford leisure and money to serve in these honorary posts has been found to be not quite satisfactory to meet modern needs. I think I need not waste the time of the House by entering into a discussion on this subject. The principle has been accepted so generally that even under the present Government of India Act provision has been definitely made for the introduction of such a measure. In terms of that Act I propose this Bill. The travelling and daily allowances that have to be paid to Members have been reserved for rule-making which may have to be changed from time to time. Most people think that the present rates of travelling and daily allowances are rather high. It is intended that under the rules to be framed by the Government the daily and travelling allowances are to be cut down, especially in view of the fact that Rs. 75 is proposed to be paid as salary to Members. We do not wish to impose this condition, viz., that every Member should receive a salary of Rs. 75. Those who command resources and leisure may relinquish their right to draw this

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salary, and for this purpose we have made a provision in the Bill itself. Poor people need this provision but people who are well-to-do do not need this provision. I do hope that many people belonging to the latter class will exercise the privilege afforded to them under the Bill and relinquish their right of drawing salaries. One thing I may mention in this connexion. The allowances that we propose to fix on the basis of a salary of Rs. 75 will be on the scale of the poor man's needs. But those who are better off and who are prepared to relinquish Rs. 75 per mensem may claim better comfort in boarding and lodging and travelling. So far as they are concerned, the standards fixed for those people who are going to draw a salary of Rs. 75 should not be forced upon them.

"Some hon. Members have given notice of amendments that these travelling allowance rates also should be fixed in the statute itself. I do not wish to express my opinion on that point. But this much I may say: that it may not be quite reasonable to make provision for such a thing in the statute itself instead of leaving it to rules to be made. It would be very inconvenient and unnecessary for the House to have all those rules framed now and here. I do hope that these amendments will be withdrawn, and the Bill will be passed without any amendment. The allowance question will be considered by the Government later.

"Another notice of amendment has been given raising the salary of Rs. 75 proposed to be given to Members of the Legislature. That is a different class of amendment altogether. On that point, I should like to submit this on behalf of Government. We are, for the first time, providing out of the taxpayers' money salaries for Members. It is not right that we should go in for any higher amount than that especially when we feel that the cost of the administration all round will have to be reduced. At any rate the majority of the House whom we represent just now do not want anything more than Rs. 75 a month. If the hon. Members who have proposed those amendments realize that the majority have agreed to Rs. 75 a month there is no object in moving those amendments. I therefore suggest that these amendments may be withdrawn in view of the statement I have made as regards the feeling in the majority of the House. I do not think, Sir, I need add anything more to what I have said and I now move that the Bill be passed into law. (Interruption.) I take it that the Bill having been published in the gazette, leave for introduction is unnecessary and the next question is that the Bill be taken into consideration. I made the motion and you, Sir, put it to the vote of the House and it was carried. The next question is that the Bill be passed into law. (An hon. Member: Amendments must be considered and the Bill proceeded with clause by clause.) As regards the clause by clause stage, that comes in only if the amendments are moved and they are taken up for consideration. If no amendments are moved of course, the clause by clause stage need not be gone through."

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MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Unless the Bill is taken up clause by clause, amendments could not come in."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall take the Bill clause by clause and put it to vote."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I suggest to the Hon. Speaker that he may take up the Bill clause by clause and if hon. Members who have given notice of amendments to the respective clauses want to move the amendments, they might do so when the relevant clause is under consideration."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I am asking you, Sir, to inquire whether the amendments are going to be moved; if they are not going to be moved, there is no use in taking the Bill clause by clause."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"May I know from the hon. Member."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I forgot to mention that a slight change had been made in the Bill by an amendment which I have accepted."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I rise to a point of order? The change can come in only when the relevant clause is considered, but not just now when the clause is not being considered. May I request the Hon. the Leader of the House through you, Sir, to wait for some time till that clause is considered?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"If the amendment is moved now, I can accept it. Why need we waste the time of the House by going through the Bill clause by clause? If my appeal has had any weight with my friends who have given notice of amendments as regards the amount of salary and allowances and if they are prepared to agree that the amendments may not be taken up, it is appropriate that I should move that the Bill be passed as a whole. But if really the amendments are pressed, then the Bill may be taken up clause by clause."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Once again, may I appeal to the Speaker to take up the Bill clause by clause? And when the particular clause for which there are amendments comes up, hon. Members who have given notice of amendments may either move them or not. If the amendments are not moved we may proceed to the next clause."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member withdraws the amendments, there will be no necessity to go on clause by clause."

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MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I think the question whether the hon. Member withdraws the amendment or not will arise only when we are considering the particular clause for which the amendment is proposed. That is the procedure that we have been following all along and that is a wholesome procedure."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether it is not necessary to proceed with the Bill clause by clause as the Rules now stand?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Instead of discussing the matter further, I suggest that we may proceed clause by clause. I move that the title of the Bill, the preamble and clause 1 be put together."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I request the Hon. the Leader of the House to wait till the whole Bill is passed for the preamble to be taken up?"

* MR. SPEAKER:—"Clause 2 is for the consideration of the House."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, this is a question entirely for the Hon. Ministers and others concerned. However I wish to point out that if money is spent out of public funds it must be well spent. The question is whether the Hon. Ministers can discharge their duties satisfactorily taking as salaries Rs. 500 per mensem. As Congress workers they could go from village to village, rest under banyan trees and address people gathered there. Sometimes they could also walk if necessary. Nobody could question them then. But that is not the case now; the Rs. 500 that they now propose to draw as salaries will not be well spent, if they cannot discharge their responsibilities and do their work properly, unless they propose to delegate all their work to their secretaries and be satisfied with being mere signing machines. I know that Ministers in the past had to devote all their time to their duties, and sometimes they had to attend to their work even in trains during their journeys. By experience these Ministers will find that they cannot discharge their duties satisfactorily on this salary. The money spent will be a waste; they may as well do honorary work and go on as they like. However this is a matter which is entirely left to them; if they think it necessary they may raise the salary now or after they have gained some experience."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that my Friend has misunderstood the spirit behind the low salaries that have been fixed for the Hon. Ministers. On the other hand we should be grateful to them for not having fixed higher salaries than what they have fixed. As we all know, the Hon. Ministers are satisfied with the salaries that have been fixed for them. It does not mean that they will not be able to discharge their responsibilities as Ministers of the Government."

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Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clauses 3 to 8.

Clauses 3 to 8 were then put and carried.

Clause 9.

1 p.m.

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I quite appreciate the appeal made by the Hon. the Leader of the House that these amendments should be withdrawn and not pressed. I am ready to respond to his appeal; but before I do so, I should only like to place before the House a few points for its consideration.

"The Hon. Leader of the House no doubt said that the majority which he leads has decided on a sum of Rs. 75 being paid by way of salaries to Members. I may at once say that this scale of salaries to Members is unprecedented. We have been reading in the papers that other provinces have fixed a higher scale of salary, and I think that although a decision to fix Rs. 75 has been reached if a plebiscite is taken even in the majority party which the Hon. Leader of the House represents, or if a ballot is taken, there will be a majority vote for Rs. 150, a figure which I have given notice of, by way of amendment. There is no question about that. If the Hon. Leader of the House thinks it is worth trying, he may do so.

"My main object in giving notice of the amendment is to point out that this question of the payment of salaries to Members is not new. I have myself been responsible for raising this question on more than one occasion in the old Legislative Council on the ground that payment of salaries would facilitate the coming into existence of a set of workers who will not be worried about other things but consider themselves as public workers or public servants. I think it was on that principle that payment of salaries to the Members of the House of Commons was brought into force as early as 1911 or thereabouts. But to-day, in our country, gentlemen who command wealth do not command intelligence or the knowledge or the learning that is necessary for doing public service. I may repeat, Sir, that generally it is not the case that wealth and ability go together; wherever there is wealth, there is generally a lack of ability, learning and knowledge; and wherever there is ability, it does not necessarily follow that people possess the wealth or the wherewithal to command leisure or freedom from the cares of every day life. It is in that view that payment of salaries for those people who had the ability, the leisure and the inclination to serve the public was originally intended.

"There is also another aspect of the question. If statistics were taken in the previous Legislatures or even in the Mother of Parliaments, it would be seen that before the payment of salaries was brought into vogue, only such people as commanded wealth came forward to serve the public; but now—and I hope the Hon. the Leader of the House will agree with me—it is the intention that the scope or circle of persons who are ready to sacrifice for the sake of the country, to do public work for

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the sake of public work, should be enlarged or widened. In such a case, there must be a decent salary fixed for them. The choice has hitherto been limited to the tax-payer and the voter, to choose from within a small circle of people; but now that that circle has been widened, the choice also should be widened by this method of payment of salaries to Members. If people are ready and willing to come forward to serve the country on a living wage, certainly there ought to be a decent wage paid to them. I ask, is Rs. 75 a decent wage under modern conditions? I quite appreciate, and I am one with the attitude of the Congress, that the standard so far as the first class or high class people are concerned, should be reduced. People need not have Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 4,000 to live—I quite agree; but then, is it the policy of the Congress merely to reduce the standard of living or is it also to make an honest effort at increasing and raising the standard of living? If it is to be the raising of the standard of living which is the first and foremost thing that is required now in this country, I do not think there is any great need to reduce the standard of living by this method. We should attempt to raise the standard of living all round; instead of making the poor man go down and be satisfied with his two meals a day, we should give him a better quality of food. I do not think that concentration on a mere lowering of the standard of living in the country will add to the welfare of the people or to the wealth of the country and its growth in many directions. I therefore suggest that the salary proposed for the Ministers is very inadequate. Merely a five hundred rupees to the Speaker and to the Ministers is very inadequate. A thousand rupees would have been, in my opinion, a very decent figure."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"On a point of order; I thought the other clauses had already been passed."

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, I have your permission to say what I have to say before I withdraw my amendment. That is why I referred to that. If the Hon. the Leader of the House is going to stifle my reference to that, I should only say that I would like to have the privilege of speaking again on this question at the third reading."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"There is no question of stifling. If it is a question of moving the amendment, we should restrict ourselves in the debate to the amendment; but if it is a question of withdrawing it, I withdraw my objection to his reference."

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I am withdrawing the amendment, and I am entitled to make a statement before I say I withdraw it. I hope I shall have the indulgence of the Hon. the Leader of the House.

"Sir, my object was merely to bring it to the notice of the Hon. Leader of the House and the party which he has the privilege to represent here, that Rs. 75 fixed for Members is not adequate, decent or fair. Rs. 2-8-0 per day is not an amount which we could expect Members who have taken to public work, purely for its own sake, to live upon. It is hardly fair, and the need for increasing it becomes

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all the more pressing when we consider that Government intend to bring forward measures to reduce the halting or daily allowance also to Rs. 5 or Rs. 2-8-0. It may be that in the case of people who do not care for this salary, this does not matter. But is it not a fact that you want to raise a class of people or public workers who would be free from the every day cares of life? If that is so, there is certainly a case for raising the amount to at least Rs. 150 a month. At least set the example to the provinces which have been so niggardly in this matter. It would have been much more desirable and fair, at any rate to the members of the party led by the Hon. the Leader who are devoting all their life to public work, to fix a higher figure than Rs. 75; at the same time, as I said, there cannot be any justification for reducing the halting allowance. I may also be permitted to mention in the same strain my objection to the travelling allowance rules which the Government have the power to frame. I consider, Sir, that in the matter of"

MR. T. VISWANATHAM:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I wish to know whether the Hon. Member is making a statement and whether in making it he is entitled to enter into disquisitions on the merits of the Bill itself?"

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"With regard to the rule-making powers of the Government in respect of the travelling and halting allowances, I quite see the Government have got the power. But the Government, when it was irresponsible, had the power to say that the Members of the Legislature had only such and such privileges, etc. But we are now having a responsible Government. When any question touches the privileges of the Members of the House, it cannot be tackled or dealt with unless and until the consent of the entire House is obtained. The rule-making power was there when there was an irresponsible executive; but when, as now, there is a responsible executive, is it not reasonable and fair to ask that Members of the Legislature, whose interests are affected, ought to be taken into confidence before these rules are made? I do not think there is any unreasonableness in my demanding that the rules should be framed only then. Is it impossible or difficult for the Government to place the draft rules on the table of the House and ask the House what its opinion is? Ultimately of course, its opinion being only advisory, it will be open to the Government either to reject or to accept such advice as is given; but what is wrong and unreasonable in taking the House into confidence in regard to these proposals? It is quite true that the Congress party has made up its mind already and has come here merely to get the Legislature's imprimatur on its decision. I have no objection to that; but what I do say is that anything that affects this House and affects the privileges of the Members of the House ought to be considered only after consultation with the House and after taking it into confidence. I do not think the Government will be justified in making Members travel in the second or the third class, if people are accustomed to a higher class travel or if their status and their view of life and their standard

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of living are such that they must travel in the first or the second class; or again, if the nature of their work or the profession to which they belong requires that they ought to have more hours of leisure, more comfort, etc., than others while on travel, I do not see why they should be forced or compelled to travel in the third class or in a lower class still. The question of travelling allowances must be decided after taking into consideration the habits and customs and the ways of life of all the members, not of one particular section, of the House. No doubt tomorrow I may be willing to come along walking from Chingleput to Madras for attending a meeting of the Legislature; but that will not set the standard for all; the standard should be a common standard. You may have your own standard; but you ought not to compel every one else to adopt the same standard and say that 'only a third class or second class will be given, therefore you may or may not travel.' That will be an unheard of procedure. I think even now that Government will not be a party to compelling people to accept a third class or a double third class as travelling allowance.

"I thank you, Sir, for the privilege you have given me of making my views clear. In response to the appeal made by the Hon. the Leader of the House, I do not wish to move the amendment of which I have given notice."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I have nothing to say by way of opposing the motion. I only want some information. In view of the fact that Government are taking power to make rules so far as halting allowance and travelling allowance are concerned, and as the amendment already given notice of has not been moved, I request the Hon. the Leader of the House to take this part of the House into his confidence. One section has already been taken into confidence and a decision has been arrived at; but in view of the fact that this side of the House has not been taken into confidence, it should now at least be taken into confidence and told what exactly is the allowance that is proposed to be fixed. For, on that will depend the attitude that the Assembly Members will have to take so far as this clause is concerned."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Mover said that the salary is intended to make Members do some work as paid servants and not to make them work honorarily. But, is Rs. 75 a decent salary to make them do work as paid servants? If at all it is to be considered as a pay, it is nothing more than an eyewash. The Hon. Mover stated that Members need not hereafter do any honorary work. In other Provinces and in other countries, no one has heard of such a low salary being fixed for members of the Legislature. Will the Hon. Mover kindly tell me whether there is any country in the world which gives such a low salary? But never mind that."

"I do not much mind about the salaries. I now come to the other question, that is, the daily allowance and the travelling allowance with which I am more concerned. Is it possible, Sir, for a man, a respectable

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man like a Member of this House, to come to Madras from the mufassal and live on Rs. 2½ a day? Even the charge for a decent room is Rs. 2½ a day, that is the charge made in the Cosmopolitan Club here. The Hon. the Premier may say that it is too costly a place and that you must go to some other cheaper place. I have no objection if the Premier directs us to some hotel which gives food and lodging at a cheaper rate (laughter). It is better, Sir, if the Premier establishes an *Ootupara* or *agraharam* (laughter), where we can get food and quarters for resting, etc. We do not want anything more otherwise. Let him issue tickets each day for food and lodging. Then we will not be out of pocket. If it is honorary work we are ready. We needn't be paid anything. If you have been doing honorary work as Congress workers, we are also anxious to do some honorary work. But to say that we should live on Rs. 2½ a day is too inconceivable. I say all these things so that the Hon. Mover of this Bill may give some sort of assurance as to what he is going to do.

"Then, with regard to travelling allowance, Sir, is it possible to travel in the third class 400 or 500 miles and that too at night time. Even on the footboard I can stand and travel if it is a short distance. It is not possible even to rest your head as the train is so crowded. I shall invite the Hon. Gentleman to travel with me in the third class from West Coast to Madras or from Madras to West Coast; if he survives the ordeal, he will not be fit for work for another fortnight. (Interruption.) Then, let me travel with you. You will not get even standing space sometimes in the train, not to speak of sitting or sleeping. True. Mahatma Gandhi has been travelling in the third class. But when he travels people make room for him. When we travel, people will not give even standing room. So Mahatma Gandhi's example will not do for us. I ask the Hon. Premier to travel with me *incognito*. Then he will understand the difficulties. I hope the Hon. Premier will take into consideration all these aspects and see that proper allowances are fixed."

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM spoke as follows in Tamil:—

"முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் மிகவும் கருணையோடு மெம்பர்களுக்குச் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னதற்காக நான் நன்றி பாராட்டுகிறேன். ஆனால் இந்த பில்லானது (Bill) எழைக்களை இந்த சட்டசபைக்கு மெம்பர்களாக வரவேண்டாமென்று சொல்லுவதுபோல இருக்கிறது. இரண்டரை ரூபாய் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு எப்படி வருகிறது. இங்கே ஒரு ஹோட்டலில் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் தினம் இரண்டு ரூபாய் வாடகை கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அசெம் பிளிக் வரவேண்டுமென்றால் வண்டிக்கு இரண்டு ரூபாய் வேண்டியதிருக் கிறது. அதுவுமன்றி டபிள் தெர்ட் (double third) சினால் என்னால் அது சிறியதாகையால் எப்படி படுத்துக்கொண்டிரா முடியும். நான் சன்சரி யாயாக இருக்க போது ஜனங்களுக்காக 25 வருஷகாலம் உழைத்தேன். உடல் நிலை நன்றியிருந்தமபோது 3-ம் வகுப்பில் வர முடிந்தது. தற்போது உடல் தளர்ந்து நொய்யிடுப்பதால் 3-ம் வகுப்பில் வரமுடியாது. (Third-class)-ல் மூட்டுப்புச்சி கஷ்டம் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. Second-class-ல் படுத்துக் கொண்டு வந்தால்தான் சௌகரியமாக வர முடியும். Third-class-ல் வரவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் மிகவும் பொருத்தாதையிருக்கிறது. பணக் காரர்கள் வட்டியப்படுத்தாமல் டாக்கன். தங்களுடைய சொந்தப்பணத்தில் Second-class-ல் வருவார்கள். எழைகளுக்கு மிகவும் கஷ்டமாயிருக்கிறது. சர்க்கார்

[1st September 1937] [Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

மெம்பர்களுக்கு நல்ல சம்பளம் கொடுத்திருக்கவேண்டியது. இது பொது ஜனங்களைக்கொண்டையடிப்பது ஆகாது. சட்ட சபைக்கு யார் அங்கத்தினராக வருகிறார்களோ அவர்கள் தேச சேவை செய்கிறவர்கள். உள்ளபடி உழைக்க வேண்டுமென்றால் ஒவ்வொரு நாளும் வேலை இருக்கிறது. கிராமந்தோறும் போக வேண்டும் என்று தன்னை நாடிவரும் கிராமத்தாருக்கு வேண்டிய உதவி செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. பொது வேலை செய்வதற்கே ஊரில் அவகாசங் கிடையாது. அஸெம்பிளிக்கு வர வேண்டியதிருக்கிறது. சொந்தகாரியத்தைவிட்டு விட்டு வரவேண்டியதிருக்கிறது. அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு நிறைய சம்பளம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

"மந்திரிகள் சம்பளத்தைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் சொல்லவரவில்லை. அவர்களுக்கு மோட்டார் கார் (motor car) அலவன்ஸ் (allowance) இருக்கிறது. லீட்டு அலவன்ஸ் (allowance) இருக்கிறது. மாதச்சம்பள மிருக்கிறது. Travelling allowance இருக்கிறது. அதனால் அவர்கள் கஷ்டத்தை யுணர்வேண்டியவராகிறார்கள். எழை மெம்பர்களுக்கு வசதி கிடையாது. ஆகையினாலே எழுபத்தைந்து ரூபாய் என்று சொல்லுவது, அலவன்ஸ் (allowance). இரண்டரை ரூபாய் என்று சொல்லுவது, டபிள் தெர்ட் கிளாஸ் (double third class) என்று சொல்லுவது பொறுத்தமில்லாதிருக்கிறது. மேலும் இது வந்து ஐரோப்பிய மெம்பர்களை அவமானப்படுத்துவது போலிருக்கிறது. அலவன்ஸ் (allowance) இரண்டரை ரூபாயில் எப்படி எங்கே தங்குவார்கள். அவர்கள் third class-ல் எப்படி வரமுடியும். ஐரோப்பிய மெம்பர்களுக்கு ஒரு விதி இந்திய மெம்பர்களுக்கு ஒரு விதி என்று இருக்கக்கூடாது. தாராளமாய் நல்ல மதிப்புடைய சம்பளம் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். சப்-இன்ஸ் பெக்ட்டர்களும் சர்க்கார் குமால்தாக்களும் second class-ல் போகிறார்கள். ஆகையினாலே மெம்பர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சௌகரியம் கொடுத்து வேலை வாங்க வேண்டும். நூறு ரூபாய் சம்பளமும் ஒரு 2-வது வகுப்பும் கொடுப்பது நல்லமாயிருக்கும். மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த விஷயத்தை நான் ஆட்சேபிக்கிறேன்."

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I very much appreciate the generous manner in which, in spite of such strong differences of opinion, the hon. Member who moved the amendment agreed to withdraw his amendment. But he has thrown upon me the duty of explaining the position that the Government takes up in this respect. First of all, with regard to raising the standard of life, we have no objection to raise the standard of life. But I do not think that paying higher salaries raises the standard of life of the country. We have no objection to a common effort to raise the standard of life of the people including ourselves. But if we take more tax from the people and pay more salaries to ourselves, how do we raise the standard of life of the country? This is an important argument and my answer is equally important. Because it does not apply only to the question of Rs. 75 that I propose to the Members but it applies to all the salaries in the country. Catchwords are no doubt pleasing though not convincing. The phrase 'standard of life' has been used constantly in many connexions. We do not raise the standard of life in India by spending more of the taxpayers' money upon salaries, either of the permanent service or of the Members of the Legislature. That can be done only by taking other measures. I do not think paying Rs. 100 instead of Rs. 75 will raise the standard of life by 25 per cent. Not at all. But the difference of Rs. 25 is a great deal if you multiply it by 270 Members and multiply it again by 12 for a year; you will

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find a substantial lakh and that lakh may perhaps be useful to raise the standard of life in some place when we think of a Part II scheme at some time in the future.

"Then, regarding rule-making for the travelling allowances, why this postponement and leaving it to the executive, asked the hon. Member opposite. He added that if we had not been a responsible Government we might have done so. I am surprised that he and I seem to look at things so differently. If the Executive was not responsible to the people, I think I should not take away the right from the House. It is because the Executive are themselves responsible to the House, that matters of this kind may be put away for rule-making, rather than that we should discuss the details of daily allowance in a full House like this. Certainly then as many amendments as there are pies in a rupee could be moved.

"Then as regards the question of injustice to persons who believe in any particular mode of life, to compel such people to travel third class and so on, it is a very important thing worth examination. But I would not take the time of the House, because I am able to say at once that it is only those who are compelled by their poverty to draw this Rs. 75 as Members of this House for the first time, which Members of this House did not draw at any time before, that we propose to ask to travel third class. But those who are able to function as before without drawing this salary of Rs. 75 and who were travelling higher class and drawing higher allowances, will be allowed to draw those allowances and travel in those classes, and there will be rules to provide for all this. It is only for this new class of people who are admittedly poor and for whom we are providing a salary, that we say there is no justification for their travelling in higher classes.

"என்னுடைய நண்பர் சாஜாநாத் அவர்களும் அவர்களைப்போல் மற்றவர்களும் எதற்கு சம்பளமில்லாமல் இவ்வளவு நாள் ஜனங்களுக்கு நன்மை செய்ய இந்தச் சபையில் மெம்பர்களாயிருந்தவர்கள், இந்த எழுபத்தைந்து ரூபாய் சம்பளம் வங்காளிலிருந்தால் முன்போலவே 1½ first class வாங்கலாம். தனியார் முன் வாங்கின தினசரி allowance வங்குவதில் யாதொரு ஆட்சேபமில்லை.

"Then, Sir, that is the way the rules are going to be made. As this became a matter for discussion in this House and both the hon. Members who spoke on the matter with so much force, wanted an answer from me and an indication as to what we were going to do, I say this: that we have no intention of making these rules without due consideration of the opinions of all sections of the House. It is open to any hon. Member to relinquish his salary and that will enable him to draw allowances on a higher scale. It is only those who think it is necessary for them to draw the monthly salary, that will be compelled to be economical in their travelling requirements. They will have to travel third class. It is true my Friend opposite to me here on the front bench has made a challenge and requested me to do so many things. I do not propose to go into all of them. But I say this, that

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if he or any other Member like him does not draw this Rs. 75 but likes to carry on as he has been doing before, he will not be compelled to do anything that we propose to do. There is no injustice in the matter. But if a man is really poor and is to draw Rs. 75, I submit that it is not open to him to say, 'I want to travel first class, I want to sleep all through the journey and won't sit with other people.' How can he say so? Our duty is sometimes to travel third class in order to see what inconveniences are felt by the people travelling by that class and how they may be remedied. I think you should agree that there is much good sense in the proposal we are making. But I am very thankful for the views expressed on the other side, for it has at least given me an opportunity to remove those misconceptions and say that persons who do not belong to the class of people who do not need any salary will not be compelled to travel under hard conditions. It is open for them to adopt either alternative."

Clause 9 was put and carried.

Clauses 10 and 11.

Clauses 10 and 11 were put and carried.

Clause 1.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"With regard to clause 1, Sir, an amendment has been moved and I accept it, viz., that instead of '1st October' it should be '1st August.' But the exact form in which the provision is made with reference to the legal powers to make respective changes in the matter is this:

'This section and sections 5, 6, 8 and 9 and the provisions of sections 7, 10 and 11 in so far as they relate to sections 5, 6, 8 and 9 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of August 1937.'

I shall give the reasons for this change. The 1st of October was inserted because of the budgetary period, but as it is a question of payment . . ."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if any amendment was moved. A member has to move his amendment."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I submit the question of procedure is for the Speaker. There is no Act or rule providing for this thing. The hon. Member is referring to certain practice he is used to, but I submit that we must invent quicker expedients for disposal of business. I do not think that in this case we should go through the processes of statute-making in a dilatory fashion.

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I take it that he (the Prime Minister) is the leader of the whole House and not of the majority party only. He has to take into account the whole House. There are other people whose liberties, should not be curtailed in the manner it

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [1st September 1937]

is sought to be done, because they must express their opinion on the amendments which are to be moved in this House. Unless the amendments are moved, there is no opportunity for any member to speak on them. The procedure may be cumbersome and the time of the House may be taken up, but that is democracy; all members have to be given an opportunity to express their opinions; that procedure, however cumbersome it may be, has to be followed."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I now ask the hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi to move the amendment."

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I rise to move the amendment that stands in my name, that is—

'For sub-clause (2) of clause 1 substitute the following:—

"This section and sections 5, 6, 8 and 9 and the provisions of sections 7, 10 and 11 in so far as they relate to sections 5, 6, 8 and 9 shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of August 1937."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I beg to accept that amendment. The 1st day of October was put because of the budgetary period. It is however a question of provision for the salaries and allowances of secretaries whose work started much earlier than this and inasmuch as payments have to be authorized and disqualifications have to be removed, it is necessary to provide for an earlier date; if we have the 1st of August no difficulty in accounting will arise. I therefore adopt the amendment of '1st day of August 1937' being in the clause instead of 1st of October 1937."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I now put clause 1 as amended to the vote of the House."

MR. KHAN BAHADUR P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I say that the amendment has to be put to the vote of the House first?"

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Legislation in this House cannot be carried on by one Minister proposing and another Minister agreeing to it. The whole House has to come to an agreement on it."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"These remarks are wholly unparliamentary."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I may be allowed to explain. I did not mean any offence to the Leader of the House. Legislation means that the House must vote on any motion or amendment moved by any member. It cannot be a matter of agreement between A and B, not necessarily between one Minister and another Minister. The whole House has to vote on it or reject it. And the amendment has to be put to vote before the whole clause is put to vote."

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* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I want a ruling, Sir, on this point. Perhaps I may be mistaken. The objection raised has no force. If an amendment is moved or any proposition is moved, it cannot be withdrawn without the leave of the House. But if an amendment is moved and the mover of the original proposition or clause or Bill accepts the amendment, it becomes part of the original proposition or clause or bill and when the proposition is put to the House every member has freedom of opinion in regard to the debate as well as decision over it inclusive of the amendment. It is not a question of any private agreement between Minister and Minister; it is really a question of a particular provision being accepted. Even if Mr. Basheer Ahmed had given an amendment and I adopted it as mover of the original proposition, it becomes part of the original proposition. The right of every member to give his opinion on every part of the proposition is kept intact. But if your ruling is that the amendment should be put to vote, there was no advantage in the mover accepting it."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I never used the words 'private agreement.' I used only the word 'agreement' between Minister and Minister."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I should say that it is not a question of agreement. The mover of the Bill has got the right to accept the amendment. But the amendment having been before the House, it should receive the decision of the House and therefore I put the amendment to vote."

The amendment was put and carried.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I now put the first clause as amended to vote."

The clause 1 as amended was put and carried.

The preamble was then put and carried.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I move, Sir, that the Bill as amended now be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"For the convenience of the hon. members of the House I propose that the House should sit for a few minutes more."

IV.—HOUSE COMMITTEE.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Sir, I move—
'that the House do proceed to elect six members to the House Committee according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf by the Speaker'."

The motion was put and carried.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to inform the House that in accordance with the regulations framed by me under Rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules for the holding of elections according to the principle

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of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, copies of which have already been circulated to hon. members, I fix 3-30 p.m. on 6th September 1937 as the time by which nominations of candidates for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary.

"If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, six, there will be an election between 2 and 4 p.m. on Thursday, the 16th September 1937."

V.—PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I move, Sir—

'That, with reference to Rule 134 of the Madras Assembly Rules, this Assembly do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the Hon'ble the Speaker, to elect nine members to be members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the year 1937-38.'"

The motion was put and carried.

1-45 P.M. * MR. SPEAKER:—"In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, copies of which have already been supplied to hon. members, I fix 3 p.m. on 6th September 1937 as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Public Accounts Committee should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, nine, there will be an election between 2 and 4 p.m. on Thursday, the 16th September 1937."

VI.—ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

* THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Sir, I move—

'that, with reference to G.O. No. 55, Ry., dated 10th December 1923, this Assembly do recommend to the Government to communicate to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, the name of one person elected by this Assembly to serve on their Advisory Committee for the remaining period of the two years' session ending with 31st March 1938.'"

The motion was put and carried.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"With reference to the election of one member to the Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, I fix 3-30 p.m. on 6th September 1937 as the time within which notice of nominations should reach the Secretary. If the number of candidates nominated is more than one, there will be an election on Thursday, the 16th September 1937, and all ballot papers should reach the Secretary before 4 p.m. that day and those received after that time will be rejected."

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VII.—ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

* THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—"I move—

'that in accordance with section 3 (1) (b) of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922 (Act V of 1923), and rule 3 of the rules framed thereunder, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon'ble the Speaker to elect two persons to be the Assembly's representatives on the Board of Industries constituted under the Act.'"

The motion was put and carried.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, copies of which have already been supplied to the hon. members, I fix 3 p.m. on 6th September 1937 as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Board of Industries should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, two, there will be an election between 2 and 4 p.m. on Thursday, the 16th September 1937."

VIII.—RESOLUTION UNDER THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT, 1923.

* THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I move the resolution standing in my name, that is,—

'This Assembly recommends to the Provincial Government that the following notification submitted to it for approval under section 8 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (Act III of 1923), be issued in the form submitted:—

Notification.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (Act III of 1923), the Provincial Government are hereby pleased to make the following amendment in Development Department Notification No. 278, dated the 19th September 1928, published at pages 1455-1461 of Part I of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated the 25th September 1928, as subsequently amended:—

Amendment.

In paragraph 1 of Schedule II appended to the said notification, for the words "Guntakal to Settikunta both inclusive," the words "Guntakal to Razampet both inclusive" shall be substituted.'"

The motion was put and carried.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I will now adjourn the House to 10 o'clock tomorrow forenoon. We will finish the business at a stretch tomorrow."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is the 10 o'clock sitting arranged under the old rules, Sir?"

[1st September 1937]

* MR. SPEAKER:—"Under the old rules, ordinarily the House was sitting from 11 a.m. and there was only one House. Now that there are two Houses it is proposed that the Assembly shall ordinarily sit from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the other Chamber from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, if the new rules have come into vogue?"

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The Speaker has got the right to fix the time of sitting even under the old rules. In pursuance of those powers to fix the hours of sitting, I fix tomorrow's hour of sitting at 10 o'clock in the morning."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 10 a.m. the next day.

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[Vide answer to starred question No. 18 asked by Mr. K. P. Yegneswara Sarna at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 1st September 1937, page 165 supra.]

G.O. No. 1286, Irrigation, dated 29th May 1936.

The idea of constructing a reservoir on the Tambraparni in the hills above Papanagam in the Tinnevely district to regulate and increase the supply to the anicuts across the river below has been under the consideration of Government for a long time. The detailed investigation of the scheme was ordered in January 1898, and as a result a scheme was submitted in 1902. In January 1903, it was abandoned on financial grounds. The consideration of the scheme was, however, again taken up later. In 1912, five rainfall stations were established in the catchment area of the proposed reservoir. Gauges were subsequently erected in the river and read with a view to estimating its discharge more accurately. After the rainfall records and the gauge readings had been taken for a number of years, the possibility of constructing a reservoir for a combined irrigation and hydro-electric scheme was examined, by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation in consultation with the Chief Engineer for Electricity and a preliminary report on the scheme has now been submitted to Government. The proposal is to construct a reservoir across the Tambraparni below its junction with the Kariar, with a capacity of 6,200 million cubic feet to meet both irrigation and hydro-electric requirements, the irrigation requirements being only 2,000 million cubic feet. According to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, the reservoir is estimated to cost Rs. 30 lakhs but the Chief Engineer for Electricity considers that the final 'all in' cost of the dam is likely to be Rs. 45 lakhs. If the cost is divided between the 'Irrigation' and hydro-electric departments in the proportion of the quantity of water to be used by each department, the return on the capital outlay of the irrigation part of the scheme, on the basis of the revenue forecast of the Board of Revenue, is 2.65 per cent or 1.81 per cent according as the estimate of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation or the Chief Engineer for Electricity is adopted. Though unremunerative the Board of Revenue and the Irrigation Development Board recommend the detailed investigation of the project as a combined project for irrigation and hydro-electric development.

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2. The Government have carefully examined the recommendations of the Board of Revenue and the Irrigation Development Board, and consider that the proposed scheme cannot properly be treated as a separate project. Not only are the new ayacuts intermingled with the old but admittedly the scheme is primarily intended to remove the defects in supply to the existing ayacut. At the same time there are practical difficulties in merging it with what the Board of Revenue calls the 'Tambaram system' as the benefits which a reservoir at Papanasam would give to the Marudur and Srivukuntam ancient systems should be judged along with the benefits which the same reservoir would give to the six other ancient systems higher up the river for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept. As a matter of policy the Government are also opposed to a merger designed mainly to show the new works as 'productive.' Even as a merger scheme and still more as an independent scheme, the proposal, from an irrigation point of view, falls far short of the criterion of productivity, and even the low return anticipated depends upon the proposed conversion of dry lands and single-crop wet lands to compounded double-crop wet lands, which might be a matter of some difficulty as the consent of every registered landholder would have to be obtained.

The Government have, therefore, decided that the scheme cannot be sanctioned as part irrigation project. At the same time the Government consider that it would not be desirable to drop the construction of the reservoir altogether since the results of the investigation so far made show that a hydro-electric scheme is likely to be remunerative. Orders have been issued sanctioning the detailed investigation of the scheme as a hydro-electric scheme. In making the investigation the requirements for irrigation purposes should also be taken into account and if it is found that there is an assured supply from the reservoir for irrigation, resulting in additional irrigation revenue, the question of affording a credit to the hydro-electric project from irrigation funds will be considered.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

W. SCOTT BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 2nd September 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, at ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

Vande Mataram song was sung, all Members standing.

I.—PROCEDURE RE QUESTIONS.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The procedure I propose to follow in putting questions is this:

"I will call the Member against whom a question stands. Thereupon, the Member will stand in his place and mention the number of his question. This will amount to an announcement by the Member that he is present and will also show that he puts the question. After that, the Government Member to whom the question is addressed will make his reply. Supplementary questions may then be put."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Use of gunnybags as dressing materials in the Veterinary hospitals.

* 32 Q.—MR. K. V. NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Veterinary hospitals gunnybags are being used for dressing purposes; and

(b) if so, whether he will consider the desirability of issuing orders directing the use of better stuff?

THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" (a) & (b) Cotton bandages are used for dressing purposes for cattle. In order to prevent the bandages from being soaked with filth and droppings of cattle as usually happens when the legs or feet are the injured parts, a protective covering of gunny is applied over the bandages and renewed when soiled."

Representations for the establishment of an agricultural experimental farm in the Kistna district.

* 33 Q.—MR. K. V. NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the ryots of the Kistna district for establishing an agricultural experimental farm in the district;

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(b) the steps taken thereon by the Government prior to 14th July 1937; and

(c) the steps the present Government propose to take thereon?

THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“(a) No representations have been received from the ryots but in an address presented to His Excellency the Governor in January 1935, the Kistna District Board asked that an agricultural research station be opened in the district for the study of wet and dry crops in the area.

“(b) The Government have had under consideration since 1933 proposals for the opening of a sub-station for the study of rice in the Kistna district, but owing to insufficiency of funds nothing could be done in this direction. It is proposed to take up the scheme in connexion with the budget for 1938-39. Though the primary object of the station will be the study of local varieties of paddy, incidentally it will be used, without prejudice to the main work, for experiments on other important crops also of the district.

“(c) The Government have not yet taken a decision in the matter.”

Measures for combating the pest affecting the orange gardens in Bezwada.

* 34 Q.—MR. K. V. NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the orange gardens at Bezwada are being destroyed by some strange disease; and

(b) what steps the Government have already taken or propose to take to prevent the spreading of the disease?

THE HON. MR. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“(a) The Director of Agriculture reports that these gardens are affected probably by a fungus disease.

“(b) The Director of Agriculture inspected several gardens as soon as the matter was brought to his notice in June last and issued instructions immediately to the Government Mycologist to make a personal inspection and submit a report. The Government Mycologist visited the gardens in July and examined the diseased trees. The cause of the disease is under careful investigation. There are tanneries in the neighbourhood of the gardens and some garden owners are of opinion that the disease is due to the tannery water which gets mixed with irrigation water in certain seasons of the year. This aspect is also under investigation by the Government Agricultural Chemist.”

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When question No. 35 was called by the Hon. the Speaker, the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, the Minister in charge of this question, was not present.

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“I am sorry I should request that all the questions standing against my Hon. Colleague the Minister for Education may kindly be allowed to stand over. I am really sorry that I have not been informed as to why he is absent.”

The questions were allowed to stand over.

Q. * 35^a.

When the Hon. the Speaker called out question No. 36 the hon. Member concerned who put this question did not mention that number as directed by the Speaker.

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“Sir, your direction to the Members was that when the numbers of questions are called out the Members concerned should stand in their places and mention their respective numbers, so that the House may know that they are present, and wish the question may be answered.”

Reasons for the abandonment of the Kistna Reservoir Project in its extension to the Guntur and Nellore districts.

* 36 Q.—MR. K. VENKATAPPAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the proposals regarding the Kistna Reservoir Project intended to supply water for irrigation of all the dry taluks in the Guntur district and parts of Nellore district, received the sanction of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State about the year 1914; and, if so, why the scheme has been left out of consideration all these years?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to starred question No. 16 answered at the meeting of the Assembly, dated 1st September 1937.”

Qs. * 37 to 42^b

Expenditure on account of the post of Inspector of Industrial Schools.

* 43 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is an Inspector of Industrial Schools for the Presidency;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, who the present incumbent is and what his qualifications are;

(c) the total number of industrial schools in the Presidency;

(d) the amount of grant distributed to these schools during each of the years 1932-33 to 1936-37;

^a Vide page 164 infra.
^b Vide pages 165-169 infra.

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(e) the total amount spent during each of these years under salaries and allowances of the Inspector of Schools; and

(f) whether the abolition of the post was at any time under the consideration of the Government and, if so, why it was not given effect to?

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“(a) & (b) No; the post has been held in abeyance with effect from the 19th March 1937.

“(c) Seventy-four excluding six Government institutions.

“(d)

Year.	Grant distributed.
	RS.
1932-33	1,04,563
1933-34	1,22,278
1934-35	1,20,989
1935-36	1,26,249
1936-37	1,26,134

“(e)

Year.	Expenditure under salaries and allowances.
	RS.
1932-33	11,795
1933-34	12,512
1934-35	14,348
1935-36	13,168
1936-37	12,916

“(f) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to clauses (a) and (b).”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I ask with reference to clause (d) whether equipment and building grants are also given in addition to the maintenance grant and if so, what is the total amount of such grants?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“Notice, Sir.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know whether there are Government industrial schools in addition to aided ones and if so, what is their number and the expenditure incurred on them?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“I have already stated there are six Government institutions.”

MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I know whether the Government propose to revive the post of Inspector as a whole-time officer to be solely responsible for the efficiency of schools?”

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THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“The matter is engaging the attention of Government.”

MR. H. S. MUSSAIN:—“May I ask what the number of Government industrial schools is and why the post of Inspector of Industrial Schools was abolished?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“I have already stated with reference to clause (f) of this question that the Retrenchment Committee recommended the abolition of this post.”

Proposals for the reduction of the salaries of the subordinate services.

* 44 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the pay of the subordinate services was reduced during 1933;

(b) whether the Government propose to effect any reduction, temporary or permanent, in the pay of these services again; and

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the affirmative, whether action will be taken only after investigation by an impartial tribunal?

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The Government have not yet formulated any such proposal.

“(c) If any action is taken it would only be after impartial investigation. Government cannot undertake to submit their proposals to a tribunal.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know whether the pay of services was revised in the year 1932 or 1933 and, if so, by what per cent and for what reason?”

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“The answer given to clause (a) was ‘yes.’ That means that it is a fact that the pay of the subordinate services was reduced in the year 1933.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know if it would be possible for the Hon. Prime Minister to give me the reason?”

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“If I wish to be accurate, I will have to read the whole of that report. It would be too large for a supplementary question. It is an act that took place in 1933.”

MR. K. BASHYAM AYYANGAR:—“May I know from the Hon. Prime Minister what the nature and extent of the cut in salaries that is proposed to be made is?”

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“In my budget speech I indicated the cut and the lines on which Government propose to take action. It will take some time to put their proposals into shape so as to avoid anomalies and injustice.”

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Mr. K. BASHYAM AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Prime Minister will be pleased to say what the nature of the agency he proposes to employ is for carrying on this 'impartial investigation'?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I did not say anything about 'impartial investigation.' I am sorry. I did say that 'if any action is taken, it would be only after impartial investigation.' What I meant was that an impartial investigation would be made into the conditions and scales of salaries now paid to the services—their present conditions and the needs of the situation."

Action taken by the Government on the judgment of the Privy Council in Venkata Rao v. the Secretary of State for India.

* 45 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether any action has been taken on the judgment of Their Lordships the Judges of the Privy Council in the case, *Venkata Rao v. The Secretary of State for India*; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, the kind of action taken?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The Government have decided to give him some redress."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what will be the nature of redress?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot say what will be the nature of the redress."

Forfeiture of the security deposited by 'Viduthalai.'

* 46 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the security of "Viduthalai" was forfeited to Government; and

(b) whether it has not yet been refunded to the paper and, if so, why?

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—" (a) No.

" (b) A security of Rs. 1,000 was demanded from 'Viduthalai' by the District Magistrate of Coimbatore under section 7 (1) of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, and the amount was deposited on the 16th June 1937. Under section 7 (2) of the said Act the amount should, on application by the publisher be refunded after three months if no order of forfeiture is made by the Government under section 8 before the expiry of that period. As previously advised Government have held that

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the general power of supervision vested in them in respect of all provincial subjects cannot be invoked so as to interfere with the orders passed under special statute by Magistrates. The Government could not therefore interfere. They have, however, referred this point of law for further legal advice.

"The further legal opinion referred to above has been received and the original opinion has again been confirmed. That is the situation."

Proposals for the abolition or the reduction of the strength of the Board of Revenue.

* 47 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have taken up for consideration the abolition of the Board of Revenue;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, whether there is a proposal to reduce the number of members of the Board to one; and

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is also in the negative, whether the Government propose to appoint a seniormost Indian Civil Officer to the post now vacant?

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) & (b) The answer is in the 10-11 a.m. negative.

" (c) No post of Member, Board of Revenue, is vacant at present."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether this Government have considered at all the question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"The Government have not considered."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether they propose to take up the question?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"No."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to give any reasons for their inability to consider a question which has been suggested on the floor of this House?"

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—"The question cannot be considered at present."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I repeat my question as to the reasons for not taking up the consideration of this question at present?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I submit, Sir, that the hon. Member must be satisfied with the description of the situation at present. If reasons arise for abolishing not only the Revenue Board but the whole Government, the question will be considered." (Laughter.)

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Proposals for the amalgamation of revenue districts.

* 48 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have under consideration the question of the amalgamation of the small revenue districts;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, what districts will be amalgamated and when; and

(c) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, when Government will take up the question?

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) & (b) No such proposal is at present under the consideration of the Government.

“(c) The Government consider that no amalgamation of any of the districts is at present feasible.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Sir, may I know whether the Government will consider the question of amalgamating revenue divisions in particular districts?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“Nothing will be considered now.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Do I understand that the Government have a blank mind now?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“The hon. Member ought to have known that the Government have so much in their minds that they could not think of such things now.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“But there is no evidence of it?”

THE HON. MR. T. PRAKASAM:—“If the hon. Member could not understand the situation even after the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister, yesterday, no one could help him.”

Subsidies to local boards and municipalities for the maintenance of Elementary Schools.

* 49 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of the district board and municipal elementary schools were schools opened at the suggestion of the Government with the aid of provincial subsidies;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government declined to grant further subsidies for the increasing expenditure involved in maintaining these

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schools by their development in strength and grade and by the introduction of the enhanced scales of pay sanctioned to teachers at the direction of Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the question again and fix enhanced subsidies for the maintenance of these schools?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) No further subsidies have been sanctioned specifically for these schools. Additional subsidies have however been sanctioned wherever necessary, in the shape of contributions equal to the proceeds of education-tax which local bodies may levy under the Madras Elementary Education Act.

“(c) The whole question of district board and municipal elementary schools is under consideration.”

Proposals for the amendment of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

* 50 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, whether Government will publish the proposals for public criticism before introducing the Bill in the Legislature; and

(c) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, when Government propose to take up the question?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The suggestion will be considered.

“(c) Does not arise.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know in what directions the Government propose to amend the Act?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is too premature to say anything now.”

Constitution of debt conciliation boards.

* 51 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether debt conciliation boards have been constituted for all the districts in the Presidency;

(b) if not, for what districts the boards have been constituted; and

(c) when such boards will be constituted for the other districts?

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THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“(a) No.

“(b) A Debt Conciliation Board has been constituted in each of the following districts:—

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| (1) Ramnad. | (4) South Arcot. |
| (2) Bellary. | (5) Nellore. |
| (3) Coimbatore. | (6) Guntur. |

“(c) The question of establishing Debt Conciliation Boards in the remaining districts (except Madras) is under consideration.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask what length of time will be required for the formation of Debt Conciliation Boards in all districts?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“As much time as the Government think necessary for the purpose of coming to a conclusion on the question.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“The Hon. Minister has excluded Madras from the scope of these boards. May I know how long it will be excluded?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Till such time as the Government think these boards should be extended to Madras also.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“May I ask whether the Government are satisfied with the legislation that was passed for debt conciliation and whether they do not consider that the measure is absolutely inadequate to relieve the present indebtedness of the people?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“The Government are gathering information on the working of the Act.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to give us an idea of their opinion as to how the Act is being worked in the districts where it is now in force?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Before all the available material is collected, the Government are not able to come to any conclusion.”

MR. K. KOTI REDDI:—“Sir, in view of the statement made by the Hon. the Finance Minister yesterday, may I ask whether any long time is necessary to find out by actual working that the legislation that was passed is absolutely unsatisfactory for relieving the indebtedness of the people in this presidency?”

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“Sir, my statement yesterday ought to have sufficed to convince hon. Members that Government are most anxiously considering the question and that no time will be lost in making such proposals as the Government consider necessary to meet the situation. Therefore hon. Members should be prepared and not be surprised if they have to deal with the question before they retire from this session.”

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Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

* 52 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to separate the Judiciary from the Executive; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, when the question will be taken up and given effect to?

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“(a) No.

“(b) The Government do not deem it necessary to take up the consideration of the question.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“Sir, has not this question been agitating the public mind for a long time?”

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“It was agitating the public mind when there was a conflict between the executive and the representatives of the people. At present no such consideration as that which prevailed in the old days can prevail.”

Fixation of maximum and minimum limits with respect to salaries of public servants.

* 53 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to limit the maximum salary of public servants newly recruited to Rs. 500;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, whether the Government propose to take action in that direction and, if so, when; and

(c) whether, alongside of reduction of salaries in the higher grade, steps will also be taken to ensure at least a minimum limit wage for the subordinate officials?

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—“(a) The Government have not decided this.

“(b) The Government is not in a position to say whether or when they will take this step. The hon. Member is perhaps referring to the well-known view of the party to which the Government belongs; but there is a difference between that and a decision of Government as such.

“(c) Everything will be done that is just and proper and consistent with the financial position of the province.”

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Proposal to shift the sluice of the 'Kirthiman' to the head of the 'Arasalar.'

* 54 Q.—MR. P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to shift the sluice of the Kirthiman to the head of the Arasalar?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The answer is in the negative."

Expenditure on account of the remodelling of the Senate House to house the Legislative Assembly.

* 55 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the total expenditure incurred up till now upon the alterations and arrangements made in the "Senate House," now used as the Assembly Chamber has been;

(b) whether it has exceeded the original estimate made in 1936; and if so, by how much;

(c) what the rent that is paid monthly to the University for the use of this building is;

(d) what the upkeep charges per month of the premises and building are;

(e) whether it is any term lease taken from the University or a monthly arrangement only; and

(f) whether, when the building is handed over to the University, there is any stipulation that it should pay for such fittings as it might like to retain and for the various alterations made in the building?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) Expenditure to end of July 1937, Rs. 1,06,400.

Ultimate expenditure including alterations in progress, Rs. 1,16,700.

" (b) The answer is in the negative. Savings to the extent of Rs. 9,000 are anticipated.

" (c) Rs. 1,500.

" (d) About Rs. 130.

" (e) The lease is for a term commencing on the 1st day of October 1936 and ending with the date on which other accommodation is provided by the Government for housing the Legislative Assembly and its offices. One calendar month's notice of the date on which other accommodation will be provided by the Government for housing the Legislative Assembly and its offices, will be given to the University.

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" (f) Of the structures and fittings that may be put up by Government, only eight garages in the compound, and lavatories and other sanitary fittings inside the building (exclusive of the temporary lavatories) will be handed over to the University for a price to be agreed upon by it and the Government. All other super-structures and fittings will be removed."

MR. G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, if negotiations are going on with the Government of India regarding the choice of a site for the Parliament Buildings?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"Yes, Sir."

MR. G. KRISHNA RAO:—"How long will it take?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The negotiations are going on about the site and we hope to decide about it very shortly."

MR. K. BHASHYAM AYYANGAR:—"May I know what the points in negotiation are between the Madras Government and the Government of India?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"I am not in a position to divulge them at present."

MR. G. KRISHNA RAO:—"May I ask whether there is any likelihood of the island ground site being chosen for the purpose?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"That is also under consideration."

MR. KR. AR. KR. MUTHU ARUNACHALAM CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask whether there is any proposal to build a hostel for the Members of the Legislative Assembly?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"That question does not arise."

MR. G. KRISHNA RAO:—"Sir, the library and the party rooms are situated in the cellar which is a cheerless, ill-ventilated and ill-lighted place. May I ask whether anything will be done to remedy this?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"The question does not arise."

MR. G. KRISHNA RAO:—"I want to be enlightened on the question whether any arrangement will be made to accommodate the Members in a better place?"

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—"That does not arise out of this. I must have notice of the question."

An hon. Member:—"May I know when the new buildings for housing the Assembly are likely to be finished?"

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIYAR:—"I think hon. Members will retire from their present offices before the buildings will be ready for occupation."

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"May I know whether an architect has been appointed?"

(No answer.)

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Alleged delay in arranging for the post-mortem examination of the body of I. Shetty in Mangalore Police station.

* 56 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that in March last one warrantee, named I. Shetty, in the Police lock-up at the Mangalore Police station was found dead and was sent to the post-mortem shed the next day;

(b) whether it is a fact that the doctor who held the post-mortem examination was not able to find out the cause of the death as the body was too much decomposed; and

(c) if so, what is the cause of such a long delay to hold the post-mortem examination?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“There was no case of I. Shetty dying in March last in the Mangalore Police lock-up.

“(a) If the question has reference to the case of motor driver Sanku Shetty who was reported as found dead in the police lock-up at the Mangalore Police station on 2nd May 1937, the attention of the Government was drawn to the case.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) The body reached the District Medical Officer at 7-30 p.m. on 2nd May 1937, and he commenced post-mortem examination next morning at 10-20 a.m. when he found the body far too gone in decomposition for finding out the cause of death. The whole matter was enquired into by the District Magistrate and the Government is considering what further steps should be taken.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“May I ask why the dead body was kept so long without post-mortem examination until it was decomposed?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“The matter is under investigation by Government.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know what was the cause of the delay on the part of the District Medical Officer and why the post-mortem examination was not held as soon as the body was brought to the hospital?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“A departmental enquiry is going on into the matter.”

10-30 a.m. MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“What is the cause for the delay? Why did not the District Medical Officer hold the post-mortem examination as soon as the body was brought to the hospital?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Departmental enquiry is going on in the matter.”

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KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Who was responsible for the delay, the Police or the Medical Officer?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Unless the Government gets the reports of the department concerned, the Government is not in a position to answer the question now.”

MR. H. S. HUSSAIN:—“When did this incident happen?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“2nd May 1937.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Have the Government received any suggestions as to the cause of death?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“A good deal of suggestions have been made to the Government.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“What was the suggestion made in this matter?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Different kinds of suggestions have been made.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask whether the Government does not consider that sufficient time has been taken in making this enquiry—from May to September 2nd?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“The enquiry is going on. A good deal of evidence has been collected.”

Alleged interference on the part of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board with the process of law in the case of R. Rama Rao, Manager, Easwaraswami Temple, Kalahasti.

* 57 Q.—MR. K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one R. Rama Rao was appointed by the Madras Hindu Religious Endowment Board as the Manager of the Easwaraswami Temple, Kalahasti;

(b) whether various complaints were made against the said R. Rama Rao for misappropriation of temple properties;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Hindu Religious Endowment Board protested against the taking of action by the Police against the said Rama Rao;

(d) whether the Endowment Board moved the Inspector-General of Police to stop investigation against the said Rama Rao; and

(e) whether the Endowment Board addressed the Local Government not to take any proceedings against him?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) A complaint was made by one P. Venkanna of Kalahasti to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Tirupati.

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“(c) No protest was received by the Government from the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

“(d) The President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, wrote to the Inspector-General of Police stating that police interference was not called for.

“(e) The President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, requested the Government to order the withdrawal of the prosecution but the Government declined to do so.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“May I know whether any action has been taken against the person concerned, the President of the Religious Endowments Board?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The matter is under enquiry.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know the sections under which the gentleman has been charged?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The matter is under enquiry; if you give us time, we will get all the information; now the sections under which the person has been charged are not known.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“May I enquire what the President of the Endowments Board suspects in this case?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“In the opinion of the President of the Endowments Board, the matter is not so serious as to be taken cognizance of.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“Was the Police of the opinion that there was misappropriation?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The hon. Member must understand it from the reply that the Government refused to order the withdrawal of the prosecution.”

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask if the President of the Board wanted to shield the officer?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I cannot tell whether the question leads to that suggestion.”

Consideration of the length of previous service of candidates applying for admission into Teachers' Training Schools.

* 58 Q.—MR. E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an order that selections for teachers' training in the Secondary, Higher Elementary and Lower Elementary grades should be made on the length of “previous service” of the candidates;

(b) if so, whether that order will be placed on the table;

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(c) whether it is a fact that the depressed classes and Muslims have been exempted from the order referred to in (a) and, if so, whether that order will be placed on the table; and

(d) whether the present District Educational Officer, Malabar, has to observe the abovesaid orders and, if not, why not?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a), (b), (c) and (d). By certain amendments introduced into the Madras Educational Rules in pursuance of the notification published at page 459 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th September 1934, it was required that 50 per cent of the candidates selected for training should have had at least a year's teaching experience in a recognized school and the Director of Public Instruction was given the power to relax this condition in the case of candidates who were members of the depressed classes or were Muslims or were women. These amendments have been withdrawn by a notification published at page 398 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 20th July 1937.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“Is it not a fact that teachers' training for lower elementary grades has been abolished?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is not a fact.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“If the restrictions that are now under existence are given effect to, may I know if the Hon. Minister thinks that it will give an impetus to the establishment of more elementary schools in the Province?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Member did not evidently listen to the answer to the latter part of the question, that the restrictions have now been withdrawn.”

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask if the Government are aware that some persons have not been admitted for training, on account of these restrictions?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It depends on the number of seats available on each occasion.”

Selection by the District Educational Officer, Malabar, of candidates for admission into Teachers' Training Schools during 1937-38.

* 59 Q.—MR. E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to lay on the table—

(a) a statement showing the names of all the candidates of the depressed classes who applied to the District Educational Officer, Malabar, this year for selection for teachers' training in the Secondary, Higher Elementary and Lower Elementary grades; the “previous service” of each applicant; and the names of those who were selected; and

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(b) a statement showing the names of all those other than Muslims and depressed classes, who applied to the District Educational Officer, Malabar, this year for selection for teachers' training in the Secondary, Higher Elementary and Lower Elementary Grades; the "previous service" of each applicant; and the names of those who were selected?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) The Government are not in possession of the particulars asked for.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“Will the Government call for the information?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government do not think that any useful purpose will be served by calling for such information.”

Arrears of salary due to the Hindi teachers employed under the Bezwada District Board.

* 35 Q.—MR. K. V. NARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Bezwada District Board, the Hindi teachers have not been paid their salaries for the last six months; and

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take to prevent such maladministration hereafter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) and (b).—The matter is at present under investigation.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether teachers other than Hindi teachers, employed by the District Board, have been paid their salaries?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have had a large number of complaints with regard to non-payment of salaries to teachers employed in many district boards and the whole matter is now under consideration. Orders have been passed in the case of some district boards that payment should be made immediately to the teachers concerned.”

MR. G. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—“May I ask whether orders have been passed with regard to the teachers employed under the District Board of Bezwada?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not prepared to give any details. It is impossible to think of any particular district board when there are as many as 33 or 34 district boards in the whole of our Presidency.”

[2nd September 1937]

Tour expenses of the Director of Public Instruction during the period May 1936–July 1937.

* 37 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) the districts in which the Director of Public Instruction toured during each of the months from May 1936 to July 1937;

(b) the amount of travelling allowance drawn by him and his establishment during each of these months; and

(c) whether the travelling allowance bill of the Director is subject to pre-audit and countersignature by any higher authority?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) A statement^a showing the particulars is appended.

“(c) Travelling allowance bills of the Director are subject to pre-audit by the Accountant-General; they are not countersigned by any higher authority.”

Creation of four posts of Divisional Inspectors of Schools.

* 38 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for the appointment of Division Inspectors of Schools was considered by Government some years back and abandoned;

(b) whether it is a fact that four Divisional Inspectors have been appointed in the current year; and

(c) whether the consideration that weighed with the Government in abandoning this scheme before has ceased to exist now?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Yes; the scheme was considered in 1928. It was not abandoned but postponed.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) As has been said in answer to clause (a) the scheme was not abandoned.”

MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU:—“May I ask who is discharging the functions of Divisional Inspectors, where there are no such officers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“There is no question of performing the functions of the officers who have not been in existence.”

MR. H. S. HUSSAIN:—“When will the Government come to a decision in the matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is a question which I cannot answer at this moment.”

^a Printed as Appendix on page 171 infra.

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MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it a question of creation of new posts or re-adjustment of the officers of the Educational department?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is a creation of new posts to which persons already in service have been promoted."

MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU:—"What was the necessity?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Some intermediary officer is necessary for properly carrying on the work for inspection of schools."

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—"Between which officers of the Educational department these officers are intermediary officers?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They are intermediary officers between the Director and the District Educational Officers."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Am I to understand that the appointment of these Divisional Inspectors has given much relief to the Director of Public Instruction to attend to general matters of scheme and policy in the Educational department?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am sure my hon. Friend will admit that three weeks' time is hardly sufficient for coming to a conclusion on this question."

Issue of amended rules framed under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

* 39 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that changes of a far-reaching character have been made in the rules framed under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920;

(b) whether it is a fact that schools and management have not been given sufficient time to adjust themselves to the new requirements; and

(c) whether it is a fact that, as a result of this, there is a fall in the number of elementary schools?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) If the question refers to the rules issued on 26th January 1937 the answer is that certain important changes have been made.

" (b) The Government consider that sufficient time has been given particularly in view of the fact that some of the new rules do not come into force until 1937-38 and others until 1939.

" (c) There has probably been a fall in the total number of schools owing to the elimination of bogus schools and of schools which were working extremely bad."

[2nd September 1937]

Survey of population with a view to locating school centres.

* 40 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether any survey has been undertaken recently to determine the number of population centres requiring schools for each local area;

(b) what the total number of school centres for each local area is;

(c) how many of the school centres are now without any school; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take for providing educational facilities for the children in those centres?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a), (b) & (c) No recent special survey has been undertaken but the attention of the hon. Member is invited to Table 30 in Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction which gives each year the number of school-less areas.

" (d) The Education department is continually encouraging the opening of new schools in school-less areas by different classes of management provided there are guarantees that the schools will conform to the requirements of the department in regard to accommodation, staff, general efficiency and other conditions."

Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madras North, cum Deputy Director of Public Instruction.

* 41 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madras South, is also the District Educational Officer, Madras;

(b) why a similar procedure was not followed in respect of the posts of the Divisional Inspectors of Schools, Guntur and Coimbatore;

(c) whether the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madras North, is also the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Madras;

(d) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that this arrangement affects his work as Divisional Inspector of Schools; and

(e) if the answer to clause (d) is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to relieve him of the duties of the Deputy Director?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The Divisional Inspector of Schools, Guntur and Coimbatore, have a much larger number of districts under their jurisdiction.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) The posts were combined with a view to economy. Greater efficiency would no doubt be secured if there were two independent posts.

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“(e) There is no such proposal at present but it may become necessary to separate the two posts later, if a decision is arrived at in the meanwhile.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“The Divisional Inspector is an intermediary officer between the Deputy Director and the Director of Public Instruction. Then what is the function that he does as an officer of the Educational department?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“After the hon. Member’s long speech I am unable to understand the import of his question.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“For the understanding of the Hon. Member . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may put the supplementary question direct.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“The Hon. Minister for Education said on a previous occasion that the Divisional Inspector of Schools functions as an intermediary officer between the Director and the Deputy Director on the one hand. . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question may be put directly.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“What exactly does the Hon. Minister want to know. . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question may be put.”

(Addressing Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan) “I would advise the hon. Member not to speak across the table.”

10-46 a.m. MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“I was asking the Hon. the Minister for Education what exactly is the function that the Divisional Inspector of Schools for Madras is doing, in view of the fact that in answer to a previous question, it was stated that he was an intermediary between the Deputy Director or the Director on the one hand and the District Educational Officer on the other.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I never said that he was an intermediary between the Deputy Director and the District Educational Officer. But in this particular case, the work in his office is not so great and as financial conditions may not allow the creation of two posts, we deemed it proper that this officer should carry on the work of both the offices.”

MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU:—“May I know what the extra cost would be if the two posts are to continue separately?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am afraid I cannot give any definite answer off-hand without looking into the papers.”

MR. K. ABDUR RAHIMAN KHAN:—“May I know the grade of salary?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have not got the information at present.”

[2nd September 1937]

Proposals for the amendment of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

* 42 Q.—MR. B. BHAKTHAVATSALU NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the amendment of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, is under the consideration of Government;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, whether Government will publish the proposals for public criticism, before introducing the Bill in the Legislature; and

(c) if the answer to clause (a) is in the negative, when the Government will take up the question?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Proposals for the amendment of the Act are under consideration. It is too early to state what the nature of the amendment will be.

“(b) The proposals will in the ordinary course be published for public criticism before a Bill is introduced in the Legislature.

“(c) Does not arise.”

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—MOTION *RE* AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE IV OF THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920.

* THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Sir, I rise to move the motion that stands in my name, viz.:—

‘That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the Provincial Government under section 305 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), amending Schedule IV to that Act be approved:—

Draft rule.

‘To rule 61 of Schedule IV to the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), the following paragraph shall be added, namely:—

‘Where an application is made to the Court under clause (a), the auditor shall be the sole respondent thereto, and the applicant shall not be entitled to make either the Provincial Government or any other person a party to the proceedings.’”

Sir, this amendment is being moved on the recommendation of the High Court. A case was brought to the notice of the Government where the District Collector of Anantapur was also made a party to a petition. Then the High Court made a suggestion that the section might be amended, so as to enable the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts only being made responsible for the surcharge appeal. That is how the need

[Mr. B. Gopala Reddi] [2nd September 1937]

for this amendment has been felt. A similar provision has recently been made in the Local Boards Act also. Section 199 of that Act, the enabling section, has given power to the Government to make rules under the Local Boards Act. In the absence of a similar section in the District Municipalities Act, I have brought forward this motion for the amendment of Schedule IV to the Act. I request the House to accept it."

The motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 10 a.m. the next day.

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 37 asked by Mr. B. Bhakthavatsalu Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 2nd September 1937, page 165 supra.]

Month.	Districts toured.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn by					
		The Director.			The establish-ment.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
May 1936		..	..	..	..	..	..
June 1936—							
21 to 23rd	Malabar	76	3	0	43	14	0
22nd to 29th July 1936	Salem	129	3	0	83	0	0
August 1936							
13th September to 1st October 1936.	Malabar and South Kanara.	337	12	0	193	15	0
October 1936 (10th to 16th) ..	Malabar	138	1	0	91	11	0
13th to 20th November 1936.	Trichinopoly and Madura.	139	8	0	128	10	0
December 1936		..	..	..	..	..	..
January 1937—							
21st to 26th	Malabar	139	2	0	181 10 0 160 3 0	117 9 0	21 5 0
27th to 31st	Guntur and Vizagapatam.						
February 1937—							
5th to 17th	Anantapur and Chittoor	409	1	0			
18th to 22nd	Coimbatore						
24th February to 3rd March 1937.	Tinnevely	170	0	0			
5th March to 8th March 1937.	Nellore	47	12	0			
April-May 1937							
30th May to 11th June	Malabar	181	0	0	95	1	0
29th June to 10th July 1937 ..	Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.	356	9	0	159	10	0
July 1937 (21st to 31st)	Coimbatore	164	9	0	97	1	0
Total		2,288	12	0	1,373	9	0

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 3rd September 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, at ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

The proceedings began with the singing of the Vande Mataram song by Srimathi Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar.

I.—SWEARING IN OF A MEMBER.

MR. O. LAKSHMANASWAMI made the prescribed oath of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1937-38.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The general discussion of the budget will now commence."

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The leading stars on this side being absent, it has fallen to my lot to lead the discussion.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, before offering my remarks, I feel it my duty to congratulate the Hon. the Premier on the excellent and balanced budget which he presented the other day to the Assembly. It is a sound and prudent budget. The Hon. Mr. Rajagopalachariar who has always been known to be a level-headed thinker has now proved himself to be a sound financier also. He very rightly realizes that the credit of the province is our greatest asset. Considering the financial position of the province—its assets exceeding its liabilities by over 12 crores of rupees—the proposal to raise a loan of 150 lakhs will not impair the future stability of the financial position of the province. Most of the sum goes towards expenditure on remunerative works, such as irrigation works, loans to cultivators, local bodies, etc. There is no doubt that he has given a Congress tinge to the budget, although he is not satisfied with it and says that he has not done all that could be desired of a Congress party's budget.

"We are thankful to the Hon. the Prime Minister for having introduced prohibition at least in a single district, but for the success of the policy, something more has to be done. A mere prohibitory order will not, in my humble opinion, be enough. As I said in my budget speech last year, Members, Ministers and heads of departments and others who preach prohibition should themselves practise it before they

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [3rd September 1937]

begin to preach. I have known persons who are preaching prohibition but defending their drink habits by telling that they drink only very little, or only at times and not always. That is not enough. If anybody professes to preach prohibition, he should not touch liquor. That is my opinion. Then only the policy of prohibition will succeed. That is how the Prophet of Arabia introduced and succeeded in his policy of prohibition in the Arabian Peninsula and in the whole of the Moslem world.

"The provision in the budget for a grant of 2 lakhs for helping the hand-spinning movement also gives the budget a Congress orientation, but it is a problem whether the grant will reach all those that have taken to hand-spinning and how this amount will be distributed. Of course the Hon. the Premier has stated in his speech that the details will be worked out, and so I will leave it at that.

"But, another question to be considered in this connexion is whether it is fair to the State to help one industry at the expense of another. This may also injure the growing of cotton and the cultivating classes and all those engaged in occupations connected with the cultivation of cotton and the production of cloth. However, I have got full confidence in the sincerity of the Hon. Mr. Rajagopalachari. But, I only want him to see whether the two lakhs which has been provided will be usefully spent, because I have heard some Congressmen themselves expressing doubts about the success of this hand-spinning movement.

"There is one thing in the budget which I object to and that is the imposition of a tax on cloth merchants except those who deal exclusively in hand-loom products. I am saying this not because most of the cotton merchants are Mussalmans; but it is wrong in principle as it is barefaced discrimination. In fact I have received representations from several merchants dealing in cloth that this tax will ruin their trade, not to speak of the indirect effect it will have on the mill industry and the cultivating classes.

"I warmly welcome the decision of the Government to supply drinking water to villages which have not got pure water-supply. But I wish here to point out that if all the money required for water-supply and village communications is utilized for water-supply alone, the West Coast will suffer; because there it is not a question of providing drinking-water wells that is agitating the people, but there the greatest need is for village roads and foot-bridges and small culverts. The cultivators there are cut off from the towns and marketing places by streams, hills and forests and they suffer for want of facilities to sell their produce. The result is they have no other go but to sell their produce to the middlemen for a nominal price, with the result they are not able to pay their tax or repay their loans; and naturally their lands go into the hands of big landholders or money-lenders. Therefore, Sir, there is as much need or even more, for roads and culverts in South Kanara and Malabar as there is need for water-supply in

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other districts. I hope sufficient provision will be made for this purpose in regard to the West Coast. I am very anxious about this especially as the Premier stated on page 7 of his budget speech that 'generally speaking, we have turned down for the time being all schemes in respect of buildings and roads.'

"Sir, I wish to say a few words in respect of the reduction of salaries. No doubt, Sir, some retrenchment is necessary in this direction, but I ask, cannot this be done by abolishing some intermediary posts which generally function as post offices? For instance, there are so many deputies in several departments who can very well go, Deputy Directors of Agriculture, Deputy Superintendents of Police, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, etc. Some savings can also be made by amalgamating departments. For instance, the Agricultural and Veterinary departments can be amalgamated; so also the Medical and Public Health departments can go together. The Fisheries department can be handed over to the Finance department. Thus, a great saving can be made by these amalgamations.

10-11
a.m.

"As regards reduction in the salaries of services, the reduction proposed is very high. A graded cut up to 30 per cent of the salary is indeed too much. It should in no case go above 15 per cent. In the case of those drawing a salary of Rs. 1,000 and above, new scales may be fixed.

"Now, Sir, in the matter of asking questions here, I have a few words to say in order that there may not be any misunderstanding. Questions are generally asked in order to elicit information."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"We are now going on only with the general discussion of the budget."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The custom is during the general discussion of the budget all these things are raised so that Government may concede certain privileges."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"It is not the business of the Government to concede those things. It is the House that proposes anything about procedure."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If that is your ruling, I bow to it, Sir. We used to raise such questions year after year."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The general discussion of the budget is now proceeding. Reference to rules of the House and discussion of the rules should not take up the time of the House now."

KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not of the rules but of the general policy I am speaking."

* Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may speak on the policy of the Government."

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KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—
 “Questions are generally asked in order to elicit information and not to harass or cause any inconvenience. Such privileges are necessary to the Members of the House and they exist in all democratic countries. A sound and healthy opposition, however weak it may be, is essential for the proper functioning of any popular institution. It is to be welcomed because no man is infallible and no human institution is perfect. To err is human. Every question may have different aspects and some of them may not have attracted the attention of the officials of Government. The Opposition will be able to point out some aspects of a question. The Government may consider them and if they are satisfied, they may adopt the suggestions made by the Opposition. There is nothing wrong or derogatory in doing so as long as the intention of the Government is to do good to the country. The Opposition being in a minority cannot force the Government to do anything against their conviction.

“I have to bring another thing to the notice of the Hon. the Speaker, viz., that the present system of preparing travelling allowance bills to Members and paying them is not as satisfactory as it was before. It may be perhaps due to the fact that the former cashier who was an experienced man has been given some other work and a new man has been put for the work. It may be so, or it may be there is pressure of work there. Somehow or other, we want that the work should be done without any difficulty hereafter.

“With these words, I resume my seat.”

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Finance has presented his budget, and we know that that budget is the outcome of the labour of many days and weeks. But the time allotted to us has been very short. It is hardly enough to examine or to digest the figures, or to understand the very many implications thereof or the significance of the statements made in the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister. So, it is with a certain amount of diffidence, Sir, that one would rise in his place and offer any remarks on the budget that has been presented by the Congress Ministry for the first time. It is an important budget, Sir, and the various schemes that have been adumbrated have been formulated with considerable experience, ability, sincerity and earnestness of purpose. There is, therefore, Sir, much scope for any person who criticizes this budget being misunderstood; for one reason, the budget that has been presented is one prepared by the most popular party in the country; for another, one would hesitate to hazard any opinion on the budget that has been presented by that gentleman who is reputed to possess great intellectual powers, the budget that has been presented by the future President of the Indian National Congress. On the other hand, Sir, there is also this feeling in me, viz., constituted as we are for the time being as Members of the Opposition in this House and being in that view an integral part

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of the democratic constitution that is being worked now, I will be only discharging my duty if I say honestly what I feel about the budget. Democratic constitutions have been so framed as to constitute the Opposition as an integral part of the Assembly and the Government of the day. That being the case, if we miss making the few comments that we think should be made, we shall be failing in our duty. I do hope, Sir, that hon. Members opposite will conceive our purpose in that spirit and in that spirit alone. (Hear, hear.)

“To begin with, Sir, it is not for me to criticise at length the various proposals and the various statements made in the course of the speech on the budget. I can only state even at the outset that not much provision is made in the budget for what is often called ‘the reconstruction of the national economy and the promotion of economic prosperity in the country.’ I know, Sir, Friends opposite will say that these are catchwords or clap-trap. But I would treat the budget as I conceive it and say that the Hon. the Finance Minister’s budget seems to be only a poor attempt towards the reconstruction of the national economy and but a small attempt towards the promotion of economic prosperity in the country. However, I personally expected the Hon. the Premier would put forth a five-year plan for the economic reconstruction in the various spheres of national activity. But looked at from that point of view, I am sorry to observe, and I hope that I would be forgiven in saying, that the budget is a disappointing one. I shall proceed to prove my statement from the various proposals which are claimed to be adumbrated towards raising the standard of living among the common people and towards giving them relief at least in some directions to some limited extent. Before I do so, I would like to examine the debt position. The debt position, the Hon. the Premier has claimed, is very sound and very substantial. I do endorse that claim. This province has always had the reputation of being the foremost in financial stability. But the point remains, Sir, as to whether we are going to maintain that financial stability in future years to come. One thing seems to be very discouraging, Sir, that is the floating of a loan of a crore and a half by the Government not for the purpose of any ‘extraordinary expenditure’ but probably for ordinary items of expenditure. It is not really encouraging to think whether at that rate the financial stability of the province will continue to be what it has been. Looked at from another point of view, if one keeps in mind that the budget has been balanced and that a small surplus has been shown, that surplus is very negligible in the face of the loan that has been raised. But for this crore and a half, there should have been a barren budget in regard to new schemes. That being so, I do not know how far the Hon. the Premier or his party men will be entitled to claim this budget as a surplus budget. If all the items of expenditure had been met from out of the ordinary revenues, if the Hon. the Premier had tapped all other resources and not resorted to the borrowing of a crore and a half, then all credit would have been his. But, as it is, it has to be acknowledged, and there can be no two opinions about it, that this budget is a deficit

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budget though it shows a small surplus. I would therefore ask respectfully whether it augurs well for our province to start provincial autonomy with a deficit budget and with a debt of a crore and a half, whatever might be the purpose thereof. We have not been told by the Hon. the Premier in detail in his speech as to how only a small surplus arose and as to why this Rs. 85.38 lakhs had to be borrowed. No details have been furnished to us as to how there has been such a fall in the income. On the other hand, the few paragraphs, in which reference is made to the income and expenditure, go to show that the income has not been very low. There has not been anything to affect the sources of income or the receipts for the year. The only item that could be claimed to show any loss of revenue is on account of the policy adumbrated with reference to 'prohibition.' That accounts only for an ultimate loss of Rs. 26 lakhs; but in the current year it comes only to about Rs. 13 lakhs. If you take away the only obvious source of loss, viz., Rs. 13 lakhs, then there is still a very large loss that has to be explained. It would be very helpful if the Hon. the Premier would take us into confidence and say what exactly are the items of receipts which have contributed to no improvement in the total receipts of the province.

10-30 a.m. "It was expected, Sir, at the time when the Ministry came into power, that there will be something done in the direction of an orientation of the revenue policy and affording of relief to the cultivator in the matter of payment of assessment under which he is groaning. Except counselling patience, there is nothing striking in the land revenue policy or in remissions over and above what the previous Government had granted. Some further relief should have been given in this direction. There are, I submit, several sources which the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues could have tapped. Ample provision is made in the Government of India Act and the schedule attached thereto giving scope for fresh sources of taxation being requisitioned into service. It has not been done; the whole revenue policy has been ignored, for the time being at any rate, and the position of the largest tax-payer has not been considered at all; no relief is afforded to the much talked of agricultural population, and the measures which are now proposed in the budget do not also seem to be efficacious to any great degree. The other measures by themselves are not far-reaching nor are they adequate.

"With regard to prohibition, myself and those who think with me have always been of the opinion that there should be total prohibition here and now. We had, time and again, opposed the policy of piecemeal introduction of prohibition in this country. Looking at it as a Muslim, I would welcome any endeavour in the direction of introducing total prohibition. One is led to doubt whether the piecemeal policy of introducing prohibition from district to district in the course of 20 years or 10 years or 5 years, will ultimately prove successful. May I suggest with all humility to the Premier that it would have been wiser and more effective if total prohibition has been introduced and in order to make up the loss a loan or some other device for the purpose had been thought of. You might treat the item that would be loss to

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the Government on the side of receipts as an extraordinary expenditure. I am not against the Government borrowing for 'extraordinary' expenditure (the Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar: 'Hear, hear'). We should wipe out the drink evil from the country at one stroke and should have given good relief to the drunkard and his dependents who suffer on account of the drink habit.

"There is one small point on which I venture to make a brief remark, and that is, with regard to the salaries of the Ministers and the amenities given to them by way of purchase of cars. I would still urge, as I said the other day, that the Ministers should be paid a higher salary than Rs. 500 which is ridiculously low; and the policy of supplying cars is one, I think, of very doubtful utility in the long run. Instead of each of the Ministers and the Speaker being supplied with a car, it would have been better and more economical in the interests of the taxpayer ultimately, if they were paid Rs. 1,000 each and no cars supplied to them."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"May I advise the hon. Member not to repeat at length the arguments advanced on a previous Bill?"

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I am addressing with due deference to you, Sir, quite new arguments. I submit, Sir, that it would be in the best interests of the tax-payer, from the point of view of saving of interest, depreciation and several other things, if they had been paid a lump sum of Rs. 1,000 each, by way of salary and left to their own resources with regard to conveyances.

"Provision has been made for water-supply and drainage under Part II Schemes in the budget. No one would be more happy than those who come from the rural parts to know that such a provision has been made. But the grievance would be that this provision is so inadequate that it does not even touch the fringe of the real problem. Besides, Sir, detailed schemes and more particulars are wanting, and I hope the Hon. the Premier and the Minister in charge of the subject would certainly give us more particulars as to those schemes and as to how many districts, how many taluks and how many villages are going to be brought within the scope of those schemes.

"With reference to the loan that has been floated I made some brief reference in another connexion. But I would like to invite the attention of the Premier to the question of the policy involved in borrowing for the purpose of 'ordinary expenditure.' We find from paragraph 27, page 8, of the Budget Speech that the loan has been necessitated to meet 40 lakhs which has to be deposited in the Reserve Bank, 19.15 lakhs in the sub-treasuries and a considerably big sum for payment of commutations of pensions. If you add these items to the overdraft of 85 and odd lakhs you arrive at one and half crores. I would respectfully submit that these are items which are always to be met from the ordinary revenue receipts and not from the money borrowed for that purpose. I know, the Hon. the Premier has said that the question of commutation has had the approval of the Auditor-General and the Accountant-General, and he says that it is a very sound policy and he has satisfied himself on it. But, I do not think that it is the last

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word on the matter. That 'ordinary expenditure should be covered by ordinary revenues, while extraordinary expenditure is to be covered by surpluses in the ordinary budget, or loans or extraordinary taxes and other receipts,' has been accepted on all hands as a very salutary principle. Even otherwise 'recourse to loan operations would be only for extraordinary appropriations for the promotion of economic prosperity, for imperative necessities such as public defence and so forth.' These are dicta laid down by well-known financial experts. I ask, whether this extraordinary loan floated could be brought under any of these items. It cannot be denied that financial experts have accepted this as a very sound principle, and if I am not wrong, I don't think that the payment of loans to local bodies or deposits in the treasuries could have been claimed as an extraordinary expenditure which could not be met from ordinary sources of revenue. Going a step further, I submit that even 'if capital expenditure is so arranged as to cover up surpluses in former years' it will be most desirable and financially most sound. Several of the schemes are indicated in the speech of the Minister for Finance in a hazy and superficial manner and he himself has said that details are yet to be worked out. Once that is said, we take him at his word; the schemes are perhaps yet to be worked out, the agencies are yet to be thought out, the form and method by which disbursements should take place are yet to be decided upon. If that is so and if I am not wrong, I am afraid that the remaining period of six months will be hardly sufficient for the disbursement of the entire amount. Our experience in the Public Accounts Committee has been that time and again we had to invite the attention of the several spending departments that they were responsible for several lapses of grants, that they were not able to adjust the expenditure within the close of the year. Considering that, I am afraid that the remaining period of six months is hardly sufficient to put into effect all the schemes that are now being put forth. With regard to unspent amount there is a practice obtaining in some advanced countries that some special provision is made in the Finance Rules, to the effect that expenditure on account of the year ending with 31st March may be liquidated during an additional period of a month or a month and a half. Even so, Sir, this is suggested here with a view to avoid the lapses. Formerly, the Government ordered that surrenders should be intimated to the Finance Department early in the month of January, and they found it very difficult to adhere to that rule. On that account the lapses at the end of the year were very large. The dates were later changed to 15th February if I am not mistaken. I therefore suggest to the Premier that all this expenditure on account of the year ending with the 31st March 1938 may be liquidated during an additional period of one or one and a half months, if the schemes are not worked out within the end of the year. I suggest this reform of the accountancy system for the consideration of the Minister. A similar provision may also be made with regard to late collections and payments into the coffers of Government. The real need, Sir, in our province as much as in any other province is 'the increasing of the productivity and also simplifying of the system of taxes' at the same time. We want a better distribution of the burden of taxation. The Hon. the Premier has claimed,

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and rightly too, that he is endeavouring towards achieving that end. It is a matter on which we should all agree and appreciate him. We further want the elimination of double and over taxation, and there are very many instances in our country of double and over taxation. There is a great deal to be done towards the simplification of the procedure regarding assessment and collection, and the reduction to a minimum of friction between the public and the tax-officers. I find nothing said or attempted in that direction either in the Budget Speech or in the explanatory memorandum. I do hope that the Minister has not lost sight of it, but it would have been helpful, it would have been a good beginning, if he had told us something of his ideas and of his proposals in that direction.

"There are no proposals for new taxation, to improve the financial position of the Province except the imposition of a licence fee on mill-cloth dealers. As regards this proposal it has not been shown, either in the Budget Memorandum or in the Hon. the Finance Minister's speech, what income is expected therefrom. I do not think, Sir, that the revenue would be very large even if a scale of Rs. 5 a shop is fixed in the city and a lower rate is thought of in the mufassal. After all, the shops are few and the income would be very small. I do not see why, when the Hon. the Finance Minister and his colleagues thought of imposing a licence-fee on mill-cloth dealers, they should not have also looked into the other items of taxation. In schedule VII of the Government of India Act, which relates to the lists of Provincial Subjects, there is great scope for raising many taxes without causing any heartburning and without causing any additional direct burden on the tax-payer or on the dealers in commodities."

10-45
a.m.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may finish soon, as other Members should have a chance."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I will skip over some of my notes, Sir."

"There is, in other countries, what is called a tax on the 'turn-over.' I do not know whether the Hon. Minister has devoted any thought to the possibility of raising a tax on the 'turnover,' in respect of mill cloth for instance. I believe the Hon. Minister is aware that nearly 200 million yards of mill cloth are sold in this Province and on an average the cost of mill-made cloth comes to 4 or 5 annas a yard. At that computation, nearly 50 or 60 million rupees worth of goods in cloth are sold in our Province yearly. If, on that turnover of Rs. 60 millions, a tax at 10 per cent were to be levied, the Government would get nearly Rs. 50 lakhs for financing its several schemes. It would not be a direct tax. A levy of 10 per cent on the turnover of Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 millions would only add half an anna or quarter of an anna to the price of cloth. It would also be an indirect taxation of the mill-made cloth levied on the purchaser and not on the dealer as such."

"Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister has proposed that there should be a reduction of the salaries of Government servants. Sir, from what

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I know, I feel that it is a dangerous ground on which he is treading. If the salaries of the All-India Services are not going to be touched, if the salaries of the All-India Services are not going to be brought within the scope of the cut, it will cause serious and great heartburning and hardship to the people belonging to the subordinate and provincial services. The indication in the Budget Speech is that the cut would only apply to the provincial and subordinate services and, for that too, the Secretary of State has to give his sanction. And the rate of reduction proposed is from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 30 per cent. I submit, Sir, that a uniform reduction of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 30 per cent would work hardship. It would be a big slice, for instance, in the case of a person drawing Rs. 2,500 per mensem, if nearly a third of his income is taken away. I would suggest for the consideration of the Finance Department as well as of the Hon. the Finance Minister that there should be as many steps as possible between $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and 30 per cent and also some consideration shown in the method of calculation of the rate of cut, when it applies to each scale of salary. The rate should not be uniformly applied. It must be applied on the same basis as the one which obtains in the Registration department in calculating the levy of fees for the registration of documents. I do not want to give illustrations as that would be taking too much time of the House.

"Another point that has to be remembered in this connexion is that the proposed cut, unless it is made to apply to the lowest salaries as well, would not bring in any large saving. Therefore it is a point to be considered whether, after all, it is worthwhile tapping this source for a comparatively small return.

"Yet another point that has to be considered by the Hon. the Premier is whether the imposition of this cut in the salaries of Government servants would justify his claim that by doing so, he would better the lives of the people. I submit, Sir, that the Government servants form only a very small proportion of the entire population. There are the various other professions and people engaged in other trades and occupations that make much larger income than Government servants. Has he devised any means to tap those sources? Is there any plan to effect some sort of cut in the income derived by the doctors, the lawyers, the engineers, the experts and so on? If you have a comprehensive . . ."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I would remind the hon. Member again that he is unduly prolonging his speech."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I shall finish before 11 a.m., Sir." (Laughter.)

* MR. SPEAKER:—"There are 215 Members in this House. The hon. Member has already taken more than half an hour. He is requested to finish his speech in two minutes."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"If you will permit me, Sir, I will refer to one more point only and resume my seat."

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"The Hon. the Finance Minister has provided some money for the promotion of 'handspinning.' The question whether handloom weaving would also be promoted is not clear from the Hon. Minister's speech. He exempts the handloom products from licence-fees and he wants the licence-fees to be spent on handspinning. I respectfully ask, Sir, whether the Hon. the Premier is convinced that the encouraging of handspinning alone is going to solve the problem of the production and supply of cloth to the millions of India? Is it not right that the 1,200 villages which are centres of weaving in this Presidency and the three lakhs of handlooms which support one family each, should be encouraged rather than handspinning by itself? Is it not our purpose to increase the nation's wealth by putting a stop to mill-made cloth and all imported cloth and give employment and occupation to the handloom weavers who are by the lakhs? Instead of encouraging handloom weaving, if it is only going to give an impetus to handspinning, is it going to be an economic proposition? Is it not the case that handspinning has been condemned as not an economic proposition? The problem of *khadi* is only imposing a big premium on the patriotism of the man, the purchaser. It is not an economic thing at all. So long as there is patriotism left in every one of us, just so long, will handspinning thrive and not a day longer. I may be wrong but still it is an economic truth. But mill-spun yarn woven in the handloom will sustain millions and it will add to the wealth of the nation. May I respectfully request the Hon. the Premier to consider this question of encouraging this industry which can compete successfully with all mills and which can be made self-supporting? This is not an uneconomic proposition like handspinning. If it is contended that handspinning is by itself self-supporting, why then allot these 2 lakhs for that industry?"

"Further, we have not been told as to what would be the agency for the disbursement of these two lakhs. How and through what methods and in what manner is the disbursement to be made, we do not know. We would like to be enlightened on these aspects.

"Sir, I thank you for your indulgence and for the indulgence the House has shown me. I am sorry I detained the House so long."

* SWAMI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனவான்களே, கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! காங்கிரஸ் பதவி என்று இரண்டரை மாதத்திற்குள் இந்த மாகாண வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை தயாரித்தது மிகவும் குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. காங்கிரஸ் பதவி ஏற்குமுன் ஆறு மாதத்திற்கு மேன்மை தங்கிய கவர்னர் அவர்கள் ஆதிக்கத்தில் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்ட வரவு செலவுகளையும் உள்ளடக்கி வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை முதன் மந்திரியார் தயாரித்திருப்பது மிகவும் போற்றக் கூடியதாக இருக்கிறது. திட்டம் அமைக்கு முன்னர் எந்தெந்த இனங்களில் செலவைக்குறைக்கலாம், எந்தெந்த இனங்களில் வருமானத்தை அதிகப்படுத்தலாம். எந்தெந்த இனங்கள் எழும் கிராமவாசிகளுக்கு பயன் தரக்கூடியது, எந்தெந்த இனங்களில் பண உதவி செய்ய வேண்டும், என முன்னமே பிள்ளை போட்டுக்கொண்டு வேலை செய்யத் தொடங்கியது மிகவும் ஆச்சரியகரமாயிருக்கிறது. 'தென்னாட்டுக் காந்தி' என்று அழைக்கப்படும் கனம் ராஜாஜியவர்கள் பொக்கிஷ மந்திரியாக அமைந்தது நமது மாகாணச் செய்து பாக்கியமேயாகும். எழும் நிலச்சுவான்களுக்கு வரிபளுவைக் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், அவர்களைக் கடனினின்றும் மீட்கவேண்டுமென்"

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [3rd September 1937]

“மதுவிலக்கினால் பணம் குறைந்திருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தில் செலத்தில் கள்ளுக்கடையை எடுத்துவிட்டதினால் சுற்றியிருக்கும் ஜில்லாக்களில் கள்ளுக்கடை எல்லாம் ஜாஸ்தியாக போகிறது. ஏராளமான பணம் வருகிறது. ஆகையினால் அந்த வருமானம் குறைந்ததாக பாவிக்க முடியாது. நிலச்சுவானாதாரங்களுக்கு நல்ல வசதிகள் கிடைக்கிறது. ஏழைகளுக்கு ஒருவித வசதியும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. குடியினால் எவ்வளவோ பணம் வருகிறது. அவ்வளவு பணத்தையும் ஏழைகளுக்கு திருப்பிக் கொடுக்க மனைக்கட்டு வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஜலவசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்.

“முதன் மந்திரி இவ்வளவு சொற்ப காலத்திற்குள் இவ்வளவு பெரிய வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை இவ்வளவு அழகாகச் சரிக்கட்டினதற்காக என்னுடைய நன்றித் தெரிவிக்கிறேன்.”

11-15 a.m. * DIWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad I have an early opportunity of speaking on this memorable budget presented to us by the Hon. the Premier and the Finance Minister. I say memorable budget, Sir, since under Provincial Autonomy this is the first budget prepared under the guidance and control of an elected representative of the people. The grasp of details and supreme mastery over financial intricacies, the long-sight and prudence exhibited by the Hon. the Premier in the preparation of this budget have won our admiration. I have nothing but praise for the frankness with which the Premier has explained the various items provided for in the budget. He has taken the House into his fullest confidence and has kept back nothing from us. May I, Sir, offer the Hon. the Premier and the Finance Minister my warmest congratulations on the excellent manner in which he has discharged the onerous task imposed upon him by virtue of his responsible office.

“Turning to the budget, Sir, I find that the year opened with a closing balance of 1 crore and 29 lakhs, and receipts to the extent of about 20 lakhs from minor sources brought up the balance to 1 crore and 49 lakhs. As against that closing balance, we find expenditure to the extent of 2 crores and 34 lakhs resulting in a deficit of 85.38 lakhs. With commendable foresight, I should say, Sir, the Hon. the Premier has converted the unpleasant aspect of the budget of the year into a very pleasant feature by resorting to a loan of 1½ crores, thereby giving us a balance of 64.62 lakhs. However, out of this balance very nearly 60 lakhs have to be set apart as reserve in the Reserve Bank and in the District Treasuries leaving us a balance of 5.47 lakhs for future expenditure. Sir, I have to strike rather a different note from my predecessor, the hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, who tried to decry the task of the Hon. Premier in having resorted to the loan. I would say, Sir, that in converting a large deficit into a workable balance, the Premier has shown unexceptional sagacity and foresight. Let me once more congratulate him on his prudence.

“I would like to make in this connexion a few observations on one or two outstanding features of the budget. In doing so, let me assure the Hon. the Premier that I do so, not in a spirit of criticism or fault-finding, but I do so, Sir, in the spirit of placing the other side of the

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picture before him, so that he might adopt such course as he thinks fit, for the purpose of remedying the defects wherever possible.

“Coming to land revenue remissions, I am glad to find that full effect has been given by the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues to the provision that their predecessors in office have provided for. I find, Sir, that in the demand under Land Revenue provision has been made for 75 lakhs in the way of remission. That is, Sir, a very good feature and I, on behalf of the ryots who have sent us to this House with their support, tender my thanks to the Premier and his colleagues.

“But there, there is a small disappointment in finding that the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Committee which was deliberately set up for finding out ways and means of giving greater relief to the ryots have not been placed before this House or fully gone into. It is my belief that the Marjoribanks Committee that has examined this question from all points of view have made very weighty and substantial recommendations which will undoubtedly go to the assistance of the ryot population in relieving their land revenue burden. I feel that nothing has been done in the budget, though there was time enough for the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues to cogitate upon the recommendations of the Marjoribanks Committee. I do not for a moment question the dictum of the Hon. the Premier that provision for drinking water-supply in every village is the greatest *desideratum* at the present moment, but at the same time, I should say in fairness to the ryots, who have been clamouring about the heavy burden of land revenue and of which they have been complaining for a long time, we must find out ways and means of relieving this burden.

“May I take this opportunity to commend that point for the consideration and the sympathetic attention of the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues? I am glad to find, Sir, that the subject of indebtedness has received careful attention from the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues and due provision has been made for tackling the question of rural indebtedness. Let me assure him, Sir, that every hon. Member of this House will heartily co-operate with him and second his efforts in providing the much-needed relief. At the same time I would press that land revenue relief measures should not be considered secondary to the measures of amelioration adumbrated in the Premier's speech.

“Sir, the most important feature of the budget is the introduction of prohibition. Prohibition is the unceasing talk of the town and the countryside at the present moment. I may assure the Hon. the Premier that we do not lag behind in the matter of trying to wean the drunkard from his evil habit. But human nature being what it is, we cannot afford to be very enthusiastic in this matter. Sir, temperance should come from within. It grows well from seed and ill from graft. This statement has been accepted by all thinking men. People should be gradually educated to shun drink as an evil. Any compulsory reform is likely to be misconstrued as undue interference with the legitimate

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individual liberty of citizen. I do not for a moment imagine that the Hon. the Premier has launched on the scheme of prohibition without considering these points which I have just put forward or without taking into adequate consideration the frailty of human nature. In no civilized country, Sir, is free unregulated drink allowed. Foreign countries which are much advanced over our country in the matter of social amelioration and culture have found to their regret that it is not possible to put an end to the human tendency in this direction. Countries which were once pronounced dry abandoned their schemes of prohibition with the haste with which they originally introduced them. It is not my purpose, however, to damp the enthusiasm of the Hon. the Premier in this matter. Let us try the scheme. The trial costs some substantial sum of money. However, let us proceed with the experiment and time will show us the correct solution. The budget shows a loss of Rs. 10.07 lakhs and not Rs. 13 lakhs as is stated by the Premier. On page 38 of the Memorandum, we find the provision made against country fermented liquor for the current year is Rs. 205.30 lakhs as against Rs. 215.37 lakhs shown under preliminary account. The resulting difference is only Rs. 10.07 lakhs. Out of this Rs. 10.07 lakhs which we stand to lose under the head of 'Excise—Country fermented liquor—arrack and toddy' I find, Sir, that the loss has already been partly made good by the increase in the consumption of arrack to the extent of Rs. 1.82 lakhs—a slight increase under opium due to the increased issue price (Rs. .67 lakh) and Rs. .13 lakh under 'wines and spirits.' Thus the total loss is reduced from Rs. 10.07 lakhs to Rs. 8.20 lakhs. Though it is not a negligible figure, it is but a small fraction of the revenue under Excise, namely, Rs. 3.87 crores. I for one would not grudge an experiment at such a small cost compared with the total revenue we derive from this source. The Hon. the Premier and his colleagues have set their heart upon this measure and I would gladly extend my right hand of fellowship to them and tell them to go ahead. But let there be caution and considerable circumspection and let public opinion be assessed before any further measures are taken in this direction. That drink is an evil nobody questions. There can be no two opinions on the necessity of the step which the Hon. the Premier has taken. But there is a doubt on the part of the public whether the game is worth the candle. For introducing prohibition in Salem which is estimated to cost Rs. 25 lakhs the remaining 25 districts of the Presidency are asked to contribute and pay the piper in Salem. I hope the piper will play his tune properly and lull the Salem ryot into calm sobriety. The Hon. the Premier expects to put back into the pockets of the Salem ryots Rs. 2 crores by foregoing this Rs. 25 lakhs under this head. Sir, I wish he uses this two crores of rupees in undertaking ameliorative measures. Because, Sir, human nature being what it is, it is doubtful if the two crores would be realized.

"I next come to the question of hand-spinning. Under Demand XXI—Industries I find that the Hon. the Premier has made a provision of Rs. 2 lakhs for the purpose of encouraging hand-spinning.

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I do not for a moment question the utility of that provision, but I do question with all the emphasis at my disposal, the *necessity* for such a provision. Sir, hand-spinning is not, after all, economic. It will be impertinence on my part to assume that the Hon. the Premier who is a veteran in the matter of khadi and khadi sales, has for the moment forgotten that hand-spinning is not economic. It has been proved beyond all doubt that hand-spinning can never succeed as an economic proposition. The Hon. Mr. Ramanathan, Publicity Minister, has not long ago raised a bitter wail against the non-success of hand-spinning as a means of livelihood. I need not remind the hon. Members that that dictum of the Hon. Mr. Ramanathan still holds good and has not been challenged. Sir, an enquiry was made a few years ago by an official particularly deputed for the purpose of investigating the possibility of resuscitating the cottage industries. That officer, Sir, went from place to place and from post to pillar, made detailed enquiries and found out that hand-spinning after all is not an occupation that would give a living wage to a man or woman. At the utmost, Sir, all that a man or woman can earn in a day under the most favourable circumstances is two annas. Can two annas be considered a living wage anywhere? It is no doubt a subsidiary income and to that extent I am prepared to agree. But subsidiary income alone is not the criterion for good living in the country. Sir, two annas a day or amounts ranging between one to two annas a day are all that a man can earn if he devotes the whole of his attention to hand-spinning. Does it economically raise the condition of the ryot in comparison with other occupations? Does it in any way solve the question of unemployment. It does give a subsidiary income. To that extent I admit that people who have no work, people who are maimed and disabled and old people may take to spinning as a handy means of earning something to supplement the family income. But that something stops there and does not go beyond that. It cannot be taken as a proposition seriously to be advanced in the matter of starting an industry.

"While on this point I should like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the budget provision under XXI—Industries is Rs. 13.72 lakhs as against Rs. 11.19 lakhs last year. Of the difference of Rs. 2.53 lakhs, Rs. 2 lakhs is taken up by the proposed grant for hand-spinning and only Rs. .53 lakhs is to be devoted for the development of industries. May I ask the Hon. the Prime Minister in all seriousness whether he thinks that this Rs. .53 lakh is all that he could devote for the purpose of developing the industries of this country. We have been talking of the development of industries. Why talk about the development of industries and the industrial potentialities of the country when we are so niggardly(?) in our dealing with industries. That is a point which I would very respectfully urge upon the attention of the Hon. the Premier. While dealing with industries, I must say that I find from the budget that Industries, Agriculture, Co-operation and Fisheries about which so much has been talked about as being development departments, are all being starved for want of adequate provision. Cottage industries have not received the attention

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that they deserve and here we see a pittance of half a lakh provided in the budget in all seriousness for the development of the industrial activities of the Province. For this reason I would deprecate the provision of Rs. 2 lakhs to support hand-spinning. I admit that the grant for hand-spinning would be a charitable contribution, but it is a wrong policy to charge the public revenues with any charitable contribution. If you take Rs. 2 lakhs out of the tax-payers' money and pay it to an association of persons engaged in earning a doubtful income I would say that we only rob Peter and pay Paul.

"Sir, how do we propose to find this Rs. 2 lakhs to pay the hand-spinner. It is proposed to levy a licence fee on all cloth dealers except those dealing exclusively in handloom products. I take it, as was pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, that in regard to these handloom products, latitude would be allowed to those who use mill yarn. Otherwise it would be a death-blow to the handloom industry.

11-30 a.m. "The licence fee will be charged in respect of all cloths imported into this country or manufactured here. It is needless for me to point out the enormities of the implication of taxing the mill-owner in this way. Mills have come into existence; mill industry is an established industry keeping a number of mill-hands at work staving off unemployment to a very great extent. Is it desirable, Sir, I ask in all earnestness to tax mill cloths, the mill-owner, by the levy of a licence fee; after all, what does the licence fee bring in? The licence fee may bring in about a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs from mills scattered throughout the Presidency, seeing that it will have no regard to the quantity of cloth sold, the quantity of the cloth turned out. All the same it is bound to work hard upon the sale of cloth except those produced by handlooms. Is it desirable that we should indirectly in this manner mulct the income of the mill-owner who does fill a very useful place in the industrial world? After all, Sir, it is the consumer who would eventually have to pay.

"We have been agitating for years past for a sort of adjustment between the mills and the handloom weavers. We have been asking that the mill-owners may be directed to confine their attention to higher counts of yarns, leaving the lower counts to be produced by the handloom weavers. We think that competition between the two can be killed in this manner. Though the agitation has been going on for years, no steps have seriously been taken to give relief to the handloom weaver; the handloom weaver has to struggle against the mill-owner. If adjustment could possibly be effected between the factories and the handloom, it would certainly be a very great boon to the handloom weaver. That has not been attempted. We have also been agitating for the *quota* system also. Mills will produce cloths of certain variety leaving particular lines to be produced by the handloom weaver. Unfortunately no step has been taken—nor any attempt made—to introduce this *quota* system. The handloom weaver has been left in the lurch for a long time past. Ministries may come and Ministries may go; Kings may come and Kings may go, but the handloom weaver goes

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on for ever. The levy of licence fee will ultimately bring about the result of throwing a lot of mill-hands and operatives out of employment. I may be deemed to be an alarmist; but it behoves me to point out that I foresee very great difficulty in the matter of levying licence fees on the sale of cloth.

"Then I come to the very naughty question of the salary cut. Sir, I crave your indulgence for a few minutes just to develop the point of the salary cut which the Hon. the Premier had adumbrated in his excellent thought-provoking remarks introducing the budget. Salary cut is proposed to be introduced in varying percentages, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ up to 30 per cent. Thirty per cent or one-third of a man's salary is a very huge slice. After all what is it that could be made out by way of this cut in salaries? Sir, it is open to serious objection. I am perfectly sure that the Hon. the Premier, with his perspicacity and foresight, has not been unmindful of the objections that would be advanced. He has very handsomely acknowledged the services of public servants. He has admitted in the opening sentence of his paragraph that loyalty and efficiency of the services co-exist with contentment and satisfaction. Having heard him say so, it would be impertinent on my part to say that the Hon. the Premier has been unmindful of the implications involved in the salary cut. The revision of pay, as recommended by the Retrenchment Committee, has introduced drastic reductions in the scale of pay. It was brought down almost to the level that prevailed before the raising of the salaries after the war. Will I be asking too much if I request the Hon. the Premier to give effect to the scales of pay retrenched three or four years ago and then to introduce gradually further reductions if necessary? It is not possible to touch the scales of pay of higher services. We propose to attack the provincial and subordinate services. The present incumbents will be affected as soon as sanction of His Majesty's Government is received. Persons who have been appointed from 1st April 1937 and those who will get promotions to higher services and posts are to come under this cut. That means that the whole of the provincial and subordinate services would be put under the axe. These officials and subordinates have committed themselves to a particular line of expenditure; they have adopted a particular standard of living. Is it conducive to efficiency to ask these people to forgo a portion of their salaries? Will it not affect them and will it not seriously reflect on the result of their work and their efficiency? It is not that the Hon. the Premier is unmindful of that; he says, it is a pity that we have got to do this. It gives credit to his firmness and courage. But is it not my duty as a member of the staff once, to point out, Sir, the serious inconvenience and injustice that will be involved in reducing the salaries of the provincial and subordinate services without any notice to them? There are other sources of finding the money required for the purpose of introducing prohibition or any other measure of ameliorative reform. There are a number of supernumerary posts; if a small committee is appointed from among the Hon. Ministers, they

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can go into the budget figures and find out how many supernumerary posts there are, which could, with advantage, be dispensed with. I would give the instance of personal assistants to various officers. As a retired official, I can say that many heads of offices must be able to do their work with the help of the manager or the head of the office. There is no necessity for a personal assistant or an intermediary officer between the office and the head of the office. There is an opening here for saving. You can abolish the posts of personal assistants wherever they are not required. The budget can be examined carefully with this object in view, and one can lay his finger on such supernumerary posts. That source will bring in a large amount of savings. On the other hand, the cut in the salaries of the provincial and subordinate services will give room only to clamour and legitimate grievances on the part of hard-worked officials.

"Sir, I have already taken much of the time of the House; but I wish to refer just to one point on this occasion. The provision under Forest has been a great bugbear to me for some time past. In the former councils also I have been speaking about the forests. Nothing tangible has been done to accede to the request of hon. Members who have pointed out that forest continues to be a white elephant. From the budget I find that the cost of working the department comes to Rs. 40-33 lakhs while the revenue from the department is Rs. 47-33 lakhs. Sir, forests are many and varied; forests are scattered all over the Presidency; can I believe in all seriousness that only Rs. 47 and odd lakhs can be derived from the department, and that Rs. 40 lakhs are spent on the officers and staff of the department? It is a matter for serious consideration that, from a big source of revenue like the forests, we should be able to get only an income of only Rs. 6-65 lakhs per year after meeting the expenditure incurred on the department. It may be stated that forests exist for climatic conditions, for fuel-supply and for safeguarding rainfall. It is a pity that we are getting a pittance of only 6 lakhs of rupees. This is a matter of serious concern for the Hon. the Premier and his Colleagues to cut short the expenditure on the department, and to find money for introducing prohibition.

"There are other development departments which have not received adequate attention. But with the smallness of the time at the disposal of the Hon. the Premier, he has done what he could, as he has himself stated. He has done his best. It is my duty once more to offer him my thanks for the lucid and well-balanced budget that he has been able to present to this House. I would also place on record my appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Hon. the Premier by the Finance Secretary and his staff."

* THE HON. MR. S. RAMANATHAN:—"Sir, it was not my intention to intervene at this stage of the debate; but the remarks that fell from the lips of my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, have impelled me to stand up and dispel certain misunderstandings that

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may be entertained by hon. Members of the House. I am also aware that a certain section of the press has now quoted extensively from my speeches and writings of a decade ago about this problem of khadi. It is true that I have some experience of khadi work. It is true also that, at a certain stage, I expressed certain doubts about the utility of continuing that work. But I must make it plain to the House that I do not any longer hold those opinions which are extensively quoted in the press.

"It has been said that khadi is not an economic proposition. I would like hon. Members to find out whether many of the industries which thrive in this country and in other countries are economic propositions. We find on the streets of Madras heaps of Japanese products sold at ridiculously low prices which sometimes are cheaper than those of the raw products which go to make those articles. Is that an economic proposition, I ask? But for the great help rendered by the State and the people in the manufacture and distribution of those goods, could those goods have reached our country at all or be sold at such cheap prices? I suppose hon. Members are aware that it is cheaper to convey certain goods from Yokohama to Madras than to take, let me say, Kerala soaps from Calicut to Madras. It is ridiculously low rates that these manufacturers are charged for transshipment of their goods from their countries to others; and it is the State that is behind all these undertakings, and it is the State which gives a large measure of help to these industries. In our own country, I hope hon. Members are aware, a sum of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs per year was given year after year for the protection of the steel industry. I therefore beg to point out that many industries which are now considered to be economic are not really economic in the sense in which the hon. Member, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, evidently meant.

"I shall now proceed, Sir, to state why I have changed my opinions regarding khadi. Since I wrote those criticisms about khadi production and khadi distribution, there have been improvements made both in the methods of production and distribution. I do not claim that those improvements were effected because of my criticisms; but, nevertheless, they have been made. I do not know, Mr. Speaker, if I shall be in order if I exhibit to the House the yarn produced by hand-spinning. (At this stage, the Hon. Minister showed a reel of yarn to the House.) I think there are many experts in testing yarn in this House. I invite them to test this yarn and find out whether this is in any way inferior to the yarn produced in the mills. I would invite also the hon. Mr. Appadurai Pillai and others to come and see how this yarn is produced. Let them go now, or at any rate after he sitting for this day is over, to the waiting room at the entrance to his Chamber and witness there the work of a spinner, a spinner from the village who arrived just this morning from her village home near Tiruppur in the Coimbatore district. She is there spinning in the same way as she has been spinning yesterday and the day before in her own cottage. I want to ask the House, if this spinner is deprived of

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her wages, what will happen to her? She is spinning daily and earning three annas a day. Let me correct the statements that have been made in this House not only by the previous Speaker but by a few others also. Time was when these spinners were paid much less, sometimes one anna and sometimes even less than an anna. But now, the khadi industry has been so reorganized that every spinner is assured of an income of three annas a day. It may be low perhaps for you and me, but it is not a low wage for these spinners who do not get even a single meal a day. This is a kind of unemployment insurance which is now open to the poorest of the villagers in our country. I hope the House will realize what a great blessing it would be to this woman to be enabled to continue to work in this industry.

"Then again, steps have been taken since I wrote those articles, to improve the mechanism of the spinning wheel. After all, I want the House to realise that the spinning wheel is also a machine; and steps have been taken, as I said, to improve that machine. An extra wheel has been added to it, which increases the number of revolutions of the spindle and also increases the output of yarn, thereby in turn increasing the wages which the spinners will get. That is one method by which the spinners' wages have been enabled to be standardized at three annas. Another method, of course, which was adopted by Mahatma Gandhi was to increase slightly the value of the sale price of the cloth. Indirectly no doubt it might act as a protective duty imposed on and paid by the patriotic people of this country. I do not deny that to-day khadi is sold at a slightly higher price than mill-cloth; but nevertheless, compared to the great benefit that it confers on the villagers, I do claim that this extra price is paid to poor people, the poor people who deserve all the help that the khadi wearers are giving them.

"Sir, I do not want to take up much time of the House. I want only to point out that to-day the khadi industry is protecting a large number of spinners and weavers in the villages. One previous speaker referred to competition. There is no competition between spinning and weaving. All the yarn spun on the wheel is woven in the hand-loom. No yarn spun on the hand-wheel is woven in the mills. Therefore, there is no antagonism really between hand-spinning and hand-weaving. On the other hand, it is the spinning wheel, that protects the hand-loom. Fancy for a moment, what will happen to the hand-loom industry if the spinning wheel goes out altogether. There is possibility in every mill in our country for the introduction of the power loom. Mostly, the mills in Southern India are yet all spinning mills and therefore it is possible for millions of our countrymen to live by hand-weaving. This ancient and hereditary occupation of hand-weaving is still available to them because there is now this mentality to encourage even hand-spinning, this village industry, this occupation of the poor people. The great movement of Mahatmaji to spread the spinning wheel has attracted the attention of the people to other handicrafts and village industries. If you take away the ideology of

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khaddar then the psychological protection that the weaver is getting will also disappear. There will be every facility for every mill to introduce at once power looms, and such power looms will strike at the root of the economic life of our country side. The millions of hand-loom weavers will immediately become unemployed. Therefore, it is the khadi industry, it is the mentality that Mahatma Gandhi has produced, it is the psychological atmosphere of this movement of hand-spinning, that is protecting not merely the hand-loom industry but every other cottage industry in the country. I want you to look upon hand-spinning, not as a mere industry, but as a philosophy which pays greater regard to human values than mere so-called economic values. What shall we do with the poor in our country? It would, no doubt, be nice for us to introduce machinery for every little bit of industry; it would be easier, and simpler, economically speaking; but, look at it please from the human point of view. What shall we do with the poor people? Shall we starve them; shall there be a general massacre? No. Then, what shall we do? We must feed them, and for feeding them, at least this small help that this Government is now attempting to give, in order to keep alive spinning and to give the necessary impetus to other small industries, should be given and should continue to be given.

"This is all, Sir, that I have to say just now."

* Mr. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this being the first opportunity for me to address the House, I would like to express, first of all, the satisfaction of the commercial community on the assumption of office by the majority party in the country. The commercial community, as we all know, is generally very quick in adapting itself to changes; but the uncertainty that was prevailing immediately after the general elections when an interim Ministry took over the reins of Government in this province and the possibility of the Governor taking over the administration thereafter, caused some amount of uneasiness in the minds of the commercial community. That is why, Sir, I am doubly satisfied that the Congress party has decided to take up office. And if we are assured that it will continue in office for the next four or five years and perhaps for a longer period, we can certainly look forward to a period of certainty, of increased economic activity, orderly government and economic progress.

"Sir, the commercial community has generally been very nationalistic in its outlook. The development of national ideas in them is not due to any political pressure brought to bear on them, but because of the results of foreign domination that touched them most. Whenever they had to come into contact with the European merchants, their position was always found to be a definitely subordinate one. The Europeans in India have come for commercial exploitation, and naturally, therefore, they kept to themselves the loaves and fishes leaving to the Indian the more risky and less remunerative business of retail distribution. The idea of economic domination by the European is still there, with its results on the self-respect of the Indian commercial

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community. During the last seven or eight years, owing to political agitation, considerable improvement has taken place in their attitude of the European merchants towards their Indian compeers; but the fact that there is a national Government at the head of the province is a definite advantage to us and we do feel sure, because certain measure of political freedom has been achieved, economic freedom will be achieved before long.

"It is common for everybody who speaks on the Budget to congratulate the Government on the Budget; but I feel that something more has got to be said about it. In the past, we have been accustomed to budgets from officials which had very little that was human in them and were dry as dust documents, but the present Budget considering that the Congress Government has been considerably handicapped on account of the short time available to it for framing the Budget and for initiating broad policies has at least the quality of being definitely human. It is not strange and I dare say the Premier would not want to take credit for it; as it is only reasonable to expect that when an Indian, a non-official and a nationalist of the type of the Premier handles a Budget, it is bound to include some human element.

"Sir, I would like to say a few words about the other budget which is likely to come up some five or six months hence. I hope, with the time at the disposal of the Government, it will be possible for them to come forward with a scientifically planned budget. A number of speakers before me have spoken about planning and mentioned several catchwords which are now in the air. I do not mean to say that there ought to be a five-year or ten-year plan though of course there are considerable advantages in a long-term budget, but scientific planning has got its own use. We do not know what the Congress will do; people are afraid that the Congress will have to institute some new taxation which would work hard on them. It is easy to make the people know what the policy of the Government is with regard to future taxation and if there is going to be a definite plan with regard to its economic activities. The Finance Minister, in his opening speech, mentioned about Congress orientation of the Budget. There are one or two points as a result of Congress orientation given to the budget which find mention therein, but I am afraid they are highly controversial.

12 noon. "In this connexion, I think the public feel that they are rather puzzled by the exposition by the Members of the Government of the several features of the Congress policy in their public speeches—speeches not too few nor too short—which really puzzle the average man. We do not know whether statements regarding Government policy will be made by a Member of Government opening a Dharmasala or at a students' meeting or at their Congress House meetings. It is only fair to ask that the Members of the Government should choose the time and place for such things and also to be precise in their language. "The present acts of the Government, though they have nothing to do with the budget, have been welcomed all round. Release of

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political prisoners and assuring a certain amount of freedom to the press have given general satisfaction. But the provision of butter-milk to prisoners relative to other projects which have to be taken up on hand has only a sentimental value, the credit of which reform I do not grudge the Members of the Government. The other things that they lay stress on are, (1) prohibition, (2) khadi, (3) reduction of salaries of Government servants, and (4) Hindi; of these the first three find a place in the Budget. But what I would like to point out in this connexion is, that it is necessary for a Government which is in its infant stages to differentiate between the essential and non-essential things meriting the Government attention. Of course, views vary with regard to the selection of important and unimportant subjects, but the criterion should not be solely spectacular evidence of the Congress Party which is now in power carrying out what with them is a spiritual necessity. I think it is this feeling which is prominent in the mind of the people when they speak of prohibition. Admittedly the introduction of prohibition in the Salem district is an experiment. I dare say, as it is admittedly an experiment and if the experiment fails, the Hon. the Prime Minister will be honest enough to admit that it has proved a failure and that other means would be found, but the feeling at present among the people is that immediate and total prohibition has been decided upon in a hurry. It is a well-known maxim of Public Administration that if you can do a thing tomorrow with safety, not to do it to-day. Governmental decisions in their nature having such extensive effect on administrative activities, the necessity for such a policy should be proved and its workability should be reasonably reassured before it is launched. It is, therefore, worth while for Government to ponder over the evils of such sudden suppression of this vice, easily brushing aside the American experience. We have heard from other leaders like Mahatma Gandhi that American experience should not be thought of in introducing prohibition in India as in his view the Indian outlook with regard to prohibition is totally different from that of the American. It is difficult for the average man to realize that human nature can be essentially different in different countries. But I think there is a substratum of commonness among all human beings. So far as the desire for intoxicating liquors is concerned, I think it is the same with the European or the American or the Negro or the South Indian as any one of these is as prone to take to vicious habits as anybody else. But you have got to recognize facts and cannot go on theorizing and there is no use being axiomatic in a matter like this. It is also said that in India religions prohibit drinking and I do suppose that Islam is very emphatic in this. Amongst Hindus there is a social stigma attached to people who drink. But, at the same time, it should be realized that several millions of people who have been addicted to drink have been drinking all along and still remain within the folds of the respective religions to which they belonged. Therefore, to say that religious influence would remove this evil and prohibition will be achieved, is a fallacious argument. I am glad to see that the Hon. the Leader of the House has given some thought to problems of enforcement in regard to prohibition, but I am afraid,

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [3rd September 1937]

யும் அவர்கள் வசிக்குங் கிராமங்களை சுகாதாரமுடையனவாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், குடிதண்ணீர் வசதியை யுண்டாக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், கிராமங்களில் வைத்தியசாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்றும், நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியளிக்க வேண்டுமென்றும், கல்வி, கைத்தொழில் முதலியவற்றைப் பெருக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், குடிசைத் தொழில், நூல் நூற்றல் கைத்தறி முதலியவற்றை அபிவிருத்தி செய்ய எப்படியாவிலும் அதிகப் பணம் அளிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும், நிதி மந்திரி கருதியது நமது மாகாணச் செய்த பெருமபாக்கியமேயாகும். கைதி களுக்கு மோர் அளிக்க திட்டம் வகுத்ததற்கு எவ்விதம் நமது வணக்கத்தைக் கூறுவதென விளங்கவில்லை. இங்கு முக்கியமாக ஒன்றைக் கவனிப்பது இன்றியமையாததாகும். வருமானக் குறைவாக இருந்தாலும் செலவினம் அதிகப் படக்கூடாது என்பது போது நியாயம். “ஆகாறளவிட்டதாயினும் கேடிலலை போகாறகலாக்கல” என்பது தமிழ் மறை. நிலத்தீர்வையில் எழுபத்தைந்து லட்சமும் மதுவிலக்கால் இருபத்தைந்து லட்சமும் ஆக ஒரு கோடி ரூபாயை மனதாற விட்டுக்கொடுத்தும் நல்ல காரியங்களுக்காக பின்வருமாறு ஏற்றிக் கொடுத்துள்ளார் :—

“நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்காக ஐந்தரை லட்சமும், கல்விக்காக இரண்டரை லட்சமும், சுகாதாரத்திற்காக ஒன்பதரை லட்சமும், விவசாயத்திற்காக ஒண்ணை முக்கால் லட்சமும், ஐக்கிய நானாயத்திற்காக இரண்டேகால் லட்சமும், கைத் தொழிலுக்காக ஐந்து லட்சமும், மிருக வைத்தியத்திற்காக முக்கால் லட்சமும், வைத்தியத்திற்காக நாலரை லட்சமும் ஒதுக்கவைத்திருக்கிறார்கள்.

“வருமானத்தைக் குறைத்துக்கொண்டும் முக்கிய இனங்களுக்கு ஏற்றிக்கொண்டும் திட்டத்தை சரியாக்கியது மிகுந்த ஆற்றலாகும். அப்படி இருந்தும் ஆளுமீரம் மீதங் காட்டியிருப்பது போற்றத்தக்கது. தற்கால திட்டம் சரியாகி விட்டாலும் எதிர்காலத்தில் தக்க திட்டம் வகுக்க மில் துணிகளுக்கு வரி விதிக்கவும் சிப்பந்திகளுடைய சம்பளங்களில் இரண்டரை முதல் முப்பது பெர்சென்ட் (per cent) வரையில் குறைக்கவும் இது விஷயமாக இந்தியா மந்திரிக்கு எழுதவும் எண்ணி இருப்பது போனந்தத்தைத் தருகிறது. இந்தச் சமயத்தில் எனது சிற்றறிவிற்குப் புலப்பட்ட சில விஷயங்களைக் குறிப்பிடுகிறேன். அவைசிய மான சில ஸ்தாபனங்களை ஒழிக்கலாம்.

“போலீஸ் டிபார்ட்மென்ட் இருக்கிறது. சூப்பிரண்டுக்கும் சர்க்கில் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களுக்கும் மத்தியில் டிப்டி சூப்பிரண்டு என்ற ஸ்தாபனம் பயனற்றது மிகுக்கிறதை ஒழிக்கலாம். கல்வி யிலாகா டைரெக்டர் (Director of Public instruction) இருக்கிறார். அவருக்குக்கீழ் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் எடுகேஷனல் ஆபிஸ் ஸர்க்கள் (District Educational Officers) இருக்கிறார்கள். டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பது அவைசியம். இந்த டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் ஜனங்களுடைய கழுத்தை வெட்டுவதற் கொப்பாக வேலைநடத்துகிறார்கள். இவர்கள் வேலையில் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தியடையாது. மாறாக கல்வித் துறை பணங்கள் ஒழியும். இப்பொழுதுள்ள சுயராச்சியமாகிய காங்கிரஸ் அரசாட்சியில் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களை ஒழிக்கவேண்டியது முக்கியமாக இருக்கிறது.

“மகாத்மா சொல்லியவாறு ஜெயில்களையும் பாடசாலைகளையும் கைத்தொழில் நிலையங்களாக்கலாம். அந்நியத் துணிகளுக்கு வரி விதித்து கதர்த் தொழிலைப் பெருக்கலாம்.

“ரெயில்வேக்களில் ஏராளமான பணம் வருகிறது. இன்னும் இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களில் ரெயில்வேக்களை சர்க்காரிடத்தில் ஒப்படைக்கவேண்டியவரும். இந்த ரெயில்வேக்களை சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஏராளமான வரும்படி வரும்.

“டிபார்ட்மென்ட் ஏராளமான பணம் வரும்படி வருகிறது. எலக்ட்ரிக் கார்ப் போரேஷனில் ஏராளமான பணம் வரும்படி வருகிறது. சக்கரை மில், பஞ்சாலைகளில் ஏராளமான வரும்படி வருகிறது. இவை எல்லாவற்றையும் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஏராளமான வரும்படி சர்க்காருக்கு வரும். இதைச் சர்க்கார் பயன்படுத்திக்கொள்வதோடு இந்த நாட்டில் வியாபாரஞ் செய்பவர்கள் வருமானத்தில் கைத்தொழில் செய்பவர்கள் எவ்வளவு எடுத்துக்கொள்ள

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[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

லாமோ அவ்வளவு எடுத்துக்கொண்டு அதற்கு மேற்பட்ட வரும்படியை சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்வது என்று சட்டம் ஏற்படுத்தி அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவந்தால் ஏராளமான பணம் பொது ஜனங்களுக்குப் பயன்படும்.

“காங்கிரஸ் வகுத்த எல்லாத் திட்டங்களையும் ராஜாஜி நிறைவேற்றினார். அது மிகவும் போற்றத்தக்கதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒரு சின்ன விஷயஞ் சொல்லுகிறேன். இத்தத் திட்டத்தில் தீண்டாதார் முன்னுக்கு வர யாதும் இந்த வருஷம் அதிகம் ஒதுக்கவில்லை. மாறாக 45,100 ரூபாய் குறைத்துவிட்டார். ஷெடியூல்ட் வகுப்பினருக்கு நேரே செலவுதக்க அதாவது வழி, மயானம், குடிதண்ணீர் முதலியவற்றிற்கு, சென்ற ஆண்டில் 1,87,500 ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கி இருந்தது. இந்த வருஷம் 1,42,400 ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியுள்ளார்கள். ஆகவே 45,100 ரூபாய் குறைந்து விட்டது. இவ்விஷயத்தை லேபர் மந்திரியும் எங்கள் வகுப்பு மந்திரியும் போக்கிஷ் மந்திரி ராஜாஜிக்கு எடுத்துச்சொல்ல மறந்துவிட்டார்கள் போலும்.

“தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் சொந்தமாக மனைக்கட்டுகள் உடையவர்களாக இல்லாமையால் பலவித இன்னல்களுக்கு ஆளாகிறார்கள். அவர்களைக் காப்பாற்ற தொழிற் கமிஷனர் இலாக்காவை ஏற்படுத்தினார்கள். மனைக்கட்டு வாங்கிக் கொடுத்தார்கள். மனைக்கட்டுக் கடன்களை கொடுக்கமுடியாமல் அவர்கள் நிலங்கள் வீடுவாசல்களை எலம்போடுகிறார்கள். தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவிலும், கடலூர்ஜில்லாவிலும் எனக்குள்ள அனுபவத்திலிருந்து சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த நாட்டில் பிறந்து குடியிருக்க மனை இல்லை என்று சொன்னால் நாம் என்ன சொல்லுவது? ஏழைகளுக்கு குடியிருக்க மனைக்கட்டு வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். மனைக் கட்டு வாங்கிக்கொடுக்கும் சிப்பந்திகள் ரெவின்யூ இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் நிலச் சுவான்களிடம் லஞ்சம் வாங்கிக்கொண்டு விலையை ஏற்றி வாங்கிக் கொடுத்தார்கள். அதனால் ஏழைகளுக்கு ரொம்பக் கஷ்டமாயிருக்கிறது. மனைக்கட்டுக் கடன் இரண்டு மூன்று லட்சம் இருக்கும். இதை விலக்கிவிட்டால் மனைக்கட்டுகள் இலவசமாக ஏற்படுவோம். புதிதாக மனைக்கட்டு வாங்கிக் கொடுக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். தண்ணீர் வசதி, பள்ளிக்கூட வசதி, சுகாதார வசதிக்காக ஜில்லா போர்டுகளுக்கு சர்க்கார் ஏராளமான கிராண்டு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஜில்லா போர்டார் குளம் கிணறு இல்லாத இடங்களில் கிணறு குளம் வெட்டுவதில்லை. எங்கெங்கே குளம் கிணறுகள் இருக்கிறதோ அங்கே வெட்டுகிறது. இதனால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு கிணறு இல்லை, குளம் இல்லை. இது விஷயமாக ஜில்லா போர்டுடன் சண்டைபோட்டுவருகிறேன். ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு ஜில்லா போர்டு முனிசிபாலிட்டியிலிருந்து ஒழுங்கானபடி நியாயங் கிடைக்கவில்லை. தண்ணீர் வசதி ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுக்கவேண்டியது. மிகவும் நியாயம். இந்த வருஷம் 45,100 ரூபாய் லேபர் டிபார்ட்மென்ட்டில் குறைத்துவிட்டதினால் ஆதி திராவிடர்களுக்கு தண்ணீர் வசதி, சுகாதார வசதி போய்விட்டது. இதை நான் சொல்லாமல்போனால் என் கடமையைச் செய்ய தவறிவிட்டவனாவேன். காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ஜலவசதி குடியிருப்பு வசதி பள்ளிக்கூட வசதி தேடிக்கொடுக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“தாழ்ந்த ஜாதிக்காக நிலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று முன்காலத்தில் இருந்த கவர்ன்மென்டார் அங்கங்கே நிலங்களை ஒதுக்கினார்கள். நல்ல நிலங்களைக் கொடுக்கவில்லை. நல்ல நிலங்களை எலம்போட்டுக்கொண்டுவருகிறார்கள். கனம் ரெவின்யூ மந்திரி நல்ல நிலங்களை ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு கொடுக்க ஒதுக்கி வைப்பார் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன். அங்கங்கே ஜில்லா போர்டு முனிசிபாலிட்டிகள் கிணறு குளம் வெட்டிக்கொடுக்க முடியாத விடங்களில் பொருளாதார (Economic Council) மூலமாக வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். இந்த கவுன்சில் கிணறு வெட்ட மூன்றிலொரு பங்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இது நியாயம்தான். ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு வயிற்றிற்கு கஞ்சி இல்லை. மூன்றிலொரு பங்கு எப்படிக் கொடுக்கமுடியும். கிணறு வேண்டுமென்று மனுப் போடுகிறார்கள். மூன்றில் ஒரு பங்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று இருப்பதனால் கிணறு வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஹரி ஜனங்களை ஷெடியூல்ட் வகுப்பினரைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் மூன்றிலொரு பங்கு வாங்காமல் கிணறு வெட்டிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கருணை நிறைந்த அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

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to the average man who is not in the Congress party this problem looms larger than it does to the members of the Congress party. It is of course easy to say that you can prevent illicit distillation, but to the people who are now engaged in the trade and possess a lot of influence in their locality with a lot of men about them, if they want to evade the law, it is not an easy thing to deal with such men. It may be said that the police will be able to discover illicit distillation, but I do not think it is possible with the normal resources of the Government which are inadequate to enforce prohibition. It looks as if it would come to such a pass that the resources of the Government will be strained almost to a breaking point. Above all, you have to guard against that great social canker which appeared in America, the gangster, for the people who are now selling toddy can easily step across and become gangsters. Therefore, it is worth while for Government to ponder over things like this a little more carefully and to plan them over a period of years. Of course, nobody wishes that prohibition should not be introduced, but what have you done to provide for alternative recreation for the man who has laboured for a number of hours in the day and wants some recreation for a couple of hours in the evening for himself? You have no doubt made provision for radio sets in villages, but how is that going to help the labourer? Is it enough? There is no tea-shop or some kind of alternative recreation for him to spend his evening hours. To say that from 1st of October men who are accustomed to drink should not take to it, does not solve the problem.

"Sir, the next thing which has been referred to by a number of persons who spoke before me, is that which relates to Khadi. Coming as I do immediately after the Hon. Minister for propaganda I feel I am at a disadvantage. He did his propaganda all right. We know that the subject is very dear to the heart of the Prime Minister and that is probably what compelled him to make a personal appeal to the public services. Hon. Members who spoke before me, referred to Khadi as an economic doctrine. We know how it originated. It originated with Mahatma Gandhi, as an ideal to be aimed at. Though it has now got the dignity of an economic doctrine, it is very difficult to convince persons who have got a practical or scientific mind that it is to be considered as a proposition of textile economics. With all the influence that Mahatma Gandhi can command, I understand the result has so far been very poor and that the sale of Khadi last year in South India was somewhere in the neighbourhood of 5 lakhs. But, Government want to spend two lakhs in respect of Khadi propaganda. As a commercial man, I feel that the amount of 2 lakhs for propaganda for a turnover of 5 lakhs is atrocious. The Premier's appeal to the services has been very temperately worded, but it requires a lot of assurance to suggest that moral pressure applied on Government servants by the head of the Government is not a departure from principles of personal freedom. It is a well-known fact in this country as in every other country that the unexpressed wish of the man in power is obeyed as law whether it is done willingly or unwillingly.

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It will be worth while on the part of the Government to avoid, even for purposes of propaganda, using pressure on people who are eking out their livelihood under their ægis.

"There is one other aspect of the Budget that I wish to deal with and that it is the question of licensing cloth shops. Sir, it is my particular privilege, as one representing the Indian commercial community, to protest against the imposition of a tax like this. I am a student of public finance in a small way and I have been looking for authorities to find out whether a tax like this can be justified. I will certainly give credit to the Premier or his subordinate whoever that may be if he was responsible for this new suggestion, for having evolved something original, but I could not find any analogy for this in the taxation scheme of any other country. I do not know how this tax is going to be classified. You cannot call it a 'fee', because a fee implies rendering of service in return; you cannot call it a 'licence', because it is not intended for regulation of trade; and I do not know if it is the intention of the Hon. the Finance Minister to make it a 'tax' which is intended to produce additional revenue. Of course there may be some justification if the ulterior object theory of taxation is brought in in support of this tax but it is used only in the case of import duties and not local taxation. Admittedly it is a discrimination against a certain type of cloth dealers. I am sure economists will certainly take exception to the imposition of such a discriminating tax. Sir Josiah Stamp in his book on the principles of taxation says, 'It is a fundamental principle of economics that if the State wishes for national reasons to benefit or assist certain trades, I think, in general, the worst method is by discrimination or differentiation in taxation.' You may even justify it as a tax to correct mal-adjustments, a proposition mentioned by Prof. Pigou; but even then I do not think you can relate this tax to what Prof. Pigou has in mind. Representing as I do a certain number of mill-owners, I think I am bound to protest against this tax, as it will have a psychological effect on the industry, as this will certainly place a stigma of inferiority on mill-made cloth. Apart from this, there is the difficulty of collection. I do not know what the Government have in mind as to the rate of this tax to be collected from each shop. The result of this will be that even a panwallah in a small village who sells these cloths will have to be taxed. I think this is quite impracticable of collection. The idea of such a method of taxation, I think is pernicious. Considering as I do that Government may probably like to contemplate the imposition of more taxes of this nature in future, I think this kind of tendency should be nipped in the bud.

"While on the subject of taxation, I have something to say regarding the policy of the Government in the matter of borrowing. Though I am sure the Hon. the Finance Minister will reply to the remark of my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, I do not feel I can really endorse what has been said by him. The borrowing policy of the Government had not frightened any and actually the

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Government have to be a little more bold in their borrowing policy for utilization for nation-building schemes. There is nothing to be frightened about it and I am perfectly sure that the Hon. the Finance Member who it is believed is a conservative in his make up, will see that great care is exercised in this matter.

"Sir, the other subject which does not come within the scope of the Budget is Hindi. Several members of the Government have spoken about this subject times without number and the Hon. the Prime Minister has adumbrated a policy for making it compulsory for the first three forms in schools. Nobody denies that it is a useful language. You cannot however make it compulsory in view of the already overloaded curriculum, the time must come when the Government will have to reconstruct the whole of the educational system when the introduction of Hindi as an optional subject may be considered, but I do not see what justifiable reasons there are, so far as this Presidency is concerned for introduction of Hindi as a compulsory subject. This brings to my mind what one of the prominent leaders of the Congress stated in a speech he delivered in Mysore. He suggested that a student should be acquainted with four languages, Tamil, because it is the mother tongue; Hindi, because it is the national language; English as it is the international language and Sanskrit as it is the language of culture. God help the Tamil boy. The policy as expounded by Government members shows clearly how much of a gulf exists between party shibboleths and practical necessities of administration. In matters like this it is worthwhile for them to be moderate in expressing their views and inclinations.

12-15 p.m. "There is a more important subject that I should like to deal with here, a subject which has been actually engaging my mind for sometime, and I think it is a very good thing to mention it here."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must finish soon."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Evidence has not been wanting of the instances of Members of Government with ascetic ideals. I am loathe to mention it here, but it may be mentioned that some newspapers made use of the private life of the Hon. the Prime Minister for pictorial propaganda, the idea being to emphasize how extreme simplicity and ascetic austerity reigns in high quarters. The Hon. Prime Minister has himself given evidence of these views in addressing a meeting of the students of the Ramakrishna Students' Home when he suggested to the students that dry scavenging is a good thing to do. His advice to students shows a morbid preference to ascetic ideals. I think it is commonly known that enforcement of puritanical ideas by the Government in power leads ultimately to reaction and licence in its worst form. History provides innumerable instances in support of this proposition. I do not complain against idealism. Sedate and well considered idealism without illogical extensions or tepid moderation is necessary. The Hon. Prime Minister insisted . . ."

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MR. K. R. KARANT:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Personal reference to an hon. Member is made."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not make personal references to the private life of any hon. Member."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"I am sorry, Sir. The commercial community is wedded to economic progress and the general raising of the standard of living. On the floor of the House, the Hon. the Prime Minister a few days back made reference to higher salaries as not helping to raise the standard of living. It is a controversial doctrine in economics. There are certain economists who hold that the raising of wages and salaries leads to a higher standard of living; but by the lowering of the salaries of Government servants, whether it is going to have an effect on the standard of living or not, it has got a definite psychological effect on the country in general."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"I request the hon. Member to finish his speech in a minute."

MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR:—"Very well, Sir. The reduction of salaries of Government servants will act as a storm signal for depression. Because people outside will think that there is something wrong somewhere when they find that some people cannot afford to spend as much money as before. It will tend to lower salaries in commercial and allied private services. It will create an atmosphere of depression. Dealers will fear to stock goods with the consequent reaction on manufacturers who will begin to reduce their output, and the reduction in the general expenditure of money in building trades, etc., will give the impetus for depression. The average man wants amenities of civilized life and personal comfort, and to such men the services will become unattractive. Therefore it is that Government will have to guard against drastic reduction of the salaries of their servants. Apriori formulas fixing the maximum at Rs. 500 are unworkable in practice in the face of the fact that Ministers have to augment their salaries by other allowances.

"I shall finish by hoping that the next Budget will have more vitality. Notwithstanding the fact that the present Budget is good one, it has little life. The Government have to adopt a more dynamic policy, and I should like to add that it will be well to avoid pitfalls concomitant on trying to put in practice in public administration."

* SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to preface my remarks on this budget which contains some misgivings by offering to the Premier, the Hon. the Finance Minister, our hearty congratulations on three features of the budget. We all know that the Prime Minister and his Colleagues only took up office in July last. Really I think it an achievement of which any man might be proud that in so short a time he has been able to obtain such a comprehensive grip of such a very difficult problem to deal with, and such a complicated subject as that of the finances of this province as has been evidenced by the budget speech. I would also like to congratulate the

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Premier on being able to present to this House a balanced budget and on the determination to which he has given expression in more than one part of his speech that he intends to maintain the credit of this province at its present high level. That the credit of this province is at a very high level is proved by the enormous success of the loan issued on the 31st of August. And I think there is one aspect of that loan which perhaps has not been noticed very much, and that is that the loan which was issued on the 31st August was subscribed three times over, that is one day before we knew of the Government proposals in this budget. In other words, the investing banks and the investors in this province have evinced a considerable measure of trust in the new Government and in the financial proposals which the new Government were going to put forth. I think that this budget at any rate proves that the banks and the investors in this province have not put their trust in the Government in vain.

"The Premier has referred to the satisfactory settlement made with the Government of India in connexion with the separation of the province of Orissa. I do not think it is out of place here to pay our tribute to his predecessor, Sir Geoffrey Bracken and his staff who took immense trouble to secure for this province the balances with which we open. The debt position of the province, as the Premier has pointed out, is undoubtedly in a very satisfactory position. We learn with considerable satisfaction that the Premier realizes this is not the time to issue a loan for unproductive expenditure, as during the next forty years the revenues of this province will all be required to meet expenditure which the Cabinet contemplate they will incur and for the provision of existing debt services.

"I now come to the question dealt with by several Members of this House, and I feel certain that anything I say on this point will be received by all with very great suspicion, because I am going to deal for one minute with the subject of prohibition and as many in this House know I am connected with distilling interests. I am however speaking at the moment on behalf of the European group. I would like to say that we do not consider that, in a country where alcoholic supplies can be obtained in every backyard, prohibition is likely to be effective, unless there is very great change of heart amongst the people who are accustomed to use alcoholic liquors. I do not think that that change of heart is likely to come about very rapidly. Certainly therefore, if we accept those premises, we may not be able to stop the consumption of liquor very much, but we are going to lose a very considerable sum of revenue which could be used in nation-building activities in other directions. The Premier says we are going to lose 26 lakhs of rupees and that one crore of rupees will thus be left in the pockets of the people in the Salem district. I doubt whether that will be the case. But we are very much afraid that the effect is much more likely to be that more than 26 lakhs will be put into the pockets of bootleggers, as the people who continue to drink will pay more for their supplies, and obtain worse liquor. That is a question which will be dealt with at the proper time by another Member of this group when

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we move a token cut in dealing with the Demand for Excise. We also wish to move a token cut in regard to what we regard as unfair discrimination in favour of handlooms.

"We have listened with very considerable interest to the speech of the Minister for Propaganda, and there are one or two points in the speech with which we considerably disagree and which we would like to argue. But it would take much too long to do so in this speech and we hope therefore to avail ourselves of the opportunity which we will have in moving the token cut.

"I should like to congratulate the Government on the increased expenditure provided for education, medical relief, public health, irrigation, etc. They are distinct steps towards the increase of nation-building activities. A reference is made by the Premier to the proposals he has for increasing and improving drinking water-supply in the villages and providing other amenities. These have our sympathy and support, but they are proposals which are going to cost a very considerable amount of money, and we wonder whether it will be possible to find the money for all these very laudable objects without departing from the principle laid down earlier by the Hon. the Premier, not to raise any loans except for productive purposes.

"Then, we have a very considerable amount of sympathy with the unfortunate Government servants who are going to find their salaries and emoluments very considerably reduced. I think it must mean a very considerable amount of hardship as the average man makes up his budget and programme for his life, which includes education of children and other matters, based on what he expects to earn. Government service has been regarded as the safest service in that you can budget very closely against an income which is known to be sure. I think it is very unfortunate that the Government servants should be treated in that way.

"We therefore take a bird's eye view of the policy of the new Government as far as we can understand it from the Premier's speech on this budget.

"We see proposals for a very large expenditure; we see proposals for the surrender of a very large revenue, we accept his assurance that he proposes to adhere to a very sound borrowing policy, we hear that certain money is to be saved by cuts in Government servants' pay, which I should imagine will not go very far towards the revenue surrendered. We find also that there are some unspecified economies which the Government hope to effect.

"As I said at the beginning of my speech, I have certain misgivings, and these misgivings are that, I think, the Premier will be faced with very serious problems if he is to bring together all the varying and conflicting factors enunciated in his policy as we understand it from his budget speech. We look forward with considerable interest and no little anxiety to the budget that he may present to us next March and hope we shall be able again to congratulate him then on

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having pursued the same orthodox policy in regard to the finances of this province which are such a satisfactory feature of the present Budget."

* MR. R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, we are aware that the budget that has been presented to this House is one prepared under severe handicap. The budget is only for six months. We have not full control over our finance. We are allowed under the Act of 1935 to spend only a portion of the revenue. The party in power are not in a position to explore all the channels of income for this half year, nor has the party had time to evolve a sound financial policy. So we must look at the budget with those conditions surrounding and controlling it. Looked at from this standpoint I have no hesitation in calling it an epoch-making budget, as far as this province is concerned. Looked at from the point of principle which should govern the budget of a country, this budget satisfies it inasmuch as it lays down the fundamental principle along which any budget has to be prepared. Let us look at the provisions made therein. I do not want to take up the time of the House by answering the critics who while congratulating the budget have said, that it has fallen short of expectations in many respects. There are certain standards which a budget must satisfy if its framers had the interest of the nation at large. Applying those standards, we find in our budget certain distinguishing marks which have emboldened me to call the present one as an epoch-making budget. In our province as in our country, 92 per cent of the population live on agriculture, and rightly the budget has made a beginning in the direction of protecting them and as the Premier has stated their welfare is provided for in this budget and, God willing, will be better provided for in future budgets. Some amount has been set apart, for remission of revenue, i.e., 75 lakhs. That is a thing, which I am sure, the agriculturists of this province could not have dreamt of, had not the party whom the Premier has the privilege to lead had not come into power. The second thing is that 5 lakhs more is provided for irrigation. There is no use of giving remission to agriculturists in land revenue unless irrigation facilities are provided for them. This necessity is taken note of and provision is made for irrigation facilities. More important than even this remission of revenue and provision for irrigation is the provision made for relieving agricultural indebtedness. From this aspect also, the budget may be called an epoch-making one. The peasantry has rightly been called the back bone of every nation and this fundamental idea is kept in view in preparing the budget. Then, there is some provision made for the encouragement of cottage industries, by means of the levy of a tax on other cloth-dealers. My friend, Mr. Ramanathan, has spoken about the views of Government, in the times to come about the protection of the cottage industries, and this half year comes for a share of it. I would ask my hon. Friends whether there is any other industry in which the people of this country who are not engaged in agriculture, can be engaged other than hand-spinning. There is no use of saying that other countries are having big industries and industrialization is going on at a rapid pace elsewhere.

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Industrialization may be the only solution available for national well-being in some countries, but they forget, I am afraid, the peculiar conditions prevailing in India and the sound lessons of industrial economics. He must be a very bold critic who can come forward and say that in India industrialization can go on and the people of India, I mean the labourers other than those who are engaged in agriculture, can be given work by industrialization. Just think of it for a minute. Just think of the amount of capital that is necessary, the amount of labour that is necessary though available in our country and the benefits of industrialization. Look at the countries that have got industrialization perfected in the modern age. Are they not suffering from surplus production? They are trying to go back to the old conditions to save their people. So, the right principle has been laid down by the Premier in trying to stimulate the production by small industries by protecting them. But the Premier has not had enough time to consider over this, the Ministry had not time to lay down a uniform policy. So we hope to place before the province a uniform policy not only for ameliorating the condition of the agriculturists and the peasants, but also of the cottage industries.

"Therefore regarding the second point connected with the well-being of any nation, i.e., the workers in cottage industries, a beginning has been made and the maximum that could be done in so short a time has been done fettered as the Ministry is regarding finance under constitution. Certainly, when one makes any criticism one must bear in mind the limitations. Then, the third point that shall be considered by the framers of the budget is the question of public health. There are certain conditions where even if people wanted to take care of their public health they are not in a position to do so and hence the necessity of looking after the public health by the Government, and in this branch also, the Government has made a beginning and set apart about 9 lakhs in addition to what has been done in the previous budget. Then, there is the criticism that the borrowing ought not to have been done, especially when there is no extraordinary expenditure. My friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, raised the question. I would remind my hon. Friend that borrowing by a nation is never considered to be in any way financially bad. The question is, how is the money borrowed utilized? Where it is remuneratively invested in the country which will bring in an income to cover payment of interest and the ultimate return of the loan by instalments or otherwise there is nothing wrong in borrowing. Viewed from that point the framers of the budget have well safeguarded their position. Excepting the 40 lakhs that is necessary to be invested in the Reserve Bank and 19 lakhs and odd to be in the banks by way of cash, only about 85 lakhs of this 150 lakhs is to be utilized actually. The Premier has told the House that more than this amount is to be spent on remunerative projects. So, there is nothing to be afraid of in the budget. The financial stability of the province cannot be affected by such borrowing. It is sound and this is well proved by the fact that the loan was oversubscribed.

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"Then there is another point mentioned. It was said that all available sources of revenue have not been explored. Quite true. There is time. I am sure that if the party in power has the opportunity to present the Budget for next year (1938-39), certainly, new sources of revenue will be explored and luxuries will be taxed as in other countries. We have very many luxuries and we have got a number of articles which are taxable. The turnover mentioned by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, perhaps may be one other item to be taxed.

12-45 p.m. "One other remark made against the Budget is regarding the proposed cut in the salaries of Government servants. We are told that if this cut is imposed, it will compel the Government servants to lower their standard of living. My reply to criticisms of that kind is that no Government is anxious to maintain a certain standard of life for a particular class of people alone. What we are anxious to do is to maintain a high standard of life for the whole nation. It is not a very wise thing to say that if our salaries are cut our standard of living will go down. It does not matter if the standard of living of a particular class of people goes down as a result of the salary cut. It would not affect the nation at all. What we must try our best is to raise the standard of life of the classes. We must, in other words, raise the national standard of life. And how is the national standard of life to be raised? It would certainly be raised by raising the standard of life of the peasants, of the artisans and of the other sections of the people. The Government officials are very well paid and it is very notorious that our country is one of those where the services are the highest paid. Historical reasons are responsible for this state of affairs and we need not discuss them now. The services should therefore willingly respond to the appeal made by the Hon. the Premier. They ought to give away a portion of their salaries and help the Government to raise the national standard of living, or the standard of living of the people as a whole. Let us hope that in the next Budget the principles that have been adumbrated in this Budget will be fully developed and we will have a Budget in our Province the like of which no part of the world would ever see."

Mr. H. S. HUSSAIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to say only a few words. Let me first congratulate the Hon. the Premier and Finance Minister on his success in presenting a modest Budget with a small surplus, though the time at his disposal was very short. The programme of the majority party is no doubt ambitious and it is intended to confer the greatest good on the greatest number. Whatever the programme might be, our Premier is proceeding very cautiously and he wants to cut the coat according to the cloth. On this occasion I would like to say that the Budget breathes the true character of our Premier. He is neither a spendthrift nor a miser. He is just a cool and calculating businessman. I am glad that we have such an able Premier. Even 'the Micawberian shilling' that he has managed to show, he does not want to spend and 'cheer himself up on a shilling's worth of porter.

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"I am, indeed, glad that a scheme of prohibition, has been adumbrated. I as a Mussalman welcome it wholeheartedly. Drink is *haram* not only to Muslims, but for all God's creatures, and it is said to be the root of all evil.

"I would like to say a word on the question of land revenue remission. Unless adequate land revenue remission is granted to the ryots, I am afraid it will not improve their lot. No doubt there is the problem of rural indebtedness and our Government is doing its utmost to give relief to the indebted ryots. But what I say is this: mere granting of relief for rural indebtedness will not go a long way, if, hand in hand with it, substantial relief by way of land revenue remission is not granted. Because, while giving relief from rural indebtedness, the Government will be substituting one kind of loan for another, that is all. Only if land revenue remission is given at the same time, it will enable the ryot to save himself from further indebtedness.

"The next point that I want to stress is that I wish that a little more money should be provided for education. Because education is admitted to be the panacea for all ills, I am making this plea. If more money is granted for education it will help the masses to understand the evils of drink also. In all countries it has been recognized that if the masses are educated their lot would improve.

"In this connexion I have to say a word about my own community. The Muslim community, it is well known, is backward both in wealth and in education, and in this presidency it forms a very small minority. It is also well known that the present system of education is costly and prohibitive. Unless and until facilities and fee concessions are granted to Muslims, they will not be able to raise themselves to the level of the more advanced communities and take their due share in the national struggle. So, I would make an appeal to the present Government to grant half-fee concessions to all Muslim students reading in the schools and colleges in this presidency as was done in the past. On this occasion I would also like to add a word to what my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, said about the construction of roads and bridges. It is necessary that, while the Government is bestowing its attention on water-supply and other needs of the villages, they should also pay some attention to the construction of roads and bridges badly needed on the west coast."

Mr. J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, at the outset I wish to congratulate the Prime Minister for presenting a Budget which in my opinion is progressive. The first thing that struck me, as it has struck many others, is the reduction of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 75 lakhs. The Hon. the Premier, perhaps out of modesty, told us day before yesterday, that he has no responsibility for this reduction of land revenue. I hold a different opinion. It was due to the Congress, to the insistent fight of the Congress, that the reduction was made. I think the credit for it, therefore, should go to the Congress,

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"Then we have the assurance of the Premier that he would relieve the indebtedness of the agriculturists. That again is encouraging. Then, Sir, there is the subsidy that is proposed to be given to hand-spinning. That also is very encouraging. Sir, on this matter there are two opinions held in the House, one led by the Congress and the other led by the Justicites. Let us see what the Agricultural Commission has to say on this point. You all know that the Members of the Commission did not belong either to the Justicites or to the Congressites. I have here a paragraph from their report dealing with the handloom industry. This is what they say:

'The handloom industry of India at present shows remarkable . . . and there is no immediate reason to fear its decline.'

They say that if it is encouraged, it would be a by-industry or subsidiary industry for the villages. I think the Hon. the Premier is following the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in the matter of providing drinking-water supply also.

"Sir, I wish to say one or two words regarding the policy of prohibition. I congratulate the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. the Minister for Excise on the bold step they have taken. I know it would greatly help the members of my community. It would help them to become rich. It would put an end to the quarrel in their families caused by the drink evil. Sir, on behalf of my community I assure the Premier and the Minister for Excise that my community will stand by them in their endeavour to make the presidency dry.

"My hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam, has referred to the reduction in the allotment for the members of the depressed classes. I wish also to say a word in this connexion. There is already a cry among the depressed classes that the grant made for their welfare is growing less and less. I do not blame the present Ministry for that. I request the Hon. the Premier to make a larger grant next year. Mr. Speaker, once again I take this opportunity to congratulate the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues on their Budget which, in my opinion, is progressive."

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 10 a.m. tomorrow."

The House then adjourned.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 4th September 1937.

The House met in the Senate House, Chepauk, at ten of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. MR. B. SAMBAMURTI) in the Chair.

Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar sang Vande Mataram.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Eviction of Miss Karthiyayini Ammal from the F.L. class of the Law College, Madras.

* 60 Q.—MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Miss Karthiyayini Ammal was refused admission into the F.L. class of the Law College in July last;

(b) if so, what the reasons for such refusal were;

(c) whether it is a fact that she was later admitted into the class by the Principal;

(d) whether it is a fact that she was allowed to continue for about three months and asked to quit afterwards on the ground that she had been a political prisoner;

(e) whether the ban on political prisoners still continues;

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to remove the ban; and

(g) whether the ban applied to the Law College only or to all Government educational institutions?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) to (g) When Miss Karthiyayini Ammal sought admission into the Law College in July 1936, she was admitted pending the orders of Government on the question of exempting her from the disabilities arising out of her previous convictions in certain political cases. She was informed of the provisional character of her admission at the time of admission. Her application was finally refused on 24th August 1936 as Government refused to condone her offence. The provisions of the Madras Educational Rules under which the admission was refused are under examination both as regards their scope and interpretation and whether they need revision."

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Sir, the answer given by the Hon. Minister was not audible. May I request him through you, Sir, to read the reply once again?"

(The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan repeated the answer given above.)

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Mrs. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" May I know when the rules for condoning the offences of such political prisoners will be revised by the Government? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" As I have already stated the rules are under consideration and orders will be passed as soon as conclusions are arrived at."

Mrs. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" May I know what the orders will be like, favourable or unfavourable? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not prepared to give an answer to this question."

Mrs. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of removing the ban on political offenders? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The Government will consider favourably the hon. Member's suggestion."

MR. K. BASHYAM AYYANGAR:—" May I know what became of the fees paid by her for admission? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am sure the fees paid by her for admission were returned."

Road accidents due to vehicular traffic.

* 61 Q.—MR. D. RAMALINGA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state the number of casualties during the past official year owing to vehicular and motor traffic?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—" The number of persons reported to have been killed or injured during the calendar year 1936, as a result of accidents in which motor vehicles were involved, is as follows:—

Number of persons injured who have received treatment in hospital—1,182.

Number of persons killed—259.

" The Government have no information relating to casualties due to other vehicular traffic in 1936.

" During the first quarter of the calendar year 1937 the number of casualties owing to vehicular and motor traffic is as follows:—

Number of persons injured—384.

Number of persons killed—91."

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the number of casualties occurring in this province

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per year compares favourably with that obtaining in Great Britain in spite of greater control exercised and up-to-date methods of traffic control? "

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—" I have not been able to get the figures of London."

MR. V. M. RAMASAMI MUDALIYAR:—" From the statistics just now given, we find there is an appreciable increase in the number of casualties so far as the rate for the first quarter of 1937 is concerned. May I ask what steps the Hon. Minister is taking to prevent further casualties? "

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—" No particular steps seem to be necessary, because in the ' G ' permits that are given to bus and other conveyance owners special provision is made to avoid casualties."

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the local Government was consulted by the Imperial Government regarding certain safeguards for persons who have been injured or killed as a result of accident by way of compensation being paid to them and if so what their opinion is? "

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—" The matter is under consideration of the Government of India. A Bill is sought to be introduced in the Legislative Assembly, Simla, for the purpose of making provision for meeting third party risks also."

MR. E. KANNAN:—" If the Police department is charged with the responsibility of detecting cases of overloading of buses, will the Government be pleased to issue clear instructions against buses being overloaded by members of the Police department themselves by getting into buses running with the maximum number of passengers allowed under the rules? "

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—" Clear instructions have been issued."

Arrest and conviction of Mr. Yoosuff Meharally in Calicut.

* 62 Q.—MR. E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Magistrate of Malabar issued an order prohibiting Mr. Yoosuff Meharally, a socialist leader of Bombay, from delivering public speeches in certain parts of Malabar, and if so, whether that order will be placed on the table;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Meharally was arrested and convicted in Calicut; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Government released him from jail and if so, whether the order of the Government in the matter will be placed on the table?

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THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative; a copy ^a of the order is placed on the table.

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(c) The answer is in the affirmative; a copy ^a of G.O. No. 2769, Home, dated the 20th July 1937, is placed on the table.”

Reconsideration of G.O. No. 1617 I., dated 19th June 1931.

* 63 Q.—MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to revise and reconsider the proceedings of the Government in G.O. No. 1617 I., dated 19th June 1931?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“No. The scope of the orders in G.O. No. 1617 I., dated 19th June 1931, has been further explained in G.O. No. 2240, Revenue, dated 11th December 1933, which was placed on the table of the Legislative Council on 1st December 1936. (Vide answer to question No. 463, dated 1st December 1936.)”

Renewal of scholarships to Adi-Dravida students by the Labour Commissioner.

* 64 Q.—MR. E. KANNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Labour Commissioner is not renewing the scholarships of some Adi-Dravida students even though they are promoted to higher classes after the annual examination, and if so, what the reason therefor is?

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“Even in cases where students are promoted the Commissioner of Labour and Rural Uplift uses his discretion and refuses renewal of scholarships where marks, etc., are poor and the pupils do not show special aptitude for further study.”

MR. E. KANNAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether Government will be pleased to renew the scholarships of those students of the depressed classes who fail in the school final examination for the first time?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“The matter will be considered.”

MR. J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI:—“May I know how, when a boy is promoted, it is to be determined that he has no aptitude for higher study?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“It depends upon the number of school marks that the pupil has got. Among the number of boys who have been promoted, if one boy has got more marks than others, he is considered fit enough to go to higher studies.”

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 292 infra.

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MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask whether the aptitude is decided upon by the number of marks obtained by the student as compared with the marks of other students or with the marks of the Adi-Dravida students themselves?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“All these things will be considered by the headmasters of the respective schools and their recommendations will be considered by the Labour Commissioner and the Government.”

MR. V. KURMAYYA:—“May I know, Sir, whether headmasters and the principals of the high schools and colleges respectively who are not interested in Harijan education will recommend to the Commissioner that Harijan pupils studying in the various institutions have an aptitude for higher studies?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“That is a matter of opinion.”

MR. V. KURMAYYA:—“May I know, Sir, whether the heads of educational institutions are supplied with the necessary forms to be duly filled in and signed by them before the application forms are submitted to the Commissioner for consideration?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“Notice.”

MR. J. SHIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI:—“May I know whether the depressed class students in the Law College are not given scholarships?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“Notice, Sir.”

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“May I know, Sir, whether the number of scholarships are limited?”

THE HON. MR. V. V. GIRI:—“They are limited.”

Action proposed to be taken on the irregular acceptance of tender for the supply of stationery for 1935-36 by the President, South Arcot District Board.

* 65 Q.—MR. R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government are taking any and what action in the matter of the acceptance by the President of the South Arcot District Board of the tender for stationery for 1935-36?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi rose to answer the question on behalf of the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER:—“So long as the Hon. Minister concerned is present in the House he should reply.”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The matter is under consideration.”

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MR. R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will be pleased to state the amount of loss caused by the irregular disposal of the tender? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Notice, Sir."

MR. R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will be pleased to place the auditor's report on the table of the House? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" It is not possible at this stage to place the auditor's report on the table of the House."

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister to take necessary steps to see that the Government Order concerning all these contracts is given effect to either immediately or as soon as possible? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The whole matter is under consideration."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what exactly the whole matter relates to? When the Hon. Minister is asked about the loss, he says that he must have notice."

10-15 a.m. (At this stage the Hon. Minister for Local Administration was seen asking Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed as to what question he put.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Hon. Members should not carry on conversation across the benches. If the Hon. Minister has not heard the question put by the hon. Member, he may request the hon. Member through the Chair that the question might be repeated. Will the hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed repeat his question? "

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I am asking, Sir, what exactly are the points under consideration. If the Hon. Minister does not know anything on the vital question of the amount of loss that is involved, I want to know what other points are under consideration? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am afraid I cannot give the figures of the contract and the loss sustained by the Board."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether there is any loss at all sustained by the Board on account of the acceptance of the contract by the District Board President? "

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Whether there has been any loss or gain, that question also is under the consideration of the Government."

Section supervisors of the Public Works Department in Salem district.

* 66 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of section supervisors in the Salem district is;

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(b) what the number of temporary hands is;

(c) what the number of permanent hands is;

(d) what the number of major irrigation works and feeding channels in their charge is;

(e) whether all feeding channels and tanks are in order; and

(f) what the total establishment charges of the Public Works Department in the Salem district is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) 15.

" (b) 7.

" (c) 8.

" (d) Channels—55; tanks—84.

" (e) No information.

" (f) About Rs. 84,000 during 1936-37 (excluding the Tiruppattur subdivision which is in the North Arcot district and the special subdivision for accelerated programme of minor irrigation works)."

Facilities for section supervisors to supervise the channels.

* 67 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether section supervisors are given clerks and sufficient menial establishment to look after the channels; and

(b) what the grade of pay of the section supervisors is?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) A clerk is allowed for a section only when there is more than five hours clerical work to be attended to in a day. In sections where there are irrigation channels, there are lascars.

" (b) The scale of pay of permanent supervisors is Rs. 70—10/2—110—15/2—200. Recruits with engineer qualifications are started on Rs. 100 in the scale."

Transfer of the control of the feeding channels to the Public Works Department in the Dharmapuri division.

* 68 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that hitherto the feeding channels to the Public Works Department tanks were in charge of Revenue department in respect of the Dharmapuri division (Salem district); and

(b) when it was handed over to the section supervisor, Public Works Department?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—" (a) & (b) " Government have no information but have called for a report."

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Period of tour prescribed for section supervisors, Public Works Department.

* 69 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of days expected to be travelled by the section supervisor is; and

(b) who attends to the correspondence of the department in his absence?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) Section supervisors who have touring work are generally in receipt of a fixed travelling allowance and they are required to travel for a minimum number of 20 days in a month.

“(b) Most of the section officers have no clerks and they attend to correspondence themselves in camp.”

Sanctioned strength of section supervisors, Public Works Department.

* 70 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many section supervisors are employed in this Presidency;

(b) how many are permanent hands among the Provincial Employees of the Public Works Department and how many are temporary;

(c) from what time such temporary vacancies had arisen; and

(d) why they have not been made permanent?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) Three hundred and forty-seven exclusive of those sanctioned for portions of the year.

“(b) It is presumed that by ‘provincial employees’ the hon. Member is referring to supervisors who are borne on a provincial scale though they belong to a Subordinate and not to a Provincial Service. If so, there are 306 permanent and 205 temporary supervisors at present.

“(c) The seniormost of the existing temporary supervisors has been employed in successive temporary vacancies since June 1925.

“(d) Many of the posts are of a purely temporary nature having been sanctioned for specific purposes and cease to exist as soon as the purpose for which each was sanctioned is finished. The constitution of the Public Works Department has to be such that the establishment of the department should be capable of expansion in times of heavy expenditure and of contraction in times of low expenditure without involving extra cost by way of pension. The permanent staff of the department has therefore to be kept at an irreducible minimum and the necessary extra staff has to be employed on a temporary basis.”

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MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that some appointments are kept temporary for a large number of years and as this is not in the interests of efficient work in the department, may I ask him whether this defect will be rectified?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I know, Sir, that some temporary employees are kept there on a temporary basis for a long time, but under the circumstances it cannot be helped.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask, Sir, whether if temporary vacancies exist only in relation to temporary purposes, what is meant by saying that temporary vacancies have been in existence since 1925?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I am afraid I cannot answer that question off-hand.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know what exactly is the proportion of temporary vacancies to permanent posts which are temporarily filled up and to posts which are created for temporary purposes?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Notice, Sir.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of making a man permanent if he has been in the department for six years?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I will consider it.”

Principles underlying the formation of the territorial jurisdiction of Section Supervisors.

* 71 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what the general principle adopted in dividing the section supervisor's area is; and why it is not wholly talukwar?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“The jurisdiction of a supervisor's charge is fixed with reference to the number of Public Works Department sources of irrigation, length of canals, ayacut in acres, mileage of roads, number and capital value of buildings and receipts and issues of correspondence. The jurisdiction cannot be wholly talukwar, as the nature and amount of work is very different in different taluks.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“If the talukwar division is not possible, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not possible to take into consideration the whole length of feeding channels to a particular tank or anicut and then make the division?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“It is not possible, Sir, nor is it workable.”

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Provision of a feeder channel from the Chennar to the Kolagathur-Sholarayan tank in Dharmapuri taluk.

* 72 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there ever was a scheme for feeder channel for the Kolagathur-Sholarayan tank from Chennar via Palagodu in Dharmapuri taluk;

(b) whether it has been dropped;

(c) if so, why; and

(d) if not, whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to expedite the same?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a), (b), (c) & (d) Government have no information but have called for a report.”

Number of Public Works Department tanks in Salem district exempted from Kudimaramat work.

* 73 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state how many Public Works Department tanks are exempted from kudimaramat work in the Salem district?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Government have no information but have called for a report.”

* 74 Q.— } Withdrawn.
* 75 Q.— }

Proposal to reduce the tariff in areas served by the Mettur Electric Power Station.

* 76 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is to be a reduction in the tariff in areas served by the Mettur Electric Power Station;

(b) whether private companies now working in such areas can be compelled by Government to supply energy at economic rates to consumers, public bodies like municipalities, etc.; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table copies of the standard agreement between the Government and the private electric concerns touching the tariff, etc.?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a) There is at present no proposal for any reduction of Government tariffs.

“(b) Yes, with reference to the provision in the agreement executed by the companies for taking bulk supply from Government. Briefly stated, the provision requires a licensee to submit for the approval of Government after he has been taking bulk supply for 12 months and has ascertained the resulting saving in operating costs proposals for a general reduction of rates. After approval, with or without modification by Government, the reduced rates must be brought into operation not later than 18 months from the date of commencement of supply by Government.

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“(c) A copy^a of the form of agreement is placed on the table.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether it is not possible for the Government to intervene in this matter and see that the benefit that the Government give by the reduction of rates for bulk supply from their hydro-electric sources is passed on to the private consumers in towns and other places where the Government supply is available?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“The Government will intervene at the proper time.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether there is any particular sanctity in this 12 and 18 months' limit and why the Government should not intervene at once and say that the benefit that the private companies get from the reduction of rates by Government for bulk supply should be passed on to the consumers also?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“We are bound by the terms of the agreement with the companies and I am sure the hon. Member will not ask us to depart from them.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask what the present rates charged for bulk and retail supplies are?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Notice, Sir.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, if there is a scandalous disparity between the Government tariff for bulk supply and the rate paid by retail consumers, is it not a matter in which though the Government cannot legally interfere they should at least morally interfere?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“The Government can draw the attention of the licensee to this fact and ask him why the rate should not be reduced, but they cannot compel him.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask whether there is not a provision in the agreement to the effect that the Government can call for a remission at any time?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I am not aware of any such clause. Of course, after a certain time has elapsed there will be a certain amount of remission.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that when he visited Chittoor, a representation was made to him in regard to the high rates paid by the local consumers and he promised to look into the matter?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I have looked into the matter, Sir. I find that for 18 months they could charge the old rates. And there is one reason for it. Formerly they were generating electricity of their own and they were charging certain rates. It is only recently that they have begun to take bulk supply from Government. Under the old system the rates were high. The rates can be reduced under the new system. But some time must be allowed for them to adjust themselves to the change from the old to the new system. Therefore, it is that these 18 months

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are provided. I have looked into the matter and hon. Members may rest assured that whenever it is possible to reduce the rates it will be done."

Progress of work of the Committee appointed to enquire into the failure of freshes in the Palar river.

* 77 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the progress made in obtaining the information required by the Committee appointed to enquire into the failure of freshes in the Palar river;

(b) when the Committee was constituted and whether it has concluded its deliberations;

(c) if not, why the deliberations were not completed; and

(d) whether the Government propose to reconstitute the Committee and afford opportunities to complete its work?

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“(a), (b), & (c) Attention is invited to the answer to Question No. 24 in the proceedings of the Assembly, dated 1st September 1937.

(d) The question will be considered after the reports of the Chief Engineer and Board are received and examined.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask, Sir, when the Government expect to receive the reports?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“I cannot say when we expect to receive the report of the Chief Engineer. I will ask him to submit it as early as possible.”

MR. K. BASHYAM AYYANGAR:—“May I ask when this Committee was formed?”

THE HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Notice, Sir.”

Restriction by local bodies on the number of lorries plying for private purposes.

* 78 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain local bodies (e.g., Chingleput District Board) are limiting the number of lorries that ply for private purposes;

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take to prevent such restrictions especially in the case of lorries used for genuine private trade purposes; and

(c) under what authority the local bodies are empowered to take such measures?

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) Presidents of District Boards and Executive Authorities of Municipal Councils have power to refuse, for adequate reasons, the grant of licences or to restrict the number of licences on particular routes in respect of motor lorries, whether plying for hire or not. The Government have no information as to the actual restrictions, if any, imposed in the several districts.

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“(b) The law provides a right of appeal against a refusal to grant a licence. The Government do not consider it necessary to take any action in the matter. 10-30 a.m.

“(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the provisions of section 166 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and section 174-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.”

MR. J. M. SMITH:—“May I know whether any statistics have been prepared to show how many lorries may run in the Chingleput district?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I have no information at present.”

MR. J. M. SMITH:—“May I ask whether the restriction is placed to avoid wear and tear on the road or to obtain more revenue for the district board, and whether restrictions have been placed on any other road users?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We have no information.”

MR. J. M. SMITH:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what qualifications has an owner of a lorry to possess in order to obtain a licence to run a lorry for trade or private purposes in Chingleput district?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No information, Sir.”

* MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—“May I ask, if it is not a fact that lorry owners, taking out licences as if for trade purposes, to avoid paying higher rate of licence fees, ply their lorries for hire, and many such cases were detected and looked?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I should think so.”

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any appeals have been filed against the orders of many district boards refusing the grant of licences to private lorry owners?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

MRS. RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI:—“May I know if the Hon. Minister proposes to abolish the distinction in the matter of licence fee between lorries for hire and lorries for trade purposes?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We are considering about the distinction.”

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Will the Hon. Minister consider whether it is beneficial to run lorries on the roads, as they have been causing havoc to human lives and whether it will not be desirable to prevent lorries plying during nights?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We shall consider the suggestion.”

MR. T. N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI:—“If lorries ply during day-time, instead of during nights, will there not be much obstruction or traffic on the roads during day time?”

THE HON. MR. B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is a matter of opinion.”

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Delay in the execution of the protected water-supply schemes intended for Chodavaram, Narasapatam and Vizagapatam.

* 79 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the extreme scarcity of fresh water in Chodavaram, Narasapatam and Vizagapatam;

(b) what steps have been taken so far to remedy the water famine in the said places severally;

(c) what the amounts contributed by the old taluk board of Narasapatam, the District Board of Vizagapatam and private donors to the Chodavaram water-supply scheme are; and

(d) what the reasons are for the delay in executing the work?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) to (d) The Government are not aware of the existence of any scarcity of fresh water at Narasapatam. Nor have they received any representation from the local board for the provision of a water-supply scheme for Narasapatam. A water-supply scheme for the Chodavaram Panchayat has been partially executed and its further progress has been held up owing to a revision of the estimates involving additional cost and the inability of the Panchayat Board to meet its share of the cost of the scheme. The old Narasapatam Taluk Board is reported to have contributed a sum of Rs. 8,000 towards this scheme and the Vizagapatam District Board has also agreed to contribute a sum equivalent to one-sixth of the cost of the scheme. The late proprietor of Kota Urala, etc., estates has paid a donation of rupees 6,000. A sum of Rs. 3,600 is also reported to have been collected from the public.

“Plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 6.35 lakhs for a scheme of water-supply to the Vizagapatam town have been sanctioned. The execution of the scheme has been deferred by the Council pending the result of further tests in regard to the quality and quantity of water from the experimental well.”

MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to inform me whether the delay in the execution of the scheme for protected water-supply for Chodavaram is due to the delay in the department of the Sanitary Engineering?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I have given the hon. Member all the information that is available with the Government, with regard to the Chodavaram scheme.”

MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to see that the schemes are expedited, as people are suffering awfully from day to day?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As far as it lies in the hands of the Government, they will certainly expedite the matter.”

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Number of buses plying for hire.

* 80 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of hire buses licensed to run in the first quarter of this year 1937–38 in each district was;

(b) what the corresponding figures for each of the years 1936–37 and 1935–36 were; and

(c) what the income derived by way of fees under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act in each of the above quarters from the hire buses was?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the original answer, there is a list. I shall place the list on the table of the House. I take it, Sir, I need not read out from the list now.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It may be placed upon the table of the House.”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“(a) & (b) The number of buses plying for hire, which paid tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act during the first quarter of the years 1935–36, 1936–37 and 1937–38, is as follows:—

District.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.
Vizagapatam	86	102	105
East Godavari	126	148	144
West Godavari	78	113	120
Kistna	121	136	153
Guntur	127	153	157
Nellore	64	127	119
Cuddapah	40	62	52
Anantapur	52	58	60
Bellary	81	86	88
Kurnool	55	64	70
Chingleput	46	46	45
Chittoor	77	96	103
North Arcot	163	118	193
South Arcot	88	104	117
Tanjore	177	201	257
Trichinopoly	152	180	201
Madura	268	271	299
Ramnad	155	162	180
Tinnevely	190	172	192
Coimbatore	271	269	273
Nilgiris, The	67	76	70
Salem	198	190	200
South Kanara	206	148	191
Malabar	260	210	387
Madras	290	313	337

“(c) The information is not available, but has been called for.”

MR. J. M. SMITH:—“May I ask whether all the money so collected was expended on the maintenance or construction of roads in the respective districts?”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“Notice, Sir.”

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MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister is in a position to say from the statement whether there has been decrease or increase from year to year in the number of buses? ”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ Increase, Sir.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ What is the proportionate increase from year to year? ”

* THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ I have said that I shall lay the statement on the table of the House; if necessary I am prepared to give the information required by the hon. Member but I may be given some time to make the calculations.”

Measures for limiting the speed of motor buses and for the prevention of over-loading.

* SI. Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) the steps so far taken to check over-loading and over-speeding of motor buses running for hire;

(b) the number of motor bus accidents in each of the years 1934, 1935 and 1936; and

(c) the number of casualties on account of such accidents in each of the said years?

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ (a) No motor bus may be plied for hire on a public road without a G permit issued under rule 30 (a) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules. This permit specifies the maximum number of passengers and the maximum weight of luggage that the bus may carry and the maximum speed at which the bus may run. Under rule 30 (k) of the Motor Vehicles Rules, the District Superintendent of Police in the mufassal and the Commissioner of Police in the Madras City may fix as and when necessary a schedule of timings for buses; and when a schedule is fixed, buses may not run otherwise than in accordance with the schedule.

“ Any police officer may stop a bus and cause it to remain stationary so long as may reasonably be necessary for any purpose connected with the enforcement of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act or the rules thereunder, and a motor bus is at all times open to inspection by any magistrate of or above the second class, any police officer not below the rank of Inspector of Police or any Inspector of Motor Vehicles, and such magistrate or officer may declare the bus unfit for use on the road. Infringement of the provisions of the Act or of any rule made thereunder is an offence punishable under section 16 of the Motor Vehicles Act. The District Superintendent of Police or the Commissioner of Police may suspend or cancel any G permit for any breach of the conditions of the permit or for any infringement of the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder. Motor buses are checked on the road and suitable action taken with reference to the above provisions whenever necessary.

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(b) “ the number of accidents in which motor vehicles plying for hire were involved was as follows:—

Year.	Number.
1934	470
1935	490
1936	601

“ The Government have no information of the number of accidents in which buses, as distinct from other vehicles plying for hire, were involved.

(c) “ Casualties, in accidents in which motor vehicles were involved, were as follows:—

Year.	Number of persons injured who received treatment in hospital.	Number of persons killed.
1934	782	194
1935	851	217
1936	1,182	259

“ Separate figures for casualties in accidents in which buses were involved, are not available.”

* MR. E. KANNAN:—“ May I ask whether the Government have issued necessary orders to the police to see that there is no over-loading of buses? ”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ Very strict orders have been issued to the Police Department on this particular matter.”

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ May I know when the orders were issued? ”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ I am not quite certain about the date; it is more than a year back.”

MR. J. M. SMITH:—“ May I ask whether the Government have provided the necessary equipment either permanent or portable to the competent authorities responsible for checking speeds of vehicles? ”

* THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ No equipment has been provided; it is being contemplated by the Government, to make provision for such purposes.”

* MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that in spite of so many restrictions and safeguards in the G-permit, overloading and overspeeding are going on and what special steps the Government propose to take to check them effectively? ”

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—“ Whenever such incidents have been brought to the notice of the Government, action has been taken by the Government.”

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MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether any apparatus has been supplied for check-ink overloading of buses and how many balances have been so far supplied or fixed upon the roads?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"The Government have not done so, so far. But the Government are contemplating the advisability of providing the checking office with balances."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Government have come to any finding as to the causes for this increase of motor accidents?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"No particular finding has been arrived at; but the inference may be drawn that it is due to the increase of motor vehicles."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is it due merely to the increase of motor vehicles? Are the accidents due to the carelessness of the drivers or to the absence of efficient machinery?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"It may not be due to the deficiency of the machinery; it may be on account of the increase in the number of motor vehicles and of careless drivers being employed."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is it due to want of proper regulation of traffic on roads?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"Regulations of road traffic is as efficient as it can be with the existing staff."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask if the Government propose to increase the staff and prescribe proper regulations?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"The Government will consider the desirability of increasing the staff when found to be necessary."

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government are making arrangements to inculcate the road sense both to users of the road and to school children?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"The Government is trying to inculcate that spirit not only among the people that have been mentioned by the hon. Member but among other people also."

MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, if the licences issued to these public buses will be restricted to drivers of six years' standing and experience?"

THE HON. MR. K. RAMAN MENON:—"The Government will consider the question."

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.*Unemployment in the Province.*

28 Q.—MR. N. M. R. SUBBARAMA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether any statistics have been taken about the extent of unemployment in the Presidency; and

(b) if not, whether the Government will consider the desirability of collecting statistics showing the extent of unemployment, both educated and uneducated?

A.—(a) & (b) An attempt was recently made to obtain figures of unemployment among the educated classes of the province, but the result was disappointing. With regard to the collection of statistics of the educated unemployed, the Government have under consideration a proposal to direct the Collectors of districts to collect statistics of the educated unemployed. The co-operation of public bodies including Congress Committees would be greatly welcomed. Pending the result of these enquiries, the Government propose to postpone the consideration of the question of collecting statistics regarding uneducated unemployed.

Alleged interference of Government with the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board in the matter of the redistribution of the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners.

29 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, issued orders on or about 8th July 1937 intended to take effect on the 12th July under by-law 1 of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act redistributing the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government by their order, dated on or about 11th July 1937, required the President to cancel the order redistributing the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners;

(c) if so, on what grounds the Government interfered;

(d) what the provision of the Act under which the Government interfered is;

(e) whether the Government called for an explanation from the President before it interfered;

(f) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the interests of the public require redistribution of the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners;

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(g) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the President is empowered under the by-law now in force to redistribute the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners; and

(h) whether the Government will instruct the President to proceed with the redistribution of the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The procedure prescribed in the by-law for the division of the territory subject to the jurisdiction of the Board and the assignment thereof to the control of the Commissioners was not complied with in a proper and effective manner.

(d) In the exercise of their inherent powers of control under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

(e) The Government did not consider it necessary to call for an explanation.

(f) & (g) The Government have not questioned the power of the President to alter the territorial jurisdiction of the Commissioners nor have they disputed the necessity for such redistribution. Their objection was that the procedure prescribed by the by-law was not followed.

(h) The Government have already informed the President that there is no objection to a redistribution provided that the prescribed procedure is followed in a proper and effective manner.

Supersession of the Panchayat Board, Ichchapur.

30 Q.—MR. P. SYAMASUNDARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of certain representations of rate-payers of Ichchapur Panchayat Board made to the District Magistrate and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards against the Special Officer of the Panchayat Board;

(b) whether any public or private enquiry was conducted to ascertain the truth of the allegations made against him;

(c) whether the Tahsildar's, District Magistrate's and District Panchayat Officer's reports on the same will be placed on the table for information;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Special Officer is making out a case for the extension of the period of supersession for another six months and, if so, on what grounds; and

(e) whether the Government will consider the desirability of terminating this Special Officer's regime after the expiry of the original period of one year and afterwards entrust the administration once again to popular control?

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A.—(a) A petition was received by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards. The Government are not aware whether any representations were made to the District Magistrate.

(b) Yes; an enquiry was made by the District Panchayat Officer, Chicacole.

(c) No; the Government are not aware that any reports were made by the Tahsildar or District Magistrate in the matter.

(d) No.

(e) Orders have been issued by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for the reconstitution of the board from the 1st September 1937. The Inspector has been asked to change the Special Officer and to place the administration of the panchayat in charge of the District Panchayat Officer.

Application of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act in the Cannanore Municipality.

31 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendation of the Cannanore Municipal Council to enforce the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, as amended by Madras Act I of 1932 was turned down by the Collector of Malabar; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will consider the desirability of enforcing it in Cannanore?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Government has called for a report from the District Magistrate, Malabar, and the matter will be considered after getting the report.

Proposals regarding the bifurcation of the Malabar District Board.

32 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have dropped the idea of bifurcating the Malabar District Board?

A.—Yes.

Working of the Madras Handloom Weavers Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited.

33 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many marketing agents were appointed since the establishment of the Madras Handloom Weavers Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, and in which centres;

(b) how many marketing agents are paid monthly and how many are paid on a commission basis;

[4th September 1937]

- (c) whether a cloth designer has been appointed by the society;
 (d) whether a warp preparation plant, a finishing plant, and a dyeing factory have been established under the society, as contemplated in the by-laws of the society;
 (e) how many affiliated societies have been formed so far in the Presidency and in which centres;
 (f) whether any raw materials were supplied by the Provincial Society to affiliated societies as contemplated in the by-laws of the society and if so, for what amount; and
 (g) what the net profit of the society for the year 1935-36 and for the year 1936-37 is?

A.—(a) The Provincial Handloom Weavers Society has appointed six officers who are called 'supervisors.' Besides supervising the affiliated societies, they assist the societies in finding a market for their finished products. The headquarters of these officers are given below:—

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| (1) Pedana. | (4) Bhavani. |
| (2) Bellary. | (5) Calicut. |
| (3) Madura. | (6) Conjeeveram. |

A marketing officer on Rs. 350 per mensem has also been recently appointed with headquarters at Madras to co-ordinate the work of the supervisors and to secure forward contracts from wholesale dealers, etc.

- (b) The supervisors are paid a salary of Rs. 40 per mensem.
 (c) A cloth designer on Rs. 75 per mensem has been appointed from 15th March 1936.
 (d) One hand-sizing machine has been installed at Melappalam. The Provincial Society has not yet installed a finishing plant or opened a dyeing factory. The question of purchasing a secondhand seven-bowl calendering and finishing plant is under consideration.
 (e) There are 66 affiliated societies. A list^a of these is appended.
 (f) On the guarantee of the Provincial Society yarn valued at Rs. 29,099 has been supplied to primary societies up to 5th August 1937.
 (g) The net profit of the Society for 1935-36 was Rs. 596-7-7. The audit for the year 1936-37 has not yet been completed.

Transfer of elementary school teachers employed under local bodies.

34 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) how many elementary school teachers are now employed under the local bodies in the Presidency;

(b) what their grades of pay are;

^a Printed as Appendix II at pages 293-295 infra.

[4th September 1937]

- (c) how they are transferred; whether it is on the recommendation of the Deputy Inspector of Schools or on the recommendation of other superiors of the department;
 (d) how many elementary school teachers were transferred from one place to another for the last two years and on what grounds;
 (e) how many transfers were made on the recommendation of the Deputy Inspector of Schools or superiors of the department; and
 (f) what the cost incurred thereby by the respective local bodies is?

A.—(a) On the 31st March 1936 the number of teachers in elementary schools under local bodies was as follows:—
 ✓ 39,574 men teachers.
 ✓ 6,507 women teachers.

(b) (i) *Local boards.*—The following scales of pay have been fixed by Government for teachers in board schools:—

Men teachers.	Trained.	Untrained
		RS.
Lower elementary grade ..	Rs. 15—1 biennial—20 ..	..
Higher elementary grade ..	Rs. 20—1 biennial—24—2 ..	..
	biennial—30 ..	15
Secondary grade ..	Rs. 25—2 biennial—45 ..	20
Women teachers.		
Lower elementary grade ..	Rs. 20—1/biennial—25 ..	15
Higher elementary grade ..	Rs. 25—1/biennial— ..	..
	29—2/biennial—35 ..	20
Secondary grade ..	Rs. 30—2/biennial—50 ..	25

The scales of pay fixed for men teachers may be adopted for women teachers also provided these were entertained after 7th August 1936 and all men teachers in girls' schools under the local body have been replaced by qualified women teachers.

(ii) *Municipal Councils.*—The scales of pay referred to in (i) above have been adopted by a large number of Municipal Councils. A few have, however, adopted the following scales:—

Men and women teachers.	Scales of pay.
Secondary grade	Rs. 30—3/biennial—45—2/ ..
	biennial—55.
Higher elementary grade ..	Rs. 23—2/biennial—45.
Lower elementary grade ..	Rs. 20—2/biennial—24—1/ ..
	biennial—28.

(c) According to the rules recently issued, the Inspectress of Girls' Schools or the District Educational Officer should be consulted by the presidents of district boards and the executive authorities of municipal councils in regard to the transfer of teachers.

(d), (e) & (f) It is known that there have been frequent transfers of teachers in some districts but the Government have no detailed information.

[4th September 1937]

Enquiry in regard to the punishment awarded by the Headmaster, Board High School, Dharmapuri, to boys for their absence on 1st April 1937 without lawful excuse.

35 Q.—MR. M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to call for the information, if necessary, and state—

(a) whether the Director of Public Instruction and the District Educational Officer, Salem, received a joint mahazar, dated 6th April 1937, from the Secretary of Desia Valiba Sangam and Mr. D. K. Appadurai Chettiyar, Dharmapuri (Salem district), in respect of the caning and fining of the school boys by Mr. Swami Dass, B.A., L.T., Headmaster, Board High School, Dharmapuri, on 2nd April 1937 for the absence of boys without leave on 1st April 1937, the day of hartal on the inauguration of the India Act of 1935; and

(b) if so, what the steps taken by the department on the said mahazar and the enquiries made in that connexion are?

A.—(a) & (b) The Director of Public Instruction received a letter on the matter from Mr. D. K. Appadurai Chettiyar. Enquiries made by him showed that the absentees in Forms II to IV were each given two mild cuts on their hands with a cane and that absentees in Form V were fined an anna each for each session of their absence. The Director did not consider it necessary to intervene in the matter, as questions relating to discipline in a board school are primarily the concern of the board. The district board has since passed a resolution directing the transfer of the headmaster and the refund of the fines collected.

Irrigation projects for the Nellore district.

36 Q.—MR. B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any irrigation projects which have been sanctioned already for the Nellore district and which have not been taken up for execution;

(b) the reasons in each case why they have not been taken up; in case any have been abandoned, the reason for such abandonment; and

(c) whether the Nellore district was removed from the Tungabhadra Project; if so, why?

A.—(a) Yes. The construction of an anicut across the Venkatagiri river in the Gudur taluk.

(b) The scheme referred to in clause (a) above has not yet been taken up pending further examination of the question of the alleged rights of the ryots of the Gudur taluk who have given a suit notice. A statement^a giving information in regard to irrigation schemes in the district that have been abandoned is laid on the table.

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 296-297 infra.

[4th September 1937]

(c) Yes. The original Tungabhadra project submitted to the Government of India in 1905 provided for extension of irrigation in Nellore district under the project. When it was later revised under instructions from the Government of India, the Nellore area was omitted on the ground that its inclusion added but little financial strength to the scheme as a whole and provided an exceptionally difficult engineering problem. In the modified Tungabhadra-Kistna project in the form recommended by the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee in 1926, extension of irrigation to Nellore from the reservoir on the Pennar at Someswaram was provided for as part of the project. Later on in 1927 the Nellore area was ordered to be cut out owing to the impracticability of building a dam at Someswaram across the Pennar. The project in its present form provides for the irrigation of parts of Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool districts only.

Proposals for the construction of a bridge across the river Pennar at Nellore.

37 Q.—MR. B. VENKATANARAYANA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the construction of any bridge was sanctioned over the river Pennar at Nellore;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the serious inconvenience consequent on the non-existence of such a bridge;

(c) when it is likely to be taken up; what the reason is for the delay; and

(d) the number of persons washed away at the causeway in the river Pennar during the floods every year for the last ten years; and whether in consideration thereof, the Government will consider the desirability of including the construction of the bridge in the programme for the next official year?

A.—(a) The construction of a bridge over the Pennar river at Nellore has not so far been sanctioned. Only plans and estimates for a bridge costing Rs. 10,95,000 have been prepared.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) In view of the limited funds available for the construction of major bridges, it is not possible to say at present when the construction of the bridge will be taken up for execution. The Government have no information as to the number of persons washed away at the causeway during the floods during the last ten years.

[4th September 1937]

*Reservation of a seat for Muslims on the District Board,
South Kanara.*

38 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact—

(a) that a seat for Muslims of the Coondapoor division in South Kanara had been reserved for Udipi on the District Board of South Kanara;

(b) that the said reserved seat had been taken away by Government in the latter half of 1935; and

(ii) whether the Government will consider the desirability of restoring the reserved seat for the Coondapoor division on the District Board of South Kanara?

A.—(i) (a) & (b) & (ii) The answers are in the affirmative.

Protests against the constitution of Udipi into a municipality.

39 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any protests from the public of Udipi in South Kanara in respect of the municipality recently introduced in that town; and

(b) whether the Government have considered or propose to consider the advisability of replacing the municipality by a major Panchayat Board?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The advisability of constituting Udipi into a panchayat was considered by the Government before deciding to constitute it into a municipality.

Minimum educational qualifications of candidates appearing for the examination conducted by the Madras Public Service Commission for recruitment to the Ministerial Service.

40 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules framed by the Madras Public Service Commission by which a candidate who is eligible for the University course in all respects, is disqualified for competing at the examination held for selecting persons for lower ministerial service, and if so, what the criterion is in disqualifying a candidate who is eligible for University course;

(b) how many graduates appeared for the said examination on the last occasion and how many of them succeeded;

(c) how many under-graduates appeared for the said examination on the last occasion and how many of them succeeded; and

(d) how many S.S.L.C. holders appeared for the said examination on the last occasion and how many of them succeeded?

[4th September 1937]

A.—(a) The power to make rules prescribing qualifications for recruitment to the subordinate services vests in Government. The Madras Public Service Commission has to observe these rules in making selections.

Sub-rule (a) of rule 5 of the Madras Ministerial Service Rules prescribes the qualifications required for appointment to the Madras Ministerial Service. A copy^a of the rule is annexed. Eligibility for the University courses of study which was once recognized by the Government as an alternative qualification to that prescribed by them is not now recognized for the reasons that the Universities may and did vary and lower the standard for the admission of S.S.L.C. candidates to the Colleges. University rules are intended and shaped for continuing the education of the students concerned. But Government service requires a completed equipment up to a certain degree.

(b), (c) & (d) The figures are furnished below:—

	Graduates.	Inter-mediates.	S.S.L.Cs.
Number of candidates who appeared for the examination	770	779	2,061
Number of candidates selected	257	182	279

Muslims employed in all classes and grades in the Public Works Department.

41 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Muslims employed in the Province in all classes and grades of Government service in the Public Works Department; and

(b) the number of Muslims so employed in each class and grade?

A.—(a) 229.

(b) Gazetted officer	...	...	...	...	1
Supervisors	...	...	...	...	3
Others { on Rs. 100 and over	...	...	...	...	8
{ between Rs. 35 and Rs. 99	...	...	...	...	28
{ less than Rs. 35	...	...	...	...	89

List of public works in progress and their estimated cost.

42 Q.—MR. H. S. HUSSAIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to lay on the table a list of the following public works that are in progress now and the estimated cost of each:—

- (1) Public and Government buildings.
- (2) Bridges.
- (3) Roads.
- (4) Irrigation works?

[4th September 1937]

- A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Detailed Civil Works and Irrigation Budgets for 1937-38. Particulars regarding the individual major works which are in progress will be found in the following pages of the Budget:—
Buildings—Pages 5-15 and 43-47 of the Detailed Civil Works Budget.
Bridges and Roads—Pages 16-18 of the Detailed Civil Works Budget.
Irrigation Works—Pages 15-16, 19-23 and 27-29 of the Detailed Irrigation Budget.

Enquiry into the conditions of service of elementary school teachers.

43 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether any enquiry was instituted to know the conditions of the pay, prospects, and service of the elementary school teachers, and whether any suggestions were made to improve their service and status; and

(b) if so, whether the Hon. Minister will cause such report to be laid on the table?

A.—(a) The Director of Public Instruction has made an investigation into the conditions of service of elementary school teachers, both under private management and under the management of local bodies. He has made proposals to Government with regard to the framing of new rules to improve the conditions of service of elementary school teachers. Most of these proposals have already been approved by Government. The Director of Public Instruction has also recently submitted new draft rules to implement the orders of Government and these are at present under the consideration of Government.

(b) No special report was submitted to Government. The proposals for the improvement of the conditions of service of teachers were made in the form of ordinary official letters to Government.

Extension of compulsory elementary education in rural areas.

44 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) how many new Divisional Inspectors have been appointed in pursuance of the Report on the Development of Elementary Education and on what pay;

(b) what steps, if any, have been taken to make compulsion effective in the rural areas;

(c) if it has not yet been done, why it is delayed; and

(d) whether a move will be made in this direction at least in one or two selected areas?

[4th September 1937]

A.—(a) There are four posts of Divisional Inspectors. One of these is combined with the post of Deputy Director of Public Instruction for Elementary Education and another with the post of District Educational Officer, Madras. The pay of each Divisional Inspector is Rs. 600—100/2—1,000. The Divisional Inspector who does duty as Deputy Director for Elementary Education also draws a special pay of Rs. 50 in addition to pay.

(b) On the 31st March 1936 compulsory elementary education was in force in the following rural areas:—

Malabar district—

Walluvanad taluk—Mannarghat village panchayat.

Ponnani taluk—Three select amsams.

Ernad taluk—Select amsams in East and West Ernad.

North Arcot district—

Tiruppattur taluk—Natrampalli and Agraharam panchayats.

Ramnad district—

Sivakasi taluk—Vadamalapuram and Sengamalanachiyapuram (boys and girls).

Chingleput district—

Saidapet taluk.

Tanjore district—

Tiruvadi Union.

No additional rural areas have recently been brought under compulsion.

(c) & (d).—The Government consider that the provision of complete properly staffed and adequately accommodated schools must precede the introduction of compulsion in any area. They have accordingly been taking steps to provide a sufficiency of school places in all rural areas, to build up complete five standard elementary schools and to improve the qualifications of the teachers and the accommodation in the schools. As soon as this preliminary work has been satisfactorily carried out, the question of experimenting with compulsion in further rural areas will be considered.

Facilities for medical education in the Tamil and the Andhra districts.

45 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any large scale General Hospital between Madras and Calcutta besides the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam;

(b) whether there is any other Medical College in all the Telugu districts, besides the Vizagapatam Medical College;

(c) what the number of Medical Educational Institutions is—

(i) in the Tamil districts including Madras, and

(ii) in the Andhra districts?

[4th September 1937]

A.—(a) In the northern districts in this Presidency, the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, is the largest hospital with 342 beds. There are other big hospitals but lesser in size than the Vizagapatam hospital:—

	Number of beds.
(1) Government District Headquarters Hospital, Nellore	78
(2) Government District Headquarters Hospital, Masulipatam	109
(3) Government District Headquarters Hospital, Ellore	50
(4) Government District Headquarters Hospital, Cocanada	71
(5) Government District Headquarters Hospital, Guntur	200

The Government have no information in regard to the institutions lying beyond the limits of the Madras Presidency.

(b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) (i) *Government Medical Institutions*—

- (1) Medical College, Madras.
- (2) The Stanley Medical School, Madras.
- (3) The Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, Madras.
- (4) The School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

Government aided institution—

- (5) The Missionary Medical School for Women, Vellore.

(ii) The Medical College, Vizagapatam.

Extent of the control of Government over the Universities.

46 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government is giving any grants to the Andhra, Annamalai and Madras Universities and if so, what;

(b) what the control the Government have over the said three Universities; and

(c) whether the Universities have been submitting any annual administration reports to the Government; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the reports for the past three years on the table?

A.—(a) Yes. The following are the annual grants paid to the Universities:

University of Madras—Rs. 3,15,500.
Andhra University—Rs. 1.50 lakhs.
Annamalai University—Rs. 1.50 lakhs.

[4th September 1937]

(b) Universities are autonomous bodies. The University Acts, however, provide that the accounts of the Universities shall be submitted to such examination and audit as the Government may direct. The officers of the Local Fund Accounts Department conduct the audit.

(c) The answer to the first part is 'Yes' and that to the second part is 'No.'

Enquiry into the working of the Andhra University Act.

47 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state whether the Government have on any previous occasion appointed a Committee or Commission to enquire into the working of the Andhra University Act?

A.—No.

Rules relating to the Andhra University Hostel.

48 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether any rules have been framed for the Andhra University hostel and if so, by whom; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of such rules on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) The question relates to the internal administration of the University with which the Government are not primarily concerned.

Appointment of the Registrar of the Andhra University as Divisional Inspector of Schools.

49 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the present Registrar of the Andhra University is a member of the Madras Educational Service;

(b) for how long his services have been lent to the University;

(c) whether he has been appointed as Divisional Inspector; if so, when;

(d) whether he has taken charge of the same; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons why he has not done so?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) From the 26th April 1926 to the 25th April 1938.

(c) He was appointed as Divisional Inspector of Schools on the 9th January 1937.

(d) No.

(e) At the request of the Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, the officer referred to has been permitted to continue as Registrar until the 25th April 1938.

[4th September 1937]

Alleged hardships to pensioners by the revision of Fundamental Rule 117.

50 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether an application, dated 22nd October 1932, was received by the Government of Madras from Mr. B. Appalanarasimham in the matter of his right to receive pension under the old Fundamental Rules 116 and 117, under which the pay in foreign service should have been taken into consideration in fixing his pension;

(b) whether the revised Fundamental Rules prejudice an appointment made virtually about (1923) five years prior to the revision of the old Fundamental Rule 117; and

(c) whether the Government's attention has been invited to an exactly similar case, namely, the grant of pension to Mr. Vedantabatl Appalanarasimham, retired Tahsildar, Ganjam district, under the same Fundamental Rules?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Mr. B. Appalanarasimham's case fell under revised Fundamental Rule 117, because the revised rule had come into force on 5th September 1928 while the last extension of his foreign service (which was a fresh contract) was sanctioned on 8th September 1928 with effect from 20th December 1928, both these dates being subsequent to the date of the revision.

(c) The case of Mr. V. Appalanarasimham is not exactly similar. The last sanction of his foreign service took effect on 5th July 1928 two months before the revised Fundamental Rules 116 and 117 came into force.

Professors and Lecturers employed under the Andhra University.

51 Q.—MR. D. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Andhra University has any salaried and full-timed professor for any of the several departments of the University; and

(b) how many lecturers and professors (names and degrees individually) have left the Andhra University from 1934 up to date; and the reasons therefor?

A.—(a) & (b) The question relates to the internal administration of the University with which the Government are not primarily concerned.

[September 1937]

Measures for the prevention of the imports of foreign rice.

52 Q.—MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to prevent the dumping of the market in this Presidency by ordinary and broken rice from Burma and Siam and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the papers relating to the same; and

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to take any steps in this matter?

A.—(a) Nothing could be done against imports from Burma, as Burma was part of India till 1st April 1937. Nor can any action be taken till 1st April 1940 under the provisions of the India and Burma (Trade Regulation) Order, 1937. As regards Siam, as a result of the several representations made to the Government of India by this Government, the Central Government imposed a customs duty of 12 annas per maund on the import of broken rice from all foreign countries including Siam with effect from 1st April 1935. After the imposition of this duty, the imports from Siam began to dwindle and there have been no imports of rice or paddy from Siam from the beginning of November 1936. It is not in public interest that copies of representations made to the Government of India in the matter should be published.

(b) The question does not arise.

Investigation of the Gundlakamma project in Guntur district as a protective work.

53 Q.—MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the result of the investigation carried on by the Government in relation to the Gundlakamma project in Ongole taluk, Guntur district;

(b) what the area that can be irrigated under this project is; and

(c) whether the Government intend taking up this project as a protective scheme, as a protection against drought?

A.—(a) The investigation has not yet been completed.

(b) It is estimated that under a dry scheme about 74,000 acres in the second-crop season every year and 16,000 acres in the first-crop season once in two years can be irrigated. Under a wet scheme it is estimated that the area irrigated will be about 20,000 acres. The question whether the scheme will be a dry or wet one will be decided only after the results of the investigation are known.

(c) The question will be considered after the results of the investigation are known.

[4th September 1937]

Reasons for the postponement of the Kistna Reservoir Project.

54 Q.—MR. P. BUCHAPPA NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the area—district and talukwar—that will be irrigated under what is known as the Kistna reservoir project;

(b) what the estimated cost of this project is; and

(c) what the reasons are for the action taken by the Government in putting off the execution of this project, and for taking up and completing irrigation projects planned comparatively later?

A.—(a) The project is for the irrigation of a new area of 610,000 acres in the Guntur uplands and also for expansion of irrigation in the Kistna delta to the extent of 292,000 acres. Talukwar figures for the Guntur district are given at page 324 of Volume I of the Kistna Reservoir Project report, which is available for reference in the Secretariat Library.

(b) 834 lakhs.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to the Legislative Council question No. 349, dated 22nd January 1935.

Economic condition in the South Arcot district.

55 Q.—MR. R. VENKATASUBBA REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the District Collector of South Arcot has stated (vide the Administration Report—Statistics of Stamp Revenue and Expenditure—1936–37) that the reason for the fall in the sale of judicial stamps in 1936–37 is due to the fall in litigation;

(b) whether the District Collector has given any reason for the fall in litigation and what it is;

(c) whether the District Collector has stated in the same report that the increase in the sale of non-judicial stamps in 1936–37 is due to the revival of economic prosperity in the district; and

(d) whether the Collector has given any basis for this conclusion and what it is?

A.—(a) The Collector of South Arcot attributed the fall to a decrease of litigation.

(b) The answer is in the negative. But in the earlier part of the report referred to by the hon. Member, it is stated that the decrease in litigation was consequent on the attempts of the public to settle their claims out of court.

(c) The Collector stated that the increase must be due to better economic conditions than in the previous year.

(d) The answer is in the negative.

4th September 1937]

Repairs to the feeding channels from the Kovankulam dam across the Nambiyar in Nanguneri taluk.

56 Q.—SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state in reference to Nambiyar channel in Nanguneri taluk, Tinnevely district—

(a) the number and names of tanks fed by the channels from Kovankulam dam across the Nambiyar;

(b) the total acreage of wet lands cultivated therein;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said channels are now in disrepair; and

(d) whether all the water passing through the channels feed the respective tanks?

A.—(a) to (d) Government have no information but have called for a report.

Proposals for the abolition of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and the amendment of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

57 Q.—MR. C. NARASIMHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government consider it necessary to retain the Board of Commissioners for the Hindu Religious Endowments;

(b) if not, whether they are contemplating to abolish it; and

(c) whether the Government have in view any scheme for amending the present Hindu Religious Endowments Act so as to re-organize and remodel the whole system?

A.—(a) to (c) The question of amending the Hindu Religious Endowments Act is under the consideration of the Government.

Reports by the Criminal Intelligence Department of speeches delivered at public meetings.

58 Q.—MR. P. MADHAVAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Government have issued instructions to the reporters of the Criminal Intelligence Department not to be present at or take notes of speeches delivered at public meetings?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Scheme for the supply of electricity to Gobichettipalayam.

59 Q.—MR. D. SRINIVASA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the scheme for the supply of electricity to Gobichettipalayam stands; and

(b) whether the Government propose to include it in the coming budget?

[4th September 1937]

1.—(a) An investigation with a view to supply electricity to Gobichettipalayam was made. It was found that the scheme would not be remunerative unless a certain amount of pumping load and industrial load was forthcoming. The Government have prohibited electric pumping in the area commanded by the proposed Bhavani Reservoir Project, in which area Gobichettipalayam is included, for the reason that if lift irrigation by electric pumping is allowed in the area it is likely to affect the remunerative nature of the Irrigation Project. A demand for industrial load has not yet materialized.

(b) In view of the answer to clause (a) this does not arise.

Representation of registered trade unions in the District Economic Councils.

60 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether registered trade unions have any representation in the District Economic Councils in this Presidency; and

(b) whether it is proposed to give representation therein to representatives of organized labour in each district in the Presidency?

A.—(a) & (b) The reconstitution of District Economic Councils is receiving the immediate attention of the Government.

Particulars regarding the motor-bus service in each district of the Presidency.

61 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Courts and Prisons be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing—

(a) the number of passenger motor-buses running in each district of the Presidency;

(b) the routes sanctioned in each district and the fares charged for various distances in each district for the different routes for motor traffic;

(c) the returns submitted by the motor-bus owners showing capital invested, gross earnings and working expenses for each year since 1933; and

(d) the number of fatal accidents and other casualties due to motor traffic for passengers, pedestrians and servants of motor transport service respectively in the last three years in each district of the Presidency?

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A.—(a) The number of buses plying for hire at the end of the year 1936 is shown in the appended statement ^a No. I.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) No such returns are received by the Government. Public companies registered under the Indian Companies Act are required to prepare periodical balance sheets and file copies thereof with the Assistant Registrar of Joint Stock Companies. The copies kept by the Assistant Registrar are open to inspection under section 248 (5) of the Indian Companies Act (VII of 1913).

(d) The number of persons killed and the number injured who have received treatment in hospital during the years 1934, 1935 and 1936 are shown in the appended statement ^a No. II. Separate figures relating to the number of passengers, pedestrians and servants of motor transport services killed or injured are not available.

Depressed class hostels maintained by the Labour Department in the Presidency.

62 Q.—MR. K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the number of depressed class hostels in the Presidency under the Labour Department, the total number of students in the said hostels and the total annual expenditure incurred thereon?

A.—Number of Depressed Class hostels run by the Labour Department				5
Total number of students in the hostels in 1935-36				211
Total expenditure in 1935-36				Rs. 30,217-2-8

Proposal for opening a cattle-breeding farm in the Guntur district.

63 Q.—MR. D. R. ISAAC: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are going to start a cattle-breeding farm in Guntur district;

(b) whether it is a fact that on account of such a farm a number of poor ryots have been asked to give up the lands that they have been cultivating on lease system for a number of years; and

(c) whether the Government have considered the possibility of locating that farm in another place where less number of cultivators will be affected thereby?

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 299-300 infra.

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A.—(a) Yes. The Hon. Member presumably refers to the proposal to open a buffalo breeding station at Prattur.

(b) The margin lands of the Kistna river which had been leased to the Depressed Class Tenants Co-operative Society of Prattur for three years from fasli 1344 are required for the station. The Collector has warned the lessees not to extend the cultivation of these lands.

(c) No. The site required for a cattle breeding station has to be selected with reference to its situation, area, soil, rainfall, water-supply, availability of grazing, fodder and labour, communication, possibility of extension and disposal of produce. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Live-stock, was put on special duty for two months from 1st November 1936 to select suitable sites and he has selected this site with reference to the considerations mentioned above.

Reports of the educational experts, Messrs. Abbot and Wood.

64 Q.—MR. G. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Legal Departments be pleased to state—

(a) whether the report of the educational experts, Messrs. Abbot and Wood, published on July 23rd, 1937, has been referred to this Government for its opinion, by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, whether it will be made available to the members of this Legislature?

A.—(a) The Government of India have forwarded a copy of the report for the information of the Provincial Government. The Provincial Government have not yet been asked for their opinion on the report.

(b) The report will be made available to the Members of the Provincial Legislature as soon as more copies are received.

Filling up of the post of Honorary Obstetric Physician to the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore.

65 Q.—MR. T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) at what date Dr. M. Subrahmanya Ayyar retired from his position as Honorary Obstetric Physician to the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore;

(b) why the post of Honorary Physician aforesaid was not filled on his retirement; and

(c) whether it is the intention of Government to fill it up; if not, why not?

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A.—(a) 16th June 1935.

(b) The post was kept vacant as it was then considered unnecessary to appoint an Honorary Medical Officer for this hospital.

(c) Yes. The Surgeon-General has recently stated that there is necessity for the appointment of an Honorary Medical Officer as there is considerable material on hand for purposes of research, which require detailed investigation. The Government have approved his proposal to invite applications for the post.

Comparison of the revenue derived from the sale of non-judicial stamps before and after the enhancement of the stamp duty.

66 Q.—MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the revenue from the sale of non-judicial stamps for each of the five years before the duty was enhanced in 1922 or thereabouts; and

(b) the same in each of the last ten years?

A.—(a) & (b) The enhanced stamp duties chargeable on the instruments mentioned in the Schedule I-A to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, were introduced with effect from the 1st April 1922. The net receipts from the sale of non-judicial stamped papers for each of the five years preceding 1st April 1922 and for each of the last ten years are given in the appended statements ^a.

Total value of crops raised under minor irrigation.

67 Q.—MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the total value of crops raised during each of the last ten years under minor irrigation?

A.—The Government have no information.

Receipts and expenditure under Excise, districtwar.

68 Q.—MR. K. VEERARAGHAVASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the revenue from excise in each of the districts of the Presidency last year; and

(b) the expenditure for the same during the year?

A.—(a) & (b) The information required is not available for the year 1936-37 as the annual report for that year is due only on 15th September 1937. The information is furnished in the appended statement ^b for the year 1935-36.

^a Printed as Appendix VI on page 300 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix VII on page 301 infra.

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Number of Inspecting Tahsildars and their work in this Presidency.

69 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR P. M. ATTAKOYA THANGAL: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) how many Inspecting Tahsildars there are in this Presidency;
- (b) what their main functions are; and
- (c) who were performing those functions before the introduction of that system?

A.—(a) One in each district except Madras and the Nilgiris and one Inspecting Deputy Tahsildar in the Nilgiris.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs 2 to 8 of Appendix III to Board's Standing Order No. 34-A, at pages 340-343 of Board's Standing Orders, Volume II.

(c) The functions were originally performed by the Land Records Department. The department was abolished in 1921 as the result of a vote in the Legislative Council in connexion with the Budget for 1921-22. On its abolition such items of work as were essential for the purposes of the revenue administration were entrusted to the officers of the Land Revenue Department. Experience, however, showed that this arrangement was not satisfactory and this led to the introduction of the existing system in 1925.

Classification of Panchayat Boards as private bodies for purposes of payment of fees for subdivision of survey fields.

70 Q.—MR. P. CHINNAMUTHU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether village panchayats are also considered as private bodies for payment of fees for subdivision of survey fields on their application in taluks where the Experimental Land Records Maintenance is working?

A.—Panchayat boards and other local bodies are on the same footing in regard to this matter as private bodies and individuals.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1937-38.

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The general discussion of the Budget will now continue."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have great pleasure in congratulating the Hon. the Premier on the very sound and able manner in which he has presented the Budget for the year. I do not do so in a conventional manner; I do so very sincerely, because I feel that in spite of the fact that the Ministry entered office only in the middle of July last, it has done its very best to present a Budget which, to a very large extent, attempts to serve the people of this province. I may assure the Finance Minister, Sir, that we on this

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side of the House are always prepared and ready to give our whole-hearted support to the Government in all proposals and projects that they may undertake for the amelioration of the conditions of the masses of this province. It was really difficult for the Hon. Minister in this short period to depart from the old method of preparing the Budget. He had inevitably to accept the estimates that were already made by the interim Ministry or by the previous Government.

"So far as the question of land revenue is concerned, the Government seem to have accepted the provision that was made already for a remission of Rs. 75 lakhs, but they do not seem to have stopped with that. They are endeavouring to find ways and means to give to the agriculturist amenities which will increase his earning capacity, and will also enable him to better his condition.

"May I say, Sir, that we are, to a certain extent, dissatisfied with the way in which the lot of the agriculturist has been dealt with. Of course we realize that the Ministry did not have time enough to consider the fundamental question of land revenue itself—at what rate taxation should be levied, in what manner the collection should be made and to what extent the settlements and resettlements should be carried out—or to indicate whether during the present year, they will go into the matter thoroughly and give some permanent relief to the agriculturist. It is true that the remission of Rs. 75 lakhs will, to a certain extent, give temporary relief to the agriculturist; but only when he gets a permanent relief can he go on with his work with some sort of security, without having to pay at the end of the year the excessive assessment on account of the present high rate at which the land tax is levied. I therefore hope, Sir, that the Government will go into the matter carefully with a view to give the needed relief, permanent relief to the agriculturist.

"I was rather very surprised also to see, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Finance feels that prices have gone up and that the condition of the agriculturist has improved at the present time. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister will make further enquiries into the matter and satisfy himself whether such reports are correct and whether the condition of the agriculturist has really improved, whether he is not groaning under the present taxation and whether his condition is not the same deplorable one as it used to be during the past few years. In view of the fact perhaps that the time before the Minister was so short, he has not been able to give sufficient attention to the amelioration of the condition of the masses. If the present Government are not going to give the amount of relief that is necessary to the masses to raise them from the position which they occupied on account of the economic conditions of the country, I do not know which Government could do. In the past, we have been continually complaining against the Government and we always held that the constitution was defective in that it did not give the Government sufficient power to improve the lot of the masses. I do not find in the present Budget anything to show that sufficient

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attempts have been made to improve the lot of the masses on any large scale. Something has been done no doubt in that respect. I find that by introducing prohibition, they seek to improve the economic condition of the people of one district, i.e., Salem. I do not know why Salem has been selected for introducing prohibition. It is not to-day that Salem has been selected; I think it was selected in the past by the then Government also. The previous Government also tried prohibition in some of the taluk of the Salem district and that district has again been chosen by the present Government. I thought, Sir, that the Government would have done well to begin prohibition in the Ceded districts in the first instance. It is the Ceded districts which require to be attended to first in this respect before any other district in the Province. In such a case, I am quite sure we would have better results.

"So far as the question of prohibition is concerned, I do not think there will be any two opinions. Although some of the opinions expressed were halting and were not in favour of prohibition, I think that nobody is absolutely against the introduction of prohibition in our Province.

"The Hon. Ministers, by reducing their salaries, have set a very good example to the officers of the Government; but it must be remembered that it is not possible for the Government officers, particularly of the Provincial Services, to reduce their salaries; because, as has been mentioned already, the standard of living in their case has been raised to such an extent that we cannot expect them to serve on lower salaries, more especially in view of the fact that the Government are not in a position to reduce the salaries of the Imperial Services. I am glad, Sir, that the Government have increased the allotment for some of the nation-building services such as water-supply, education, provision of midwives in rural dispensaries, provision for more rural dispensaries, etc. These are certainly urgent reforms which the Government have attended to, and I hope that the results will be satisfactory and that in the future years, the Government will try to improve by these methods the condition of the rural classes.

"In regard to the broadcasting sets which have been purchased, I do not know how far these sets will be useful. There seems to be an impression that adult education can be popularized by means of these broadcasting sets. I have always felt, Sir, that no education, elementary or secondary, could succeed if it was to be imparted by means of these broadcasting sets. Unless there is the personal touch, unless there is the teacher in the presence of the pupil or student, there is no possibility of success in any proposal for education.

"The Government have also done well in floating a loan for Rs. 150 lakhs when they found it necessary, in order to increase the allotment for nation-building services. It is wrong to think that the loan should not have been floated. It is well-known that our finance

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is so sound that the Government can raise not only a loan of Rs. 150 lakhs, but even more. At the time, no hon. Member of this House would advise the Government to continue to raise loans year after year. Whenever it is necessary and particularly when the Government want money to be spent on remunerative services, it must be possible for them to float loans, so long as the financial condition of the province is sound.

"As regards education, I do not know what the policy of the Government is going to be on the question of reforms. Some additional provision has been made for primary education; but I find that sufficient provision has not been made for secondary education, particularly for building grants. There are many existing secondary schools in the province which stand in need of building grants from Government. I do not know if it is a fact that the Government have issued instructions to the Education department not to give any new building grants to existing schools, although they may be in need of the same. I should like to be enlightened on this matter. There are many secondary schools in the Province which are serving the backward communities; and if building grants are to be withheld from them, secondary education for the backward communities is bound to suffer.

"Some hon. Members who spoke before me have referred to the question of retrenchment. In the year 1931, the then Government tried to retrench some of the services and reduced the grades of salaries in the case of many classes of services. The present Government are not, rightly enough, satisfied with the retrenchment then made; but the Prime Minister has not given us any indication in his Budget speech as to what he proposes to do, whether he is going to retrench some of the supernumerary and unnecessary services and posts.

"Sir, illustrations were given by the hon. Members who have spoken before me and I do not therefore like to enumerate the various posts which can very safely be abolished without affecting the efficiency of the administration. As I have already stated, the Government must always keep in view the fact that the services must be contented and happy and that nothing should be done by the Government which would affect the contentment and happiness of the services. I know that it is absolutely necessary that we must effect economies and retrenchment in the services, but at the same time we must carry them out very carefully so that we avoid the introduction of discontent among the ranks.

"In this connexion, there is one other subject which has to be borne in mind by the Government and that is to avoid anything being done by way of reduction in salaries which would throw open the gates of corruption in services. The reason why salaries have been fixed somewhat higher previously was in order to avoid corruption. If some of the most responsible posts are to be held hereafter by persons whose salaries are to be reduced, there is every possibility of corruption coming into place. I am sure that that aspect of the

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question has also to be borne in mind, otherwise it will be false economy to merely reduce salaries and throw them at the mercy of those officers to be exploited as much as they can. I hope the Government will not take to this expedient of reducing the salaries of the present incumbents. From the speech of the Hon. the Finance Minister I find that there is indication to the effect that the Government are applying to the Secretary of State for permission to reduce the salaries of even the present incumbents, but I do not know how far they will be successful in this direction. One can understand if new grades are introduced in the case of new entrants to the service, but it is quite a wrong policy to reduce the salaries of the existing incumbents. There is also another fact to be considered in this connexion and that is it will be also wrong to expect people already in the service, when they are promoted to a higher grade, to accept lower salaries. I am not sure that that will be advisable. I believe it is an accepted principle that when once a person enters a service, he accepts the post with the implications existing at the time of appointment and with the guarantee and security that till he reaches the highest place during the tenure of his service he will be entitled to all the rights and privileges that were existing at the time he originally entered the service. I do not believe it is right on the part of the Government to expect such persons to accept anything lower when they are promoted. I would like you, Sir, to visualize the position of a servant who has been receiving, say Rs. 100, in his present grade and when promoted he gets only Rs. 100 again. It is no promotion at all for him so far as his salary goes. At the same time you have to visualize for a moment the situation of a person when promoted to a higher place gets Rs. 150 and under him there are also others getting the same salary as he himself will get under the new grade. That certainly will not be a desirable state of affairs.

"Sir, in conclusion, I wish the new Government every success in their attempt to serve the best interests of the people of this Province."

* Mr. KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Opposition attacked the Budget from four points of view, namely, hand-spinning, prohibition, land revenue and salaries. John Ruskin was responsible for a statement that 'there is no wealth but life, that country is the richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings.' On this consideration, we in India feel that we are neither rich nor happy and a look at the rural area of the country will show in what dire state of poverty our country is steeped in to-day. In these months of unemployment in the agricultural districts, how can the poor coolie who cannot earn anything from the field eke out his own livelihood and those who depend on him. Let us also see how even in the towns a man without any employment, even a woman, goes through the streets and collects the little rice that is thrown out in the waste-bins and feeds himself or herself and the

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children who are dying for want of food. Knowing as I do this country in which we live, we are yearning to see that it is the responsibility of the Government to provide some kind of employment that is within the reach of the common man, to the man who is able to render some little help unto himself. Now, I wish to put this question to hon. Members of the Opposition, is there any other thing except the spinning wheel which will give him the much needed relief? The spinning wheel brings light where there is no illumination to-day and gives him food everyday where there is not even a morsel of food. I say that hand-spinning is the only panacea for the evils that exist to-day in our country.

"Further, Sir, our friends have been talking of industrialization. What is industrialization? Only the other day, one of the Parliamentary Secretaries of the Government of Bombay stated with his experience that each spindle in a mill will cost on an average Rs. 3,000, but the cost of an improved charka comes to only Rs. 3. This is a terrible comparison. Moreover, in the mills the labourer gets only 10 to 12 per cent of the profits, but from the spinning wheel he will get from 65 to 70 per cent. If these two things are considered, I do not think that hon. Members opposite will object to the encouragement of hand-spinning and hand-weaving in our country. Then again, Sir, I hope those who appreciate the good spirit underlying the Budget framed by the Hon. the Premier, will certainly co-operate with him in carrying out his policy and not criticize him. I should say that we should even forego the luxury of the Lux soap and spend that amount on Godrej No. 1 and the tussa of Tassar suits must yield place to simple dress and in this matter we should imitate the Hon. the Premier in his asceticism and forsake the suits and shawls and come to this hall with *angavastram*. Without accomplishing these practical things I do not understand the empty compliments paid to the Premier by hon. Members of this House.

"Then, coming to the question of prohibition, I would like to say one word, namely, if prohibition cannot succeed in India, where else in this world can it succeed. Fortunately in our country, social and religious codes and customs are in our favour. We have got our tradition, our climate and our habits, which are all against the evils of drink. And to bring in the comparison of America, it is preposterous and the life they live in America is not in any way comparable with ours and if the American model is copied here it will force many people into unemployment with which our country is already faced to-day. Therefore when the Hon. the Premier starts this policy of prohibition, can any one in this House raise a voice of protest. I would like here to quote what Mahatma Gandhi said the other day. He said that 'there is the requisite moral momentum in our nation to achieve this noble end,' i.e., prohibition. Therefore, there is no doubt that the scheme of prohibition will succeed even in its first attempt on the 1st of October. And the fear that has been entertained in some quarters that as a result of this policy, the toddy drawers will become

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gangsters if not employed has no basis and even assuming that some of them will resort to illicit distillation, there will be Congress gunmen, not with Lewis gun but with Gandhi caps and sweet tongues to check any lapses in the matter and see that the policy of prohibition promulgated by the Hon. the Premier succeeds.

"Next, Sir, I would like to refer to the question of land revenue. It has been stated that the provision of 75 lakhs remission is not sufficient to meet the conditions in the country. Did the Premier say that it is sufficient? He himself stated that it is under his earnest and anxious consideration. I would like to underline the word 'anxious.' There is the yearning in his heart to relieve the agricultural indebtedness and the land revenue which are a heavy burden on the ryots and from which they have been suffering all these years. I would also like to point out what the Premier himself has stated and that is, that he has under his consideration proposals for exploiting alternative sources of revenue. They are many and the chief of them is to tax the zamindars. Sir, the zamindars in our country earn about four crores of rupees in this Presidency and they pay only 47 lakhs by way of peshkush. In 1802 when the perpetual settlement was given to the zamindar he was only allowed one-tenth of the rent that was then collected. To-day it has increased by leaps and bounds and the poor tenants in zamindari tracts are being rack-rented to the extent of lakhs and crores of rupees. This rack-renting should go and new sources of revenue should also be found from these zamindari areas also.

"Further, Sir, the Budget is a means not only of raising the revenue to meet expenditure, but it is also a means of redressing the inequalities in the distribution of wealth and incidence of taxation. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Minister that in formulating a scheme even for the remission of 75 lakhs, he should take into consideration of the case of these people, the value of whose properties are very little and give them remission, and even a small remission in their case means much to them. May I draw the attention of the House to the fact that pattas which have a value of Rs. 30 and below number 4,793,143 according to the latest settlement report and that they yield a revenue of Rs. 3,06,08,228 and I hope to these people also the remission will be directed and that it should be considered as a first charge on the State.

11-15 a.m. "Then, Sir, we should also feel that the interest which now goes to keep the rich in luxury is being raised at the expense of the industrious poor, therefore their public needs and public safety are superior to individual claims and the latter can be called to be sacrificed in the interest of the community. Therefore, Sir, I say that our future programme is based on helping the agriculturists. We realize, Sir, that the paddy fields are battle fields where mighty issues shall be fought and won. Therefore we need no reminder from the opposition regarding the agricultural help we have to render to the masses. Further, Sir, gentlemen sitting opposite when they were in charge of this Government failed to enact a Land

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Act because of their incapacity. There is a licence for dog and there are vehicle Acts, but for the lands on which 92 per cent of the population live there is not even a Land Act. We have to rely upon the Board's Standing Orders, issued from time to time and now they have all been bundled into four volumes. Therefore, Sir, we need no reminder from the opposition regarding our duty to the agriculturists.

"Now, Sir, there is the question of the rural indebtedness. I do not like to dilate upon the time of the House. I would only refer to the Co-operative department which has been much criticized to-day. With my experience as head of one of the Central Banks in this Presidency I can say that with a new orientation of the policy of co-operation we can achieve much in the redemption of rural indebtedness and I do hope that it will be done. As the Premier put it we will make a man of every ryot before we lay down the reins of our office.

"Before I finish I would like to mention a few local grievances pertaining to my district. There is the question of the Polavaram Island Project. It consists of ten villages and is surrounded by the river Godavari. Eight years ago water was taken there by the extension of the main central delta project. The estimated cultivable area is about 17,500 acres. Once it had reached the maximum of 13,000. But as the tax was very heavy cultivation failed and they are now having only 6 or 7 thousand acres. I request the Premier to see that that tax is reduced to the normal delta rate, viz., Rs. 5. Even then there will be no loss to revenue as the cultivated area will again increase to 15 or 16,000 acres and bring the same revenue.

"Then, Sir, I would also like to mention about the Torrigedda project. It is a stream that comes from the hills and falls in the Godavari. When Godavari is in flood the flood water will go on through this opening and the water of the combined rivers would submerge 40 villages in and round Torrigedda. From 1872 Government have been making effort to have an outflow sluice. But for various reasons both of them failed and now I request that under the Madras Famine Code some help may be rendered to them. Now the sum under the Famine Code exceeds the old statutory minimum of 40 lakhs and the exact figure now is 60 lakhs. If any funds now come in they should see that Government spend about a lakh of rupees and see that these villages are saved from annual inundation and annual lack of food.

"Then there is the Peravaram Channel project. I place this before the Premier with the assurance that this will yield good revenue on the investment. There is also the Coringa project, the Peravaram bund and minor projects at Gangalakunu, Tadikona, Sankaragupam, etc. I have got only one more request, viz., the plight of the Lanka ryots in my district. For the last seven years the floods are rising very high on account of the raising of the tarams. I wish that the Government now undertake the reclassification and give such relief in the said lankas. I also request them to open a tobacco research station at an early date."

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* MR. E. H. M. BOWER:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have listened with considerable interest to the Hon. the Premier's lucid speech introducing the Budget. That Budget which is an extraordinary combination of sound financial principles with economically unsound details has been presented to us with all the persuasiveness of the attractive personality of the Leader of the House. He has certainly done his best for his case. Speaking for a minority community which is keenly interested in the maintenance of order, I thank the Premier for a statement which I trust will be accepted as a permanent principle in provincial finance. Alluding to the dangers of rash budgeting he pointed out that in future the Provincial Government will not be able to borrow from the Central Government but must float its own loans in the open market. The Hon. the Leader of the House goes on to say: 'To the extent that its credit becomes impaired by unwise finance, it will have to pay more for its loan money, as also will those to whom the Government will re-lend have to do such as local bodies, co-operative societies and agriculturists.' Sir, this sentence comes as a breath of fresh air after the utterances of some of the North Indian leaders of the party to which the Premier belongs. I venture to congratulate him on his early enunciation of an extremely sound financial principle.

"Regarding the details in the Budget, Sir, though there may be naturally differences of opinion, personally I feel that where Madras has been allowed to think and act for itself it has thought and acted along sound lines. The portions of the Budget most open to criticism are imposed from outside by a personality who wields enormous influence and has the greatest respect of all the people in India. Had it not been for the introduction of prohibition, Sir, Congressmen in this Presidency would have been able to fulfil some of their election pledges to reduce taxation. I listened to the last speaker who has a long list of grievances and I would ask, if the prohibition programme is going through whether those grievances have any chance of being set right. Had it not been for the old Congress slogan that no man in Government service ought to draw more than five hundred rupees a month, hundreds of Government officers would not now face the possibility of the breach of an implied contract. I speak, Sir, with special emphasis because I happen to be an old Government servant myself and I shall appreciate the feeling of consternation in every Government servant who has entered Government service hoping for a fair deal, and who is placed in a position where he is suddenly told that his salary may be reduced by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent. Then had it not been for the hand spinning bounty the many new cotton spinning mills in the Madras Presidency would not now have been faced with the probability of a tax on mill woven cotton which would handicap this Presidency as against the cotton produced in areas outside the areas dominated by the Congress. Sir, I feel in the Leader and Finance Member of this House, Madras is fortunate. I can only hope the Congress leaders of this province will be allowed a freer hand to act for themselves and for the good of South India."

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MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been so much appreciative and helpful criticism both on the floor of this House and outside that I trust the infant Congress Government of which I have the honor to be a humble follower will not be overwhelmed with feelings. Indeed, Sir, it seems to me a marvel that some of those who are sitting on the Government benches who till the other day were called irresponsible and wild persons have made themselves responsible for a wholly sound budget which has received the approbation of several hon. Members of the opposition and others. Sir, the Hon. the Premier has with his characteristic innate modesty stated that it is a budget with a Congress orientation. I may go a little further and add that this is the first step in a truly national budget of this Province. It is no wonder, Sir, that the first Congress budget has emphasized the several items of future work such as larger irrigation grants, larger remissions, prohibition, rural indebtedness, public health, protected water-supply for villages, hand-spinning and retrenchment in the administration of this Government. Sir, it seems to me that any large well-disciplined and organized party cannot afford to initiate on the floor of the legislature any policy other than the one which it has avowed and made itself responsible for outside this House. Sir, the main criticism regarding the budget seems to be under the head of prohibition. My friend Mr. Appadurai Pillai stated that temperance must grow from within. My friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari says that prohibition will lead to a new cult of gangsters in the country. Sir William Wright says that prohibition cannot be effective when there is no change of heart and he further adds, Sir, that it may lead to boot leggers and bad liquor. Various friends have said that it is a mere abstract argument which is not capable of realisation.

"The Hon. the Premier has undertaken to see that the first step in prohibition which he has limited to the Salem district is not merely to be treated as an experiment but as the definite step in a considered policy of the Government. Critics have asked whether prohibition can succeed. Critics have asked whether the agency the Government proposes to employ will resist corruption and blackmailing. There is no doubt, Sir, that prohibition in our country and especially in our Presidency, with the help of the new public consciousness, is going to be an unqualified and first class success. Scepticism may be good but undue pessimism is bad. Sir, some of my Friends have said that the very agency which the Congress may employ, both official and, I may take it, even non-official agencies that will be conscripted for the purpose of making prohibition a success, may slide into corruption. According to the policy of the party, the duty entrusted to every Member of the Congress party in this House is to wage an unceasing, unflinching and courageous fight against corruption in whatever quarter it may be found. With that injunction given to us, with that command from the High Quarter, I have no doubt, Sir, that the Congress members of this House and even the public will take steps to see that prohibition and the agencies employed to carry out prohibition will be kept clean and pure. Sir, it augurs well for prohibition that our Muhammadan brethren are with

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us, and that various political parties including the Justice party have endorsed the principle of prohibition. I remember, Sir, that in the year 1921, when the Justice party took up office for the first time, they adumbrated and laid before themselves a twenty year programme which they subsequently for reasons best known to themselves have given up. I remember, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai who was a member of that party a year ago has insistently pressed on the floor of this House for total prohibition, and I am glad that to-day he adorns the Treasury Bench to give effect to the policy, the statements and to the stand which he has taken up for a number of years in the Legislature.

“ Sir, my friends of the depressed class, like Mr. Sivashanmugam Pillai and other humble workers in the field of labour, feel that it is a matter of great benefit to the working classes, that it is a matter in which we will be affected vitally, as it would result in greater economic prosperity to the hard-working community of labourers.

“ Sir, hand-spinning and the proposed licence-fee on cloth shops formed the next point of attack from the Opposition. In regard to hand-spinning, it will be remembered that even till the other day white khadi was a red rag not only to the sundried bureaucrat but also to several others, and it is no wonder that there has been some criticism in this respect. Sir, my friends have said that khadi is not an economic proposition, that an earning of 2 annas a day by spinning is not a living wage. But I ask in all seriousness whether they have got any other alternative to supplant this industry, and I for one insist that every person in this country should have at least two square meals a day and a minimum of clothing. So, I for one would be content at present to have at least two annas a day where I do not get even a pie a day. Sir, if we also remember that in the peculiar rural economy of the villages in our country, no immediate large scale industry is possible, any policy tending to uplift their economic productivity must be one which harmonizes agricultural conditions with industrial activity, industry understood as including factory industries and also cottage industries. I certainly say and take my stand that khadi as a cottage industry must be encouraged. My friend, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, said that for the total turn-over of Rs. 5 lakhs, Rs. 2 lakhs is an outrageous grant to make, and asked whether there would be any direct economic benefit out of this grant. I ask, Sir, is there any direct benefit from grants given for social amelioration not only in this country but in any other country. Is there any direct benefit from the old-age pensions, or unemployment insurance, or health insurance that is in force in European countries? I say that the benefit that should be counted is not any direct benefit but the great indirect benefit social, moral and otherwise to the country that should be taken into consideration. From that point of view any encouragement given to hand-spinning, any encouragement given to poor people in the villages, to earn at least two or three annas a day is one that should be welcomed.

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My friends opposite have pitted the textile mill industry against this grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for a cottage industry. I say in any well-planned economy there is no inherent antagonism between the large-scale industry and the cottage industry. The development of the large-scale industries the hand-loom industry and the cottage industry should go together, and one is the supplement to the other. From that point of view I do not think there is any force in the argument that has been placed before this House by the Opposition, that it is an indirect hit against the textile mills. Sir, I remember having seen in the newspaper that a gentleman who is running textile mills and who is also the President of the Co-operative Handloom Weavers' Association, has sent a telegram to the Hon. the Premier the other day congratulating him upon the various proposals in the budget intended to promote the handloom industry in this country. I refer to the telegram said to have been sent by Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapatil Mudaliyar to the Premier the other day.

“ Then, I pass on to reply to another attack that has been made by my friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, that the provision of a grant of Rs. 0.53 lakhs for the development of industries is meagre. But may I not ask him whether the party to which he has the honour to belong which had the run of the Government for the last sixteen years had any programme for industrial development or had made themselves responsible for the starting of any industry beyond manufacturing a few pencils and soaps in this province. I state that it is not possible for the Hon. Minister in charge of Industries and Labour, during the short few weeks he has been in office, to put forward a well-thought out plan or programme of industrial expansion. I dare say that a programme of industrial expansion is bound to come shortly. Knowing as I do the Hon. Member for Industries, I can vouchsafe that he will see that as far as possible large-scale industries are started in order to make Indian needs and Indian requirements self-sufficing. Speaking on the question of starting new industries, I venture to throw a suggestion to him, namely, that the steps to be taken for the starting of new industries should include a preliminary enquiry to the facilities and raw materials available and then take a decision to finance schemes. In this connexion, I may re-call to mind the policy laid down by the Mysore Government which has been endeavouring to promote new industries by encouraging and inducing the shy private capital in the country to come out for furthering industrial expansion. They have secured the co-operation of the public at large by subsidizing the various industries and by contributing a certain percentage of the share capital, about ten per cent, I believe. The Mysore Sugar Factory, the Mysore Paper Mills and the Mysore Tobacco Factory are some of the factories started in recent years in pursuance of the Policy. It is on those lines, I venture to submit, that our policy of industrial expansion should be based.

“ Speaking about industries, I am also reminded of one or two problems connected with it, namely, the question of labour. I know,

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Sir, that the Government itself is a great employer in various directions. The Government of Madras own several industrial workshops and printing presses. In all these cases, it is the bounden duty of the Government to set an example and to be a model employer to others. I am certainly flattered and pleased to see the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Works and the Hon. Minister in charge of Labour have striven to do everything that is possible in order to smoothen the relations with the employees in the Government factories. The Hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan has given his best thought and come to a fair settlement with the workers during the recent strike in the Government Public Works Workshop at Madras. In regard to the strike in the Aluminium Factory in north Madras, my Hon. Friend, Mr. Giri, has put his brains and his broad shoulders in order to smoothen out the relations between the employer and the employees. Not only that, but he has gone further, and for the first time in this Presidency he has set up a Conciliation Board in order to bring about a settlement on the points of difference between the workers in the Aluminium Factory and the employers. Those are directions in which I hope this hon. House will encourage the Hon. Ministers to proceed.

"In regard to unemployment, I do not however find any indication, in the budget. But I dare say, Sir, gathering from what I had seen of the public speeches of the Hon. Ministers, that vigorous steps are being taken to tackle the problem of unemployment in order to come to a speedy solution. First of all statistics have to be gathered with regard to educated middle class unemployment and with regard to uneducated employment, and a comprehensive scheme to bring to them a much needed relief will have to be put forward at least in the next budget. Factory Inspectors, I am told, are going to be appointed. I do not think there is any necessity for appointing paid Factory Inspectors, because there are a number of honorary trained trade union workers who will gladly undertake this work.

"Sir, there are one or two other matters I would like to mention. First of all, in regard to the grant to boy scouts and girl guides, I find in the budget a provision of Rs. 7,500 for boy scouts and Rs. 6,000 for girl guides. I think that in future, after all that has transpired in recent weeks in connexion with the boy scout movement, and the demand for the nationalization of the scout movement, it is very necessary for us to see that that grant is disbursed to the proper bodies or persons interested in promoting national scouting in keeping with the aspirations of our country.

"With regard to land revenue remission, I want to make only one submission, even at the risk of being charged as being parochial. In regard to land revenue in North Arcot, we led a deputation to the Hon. the Revenue Minister. Land revenue in North Arcot was settled in 1914, and in spite of the recommendations of the local authorities and the Settlement Officer that the enhancement should in no case exceed 20 per cent, the benign Government in those days thought that the re-settlement rates should be enhanced by 25 per cent. I hope the injury

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perpetrated so far back as 1914 will not be perpetuated by the Congress Ministry. I think, Sir, the Hon. the Premier has shown that the duty of Government is not merely a duty of being tax-gatherers but also to save the bodies and souls of the helpless peasantry. He has also shown in this budget that steps should be taken to raise the moral stature of the people and resuscitate the economic resources of the peasant. The village colouring that is given to the budget is one that is appreciated by all those who are trying to labour in their own way in regard to the rendering of public service. I say, Sir, we wish it God speed. I wish to say in the words of Abraham Lincoln:

"With malice to none, with charity to all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in."

"I may add that we go forth to meet the future without fear and with a manly heart. As I have said, the Premier has shown that an infant Congress Government can make a budget that not only conserve the financial credit of the province but also the political credit of the party."

* KHAN BAHADUR P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, let me first congratulate the Hon. Premier on the fairly conservative budget that he has placed before us this year. It is a matter for congratulation also on the very fine heritage he has come into as a result of the sound financing of the previous Governments. Let me take this opportunity of saying a few words on some of the outstanding features of this budget. The most important question is certainly that relating to land revenue remission. We are indeed highly thankful to the Premier for making a provision of Rs. 75 lakhs for meeting the demands of the public in this direction. One of the previous speakers said that this budget was an epoch-making one and he drew particular reference to the provision of Rs. 75 lakhs under land revenue remissions. I expected, Sir, the Hon. the Premier and the party to which he has the honour to belong would go a much longer way in meeting the public demands even as he and the Hon. Colleagues of his party made us to believe at the time we sanctioned this remission of Rs. 75 lakhs. They voiced forth the feelings of the public and demanded that 50 per cent would be a fair and reasonable remission. It is very natural that we should all expect the Hon. Premier after having taken charge of the reins of Government would have come forward to give a practical turn to all the recommendations that he himself had made. But the present grant of Rs. 75 lakhs must therefore come as a serious disappointment to the public who were made to expect a good deal more at the hands of the Congress Government in the matter of land revenue remissions.

"Coming next to prohibition, I may say that myself and hon. Members belonging to my community will not be against any measures adopted towards attaining complete prohibition. On the contrary, the Premier may reasonably expect every one of us to help him and support him in all measures towards that end. But my own fear is that prohibition cannot practically be attained by legislative enactments or by executive authority, because prohibition if it is to be successful

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must be commanded by society and by the religion to which the individual belongs and surely not by any other means. All legislative enactments and executive fiat will be of no avail. As for the experiment on which the Hon. Premier has started in Salem I certainly wish him all success; but I have to remark at the same time that there is not much hope for success in that direction.

"The next important point that calls for criticism is certainly the question of the proposed cuts in salaries of Government servants. The proposal, as I understand from the budget speech of Hon. the Premier, is to have a graded cut ranging from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent. I may at once state, Sir, that I shudder to think of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent equally with the 30 per cent cut. I take it, Sir, that the $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent will apply to the officers who are on low scales of pay and 30 per cent to officers who are drawing fairly high salaries. In this connexion, I may state that I perfectly agree with the Hon. Premier that the scale of pay, at any rate, the original scale of pay is certainly high and every step ought to be taken to lower it. But at the same time, I may state that an attempt has already been made in this direction and new scales of pay have been adopted from the year, if I remember right, 1933. I should honestly think that the new scales of pay which have come into force from 1933 are fairly reasonable and any drastic cut in them would work very great hardship, not to speak of its consequent mischief. Apart from that, what I beg to submit to this House in this connexion is, that any attempt to impose a cut on the original scales of pay is fraught with danger. I shall not dilate on this question, because there has been a fairly good amount of agitation going on in the press and several hon. Members who have spoken before me have also discussed this question in detail. Let us take for instance the case of those who are getting Rs. 1,000 and above. If the proposed cut of 30 per cent is to work it will amount to a reduction of the pay of an officer on Rs. 1,000 by Rs. 300. This certainly would be felt very keenly by him. He has made all commitments in life on the basis of the salary that he was naturally and reasonably given to expect at the hands of Government both in the past as well as in the future also. There was never an indication that there would be such a cut when he entered Government service. I may also say, Sir, that Government had entered into a sort of agreement, I will even call it a legal agreement, by which Government servants were assured of a certain scale of pay from the start to the finish. If a Government servant had entered into service on those conditions it is certainly not just and proper that Government should commit a breach of those conditions by ordering a cut in his pay, and much less ordering a cut to the tune of 30 per cent which will work a real hardship to him. In considering the other case of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent cut I may say that it will work as much mischief and as much hardship to the subordinate who is getting only a few hundreds. Indeed, Sir, the hardship and trouble in this case would be much more than in the case of the 30 per cent cut. It is for these reasons, Sir, that I submit that the graded cut of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 30 per cent is not a just and proper policy to be adopted. The main reason for the objection is that sound

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administration consists in giving to our Government servants security of service and a reasonably fair amount of contentment. But the effect of a cut in the middle of their service will serve to create a sense of heart-burning and discontent which will not be in the best interests of public administration. Every Government servant has already committed himself in various ways on the security of the salary promised to him at the start; if a cut is effected all of a sudden most of them would necessarily be tempted to resort to other illegal means for making up the loss which they would sustain by the cut. That would lead to only corruption. The other result would be that the public would stand to lose more by way of these corrupt practices than they would gain by means of this cut. Lastly, I have a word to say with regard to the grant of Rs. 2 lakhs for khadi propaganda. I should submit, Sir, that it is not a step in the right direction. The proposal is to help the khadi movement with a grant of Rs. 2 lakhs. The idea is to raise revenues by charging a licence-fee on all dealers of non-khadi cloths. I may say, Sir, that most of the dealers are dealing mostly in mill-made cloths, and the mill industry is if the House would permit me to say so entitled to equal protection as khadi. I would go further and say that the mill industry deserves much better protection than khadi itself, because the mill industry is capable of providing the people of this province with cloth which is much cheaper and much more lasting. We all know that the poor peasants in the Presidency of Madras and elsewhere in India, are poverty-stricken and very much harassed for want of necessary funds, and when this is the case what is the object in forcing them to resort to khadi which is comparatively costlier and comparatively less lasting than the mill-made cloth. So, I would submit that the mill industry is entitled to protection, perhaps better protection than khadi itself. Therefore, it is not correct policy on the part of Government to help the khadi movement at the cost of the public revenue and, at the same time to raise a licence-fee from mill-made cloth. With these remarks, I may again congratulate the Hon. Premier on the very good budget that he has placed before the House, because he has not given on the whole much room for criticism; but the few directions in which he has deviated from the usual budget of the province are full of pitfalls and I shall therefore close by saying that these deviations, few as they are, deserve to be re-considered in the light of the criticisms made in this House."

* SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, 12
there is no particular purpose or meaning in my congratulating the noon.
Hon. the Premier on his budget. We may as well congratulate ourselves for this splendid achievement of our leader.

"Sir, I rise now only to speak a few words on one or two aspects of the budget, particularly those pertaining to women. I have heard some pessimistic speeches, nay, even hon. Members of the House scoffing at our programme of prohibition. But I dare say that, in the end, it will prove to be a case of those who came to scoff remaining to pray. It is only those who have had the good fortune to work among the poor that can realize the absolute necessity and value of this work.

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I claim to know something of the condition of the poor in my place. The average workman in the country parts does not get even four annas a day to maintain himself, his wife and his big family. Place the temptation of a toddy shop just in front of the factory or place where he works and nobody can prevent him getting in. He believes that he could forget the weariness of his hard labour by taking a drink which is invitingly placed within his reach. And he has the earnings for the day in his hands ready. Part, if not the whole of it, he naturally spends in the shop and what remains for his children is only starvation and, for the wife, sheer beating. This is what is happening every day. This is a fact to which I can testify as a worker among the poor. So I can unhesitatingly say what a lot of good this step of prohibition will do in the homes of the poor workers. Some might say, rather unthinkingly, that those who want to drink will somehow get it, through illicit means or otherwise. That would make the business costlier and it would not be possible for a poor man to adopt it.

“Another argument against prohibition may be that there is some sort of compulsion involved in this step and that it amounts to an encroachment upon individual liberty. There is not much force in that argument. Even granting that it is so, may I ask whether every penal law is considered as an encroachment on individual liberty? In a well-ordered society, individuals have to, and must, put a check on their personal liberty for the common good. Let the rich man, who has a surfeit of money earned by other people's labours, drink to his heart's content; but the poor man who is ignorant has to be guarded against himself and the evil temptations. Even as a doctor prescribes disagreeable pills to his patients, the poor man has to be protected against himself. It is thus the duty of the State to bring about prohibition even by coercion, if necessary.

“Another aspect of the budget proposals which will be acclaimed as a boon by the poor women in the villages is the proposal for the employment of trained midwives in all rural dispensaries. Here also, ignorance and superstition in the villages, coupled with want of facilities for a trained midwife, lead to various tragedies in labour cases. Very good propaganda also will have to be, and can be, conducted about ante-natal work with the help of these midwives. This certainly will help to minimize the horrible toll of child mortality in our country. We can congratulate ourselves that this proposal of introducing midwives will be hailed as a great blessing by the villagers.

“Sir, we heard doubts and suspicions expressed here about the encouragement of hand-spinning and hand-weaving. I am afraid, Sir, obsessed as we are with the idea of industrialization and factory labour, it has become rather difficult, if not impossible, for us to think about the improvement of cottage industries. Most of us must have seen an old lady spinning with a charka in the Visitors' room of this Assembly these two or three days. A specimen of the yarn spun by her was also shown by the Hon. Minister for Public Information to the House yesterday. She is able to earn four annas a day. Women of

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her age cannot think of working in factories at all, and further, female labour in factories is paid only half of what is paid to men and this does not come to even four annas a day. Imagine the disadvantage of working in a hopelessly congested room with neither proper light nor air, for about eight or nine hours of the day, away from her home and children and coming out absolutely enervated and compare it with the advantage of doing work at home with an eye on the household duties and the welfare of the children and earning the same wage as in a factory.

“By licensing mill-cloth and subsidizing handloom industry, it must be realized that we are helping poor villagers and women. My only prayer is ‘let us have faith in ourselves.’ Let us not begin by feeling that it is going to be a failure. It is not going to be a failure; on the other hand, it is going to be a boon to our villagers if it would be worked with honesty of purpose.”

* MR. K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“Mr. Speaker, the budget is an honest attempt on the part of the Premier to place the finances of this province on a sound basis. It has been admitted by all sections of this House in that one respect.

“The policy and programme adumbrated in the budget is a policy laid down on national principles by that august body, the Indian National Congress. I know, Sir, there are many difficulties at present in carrying out all the policies and principles laid down in that programme which is national in all its aspects. It may be that we are not able to fulfil all the expectations and aspirations of the people of our province; it may be that the budget does not effectuate all that we desire to carry into effect; but I can assure the House, Sir,—and I say that without fear of contradiction—that there is an honest attempt on the part of the Hon. the Premier for uplifting the masses and redressing the grievances of the people of this province.

“The present budget differs from the previous budgets in its main outlook, I mean in its national outlook. The present budget is one which has got nationality in its outlook and sympathy and re-orientation in its policy towards the people of this province. The Premier had only a short time before him for the preparation of the budget and hence he was not able to do all he can and all that he has in his mind for the amelioration of the condition of the people. The budget may not be of the kind the hon. Members opposite want it to be. But I can say this to the House that it is not dry scientific reasoning and economic calculations that ought to weigh with us at present. Those considerations may be essential at certain stages and should not be ignored altogether. But, for the present, what is needed is a sympathetic heart and the human touch. This you will find in the budget.

“Sir, coming to the question of land revenue, there was some criticism levelled against the party to which I have the honour to belong. Sir, it must be remembered that the problem of land revenue is a very complicated one and we ought to have well considered and

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clear-cut programme in connexion with it. We can chalk out such a programme only after much consideration and calculation. I assure hon. Members opposite that our aim is to solve this complicated and intricate problem on a permanent basis and place it on a firm footing. Meanwhile we have already indicated that our party is earnest in endeavouring to relieve the ryot of his indebtedness which has been hanging heavily on him in the past and the results of our endeavours will be apparent as time goes on.

“Coming to the drink problem, Sir, I want to bring to your kind notice one point. The hon. Member, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, made a charge against the Hon. the Premier that he has selected Salem for introducing prohibition and thus deprived the other districts of the benefits of this policy. The hon. Member said, in fact, that the Premier is robbing Peter to pay Paul. I say, Sir, that that is not at all the intention of the Hon. the Premier. He only wanted to try the experiment and make it a success in the very district in which he is confident that it would require the least effort and the least expenditure.

“Before I conclude, Sir, I wish to refer to one more matter, and that is, hand-spinning and hand-weaving. There is provision made in the budget for encouraging khadar which is the only cottage industry in our province which puts a few coppers into the hands of our village people. The idea behind this programme is the reconstruction of village life and putting it on an economic basis. This can be done through the encouragement of khadar. It is our elementary duty to do this,—to encourage this cottage industry and make it self-contained and self-helping. If some help is given in the beginning, it will later stand on its own legs and thrive independently of any foreign agency or without any bounty. In any country, in the beginning, it is the duty of the State to protect nascent industry, and we too are only doing that when we allot these two lakhs of rupees for the encouragement of hand-spinning. Taking all these things together, I can say that the whole House is one in saying that the budget is national in its outlook. With these few remarks, I commend the budget to the House.”

* MR. K. ABDUR RAHIMAN KHAN:—“Mr. Speaker, I feel it a great honour and privilege to have been given an opportunity to offer my humble congratulations to our Premier for the excellent and remarkable manner in which he has been able to prepare the budget and present it to the House. Our admiration for him is all the more great when we see that he has produced a balanced budget in so short a time. This is an achievement of which any Finance Minister can be proud. Budget-making is not an easy job, because, as he says:

‘It inevitably involves the striking of a balance between the pleasant privilege of spending money in new and additional ways for the well being and prosperity of the people and the unpleasant duty of taking money out of the pockets of the people’.

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“Sir, it is impossible, I think, that any Finance Minister can discharge his duty by keeping one and all in a happy mood. In offering a few remarks on the budget that has just now been closed, I have

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to touch a few outstanding and salient points in it. It is as I see a prudent, cautious and hesitant budget. On the one hand it has in view much that is yet to be done for the amelioration of the poor and on the other it has not lost sight of the responsibility to ‘maintain the financial stability of the province.’ Nor does it forget the fact that our *greatest asset is the credit* of our province. It is not a mere expression of enthusiasm but it has in view all the financial considerations that appeal to common sense. I say ‘prudent’ because the budget reveals a determination on the part of its framers that we should live within our means. I say ‘hesitant’ because, in so far as it relates to various measures and sources of taxation, it hesitates to take a final step. The orientation of the Congress Policy by the Premier is all that can be desired. Within so short a time after the Congress Party have accepted office, they have been able to find ways and means for the supply of drinking water to the villagers, of which everybody in this province should be proud. The prohibition policy that has been adumbrated by the Premier, if successful, would put an end to all our evils. Of course it would be too premature to say if it would succeed or fail. In this connexion I need hardly say that the co-operation of the officials and the general public is an essential factor for successfully working out the prohibition programme. I do hope that if the Hon. Premier meets with success in carrying out the programme of prohibition in Salem, he will next take up our district and introduce prohibition and thus save several people who are now going to rack and ruin on account of this drink evil, and thus earn the everlasting gratitude of the posterity to come.

“There is one other important matter which has been discussed by different speakers and that is the cut in salaries of Government servants. I am afraid I am not in agreement with those who have shown a considerable amount of anxiety and fear about the consequences that will follow the reduction of salary. I ask in all seriousness whether the Government servants are not getting ample salaries at present and why they alone should be allowed to go on drawing the same pay, while all other people, more especially the agriculturists in the country, are suffering very much. Is it not fair and reasonable that they too should contribute something for the uplift of the people, when they are actually starving? I do not really see why when all others are suffering, the Government servants alone must be drawing large salaries and allowances. It has been pointed out very often, that the salaries of those people alone who are drawing more than Rs. 100 may be reduced. There are others who say that the salaries of those people who draw more than Rs. 200 alone should be cut. But the cut must begin somewhere and so it would be wise on the part of the Government servants and others to co-operate with the Minister in carrying out his policy instead of saying that if the salaries are reduced, it would affect them seriously and create discontent and so on. If however some hon. Members think that it is not safe for us to impose cuts on the salaries of officials, may I ask whether they have any other method by which they can find out money for giving the

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much needed relief to the people at large? In this connexion, I might suggest one method and that is that several intermediary posts such as those of the deputy superintendents of police and deputy collectors and others might be abolished without any disturbance to efficiency, and thereby some savings effected. In this connexion, I would lastly add that the Hon. Minister may increase or decrease the rate of the proposed cut, but the cut must come.

“One other matter that I wish to touch upon in this connexion is about the money spent on Muslim education. I should not be misunderstood if I say that enough money is not spent for the education of pupils belonging to my community. Sir, we are very backward in wealth and education in this province and if we are to make progress, it is essential that Government must afford greater relief to my community for the education of their children. Muslim schools and the Muhammadan colleges are the very life blood of my community. So I sincerely hope that the Hon. Minister will do his utmost to serve the needs of my community. India does not consist of one community but different communities and the real progress of the country can be achieved only when all communities come to equal level as regards education and other things.

“I believe it is unnecessary for me to go into details regarding the prohibition policy adopted by the Premier with regard to Salem. He has taken a very bold step in introducing prohibition there. Many of my friends who know my district are aware that the drink evil is largely prevalent there and many poor people are ruined owing to this evil. So, if the Hon. Minister, if he succeeds in Salem, should take up my district next and introduce prohibition there, in which case he would be doing great service to the people of my district.”

Mrs. LAKSHMI SANKARA AYYAR:—

“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! இந்தச் சபைமுன் பேசுவதற்கு எனக்கு இடங் கொடுத்ததைப்பற்றி எனது மனமார்ந்த வந்தனத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இவ்வளவு குறுகிய காலத்தில்கூட பொருளாதார நிலைமை இவ்வளவு சரியான நிலைமையிலில்லாதபோது நமது கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆறுமாத வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை நமது காங்கிரஸ் எலெக்ஷன் காலத்தில் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு எதை எடுத்துச் சொன்னோமோ அதில் ஒவ்வொன்றையும் நிறைவேற்றும்படியான வழியில் இவ்வளவு நேர்மையுடன் தயாரித்து இருப்பதைக் குறித்து இந்தச் சபையிலுள்ள ஒரு மெம்பராவது சந்தோஷப்படாமல் இருக்கமுடியாது. இவ்விதமான ஒரு முக்கிய சந்தர்ப்பத்தில், இப்பொழுதுதான் காங்கிரஸின் சார்பாக மந்திரி பதவி ஏற்று நமது கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் வெகு திறமையாக இந்த வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை சபைமுன் பிறப்பித்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தத் திட்டத்தை கிராமாந்திரங்களிலுள்ள ஜனங்கள் ஒவ்வொருவரும் பார்த்துச் சந்தோஷப்படுவார்கள். எந்த நிலைமையில் இத்திட்டம் தயாரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதில் சந்தேகமேயில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலுள்ள ஜனங்கள் படுகின்ற கஷ்டங்களை நமது கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் மற்றும் அவர்களுடைய கனம் சகாக்கள் அவர்களும் நன்றாக கண்ணா ஒவ்வொரு இடங்களையும் போய்ப் பார்த்து அவர்களுடைய நிலைமையை மனதில்கொண்டுதான் இவ்விதமான ‘அவர்களுக்குப் பொருந்தும் படியான’ ஒரு திட்டத்தைத் தயாரித்திருக்கின்றார்கள் என்பதில் யாதொரு சந்தேகமும்இல்லை. கிராமாந்திர ஜனங்களுக்கு குடிதண்ணீர் வசதி உண்டாக்கி வதற்கு கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் போட்டிருக்கின்ற திட்டம் யாரும்

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மெச்சக்கூடியதாக இருக்கிறது. அதே மாதிரி இந்தக் கிராமவாசிகளுக்கு சுகாதார வசதி அளிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய பணம் இந்த சொற்ப பணத்திலேயே ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருப்பதானது யாராலும் போற்றக்கூடியது. சுகாதார வசதிக்காக ஒன்பதரை லட்சம் ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருக்கிறது இதற்குமுன் இம்மாதிரி இல்லை என்பது எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம். இவ்விதமாக ஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தை நாம் அறிந்து நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்காகத்தான் இச்சபையில் இருக்கின்றோம் என்பதை உணரும்பொருட்டு இம்மாதிரியான ஒரு அற்புதமான வரவு செலவு திட்டத்தை இவ்வளவு சொற்ப காலத்தில் தயாரித்து ஜனங்களுக்கு சுலபமான அவர்களுக்கு போதுமானபடி வேண்டிய நன்மைகளை பயக்கமுடியாமல் இருந்தபோதிலும் இனி அடுத்த வருஷத்தில் அம்மாதிரி செய்யமுடியுமென்பதை பற்றி கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் நமக்கு நம்பிக்கை கொடுத்திருப்பது நாம் போற்றத்தகுந்தது. இவ்விதமான ஒரு வரவை ஜனங்கள் எதிர்பார்க்கின்றார்கள் என்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. தொழில் கல்விக்காகவும், கைத்தறி நெசவுக்காகவும், கதரினுடைய அபிவிருத்திக்காகவும் இந்த வருஷ திட்டத்தில் சொற்பப் பணம் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருப்பதானது முக்கியமான விஷயம். ஆனால் இந்த கைத்தறிக்காக, கதருக்காக ஒதுக்கி வைக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதைப் பற்றி கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களில் இரண்டு பேர்கள் பாதகமாகப் பேசினார்கள். இந்தக் கதர் திட்டத்தை தவிர்த்து வேறு எந்தத் திட்டமாவது செய்திருந்தால் எளிய ஜனங்களுக்கு ஒரு நாள் ஒன்றுக்கு இரண்டை மூன்றைகூட கிடைக்காமலிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு இதைத் தவிர ஒன்றும் மேலாக அவர்கள் வயிற்றை நிரப்புவதாக இருக்கும் என்று சொல்லமுடியாது. இவ்விதமாக இரண்டு லட்சம் ரூபாய் கதருக்காக ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருப்பதை எளிய ஜனங்கள் நன்றாக வரவேற்பார்களென்பதில் ஐயமில்லை. இன்னும் அடுத்த வருஷத்தில் இது விஷயத்தில் இன்னும் ஜாஸ்தியாக கோடிக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் செலவிடவேண்டியது முக்கியமாக அவசியமாக இருக்கின்றது என்பதில் யாதொரு சந்தேகமில்லை. இவ்விதம் சிறு குடிசைத் தொழில்களை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவருவதற்காகத்தான் எவ்வளவான நாம் பணம் செலவு செய்யவேண்டியவர்களாக இருக்கிறோம். இது தவிர கேரள சோப் பாக்டரிக்குத் தகுந்த பணம் ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருப்பது போற்றத்தக்கது. மற்றும் சில்லரைக் குடிசைத் தொழில்களுக்கு அதாவது பாட்டரி, மெட்டல் பாக்டரி (Pottery, Metal Factory) இவைகளுக்கு ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருப்பது மிகவும் அவசியமானதே. இவ்விதமான சிறு, சிறு குடிசைத் தொழில்களை முன்னுக்கு கொண்டுவந்தால்தான் அவ்விதமான தொழில்களெல்லாம் நம்நாட்டில் முன்னேற்றமடைந்து அநேக கோடிக்கணக்கான பேர்கள் வேலையில்லாமல் இருக்கின்ற வேலையில்லாத திண்டாட்டம் ஒழியுமென்பதில் யாதொரு சந்தேகமும்இல்லை. இந்த மாதிரி கல்வி திட்டத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் ஒருவாறு கல்விக்காக இவ்வளவுமே சொற்ப ரூபாய் ஜாஸ்தியாக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது. இதே மாதிரி விவசாயத்தில் நிர்ப்பாசன வசதியில் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. நெற்று மார்ஷ்பாங்ஸ் கமிட்டியின் ரிபோர்ட்டைப்பற்றி கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களில் ஒருவர் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். மார்ஷ்பாங்ஸ் கமிட்டியின் ரிபோர்ட்டானது சரியானபடி எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களிலுமுள்ள முக்கியமான ஜனங்களுடைய அபிப்பிராயப்படி தயாரிக்கப்படவில்லை என்பது யாரும் கூறத்தக்கது. அக்காலத்தில் அரசியல் கிளர்ச்சி பலமாக இருந்ததினால் மார்ஷ்பாங்ஸ் கமிட்டிக்குத் தகுந்த சிபார்ஸ் செய்ய பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு இடமில்லாமலிருந்தது. அந்தக் காலத்தில் அவசரப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு எதோ ஒரு விதமான முறையில் மார்ஷ்பாங்ஸ் கமிட்டி தயாரித்திருக்கும் திட்டமானது எல்லா ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் திருப்தி அளிக்கக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் இல்லை என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். முக்கியமாக அக்கமிட்டி குறிப்பிட்டிருப்பது 1914-ம் ஆண்டுத்திற்குப் பிறகு ரீசெட்டிங்மெண்டு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் திட்டத்தில் ரெமிஷன் கொடுக்க சிபார்ஸ் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்தவரையில், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாவைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் 1914-ம் வருஷத்திற்கு முன் ரீசெட்டிங்மெண்டு செய்திருந்ததோடும்கூட இந்த மாகாணத்திலே ஒரு ஜில்லாக்களாலும் கொடுக்கப்படாத தீர்வையை—ஒரு ஏக்கருக்கு 22½ ரூபாய் வீதம் நாங்கள் கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறோம். இது ஜில்லா வாரியாக கணக்கு எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் மாகாண வாரியாக கணக்கெடுத்துக்

[Mrs. Lakshmi Sankara Ayyar] [4th September 1937]

கொண்டாலும் எங்கள் ஜில்லாவானது ஜாஸ்தியாக கொடுக்கிறது என்பதை கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் அவர்களும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களும் தெரிந்து கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்பதாக கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். இவ்விதமாக இந்த ரிசெட்டில் மெண்டு சரியானபடி நடத்தப்பட்டிருந்தால் இவ்வளவு தீர்வை நாங்கள் கொடுக்க ஏற்பட்டிருக்காது. அவர்கள் அப்பொழுது தயாரிக்கும்போது நாங்கள் ஒரு ஏக்கராவுக்கு என்ன செலவு செய்கின்றோமோ அந்தச் செலவை சரியானபடி குறித்து அவர்கள் அந்த திட்டத்தில் தயாரிக்கவில்லை. ஒரு ஏக்கருக்கு என்ன சில வழிகின்றோமோ அதை அவர்கள் கழித்து தயாரித்திருந்தால் ஒரு ஏக்கருக்கு 22½ ரூபாய் கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருந்திருக்காது. தவிரவும் ஜில்லா பூராவும் பயிராகிற பிசான் பயிர்தான் பிரதானப் பயிரென்பது யாவரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். அதன் மதிப்பைக் கொண்டு தான் வரி நிர்ணயிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அப்படி செய்யாமல் இருப்போக நிலங்களுக்கு இரண்டாவது பயிராகக் கருத வேண்டிய கார் பயிரைக் கவனித்து வரி நிர்ணயிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இது பிசு. இந்த பிசுகிலும் வரி உயர்ந்திருக்கிறது. இதையெல்லாம் காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரிகள் நன்றாக கவனித்து இதற்கு வேண்டிய விஷயத்தை பாரபட்சமன்னி யில் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் இந்த ரெமிஷன் கொடுக்கும்படியாக செய் வார்கள் என்பதில் எனக்கு பூரண நம்பிக்கை இருக்கிறது. எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவில் பாபநாசத்தில் ஒரு ரிசர்வாயர் (Reservoir) கட்டவேண்டும் மென்ற திட்ட விஷயமாய் ஏற்கெனவே விசாரணை நடத்திவைக்கப்பட்டிருக் கிறது. பாபநாசத்தில் சரியானபடி ரிசர்வாயர் (Reservoir) கட்டி தாம்பிர வர்ணிப் பாசனம் சரியானபடி பயிரானால் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு ஏராளமான வரி அகப்படும். நாங்களும் கஷ்டமில்லாமல் அந்த ஜலத்தை பாசன வசதிக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ள முடியும். இன்று எங்கள் ஊரிலிருந்து ஒரு கடிதம் கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது சரியானபடி சீஸன் (Season) இல்லாத தினால் தாம்பிரவர்ணியில் ஜலம் குறைந்திருப்பதினால் கீழ்ப்பக்கத்துப்பாசனங் களுக்கு தண்ணீர் கிடைக்க மேற்பக்கத்து பாசனங்களுக்குப் பாயும் ஜலத்தை போகவிடாமல் தடுத்து கீழ்ப்பக்கத்துக்குப் போகும்படி திறந்து விடுகிறதினால் ஜலம் வேண்டியிருக்கும் காலத்தில் அடைத்து விடுகிறார்கள். அதற்கு வேண்டியதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கடிதம் வந்திருக்கிறது. இம்மாதிரி சரியான சம யங்களில் ஜல மில்லாமல் போனால் ரிசர்வாயர் (Reservoir) இருந்தால் அந்தந்த இடங்களில் பாசன வசதிகளுக்குச் சௌகரியமிருக்கும். மேலும் ரிசர்வாயர் ஒன்று இல்லாததினால் எங்களுடைய ஜில்லாவில் ஸ்ரீ வைகுண்டம் அணைக்கட்டில் இது பரியந்தம் கொஞ்சம் ஜாஸ்தியாகச் செலவு செய்கிறார்கள். செலவுத்தொடர்பு பயனில்லை. திடீரென்று வெள்ளம் வந்து ஏகமாக அடித்துக் கொண்டு போகிறது. வயல்களெல்லாம் மணலாகிவிடுகிறது. சில சமயங்களில் மழை குறைந்தால் ஜலமில்லாமல் போய்விடுகிறது (Reservoir) ரிசர்வாயர் இருந்தால் இவ்வித கஷ்டம் ஏற்படாது. ஏராளமான வெள்ளம் வந்த காலத்தில் கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கு லட்சக்கணக்கான பணம் செலவு செய்யவேண்டியிருக் கிறது. ரிசர்வாயர் (Reservoir) கட்டப்பட்டால் அடிக்கடி ஏற்படும் செலவு கள் குறையுமென்று எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இம்மாதிரியான விஷயங்களில் காங்கிரஸ் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் மற்றும் அவர்களுடைய சகாக்களும் கவனிக்காமல் விடமாட்டார்கள் என்பதில் எனக்குப் பூரண நம் பிக்கை உண்டு. இவ்விதமான விஷயங்களை தீர்க்கமாக ஆலோசனை செய்து வரும் வருஷத்தில் பாபநாசத்தில் (Reservoir) ரிசர்வாயர் கட்டுவதற்கு வேண்டிய பிரயத்தனங்கள் நடக்குமென்று நம்பிக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்தைகளை முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I rise to make a few observations on the budget presented by our Premier, it is with a sense of gratitude that I do it. I believe, Sir, that if we followed our Premier aright there will not be much difficulty in approving his speech. To me, Sir, it appears that a new departure is being made by the first Premier under the new Government of India Act and the scene has now shifted from the cities to the villages, where

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the teeming millions of hard working and illclad and illfed ryots live whom our Premier wants to see live a life of health and happiness. He has approached the subject from the point of view of poor ryot and the poor man in the villages. His endeavour has been to see that the poor ryot is not overburdened with tax, that he is freed from the heavy load of debts he is carrying, and that facilities are taken to his home to enable him to live a healthy life. It is from this point of view that our Premier has approached this subject. He says in his speech:—

‘It is therefore clear that we must use our endeavours to exploit new sources of revenue without adding to the burden of the poor.’

“ Later on he says:

‘ Unless the people are made to live a better life, the whole organization of Govern- ment will soon break down.’

And finally he says ‘there should be a juster distribution of the burdens of the state upon the people of the land.’ We, therefore, see that the attempts made by our Premier in framing the budget are unique. I dare say, Sir, that it is the only patriotic approach that can be made. No doubt, Sir, when we change our point of view and shift the scene from the cities to the villages, some of the proposals, that are made, may be disquieting. I dare say here there are disquieting features in the budget, but as I said before, it is the point of view from which we look at it that matters. I may state in unequivocal terms that the aim of our Premier is praiseworthy and patriotic and that it is a healthy departure. It may be that the means that he wants to adopt to achieve his object may, according to some schools of thought, not be right. We have no quarrel with him on that account, but I say that some people may hold different views as regards the means of achieving the Premier's object. I am sure the Govern- ment would look into the matter and not be led away by some slogans of this party or that. I may also state, Sir, that the budget is suffi- ciently conservative and cannot be criticized as revolutionary. It is also thought-provoking without being spectacular. These, Sir, are the features of the budget according to me. The Premier who aimed at the happiness of the millions of the people has been bound by the inevitable canons of sound finance and he has been restrained by them. It is surprising that the Premier who has been able to devote only a few days for the preparation of his budget has been able to present the budget that he has presented to us. It is inevitable under the circumstances that he should first assure himself of the safety of the ground before he could undertake measures which might be con- sidered revolutionary. As he has said, his aim has been to observe the canons of sound budgeting; at the same time he has showed us how in future he might prepare the budget with a view to ameliorate the condition of the people. The only instance in which he has de- parted from the canons of sound finance is where he has debited the commuted value of pensions to loans. Except for that, in all other cases he has followed the canons of sound finance and that is

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why he has not been able to bring before us other measures which will even in this same year give some relief to the people. If we understand the Premier in that sense, we will find that he has, while conforming to the principles of sound budgeting as far as possible, made some provision even for the coming six months of the financial year for ameliorating the condition of the poor.

12-45
p.m.

"The measures which the Hon. Premier proposes to introduce are not considered by some hon. Members to be good from the point of view of some principles of economics. Those hon. Members who criticize the Hon. Premier for introducing prohibition, for proposing cuts in the salaries, for helping the handloom workers, have not suggested a better life. Then only they can criticize the Hon. Premier with justification. I have heard several hon. Members of this House, criticizing the methods by which he wants to achieve his ends. They have not so far suggested any alternative or different method to achieve those ends. I have not been convinced by their remarks. Beyond merely theorising, they have not suggested any effective method by which we can tide over the present difficulty. Has anybody suggested till now how the ryot who is overburdened with taxation can be relieved and how the loss of revenue be made up? Has anybody shown how the loss of revenue that is incurred by the introduction of prohibition, can be made up? It has not been done. Has anybody shown how relief can be given to the ryot? I am sorry to observe that hon. Members have only criticized the policy of the hon. Ministers but they have not suggested any alternative policy. In this connexion I am bound to say that the Hon. the Premier would do well to satisfy himself not only that the remission of Rs. 75 lakhs is equitably distributed but also that land revenue is imposed equitably in future. The Hon. the Premier has stated that the burden of taxation must be shared equitably. We have to see whether it is equitably distributed. May I say, Sir, that the land-tax system is unsound and inequitable? It is an anachronism and a relic of the past, based on the erroneous conception of the right of the King to share in the profits of the ryot as a landlord. May I point out that what is received by the landlord from the ryot is half the share of his net income? What do persons who carry on trade or who are employed in various professions, pay? They pay from six pies to one anna in the rupee according to their income, whereas the ryot is made to pay 8 annas in the rupee. Let the Hon. the Premier whose aim is to distribute the taxation equitably, go into this question and see whether the ryot should not be made to pay only 6 pies in the rupee and that too, above a certain income. The Congress people and members of other parties also have been saying that there should be a tax on agricultural income. Let the Premier consider how far can that be done. It is not necessary to see that the ryot who pays 50 per cent of his income is relieved of his burden and that that burden is distributed on all others equitably?

"May I point out that the ryot is paying a large portion of the income which the Government get. Take the city dweller; he pays no

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doubt many taxes to the municipality or to the corporation; but what is his contribution to the finances of the Provincial Government, I ask. He may pay profession tax or house tax; but it all goes into the coffers of the municipality; he does not pay a single pie by way of income-tax if his income is less than Rs. 2,000; any income-tax that is collected from persons, goes to the Central Government. Therefore, may I ask who pays for the purpose of running the provincial administration? It is not the city dweller; it is the ryot in the villages that is paying the Government to run the administration, to meet the salaries of Government servants from the peon up to the Governor. Let this fact be borne in mind. Is it not right that persons other than the ryot should bear a share of the taxes. Then only relief can be given to the ryot. This point has to be borne in mind that the land tax is an anachronism, and that it is a relic of the past that the ryot should pay one-half of his income; the King thought that, as he was the owner of the land, and that the ryot is only a tenant, the ryot has to pay a large portion of his income to him. The Hon. Premier should see that the agriculturist is not taxed more than any other person.

"The Hon. the Premier in his budget speech stated thus: 'I want hon. Members to realize that it is a complex and difficult question which cannot be solved by a stroke of the pen within a month or two of assuming the responsibility of running the administration which, as I have already explained, includes the responsibility of preserving the credit and the financial stability of the province.' It is certainly necessary that we should maintain the financial stability of the province. But let me remind the Hon. the Premier that the ryot is not rich and that he is not able to pay the present rate and that the Government should not take advantage of his weakness. He is already overburdened with taxes. The stability of the Government depends upon the prosperity of the ryot. The Hon. the Premier has no doubt promised to go into this matter carefully. I think, Sir, that the land tax is the only tax that is not covered by legislation; all other taxes are covered by legislation. When the Indian Taxation Committee went into this question as far back as 1922, they said that this tax should be based upon legislation."

* The HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN: "Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. 1 p.m. the Prime Minister will, as usual, make a comprehensive speech in reply to the debate, when the debate is concluded. One of my colleagues, Mr. Ramanathan, already once intervened in the course of the debate, in order to clear a few points about hand-spinning and khaddar. And if I intervene at this time before the debate is closed, it is only in order to make one or two observations about my department and trade and commerce in general.

"Sir, I am a merchant, and as a Member of the Government of Madras, the Government naturally expect that those Indian merchants who are members of the Assembly will, on this occasion, make contributions to the debate and on the cut motions that will follow, in a manner that will be helpful to the Government in dealing with subjects about trade and commerce in general. I must say, Sir, that the

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speech that the representative of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, has made on this occasion, has been very disappointing to me. I won't go in to what all he has said, but my remarks will cover some of the points that he has raised in his speech.

"Sir, I am afraid hon. Members sitting on the opposite side have viewed our proposals about khadder and hand-spinning with a certain amount of prepossession. If they had applied to this subject a clear and unbiassed mind, they would not have misunderstood the object that is behind these proposals; at least their remarks show that they have not dealt with this question as the Government would have liked the opposition to have dealt with it. There is an apprehension that the subsidy, or whatever you may call it, that is proposed to be given to hand-spinning and the licence fee that is proposed to be levied on cloth dealers—of course dealers who deal in hand-woven cloth will be exempted from it—will, both of them, handicap the mill industry to a very large extent. One person went so far as to say that the mill industry would be ruined on account of this. Sir, I am afraid they have not displayed that sense of proportion that every member is expected to display in considering matters of this kind. Sir, may I ask if Rs. 2 per year is levied as licence fee on small cloth dealers and Rs. 5 on large dealers, how it will affect the mill industry of India? Sir, the other day, the corporation wanted to levy a licence fee of Rs. 5 on shaving saloons and the barbers went on strike. There was a commotion and people were afraid that the whole Madras would remain unshaven if Rs. 5 was levied as licence fee on barbers. Saying that Rs. 2 or Rs. 5 levied on cloth shops will ruin the mill industry is as ridiculous as the apprehension that a Rs. 5 licence fee on barbers would affect the shave of the male population of Madras. (Laughter.).

"I am glad, Sir, that the question of prohibition has been viewed with more sympathy than was at first expected. Mussalman members, with one exception, have welcomed the introduction of prohibition. One Muslim member even went so far as to say that prohibition ought to be put into force at once and should not be resorted to piecemeal. At the same time, Sir, I was astounded that one hon. Member of this House—I mean Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ullah Sahib Bahadur—in the course of his speech when presiding over a meeting of the people of Madras held the day before yesterday, to consider the present budget, was reported to have characterized the scheme of prohibition as a mirage and stated that he felt that before long good sense would prevail and that the party in power would give up this scheme. Sir, many members had great misgivings about prohibition on account of the loss of revenue involved. Rs. 5½ crores to be given up is not a joke, and they thought that if this scheme were ever to fail, it would be on the ground that the Congress Ministry would not be able to raise Rs. 5½ crores to replace the loss in excise revenue. But it was left to Mr. Khalif-ullah Sahib to say that he opposed prohibition, not on financial considerations, but on an ethical ground. When he stood up to speak here, I looked

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to him to justify his opposition to prohibition on ethical grounds; he only said that this scheme of prohibition would never succeed unless people were made to believe that to drink was sin"

SIR WILLIAM WRIGHT: "On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Is it correct for the hon. Member to refer to a speech that was not made on the floor of this House?"

The HON. MR. YAKUB HASAN: "I have referred to the speech made outside with a view to compare it with the speech made here. I said I was looking forward to him to explain why he was of that view, but he did not say anything.

"Sir, on the whole, the contribution made by the various members to the debate on this question has been very very helpful and it is a matter of great satisfaction that the Ministry will have the support of all sections on this House in all matters. Sir, I do not wish to say anything more."

* KUMARARAJA M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, coming as I do practically at the close of the general discussion, I may be accused of repeating the very good arguments that have been advanced by several previous speakers. I shall, as far as possible, refrain from going into details; but I shall, in my own humble way, as a business-man and financier, try to speak only on the financial implications of the general budget. For, I believe, that there are occasions when the cut motions will be before the House for the hon. Members of this House, to speak on a particular policy or on a particular scheme put forward before this House.

"Sir, the budget that has been presented to us differs widely in one great respect from the budgets that have been presented in previous years by Finance Members of the previous Government. His Excellency, while addressing the joint session of both the Houses the other day, congratulated the people of this province on the successful inauguration of Provincial Autonomy and expressed the confidence that Madras in the years to come will be able to show to the rest of India that she is foremost in achieving a name for good administration and for efficiently working its parliamentary institutions. I venture to think, Sir, that he so expressed himself only in the hope and in the strong faith that he has been having in the financial stability of the province which has been maintained all along and which he hopes will be maintained in the future.

"Sir, it was very gratifying to men of my way of thinking to hear the Hon. Gentleman, the Premier's speech which is pervaded by the recognition of the wholesome fact that no step that offends against the best canons of sound finance should be taken in carrying on the Government of the country. I think I will be right when I say that no greater pronouncement could have been made on behalf of the Congress party in India to-day. I only wish that the Congress party so long as it is in office, will have that as the financial ideal to which they must always work up.

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“Sir, the Finance Minister has very rightly stressed the important features that distinguish the present budget. He has said that to-day the responsibility for the finance of the country has developed upon a popularly elected Government. The Governor of the province is no longer the guardian or the caretaker of the solvency and probity of public finance. That charge is now with a popularly elected representative with a backing behind him. It is a welcome change, Sir, and everybody looks forward with interest and a bit of anxiety too—which has also to be allowed—to find out how the new Finance Minister will discharge his responsibilities not only to the satisfaction of his party but to the satisfaction of the general public. The one great comforting feature is that the present conditions are very favourable. The Ministers under the 1919 Act, worked under a kind of financial autonomy which, if I may use the language of the hon. the Premier, was diluted to such a large extent as to be practically unrecognizable. In spite of the limitations of the dyarchic form of Government, it has been stated by eminent statesmen that in Madras the Government of the day for the last seventeen years have, in their own humble way, done their very best. No body would to-day gainsay the good work that has been done in the various fields of the development departments of this province during the last seventeen years. All that has been possible only by the able statesmanship of the persons who were at that time in the Government. They had to contend not only with limited finances but Finance Members themselves who were not members of the party to which the Ministers belonged and with whom only persuasion could prevail. Sir, to-day the Act of 1935, has conferred very wide powers in the field of finance on the popular representatives. A few restrictions that are still attached to the control of the Legislative Assembly over matters of finance in this province are not material; and as the Finance Minister has explained, they do not matter at all. Thus, it will be seen that to-day, whichever Government is in office, is enjoying full financial autonomy, and therefore, it is that the responsibility of the Government is very great.

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“Sir, there are other advantages to which the Hon. the Finance Minister referred. At present we have a satisfactory financial position, and with regard to the satisfactory financial situation I should refer to the rapidity with which the Government loan was subscribed the other day. What does it indicate, Sir? It indicates that the public, who did not even see the budget, have subscribed in a large measure to this new loan, and it is because they had implicit faith and confidence in the financial stability of the province in the past, which also made them entertain the natural hope that the new Government will not unduly upset the financial arrangement and will continue to keep up the stability of the province in future. Moreover, Sir, the prices and seasons are also favourable now. Lastly, the formation of the new province of Orissa which resulted in a small portion of the territory of ours going to the new province, has not been a disadvantage to us. As has been shown, it has resulted in a financial gain and we join the Hon. the Leader of the House in wishing the new province of Utkal well in the future.

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“Sir, realising the very great responsibility that has now devolved upon the popularly elected Government, the Hon. the Premier has emphasized and quite rightly, that the credit of our province is our greatest asset. I can say that there is no other asset greater than that which should be valued by all hon. Members of this House. Once you keep that up, it will be possible for us to be of great good to the poor people of the country. He has stated that no longer the Provincial Governments could expect the Government of India to do the borrowing work for us and that we have to float our loans. To the extent to which the financial policy of this province is impaired or bettered, to that extent probably we will have to pay more or less interest charges on our loans. When the Government of the day has to bear more interest charges, the institutions and people that suffer are land mortgage banks, co-operative credit societies and the agriculturists, to whom the loan amounts are re-lent. Careful budgeting will ultimately bring good to the poor people for they will then be enabled to pay less by way of interest on Government loans.

“The Hon. the Premier has very rightly attempted to take the House into his confidence when he said that he ‘confidently relies on the support of members of this House in trying to keep up the credit of the province.’ I can assure him and the House on behalf of my party and my humble self, that we will always give him our best support in his endeavours to maintain the credit of the province in the future. Sir, with a real financial autonomy, with the support of all sections of the House and with the able assistance of the Finance Department in Madras to whom the Hon. the Finance Minister has paid a very deserving tribute—and I wish to associate myself with the well-deserved tribute given to Mr. Jones, his deputies and officers and staff of the whole department, whose reputation has not only reached all parts of India but aroused the envy of other provinces—and with seasons and prices more favourable, which we hope will become more and more favourable, I should say the task of ushering in an era of contentment in a province the financial stability of which is already sound, should not be a difficult task to the Hon. the Finance Minister, who seems to have set his heart upon trying to do his best without in any way thinking of playing to the gallery.

“There are certain factors in the budget, Mr. Speaker, which give rise to some apprehensions. First, let me deal with prohibition. Prohibition has been elaborately dealt with by many hon. Members of this House before me, and one Member of the Treasury Bench has already attempted to answer in his own way. Sir, what we are concerned with now is not that the question whether drink is an evil or not. In western countries, drink is not an evil but drunkenness is an evil, whereas in India even drink is considered an evil. (Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam: Question.) I do stand firmly, but my hon. Friend and colleague Mr. Pannirselvam, as he does belong to the Catholic community may have his own personal feelings in the matter, which I really appreciate. I only say that so far as I am concerned and a good many people of my way of thinking feel with me, that drink is an evil

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which can be avoided, if possible. But, what I am concerned with is the policy of the Government, namely, that it is not an experiment, but is a first step in the application of the policy from which there is no withdrawal. Here, we want to pause for a moment. We have, of course, no objection to Government trying it as an experiment, though no doubt it is a bit costly. But there are difficulties in effectively carrying out prohibition and we honestly feel that while we are equally anxious that prohibition should come, at the same time we also feel that it should not impair the financial stability of the province. But, if it should become unworkable we hope that the Government will reconsider the matter. The Hon. the Finance Minister in his budget speech on this subject of prohibition has stated that they have not devised means fully with regard to enforcing prohibition. It is here that we feel that it is a very very difficult problem and that failure is nearer than success.

“Sir, another matter with which we are a little concerned is in regard to the excise revenue which is responsible for the financial position which we enjoyed so far in this province. I wish to say here, as one who had occasion for some time to be in charge of the Department of Education and Public Health and also of Excise, that the money spent on the Department of Education and Public Health by the Government of Madras, is somewhere about the same as that derived from the Excise department; and if you take a few other departments, probably the money that you get from the Excise department will be equal to the money that you spend on two or three other departments. Assuming for a moment that you don't get this income, how are you going to run the administration? I am only giving these illustrations to show, how deep the excise revenue has got into the financial machinery of our province that it will be more than a miracle for any Government to overcome the deficit. Sir, even the very small attempt in one district of the Presidency during the course of a short period of six months, involves an expenditure of 13 lakhs and you are unable to find the money ordinarily. The budget that has been presented to the House by the Hon. the Finance Minister has shown that it has not been possible to get that money without recourse to an extraordinary procedure, which I should say it was probably due to the ingenuity of the Finance Department that it has been found possible. I refer to the big departure that has been made by finding this money from the commutation of pensions. The proposal now before the House is that the amount needed for the commutation of pensions is going to be met from borrowed funds. It is needless for me to say that it is a wrong policy, except to point out that the Hon. the Finance Minister himself has in an apologetic manner told the House that he has to resort to this course for the present. To-day the budget may appear to us to be a balanced budget, but it is not in fact a balanced budget. It will not be a balanced budget if the money needed for the commutation of pensions is debited to the ordinary revenue account. Probably, it would have been possible to show a balanced budget if there was no surrender of revenue on the Excise account. Sir, on the same question

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of prohibition, I may say that beyond saying that the question of providing employment for those who will be thrown out of employment would be considered nothing more has been said to enlighten hon. Members of this House. This budget is peculiarly significant in the fact that there is absolutely no reference to the question of unemployment in spite of the promises made by the Congress party at the elections. Unless the question of solving the unemployment problem is taken up as regards those who will be thrown out of employment, due to the application of the policy of prohibition, it will only aggravate the situation.

“Next, I come to the question of providing two lakhs for the hand-spinning movement. I doubt the wisdom of spending on this head of account. I do not here wish to base my objections on grounds of politics, but I only wish to say that the amount intended to be spent will not achieve the object aimed at, namely, providing as a source of supplementary income to the peasant families. There is no justification either for the proposed licence fee. My hon. Friend, representing the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, in his maiden speech has advanced very cogent remarks on this question and I should congratulate him on the bold stand he has taken and on the true and correct way in which he has represented commercial opinion and of his constituents. We may differ from him, but at the same time we should give him the credit for representing truly the views of his constituency, though he may be in a minority of one in this House. It is only for this reason that the minority communities alone are not referred to but minority interests like the one which my hon. Friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari represents are given representation. My hon. Friend Mr. Krishnamachari has very aptly represented to the House the feeling of his constituency; he has not done so with the object of catching votes, but he has done so with the object of placing before the House the feeling of one section of the people, because their case should not go by default. Sir, my hon. Friend, the Minister for Public Works who was connected with business has attempted to say that the business people will not feel the licence fee. As my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnamachari said, the fee itself may not be a hard tax, but it is more the feeling that people are likely to entertain if the licence fee is levied that matters.

“With regard to land revenue remissions, it has been suggested that the Government will continue the 75 lakhs remission which was proposed to be set apart by the previous Government, but the Government have not so far definitely stated in what manner that will be applied. I only wish to urge on the Government that they should in his connexion give due weight to the Marjoribanks Report produced recently. People know the ability of the Chairman, Sir Norman Marjoribanks, as he has had great experience in revenue matters. Though that report may fall short of the full expectations of the Congress leaders, yet I should think it is a practical scheme that has been put forward for the consideration of the Government and I hope they will give very serious consideration to that report while apportioning the

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75 lakhs of rupees in this direction. Here I would like to point out that the burden of land revenue is felt practically by all persons. It is very very difficult to say who those persons are who are not affected by the burden of land revenue.

"Sir, there is another point which has been omitted by the Hon. the Finance Minister and that is with reference to the resettlement operations. He had not told us what will be the policy of Government with regard to the resettlement operations, whether he will continue or drop all resettlement operations and whether he will go back to pre-resettlement days. It will be necessary for the Government to make it plain to the public their definite policy on resettlements.

"Sir, reference has been made to rural indebtedness and everybody sympathizes with the indebted. I can say in my own way that I have studied the question of rural indebtedness on the Banking Committee in Madras and I should like to state for the information of the House that most of the creditors are not money-lenders and bankers. That was the majority opinion placed before the Banking Committee not only in this province but in all provinces. From the evidence that was before the committee it was the neighbouring villager who was the creditor. While we would try to alleviate the distress of the debtor we should see that the neighbouring creditor who is also an agriculturist does not suffer. All attempts at amelioration should be of a positive nature and not of a negative type. Sir, we have the land mortgage banks, the co-operative institutions and debt conciliation boards and I would ask Government to give loan funds and encourage them to give loans and also form debt conciliation boards throughout the province. All these will be more helpful more than any other kind of legislation. I mention this because in one portion of the budget speech there is a reference to a wholesale attempt to remedy the situation. I do not know what that means except to guess something in the nature of legislation. The effect of it will be to curtail private credit. The fact that the new Madras Government Loan was subscribed in a large measure does not indicate prosperity of the country. It indicates that people are not prepared to put money into trade and the earning capacity of the people is much less. I was very much happy to see last night's papers giving details with regard to the new loans. It says out of five crores, three and a half crores came from persons who subscribed one thousand and less. It is a great and important news to all politicians that there are several persons who had one thousand rupees on hand. It points to the fact that the people are led to invest in 3 per cent Government loan because they are not able to invest safely outside at a higher rate. I am only mentioning it to show that money is very shy and nothing should be done to curtail private credit. The total rural indebtedness in the whole of India is to the extent of eight and a half crores. Government by one stroke of the pen will not be able to institute another machinery. I am of opinion that Government should take all steps in the nature of affording encouragement by giving more funds to the land

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mortgage banks, co-operative societies and such other societies and at the same time encourage debt conciliation boards which would go into the country and do justice.

"Sir, there are proposals with regard to providing the poor with drinking water, rural dispensaries and broadcasting. They are laudable objects which the Government in the new budget practically continues with some small increase under some heads. However laudable these objects may be it will not be possible to launch upon all at a time except those which can be launched upon from the ordinary revenues without recourse to extra taxation or borrowing as they will not be justified for such schemes.

"Sir, I shall refer to the question of salaries. I do admit that there is no other country except India which has such a top heavy administration. That should be borne in mind. But at the same time we should also remember the various attempts that have also been made for revising the scales of pay of the new entrants. More than I this as my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, has said Government may direct its attention towards the question of abolishing many of the supernumerary posts. By abolishing ten supernumerary posts you will be able to save the cost of several employees. That I should think should receive the first attention and afterwards retrenchment of salary may be thought of. While retrenching salaries and effecting cuts I could only say that it should not be at the cost of efficiency and contentment. If you lose those two requirements in the services then the services rendered by those persons paid less will be next to nothing.

"In conclusion, Sir, I wish to say that the Congress party to-day have come here after a very busy election and after raising high hopes in the minds of the people. That is the embarrassment that they will be having now. As against that embarrassment they have to face realities and the actual resources of the country by way of revenue. All the objects which they have in view may be very laudable and may certainly demand the sympathy and support of the people. Those who do not see eye to eye with them are rather concerned with problems of practical finance. Finance is their main objection and except the question of resources there is no sentiment or other reason attached to it. Sir, the panacea for the popular enthusiasm lies not in the embarking on projects which have not been considered in all its aspects. I mean all development schemes however good and all attempts to tap the other remaining resources of the province. In this connexion it would not be out of place to state that many persons intimately connected with the finances of our province have stated that our sources of revenue are inelastic. Our province is mainly an agricultural one and we cannot enhance revenue suddenly. At the beginning, Sir, I was saying how pleased we were to know that the Government have taken a definite stand to maintain the credit of the province. If that should be maintained there would always be a taxable reserve. It is only then that people will always have the confidence that Government will be able to pay back

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their loans. If all resources are taxed there will be no money and it will not be possible for Government to raise money in the shape of reserve taxes when emergency comes. We do not know when the emergency will come. Once you get money you spend and the commitment becomes part and parcel of part I schemes. Probably if the prohibition policy was adopted fifty years ago we will not have this problem as big as it is now and excise revenue would not have got deep into the financial structure and mattered much. If to-day a sweeping attempt is made to tap all other resources and the revenue realised is spent it will not be possible for any Government in the future even for the most conservative Government to cancel the tax and the commitments. It is in the larger interests of the province that I say this. If the head of the Congress Government here, who no doubt has promised all that is best before the electorate, is not able to achieve all that he has promised, I will not call him a bad man. I will call him a very brave man if he will say: 'These are the reasons which made it impossible for us to carry out all the schemes. We saved the country from ruin.' That is the greatest tribute which my Hon. Friend the Premier, Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, can earn for himself and the party. He can be proud that they have been able to do things honestly without imperilling the credit of the province which is a most paramount one. You can do several things once you protect and maintain the financial credit of the province. Without it, it will be impossible and we will be nowhere. I sincerely trust, that next year when he will be able to present the budget before the House probably he will present a conservative budget and carry on the Government of the country. There are ever so many ways in which the party in power can do good without upsetting the finances of the province." (Cheers.)

* THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"Mr. Speaker, it is not without a sense of great personal gratitude that I rise to speak again on this subject after hearing so much exhibition of not only administrative experience and criticism but expressions of special consideration and personal goodwill. It is difficult for me to go straightaway into the business before the House without giving vent to these personal feelings. But I am not going to weary the House with any further reference to this what is to me no less important than the public affairs we are conducting. I am grateful for the manner in which the budget has been received. I believe I am not overestimating the reception of it by the House in my own favour if I say that there has been on the whole more of appreciation than of criticism and even those who offered criticism were so kind as to associate such criticism with many provisos and much kindness. For all this I am grateful. Apart, however, from the personal goodwill shown it is clear that the general feeling of the Assembly including members opposite is that the Government's financial policy as embodied in the budget is sound. This endorsement by all sections of the House was inevitable with the revenue account working at a surplus, however

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small, and the addition to debt during the year being less than the anticipated capital expenditure for the remunerative purposes mentioned. It is no wonder that demands are made by Hon. Members for further items of expenditure in various directions. But on the whole allowing for such normal features in a budget debate, I think I may summarize to my own mind that the budget has received the approval of all sections of the House.

"The hon. Member, Mr. Bower, said that the budget would have been better if I had not myself been influenced by people from outside our province. Apart from the impropriety of that suggestion, I submit, Sir, that it is absolutely wrong and incorrect. I shall not claim here that I influence other people as much as they influence me, but it is wholly wrong that in all the schemes that I have been able to suggest or put forward in this budget or any of the things that I am taking the responsibility for initiating are other than what I have been most enthusiastic and convinced about for the last many, many years. No pressure was wanted to make me plump for the total elimination of a poison from the families of our people; no pressure was wanted for my feeling that our agricultural families should be given a supplementary income; no pressure was wanted for me to feel that I should do all I can for taking off the debt rope that is hanging round the neck of every one of our agricultural families. Surely, Sir, Mr. Bower was wrong, and you should permit me to say at the very outset that it is surely wrong, surely improper for any one to suggest that Hon. Members of Government who have taken responsibility of administration in a province are doing things because undue pressure is brought to bear on them by anybody, be it by a party or by individual members. Parties are there to serve as normal constitutional instruments in the art of administration in democracy. Parties are not there to make people go wrong.

"The hon. Member for South Arcot and Chingleput representing the Mussalmans, my old friend, who was more experienced than myself at any rate in working in this Legislature and who took the largest slice of time in the debate—and he is entitled to it by reason of his long association with the House and with public affairs—surprisingly enough, advanced the strange dictum that productive capital expenditure ordinarily incurred by Government such as cost of electric schemes, irrigation schemes, loans to local bodies and agriculturists, should be met from current revenue and that we should not borrow for such, what he called other than extraordinary expenditure, and he gave a strange illustration. It was his suggestion that loss of revenue by prohibition should be made good every year by borrowing. These dicta are so obviously erroneous that I have only to state them for ordinary people experienced in public finance to reject such a suggestion. It is a pity, however, that such obviously erroneous propositions were solemnly made by one of his experience which might mislead ordinary laymen who listen to or read his speech. Borrowing for

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productive capital expenditure, normal or abnormal, ordinary or extraordinary, is perfectly sound finance; because we benefit posterity; we have involved the future years and the future years must pay also for the capital expenditure. In fact, it is wrong to meet such capital expenditure from current revenue. It is only interest and sinking fund charges that ought to be met from taxation or revenue account, because revenue means taxation. Apart from arguments, Sir, financiers, banks and investors have shown this week that they take a view of our financial position very different from the hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. They do not think that we are offending the principles of public finance. They have subscribed in cash five crores in response to our appeal for a loan when we asked only for one and a half crores. I take it that this substantial approval of investors of our province and outside is the best testimony in regard to this matter, whether we are borrowing rightly or wrongly."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, on a matter of personal explanation. In my speech, I referred only to three items which are not items of expenditure; one was Rs. 40 lakhs which was stated to be kept in the Reserve Bank, another was Rs. 19 lakhs which was stated to be kept in the sub-treasuries and the other item of about Rs. 10 or Rs. 12 lakhs said to be intended for payment of commutation of pensions. I very advisedly did not refer to any productive items for which the borrowing was done."

THE HON. MR. C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR:—"I was coming to it, Sir, immediately. The same hon. Member and I think another hon. Member proceeded to make an equally erroneous statement that the budget presented by me was really a deficit budget to the tune of Rs. 85 lakhs. Apparently, as the hon. Member just now explained, he has mixed up the ways and means summary with the question of a deficit budget. The ways and means position has necessarily to take account not only of revenue heads but transactions under all heads including capital and suspense and deposit heads and cash left with treasuries and banks and the like. It is an elementary principle that the working of the revenue account alone determines whether a budget is a surplus or a deficit one. The working of the other accounts, suspense accounts and the like, outside the revenue account together with the opening balance for the year decides how much has to be borrowed and what the closing balance will be. I should have thought that the older Members of the House could never commit any mistake about this even if I did, and the remarks of the hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, came as a surprise rendering necessary this explanation of a very elementary proposition."

"Some hon. Members have taken exception to the contemplated levy of a licence fee on mill-made cloth of all kinds and the grant of assistance to hand-spinners on the ground, as the hon. Member for

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the Christian community in the Madras City puts it, that it was robbing Peter to pay Paul. How is it sound policy, he asked, to help one industry at the expense of another? The whole art of Government, I venture to submit, Sir, the whole art of public finance, is the art of devising how Peter can be most suitably robbed to pay Paul (laughter). Is it not indeed the principle which underlies the imposition of what is generally accepted by advanced opinion as the best form of tax, the income-tax? What is income-tax but robbing Peter to pay Paul? The handloom has carried on a brave and valiant struggle against not only foreign cloth but what I consider to be an even more terrible competition of Indian mill cloth with its persuasive title of 'swadeshi' cloth. In this unequal struggle the valiant handloom should command our admiration and our sympathy. The mill-owners that have made the age-long occupation of thousands of families in our province a precarious means of existence, a thing that is going to die, certainly these mill-owners do not deserve the admiration and sympathy of this Assembly, in this most unequal struggle. No one will deplore, but on the contrary every one will congratulate the mills of India in having doubled their production during the last few years and shut the foreign cloth out to that extent. But everyone must deplore the tragedy of the gradual destruction of the handloom craft and the village handloom occupation. Next to agriculture, weaving is the most widespread industry in South India, and the handloom is therefore of national importance so far as we are concerned in this province and it must be protected, I say with all the emphasis that I can command, at any cost. We are however doing something that can hardly be called protection. We just give a psychological advantage and what may prove to be a good tendency and nothing more. No objection should have been raised to the proposal to levy a small licence fee on the mill cloth industry and to exempt dealers exclusively dealing in handloom products from this levy. Some hon. Members suggested that we should levy a turnover tax and give substantial protection to the handloom. It is not as if this has escaped the attention of the Government. The working of the licence fee scheme will furnish grounds and experience to give better protection to the handloom."

"The hon. Member for European Commerce said that he would move a cut motion in respect of what he called the unfair discrimination in favour of handlooms. The hon. Member for Indian Commerce vied with the hon. Member for European Commerce in calling this discrimination. A strange phrase for protection given to a rural industry of great importance bound up with the life of the people, which has valiantly been struggling against heavy odds and whose life is threatened by the power-looms of India as well as of Japan. Call this discrimination! It is not discrimination. It is Government. There are mills which supply the yarn to the handlooms and which do not weave cloth, but most mills give yarn with one hand and take away the life itself with the other by placing cloth on the same market, which drives the handloom product out and reduces the weaver and

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his family to a continually decreasing standard of life until he is beaten in the struggle. Is this, what I would call, a token help rendered to the handloom weaver in the present situation to be called unfair discrimination in favour of handlooms? I urge European Members to take a more humane view of things. I assure my old friend, the hon. Member from Kasargode that the shop-keepers, be they Muslims or be they Hindus, will not be ruined by a licence fee of Rs. 5 per annum on a big cloth shop and of Rs. 2 per annum on the small cloth shop. I want him to go to the handloom weavers' houses, be they Hindus or Muslims, and come back with changed opinions, and with purified feelings and with sympathy for these people against whom an unfair battle is waged by capital and machinery, foreign and Indian combined. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, spoke as if there was a conflict between the handloom and the spinning wheel and suggested more help to the handloom instead of wasting good money on the charka,—a wholly unsound criticism based on ignorance of the real nature of the occupations involved. Handspinning is economically unsound, he argued, meaning to say that a man or a woman cannot live wholly on wages earned by handspinning. I admit this. Hand spinning was always a subsidiary occupation yielding a supplementary income for those who live a precarious existence on poor agricultural income. If the irrigated areas of our province cry for land revenue remission, the dumb and suffering families in the dry areas cry for assistance at least in the shape of a subsidiary occupation to be furnished to them, and this is what I call handspinning.

“ ‘How are you going to distribute this grant?’ asked many members, a question born of party suspicion. As long as I am on this bench, hon. Members may rest assured that every rupee shall be used to help the women who ply the charka to get more out of it and to help other women to take to the charka where they have not hitherto done it. Who are these women for whom we plead? Hon. Members can go and see one of them to-day and now in the waiting room at the north gate. I propose to trust no one in the distribution of this grant. The Government will give the grant in so many annas by so many yards of hand spun cloth actually turned out and shown—no trust but grants on results as we used to do in former days to help elementary education, grant to the boy who has not only studied but actually passed the examination. When the cotton has been spun on the charka and the yarn has been woven on the handlooms I propose that we see how much increase there has been over last year's production and distribute a grant per yard thereon to the institution responsible for the production. There can be no cheating here if that is what is feared. Some of my hon. Friends imagined that this grant, we asked for, was for propaganda for hand-spinning. They are entirely wrong. Not a rupee will be spent on propaganda, and as long as there is breath in my throat and as long as there is breath in Gandhiji's body, we do not want any propaganda from anybody else. (‘Hear, hear.’)

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“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, said that Rs. 13 and odd lakhs allotted for Part II schemes were allotted for hazy purposes. It is a pity that this description is given by an experienced Member to grants made on definite schemes proposed and technically sanctioned after investigation and waiting for the budget.

“ Some criticism was made about the purchase of cars and on that criticism was hung the pleasant suggestion that we should have paid ourselves higher salaries. Sir, if we have slurred over thirty days, without reducing our salary, one month's salary on the old scale would have quietly produced for us enough money to buy our own cars. We did not do this and preferred openly to ask for the provision of Government conveyance. I think there is something here which should serve as food for genuine thought rather than criticism. A little thought would have shown the propriety of the step we took. The cars continue to be Government property and will last much longer than the normal tenure of our office and will be available for anybody that will take up our work with the consent of the electorate. (Loud cheers and laughter.)

“ We were warned by some hon. Members that we were treading on dangerous ground in trying to touch the salaries. We were told that the yield of the scaling down of salaries is not worth the trouble and the discontent. It was pointed out also that it would be unfair to touch provincial and subordinate services when the all-India services have to be left intact. Some hon. Members said it will reduce the standard of life while everybody's aim should be to raise it. Forgive me if I say that this is all clap-trap. The raising of the standard of life that is needed can be achieved only if we leave more money in the hands of the masses, the toilers of the land. ‘If you reduce salaries,’ they say, ‘officials will reduce their establishments and that will cause unemployment.’ This is an argument advanced by some who forget that salaries come from taxes and if salaries are reduced, more money either remains in the tax-payers' pocket or is spent in ways that add to the amenities and the wealth of the country which must and will absorb the most deserving among the unemployed. I do not think that there is any danger in the retrenchment that we propose. I have greater faith in the patriotism of those employed in Government services. They know as well as I do, if not better than I, the condition of the people which moves me to plead for this reduction in administrative expenditure.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, said, ‘Cut the pay of the new entrants only; do not cut the pay of the present incumbents; do not cut also the pay of those who may be promoted.’ Sir, we will have to live a hundred years to see any retrenchment if these views are accepted. Is it right to raise mere expectations, mere ambitions to the level of a concluded contract to prevent national interest being served by readjusted expenditure and readjusted taxation? The tail would be wagging the dog if we give so much imaginary sanctity to imaginary contracts.

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"Mr. Basheer Ahmed wants the cut to be a mild gradient and not a steep one. Sir, I accept the hon. Member's caution. But, it is not a new thing. I do not think it is likely to be otherwise when the scheme is worked up. The hon. Mr. Appadurai Pillai suggested, I think it was repeated by the Leader of the Opposition, that retrenchment, that is, turning out of some employees, was better than reduction in salaries all round. Talking not in terms of administrative efficiency or advantage but merely on the plane of human sympathy it seems to me, Sir, that a graded cut for all is kinder than turning out some people altogether. I may also add that sometimes not being acquainted with the details of administration it is not uncommon for us to think that some officials do not work at all simply because we are not in touch with the service rendered by such people and the nature of their work. I know that some people think that Collectors of districts do no work whatsoever. There are others who think that divisional officers simply draw their pay, and I am sure that there are thousands of people who think that the Secretaries to Government merely sign some papers and as for Ministers they are only to accept invitations to dinners and the like. In any event reduced salaries do not rule out retrenchment as well. I submit that nothing will escape our attention if only we are helped all round by way of reducing the expenditure in the administration.

"One or two hon. Members urged that the concentration of the Government's resources on the provision of rural water-supply at the expense of communications will prejudicially affect certain areas where there is plenty of water. The provision of drinking-water is the provision of an elementary need over the greater part of the province and if for an year we have been compelled to refrain from attempts to improve the existing communications, it cannot be thought that any great injury will be done to those areas which are lucky enough not to be in the same unfortunate position as the greater part of the province. 'Your needs are greater,' was said to a thirsty soldier by a noble general who was himself dying. We have read the story in our school days. That should be the attitude of areas blessed with plenty of rain and water to the barren areas of our province.

"Measures for relieving agriculturists in the matter of land revenue have not been put aside. The Marjoribanks Committee Report will be considered as well as the claims put forward by many districts who fear that the relief recommended by the Committee may not reach them and the suggestions from all quarters as to the correct principles to be observed in the distribution of this relief will all be considered.

"My friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, pointed out some errors in the budget figures. As a matter of fact I can assure the House there was no such error. He omitted to take into account in calculating the loss of revenue on Excise, the loss under country spirit which is also to be added.

"My friend, Swami Sahajananda, referred to a decrease of provision for uplift of depressed classes. This also is a misreading of

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figures. I ask him to refer to page 379 of the estimates. He will see that for education of scheduled classes we have provided Rs. 67,000 more than last year's actuals according to preliminary accounts, that for scheduled classes education we have provided Rs. 7,10,000 this year as against Rs. 6,21,000 last year according to preliminary accounts, an increase of one lakh and for scheduled classes public health including wells and house-sites we have provided Rs. 1,90,000 this year as against Rs. 1,47,000 last year's actuals, an increase of nearly Rs. 50,000. The hon. Member has misread the budget. He has not realized the fact that the full amount allotted is available for expenditure and estimates of probable lapses have not the effect of reducing the grants allotted. The gross provision which the Commissioner of Labour is entitled to spend in 1937-38 is higher than the actuals of last year. Similarly, Mr. Appadurai Pillai's attempt to read figures in the budget has necessitated an explanation. He said that if the two lakhs allotted for khadi be deducted, the amount allotted in the budget for industries is not 13½ lakhs but only 11½ lakhs and the increase over last year's figures under this head is only half a lakh. He does not complain of decrease but adequate increase. This is a strange way of belittling the proposed expenditure over last year's actuals. Even assuming that we should ignore what is proposed to be done for the hand-spinning industry, it still remains that we have provided far more for other industries than what had been spent last year. Again we have for industries a further sum of nearly 1½ lakhs expenditure financed from Government of India Funds. I want hon. Members interested in this fact of national affairs to take note of this.

"Mr. Basheer Ahmed's proposal that accounts should be kept in a different way has to be answered also. This, of course, is a matter for audit and accounts experts, not for me. Anyway I can say this that any difficulties arising on account of unpaid liabilities or work done during the closing months remaining unpaid by the end of the year, will be repeated every year and will not be an extraordinary occurrence in any particular year. No harm, therefore, can result as the transaction relating to the previous year will be incorporated in the accounts of the succeeding year and will cover similar transactions of the latter year which will be carried forward into the next year. It is not necessary therefore to confuse accounts by keeping the year's accounts unclosed for a month or a month and a half or maintaining a double set of accounts. If this proposal was very good and wise, as he thinks it is, I think it would have been accepted long before I took up office.

"Now, Sir, I come to what I consider to be the major subject of criticism, i.e., the policy with reference to prohibition of alcoholic drinks and the loss of Excise revenue. The Leader of the Opposition was perfectly right when he said that, if this question had been tackled many years ago, when too there were good reasons and when too all the points to be urged and all the matters to be considered were the

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same, our problem would not have been of this magnitude. I quite agree with him and that is why every prohibitionist, every anti-liquor worker or temperance worker, has been saying 'don't delay, don't delay at least hereafter.'

"A few hon. Members referred to America and warned us against trying prohibition, after the memorable failure in America. And the hon. Member for Indian Commerce said that there was no use in claiming that India was different from America. He stressed that humanity was common and that, what one people failed to achieve, another may not succeed in achieving. May I stress also the commonness of all people and ask the hon. Member for Indian Commerce whether there are not numerous castes and communities in India who do not drink at all, and why should we not take hope from the successful abstinence of all these communities living side by side in India and work with faith, and without fear or doubt, that the same abstinence will spread among the other communities? It is not as if I adopted this policy from a book. I have lived among the people who have said to me and pleaded with me, men as well as women, 'remove these shops, and we shall be able to save ourselves.' I have no doubt about the desire of these poor people who wish to be saved against themselves. And when I hold office, how can I refuse to do what they have asked me to do? I may perhaps not succeed; but how can I refuse to try? Certainly not because we want their money, whatever may happen to them. This, in substance, is all the argument which has been advanced on the floor of this House. Considerations of finance should not compel one to countenance an admitted evil. I would say that it is mean to keep these shops going when these women and the families of those who go to the shops and ruin themselves entreat that they should be removed from their midst. Unless we think that it is good for them or unless we think that they can afford to ruin themselves—which is not the case according to any one—we must take up this question. Suppose, Sir, I put this question to hon. Members opposite as well as to others, suppose the people do not drink and we do not get the revenue; are we going to go about and ask them to drink to make up our deficit? (Laughter.) The hon. Member, Mr. Khalif-ul-lah said: 'Prohibition is bad. I agree that my religion too says, no spirituous liquors. But do not compel.' The hon. Member forgets that religion is compulsion, that the text that he referred to is of a compulsory nature. The hon. Member will not think that I am quoting wrong history if I say that the Law of the Prophet was the law of the land as well as of religion. He was a ruler as well as a religious head. Therefore, he at least cannot raise objection to legal sanction being asked for for keeping men from evil. And, what is law for, except to keep men from evil? Is it to please the lawyers and fill the law courts? I think that this clap-trap distinction between compulsion and persuasion is nothing. Both must go hand-in-hand. We must persuade people not to ruin themselves. We must also prevent people from ruining themselves.

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"But, Sir, I am grateful because of the spirit in which this criticism was offered by all. All who criticized this policy in this debate said: 'We wish it would succeed?' They did not speak cantankerously as they well might have done if they had the Anglo-Saxon prejudice against prohibition. They felt that we are right, that we are on the right moral ground and that felt that we are not unduly interfering will feel though in with personal liberty. In India no legislator America and England, one might feel—that any law is an interference with personal liberty. In India they will not and do not feel it as long as we stick to our faith, to our culture and to our traditions. Two hon. Members said: 'We wish success. We think it is right, but we have much fear and we have many doubts.' These friends must know, Sir, that with fear and doubt, a blessing becomes of poor purpose. I want hon. Members to give up fear and doubt and wish us success. I want hon. Members to postpone at least fear and doubt and to summon up all the faith that they can have and give us all the co-operation they can.

"I shall not detain the House any longer, Sir. I must apologise for keeping them very much after lunch time. It is not possible to reply to all the speakers in a short speech, and I hope I have done adequate justice to the main points. Let it not be thought that what I did not refer to has been given up by me. I do think that the budget is good and I do think that hon. Members of the House will accept the budget as a whole without any change in any matter.

"I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this much time." (Loud applause.)

* MR. SPEAKER:—"The first stage of the budget, namely, the general discussion is now over. The second stage, namely, voting of demands for grants will be taken up on the 14th instant.

"The House will now adjourn and meet again on the 14th instant at 10 a.m."

The House then adjourned.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 62 asked by Mr. E. Kannan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 4th September 1937, page 212 infra.]

(1)

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF MALABAR—MISCELLANEOUS CASE No. 4 OF 1937.

Order.

Whereas it has been brought to my notice by the Sub-Inspector of Police, Special Branch, that you, Yusuf Meharali, have been delivering speeches in the District of Malabar of a nature calculated or likely to cause disturbance of public tranquillity, and whereas on perusing the speeches delivered by you between the 20th and 22nd of June 1937, I am satisfied that it is necessary, in the interest of public tranquillity, that steps should be taken to prevent you, Yusuf Meharali, from delivering further speeches of that nature.

This order is issued, requiring you, Yusuf Meharali, to refrain from addressing any gathering of five or more persons within the limits of the Revenue Taluks of Calicut, Ernad, Walluvanad and Ponani for a period of one month from the date of this order.

Information having been furnished to me that you intend to visit the areas in question from 25th of June onwards the order is, in view of the urgency of the matter, passed *ex parte*.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court on this the 24th day of June 1937.

A. R. MACEWEN,
District Magistrate.

(2)

G.O. Ms. No. 2769, Home, dated 20th July 1937.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act V of 1898, the Government of Madras are hereby pleased to remit unconditionally the unexpired portion of the sentence of six months' simple imprisonment passed on Yusuf Meharali in C.C. No. 40 of 1937 on the file of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Calicut.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor).

H. M. HOOD,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Magistrate, Malabar.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Inspector-General of Prisons.
" Superintendent, Central Jail, Cannanore.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 33 asked by Mr. P. Madhavan at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 4th September 1937, page 230 supra.]

Serial number and name of society.	District.	Area of operation as per by-law No. 1.
1 Narasannapeta Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Vizagapatam.	Narasannapeta.
2 Pulletikurru Weavers' Co-operative Society.	East Godavari.	Pulletikurru, Pedapudi and Isukapudi.
3 Muramanda Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Muramanda, Dulla, Veeravaram and Telagatodo.
4 Peddapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Peddapuram village.
5 Katheru Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Katheru village.
6 Mori Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Mori, Antervedipalem and Malikipuram.
7 Peddapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Peddapuram village.
8 Ellore Weavers' Co-operative Society.	West Godavari.	Ellore and Sanivarampeta.
9 Pedana Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Kistna ..	Pedana and Kappaladoddi villages.
10 Ramasastri Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Angalu, Gudlavalleru, Kalavasingalum, Venuturumilli, Dokiparru and Porumetta.
11 Peddatumidi Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Peddatumidi village.
12 Guntur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Guntur ..	Guntur Municipality.
13 Nidubrolu Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Nidubrolu.
14 Vetapalem Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Vetapalem.
15 Ipurupalem Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Ipurupalem.
16 Chimakurti Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Chimakurti.
17 Mangalagiri Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Mangalagiri.
18 Chirala Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Chirala.
19 Adoni Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Bellary ..	Swakulasalais within the limits of Adoni Municipality.
20 Hospet Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Hospet village.
21 Rayadrug Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Rayadrug.
22 Darmavaram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Anantapur.	Revenue taluk of Dharmavaram.
23 Uravakonda Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Uravakonda village.
24 Kurnool Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Kurnool ..	Kurnool Municipality.
25 Gudur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do. ..	Gudur.

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Serial number and name of society.	District.	Area of operation as per by-law No. 1
26 Parla Cumbly Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Kurnool	Parla.
27 Salkapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Salkapuram.
28 Madura Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Madura	Madura and Ramnad
29 Madura Sourastra Bank	Do.	Madura.
30 Aruppukkottai Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Ramnad	Aruppukkottai
31 Parameswar Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Paramakudi Parameswar village
32 Melapalaiyam Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Tinnevely	Melapalaiyam, Kilaviraragavapuram and Tinnevely town.
33 Palamcottah Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Palamcottah.
34 Kornad Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Tanjore	Shiyali, Kumbakonam and Mayavaram taluks.
35 Kollegal Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Coimbatore.	Kollegal.
36 Kavandapadi Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Bhavani taluk— No. 46, Kavandapadi and Bommanpatti. No. 45, Appangudal and Puttur. No. 51, Vairamangalam and Maharakuttipalayam. No. 47, Salangapalayam, Kavandapalayam and Sendapalayam. No. 43, Kizhawani. Erode taluk— No. 34, A. Kanjikoil. No. 33, Peddampalayam. Gobichettipalayam taluk— No. 129, Mettupalayam and Kavandapalayam. No. 123, Perunthalaiyur and Kiriampalayam. No. 127, Mevani. No. 124, Kubalur, Kalichettipalayam and Mettupalayam. Coimbatore Municipality.
37 Coimbatore Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	
38 Bhavani Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	No. 60, Bhavani. No. 53, Jabai (Tiruchengode taluk). No. 46, Komarapalayam.
39 Salem Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Salem	Salem district.
40 Woraiyur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Trichinopoly.	Woraiyur.
41 Jayankondacholapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Jayankondacholapuram.
42 Koyamballi Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Karur, Kulittalai and Musiri taluks.
43 Arani Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Arani.
44 Kesavanallathur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Kesavanallathur, Philesapuram, hamlet of Vepachettu, Senji and Panapakkam.
45 Rosanagaram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Rosanagaram, Sathivedu, Bommirikulam, Komathkulam and Kalanayakampet.
46 Ekkadu Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Ekkadu village.

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Serial number and name of society.	District.	Area of operation as per by-law No. 1.
47 Kalamanaidupet Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Kurnool	Nos. 285, Kalamanaidupet; 287, Narasara Agradharam; 286, Satyavedu; 288, Tholavai Agradharam; 254, Sinnettivakkam (Palakulam); 256, Pedditivakkam (Rajapalayam); 255, Kolladam; 257, Rallakupam; 290, Nellimarathukondigal (Pudur); 325, Balakrishnapuram (Kadarvedu); 326, Peradam.
48 Washermanpet Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Korukupet Municipal division.
49 Pillapalayam Sri Anandarudreswara Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Pillapalayam village.
50 Ayyangarkulam Selva-vinayagar Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Ayyangarkulam.
51 Gudiyattam Weavers' Co-operative Society.	North Arcot.	Gudiyattam Municipality.
52 Gururajapet Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Gururajapet and Visvanathapuram.
53 Devikapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Devikapuram village.
54 Pallikonda Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Nos. 62, Pallikonda, 61, Vettukanam and 63, Killachur.
55 Takkolam Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	No. 130, Takkolam.
56 Sholinghur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Sholinghur and places within five miles radius of Sholinghur.
57 Sathuvachari Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Sathuvachari.
58 Munnal Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Munnal and its hamlet Narasingapuram.
59 Ganesar Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Wallajapet.
60 Kalavai Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	Kalavai.
61 Chinnasalam Weavers' Co-operative Society.	South Arcot.	Chinnasalam.
62 Narayanavanam Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Chittoor	Narayanavanam, Survey No. 2.
63 Pantalayini Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Malabar	The desams of Pantalayini and Kothamapalayam.
64 Karimpuzha Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	The amsams of Nos. 161, Karimpusha; 158, Kulikkiliyad; and 166, Manamputta.
65 Tanur Weavers' Co-operative Society.	Do.	The amsams of Nos. 5, Rayanimangalam; and 7, Keraladhiswarapuram.
66 Nileswar Weavers' Co-operative Society.	South Kanara.	Nileswar I village.

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APPENDIX III.

Vide answer to unstarred question No. 36 asked by Mr. B. Venkatanarayana Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 4th September 1937, page 232 supra.]

Statement of irrigation works in the Nellore district.

I.—List of major irrigation systems in operation.

Name of system.	Extent irrigated during 1935-36. (Revenue year.)
	ACS.
1 Penner River Canals system	168,857
2 Mopad system	4,577
3 Ponnalur tank	762
4 Anamasamudram-Beraperu tank	854
5 Yerur tank	1,249
6 Hajipuram tank	648

Note.—The extent irrigated by minor works in the district is 125,507 acres.

II.—List of schemes abandoned in the Nellore district.

Name of Project.	Reasons for abandonment.
1 Swarnamukhi Project	Abandoned on financial grounds. Cost very high and return low. The zamindars concerned recommended its abandonment.
2 Boggeru Project	Abandoned on financial grounds. In bad years, only the old ayacut would benefit by the increased supply.
3 Atleru Project	Dropped as gauge readings showed that in years of poor rainfall the reservoir would be of no avail.
4 Vengalapuram Project	Abandoned on engineering and financial grounds. Soil unsuitable. Water-rate to be levied would be as high as Rs. 19-4-0 per acre.
5 Pydem Scheme	Abandoned on account of prohibitive cost.
6 Sangameswaram Scheme	Abandoned on account of difficulties connected with exchange of territory with His Exalted Highness the Nizam.
7 Paleru scheme (improvements to the Pakala tank group).	Dropped as the cost was prohibitive and the return poor.
8 Improvements to Kampasamudram tank.	Dropped as the success of the scheme was speculative.
9 Constructing new tank in Mogilicherla village, Udayagiri taluk.	Dropped until more experience is gained of the Mopad system.
10 Constructing anicut across the Pambaleru, Gudur taluk.	Dropped owing to the inability of the ryots to contribute the required amount.
11 Reddi kalva scheme	Dropped as being financially unsound.
12 Mopad-Machavaram project	
13 Gandipalem project	
14 Formation of a new tank in Basiredipalem village, Kandukur taluk.	Dropped as the proposed tank would depend on local rainfall and if this failed, the tank would not afford protection when it was needed.

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III. List of irrigation schemes under investigation or consideration.

1 Musunur-Tallapalem scheme	Under consideration of the local officers.
2 Rallapad scheme	Preliminary investigation taken up.
3 Construction of anicut across Pilla-peru.	Gaugings are being conducted.
4 Improvements to Sayapeta and Renabala tanks.	Under consideration of the local officers.
5 Extension of irrigation under Survepalli reservoir and fitting falling shutters over Nellore anicut.	The report of the Collector on the financial aspects of the scheme is awaited.

IV. List of schemes sanctioned and now in progress.

- Formation of a new tank in Gundamadakala village, Udayagiri taluk.
- Fitting up falling shutters over the Sangam anicut.
- Diversion of water to the Penner from the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal for early supplies to the seed beds under the Sangam and Nellore anicut.

V. List of schemes sanctioned but the execution of which is kept in abeyance.

- Constructing an anicut across the Venkatagiri river, Gudur taluk. Kept in abeyance pending further examination of the question as a result of a suit notice received from the ryots of Gudur taluk.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 40 asked by Mr. H. S. Hussain at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 4th September 1937, at page 235 supra.]

EXTRACT OF RULE 5 (a) OF THE MADRAS MINISTERIAL SERVICE RULES

5. *Qualifications*—(a) No person shall be eligible for selection for admission to the said service unless he possesses the minimum general educational qualification specified in Schedule II to the General Rules or such other qualification as may be considered to be equivalent thereto by the Commission in cases where recruitment has to be made in consultation with them and by the Provincial Government in other cases.

Schedule II.

Minimum General Educational Qualification.

[Referred to in rule 5 (a) (iii).]

A candidate must—

(a) either have obtained a completed Secondary School-Leaving Certificate issued under the authority of the Government of Madras, and

(1) if such certificate was obtained in pursuance of the revised Secondary School-Leaving Certificate scheme introduced by G.O. No. 1636, Law (Education), dated the 3rd August 1929, the certificate must show that the candidate has obtained at the Public Examination not less than the percentage

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of marks specified below in the subjects under Group 'A' and not less than 35 per cent in one of the subjects in Group 'C':—

Group 'A'.

	Per cent.
English	40
A language	40
Elementary Mathematics	35
Elementary Science	30
Outlines of History of England and India and Geography	30

* Provided that a candidate belonging to any community other than the Brahman, the Non-Brahman (Hindu), the Anglo-Indian, Christian or Non-Asiatic shall, if he has obtained not less than 35 per cent in English and in the language in Group 'A' and not less than the percentage of marks specified above in the other subjects under that group and 35 per cent in one of the subjects under Group 'C' be eligible for appointment to any subordinate service until the 31st December 1938; and

(2) if such certificate was obtained in pursuance of the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Scheme which was in operation before the revised scheme referred to in sub-clause (1), the certificate must show that the candidate has obtained at the Public Examination not less than 35 per cent of the marks in each of the subjects in Group 'A' and in each of two subjects in Group 'C';

Note.—(i) The certificates of pupils who have been exempted from Vernacular Composition and Translation in Group 'A' will not be considered incomplete because they contain no entry under that subject.

(ii) A pass in a Government Technical Examination will be regarded as equivalent to obtaining 35 per cent marks in the corresponding subject in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination; for this purpose, where in the latter examination, the technical subject comprises two subjects in the Government Technical Examination, passes in at least the Lower Grade are required in both the subjects in the Government Technical Examination;

or

(b) have obtained a completed European School-Leaving Certificate issued under the authority of the Government of Madras with either Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kanarese or Hindustani as his compulsory second language and secured at the European High School Examination not less than the percentage of marks specified below in the subjects in Group 'A' and not less than 35 per cent in each of three subjects in Group 'B':—

Group 'A'.

	Per cent.
English	40
Elementary Mathematics	35
A language	30

* The amendment hereby made shall be deemed to have been made and to have come into force on and from the 1st April 1937,

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APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 61 asked by Mr. G. Krishnamurti at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 4th September 1937, at page 245 supra.]

Statement No. I.

Statement showing the number of buses plying for hire at the end of the year 1936.

Name of district.	Number of buses.
Madras City	371
Anantapur	109
Arcot, North	247
Arcot, South	139
Bellary	84
Chingleput	187
Chittoor	90
Coimbatore	306
Cuddapah	64
Godavari, East	163
Godavari, West	120
Guntur	154
South Kanara	151
Kistna	179
Kurnool	89
Madura	357
Malabar	270
Nellore	125
Nilgiris	69
Ramnad	292
Salem	275
Tanjore	245
Trichinopoly	213
Tinnevely	247
Vizagapatam	140

Statement No. II.

Statement showing the number of persons killed and the number injured during the years 1934, 1935 and 1936 in accidents in which motor vehicles were involved.

Name of district.	Number of persons killed.			Number of persons injured who have received treatment in hospital.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Madras City	20	20	22	74	102	161
Anantapur	2	1	2	15	4	4
Arcot, North	10	13	14	40	54	61
Arcot, South	6	10	9	3	5	50
Bellary	1	8	1	12	14	14
Chingleput	11	21	22	61	75	65
Chittoor	4	1	10	21	14	41
Coimbatore	16	21	15	20	34	102

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Name of district.	Number of persons killed.			Number of persons injured who have received treatment in hospital.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Cuddapah	1	2	6	8	3	27
Ganjam	6	7	*	9	11	*
Godavari, East	5	6	3	8	7	21
Godavari, West	1	2	2	2	7	12
Guntur	3	..	4	18	..	7
South Kanara	9	8	10	36	50	51
Kistna	4	4	7	16	5	11
Kurnool	3	3	3	4	13	11
Madura	24	15	15	101	102	113
Malabar	8	16	18	61	69	63
Nellore	2	1	7	11	16	42
Nilgiris	1	1	2	15	6	25
Ramnad	6	15	14	43	83	54
Salem	17	10	29	75	48	97
Tanjore	14	6	7	28	48	52
Trichinopoly	8	6	16	58	19	54
Tinnevelly	7	12	9	20	36	7
Vizagapatam	5	8	12	23	26	37

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 66 asked by Mr. K. Veera-
raghavaswami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on
the 4th September 1937, at page 247 supra.]

(a) Statement showing the net receipts from non-judicial stamps
for each of the five years preceding 1st April 1922.

Official year.	Amount of net receipts.
	RS.
1917-18	54,34,127
1918-19	60,18,873
1919-20	76,16,860
1920-21	70,56,193
1921-22	70,94,264

(b) Statement showing the net receipts from non-judicial stamps for
each of the last ten years.

Official year.	Net receipts.
	RS.
1927-28	94,91,489
1928-29	97,81,585
1929-30	97,73,360
1930-31	81,42,577
1931-32	77,15,242
1932-33	80,80,339
1933-34	75,45,989
1934-35	81,81,585
1935-36	80,86,529
1936-37	78,53,940

* No figures are available as most of Ganjam was transferred to Orissa from 1st April 1936.

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 68 asked by Mr. K. Veera-
raghavaswami at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on
the 4th September 1937, page 247 supra.]

Statement showing the excise revenue and expenditure
for the year 1935-36.

Name of district.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	RS.	RS. A. P.
Ganjam	11,48,699	89,883 13 3
Vizagapatam	21,23,575	2,34,499 9 6
East Godavari	22,74,635	1,42,672 4 7
West Godavari	12,85,992	62,807 9 9
Kistna	14,18,504	75,146 1 11
Guntur	10,64,494	1,02,430 2 11
Nellore	5,52,072	1,08,601 13 5
Cuddapah	6,07,429	67,355 5 11
Anantapur	11,22,600	80,522 7 3
Bellary	12,07,085	91,123 3 3
Kurnool	13,10,648	1,25,706 4 11
Madras	35,09,204	9,74,560 7 1
Chingleput	18,89,873	59,871 9 3
Chittoor	8,20,307	68,991 0 3
North Arcot	18,14,586	1,05,116 15 11
South Arcot	15,24,833	96,143 2 11
Tanjore	27,45,223	1,06,992 3 9
Trichinopoly	18,09,954	74,620 11 1
Madura	13,90,773	55,664 8 3
Ramnad	9,60,276	79,726 10 5
Tinnevelly	13,05,862	95,189 11 2
Coimbatore	31,51,823	1,57,396 6 3
The Nilgiris	5,31,444	17,835 2 0
Salem	29,05,921	1,14,376 4 1
South Kanara	10,39,972	1,21,908 10 0
Malabar	12,86,026	1,89,206 15 9
Anjengo	7,900	
Bangalore		3,114 9 0
Expenditure in England		18,533 5 4
Loss or gain by exchange		94 0 0
Total	4,08,18,790	35,19,903 1 2

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 76 put by Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 4th September 1937, page 219 supra.]

Copy of the power agreement executed by Electric Corporations.

Agreement made this day of one thousand nine hundred and between His Excellency the Governor of Madras (which expression shall include his successors and assigns) of the one part and (hereinafter called "the licensee" which expression shall include its successors and assigns) of the other part.

Whereas the licensee has requested the Government of Madras, hereinafter called the Government to furnish to it a supply of electric energy in bulk at or the purpose of distribution in the area fixed by the and any subsequent modifications thereof and the Government have agreed to afford such supply to the licensee on the terms and conditions hereinafter contained.

NOW IT IS HEREBY DECLARED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:—

1. Subject to the provisions hereinafter contained and during the continuance of this agreement the Government shall supply and the licensee shall close down its generating station and shall not use it except as a standby but shall take from the Government as and from a date not later than three months from the date on which intimation is sent in writing to the licensee by the Government that a supply of electrical energy is available under this agreement all such electrical energy as the licensee may require for the purpose of supply by the licensee under the powers contained in the said licence or for any other purpose for which the licensee may require such energy.

2. The said energy shall be delivered to the licensee by the Government at the point hereinafter mentioned and shall be on the 3-phase 50 cycle alternative current system at a normal pressure of 11,000 volts. The frequency and pressure of the electrical energy at the points of supply shall be subject to the fluctuations that are ordinary usual and incidental to the generation and transmission of electrical energy but such fluctuations shall not except under extraordinary reasons beyond the control of the Government be more than 4 per cent on the frequency and $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the pressure. The licensee agrees to specify that all its 11,000 volt step-down transformers shall be delta connected on the high-tension side and star connected on the low-tension side.

3. Save as provided herein the supply shall be available continuously except in case of lockout or strike of the employees of the Government breakdown of machinery or plant force majeure or any other cause over which the Government have no control in any of which cases the Government shall not be responsible for any discontinuance of energy but he shall restore the supply as soon as he reasonably can.

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4. The point of supply shall be at the Government sub-station at but the Government will construct at his own cost a 11 K.V. line to the licensee's property in the power-house at and will install at his own cost auto-transformers to step-down the voltage to B. K.V. These lines and auto-transformers will remain the property of the Government but be maintained by the licensee who will be permitted to tap such lines for the purpose of supplying electrical energy subject to the previous sanction of the Chief Engineer for Electricity. The licensee undertakes to grant free of cost to the Government any land required for erecting the transmission line, structures and apparatus on the licensee's property for supplying electrical energy under this agreement, and allow the Chief Engineer for Electricity or his agents and subordinates access to the said line, structures and apparatus at any time of the day and night.

5. All 11,000 volts services or feeders taken directly from Government lines or busbars must be suitably protected by high-tension fuses or automatic oil current breakers. The fuses and circuit breakers shall be capable of successfully rupturing the maximum short circuit energy likely to occur at the point of installation. The relay settings and fuse capacity will be specified by the Chief Engineer for Electricity or his duly authorized representative.

6. All transformers, switchgear and other electrical equipment directly connected to the feeders or lines of the Government shall be of suitable design and be maintained by the licensee to the reasonable satisfaction of the Chief Engineer for Electricity or his representative.

7. For the purpose of registering the electrical energy taken by the licensee under this agreement, there shall be provided at the point of supply defined in paragraph 4, one 11,000 volt meter set on each feeder supplying the licensee which shall be the property of and be kept in repair and calibrated by the Government. Each metering set shall consist of the necessary instrument transformers one polyphase integrating watt-meter with one kilovolt ampere demanded meter. At the discretion of the Government, a totalizing demand meter may be installed at any single feeding point where there are two or more feeders. Alternatively the Government may install a polyphase integrating watt-meter with demand attachment and determine the power factor by mutual agreement. Meter rent will be charged in accordance with the rules of the Department of Electricity.

8. The licensee may at his own expense install check meters in its feeders at the receiving point of the Government at

9. The meters shall be properly sealed on behalf of both the Government and the licensee and shall not be interfered with by either party except in the presence of the other party or its representative duly authorized in that behalf.

10. The readings of the said meters shall be taken by the accredited representatives of the licensee and the Government at or as near noon as practicable on the last day of each calendar month and the readings so taken shall be binding and conclusive between the licensee and the

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Government as to the amount of electrical energy supplied to the licensee. In the event of any meter being found defective and a check-meter not having been installed, the power consumed for the period during which the meter was defective shall be determined by taking the daily average consumption for the previous period of supply not exceeding three months.

11. The licensee shall from time to time and at all times on previous notice thereto being given allow the employees of the Government in the department of Electricity to inspect the electrical equipment of the licensee for all or any of the purposes connected with the supply of electrical energy to the licensee under this agreement.

12. Once in every year the meters shall be calibrated and standardized if necessary by the Government in the presence of the representative of the licensee.

13. Either party to this agreement may at any time and after notice to the other party have a special test carried out of any or all the meters above mentioned at a place to be fixed by mutual agreement. The meter or meters so tested shall be deemed to be correct if as a result of such test the meter or meters are found to vary within the limits prescribed by the Indian Electricity Rules, 1937, or any other statutory modification thereof for the time being in force. If the mean error be found to be more than that prescribed by the said Indian Electricity Rules, the Government will deduct from or add to the account of the preceding period of three months an amount equivalent to the error. The expenses of such test shall be borne by the Government in the event of the account requiring any adjustment as hereinbefore mentioned. If no adjustment of the account is necessary as a consequent of such special test the party at whose instance the test was conducted shall bear the costs of such test.

14. The rates to be charged by the Government at each point of supply under this agreement will be in accordance with the high-tension tariff set out in clause 1 of the standard rate schedule in G.O. No. 2889, Electricity, dated 15th December 1936, which is as follows:—

Class and total monthly consumption in K.W.H.		Rate per K.W.H.	Rate per K.V.A. of maxi- mum demand per month.
		ANNA.	
I	Up to 25,000 ..	0.550	} plus { Up to 500 K.V.A.— Rs. 3-2-0, 500 and over Rs. 2-14-0, 1,000 K.V.A. and over Rs. 2-10-0.
II	Exceeding 25,000 and up to 50,000 ..	0.500	
III	50,000 and up to 100,000 ..	0.450	
IV	100,000 and up to 150,000 ..	0.425	
V	150,000 and up to 200,000 ..	0.400	
VI	200,000 and up to 300,000 ..	0.375	
VII	300,000 and up to 400,000 ..	0.350	
VIII	400,000 and up to 500,000 ..	0.3375	
IX	500,000 ..	0.3250	

At the option of the consumer, the demand may be billed on a K.W. basis in which case the above rates will be increased by 6 annas per month per K.V.A.

The above tariff is subject to maximum overall unit charge of 0.80 anna per unit without prejudice to the minimum monthly payment.

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15. Should a tariff for power for a similar class of load more favourable than that specified in clause 14 be allowed by the Government in the area served by the Mettur Project during the life of this agreement, then the licensee shall be entitled to the benefit of such a tariff:

Provided—

(a) that the licensee shall, if so required by the Government, submit to the Government for their approval proposals for a reduction of the rates charged to its consumers within such time as may be fixed by the Government. The Government shall approve the said proposals with or without modifications and the rates thus approved shall take effect from such date as the Government may fix;

(b) that if the licensee finds itself unable to accept all or any of the rates approved by the Government it shall have a right to demand a reference of the matter to arbitration as provided in clause 32 hereof, and the matter shall be referred to arbitration accordingly; and

(c) that if the licensee fails to submit the proposals called for in sub-clause (a) within the time fixed, the Government shall fix such rates for supply as they may think reasonable but so that the benefit accruing from such rates to the consumer shall not exceed the benefit accruing to the licensee from the more favourable Government tariff for power; and the licensee shall charge only the rates so fixed to the consumers from such date as may be fixed in this behalf by the Government.

16. Once during the life of this agreement the licensee on giving the Government six months' notice may change the method of demand as laid down in clause 14 from a K.W. to K.V.A. basis or vice versa.

17. For the purpose of this agreement the maximum demand of supply to the licensee for each month shall be the total of maximum demands at each point of supply during any consecutive thirty minutes in the month.

18. Maximum demand charges for any month and at each point of supply shall be based on the average monthly maximum K.W., or K.V.A. demand for the previous calendar months commencing from January of each year and ending with the month in question always provided that this average be not less than the average demand chargeable for any previous month in the calendar year in which case the higher figure will be taken as the basis for payment. For the first calendar year's service the demand charge for any month will be based on the average of the monthly demands for all the months ending with the month in question with the same proviso as mentioned above. The demand charge for the first month of operation will correspond to the maximum demand for that month.

The demand payment will be a fixed monthly charge whether energy is consumed or not and shall constitute the minimum monthly payment.

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19. If at any time the licensee is prevented from receiving using distributing or selling the electrical energy to be supplied under this agreement, either in whole or in part, owing to any strikes, riots, instructions, command of a civil or military authority, fire, explosives, act of God or any other cause reasonably beyond control, or if the Government are prevented from supplying or are unable to supply such electrical energy then the maximum demand charge or guarantee payable by the licensee under the provisions of paragraph 18 hereof shall be reduced in proportion to the ability of the licensee to take or the Government to supply such power.

20. The resultant power factor of the plant and apparatus owned by the licensee at each point of supply shall not be less than 0.8. Should the power factor be below 0.8 it is liable to a penalty of 8 annas per K.W. of monthly demand while if the power factor drops below 0.7 it must be brought up by methods approved by the Engineers of the Government, failing which the service may be discontinued. This clause will not be applicable if the demand is determined on K.V.A. basis. A similar penalty applicable to all consumers may be included in the tariff of the licensee.

21. The Government shall within fifteen days after the expiration of each calendar month deliver to the licensee an account stating the number of units supplied to the licensee by the Government, in accordance with the readings of the said meters and the amount payable therefor as also the amount payable in respect of the maximum demand charge and other charges if any payable by the licensee to the Government and the licensee shall pay the same within thirty days from the delivery of such accounts. Provided that the Government shall be at liberty to charge interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum on the amounts of such bills as are not paid within the abovesaid period of thirty days in addition to and without prejudice to the other rights of the Government herein contained.

22. If the payments herein provided for or any part thereof shall be unpaid for the space of thirty days next after any of the days whereon the same ought to have been paid as aforesaid, or if the licensee shall not in all things perform and observe the conditions herein contained and on the part of the licensee to be observed and performed, then and in such cases and in addition to any other right or power possessed by the Government, the Government are at liberty at any time thereafter notwithstanding that the Government may not have taken advantage of any previous breach or default or event of a like nature at his choice to suspend all further supply of electrical energy under this agreement or to discontinue the supply once for all. Such suspension of the supply of electrical energy shall not relieve the licensee of its liability to pay the minimum charge provided for herein nor shall such discontinuance affect any right, claim, demand or power which may have accrued to the Government.

23. In the event of the licensee requiring a power demand in excess of the 1,500 K.V.A. the licensee shall give the Government

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twelve months' notice in writing stating the quantity of energy required which demand shall be complied with, if such additional energy is available for supply by the Government.

24. This agreement shall subject as hereinbefore provided be and remain in force for a period of ten years. Either party shall be at liberty to determine this agreement after the expiration of such period on giving to the other one year's notice in writing expiring at any time of such intention and at the expiration of such notice this agreement shall absolutely cease but without prejudice to the rights or remedies if any of either party which may have accrued or arisen hereunder in the meantime.

25. Unless sanctioned due to special conditions no squirrel cage motors of over 50 horse-power will be permitted on the distribution system of the licensee and the starting current of each squirrel cage motor shall not exceed 200 per cent of the normal full load current. Squirrel cage motors not exceeding 20 horse-power will be permitted on the licensee's system, if used with star-delta starters.

The starting of slip ring or other motors of over 50 horse-power capacity shall be by means of suitable appliances so designed that the starting current at any time does not exceed 125 per cent of the normal full load current.

26. (i) The licensee may continue to charge its consumers in the areas already being supplied for a period of twelve months from the date of commencement of supply by the Government the rates which are in force on that date, except the rates applicable to agricultural load. The rate for power used for agricultural load shall not exceed 1 anna a unit.

(ii) At the end of the period of the twelve months referred to in sub-clause (i), the licensee shall submit to the Government for their approval proposals for the general reduction of rates, taking into consideration the benefit accruing to it from the saving in operating costs due to purchase of power in bulk and the sale of the generating plant. The Government shall approve the said proposals with or without modification as they may think expedient and the rates thus approved shall be adopted by the licensee from a date fixed by the Government not later than the expiry of eighteen months from the date of commencement of supply by the Government.

Provided that if the licensee finds itself unable to accept all or any of the rates approved by the Government, it shall have a right to demand a reference of the matter to arbitration as provided in clause 32 hereof, and the matter shall be referred to arbitration accordingly.

(iii) If the licensee fails to submit proposals for a general reduction in rates as required by sub-clause (ii) the Government shall fix such rates for supply as they may think reasonable, and the licensee shall charge only the rates so fixed to the consumers from the expiry of the eighteen months referred to in sub-clause (ii).

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27. When the profits made by the licensee and available for distribution as interest and dividends exceed an amount equal to ten per cent on the paid up capital including loans invested in the enterprise, that excess shall be utilized for the benefit of the consumer and shareholder. Sixty per cent of the excess over ten per cent shall be contributed to a 'consumers' fund' for the purpose of reducing the rates for light and power, allowing rebates for power or for such other purposes as may directly benefit the consumer. The remainder of forty per cent of the excess may be retained by the licensee for distribution in the form of increased dividends or for such other purpose as may benefit the shareholders.

28. Profit, in this case, is defined as the difference between the gross revenue and operation and maintenance expenses of the system which include depreciation and emergency fund.

29. Operation and maintenance expenses include—

- (a) Cost of power (when purchased from another source), of fuel, oil, water and stones consumed; salaries and wages, contribution for pensions, provident fund, superannuation and insurance for officers and servants; cost of repairs, maintenance and renewal of small parts not chargeable to depreciation account.
- (b) All rents, rates and taxes (excluding income-tax) and payments for insurance of property.
- (c) Management and general establishment charges and other expenses on revenue account attributable to the system.
- (d) A fund up to 1 per cent of the capital invested in the undertaking may be set aside annually as a special reserve for emergencies. When the fund exceeds 5 per cent of the invested capital, the surplus may be invested in the undertaking and the equivalent in bonus shares issued to the shareholders.
- (e) The allowance for depreciation shall be in accordance with the Indian Income-tax Act, 1918, or any statutory modification thereof.

30. At least 10 per cent of the depreciation funds must be invested in Government or Trustee Securities and not drawn upon, without the permission of the Government until the fund has accumulated to the original amount provided for.

31. For so long as the licensee retains its thermal generating plant, the Government, in the event of stoppage of their own supply, will have the first right to buy any surplus power the licensee may have at the net cost of generation by the licensee.

32. Any dispute or difference arising between the licensee and the Government or their respective Electrical Engineers as to the supply of electrical energy hereunder or the pressure thereof or as to the rates to be charged or as to the interpretations of this agreement or the right of the Government or the licensee respectively to determine the same or any other question, matter or thing arising hereunder such difference shall be referred to a single arbitrator to be appointed on the

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application of either party by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice for the time being of Madras if willing to act or if he shall be unwilling to act then by some other person who shall be mutually agreed upon by both parties. The arbitrator's decision thereon shall be final and the provisions of the Indian Arbitration Act of 1899 or any other statutory modification thereof for the time being in force shall apply to any such reference.

Upon every or any such reference the costs of and incidental to the reference and award respectively shall subject to the condition that the amount of such costs to be awarded to either party shall not in respect of a monetary claim exceed the percentage set out below of any such award, irrespective of the actual fees, costs and expenses incurred by either party be in the discretion of the arbitrators or umpire who may determine the amount thereof or direct the same to be taxed as between solicitor and client or as party and party and shall direct by whom and to whom and in what manner the same shall be borne and paid.

The percentages above referred to in this clause are 5 per cent on any such monetary award which does not exceed Rs. 10,000, 3 per cent on the next Rs. 40,000 or any part thereof, 2 per cent on the next Rs. 50,000 or any part thereof and 1 per cent on any excess over Rs. 1,00,000.

In witness whereof under the order and direction of the Government of Madras acting for and on behalf of His Excellency the Governor of Madras

(1)

and

(2)

for and on behalf of the licensee have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first written above.

Signed and sealed by the abovenamed
in the presence of—

Signed and sealed by the abovenamed
(licensee) in the presence of—

Directors.

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14th and 15th July, 31st August and 1st to 4th September
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