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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

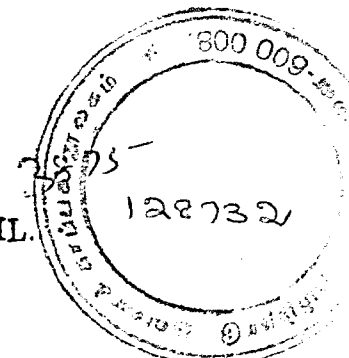
OFFICIAL REPORT

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 5th February 1947.

The House met at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 2-30 p.m., Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Ameliorative work for aboriginal tribes and backward communities.

* 17 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have formulated any programme of ameliorative work for the benefit of the aboriginal tribes and backward communities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the provision of medical and educational facilities for them is inadequate;

(c) whether there are any oppressive special forest and other laws in force in the excluded areas; and

(d) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to review the measures for the uplift of the aboriginal tribes and backward communities?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) to (d) The Government have appointed a committee to enquire into the material conditions of the aboriginal tribes in the Province and to suggest ways and means for their uplift. Necessary measures for their uplift will be formulated on receipt of the committee's report.”

Removal of restrictions on the entry of Harijans in public places.

* 18 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to remove the restrictions imposed by law on the entry of Harijans into hotels and other public places;

(b) whether it is proposed to amend the form of licences in such a manner as to ensure entry of all classes into hotels and other places;

(c) whether the use of burial and cremation grounds provided out of public funds will also be thrown open to all classes; and

(d) whether legislation in this regard is also under consideration?

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THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—“(a) to (d) The question of amending the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938 (Madras Act XXI of 1938), to remove such restrictions is under the active consideration of this Government.”

Staff for the enforcement of textile control measures.

* 19 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that for the enforcement of textile control measures, a large staff is employed;

(b) if so, what is the nature of the staff employed;

(c) whether any qualifications are prescribed for any of these posts and if so, what they are;

(d) whether persons trained in the Government Textile Institute are given preference; and

(e) whether the Collectors of districts exercise any supervisory powers either direct or indirect over the staff of the Textile department?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“(a) There is an appreciable staff employed but it is by no means too large for the difficult and complicated work involved in textile control.

“(b) The staff employed apart from ministerial staff and peons is as follows :—

(1) Gazetted—

Provincial Textile Commissioner	...	...	1
Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner	...	...	1
Gazetted Assistants attached to the Provincial Textile Commissioner's office	...	...	6
Inspecting Textile Commissioners	...	...	24
Authorized Controllers	...	...	4

(2) Non-gazetted—

Textile Control Officers	...	...	57
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“(c) Provincial Textile Commissioner and Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner are I.C.S. Officers. Other Gazetted officers are members of the Madras Civil Service (Executive branch). Co-operative Deputy Registrars or other suitable persons selected by the Government and employed on contract.

“For the non-gazetted staff no special qualifications have been prescribed but only suitable persons with adequate educational qualifications are employed. Care is taken to appoint the best available men who can be spared by other departments.

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“(d) It is only for the posts of Stamping Inspectors that persons trained in the Government Textile Institute are given preference. The other executive posts in the Textile Control department being of an administrative character, such training can be a ground for preference only if other qualifications are equal.

“(e) The administration of the Textile Control department has recently been reorganized by which the Collectors have been made fully responsible for all items of textile control work which can be done on a district basis. Consequently the Textile Control staff in the districts work under the control of the Collectors concerned. The authorized controllers for mills and the special staff sanctioned to patrol the mill areas in Coimbatore and Madura districts however continue to work under the control of the Provincial Textile Commissioner.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I ask if Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners have been appointed?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“Most of them.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I ask whether any qualifications have been fixed for these jobs or at least do they satisfy some of the qualifications laid down in reply to (c)?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“Yes, Sir.”

Second crop under the southern channel of Kaligiri Reservoir.

* 20 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri L. Subbarama Reddi): Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of wet land that was cultivated for the second crop under the southern channel of the Kaligiri Reservoir of the Nellore district during the fasli 1354, villagewar;

(b) whether remission for second crop was granted to those wet lands which did not yield due to scarcity of water (particulars to be furnished villagewar);

(c) if remission was granted to the ryots how much was granted (particulars to be furnished villagewar);

(d) how much remission was repaid to the ryots (particulars to be furnished villagewar);

(e) how much remission is still left undisbursed and why;

(f) whether any representations have been received from the ryots concerned for the refund of remissions; and

(g) if so, what action was taken on these representations?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“(a) to (g) The information asked for by the hon. Member is laid on the table of the House.”

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Irrigation facilities from Uyyakondan extension channel in Tanjore district.

* 21 Q.—SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI (on behalf of Sri K. Natarajan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any scheme has been sanctioned for extending irrigation facilities from the Uyyakondan extension channel in the Tanjore district to the rain-fed tanks, the waters of which are utilized by the ryots in Sengipatti range in the Tanjore taluk;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to include in the scheme, the construction of a canal from the Uyyakondan channel for bringing in more manavari areas under paddy cultivation; and

(c) whether the Government propose to issue orders for expediting the scheme so that the ryots may be benefited by the scheme from the commencement of the next fasli year?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“(a) to (c) There was a proposal to extend irrigation from the Uyyakondan extension channel by excavating a new channel from that channel to rain-fed tanks in Tanjore taluk and bring in about 1,000 acres under cultivation. This has not, however, been sanctioned because its feasibility depends on adequate supply in the two existing channels, viz., the Uyyakondan channel and the Uyyakondan extension channel. The Uyyakondan extension channel has first to be realigned in the head reach and the result watched before the proposal first referred to above can be considered, and it has, therefore, been deferred for four or five years.”

Subsidies granted to agriculturists in Tanjore district.

* 22 Q.—SRI OMANDUR RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR (on behalf of Sri K. Natarajan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received by Government alleging inordinate delay in the disbursement of subsidies granted to agriculturists in the Tanjore district in respect of distribution of compost manure;

(b) what action, if any, has been taken to avoid such delays and ensure the prompt disbursement of subsidies; and

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of immediately formulating a scheme for the manufacture and distribution of compost manure through co-operative societies to smaller agriculturists and also for making provision for transport facilities with a view to efficient distribution?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“(a) The subsidy is paid to municipalities, panchayat boards and co-operative societies who sell the compost to ryots after deducting the subsidy from the sale price of compost. The

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subsidy is not paid by Government direct to the ryots in the form of cash and there were no complaints to Government from ryots in Tanjore district.

“(b) The question does not arise.

“(c) A scheme for the manufacture of compost manure in municipalities and panchayat boards and its distribution through co-operative societies is already in operation. The question of providing lorries for transport of the manure is under the consideration of Government.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Are the Government aware that certain co-operative societies in Tanjore district were not given subsidies for the distribution of compost though they were promised?”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“I have already answered that no complaints have been received.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know why there has been so much delay in formulating a scheme on an important matter such as this, of preparation of compost manure to promote food production?”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“The scheme is already in operation.”

Expenditure on elementary, secondary and university education in 1937 and 1945.

* 23 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what the total expenditure on elementary, secondary and university education was in 1937 and 1945 (separate figures);

(b) what proportion of expenditure under (a) is due to capital expenditure on education (separate figures);

(c) whether expenditure relating to building programme is met out of annual revenues;

(d) whether it is a fact that this procedure reduces the amount available for current expenses on the improvement of already existing facilities; and

(e) whether capital expenditure on school buildings cannot be met out of loans, as is being done in other countries?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“(a) & (b) The information is given below:—

Year.	Elementary education.		Secondary education.		University education.	
	Expenditure.	Proportionate capital expenditure.	Expenditure.	Proportionate capital expenditure.	Expenditure.	Proportionate capital expenditure.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	RS.	PER CENT.	RS.	PER CENT.	RS.	PER CENT.
	IN LAKHS.		IN LAKHS.		IN LAKHS.	
1937-38	156.97	0.45	28.8	9.03	27.45	4.73
1945-46	308.84	0.26	45.9	5.09	41.02	12.68

“(c) Yes.

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"(d) The expenditure on buildings particularly under elementary education where the total expenditure is the heaviest is so small that it will not affect the amount available for recurring expenditure.

"(e) The question is under consideration."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether in view of the very small amounts spent for construction of buildings for elementary schools, most of the schools in rural and urban areas are located in unsuitable and ill-ventilated rented buildings? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

" Unfortunately, it is so and the Government are considering the matter suggested by the hon. Member."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it, Sir, that the question of financing construction of school buildings from loans instead of from annual revenue, is under consideration? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

" Yes. As a matter of fact, the Director of Public Instruction has been asked to furnish an exhaustive list of school buildings that will have to be put up in the near future."

Decrease in the number of scholarships to pupils of eligible communities.

* 24 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) whether the number of scholarships sanctioned in 1944-45 for pupils of the eligible communities was less than that sanctioned in 1943-44;

(b) what the decrease in the number is due to;

(c) whether the Government have at any time considered the question of providing a progressive increase in the number of scholarships without reference to the amount involved;

(d) what the number of boarding grants in 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46 were; and

(e) whether in respect of boarding grants also the Government propose to provide an annual progressive increase in the number granted without reference to the amount involved?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" (a) Yes, Sir. But though the total number of scholarships sanctioned in 1944-45 was less than that in 1943-44, the amount involved was higher in 1944-45.

" (b) The decrease in number is due mainly to the grant of more residential scholarships in 1944-45 to students studying in arts and professional colleges, etc., than in the previous years.

" (c) Communal allotments are considered while framing the budget and there has almost invariably been a steady increase in the number of and expenditure on scholarships.

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" (d) The number of boarding grants sanctioned in 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46 were 1,609, 1,778 and 1,978 respectively.

" (e) There has been a progressive increase in the number of grants sanctioned during the three years."

Circle Ration office in Tanjore.

* 25 Q.—SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI (on behalf of Sri K. Natarajan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is only one Circle Ration office in Tanjore, although more than 20,000 (twenty thousand) ration cards have to be issued for specific periods;

(b) whether in the matter of the renewal of the ration cards after the expiry of the term, and in noting entries for additional rations or other alterations as regards food rations, the staff in the single office is able to cope with the work;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is considerable over-crowding, inconvenience to the public, and inordinate delay;

(d) whether a communication has been received by the Government from the Town Congress Committee, Tanjore, referring to all the abovementioned difficulties;

(e) whether the Government propose to constitute an Additional Ration office in view of the large population of the town; and

(f) whether in other towns where more than 20,000 ration cards have to be issued, more than one ration circle have been constituted?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (a) Yes. The number of ration cards issued is 20,848.

" (b) Renewal of ration cards was originally done with the help of the municipal employees of the rationed area concerned. Now writing up of the cards is being done with the help of the municipal employees, and the distribution is being done by the retail distributors. The Rationing Officer has not reported any difficulty in this regard.

" (c) No representation has been received by the Government in the matter. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) has reported that it has received a representation from the Town Congress Committee, Tanjore.

" (d) As stated against question (c) above the Board has received a representation from the Town Congress Committee and it is being examined by the Board.

" (e) The number of Circle offices in a rationed area is not based on the population of the place but mainly on the number of family ration cards issued in that area and the extent of the rationed area. Normally one circle is considered sufficient for 25,000 families. However the

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question of increasing the Circle offices in Tanjore is being examined by the Board and the Government will take action as soon as the Board's report is received.

“(f) As stated against question (e) normally one Circle office is expected to deal with 25,000 families. In places where either owing to distance or any other special circumstances the bifurcation of the circle is considered necessary, action is taken to create more than one circle even if the number of families in the area does not exceed 25,000.”

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

II.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

BILLS.

(1) THE ANDHRA UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, I beg to ask for leave of the House to introduce the Andhra University (Amendment) Bill.”

MR. PRESIDENT.—“ You can make a statement.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Only if it is opposed, a statement from me will be necessary.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am not going to compel you to make a statement.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I second the motion.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“ Mr. President, may I suggest that it is not necessary for anybody to second the motion. In regard to the first stage of the Bill, Government propose to oppose it. I like to inform him that if he wants to make a case for the Bill, it is open to him to do so now.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I say, Sir, that under rule 72 of the Council Rules, the stage of reply by the Minister arises only if it is opposed by Government.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. Minister has stated that Government are opposing the Bill.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I am very sorry that the Hon. the Minister for Education has made it very plain without giving out any reasons that he and therefore the Government which he now represents oppose this very harmless, innocuous and useful Bill. In a Province like this where we, the Muslims, are in a very hopeless minority, we naturally expect the majority party that is in power now to have all sympathy for the minorities and render all possible assistance for our educational advancement and for our betterment. Unfortunately, I do not see this spirit behind the policy of the present Government. Their policy seems to be that we, the Muslims, in this Province have no place in the educational, political and social life of this country.”

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“ You have a great place.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Such lip sympathies we have had from the Hon. Ministers but so far as practice goes, we have found nothing but obstruction to all our attempts towards advancement. The Andhras, Sir, I once had the honour to represent in the Central Legislative Assembly though my Andhra Congress friends would not allow me to be called an Andhra at that time, perhaps much less at this time. I am glad that they do not call me so. They must call me a Muslim and I am proud of being called so, whether I belong to the Andhra, Tamil Nad or any other part of the world. At that time I happened to be one of the Secretaries of the Provincial Andhra Congress Committee. I am very sorry that you have not acted upon that very cordial and good relations that existed between us at that time and perhaps you are not going to act upon the cordial relations that have to exist between us now. So far as myself and my party are concerned we feel that at least in this Province our relations are very good; but this Ministry have no sympathies with our legitimate aspirations though in spite of the fact that I am a good friend of the Hon. the Minister for Education, I am not able to see eye to eye with him in matters of his educational policy. As I have pointed out, this is a very harmless Bill. We simply want some representation in the Andhra University and that through one of our organizations which represents the Muslim education in this Province, i.e., the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. This Association has got about 1,500 members on its roll and it is doing very useful service in the cause of Muslim education. It is giving scholarships, and helping poor Muslims in many other ways, so far as their educational advancement is concerned. This Association is having its representatives on the Madras University and the Senate and Syndicate of the Annamalai University, though we feel that that representation is not adequate. We only wanted through this Bill that our place in the educational system of this Province should be secured so far as Andhra is concerned. It is because of this that the Muslim League Party thought that a Bill of this kind should be moved in this House. I thought, rather I expected, the Hon. Ministers would welcome this and give their support and that they would be more liberal and generous than what they pretend to be now. I even thought that they would voluntarily come forward with a greater number of seats than we had asked for as the late Zaglul Pasha offered to the minorities in the Egyptian Parliament. ‘It will not be sufficient, you must have something more,’ said Zaglul Pasha. It is only a spirit of that kind which is going to bring that real unity between the various classes of the different communities that live in this country. That is the spirit, Sir, that is required in the face of the present delicate and complicate situation in our country. Much need not be said about this because it all depends upon the attitude that the Hon. the Minister for Education and the Ministry as a whole is going to show. I would request this

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Ministry, I would implore them, to reconsider this matter. There is no use merely in thinking that they have a large majority and that they can do whatever they like with this majority. Do not depend upon your majority. To-morrow it may happen that your aspirations will be trampled and the fate of yourselves will be the same as that of the minority to-day and you will be treated then as you are treating them. Therefore, I appeal to them not to view this proposal with the feeling that we are in every department of life having a separatist tendency. It is not separatism that is behind our desire to introduce a measure of this kind. It is only for the betterment of a minority community. It is only for the good of the people who are but a handful. If I could depend upon what leaders of the Congress—I would repeat what great leaders like Gandhiji and others—say that the majority should infuse a spirit of confidence in the minority and that they have to work for that spirit. I am attempting to invoke their spirit of sympathy towards the Muslims. Justice should be done by the Mussalmans; that is a thing any community will require whether a majority or minority, or for that matter any person. It is only justice that I want. I appeal to the Ministry to be generous and just in this Province at least. As I have said on many occasions, let us show to the world at large and to others in India who are fighting and breaking their heads that we in this Province whether Hindus or Muslims, have got a sense of realism about us that we could understand difficulties and that the difficulties of others are viewed with sympathy and with a desire to help each other."

3 p.m. Mr. PRESIDENT:—"I may inform the hon. Member that copies of the Bill under discussion have not been circulated to Members. I would like to tell the hon. Member that he might give the House an idea of the various provisions of the Bill so that the House may be in a position to grasp them. He may then seek their sympathy."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why this Bill was not circulated?"

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"The practice is, it is not circulated at this stage, that is, at the stage of leave to introduce; that is why I stated the provisions of the Bill may also be given."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, though this Bill has not been circulated to Members, I would make one submission in this regard. When Government Bills, before they are introduced in the House, are published in the gazette and circulated, even so I would request the Hon. Minister to see that non-official Bills also . . ."

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"Ministers have nothing to do with it. For the future, I have given necessary instructions."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, there is not much in this Bill that requires any serious consideration. As I have already said, Muslims only want some little

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representation in the Andhra University. They want five members in the Senate of the University and two members on the Syndicate elected by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. There is nothing more and nothing less than this in this Bill. So I appeal to the Ministry not to oppose this Bill. If they are going to oppose this simple Bill, what can we expect from this Ministry in matters higher, greater and more important than this? Therefore, Sir, I do not want to take up much time of this House in, perhaps, raising my voice, if I may say so in the wilderness (laughter), because people who are in power seem to turn a deaf ear to our most innocent and harmless representations. I once again appeal to the Ministry that instead of throwing down the measure in the haughty spirit in which they are now trying to do, let them consider this Bill coolly, with sympathy, consideration and a sense of justice. Sir, I move for leave to introduce this Bill."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"May I, at the outset, Sir, point out that it is no party consideration that makes us oppose this Bill. Neither is there any sort of trying to have an unfair dealing. Not at all. Facts will show, Sir, that it is not mere lip sympathy when I say that if any section of the community wants to make progress, we are always trying to do our best to promote it."

"Now let me examine this Bill. It is not so innocent as the hon. Member puts it. The Muslims want five elected seats for the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India in the Senate and two elected seats in the Syndicate. The strength of the Andhra University Senate, excluding those who come in by nominations and as ex-officio members, is 53. Now let me explain what is the representation the Muslims are having to-day. In the year of Grace 1945-46, they are having six elected representatives and two nominated representatives, that is, they are having eight seats. Though they are elected seats in the Senate, I am not able to understand the reasons for their asking for separate electorate for a separate institution."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"How many Muslims are there out of the eight members? How many of them are officials and how many are non-officials?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We know the Congress Party is trying to split the Muslims."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I know, on the floor of the Assembly during Budget Session, names of several Muslim officials were mentioned, and asked why they were not promoted as they were doing good work. So this argument cuts very much against their contention."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Not at all. As that point has been raised, I would like . . ."

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"We are not the Assembly."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are not asking for any concession. When we found certain Muslim

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 officers' claims were overlooked, we wanted Government to render bare justice. We did not want them to show any concession. I am sorry to say that the Hon. the Education Minister is in the wrong."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I will draw the attention of hon. Members that this matter is open for discussion. Therefore no hon. Member need be disturbed during his speech. If any hon. Member wants to speak, he may note the points and speak later."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am obliged to your ruling, Sir, though I personally do not mind interruptions. The amending Bill relates to the election of five Muslims—not five Muslim Leaguers, not five Muslim non-officials, but five Muslims from the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. On many occasions, Sir, questions relating to jobs in Government have been put. It is now too late in the day for them to say that they are not interested in Government service."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Only for information, Sir. Is not the Hon. Minister prepared to give it?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I do not give it because I do not have it, not that I do not want to give it. But the information clearly shows that in no one year they were left without representation. In 1937-38 . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I know whether the 6+2 are nominated seats?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Six elected seats and two nominated seats."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"All Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. Otherwise what is the point in giving figures. They are interested in Muslims only and in no other community."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We want representatives who will be able to reflect the opinion of the Muslim community, not anybody who has got into the Muslim League."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Out of the eight Muslim seats six are elected. I cannot accept the plea that the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India is the only body that can reflect Muslim opinion. Their population in the Andhra University area is 5.9 per cent (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 8 per cent). 8 per cent is for the Andhra Province as a whole. Scheduled castes from 14.7 per cent of the population. Now what is it that is proposed to be done? Here is a Bill which wants to give five representatives to the Muslim Educational Association. How is that body entitled to

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that is a point to be considered if the amendment is accepted. It is also open for Muslims to come in by election. It is also open for the Chancellor to appoint two Muslims. Thus, in all it will lead to one-third of the members being Muslims, and I believe that it is not their intention."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Even if that be so, the Hon. Minister should not grudge it."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister cannot have any objection to this."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"On the Syndicate, almost every year, they have got one elected representative. If according to population basis of 5.9 per cent we should give them representation, it must be very low indeed. But in the last few years especially, they have had a representation much more than on population basis. Therefore there is no grievance."

"Now the mover and the supporter put forward the plea 'what does it matter if we have a few more seats?' I say why not you come by the proper course. When by your own right and merit, out of a common electorate, you are able to get six seats, why do you want a separate association to be represented? More so, when the total number of seats is only 53, why do you want 10 per cent of this to be represented by one association. Compared to this, Scheduled castes are not so much represented. If we are to accept this Bill, we will be doing a grievous injustice to other communities. The Government themselves are considering amendments to this Act, and when it comes before this House, it will be open to all parties to press their claims. For these very valid reasons, the Government oppose this Bill. I should like to make it clear that the Government oppose this Bill not for reasons of any desire to go against our friends, but because if we accept it, it will be unjust, and it will not be proper. Sir, I oppose the Bill."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, let me at the very outset say that during the period I had been in the old Legislative Council and in the Central Assembly, I have not heard such a speech as that of to-day, delivered by the Education Minister of the Madras Government. His speech is not a speech of a responsible Minister, but that of a debating society school boy. I thought a responsible Minister would get up and speak in a responsible manner, but what we heard to-day is a school boy's speech in a debating society with all the enthusiasm of a youth. He could have questioned the principle of the Bill. Instead of that he has gone into details. There are several stages through which this Bill has to go through. Now, the point is only whether he has any objection to the principle of the Bill. I ask him 'Are you going to give more representation to Muslims?' The Hon. Minister, in a manner which I cannot describe, has opposed the principle of the Bill, for the reason that there are already several Muslims on the Senate by fluke or chance."

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“ I refuse to agree, Sir, that six Muslims who have been elected to the Andhra University have come in by fluke. I maintain they have come in on merits.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Elected by whom? To-morrow you may refuse to give any representation to Muslims.

“ I was taken aback when I read in the papers a statement which is reported to have been made by the Premier in the other House, that the policy of Government is to force people to learn what Government want and not what the people want. The British Government was here for 200 years. They forced us to learn something, but at the same time, they did not prevent us from learning what we wanted. If you are going to force your own education, without ours, you will see the consequences, and you will be responsible for it. The only question to-day is, are the Government opposing the principle of the Bill, that is, to give Muslim educational bodies representation in the Andhra University. I say, we are afraid hereafter we may not get at any though you may give us some seats as an act of mercy now. I ask, are you going to concede our rights? When a responsible Minister makes a statement on the floor of this House, there must be some decorum, some sense of responsibility. His words are not mere words like those of any non-member.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I will suggest to the hon. Member not to take for granted that the Hon. Minister is acting without a sense of responsibility. You may comment upon it, but please do not say that he has no sense of responsibility.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I want to know, Sir, whether Government are opposing the Bill on principle or on mere technical grounds.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, this Bill, in my opinion, tries to introduce a principle which should never be introduced in the body politic. I can sympathize with minorities, being myself a member of a minority community. But I think in a body politic we should exclude communalism as far as possible, and more so in educational institutions. If there was in any Bill or in any Act a provision that there should be no Muslims, no Indian Christians, no members of Scheduled castes, I can understand that that discrimination must go. But to complain that although as a matter of fact there are a number of Muslims on the Senate of the Andhra University, Muslims of a particular political persuasion are not there, and to say that to provide for them, there must be an amending Bill, is, I submit, not in the interests of the nation or in the larger interests of communities. Therefore I oppose this Bill.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, what the Bill desires to do is not to introduce communalism, but it wants that the legitimate rights of Muslims are recognized, and that the Muslims are represented by their own

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representatives on the Senate. It is not Muslims who want communalism, it is not Muslims who want to be communalistic. But it is the conduct of the majority community, even in the field of literature, that has necessitated the introduction of this Bill. I can tell the Hon. Minister for Education that I was a member of the Annamalai University Senate and Academic Council for six years, and I know what has been taking place there. Even in literature, you find communalism rampant. Not only in the Annamalai University—it is also found in the Madras University. I can quote one example. There are very valuable poetical works written in Tamil by Muslim poets. May I ask the Hon. Minister for Education—I know he is a Tamil scholar—whether he has seen a single verse or single stanza written by any Muslim poet prescribed for any of the University courses—perhaps with only one or two exceptions; for due to the efforts of the late Yakub Hassan, who was a member of the previous Congress Government, a few stanzas from the great Omar Pulavar's Sirapuranam were prescribed for Secondary-School Leaving Certificate course long before he became a Minister. Further, as an indirect result of my work while on the Senate of the Annamalai University, the Board of Studies of the Madras University prescribed a few stanzas from Sirapuranam for the S.S.L.C. course once again. My hon. Friends may not know how much I had to work for it. After five years of ceaseless efforts on the Senate and Academic Council of the Annamalai University, I was able to persuade the Board of Studies to prescribe one canto of Sirapuranam for the Vidwan course, but not for the University courses. I appealed to the Board of Studies not to discontinue that, but to prescribe from these Muslim poets for the University courses also. I do not think any improvement has been effected. I do, therefore, say that communalism is being practised by the other side, not by the Muslims. Why should you introduce communalism even in literature? Is it not because the poet happens to be a Muslim that his works are ignored? I dare say that these Muslim poets can stand comparison with regard to quality and quantity with any other poet.

“ I know also that in the Annamalai University, Muslims have not been given holidays on important festive occasions. Sometimes, even examinations are held on those days, because there is no proper representatives to explain to the authorities the real position of the Muslims. That is why we want adequate and effective representation on these University bodies. We are quite conscious that my hon. Friend has got behind him a numerical majority. But true democracy consists in tempering the rigours of that numerical majority by a consideration of the aspirations of the minorities and the need for fulfilling those aspirations. And now, in the present Bill, there is such a case. We are anxious that at least in 1947 our needs and requirements are recognized by the powers that be, and fulfilled. The Muslim Educational Association of Southern India has been doing good work for the last 50 years; it has been recognized by the previous Governments as

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the premier educational association reflecting the opinion of the Muslims of Province, and we want that recognition should be extended by the present Government. If the Hon. Minister thinks that five seats on the Senate and two seats on the Syndicate are too many he could suggest a reduction when the clauses come up for discussion. Sir, as my Leader pointed out, even at this stage, he has gone into the sections when only the principles of the Bill have to be discussed.

"The Hon. Minister for Education talked about the Scheduled Castes; well, Sir, far be it from us to deny the Scheduled Castes what we aspire to have. We will be only too glad if the Scheduled Castes are given whatever rights we want, not only the Scheduled Castes, but also every section of the population should be given its legitimate right. We do not want to deny to any section its legitimate right. Sir, we minorities should be given not only representation according to the population basis, but effective representation in order that that representation may serve the purpose for which it is intended.

"Again and again we are accused of being communal. But it is the majority community that should set an example by excluding communalism. On the other hand, I have to say, Sir, that communalism is being practised by the majority community even in the matter of literature and that is why we are driven to the necessity of securing separate representation on these university bodies in order that our legitimate rights and aspirations may be safeguarded and not because we want to be communalists. We are driven to do these things by the conduct of the majority community.

"Sir, I can also point out certain things in regard to text-books prescribed for schools. I have been a member of the Madras Text-Book Committee for eight years and I can say something on the matter. You take any reader prescribed for the schools and you will find that there are many lessons on Hindu mythology and Hindu political heroes but you will not find any lessons on Muslim heroes. And occasionally if there is any matter chosen about the Muslim heroes it will be a distorted version and the Muslim pupils will have to hang their head in shame very often because of this distorted version. That is how, Sir, even the pupils are being taught by the people who want communalism to end and who are above communalism! That is why, Sir, we want proper representation on these bodies so that justice may be done, so that our youths might be brought up in a proper atmosphere, so that the youths of the country belonging to different religions and faiths may understand each other's religion better, so that they may understand each other's culture better and so that there may be harmony and accord between the youths of various communities. Sir, it is only in the wider interests of nationalism and in the wider interests of the preservation and maintenance of harmony and cordiality between the various sections of the population that we want that the Muslim community should be given proper

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representation on these bodies and not with a view to engendering communalism in the minds of the people of this Province or to develop communalism."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, I have got a few remarks to make while replying to this discussion. First of all my Hon. Friend, the Minister in charge of Education, said that there are eight seats for the Muslims in the Andhra University. I ask him this simple and plain question, Sir, whether ever since the coming into existence of the Andhra University any Muslim has ever been elected, nominated or appointed to its Senate. (The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar : 'Yes'.) I do not know how far that answer is correct, Sir, but I am subject to correction.

"Then, Sir, the reason underlying the demand of the Muslims for special representation on bodies like this is this. It may be that Muslims may be there on these bodies. But unfortunately as I have already said, Sir, the representatives there are not our real representatives. I shall refer to one small incident which took place only a few days back in the Chingleput District Food Council. Three members had to be elected by the members of the Food Council. I suggested the name of a Muslim. Sir, I was the only one Muslim member present there in the meeting and perhaps the only Muslim Member . . ."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"In what year?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Only recently, on the 1st of February."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"He is referring to the Food Council."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am only quoting this as an instance. The whole majority there opposed that name and they wanted to have some other person. I then thought that these were prize posts by which these people can get Muslims on their side. Therefore, we want. . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The other gentleman also was a Muslim, was it not?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Certainly, the other gentleman was a Muslim. There were Muslims here also representing the Government some time back whom the present Party in power called Quislings. There were also Indians occupying high positions but they were blamed as strengthening British Rule in India and now we are advancing the same argument. We think that people who are either nominated or elected by gentlemen on the Opposite side are people who are going to help them to the detriment of the interests of the Muslim community.

"Now, Sir, I do not want to enter into this sort of discussion. I had to mention these things because I had to place certain very unpleasant facts before this House. Sir, this Bill will not lead to communalism as my hon. Friend Dr. John suggested. It is institutional representation we want. This Muslim Educational Association is a body on which there are members who belong to

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the community of Dr. John, to the community of the Hon. Minister for Education and others. There are Hindu members, there are Christians and others. So, Sir, if this body elects representatives to the Andhra University's Senate and Syndicate, it may so happen that they may be non-Muslims, a Hindu or a Christian to represent the cause of Muslim education. We are perfectly certain that the people who serve on this body by election through Muslim Educational Association of Southern India are those who can represent our cause and advance our cause, whether they are Christians or Hindus. Sir, we are not opposed to the Christians and we are not opposed to the Hindus. We say that this is not a matter which savours of communalism. We do not say that only Muslims should be elected by a certain class of Muslims or by a political association of Muslims as my hon. Friend Dr. John said. He was wrong in stating that the Muslims wanted a Muslim to represent them in the University. He was mistaken and he did not understand the spirit of the demand which was made by the Muslims. So far as this matter is concerned, we want only institutional representation.

"I am also sorry, Sir, for people who tried to bring about in a clever way an ill-feeling between the Muslims and the depressed classes. Sir, it was said that the Muslims are less in population and that the depressed classes were greater and that they the latter did not have so much representation as the Muslims have on these institutions."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Sir, we have not got a copy of the Bill before us and we do not know on what the discussion is going on. We must know what the items in the Bill are. I find on general statements and I am not able to follow. . ."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am very glad Sir, that my hon. Friend wants a copy of the Bill. If he is so inclined and if the Members of the House are so inclined and would like to have more information and more light so that they might not throw away the Bill, they must have it. But I am arguing under the assumption that the party to which my hon. Friend Dr. Rajan belongs is now wedded to the policy of throwing out this Bill and so I am trying my best to convince the other side. Just as a drowning man catches at a straw, I am trying to catch at a straw to show the spirit in which they are trying to throw out this Bill. If they do not want to throw out this Bill, if they want to consider this Bill item by item or the whole Bill and if they want to study, I shall be very glad to request you to give us. . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"That is why I suggested to the hon. Member that he may explain in general terms the various provisions of the Bill before calling for the sympathy of the hon. Members of the House. If the hon. Member wants actual copies I have none now, but I can ask my office to supply them. The gist of the Bill seems to be this. I will read it to the House."

"This is the Preamble—

"Whereas it is expedient to amend the Andhra University Act (Act II of 1926) to provide for representation of the Muslim community of this

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Province through the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India on the Senate and Syndicate of the said University, it is hereby enacted as follows.—

1. This Act may be called the Andhra University (Amendment) Act of 1946.

2. It shall come into force at once.

3. (i) In section 15 "Class III—Other Members" after sub-clause (6) insert the following as sub-clause (7) and renumber the rest of the clauses :—

"(7) Five persons elected from among themselves by the members of the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India." (That is for the Senate.)

(ii) In section 18 "Class II—Other Members," after sub-clause (3) and before the Proviso, insert the following as sub-clause (4) :—

"(4) Two persons elected from among its Members by the Muslim Education Association of Southern India." (This is for the Syndicate.)

"The Statement of Objects and Reasons reads as follows :—

"Ever since the Andhra University Act II of 1926 was enacted, the representation of the Muslim community on its authorities, particularly the Senate and the Syndicate, has been most inadequate and unsatisfactory. In fact, there has been no Muslim on the Syndicate of the University ever since its inception. The Madras and Annamalai University Acts have made special provision for representation of the Muslim community on their authorities and the Muslim community has had its representatives on the authorities of these two Universities including the Syndicate, though such representation could not be considered to have been always adequate. For securing such representation, the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India, which is the premier educational institution of the entire Muslims of this Province, and which is a 45-year old registered body with a membership of above 1,500 persons, has been given the right to elect a certain number of Muslims to the authorities of the said two Universities, under the provisions of the said Madras and Annamalai University Acts. No such provision is found in the Andhra University Act. This omission has worked to the serious detriment of the Muslim community in the Andhra districts for all these 20 years. It is therefore just and necessary that a similar provision should be made in the Andhra University Act for adequate and effective representation of the Muslim community on two of its authorities. Accordingly sections 15 and 18 relating to the constitution of the Senate and of the Syndicate, respectively, are sought to be amended by inserting the necessary clauses to secure five Muslims on the Senate and two Muslims on the Syndicate of the said University."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"May I know, Sir, whether this is a discussion on the introduction of the Bill or are we considering the Bill?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The motion is for leave to introduce the Bill."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Hon. Members have been discussing the details, Sir, and I wanted to know some of the details to understand the discussion."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"We are discussing the motion for leave to introduce the Bill. I also wish to mention that since the Government has chosen to oppose this Bill, I thought I might give sufficient opportunity for the other side to represent their full case before I put the motion to the vote of the House. That is why I am now allowing some sort of a general discussion."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"That is why, Sir, I say that we shall finish this discussion now instead of the Bill being circulated. Sufficient explanation has been given to Dr. Rajan by the Members of the Treasury Bench."

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"Sir, I was speaking about the depressed classes and the Muslims. It is regrettable that time and again an attempt is being made to bring about a conflict between the Muslims and the depressed classes. I feel, Sir, that it is of course a very regrettable state of affairs, but I would assure my hon. Friends on the other side that we the Muslims have got every sympathy not only for the depressed classes but for all oppressed and depressed communities. While therefore we want representation to be given to all communities, we want at the same time to see that our community is not in any way put down by the overwhelming majority of the party in power now. Therefore I would request my hon. Friends on the other side to remember that such attempts to bring about misunderstanding between Muslims and depressed classes will not in the long run be in their interest or in our interest. My hon. Friends will excuse me if I say that we Muslims are prepared to give out of our own quota, if you so desire and if the depressed classes so desire, one or two seats to the depressed classes. We have given ample evidence of that in places much higher than this.

"Sir, as I have said before, this demand of the Muslims for representation through the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India if carefully analysed will show that these representatives on the Syndicate and Senate of the Andhra University may be not only Muslims but also members of the other communities who are members of the Educational Association and who are interested in Muslim education. There is nothing communal in this demand as we have not said that the Muslim members of the Muslim Educational Association alone should be elected to represent our cause. We have only said that members of the Muslim Educational Association should elect the representatives from among themselves and when we say 'from among themselves', the Hon. Minister can understand that the Association can elect a Hindu gentleman or a Christian gentleman or a gentleman belonging to the depressed classes, if he happens to belong to the Association. And, Sir, there is no bar to the membership of the Association. Anybody who wants to become a Member of the Association can go to the Secretary or the President of the Association, or if he so desires, the Association itself will approach him, enlist his sympathy and make him a member of the Association. Such a gentleman can stand for election and can be elected to represent the cause of Muslim education on the Andhra University Syndicate and Senate.

"Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to expatiate on the subject any further. I only appeal to the Hon. Minister once again to see that this demand which is a just demand of the Muslims is conceded and that he himself shows some sense of justice and fair-play as well as some generosity to the Muslims, so that the Muslims of this Province may advance educationally and play their part in the larger body politic, which will be a pride to the Province and which will go a long way to getting the independence of the country in reality. I therefore seek leave of the House to introduce the Bill."

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MR. PRESIDENT.—"The question is—

'that leave be given to Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur to introduce a Bill to amend the Andhra University Act (II of 1926)' "

The question was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was demanded by K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur and the House divided as follows:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 6 V. Hameed Sultan Maricair Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2 K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | 7 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. |
| 3 Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur. | 8 Mr. K. O. Anthoni. |
| 4 Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 9 Sri Rao Bahadur D. Krishna-murthi. |
| 5 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. | 10 Sri H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 11 Sri D. Manjaya Hegde. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 Sri S. K. Satagopa Mudaliyar. | 13 Sri T. Purushotham. |
| 2 Sri P. Veerabhadraswami. | 14 Sri N. Ramabhadra Raju. |
| 3 Sri M. Narayana Rao. | 15 Sri K. Manathunainatha Desigar. |
| 4 Sri N. Sankara Reddi. | 16 Dr. U. Rama Rao. |
| 5 Sri N. Venkatachalamii. | 17 Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. |
| 6 Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu. | 18 Dr. V. K. John. |
| 7 Sri K. Madhava Menon. | 19 Sri N. Ranga Reddi. |
| 8 Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanatham Chettiyar. | 20 Sri G. Venkata Reddi. |
| 9 Sri A. Govindacharlu. | 21 Sri P. R. K. Sarma. |
| 10 Sri C. Perumalswami Reddiyar. | 22 Sri S. B. Adityan. |
| 11 Sri A. K. A. Ramachandra Reddiyar. | 23 Sri M. Narayana Menon. |
| 12 Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar. | 24 Sri S. Jayaram Reddiyar. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Mrs. Mona Hensman. | 2 Sri A. Gopalakrishnayya. |
|----------------------|----------------------------|

Ayes 11. Noes 24. Neutral 2.

The motion was lost. The leave to introduce the Bill was not granted.

• (2) THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. 4 p.m. President, Sir, I ask for leave of this House to introduce the Annamalai University (Amendment) Bill. The reasons for my bringing forward this Bill have been explained when my friend Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib moved for leave to introduce the Andhra University (Amendment) Bill."

[At this stage, Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu, Deputy President, occupied the Chair.]

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Will the hon. Member read the Bill for the information of the hon. Members?"

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am thankful to the hon. Member for the suggestion. I shall read the Bill, Sir,

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A Bill to amend the Annamalai University Act I of 1929.

WHEREAS it is expedient and desirable that effective and adequate representation should be given to Muslims on some of the authorities of the Annamalai University, with a view to secure greater participation of the Muslims in the academic and administrative work of the University, it is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Annamalai University (Amendment) Act.

2. This Act shall come into force at once.

3. (a) In section 15—Class III—Other Members, sub-clause (ii), for the words “One Member,” substitute the words “Five Members.”

(b) In the same sub-clause, for the word “Muhammadan,” substitute the word “Muslim.”

4. (a) In section 21—Class II—Other Members, for the existing sub-clause (3), substitute the following:—

“(3) Three Members nominated by the Chancellor, one of whom shall be a non-official Muslim.”

(b) In the same section 21—Class II—Other Members—after sub-clause (4) insert the following as sub-clause (5):—

“(5) One member elected by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India from among its members.”

“This is the Bill. I shall explain it. At present, the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India, which is the premier Muslim educational association in this Province, has got the right to elect one representative from among its members to the Senate of the Annamalai University. The Annamalai University Act has been in force since 1929. In actual practice, it has been found that this representation is inadequate and unsatisfactory to fulfil the purpose for which it was intended. This amending Bill seeks to increase the representation on the Senate from one to five.

“The Muslim Educational Association of Southern India was not given by the Principal Act any representation on the Syndicate of the University with the result that during all these years, no proper representation has been secured to the Muslim community in the Syndicate. This Bill seeks to provide for the election of a member by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India from among its members and for the nomination of one non-official Muslim by the Chancellor.

“These are the simple provisions of this Bill. The necessity for the provisions in this Bill have been very well explained when leave to introduce the Andhra University (Amendment) Bill was sought. The Muslim Educational Association of Southern India has been statutorily recognized by the Government of Madras and representation allowed on the Annamalai University Senate. But that representation is quite inadequate and ineffective. We know it is an admitted fact that the Muslims of this Province have been very backward educationally. I do not want to go into the reasons for the same. But one thing must be conceded that this backwardness of the Muslim community has adversely affected its progress in other spheres of life also. If any community or

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ny section of the population should progress, the progress must first be in the field of education. It is therefore absolutely necessary that provision for the progress of Muslim education should be made in a proper manner. It is not enough if particular sections of the population become progressive educationally. Such a lop-sided development will not be in the real interests of any country. If a country wants to progress and to take its place in the comity of nations, all sections of the population must progress in all spheres. Unless provision is made for such progress, that country is bound to be backward even though certain sections of the population may have progressed considerably. I seek therefore leave to introduce the Bill in the wider interests of the country, and not with a view to injecting communalism in the field of education. Communalism is already there, and I am anxious that it should be completely wiped out from these university bodies. With that intention I am bringing forward this Bill. That can be done only if proper representation is given to the real representatives of the Muslims on the University bodies, and their grievances remedied. I appeal to the Hon. Education Minister and his party that in this matter they should not merely depend on their numerical majority. No doubt democracy is there. But true democracy consists in your tempering the rigours of your numerical majority by a consideration of the legitimate rights and aspirations of the minorities. I hope that the Hon. Education Minister is convinced of the justice of the principles underlying this Bill and that he will agree to grant leave to introduce the Bill.”

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member may read the Statement of Objects and Reasons as well.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am glad to do so, Sir.”

‘STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The Annamalai University Act was enacted in 1929 and it provided for the representation of the Muslim community on the Senate, by the election of one member by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. In a body of nearly 80 members which the Senate consists of, this representation has been found to be most inadequate and ineffective. Except for the occasional addition of another member through nomination by either the Chancellor or the Pro-Chancellor or by election from the Legislature at no time has the number of Muslims on the Senate of the Annamalai University exceeded two. This has not given any satisfaction to the Muslims considering the vast progress that the University has made during the past seven years and the wider sphere of activity which it comprehends to-day. It is therefore sought to make the necessary amendments to provide for the election of five members to the Senate from among the members of the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India.

Even so, the Act has not provided for any representation of the Muslims on the Syndicate of the University. Except for the election of a Muslim by the Senate on two occasions and for the nomination of a Muslim by the Chancellor or the Pro-Chancellor on a single occasion, the Muslim community has not had adequate representation on the Syndicate of the University. There is no provision in the Act to secure the election of at least one or two Muslims to the Syndicate. It is true that there are four members nominated by the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellor in the proportion of two each. But the Act does not provide that at least one or two of these four should be Muslims. The Syndicate consists of 13 members and it is a recognized fact that it is overweighted by teachers of

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the University who are employees of the University and subordinate to the Syndicate. Experience has shown that at least half the number of members nominated by the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellor happen to be present or past Government officials. In the result the representation of non-officials on the Syndicate has been most inadequate and negligible. Such representation has never exceeded three members. It is therefore necessary and desirable to increase the strength of the Syndicate from 13 to 15 and to provide for representation of the Muslims by at least two members on the Syndicate. Provision is therefore made in the Bill for the nomination of one non-official Muslim by the Chancellor and for the election of another Muslim by the Muslim Educational Association or Southern India.

'The Muslim Educational Association of Southern India is a 45 year old organization and is the premier institution representing the entire Muslims of this Province and working for the educational uplift and social advancement of the Muslim community. Its membership runs up to 1,500 and it is a body registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860. It has already received statutory recognition in several Acts of the local Legislature.'

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, once again I appeal to the Leader of the House and the leaders of parties to build up in this House a convention similar to the one prevailing in the Central Legislative Assembly and the Council of State, viz., not to oppose the Bill even at the stage of leave for introduction. If leave is granted and the Bill introduced, then the Education Minister can throw out the Bill. The House has got full liberty to act as it liked when the principles are discussed. This is not the stage when we should discuss the Bill. I once more appeal to the party opposite that this convention of not opposing at the stage of leave for introduction should be built up and allowed to grow."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I would like to know whether the President is going to allow some more speakers. I would like to be the last speaker. Then I will be able to reply to all the points raised so that I may not be misunderstood as being discourteous to the members. I must make this clear that I oppose this Bill."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. Has not the Mover of a Bill or resolution got the right to have the last word on the subject? Is it the Minister in charge?"

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"The rule is this:

(If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the President, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may without further debate put the question thereon.)

"Now the Government chooses to oppose this Bill. The Mover of the Bill alone can speak. But the President has got discretion to allow one or two speakers. That was how it was done in the case of the previous Bill."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether I have got the right of reply?"

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MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Any member who wants to speak can speak. But the Government member will be the last speaker."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. The Hon. Minister has opposed the Bill. He has had his say. (The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar: 'No.') He has a right either to speak or simply to oppose, just as a member who moves for leave to introduce a Bill, if he does not make a speech at that stage, has got the right to speak last. I do not think that the rule that you have just now quoted says that he has the right to speak last."

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Just as the mover has the right of reply, whether he has previously spoken in the debate or not, so also a Government member can speak a second time after a reply is given."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I draw the attention of the Deputy President to rule 59?"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"From that rule, it is clear that the mover has got the right to reply, apart from stating his case."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Sir, so far as the introduction stage of the Bill is concerned, the mover makes a statement and the Government say whether they agree to it or oppose it. I do not think that discussion is allowed on the principles or provisions of the Bill. At that rate, this Council will have to sit for a long time for the introduction stage of every Bill if discussion on principles and provisions is allowed. We should not go into the provisions of the Bill at this stage. But I appeal to the hon. Minister to set up a convention. When we voted on the last occasion, some of us did so on principle and not because we are enamoured of the provisions of the Bill. Let me make my point more clear. No member of this House should be refused leave to introduce a Bill. After all, after leave is given, the Bill is published. With regard to Government Bills, His Excellency the Governor allows their publication even before introduction. In the case of Bills brought forward by non-official members, they can be published only after leave is given to them by this House unless His Excellency orders publication earlier. It is open to the Government at later stages to throw out a Bill even without referring it to a Select Committee. A popular Government should set up good conventions. I am sorry that in a small matter like this—where there should be more give and take—even at the stage of introduction—opposition comes in. I appeal and endorse what the hon. Member, Mr. Uppi Sahib, said—not to persist in opposing anything that comes from hon. Members who do not belong to the party in power. Give all hon. Members a chance of introducing their Bills. Let there be publication of those Bills. If the Government decide to throw out a Bill if they are opposed to the principles or provisions of the Bill, they can do so at any stage. I think they should allow hon. Members of the House who do not belong to

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [5th February 1947]

the Government party, the privilege of introducing Bills. They think that they should have the liberty of introducing Bills. It is a good convention followed in all legislatures to permit introduction of Bills without opposition; it is worthwhile that this House also should follow that convention. The Government should not oppose a Bill even at the introduction stage and throttle it even before it is introduced because they have a majority."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Sir, I have been a member of the Central Legislative Assembly for 11 years. As far as I know, unless when the principle of a Bill is very vicious, the normal procedure in the Central Assembly is to give leave for the introduction of Bills. I was surprised at the rules of this Council. The rules provide for opposition even at this stage, for making speeches, etc. The framers of the rules have thought it fit to allow for opposition even at this stage. We are working under these rules and we can oppose the Bill at this stage. I perfectly agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, with regard to setting up the convention. Conventions have to be set up by a meeting of leaders of parties. As things arise, a meeting of party leaders may be summoned and it may consider setting up of any conventions. As things stand at present, the rules permit the opposition of this Bill even at this stage. No convention as suggested by hon. Members on the other side exists now. It is for you, Sir, along with party leaders to set up conventions."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Sir, so far as this matter is concerned, there will be no particular hardship because the Government have decided to appoint an expert committee for re-constituting the Universities. This matter will come up in the ordinary course of things and it will be sheer waste of time to consider this Bill now."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, I know the fate of this Bill. It is going to share the fate of the other Bill. There seems to be no interest to consider this Bill. The spirit is there. We are seeing the spirit of the other side. My hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, said that leaders should come together, put their heads together and set up good conventions. We have to express our sense of disappointment that no spirit of give and take is found on the other side. In very many important matters, leaders were not consulted; they are not going to be consulted hereafter also. There is no use of crying hoarse. I do not propose to make further remarks."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Sir, about conventions it is not for me to speak; it is a subject for leaders to decide. Various parties of the House can come to a reasonable understanding. The case is not so hopeless as hon. Members on the other side put it."

"Let me come to the Bill itself. The strength of the Annamalai University is not 80 as stated in the objects of the Bill. The strength of the University is, apart from section 2 . . ."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"The hon. Minister is going into the general provisions of the Bill which he should not at this stage. It may be done at the second stage; he can say 'I oppose the Bill.'"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"I must explain, Sir, the Bill. I should say that the figures given in the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill are wrong."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, the principles of the Bill are not under consideration now. The question is 'Are you going to give leave or not'. The principles of the Bill can be discussed only when the Bill is actually introduced. The Bill is not before us. Not even non-official members have got copies of the Bill. How are you going to discuss its principles?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"It is open to me, Sir, to say whether the figures given in the statement of objects and reasons are correct or not."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I know, Sir, as a matter of fact that the strength of the Senate is 80."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
"Apart from that, Sir, let me point out that one representation has been given to the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. This matter was mooted previously in a previous Legislative Council. The amendment then brought forward was for giving three representatives to this Association. The reason why that amendment was rejected is this. Representation was given to one member of this Association and to one member representing the Scheduled classes to be elected by the Nandanar Kalvi Kazhagam. Scheduled classes are more numerous—more than double the number of Muslims. It will be a hardship to them if more representation is given to Muslims alone. That is what the whole discussion of this matter shows. The same reasons hold good even now. It is not proper that we should go forward and increase the number of one community without increasing representation to the other community."

"The second point is this. Muslims are having more than one representative on the Senate to-day. In the period 1936-39, three members were elected, one was nominated by the Chancellor. During 1939-42 one was elected, one nominated by the Chancellor. and one by the Founder. During 1942-45 two were elected, one nominated by the Chancellor and one by the Founder. These figures will show that there were three or four representatives of Muslims on the Senate. I do not see any reason why more representation is necessary. Apart from that, it is not correct to say that we grudge to give this representation. I entirely agree with the general observations he has made. I am entirely with him in this matter. When the Government itself is going to bring forward before this House measures which will involve many

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amendments, any piecemeal amendment will only serve self-satisfaction. I do not think a case has been made out for this amending Bill and the Government would like to oppose it."

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is—

'The House gives leave to Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim to introduce the Annamalai University Amendments Bill.'"

The motion was put and lost.

RESOLUTIONS.

(1) APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER OF THE UPPER HOUSE AS MINISTER.

4-30
p.m.

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the following resolution stands in my name:—

'This Council is strongly of the opinion that it should be properly represented in the Cabinet of the Government and therefore recommends to the Government that a member of this House may be recommended to His Excellency the Governor for being appointed Minister in place of Hon. Sri B. Veeraswamy, resigned.'

"Sir, I feel that this House has not been justly treated in the matter of representation on the Ministry. Sir, we all know that in some Provinces there is only one House of Legislature while in some others like our Province, there are two Houses of Legislature and we also know that in some places it was felt that a body like this, the Upper Chamber, was not needed. But whatever may be its utility or non-utility, when, under the constitution this House has come into existence, it must have its due share in the Government of the country. (At this stage the Hon. Deputy President vacated the Chair and the Hon. President occupied it.) I thought, Sir, that the Hon. the Deputy President might be presiding over our deliberations for some time longer, because some of the remarks which I am going to make might place you, Sir, particularly to a somewhat delicate position."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have no objection to clear out, if the hon. Member so wants."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the first and foremost reason which actuated me to give notice of this resolution was that I felt that this House was not rightly and justly treated by the Party in power; and you will kindly excuse me, Sir, if I use a somewhat harsh expression that this House was almost discarded by the Party in power. During the last budget session some of us who are not in the Ministerialist Party—and perhaps also some gentlemen who are on the opposite side, but who, unfortunately have not got the right of expression on account of party discipline,—felt that the Hon. the President must have an equal status, so far as the question of his salary is concerned, with that of the Hon. the Speaker of the Lower House and when a Bill to that effect was circulated to the Members of this House,

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we felt greatly satisfied that our demand was conceded. But, Sir, to our great surprise and disappointment that Bill was shelved and we do not know the reason therefor. We do not also know how long it will take for the Bill to come out again. Therefore, Sir, I thought that this House was not being treated in the manner in which it ought to be treated.

"Sir, so far as the question of appointment of Ministers is concerned, for some time after this House came into existence—of course this House has been existing all along, because it was not dissolved—for some time after the present Congress Ministry came into power and for some time this House was functioning after section 93 was revoked, there was no Minister who was a member of this House. Sir, you will agree with me that when there was no Minister from among the members of this House, it means that there was no leader for this House, and when there was no Leader of this House, neither the hon. Members of this House nor the Hon. the President could consult anybody even on very important occasions and come to definite conclusions, although from the point of view of the Opposition Party like us, it might have given some sort of satisfaction that the Ministerial Block could not take part in voting and to that extent our opposition was strengthened. But all the same, we had a distinct disadvantage in that there was no Minister from among the Members of this House to whom we can freely approach and place our difficulties, our needs and our grievances. You will perhaps remember, Sir, that on many occasions some members have approached you, but you were not in a position to give them any definite reply, because you could not consult the Ministers as freely as you would have done, if there was a Minister from this House. No doubt the hon. Mr. Veeraswamy was appointed afterwards, and he was here for some time, but unfortunately on account of his ill-health he was not able to sit in this House on most important occasions. So, in spite of the fact that we had a Minister till recently, we had not had the full advantage of his advice and assistance we needed. I therefore thought that a resolution of this kind was very necessary. In fact, the dignity of this House demands that there should be adequate representation in the Cabinet from among the members of this House. Perhaps we may require more Ministers from this House, but if office of Ministership is not given even to one Member of this House, what is the use of my asking for more? And certainly my hon. Friend, the Minister for Education will come forward and simply nip any such proposal in the bud. But my party, the Muslim League Party, is of the view that when we have no share in the Government of this country and when our party was not at all consulted by the party in power in the formation of the Ministry, and when our party is indifferent to what the Ministry has done and is doing, there is no use on the part of any member of our party to move such a resolution and we have therefore come to the conclusion that such a resolution should not be moved from this side of the House. Sir, there is also another important consideration that has weighed with our party in advising me not to press this resolution, and that is, that if we sponsor

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a resolution of this kind, it would be misunderstood by the public outside that the Muslim League members, in an indirect way are, after offices.

"But when I gave notice of this resolution, I was under the impression that since the Muslim League, under the present circumstances, is wedded to non-acceptance of office, we would not be misunderstood by the public, whereas if any other member of this House brought forward a resolution of this kind, he would be misunderstood as trying to bolster up some particular gentleman for the office, although of course, all members of this House are equally anxious to have a Minister from this House. Now, Sir, as my party has asked me not to press this resolution, I feel I am bound in discipline to withdraw the resolution. Having given notice of it, I am supposed to move this resolution, but, for the reasons I have explained above, I do not want to move this resolution. I therefore ask for leave of the House not to move this resolution.

"Now Sir, I want to make only one observation before I sit down. Though I do not move this resolution, the spirit of the resolution is there. (Laughter.) It is clear, Sir, that hon. Members of the House, though individually may not like to have offices for themselves, want that this principle should be established. It is not the personality that we are concerned with. We want that a convention should be created that a member of this House should go into the Ministry in order to facilitate the work of this House and afford facilities for members as well as the Hon. the President to approach the Ministers as freely as they could on any matter of importance."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"On a point of information, Mr. President, under rule 120 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, a member in whose name a resolution appears in the list of business, shall, when called on, either withdraw the resolution, in which he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect or move it. Now, Sir, the hon. Member who says he is withdrawing the motion is arguing on the merits of his resolution, which, I am afraid, he cannot."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, I am not a lawyer like my hon. Friend Dr. John and therefore I do not wish to go into the legal quibbling. I was merely making a statement to clear my position as to why I do not want to move the resolution. The fact that I do not move the resolution does not mean that the House does not feel that no Minister is needed, nor should it be understood that we are opposed to having a member of this House on the Ministry. I know the feelings of members of the House on this matter. I have had discussions with them on this question, and I also know the handicaps under which we are labouring and the difficulties with which we are trying to pull on in this House. Therefore Sir, I thought that a resolution of this kind will be very useful in giving expression to our feelings and in trying to persuade the Government to have some of the members of this House in the Ministry. But my hon. Friend

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Dr. John has not perhaps heard me fully. Let me say, Sir, that my party, for various reasons, including the one I have mentioned above, namely, that we would be misunderstood by the public outside as grabbing for office, has advised me against moving this resolution. Therefore as a man of discipline belonging to a disciplined party, I have to obey my party even as a member of the Congress Party will be disciplined enough to obey his party instruction and I beg the House to allow me to withdraw this resolution."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I do not think any formal leave of the House is necessary. The resolution is withdrawn."

(2) APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO SOLVE THE HOUSING PROBLEM IN THE PROVINCE.

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—"Mr. President, the resolution which I have honour to move is as follows :—

"This Council recommends to the Government that a Committee be appointed to examine and suggest measures for solving the problem of housing in the Province with special reference to urban and semi-urban areas with a view to overcome the existing acute housing shortage and to raise the standard of housing generally."

"In commending the resolution to the House, I would like to state at the outset that we are on the threshold of independence for our country.

"A very pertinent question has been asked in this connexion and that is 'Independence for whom?' It must be independence for the common man. If the common man were to benefit by this independence, there are certain things which must be ensured to him. The minimum that should be ensured is food, clothing, shelter, social security and opportunity for improvement. Of these, food, clothing and shelter are the most urgent and immediate necessities. Thanks to the intervention of a kindly Providence and thanks also to the action taken by the Central and our own Provincial Government, the food situation has eased to some extent, though prices of certain essential commodities are still keeping on soaring. As regards clothing, this is a matter which is agitating the public mind to a very large extent to-day. I hope this question will come up for discussion in this House very soon and so I do not want to say anything except that certain socio-political experimentings of our Government have rendered an already difficult situation much more difficult.

"With regard to the question of housing, I regret to have to remark that the Ministry has done little or nothing. All that they have done is to pass the House Rent Control Act. If I am allowed to voice the public feeling on the matter, it is that the net result of this enactment is that a liberal dearness allowance has been granted to the houseowners and that a popular Government which ought naturally to safeguard the interests of the people—the

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common men—has neglected their interests and taken measures to see that their own servants—Government officials,—who are increasing day by day in number, are provided with houses.

“ In this connexion, it is gratifying to note that the National Planning Committee has treated housing as a matter of national urgency. In the latest report of the Sub-Committee appointed by the National Planning Committee, Food, Education and Housing have been treated as matters to which special priorities should be given. It has also been said that a National Industrial Board will soon be set up by the Government of India and that this Board will co-ordinate the work of the provincial housing authorities and will handle housing finance. I understand that Bombay has already decided to set up a Special Housing Department and that it is intended that similar departments should be set up by the different provinces and Indian States to control the situation and to overcome the acute housing shortage which we are experiencing in our cities and urban areas.

“ I must also refer in this connexion to the recommendation of the Health Survey and Development Committee, generally known as the Bhore Committee—which has stated that ‘ In India a long-term housing policy, comprehensive in its scope and modern in its outlook, is essential for a satisfactory solution of the problem.’ The objective to be attained is the creation of hygienic houses in sufficient numbers and of adequate size in ‘sanitized areas,’ equipped with all facilities necessary for community life.

“ It is interesting to note in this connexion that the Committee has recommended the creation of Provincial Ministry of Housing and Town and Village Planning, which should work in collaboration with the Provincial Ministry of Health. This should be of particular interest at this juncture when we are hearing that the Ministry is going to be expanded.

“ The resolution, Sir, which I have placed before you refers to the housing situation in the province generally and to that in urban and semi-urban areas in particular. According to the census of 1941, only about 13 per cent of India's total population was town-dwelling, whereas about 87 per cent lived in areas with 2,000 souls and under. As a long-range plan, the housing problem of both the rural and urban areas has to be tackled seriously. But to-day the question which agitates the public mind and is causing the greatest anxiety is the acute shortage of housing accommodation in urban and industrial areas.

“ Let us clearly understand the situation with regard to housing in our great cities and urban areas. During the past five years, the population of our big cities has increased from 25 per cent to 100 per cent. The population of Madras in 1941 was about 7½ lakhs; in 1946 it was 12½ lakhs which is an increase of over 60 per cent. In 1941, there were 87,000 houses in the city; in the decennium from 1921 to 1931 there was an increase of 9,000

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houses and from 1931 to 1941, 14,000 houses; but from 1941 to 1946 the increase in the number of houses was only 1,500. This means that whereas in the decennium of 1921 to 1931 there were on an average 900 new houses built per year and from 1931 to 1941 there were 1,400 houses every year, from 1941 to 1946 there were only 300 houses per year built on an average. In the result, for an increase of 4½ lakhs in the population of the City, there were only 1,500 houses built, which works out to the glorious figure of one house for every 300 souls in the City's increased population.

“ The census of 1921 revealed that there were eight persons for every dwelling unit. On the basis of the figures quoted above, the position in 1946 was that there were 14 persons in every dwelling unit. I have not got the latest figures of population and housing accommodation, but one thing I can assert without fear of contradiction and that is that the population has registered a further increase while there has been no further increase in housing accommodation.

“ It must be remembered in this connexion that out of the 88,500 houses, a very large percentage consists of one-room tenements of the working classes. A survey was made a few years ago—I think in 1935 or 1936—of about 5,000 working-class families with a view to arrive at the cost of living index figure. The average family was found to consist of 4.6 persons. A very large number of these families were living in one-room tenements. We can have an idea of the appalling overcrowding in the City when, as I have shown, there are 14 persons per dwelling unit in the City's house, a great majority of which—probably 75 per cent—are one-room tenements.

“ I have not got the latest figures of population and dwelling houses in the several cities and industrial towns in the Province; but from reports available from all quarters, the increase in the population is not less than what the Madras City has registered, probably in many cases it is more, and there has been little or no house-building operation during the past few years.

“ And now, what is the effect of this over-crowding? As early as 1933, the Corporation of Madras appointed a committee to go into the question of housing in the Madras City. Mr. W. W. Ladden was its chairman and our late lamented friend Mr. S. Satyamurti was one of its prominent members. That committee found that in spite of the various improvements effected in the health and sanitary services of the City, there was an appreciable increase in death-rates under tuberculosis and respiratory diseases. The outbreak of epidemic diseases is also another factor. I have no doubt that recent figures will show further increase in the death-rates under these various heads and also in infantile mortality. None will deny that bad housing forms the chief cause of the appalling waste of precious human life and deterioration in health of the citizens.

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"As far as the city is concerned, on the 1921 basis of eight persons per dwelling unit, we require 150,000 houses for the present population. We have only less than 90,000 houses. We require 60,000 houses more. The National Planning Committee has accepted the principle of allotting 100 square feet of house room per person as the minimum. That is the national standard. Even on the basis of five persons per family, we require 2½ lakhs of houses as against 90,000 houses we have got, which means that we should have another 1½ lakhs of houses.

"Now, Sir, I shall deal with the problem of housing of the poorer and working classes. As early as 1931, the Royal Commission on Labour, in their classical report, drew the attention of the country to the urgency of undertaking a housing scheme for industrial workers and after describing the miserable condition of their housing and its serious effects on their health and productive efficiency, reviewed the achievements of Government, local bodies and employers and detailed their duties. In concluding their report on this question, the Commission remarked:

'There can be no doubt that action is urgently necessary to counteract the serious effect on the health of the workers for which present conditions are responsible. Evidence is not lacking that part of the labour unrest which has characterized industrial development during the recent years is due to the realization, however vague, on the part of the worker that his standard of living is too low and that he can never hope to raise that standard until his income provides him with a degree of comfort which is at present beyond his reach. This awakening sense might well be used to give him a truer understanding of what can be done to place him in more sanitary surroundings and what he can himself do to further that end. Much thought, energy and money will have to be expended before an appreciable advance can be effected, but of the urgent necessity for such advance, there can be no question and every humanitarian instinct should compel a united and continuous effort to that end.'

The Bhoré Committee also have drawn our attention to the urgency of this problem.

"Now, Sir, taking the latest figures for the Madras City available, out of the 12½ lakhs of people, 9 lakhs belong to the poorer and working classes. On this basis and even if for the time being we are satisfied with eight persons per dwelling unit, we want over lakh of houses for the poorer classes. It is not known how many of the less than 90,000 houses available are poorer class houses. I do not want to describe their present housing conditions. They are, I hope, well known to the members of this House. I know pretty well of conditions in the City. The caste-Hindu workers live in brick-walled tiled houses. In a house with an average floor-space of 1,000 square feet as many as half-a-dozen families are living. Each family has a room for all purposes of, say, 12 feet by 10 feet with a small verandah. There is a common tap and a latrine. That is the accommodation for one family. As for the other classes, my friends, the Scheduled Classes and others, they are living mostly in slums. A family occupies a house of, say, 12 feet by 10 feet, with mud walls and kadjan leaves thatched. Sir, there are more than 200 slums in our City; they are the eye-sores and plague-spots of the City and over 2 lakhs of our citizens are living in them. There is still another

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class of our citizens who are rendering service to the community at large in different forms. They are living on the pavements of our streets and on the verandahs of houses. That is a class about whom no one seems to have taken any notice.

"Now, what are the general principles on which this problem should be tackled? I entirely agree with the National Planning Committee that this should be regarded as a public utility service and that the element of private profit made by the house-builder or house-owner must be strictly regulated, if not eliminated altogether. I also agree with the Committee in thinking that a programme of housing over a period of ten years must be drawn up so as to provide a minimum standard of housing accommodation for every human being with the necessary minimum of amenities, utilities and services, which in modern life our people of the poor classes should have. The rents charged cannot be what we call economic return on the capital investment made by the private profit-seeker. It should be co-related as much as to the earnings or income of the occupant as to the capital costs incurred. The Central Government, the local authority—whether Provincial Government or local bodies—the employer in the case of workers under him and the occupant, must share the burden and financial responsibility. Viewing this as a public utility service, Government should grant liberal subsidies to encourage the building of houses. For some considerable time, this has been done in the West and there is no reason why it should not be done here. In this connexion, I am glad to note that the latest proposal of the Government of India is to grant a subsidy of 12½ per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 200 which might be supplemented by a similar subsidy of 12½ per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 200 by the Provincial Government. The Royal Commission on Labour has paid a handsome tribute to some of the prominent employers in the country for the efforts they have made in providing housing for their workers. The employers must share the responsibility in this matter, but if financial assistance is given to them by Government in one form or another, it will considerably encourage them—at any rate the progressive section of employers—to extend their housing schemes."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"May I know how long the hon. Member will take to finish his speech?"

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—"Ten more minutes, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I just wanted to have an idea of the time that might still be required by you."

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—"But even if a subsidy is given 5 p.m. there is still a large section of the population who will not qualify for it and there will be many individuals who will not be able to provide houses of their own. To help such people it has been suggested that a new credit agency, like a *House Finance Corporation*, should be brought into existence. The share capital of the Corporation might be held by the Government, Commercial and other Banks and Insurance Companies. They could advance

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money up to 75 per cent or even a little more of the costs of building and land to be repaid in instalments over a number of years.

"Another suggestion which deserves consideration is for the Provincial Government to raise a loan specifically intended for house-building purposes repayable in 50 or 60 years. This loan could be advanced to Building Co-operative Societies at half a per cent more than the interest on the Government's loan and individual members of such housing societies would repay in such monthly instalments as would more or less be equivalent to the rent they pay.

"Before leaving this aspect of the question, I would like to say that the ideal to be attained is to provide every worker, whether under an employer or for the community, with a house of his own and thereby give him 'the pride of possession.' That, I submit, is much more potent a weapon to fight Communism than any ordinance or other repressive measures. In this connexion, I must express my appreciation of the efforts made by the Hon. Mr. Giri to organize a Housing Building Co-operative Society for the Madura workers through a scheme under which a worker, by paying a small instalment over a period of years, would ultimately become the owner of the house.

"Now with regard to the housing of middle classes, out of the 12½ lakhs of the City's population, 3 lakhs are middle-class people. They require 38,000 houses. Even at a modest computation, we require about 20,000 houses more for these classes. This shortage has given rise to acute suffering. This problem, I think, should be solved through House-building Co-operative Societies. The fact that, during the last twenty years, the twelve societies that have been existing in the City have provided only 600 houses, should not operate as a depressing factor. If the Government advance loans to those societies at half a per cent more than the interest they pay and societies for different groups of middle classes are formed, I think they will work successfully in the present circumstances when the need is so acute. The next alternative is to encourage private enterprise. There are certain measures which Government should take if this problem should be tackled. Prices of building land must be controlled. In Great Britain, under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944, the 1939 level of prices has been adopted with supplement not exceeding 30 per cent. Under the existing law, it is only the Government, Railways and Improvement Trusts that could compulsorily acquire land for their building construction at reasonable rates. The difficulty can be overcome by providing compulsory acquisition by private builders under certain conditions. It would be unfair to deprive one citizen of his land for the benefit of another, but it is quite fair and just to stipulate that if any owner of land within the building area of a town does not build a house within a reasonable time, the land must be compulsorily sold to someone else who is prepared to build a house.

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"Government must also take all possible measures to secure materials for building and such societies or individuals should have priority in the matter. Building materials, such as bricks, cement, steel, etc., should be controlled. Government should also make arrangements for their production in sufficient quantities. In this connexion, I must refer to the suggestion which has been made, that pre-fabricated houses which can be imported in large quantities should be set up to reduce the shortage of building materials. The Sub-Committee of the National Planning Committee has rightly rejected this idea in spite of the success of such schemes in other countries and also in the Calcutta Port Trust area. They may suit the requirements of Western countries but in India, with a strong monsoon, hot summer and the ever-present danger of fire, these houses are unsuitable. They can at best serve the purpose of temporary sheds.

"Besides controlling land prices and the prices of building materials and advancing loans at cheap rates, it is a matter for consideration whether such societies and other private builders should not be exempted from betterment contribution they are liable to be charged under the Town-Planning Act. Government must also consider the question of exempting such societies or private builders from the payment of property-tax, say, for a period of five years. This can be done by granting a subsidy to the local bodies or by other suitable means. There is a case for subsidy at least to the lower middle classes with an income of less than Rs. 200 per mensem.

"Before concluding, I would like to state that even if as the Central Government anticipate, there are difficulties for undertaking a province-wide building scheme—as I was told that a recent circular to the Provincial Governments indicates, the problem is so important that it is high time we should set about making necessary enquiries immediately. It is for this purpose that I have suggested the appointment of a Committee. The Committee should consist of officials and non-officials. Nowadays the fashion in our Province seems to be to appoint Cabinet Committees or one-man Committees. With due deference to our Ministers and such experts, I must submit that there are non-officials who can make valuable contribution to the solving of this very difficult problem and I would suggest that their services are also utilized.

"Finally, Sir, it has been said that a nation will be what its homes make it. Let us ask ourselves if our homes are breeding good, happy citizens or whether they are breeding disease, misery, immorality, crime and last but not least, revolution, and remind ourselves of what the poet has said:

'A little house, a quiet wife,
Sufficient food to nourish life,
Most perfect health, and free from harm,
Convenient cloths to keep me warm
The liberty of foot and mind,
And grace the ways of God to find,
This is the summe of my desire,
Until I come into heaven's quire.'"

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the question of wives also come into it? " (Laughter.)

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not know, Sir, whether under the rules, a seconder is necessary ; if it is so, I second this resolution with very great pleasure. After listening to the able speech of Mr. Anthoni which was full of details and statistics gathered from various sources, I feel, Sir, no support is necessary from any member in this House. The Government themselves must recognize that the request contained in the resolution is a very very modest one. But I am afraid the whip has gone round as usual. The innocuous resolution like the one moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Anthoni suggests that for the solution of this problem which affects all communities irrespective of parties, castes, and creeds, all must sit together assisted by experts—we do not want even non-experts to be there—to see how best we can, before the Rent Control Act ceases to operate, put up a number of houses required to house the growing population of this City and the province as a whole.

" Sir, the other day, I was listening to a radio talk by the Hon. Sri Raghava Menon, on housing. I thought, Sir, he would be here to listen to the debate on this resolution. I was very pleased to hear when he said that the housing problem in the province generally and in the City in particular is very acute and requires very urgent solution. I was glad to hear that from a Member of Government ; he also stated what steps the Government were proposing to take, viz., the same steps suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Anthoni. I find the Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam is in charge of the subject."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Just for the sake of adjusting the time, I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether there is going to be opposition or a full-dressed debate."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I shall not oppose the resolution, Sir."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I should be very happy to hear Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam. But whatever the opinion of Government may be in this matter, I am sure, after hearing Mr. Anthoni, none could oppose such an innocuous resolution. I was saying, Sir, the Hon. Sri Raghava Menon rightly mentioned the starting of co-operative building societies as one of the methods for encouraging house-building. Sir, I wonder whether hon. Members of this House know that during 1946-47, a grand sum of two lakhs for the whole Province was provided by the Government for the purpose of giving loans to building societies for the construction of middle-class houses, while the cost of building one such house comes to Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000, especially when land values are going up. . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I suggest that we first hear the Hon. Minister and after hearing him, if you still think it necessary, I shall give you a further opportunity?"

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* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Mr. President, Sir, Government are fully aware that the problem of housing has become one of urgent importance and needs early tackling. The Government do not undertake to construct houses as a business proposition and let them out on rent to the people; The municipal councils in the districts and the Corporation of Madras in the City are the authorities who can undertake housing schemes, and to this end, the existing provisions of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, can be availed of by them. If these authorities have not so far done much in this direction, the reason is to be found in their unsatisfactory finances brought about by the increased cost of administration. No grants are now paid by the Government to the Corporation or the municipal councils towards such schemes but only loans; before loans are sanctioned from Provincial fund Government have to be satisfied that the financial position of the Corporation and municipal councils will permit of the payment of the annuities on the loans advanced, and if the finances are found on examination to be unsatisfactory, the loans are not sanctioned. However, it may be mentioned that councils like Coimbatore and Madurai and the Corporation of Madras have of late been evincing interest in the problem of housing the poorer classes. The Corporation of Madras recently submitted to Government a large scale plan of poor-class housing, but the plan was found to be very costly and the Corporation is apparently revising it. It has also in hand a housing scheme for the construction of residential buildings for the middle class people in Aminjikarai. The Government have made provision in the budget for a loan of Rs. 8 lakhs to the Corporation for the purpose of that scheme and the question of sanctioning it is under consideration.

" The Government of India had under consideration a proposal to undertake a scheme for the housing of industrial labour and those other workers in urban areas who are unable to pay an economic rent. The scheme was divided into :

(1) A long-term co-ordinated plan to be worked out in consultation with all Provincial Governments and Administrations; and

(2) an immediate short-term plan which is to be so framed as to give the greatest possibility that it will merge conveniently in the long-term plan.

" Under the long-term plan, the Government of India wanted all Provincial Governments to agree

(a) to devise an All-India Long-Term plan in order to secure the maximum construction efficiency;

(b) to frame a 10-year plan and to take an All-India target of 2 million houses for industrial workers for this period;

(c) to lay down minimum standards for industrial housing and designs in order to provide for maximum economy obtainable for the utilization of bulk and planned ordering of materials and standardized parts;

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(d) to co-ordinate industrial housing with town-planning and development of suitable system of transport;

(e) to establish a National Housing Board for co-ordination and advice, the Board including representatives of provinces and centre and other interested parties;

(f) to accept the need for Government subsidies to make the scheme self-supporting; and

(g) to have a conference, if need be, of the Central and Provincial Governments representatives to settle the details regarding this long-term plan.

“ Under the short-term plan, the Central Government proposed to appoint a Housing Commissioner with the necessary technical and other staff capable of advising on housing schemes and responsible for maintaining contact with provinces in the matter of arranging for all matter concerning bulk orders and standardized parts. The housing schemes to be undertaken under this plan were to be approved by the Central Government on the advice of the Provincial Governments, and in consultation with the Housing Commissioner and with the approval of the National Housing Board if one was constituted in the meanwhile. In respect of all approved housing schemes undertaken by local bodies, Improvement Trusts, Development Boards or other publicly controlled bodies or private industrial employers, the Government of India stated that they would be prepared to make a contribution equal to 12½ per cent of the cost incurred on the scheme during the financial years 1946-7 and 1947-8 subject to the following conditions :

(1) The maximum contribution that will be granted in respect of each house included in the scheme will be limited to Rs. 200; and

(2) the Central Government's contribution will be subject to the condition that the Provincial Government should also make an equivalent contribution in respect of the scheme, from their own funds;

(3) that no contribution will be paid in respect of schemes undertaken by employing departments of the Central Government or the Provincial Governments.

“ The Government of India invited the views of this Government on the long and short-term plans mentioned above. These proposals of India were referred to a Committee consisting of the Commissioner of Labour, the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence), the Director of Public Health, the Sanitary Engineer, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards (who is also the ex-officio Director of Town-Planning) and the Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras. The Committee met on 19th September 1946 and suggested that this Government should co-operate with the Central Government in the matter.

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“ Meanwhile the Government of India reported that they have reconsidered their original proposals in the light of the views expressed by various Provincial Governments. They have now stated that the short-term plan for housing industrial workers was tentatively accepted by them with a view to encourage building activity particularly as an anti-deflationary measure and that they now consider that cost of houses would be much more than what was originally contemplated and that large-scale construction of buildings at higher costs under the present inflationary conditions would force prices still higher and would militate against the economy of the country as a whole. They have therefore suggested that for the present, Provincial Government should consider only such housing schemes as are extremely urgent to suit the circumstances of particular localities instead of attempting to introduce a unified scheme for the whole province. They have also suggested that it will not be possible to justify discrimination in favour of industrial workers alone in regard to housing problem generally. It is however stated that the Government of India are prepared to co-ordinate and co-operate in any scheme prepared by Provincial Governments according to the urgency of needs by rendering reasonable financial assistance, the extent of which will be decided on the merits of each case. In effect the original proposals for a large-scale co-ordinated scheme of Housing of Industrial Labour and other workers in urban areas appear to have been withdrawn. The whole question is under the consideration of Government.

“ The housing of Government servants is also under the consideration of the Government. The Collectors of districts have been asked to submit proposals in this regard next year.

“ An Act to continue the control on house rents has been passed by the Legislature.

“ A Cabinet Sub-Committee has been constituted to consider the question of taking over from the Government of India the camps, buildings and equipments used for military purposes but now no longer required for the same. The Sub-Committee will make recommendations as to how best these could be used for purposes of Government for housing Government servants for public institutions or for civilian population.

“ So far as the Madras City is concerned, the City Improvements Trust has come into existence but it will take some months before it frames its improvement schemes. This Government have framed a post-war scheme for Town-planning, housing and elimination of slums. It may not be possible to work out details of the scheme and implement it urgently as it is being revised by the Director of Town-Planning in the list of the recommendations of the Bhoré Committee.

“ The hon. Member who moved the resolution has made some suggestions and all his suggestions will be considered by Government. In view of the position explained by me, I request the hon. Member to withdraw his resolution.”

[5th February 1947]

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" Sir, I thought the Hon. Minister was going to accept my resolution. But on the assurance given by the Hon. Minister that the suggestions that I have made would be considered, I do not think that it is any use wasting your time and mine by putting this resolution to vote and persisting in my resolution. I would, however, accept the assurance given by the Hon. Minister and live in the hope that very soon something will be done in this direction. I therefore withdraw the resolution."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, when a motion is withdrawn by one member, it is open to another member to move it and I should like to move it. Under the rules of the Council . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not the question of rules; I know that rule. I have no objection if you want to do so."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I will take only two minutes, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not a question of your taking two minutes or so but it will mean discussion and voting upon it. This is a non-official day and there is still one more item on the agenda which has to be finished. If Mr. Anthoni is satisfied with the reply given by the Hon. Minister, I think you may also be satisfied with it and let the House go on with the next item of business."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, there is a Cabinet meeting at 5-30 p.m. to-day and it is better we adjourn the business to some other date."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I am sure the Hon. Minister will be glad to have suggestions from various parts of the House even if the resolution is withdrawn, since the suggestions of hon. Members will be useful to him when he frames his scheme for housing."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" In fact, Sir, I have got a very good suggestion to make."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If you persist, I will have to adjourn the discussion and the rest of the business will go to the next non-official day. There is no work for us till Monday next as the other House has not yet finished its business. I now adjourn the House to meet again on Monday, the 10th February 1947 at 11 a.m."

The House then adjourned.

5th February 1947]

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 20 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao (on behalf of Sri L. Subbarama Reddi) at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th February 1947, page 91 supra.]

Name of village.	Extent of wet land cultivated for second crop under southern channel.	Whether remission was granted for scarcity of water. If granted how much.	RS. A. P.	How much was repaid to the ryots.	RS. A. P.	How much is still left undischarged.	Whether any representations were received from the ryots.	If so, what action was taken to refund the amount.	The amount will be adjusted in due course towards the land revenue due in the current fasli.
Vovveru ..	245-75	Yes	347 13 0	340 3 0	7 10 0	No	No	No	No
Isakappalem ..	152-16	Do.	260 12 0	200 12 0	..	..	..	Do.	Do.
Chaluvapalem ..	265-48	Do.	264 9 0	284 9 0	..	..	..	Do.	Do.
Kalayakagollu ..	300-00	Do.	630 5 0	627 13 0	2 8 0	No	No	Do.	Do.
Negamambapuram ..	367-90	Do.	535 3 0	Nil	535 3 0	The No. 5 account was lost and a fresh one has since been prepared and approved by the Revenue Divisional Officer. Action is being taken to refund the amount.	..	..	..
Danaromadugu ..	271-21	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rebala ..	699-50	Yes	1,091 4 0	1,080 6 0	14 14 0	Nil	Nil	The amount will be adjusted in due course towards the land revenue due in the current fasli.	Do.
Gandavaram ..	133-30	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
Pothireddipalem ..	136-40	No	26-98	53 15 0	..	..	..	..	Do.
Padugupad ..	59-65	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
Kovur ..	1,551-11	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	Do.
Inamadugu ..	767-10	No	705 12 0	705 12 0	..	..	..	..	Do.
Loguntapad ..	368-34	No	114 2 0	..	114 2 0	..	..	..	Do.
Mudivarthi ..	307-50	No	777 15 0	773 0 0	4 15 0	No	No	The ryot is a minor and a Civil suit is pending in Court.	Do.
Alurpad ..	2-92	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vegur ..	641-96	No	222-43	876 13 0	..	..	..	..	..
Modegunta ..	47-07	No	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Panchedu ..	62-07	No	68-13	191 11 0	..	..	..	..	..
Penubarthi ..	940-53	Yes	92 6 0	72 13 0	19 9 0	Yes	Yes	The amount is being refunded.	..

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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY 1947

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 10th February 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, the Deputy President (SRI K. VENKATA-SWAMI NAYUDU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Hospital Advisory Committee for all hospitals in the Presidency.

* 26 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether Hospital Advisory Committees have been constituted for all hospitals in the Presidency;

(b) what the constitution and the functions of these committees are;

(c) whether the decisions of these committees are reported to Government or the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras; and

(d) whether the Government have at any time considered the question of making these Advisory Committees more useful?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—“(a) Except in the case of the following institutions, Advisory Committees have been constituted for all the other Government hospitals in the Province :—

(i) Government Hospital, Ambasamudram.

(ii) Government Hospital, Bapatla.

(iii) Government Hospital, Sirugappa.

(iv) Government Hospital, Rajapalayam.

(v) Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar's Lying-in-Hospital, Madras.

(vi) Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.

“(b) Rules relating to the constitution and functions of the Advisory Committees for the Government hospitals are laid on the table.

“(c) The decisions of the Committee are received by the Surgeon-General who takes action wherever necessary and addresses the Government when their orders are required.

“(d) The rules relating to the constitution and functions of the Committees have been modified wherever necessary to make the Committees more useful.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister to consider the desirability of associating more representatives of the public—as, in the constitution of the existing committees there are more officials—so that the public may be in touch with the working of the hospitals? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The proposal of the hon. Member will certainly be taken into consideration by the Government. I may, for the information of the House, state that proposals are already under the consideration of the Government for constituting a Committee of non-officials and official expert medical men for the purpose of advising the Government on matters relating to public health and medicine."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know if the Government propose to constitute Advisory Committees to the six hospitals specified by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The suggestion will be taken into consideration."

Distribution of vegetable ghee in the Province.

* 27 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the original allotment of the Government of India was of vegetable ghee (in terms of tons) to this Province;

(b) how it has been distributed;

(c) whether the Government of India have made further allotments and, if so, how they have been distributed;

(d) whether the allottees of the original allotment were given an opportunity to increase their tonnage to make their factories economic units or whether fresh applications were called for and fresh allotment made;

(e) whether in the original allotment only one 10-ton factory was allotted to the Ceded Districts;

(f) whether there were a number of applications from the Ceded Districts demanding allotment of more factories to utilize the large quantities of surplus groundnut available in those districts;

(g) whether permission to start a factory has been given to a " foreign " firm instead of considering favourably the applications of the local people; and

(h) if the answer to (g) is in the affirmative, what were the circumstances which necessitated such an allotment?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) 21,000 tons per annum.

" (b) This allotment has been distributed among seven firms in the several groundnut producing areas to start seven factories of 10 tons daily capacity or 3,000 tons per annum, each.

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" (c) & (d) Yes. A further quota of 9,000 tons per year has been made and this has been allotted to three of the seven firms already selected. No fresh applications were called for.

" (e) Yes.

" (f) Yes. Eleven applications.

" (g) & (h) The hon. Member's attention is invited to Press Note No. 123, *dated 18th September 1946, printed as Appendix II on pages 165-167 infra on the subject issued by the Government."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, when the fresh allotment was received from the Government of India, and why were not pending applications considered instead of distributing it among the existing allottees? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I take it that the Government have considered that also. They thought that it was necessary to do so."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, how the choice was made in giving the additional allotment among the existing allottees? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I should be very glad to have notice of this question."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" At the time when the fresh allotment was received from the Government of India, there were a number of pending applications from areas where groundnut cultivation was going on to a large extent, of which the Ceded districts was one. When applications were pending from that area and there were already allottees in receipt of allotment, why were not new applicants preferred? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" At that time, Government should have taken all that into consideration."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether any panel or committee was constituted when the allotments were made? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I do not think so."

Vanaspathi factory in Kurnool district.

* 28 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the permission given to Birla Brothers to start a Vanaspathi factory in Kurnool district had been confirmed;

(b) whether they have floated a company called " Thungabhadra Industries, Limited ";

(c) whether the Government have satisfied themselves that the conditions agreed to by the Birla Brothers have been incorporated in the prospectus issued;

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(d) whether the original intention of Birla Brothers was to build a factory in Guntur district;

(e) whether the Government of Madras resisted the building of the factory in Guntur district and if so, on what grounds;

(f) whether the Government voluntarily offered the suggestion to have the factory in Nandyal or Kurnool and if so, what the circumstances are which induced them to offer this advice;

(g) whether the Government originally imposed any conditions even for the location of the factory in Kurnool district and if so, what they are;

(h) whether those conditions have been subsequently modified;

(i) whether the Government had received applications from the people of the locality for starting Vanaspati factories and if so, whether they were offered the same terms as those imposed on the Birla Brothers and obtained their refusal before the Birla Brothers were accorded permission;

(j) what the over-riding considerations were in preferring Birla Brothers to local applicants;

(k) whether the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Tungabhadra Industries, Limited, contain objects wider in scope than those connected with oil industry; and

(l) whether the Memorandum and Articles of Association were sent to the Government of Madras for perusal or approval, before they were issued?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“(a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

“(d) to (j) The hon. Member's attention is invited to Press Note * No. 123 issued by this Government.

“(k) & (l) The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company have now been received and are being examined by the Government.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether the Government, when they gave permission to the Birla Brothers, were not aware that the objections they had for locating a factory in the Guntur district held equally good in regard to its location in Kurnool?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“They were aware of all the objections and they considered all aspects of the question and the Press Note makes the position of the Government clear.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“In the Press Note, reference was made to Sandur. May I ask why Sandur was abandoned?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“That was also stated in that Note, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether all the conditions laid down by the Government, which

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are euphemistically called ‘Birlas’ Gestures’ by a newspaper, have been fulfilled by the Birlas, especially the one relating to the purchase of groundnut oil.”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“I take it to be so. There is some correspondence on this matter and that is being examined.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Is it a fact that the Government of India were approached by the Oil Manufacturers’ Association, Kurnool, and they were informed that the question whether the Birla Brothers should be allowed to instal expellers in their factory at Kurnool was under consideration and whether the Government realize that if they installed expellers they would be violating one of the conditions which they had given to the Madras Government?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“Notice, Sir.”

Abolition of jamabandi.

* 29 Q.—SRI K. NATARAJAN (on behalf of Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a jamabandi is conducted in the taluk centres every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that this annual jamabandi is the breeding ground for all kinds of corrupt practices; and

(c) whether the Government propose to abolish the system?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“(a) A jamabandi is conducted every year, ordinarily at the taluk headquarters. The jamabandi of sub-taluks in charge of dependent Deputy Tahsildars is, however, conducted at the headquarter of the sub-taluk.

“(b) The Government have not received any complaints recently regarding the prevalence of corrupt practices at jamabandi. To make sure that such practices do not exist, the Government have asked the Collectors to pay particular attention to this matter during the jamabandi in the current year and to submit a report.

“(c) There is no such proposal at present.”

Valuation of lands required for the Tungabhadra Project.

* 30 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) when the valuation of lands required for the Tungabhadra Project was made;

(b) whether the Government have received representations that in view of the lapse of time fresh valuation should be made; and if so, what the orders are;

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(c) whether it is proposed to provide land and houses for those now living and cultivating in the area which will be submerged; and

(d) whether he will place the proposals on the Table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“(a) 1941.

“(b) Yes. Representations for fresh valuation have been received and are under consideration. No orders have been passed yet.

“(c) The proposal is separately under consideration.

“(d) No, as the matter is confidential.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to place the paper on the Table of the House after it passes through the confidential stage?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“Yes, Sir.”

Petition for water facilities from the mirasidars of Mannipallam village, Tanjore district.

* 31 Q.—SRI K. NATARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the mirasidars of Mannipallam village, Thalainayar vattam, Tanjore district, presented a petition to the Government that for lack of water facilities the kuruvai seedlings and plantations were withering and praying for immediate irrigation arrangements being made; and

(b) whether any, and if so, what orders were passed and what steps were taken to remedy the defects?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The petitions were forwarded to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) for necessary action. He has reported that the Mannipallam channel is under temporary remodelling. The notch just below the off-take of the channel which had been left open was, about the end of July 1946, closed as desired by the ryots in a petition addressed direct to the Executive Engineer and the command level was maintained in the channel.

“The Subdivisional Officer, Mayavaram, inspected the area on 23rd August 1946, and he has reported that supply was then adequate, that transplantation of kuruvai had been completed and then preparations for transplantation of samba were also being made. There was thus no dearth of supply in the channel.”

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Supply of artificial manure to ryots.

* 32 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements have been made for obtaining and supplying of artificial manures such as ammonium sulphate and superphosphate, etc.;

(b) whether the Government have entered into contract with any firm either for the supply of ammonium sulphate or for the manufacture of superphosphate;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what the terms of such agreement are;

(d) what is the method proposed for the distribution of these fertilizers;

(e) whether these fertilizers will be sold to ryots at cheaper rates treating the difference between the cost price and the selling price as a subsidy; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the Table of the House a statement about the steps they propose to take for the adequate supply of organic and artificial manure to the ryots cheaply?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—“(a) to (c) The Government of India are importing chemical fertilizers like ammonium sulphate, ammonium phosphate and triple superphosphate from foreign countries and allotting quotas to Provincial Governments for distribution for food crops within the Provinces. They have allotted 70,000 tons of ammonium sulphate and 4,250 tons of ammonium phosphate to this Province during 1946–47. The allotment of superphosphate for the current year has not yet been intimated.

“The Government of Madras have also made arrangements for the production and supply of ammonium sulphate and superphosphate by firms in India. Details of these arrangements were given in reply to the Starred Question No. 174 asked by M. A. Salam Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., and answered by the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 10th September 1946. The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to that answer.

“(d) A portion of the supplies of chemical fertilizers made by the Government of India is distributed to certain manure firms for the preparation of manure mixtures for food crops. The balance is distributed between the Agricultural Department and the Imperial Chemical Industries (India), Limited, for sale as straight manure after meeting the requirements of sugarcane crop through sugar factories.

“(e) Unlike organic manures, chemical fertilizers are not sold by the Agricultural Department on a subsidized basis. The

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department sells these fertilizers at 'pool' prices fixed by Government of India adding only the incidental charges, such as, railway freight but not adding the commission of Rs. 10 per ton which is allowed to private manure firms by the Government of India in case distribution is done through such firms.

"(f) The steps taken by Government for the adequate supply of artificial and organic manures to ryots are detailed in Sections B and C of Chapter III of the Grow More Food Pamphlet corrected up to 1st July 1946, a copy of which is placed on the table of the Library of the Legislature."

Cost of living index figures.

* 33 Q.—MR. K. O. ANTONY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) who is responsible for compiling the working-class cost of living index figures;

(b) what the staff allotted for this work consists of;

(c) what the basis on which the cost of living index figures are arrived at is;

(d) whether at any time the Government examined the question of revising the basis of the same;

(e) whether Government propose to hold a comprehensive enquiry into the matter; and

(f) if the answer to (e) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will give an opportunity to all interests concerned, viz., Employers' organizations, Trade Union organizations, the Co-operative movement, retail traders, statisticians, etc., to present their point of view?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“(a) The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) is responsible for compiling the working-class cost of living index figures. The Statistical Officer in the Board of Revenue is in charge of the work.

“(b) The work is done in one section of the statistical branch of the Board of Revenue. Four clerks in the section do the work under the supervision of one Superintendent.

“(c) The data obtained as a result of enquiries in the family budgets of industrial workers and low-paid employees have formed the basis for the compilation of the index numbers. The several items of expenditure of a working-class family included in the index have been classified under the groups food, fuel and lighting, clothing, house-rent and miscellaneous and suitable weights have been assigned to the several items in each group on a percentage basis with reference to the average expenditure on each item in the group of a working-class family. Similarly group weights have been

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assigned on the basis of the average expenditure on the different groups of commodities in relation to the total expenditure of a working-class family.

“The base year for the compilation of the index is the year ending 30th June 1936 which is a normal year. The prices of the several items in each group during this year taken as base or 100 and with reference to current market prices, price relatives are worked out for each item in each group. The weighted average of the price relatives in each group is taken as the index for that group. To calculate the general or the composite index a weighted average of the group indices is taken.

“(d) The question of revising the base year was examined in 1941 and again very recently. It was considered undesirable to revise the basis at a time when conditions were abnormal and that the question might be taken up as soon as conditions return to normal.

“(e) It is proposed to conduct fresh family budget enquiries as comprehensively and scientifically as possible as a preliminary to revising the basis of the existing indices when conditions return to normal.

“(f) Yes. They will do so.”

MR. K. O. ANTONY:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state if the weights were fixed before rationing was introduced in regard to certain articles in the Province and whether the basis of the weights have been altered after the statutory rationing was introduced?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The compiling authority would have taken this into account as conditions changed.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“What is the source of information of the compiling authority to prepare the cost of living index?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The information is supplied by Collectors.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Are the Government satisfied that the information supplied in the cost of living index and published in the Gazette week after week is satisfactory? Do they indicate the real state of affairs?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The Government think it more or less indicates the correct position.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Are the Government aware that the Famine Enquiry Commission suggested the appointment of a qualified separate Statistical Officer with separate staff, to whom could be entrusted the study of all aspects, economic and social, progress in the Province and what action was taken on that recommendation?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“Notice is required.”

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MR. K. O. ANTONY :—" Are the Government in a position to say that articles at controlled prices are available for workers in places where they need them? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The articles are expected to be available at controlled prices in places where there is control."

Permits for purchase of cars.

* 34 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : With reference to answer to starred question No. 23 will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) how many more permits have been issued since the question referred to was answered;

(b) whether any revised instructions have been issued to the Motor Transport Controller to regulate the grant of permits;

(c) what steps are taken by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller to satisfy himself that the applicants who possess cars which are either uneconomical or are beyond repairs, are only given permits for the purchase of new cars;

(d) whether persons who possessed cars but had to forego them for reasons beyond their control are given preference in granting permits; and

(e) what is the relief provided to applicants whose need is great but who do not secure permits?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (a) Three hundred and sixty more permits were issued up to 15th January 1947, from 11th September 1946.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to clause (j) of question No. 23.

" (d) The Provincial Motor Transport Controller takes all such circumstances into consideration.

" (e) Permits are issued to those whose need is considered to be greatest. It is not possible to issue permits to all who are in need of a car as the number available is limited."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it the Provincial Motor Transport Controller or the Provincial Government that issues the permits in the City? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The Provincial Motor Transport Controller."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is there any provision by which the aggrieved party may appeal to Government as against the decision of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" There is no general provision, but this may be done by way of a revision petition."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that there is considerable dissatisfaction regarding control and distribution of the motor-cars and whether they have any idea of de-controlling distribution but maintaining the price control? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Now about dissatisfaction the Government is aware of none except some people who have not got a permit are saying that they feel dissatisfied and if that is what is meant by dissatisfaction, that is compulsorily and necessarily involved in a situation like this. Then about de-controlling, that is a point Government may take up at any time and consider it."

MR. K. O. ANTONY :—" Will the Hon. the Minister give an assurance that there is no basis for the common belief that Government are interfering too much with the discretion of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The Government will not interfere because there is already one officer there."

Plantations in the Presidency.

* 35 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of plantations with acreage together with the number of labourers employed in commission under the Factories Act;

(b) what laws, Central and Provincial, are applicable to plantations in the Presidency;

(c) what is the system adopted for recruiting plantation labour;

(d) whether any department of Government exercises any check on the recruitment of labour by plantations;

(e) whether the Government have perused the Rege Committee's Report on plantation labour;

(f) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to give effect to any or all the recommendations of the Rege Committee; and

(g) whether the Government propose to undertake a more comprehensive survey of plantations to study all aspects of life on plantations?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) The number of plantations in this Province is 3,764, acreage is 150,373 acres.

" The number of labourers employed is about 4,760 in 92 factories.

" (b) The Factories Act and the Maternity Benefit Act are applicable to the Plantation Factories. The question of extending the Payment of Wages Act to plantations is under consideration. A notification to that effect has been issued for public criticism.

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" (c) The principal method of recruitment of labour in plantations in South India is through Kanganis working as employers' agents, who are paid advances for securing the necessary labour. The professional labour supplier as a recruiting agent is employed by the coffee estates in Wynaad taluk of Malabar and by many of the labour estates in Malabar.

" The United Planters' Association of Southern India has established a Labour department of its own. Though it is not directly concerned with the recruitment of labour, it registers labour suppliers, and assists in sending up labour.

" (d) No, Sir.

" (e) Yes, Sir.

" (f) The following information is furnished :—

(1) *Adequate wages.*—Legislation for fixing minimum wages for labourers is under the consideration of the Government of India. This matter was discussed at a meeting of the Labour Standing Committee.

(2) *Prohibition of employment of children by legislation.*—The question is under consideration of the Government of India.

(3) *Abolition of the Kangani system and annual settlement of wages.*—With the extension of Payment of Wages Act to plantations under which the maximum wage-period is one month, it is expected that the Kangani system will disappear.

(4) *Improvement of housing conditions.*—The question of housing industrial workers and others workers on a subsidized basis is under the consideration of the Government of India and of this Government. During my visit to the Nilgiris and Wynaad plantations, I impressed upon the planters the imperative need for better housing for plantation labour and for pushing through housing schemes.

(5) *Improvement of medical facilities.*—I brought to the notice of the planters the inadequacy of the medical facilities provided by them for their labourers and suggested the establishment of well-equipped hospitals, for appointment of women doctors, midwives and health inspectors.

(6) *Enactment of a Central Plantation Labour Code.*—Legislation in this regard is under consideration of the Government of India.

(7) *Appointment of labour welfare officers.*—The matter is under consideration.

(8) *Evolution of trade unions.*—The question of registering trade unions of labourers in plantations is under consideration.

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(9) *Provident Fund Scheme.*—This cannot at present be legally enforced. Problems relating to Tea Plantation Labour were discussed at a Tripartite Conference held by the Government of India in New Delhi in January. The question of undertaking legislation for the grant of holidays with pay to workers on plantations and for the grant of maternity benefit and leave to women workers will be considered by Government when the decisions of the Government of India on the conclusions arrived at the Conference are known.

" (g) The Rege Committee has made a comprehensive survey. The Labour Commissioner and I have inspected the plantations. No further survey is proposed to be undertaken at present."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" We are grateful to the Hon. Minister for visiting the plantations and impressing on the planters the need for medical relief and other amenities. What is the procedure, Sir, by which the Government can satisfy themselves that their advice has been accepted by the planters? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" By being in direct contact with the plantations, plantation labour and the planters."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Has the Government sufficient staff to be in touch with the plantations when they have not got sufficient staff to inspect even the factories? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" As already stated, we are thinking of employing additional staff, if necessary."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" After the Central Plantation Labour Code is formulated by the Government of India, if any things are left out and if they come within the purview of the Madras Government, will the Hon. Minister promise to bring in legislation or enforce these reforms by executive action? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" In the Conference that was recently held by the Government of India, all these aspects were discussed and if anything is left out, the Provincial Government will take up the matter."

Cultivation of lands assigned to members of eligible communities.

* 36 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the main reasons for the non-cultivation of lands assigned to the members of the eligible communities are and what steps Government propose to take in order to enable the assignees to make better use of the land;

(b) whether further assignments of lands for the eligible communities is under the consideration of Government; and

(c) if answer to (b) is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to obtain information regarding the nature

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and extent of lands available for assignment and their suitability for cultivation and other relevant facts before making further assignment?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“(a) The following are the main reasons for the non-cultivation of lands assigned to the members of the eligible communities :—

- (1) Poverty of the assignees;
- (2) lack of proper irrigation facilities;
- (3) poor quality of the soil of the lands assigned, the best lands having been already under occupation by others;
- (4) absence of the assignees from the villages;
- (5) reservation of lands for pasture; and
- (6) heavy cost of reclamation of the lands.

“As regards the latter part of clause (a), viz., the steps which the Government propose to take to enable the assignees to make better use of the land, the Commissioner of Labour has been asked to report, in consultation with the Board of Revenue, what steps should be taken to enable the assignees to make better use of the land.

“(b) There is a temporary ban on permanent assignment of land pending consideration of the policy of the Government regarding assignment. The question of lifting this ban is separately under consideration.

“(c) Does not arise.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“The reasons catalogued by the Hon. Minister are repeated year after year in the Administration Report of the Labour Department. May I now appeal to the Government to get the report of the Labour Commissioner as early as possible and see that this portion of the report is not repeated and that something substantial will be done to enable the eligible communities to bring the land assigned to them under cultivation?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“I shall try to do so, Sir.”

Irrigation schemes in Nellore district.

* 37 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the extension of the irrigational facilities afforded by the Gandikota project in Nellore district has been for the present held in abeyance;

(b) whether there are any other irrigation schemes in Nellore district specially pertaining to the scarcity areas in the district which are under consideration;

(c) what the schemes are, the taluks served by them, the acreage likely to be irrigated and other particulars; and

(d) whether any tank restoration schemes are under consideration?

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THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to copy of Press Note^a No. 39, dated 3rd April 1945, on the subject, placed on the Table of the House. The apprehension expressed therein that this project will not benefit Nellore district is confirmed by the detailed investigation which has since been completed. The Chief Engineer (Irrigation) finds that some details connected with the work require further examination and is attending to them but even this may not help the Nellore district.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) A list^b is placed on the Table of the House.

“(d) All the minor basins lying within the Nellore district have been investigated already and memoirs printed.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is proposed to establish any Tank Restoration Divisions in Nellore district?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“We have been considering the question generally, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Will Nellore's needs be taken into account, Sir.”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“Yes, Sir.”

Restoration of Kanchalamma tank in Rayachoti, Cuddapah district.

* 38 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether a scheme for the restoration of Kanchalamma tank in Rayachoti, Cuddapah district, was at any time considered by the Government and if so, in what stage the proposal is?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—“Yes. The scheme was investigated in 1929-1933. After considering the results of the detailed investigation the Government directed in November 1933, that the scheme should be abandoned. The scheme is being re-examined now by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) as a result of certain representations made to Government by the Rayachoti Taluk Congress Committee.”

Cultivation of lands in Vaigai river valley in Madura district.

* 39 Q.—SRI K. NATARAJAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that adjacent to Thiruppuvanam in Madura district, a large extent of land nearly two thousand acres in extent in the Vaigai river valley is available for raising both short-term and long-term crops;

^a Printed as Appendix III (b) on page 169 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix III (a) on page 168 infra.

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(b) whether as regards fertility of the soil, nearness of rail and road communications, and easy availability of electric energy from the Pykara overhead lines, the tract is most suitable for extensive and intensive cultivation;

(c) whether any scheme was submitted to the Government for bringing the lands under cultivation; and

(d) whether any steps were taken for bringing the scheme into effect and if so, what?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—“(a) There is a large extent of wet land covering nearly 2,500 acres in the possession of numerous ryots on the southern bank of the Vaigai river in the Tiruppavanam centre of Ramnad district in the Sivaganga Zamindari. Under the existing conditions, in portions of this area, where there are no wells for lift irrigation, a single crop long duration paddy is raised with the aid of water taken from irrigation tanks which have direct supplies from the Vaigai river. In portions where there are wells, a crop of betel vine, sugarcane and plantain is taken. If the hot weather and the south-west monsoon rains are favourable, a first crop millet, preferably ragi and occasionally cumbu is cultivated during the first-crop season in certain areas. The existing irrigation supplies taken from the Vaigai river are adequate only for one crop of paddy and that too during north-east monsoon period only. In the circumstances the wet land areas in the Tiruppavanam centre are not fit for raising both short-term and long-term crops. But when the irrigation facilities are improved, it may be possible to bring the entire area under extensive and intensive cultivation and raise two crops of paddy and a short crop of a millet mixed with a green manure crop or a pure green manure crop in place of a single crop of paddy;

“(b) Yes.

“(c) Sri M. G. Guruswami Ayyar of Sivaganga has submitted a scheme to the Government for the State cultivation of a compact block of 6,000 acres of wet land including the land mentioned in clause (a) of the question.

“(d) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI K. NATARAJAN :—“May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there are any proposals for improving irrigation facilities so that the crops under harvest may not fail for want of water?”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA :—“The whole area is a zamindari area. Therefore, no proposal is under consideration of the Government now.”

Functions of Publicity and Information Departments.

* 40 Q.—MR. K. O. ANTONY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) what the functions of the Publicity and Information Departments are;

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(b) what the staff employed is and the emoluments prescribed for the staff are;

(c) what publicity work the department has done besides publishing the “Madras Information”;

(d) whether the appointments of Deputy Publicity Officers have been made;

(e) whether applications were called for and appointments made by Government through the Public Service Commission;

(f) whether the claims of members of the existing staff were considered in making new appointments; and

(g) whether it is a fact that one of the Deputy Publicity Officers had been employed in the department on Rs. 200 for two or three months and that he was promoted as a Deputy Publicity Officer overlooking the claims of his seniors in the department; and if so, what the special considerations for giving him such preference are?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—“(a) The Department of Information and Publicity has been set up in order to maintain an intimate and close contact with the press and the public, and to give publicity to the policies and activities of the Government, so as to educate the public on all the ameliorative schemes and nation-building programmes of the Government.

“This department is concerned with the issue of press notes and press communiqués; scrutiny of newspapers in English, published within the Province and outside, in the regional languages of the Province and in Urdu, for bringing to the notice of the Hon. Ministers all important matters as well as reactions of the public to Government measures, both inside and outside the Province; preparation in English as well as in the regional languages, of pamphlets on all matters of importance from the point of view of the public, and their distribution; arrangement of radio and film publicity of all important developmental and nation-building activities of the Government; and publication of a fortnightly magazine called ‘Madras Information’ in English, the regional languages, and Hindustani.

“(b) The following staff is employed in the department :—

- (1) Director of Information and Publicity on Rs. 1,000 on the scale of Rs. 1,000—100—1,200, with a house-rent allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem.
- (2) One Assistant Information Officer on Rs. 300—25/2—400.
- (3) One Assistant Publicity Officer on Rs. 250—15/2—280—20/2—300.
- (4) Two Publicity Assistants on Rs. 150—10/2—200.
- (5) One journalist on Rs. 200.

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- (6) Four journalists on Rs. 150—10/2—200.
 - (7) Nine translators on Rs. 70—100 plus Madras house allowance.
 - (8) One staff photographer on Rs. 150.
 - (9) One artist on Rs. 70—100 per mensem.
 - (10) Two Superintendents on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (11) One accountant on Rs. 100—150.
 - (12) Two upper division clerks on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (13) Four lower division clerks on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (14) Three steno-typists on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (15) Two typists on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (16) Two attenders on Secretariat scales of pay.
 - (17) Eight peons on Secretariat scales of pay.
- “(c) Besides publishing the ‘Madras Information’ this department has issued pamphlets and leaflets on Prohibition, anti-corruption measures, food administration in the Province, Livestock Improvement, Settlement of Labour disputes, Rationing and Irrigation schemes in the Province. This department has, in addition, been doing all the publicity work on behalf of the Food and Civil Supplies Department including issue of advertisement and arranging radio talks on food problems which, previous to the constitution of this department, had a special Public Relations Branch of its own.

“(d) The answer is in the negative..

“(e) to (g) The questions do not arise.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, what is the subsidy that is given to the Hindi Prachar Sabha for printing and publishing the Hindi and Hindustani editions of the ‘Madras Information’ ? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—“ Notice is required.”

Permit to Coimbatore Town bus service.

* 41 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Limited, were refused permit by the Road Traffic Board for Coimbatore Town Service and if so, why was it refused,

(b) whether an appeal was filed by the party affected, to the Central Road Traffic Board and the Government and if so, what the result of the appeal was;

(c) whether it is a fact that on the intervention of the Regional Transport Authority a permit has been granted contravening even the orders of Government and if so, what the authority is which granted this permit; and

(d) what the considerations were which induced that authority to reconsider their own previous decision?

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative. The reasons for refusing the permit were—

- (1) that the company had only 13 primary permits in the district out of 60 buses; that only 50 of the 60 buses were running, and that they had only one spare bus; and
- (2) that the company had given room for complaint lately.

“(b) The Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Limited, filed an appeal to the Central Road Traffic Board and the appeal was dismissed. Against the decision of the Central Road Traffic Board the company preferred a petition to Government which the Government rejected.

“(c) Five temporary permits were granted to the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Limited, by the Regional Transport Authority. The orders of Government were not contravened as the Government had merely rejected the company's petition and this was because they did not think that it had any better claim than those to whom permits had been already granted; and further on a subsequent representation by the company the Government ordered that if any additional bus services were required in Coimbatore town their application for permits may be considered.

“(d) The considerations were—

- (1) the orders of Government mentioned in the answer to clause (c) above;
- (2) the urgent public demand for the increase in the number of buses in the town; and
- (3) buses available with the other companies did not satisfy the conditions which are necessary to permit them to ply on new routes.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ The Hon. Minister said ‘subsequently the Government gave instructions.’ May I take it, Sir, that the Regional Transport Authority granted this temporary permit in spite of the fact that the Government had rejected the appeal? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ The Government rejected the revision petition but on a further application, as I have already stated, decided that in regard to additional bus service in Coimbatore town, the application of the company may be considered.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ My point is whether the Regional Transport Authority granted the temporary permit even before the Government had ordered them to reconsider.”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ Government have no information; it must be after the Government had ordered.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether irrespective of the orders of Government, the Transport Authorities are granting temporary permits even to those whose petitions are rejected by Government? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" That will depend upon the merits of each case; but here I find that only their revision application was rejected by Government and nothing has been stated that they must not be given any permits in future."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, if there is any distinction between temporary permits and permanent permits concerning the powers of the Regional Authority? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" There is. I think temporary permits can be given by the Regional Officer and permanent permits are granted only by the Board."

[At this stage Mr. President occupied the Chair.]

II.—MOTION FOR DEBATE UNDER RULE 14 OF THE COUNCIL RULE.

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" On the subject-matter of question No. 28 which has been answered in this House to-day, I wish that permission be granted by you, Sir, for a debate under rule 14 of the Council Rules. In his reply to question No. 28, the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour has not given me answer I expected to all the points raised in my question but has merely referred me to a communiqué issued long ago. The question is urgent and very important in that it affects very many oil-millers in the area. The question whether the Tungabhadra Industries should be allowed to instal expellers is of vital importance to local oil-millers. That is a matter which has been left to be decided by the Government of Madras. If the decision of the Madras Government is in favour of Birlas installing expellers, the oil manufacturers in that area will suffer very severely. Moreover, all the conditions which the Birlas agreed is that they would take the oil required for their use from the local millers. I wanted specific information on that point and the Hon. Minister has not been able to give information on that point. As you are aware, Sir, I put a short notice question also and I do not know what its fate is. I would like that this question is once and for all discussed as there has been a great deal of apprehension in the minds of the millers. It should be clearly known whether expellers are going to be installed. If expellers are installed in the Birla's factory at Kurnool, the future of the millers in that area is doomed. I, therefore, request that permission be granted for a discussion on that and other points relating to the Tungabhadra Industries under rule 14 of the Council Rules so that the discussion might be taken up after the conclusion of the business of the day."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I have given the information available in the answer to the question. In fact, the short notice question that the hon. Member referred to, was received by me

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and I have definitely stated that the matter is being looked into and at the present moment, I shall not be able to give any more detailed reply than the one in the answer. I can assure the hon. Member that the matter is being looked into and that I shall not be in a position to add anything more in any discussion that takes place under rule 14."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The matter I have raised is one concerning the undertaking given by Birlas agreeing to use oil from local millers. I want information from the Hon. Minister whether that undertaking will be respected and that the Government would insist upon Birla's honouring that undertaking. That is a matter which has been remitted by the Government of India to be decided by the Government of Madras. Naturally we would like to express our view of the matter and get to know the views of the Government on that point, so that the interests of the millers of that area will not be jeopardized."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" In view of what the Hon. Minister says that he has no further information, what is the purpose of the debate? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In all replies of the Government, they will be giving such sort of answers."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I protest. Certainly not."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not think so."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" This is a matter pending with the Government of Madras. All we want is what the decision of Government is on a matter in respect of which Birlas have given an undertaking."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I know when the Government expect to have the information? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I am getting into touch with the authorities concerned. I shall be in possession of information in a fortnight's time."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" In view that, I do not think a discussion is necessary."

III.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House that the following candidates have been nominated for election to the House Committee :—

Sri M. Narayana Menon.
Sri S. Jayarama Reddiyar.
Sri T. Purushottam.

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Sri B. Bhima Rao.

Mr. K. O. Anthoni.

Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib.

As the number of candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, six, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the House Committee.

"In addition to the above, under rule 143 of the Madras Council Rules, I nominate the following two members to be members of the said Committee:—

(1) Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla.

(2) Mr. R. W. Theobald."

GOVERNMENT BILL.

IV.—A BILL TO AMEND THE REMOVAL OF CIVIL DISABILITIES ACT, 1938.

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" Mr. President, I beg to introduce the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1927, and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We have not got copies of the original Act, to which this is an amendment. To follow the discussions on this Bill and to intelligently participate in it, it is necessary."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Surely the hon. Member does not expect me to place original Acts before Members along with amending Bills."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" May I point out, Sir, that any hon. Member is entitled to ask for copies of these Acts if they wanted it and if time would permit. But in this case, it was not difficult for any hon. Member to have consulted original Acts from the Library."

11-45 a.m. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Bill was placed in our hands only yesterday. Being Sunday, it was impossible for any one to refer to the original Act."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not think it is very difficult. It is with some effort that I got this Bill on to the agenda for providing some work for to-day's sittings. If hon. Members feel it difficult to go on with the work, I have no objection to adjourn. I induced the Prime Minister to give this work. If hon. Members really feel that they want time, I have no objection to adjourn the House."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, this Bill was placed in our hands only on Saturday last, and we had not sufficient time

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is with the idea of giving this Council some work to-day that this Bill has been brought. If hon. Members are not anxious to proceed with it, I have no objection to adjourn the House. It is entirely in the hands of the House."

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DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I experience some difficulty to understand the provisions of the Bill, as it refers to a previous Act, which is not readily available."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" All hon. Members are expected to be posted with the provisions of this Act. If the House wants to adjourn I have no objection. It is because this House will have no other work, this Bill, I have arranged, to be brought before this House."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I quite sympathise with you, Sir, . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not want sympathy from Dr. Rajan. I expect an appreciation from him for having found some work for this House."

"On the last day of our sitting I consulted the Hon. the Speaker of the Assembly. He expected to send some work to us. That is why I adjourned the House to to-day. But, as you know, the other House had a lot of discussion on the Public Safety Ordinance, and they could not do any other work. So to provide some work which may be of a non-controversial nature and which can be easily disposed of in this House, this Bill has been brought forward. I would like to know the sense of the House. If you like to have copies of the original Act also, I do not think it is the business of the House to supply copies. But if you really want time, I have no objection to grant. I just want to take the sense of the House."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The original Act contains only one or two sections, of which section 2 is a long one."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Information be pleased to read the whole Act?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" I have no objection, Sir."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" As regards the sitting of this House, I would like to know the time it would take for this House to finish the business, as most of us want to have an idea as to how long we would have to stay in Madras."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I was about to call an informal conference of most Members of this House as soon as to-day's business is over to decide what we should do for the next day, as I do not think the other House has yet sent any work."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We would like to have a spell of a few days, instead of being detained here doing nothing."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I could not get at you. I had a discussion with some other Members, and we came to this tentative conclusion. Day after to-morrow happens to be a non-official day. That is why I was anxious not to adjourn the House to some other day beyond Wednesday. We have a number of resolutions coming up for the non-official day. So, I only thought that Members on

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both sides would like to dispose of non-official business on Wednesday, and then if you like, I am quite agreeable and prepared to give you a short spell."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We thank you for your kind efforts for providing work for this House to-day. But what I feel, Sir, is and I agree with Dr. Rajan, (when he says) that we should be given sufficient time, at least in future, though I am not concerned with the present Bill, as the original Act contains only two sections. It may be in certain cases the amending Bill may refer to a previous Act, copies of which may not be easily available."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I inform the hon. Member that I am quite conscious of what he says, and I would not have put up this Bill for to-day unless I was satisfied . . ."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It was the custom and convention till recently to give copies of Acts where amendments are proposed. There was a Government Order that due to paper shortage that practice might be stopped. I suggest the old practice of printing the relevant sections along with the amending Bill might be resumed now."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"If the Government have no work, they may give us one day more for non-official business." (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We will discuss that after this business is over."

[The Hon. Sri V. Kurmayya then read out the whole of the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938 (Act XXI of 1938).]

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Sir, we are all aware that in spite of the Act XXI of 1938, Harijans have not yet got any right to enter into a coffee hotel or restaurant or meals hotel, and complaints have been received by Government from various districts saying that still they were undergoing lot of social and civic disabilities. When that Act was passed in 1938, some Members put forward the plea that those provisions were not sufficient to enforce hotels and public places to allow Harijans entry into them. After the Congress Government resigned, a press communiqué was issued by the Advisers' Government to the effect that Harijans had no legal right regarding entry into coffee hotels or meals hotels; not only that, in some cases they were not even allowed to draw water from the wells constructed at the cost of the State. Several complaints have been received by the present Government after they assumed office. That means to-day the Harijans are conscious of their political rights. Now, since the popular Government has come into power, they are coming forth with complaints. Government have received complaints also from Harijans in other districts that they were not given soda water when they demanded, e.g., in places like Avanigadda. The Collectors have pointed out to Government that they did not know under which provisions of the Act they should take action against

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people who refused to give soda water and the like. As regards cremation and other things, the House is aware of the case of the cremation of a Harijan boy in Madura. A case was launched by Hindus against the man who took the Harijan boy's dead body to cremate, and he was imprisoned for three months. Later on, the Government remitted the punishment, and the man was let off. Even Municipalities have expressed difficulty in enforcing rights of entry of Harijans into coffee hotels and meals hotels, and more especially the Commissioner of Ootacamund Municipality has sent us a long complaint in this behalf. Government were unable to do anything, and so they thought it better to bring in an amending bill to this Act to enable Harijans to have a legal right, and do some justice to the oppressed and suppressed people. No doubt, Sir, Hindu religion is a great religion. It has great principles of Dharma and Ahimsa. But it has come to degradation because of some customs and usages, consequent on which a large bulk of Hindus, about 7 crores of Harijans, have been treated not just like other Hindus, but as aliens. The Harijans have been all along trying to see that they have some legal rights to enter public places maintained at the subsidy of the Government and also maintained for the general public. Now, as you know, Sir, we are going to have democracy, where the right of every man is to be protected. So, a large section of Hindu community, i.e., 7 crores of Harijans, should not be denied their civil and civic rights. A great province like Madras, which started ameliorative measures for Harijan uplift 25 years back, had not given so far any legal rights to Harijans to enter coffee hotels, meals hotels, and religious institutions. But here the question of religious institutions is not within the purview of the present bill. There are 86 lakhs of Harijans in this Province. On account of the activities of the Labour Department, certain ameliorative measures have been carried on by Government. To-day the Harijans of Madras Presidency are awakened and they want to see that they are treated on an equal footing with the other Hindus. As I said Hindu religion is a great religion. But on account of certain usages and customs, a section of Hindus, namely, Harijans, have been treated worse than dogs and pigs. Now it is the duty of the Popular Government to see that Harijans also are allowed entry into all public places like coffee hotels and meals hotels which are run under licences. I know some people may say that these licences are given to run business and not to serve food or coffee to people whom the licensees do not like. A communiqué issued by the Advisers' Government in 1939 clearly stated that the licences were issued to run business and not to confer legal rights of entry to Harijans into coffee hotels and meals hotels. I pointed out to the then Government that the intention of the Legislators in passing that Act was not that; the intention of the Congress Government was to give legal rights to Harijans. As the Congress was then in jail, we could not do anything except to protest against that communiqué. From the Government records it will

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be seen that there were some complaints from Harijan M.L.As. Messrs. Guruvulu and Kannan, that they were refused admission into hotels and they were refused food. Though they asked food to be brought to their rooms, it was refused. These are the things that have been going on. In India, the Legislature is the highest body which represents the people of the country. So this House cannot allow such a thing to go on in future. The Congress is wedded to that for 25 years by resolution. It was Mahathma Gandhi who started the campaign against untouchability. The Congress passed a resolution at the Lahore session recognizing the fundamental civic rights of Harijans. So it is the duty of a good Government to concede that right to Harijans. You know, Sir, in all Provincial Governments where Congress is now in power, bills recognizing the legal rights of Harijans are being sponsored. Madras holds the proud privilege of having passed an Act as early as 1938 in this behalf. It was left to Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah to introduce that Act. But as there was no sanction behind that Act to enforce its provisions, the present amending bill is brought forward. This Government is anxious to do anything for the uplift of Harijans, and it is why the Hon. the Premier has set apart one crore of rupees in the budget for this cause. I request hon. Members not to oppose this bill but to pass it without any amendment. This bill provides not only for the recognition of the legal right of Harijans but also provides for the punishment of those who refuse to do it. For the first offence a penalty of Rs. 50 is provided, and for the second or subsequent offence a penalty of Rs. 1,000 or six months imprisonment or both is provided. Perhaps this may be a hard case for caste Hindus. All people irrespective of caste, creed or colour are in favour of conferring social and legal rights on Harijans, because we are now struggling for independence; independence means independence even for the poorest man. The rich man may not be able to take the full benefit thereof, but it is the poorest man who can develop fully in an independent country. So it is the duty of every Hindu to support this bill. In the bill we have made the offence a cognisable offence so that the Police by themselves can take action as otherwise a Harijan, being poor, would find it difficult to go to a Court of law to enforce his legal rights.

"With these few words, I move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, every one in this House, I daresay, will welcome this Bill. I would say it is too late in the day it has been brought forward."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I hope it is not too late."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"Never late."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Too late to oppose."

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Every Muslim will support the principles of this Bill. Every Muslim believes in the equality of all human beings. It is indeed very pathetic to hear from the Hon. Minister who moved this Bill that a section of human beings is being treated worse than dogs and pigs, by another section."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"How can you pronounce the word 'Pigs'?" (Laughter).

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—"I did not use that word at all."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"It is really pathetic and unfortunate that dogs and pigs should have access to places where human beings reside, but not a certain section of human beings. As a Muslim, Sir, I am very glad that such a measure is being brought forward. As you know, Sir, we Muslims do believe not only in the equality of mankind but also in the brotherhood of humanity. We want that all human beings should be treated alike, and that they should receive all rights that any human being is entitled to. But, in the Bill, as brought forward, there are certain ambiguities and vagueness to be rectified. Therefore, I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I second it."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"Sir, I would like to point out that in view of several amendments given notice of, Government have no objection to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. But in view of the very short time we have at our disposal, we may take up this Bill after passing through Select Committee tomorrow or Thursday next."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"In view of the fact that we have no sitting this afternoon, I think the Select Committee can finish its work today and the Bill might be brought before this House tomorrow."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"As the Assembly meets tomorrow this House can meet at 5-30 p.m. tomorrow, and as this is only a short Bill, we can finish the business tomorrow itself."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"I move—

that the Bill to amend the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members :—

- (1) The Hon. Sri V. Kurmayya.
- (2) The Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam.
- (3) Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao.
- (4) Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.

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- (5) *K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.*
- (6) *Sri K. Madhava Menon.*
- (7) *Sri N. Ranga Reddi.*
- (8) *Dr. V. K. John.*
- (9) *Sri N. Ramabhadra Raju.*
- (10) *Sri H. M. Jagannatham.*
- (11) *Sri M. Narayana Menon."*

The motion was adopted.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I nominate the Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam as Chairman of the Committee."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 5-30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 11th February 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 26 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 10th February 1947, page 133 supra.]

RULES DEFINING THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES APPOINTED FOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

1. The advisory committee is constituted in order to keep the Surgeon-General and the Government informed as to the needs of the hospital as viewed by the public. The entire supervision and management of the institution and its establishments will be in the hands of the medical officer in charge subject to the control of the Surgeon-General and the Government. The committee shall be an advisory body with no executive authority.

2. The composition of the committee shall ordinarily be as follows :—

(a) District Headquarter Hospitals—

- (1) The Collector.
- (2) The President, District Board (when a non-official).
- (3) The District Medical Officer.
- (4) The Executive Engineer.
- (5) The Chairman, Municipal Council, in the case of municipal towns (when a non-official).
- (6) A second representative of the Municipal Council.
- (7) A second representative of the district board.
- (8) Two members, preferably ladies nominated by the Government.

NOTE.—Individual members of the Legislature may be appointed as members of the advisory committees on the recommendation of the Collector and the Surgeon-General; any member so appointed will take the place of the second representative of the municipal council or the district board as may be specified in each case.

(b) Hospitals, at Divisional centres—

(1) The Revenue Divisional Officer, or if the station is not the headquarters of the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Tahsildar, or Deputy Tahsildar or an officer of the Judicial Department not in rank than District Munsif if one is available.

(2) The Chairman, Municipal Council, or the president, panchayat, as the case may be. In the case of Government medical institutions at divisional centres which are outside municipal or panchayat areas, a non-official member of the district board elected for the circle in which the institution is situated.

(3) Local Public Works Department officer, if one is employed in the station (vide note below).

(4) The Medical Officer-in-charge.

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(5) Sub-Registrar.

(6) & (7) Two non-officials, of whom one should, if possible, be a lady, to be nominated by the Government.

NOTE.—If no Public Works Department, officer is employed in the station his place will be taken by another non-official gentleman nominated by the Government.

3. (1) The representatives elected by the municipal council and the district board need not necessarily be members of the respective bodies. An elected member shall hold his appointment for three years and shall be eligible for re-election. Women shall be eligible as members of the advisory committee. The assistant to the District Medical Officer in the case of district headquarter hospitals and the medical officer-in-charge in the case of hospitals at divisional centres shall discharge the duties of Secretary of the committee and shall attend all meetings of the committee.

(2) If nominated member is absent from the station for a period of more than three months reckoned from the date of the commencement of his/her term of office or of the last meeting which he/she attended, or if within the said period of three months, less than three meetings have been held, absents himself/herself from three consecutive meetings held after the said date, the member shall be considered to have vacated his/her seat on the committee, unless his/her absence from the station or from the meetings as the case may be is condoned by the Government.

4. The committee shall meet as often as may be necessary for the discussion of topics of interest and importance connected with the hospital. The meetings shall be convened by the Secretary under the orders of the Collector, Divisional Officer or Tahsildar as the case may be. It will be open to any member of the committee to forward to the Collector, Divisional Officer or Tahsildar any remarks or suggestions which he may have to make or which he may desire to have discussed at a meeting of the committee.

5. The Collector, Divisional Officer or Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar or District Munsif shall preside at the meetings; but in his absence the members present shall elect a chairman for the meeting. Four members shall form a quorum.

5-A. If at a meeting convened under rule 4 there is no quorum as fixed in rule 5, the meeting can be adjourned to a specified date; and for such an adjourned meeting three members shall form a quorum.

6. All suggestions and recommendations for the improvement of the hospital and for the welfare of the patients shall be brought before the committee for consideration and decision by a majority. In any case of equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

7. The minutes of the proceedings of the committee shall be recorded in a book and shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting.

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8. All recommendations of the committee shall be forwarded to the District Medical Officer for necessary action. A copy of the minutes of each meeting shall also be communicated to the Surgeon-General for information.

9. The District Medical Officer shall carry out the recommendations of the committee as far as practicable. If he cannot accept their recommendations, he should refer the matter to the Surgeon-General for orders.

10. The committee may check hospital accounts, the stock of medicines, furniture, etc., at such of the meetings as it thinks fit. The checking shall be done in the presence of the medical officer or other member of the staff who is responsible for the charge of the accounts or the articles which are being checked.

11. Individual members of the committee may arrange with the medical officer in charge to visit the hospital at any time during working hours and may record in the visitors book any remarks and suggestions they may wish to make.

RULES DEFINING THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES APPOINTED FOR GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS IN THE MADRAS CITY.

The Advisory Committee is constituted in order to keep the Surgeon-General and the Government informed as to the needs of the hospital as viewed by the public. The entire supervision and management of the institution and its establishments will be in the hands of the Superintendent-in-charge subject to the control of the Surgeon-General and the Government. The Committee shall be an advisory body with no executive authority.

2. The Committee shall ordinarily consist of four ex-officio members including the Superintendent and the matron of the hospital and seven nominated members of whom three may preferably be ladies. These numbers may, however, be varied by the Government at their discretion in individual cases. In the case of women and children's hospitals, lady members may be appointed as far as possible.

3. A nominated member shall hold appointment for three years, but shall be eligible for re-nomination.

If a nominated member is absent from the station for a period of more than three months reckoned from the date of the commencement of his/her term of office or of the last meeting which he/she attended, or if within the said period of three months, less than three meetings have been held, absents himself/herself for three consecutive meetings held after the said date, the member shall be considered to have vacated his/her seat on the Committee, unless his/her absence from the station or from the meetings as the case may be is condoned by the Government.

4. The Committee shall choose one of its members as the President who shall hold office for the period of his or her membership.

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The Resident Medical Officer of the hospital shall be the Secretary of the Committee and shall attend all meetings of the committee. In the absence of the President, the members present shall elect one of the members to preside at the meeting. Five members shall form a quorum.

5. (i) The Committee shall meet as often as may be necessary for the discussion of topics of interest and importance connected with the hospital. The meeting shall be convened by the Secretary under the orders of the President. It will be open to any member of the Committee to forward to the President any remarks or suggestions which he or she may have to make or which he or she may desire to have discussed at a meeting of the Committee.

(ii) The lady members of the Advisory Committee shall, with the approval of the Committee, form themselves into a sub-committee for doing social work among nurses. The sub-committee should confine its activities purely to social work among the nurses and should not deal with questions relating to their service.

6. All suggestions and recommendations for the improvement of the hospital and for the welfare of the patients shall be brought before the Committee for consideration and decision by a majority. In any case of equality of votes, the President shall have a second or casting vote.

7. The minutes of the proceedings of the Committee shall be recorded in a book and shall be signed by the President or the member who presides at the meeting.

8. All recommendations of the Committee shall be forwarded to the Superintendent of the hospital for necessary action. A copy of the minutes of each meeting shall also be communicated to the Surgeon-General for information.

9. The Superintendent of the hospital shall carry out the recommendations of the Committee as far as practicable. If he or she cannot accept their recommendations, the matter should be referred to the Surgeon-General for orders.

10. The Committee may check hospital accounts, the stock of medicines, furniture, etc., at such of the meetings as it thinks fit. The checking shall be done in the presence of the medical officer or other member of the staff who is responsible for the charge of the accounts or the articles which are being checked.

11. Individual members of the Committee may arrange with the medical officer in charge to visit the hospital at any time during working hours and may record in the visitors' book any remarks and suggestions they may wish to make.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 28 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 10th February 1947, page 136 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC (P. & D.) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS NOTE No. 123.

Fort St. George, dated 18th September 1946.

The following note has been issued by the Director of Information and Publicity, Government of Madras:—

The attention of the Government of Madras has been drawn to certain statements and comments in a section of the Madras Press about the location of a Hydrogenation Factory at Kurnool by Birla Brothers. In view of the misapprehension that these statements and comments are calculated to produce in the public mind, Government desire to publish the following facts which should clarify the position in that connection.

It is not a fact that this Government granted or recommended the grant of any licence to Birlas. As Birlas placed orders for two Vanaspathi plants in England before the Government of India introduced the scheme for the registration of imported capital goods in December 1944, they were entitled to import the machinery. Further, under section 298 of the Government of India Act, 'no subject of His Majesty domiciled in India shall on grounds only of religion, place of birth, descent, colour or any of them shall . . . be prohibited on any such grounds from acquiring, holding or disposing of property or carrying on any occupation, trade, business or profession in British India. In view of the peremptory provisions of this section Birlas cannot in fact be prevented from putting up their factory anywhere in British India. It must be further clearly understood that the allocation to Birlas does not cut into the Vanaspathi quota of 21,000 tons allotted to this Province by the Government of India.

In May 1945, the Government of India stated that their immediate plan was to increase the All-India production of vegetable ghee to the extent of a lakh of tons a year and that in that scheme the quota reserved for Madras was 21,000 tons and proposals were invited for implementing the plan. The Madras Government then selected seven firms or persons and recommended their names to the Government of India. The names of the companies which have been recommended for the purpose are—

- (1) The Vizagapatam Vegetable Oil Products, Limited.
- (2) The Madras Vanaspathi, Limited, Villupuram.
- (3) Messrs. Sundarasan Oil Mills, Limited, Katpadi.

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(4) Bharat Vanaspathi Manufacturing Company, Tadepalli.

(5) Messrs. Karnatak Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, Hospet, Bellary.

(6) The Vegetols, Limited, Chittoor.

(7) Messrs. The East Asiatic Company, Madras.

The Government of India accepted this Government's recommendations and granted the necessary licences for the import of machinery and issue of capital. Subsequently the Government of India allotted a further quota of 9,000 tons under the immediate expansion scheme and that enabled three of the companies already selected to establish factories of 20 tons daily capacity instead of 10 tons. Under the immediate expansion scheme only one company, i.e., Messrs. The Karnatak Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, Hospet, was granted an import licence by the Government of India to import the necessary machinery for running a ten-ton daily capacity Vanaspathi factory.

In 1944-45, the Ceded Districts produced about 675,400 tons of groundnuts or about a third of the total production of the Province. There were only 128 expellers while at least 250 expellers are necessary for converting the entire produce of the Ceded Districts into oil and cake. Further the Karnatak Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, can consume only a little over three thousand tons of oil per annum as against the total oil production of the Ceded Districts of about two lakhs of tons per annum. There is, therefore, vast scope for the expansion of the Vanaspathi as well as oil crushing industry in the Ceded Districts. This Government are willing to consider sympathetically applications for the establishment of new Vanaspathi factories in the Ceded Districts when further quota is allotted to the Province by the Government of India.

Birlas originally wanted to build a Vanaspathi factory in Guntur district. The Advisers' Government after correspondence and personal discussion with Birlas' representatives suggested that instead of having their factory in Guntur district they may have it in Nandyal or Kurnool.

Subsequently this Government learnt that they were endeavouring to install the plant in Sandur State. Messrs. Karnatak Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, Hospet, complained to this Government that the establishment of a large factory in the State would adversely affect their small factory in Hospet and that this Government should take steps to prevent Birlas from setting up their factory as contemplated.

At this state the representatives of Birlas again discussed the matter with this Government, and the Government having considered all aspects of the matter came to the conclusion that the

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establishment by Birlas of a large Vanaspathi factory in an Indian State within the Province would be against the interests of the Province for the following reasons :—

(1) That the Province has a very large exportable surplus of groundnut kernels and groundnut oil;

(2) That the capacity of Birlas' factory is outside the quota allotted to this Province;

(3) That by locating their factory in an Indian State, Birlas will, while using the groundnut oil of this Province, deprive its people of advantages which could have accrued to the Province by the establishment of a large-scale industry such as employment of labour, better prices for the local groundnut grower, income from Sales tax to the Province and Income-tax to British India;

(4) That the Karnatak Vegetable Oils and Refineries, Limited, have found it difficult to raise their capital inside the Ceded Districts; and

(5) That by allowing the location inside the Province, Birlas can be persuaded to co-operate instead of competing with the other small factories proposed to be established in the Province.

Government are glad to be able to announce that subsequently Birlas have agreed to float a Joint Stock Company in which half the shares will be reserved for the people of this Province and that in respect of sales of Vanaspathi they will co-operate with the smaller units instead of competing with them. They have also agreed to limit their Managing Agency Commission for a large plant like theirs to 10 per cent of the net profits and an office allowance of Rs. 1,000 per mensem, which they will not draw until the factory commences production. They have further agreed to purchase groundnut oil from local millers.

The Government of Madras make it clear that their objective to encourage local enterprise and capital has not undergone any change and that preference will be given to local enterprise and capital at all times in the starting of new industries, regard being had to the interests of the Province.

C. V. HANUMANTHA RAO,
Director of Information and Publicity.

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APPENDIX III

[Vide answer to starred question No. 37 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 10th February 1947, page 147 supra].

(a) List of Irrigation schemes under consideration in the scarcity areas in Nellore district.

Serial number.	Taluk.	Name of the scheme.	Approximate cost of the scheme.	Area likely to be benefited.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4) RS. (LAKHS).	(5) ACS.	(6)
1	Kanigiri ..	Makkeru and Penugodu projects forming a reservoir of about 130 m.c.ft. This is to benefit Penugodu, Kanchipuram and Garlapeta villages.	5.60	831	..
2	Udayagiri.	Improvements to Kampasamudram tank and excavating a supply channel from Boggeru.	Not available.		Results of gaugings are awaited.
3	Do.	Mandipad village forming a tank across Chinnavagu and excavating a supply channel from Nerelia-vagu.	0.76	300	Further particulars are awaited.
4	Do.	Boggeru project ..	12. 0	Not available.	Gauge readings of the Boggeru river are being taken.
5	Do.	Gandipalem project ..	25. 0	3,000 (wet) or 9,000 (dry)	To be considered later.
6	Do.	Improving the supply to Ramanayadupalli tank and restoration of anicut across the Boggeru.	0.71	274	Report awaited from the local officers.
7	Do.	Forming a tank across Uppuvagu at Nak-kalegondil.	..	..	Results of gauge readings are being examined.
8	Do.	Restoration of the abandoned tank of Guruvadi.	0.39	..	..
9	Atmakur and Udayagiri.	Bhimavaram and Nalligonda Projects. Formation of a tank across Chintalapalli and a reservoir across Carlavagu.	..	..	Preliminary investigation completed.
10	Kavali ..	Uppateru Scheme ..	1.48	943	Plans and estimates under examination
11	Do. ..	Improvement to Gudavalur branch channel to provide irrigation facilities to the land under the channel.	0.17	1,290	Further report from the S.E. is awaited.
12	Do. ...	To excavate a supply channel from Pillaperu anicut—Chintaladevi and Veligandla villages—land colonisation schemes.	0.32	360	Under consideration.

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(b) Copy of Press Note No. 39, dated 3rd April 1945, from the Government of Madras, Public Works Department.

GANDIKOTA PROJECT.

Unauthorized reports have appeared in the Press as to the scope of the Gandikota Reservoir Scheme on the Pennar now under investigation by a Special Public Works Department Division. This note is intended to explain the position.

The Scheme was originally expected to irrigate an area of 2½ lakhs of acres in Cuddapah and Nellore districts, as it was anticipated on the basis of records of flow at Adinimayapalli Anicut, that about 34,000 m.c. feet of water per annum might be available for the Scheme. But actual gaugings of the river at the Reservoir site have shown that the total flow at the site in the year (1944) was less than 15,000 m.c. feet and hence, the capacity of the proposed reservoir will have to be reduced to about a lakh of acres. The matter is under examination and a decision on the point would be possible by about the end of May. If, as is very likely, the Scheme has to be restricted to utilize about 15,000 m.c. feet only, it will be necessary to limit the irrigation under the scheme and give preference to the Cuddapah District. The question will then be examined whether water may be impounded lower down the river for the irrigation of areas in the Nellore District.

