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**MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
DEBATES**

OFFICIAL REPORT

MONDAY, 3RD JUNE 1946

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 3rd June 1946.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

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

MOTION RE FOOD AND CLOTH SITUATION IN THE PROVINCE—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on the cloth situation will continue."

ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is there a quorum, Mr. Speaker?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is a quorum."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members of this House have already covered many of the points that I wanted to touch upon. I see from the statement of the Provincial Textile Commissioner that thanks to our handloom industry, which is the largest and most efficient industry in India, there is and can be no cloth famine in the literal sense of the word in this Province. Sir, if that is the case, how is it that we are so badly off in cloth? Madras is a surplus Province and yet we are not able to get from the Government of India as much of yarn as we really want. I believe the Provincial quota is 21,000 bales and out of this we get only 15,000. Naturally we are not in a position to supply the necessary yarn to the handloom weavers. I understand that there are at least five lakhs of handlooms in this Province and they work only for ten days in the month. Mr. Town observed the other day what an enormous difference it would make in the out-turn of cloth if there was a reduction in the hours of work to 48 hours a week. Now look at the way in which the handloom business is treated here. Five lakhs looms lying idle for 20 days in a month! What does this mean by way of waste of human labour and loss in cloth production? The Provincial Textile Commissioner cannot do anything because every time he has to approach the Government of India which is a big machinery to deal with. Sir, we must agitate and agitate and try to get at least 50 per cent of the yarn output here so that we may have the satisfaction of giving more work to the weavers. I know, Sir, the weavers are not affected because the master-weaver is in charge of a number of handlooms and he pays the weavers for all days in a month. But to make the price of handloom cloth fairly cheap and reasonable, we ought to reimburse the master-weaver. Otherwise he adds the amount he pays to the weavers to the price of the cloth that is produced and no wonder the price of handloom cloth is prohibitive."

"Next, Sir, I believe the Government have been advising people to convert cotton areas into food crop areas, that is to say, people who are growing cotton are asked to divert their lands to

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[Sri P. Natesan]

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the production of food crops. Sir, cotton crops can be raised only in dry lands and these lands will not be suitable for cultivation of foodstuffs; the result is we will produce neither food nor cotton.

"Then, Sir, I understand that the distribution of dyes is not being done effectively and that it is in the hands of one particular firm. They have their own likes and dislikes. I should like the Ministry to look into this matter and see that the distribution is equitably made.

"Then, Sir, there are a lot of complaints about the issue of licences. They may be true or may not be true. I understand that licences are issued for cloth and yarn to persons who are really not in the trade, like clerks, retired Government servants, etc., etc., who have no other object but to make money by the difference in prices prevailing at different places, and it is a matter which I want the Ministry to look into.

"Then, Sir, I want to say a word or two about the long-range policy. I believe that long-staple cotton is being imported by mill owners here and I also understand that the Government in England is having the full say in the distribution of staple cotton to India. Perhaps an attempt can be made to grow more long-staple cotton in India also. There is, I believe, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research which has been doing research for a long time and it will be very useful if the Government of Madras will take the matter up with the Government of India so that this long-staple cotton may be grown in this country on a big scale.

"Then, Sir, I am not sure if it would be possible for the Government to take up the question of starting the Choolai Mills here, and to see whether something can be done effectively to reduce the present shortage of mill cloth. The Government have been trying to do what business people are doing and it would be worthwhile if they could do something to take over the Choolai Mills. There is ample labour available here and yet we are suffering from cloth shortage. If any attempt is to be made, it can only be made by the Government, and the present Ministry being a popular Ministry should see that something is done in the matter.

"Sir, I have nothing more to say except what I have said the other day, viz., that the merchants are anxious to help the Ministry as much as possible. The Hon. the Premier made a very impressive speech when he wound up the food debate. He was describing the conditions of people in the villages in the olden days. He said how the panchayats were working admirably in those days and how the villages were administered by them. But the villager of 1846 is not the villager of 1946. Now he knows much more about the conditions in the world. In the olden days he had no transport nor any other facilities to market his produce. To-day he is a much wiser man and can see things for himself. I have therefore no objection to the Hon. the Premier making his

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experiment for an equitable distribution of cloth by putting his scheme in charge of the village committees, taluk committees and district committees. But, Sir, I should like to ask the Hon. the Premier if he will kindly let the House know, whether he went into the question of the financial commitment as a result of his proposals. I consider that if all these Committees and Members of the Legislative Assembly and non-officials are entrusted with the work, it should mean a very large expenditure and I am not sure if this expenditure will be commensurate with the work turned out by them. I would therefore request the Hon. the Premier to tell us how much approximately he expects to spend on this organization, and when he is going to give effect to his scheme. I certainly think that the House will be interested to know what exactly are the financial implications of the proposal and I therefore request the Hon. the Premier to give us the benefit of his advice and to tell us exactly how he is going to tackle the financial aspect of it. I have nothing more to say except to thank the Hon. the Premier for the excellent scheme he has placed before us."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“అధ్యక్షా! 1937 వ సంవత్సరంలో ఈ సభ సూతనముగా స్థాపన అయినప్పుడు మాతృభాషలోనే ఇక్కడ చర్చలన్ని జరుగవలసినది తీర్మానించేమి. కాబట్టి అధ్యక్షులవారిని మాతృభాషలో మాట్లాడడానికి శలవు ఇవ్వవలసినది కోరుచున్నాను. రెండు వేల సంవత్సరములనుంచి భారతదేశములో తినడానికి అన్నము, కట్టుడానికి గుడ్డ లేదానే ఊనాటి అపూర్వ కళంకములేదు. తినడానికి అన్నము, కట్టుడానికి గుడ్డ లేదానే ఊనాటి అపూర్వ కళంకములేదు. దాతృత్వమునకు అలవాటుపడ దేశము మనది. దేశాన్ని మనీషన్ కు, ప్రకాశం, దాతృత్వమునకు అలవాటుపడ దేశము మనది. దేశాన్ని మనీషన్ కు, ప్రకాశం, పాండురు, వరసన్న పేట సన్న బట్టలకు ప్రసిద్ధిచెందింది. మన బట్టలు పాతాత్య దేశములకు వెళ్ళునూ ఉండేవి. మన మద్రాసు, పెన్సిల్వేనియాకి ఎంతో మంచి భాగి దేశములకు వెళ్ళునూ ఉండేవి. మన మద్రాసు, పెన్సిల్వేనియాకి ఎంతో మంచి భాగి వచ్చింది అప్పటిలో. ఇప్పుడు ఈవిధముగా గుడ్డ కొరత వచ్చుటకు కారణము ఏమిటి? నిజముగా ఎప్పుడైతే మన రాష్ట్రం, కదురు మూలకడినలో అప్పుడే మన దేశానికి దర్శిదం పట్టింది. కాబట్టి ఆ రెండు పునరుద్ధరించడం కాలా మంచిది. మన Textile Officer గారు చెప్పిన మాటలు కాలామట్టుకు నిజమే. నూలు విషయంలో మనది surplus రాష్ట్రం గాని మన చేనేత పార్శిశామికులకు నూలు చాలడంలేదు అంటూ భన్నాడు. Central Government నారు విమంతురంటే, యావత్ భారతదేశానికి సరియయిన ప్రాపొర్షనులో ఇచ్చేము అంటారు గాని ఎవరి కెంత అవసరమో చూసి సరిగ్గా ఇవ్వలేదు. కాబట్టి ఇప్పుడు ఉన్న నూలు సరై సక్రమముచేసి వారందరికి పని సరిగ్గా ఇవ్వలేదు. కాబట్టి ఇప్పుడు ఉన్న నూలు సరై సక్రమముచేసి వారందరికి పని కల్పించే కాధ్యక్ష మహామీద ఉంది. ఈ విషయంలో మన ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు గ్రామాల స్వయంపోషకము ఉండేట్లు చూడవలసినదని చెప్పి ఉన్నారు. ప్రతివానికి అన్న వస్త్రములు కలిగి ప్రతీకదానికివీలు అయ్యేట్లు చేయవలసినది. అఖిల భారత వరఖా సంఘము, విలేజ్ reconstruction సంఘములు పని చేసేందుకు నేను కొన్ని సూచనలను చేస్తున్నాను. దయచేసి ఈ ప్రభుత్వంవారు సత్వరంగా ఆలోచించ వలసినది నేను కోరుచున్నాను:—

“(1) మనదేశంలో ఇప్పుడు మన రాష్ట్రములో ఒక మిలియను కుటుంబాలు చేనేతవి ఉన్నవి. రోజుకు ఒక చిలక వడికితే మనకు కోటి గజములు గుడ్డ తయారు కాగలదు. ఒక్కొక్కరు ఒక చిలక ఇస్తే కావలసినంత గుడ్డ తయారుకాగలదు. నేనాచకులకు కాగా పనిచూడాలి కలగవలసియుండును. యంత్రముల నూలు అవసరం లేకుండా బట్ట తయారుచేసుకోవచ్చును.

[Sri D. V. Ramaswami] [3rd June 1946]

“(2) గవర్నమెంటు పన్నులు వసూలు చేసినపుడు ఎవరైనా చిలపలు ఇవ్వగలిగినట్లైతే చిలప య. 0-2-6 చొప్పున ధర కట్టి సస్తులకు బదులుగా పుచ్చుకోవచ్చును. అవిధముగా నూలు పొగు అవుతుంది. ఇది ప్రజలకు అనుకూలముగా ఉండవచ్చును.

“(3) సస్తులకు బదులు ఇవ్వడంకాకుండా ఎవరైనా ఎక్కువ నూలు ఇస్తే వారికి special సదుపాయములు కల్పించవలయును. ఇలాగ చేస్తే ప్రజలకు ఎక్కువ ప్రోత్సాహకరముగా ఉంటుందని నా నునవి.

“(4) గ్రామ కమిటీలు ఏర్పాటు చెయ్యడంలో గ్రామాలలో తగువులు ఉన్నవి. కాబట్టి అధిమానముగ పనిచెయ్యరు అని చాలామంది నేనే హితులు hon. members చెబుతున్నారు. గ్రామంలో ఉండేవారు ముఖ్యముగా కరణం, ముససలు. వారు ఇప్పుడు జీతములు ఎక్కువ కావాలంటున్నారు. కాని నిజముగా వారికి కావలసినది జీతము కాదు. వారిని ఎక్కువ గౌరవముగా చూడవలయును. ఇది వారికి చాలును. వారు ఈ కమిటీలలో ఉంటే చాలా సహాయం చెయ్యగలరు.

“అంతేకాకుండా Agricultural, Industries Departments ఉన్నవి. వారు ఎప్పుడు ఏ ప్రకారముగా చేస్తే పంటలు ఎక్కువ అవగలవు. నూలు ఎక్కువగా తయారుకాగలదు, వారే తయారుచేసి ప్రజలకు దూపించవలయును. అప్పుడు మిల్లుల మీద నెంట్లలు గవర్నమెంటుమీద ఆధారపడ నక్కరలేదు. మన నేషనలు గవర్నమెంటు, కాంగ్రెసు గవర్నమెంటు ఆగ్రెకల్చరిస్టులమీద అధిమానముతో పనిచెయ్యవలయును అని నేను సవనయముగా మన ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారికి విన్నవిస్తున్నాను.”

* MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Pakistan Zindabad. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has become the fashion in this House to criticize the regime of the Advisers, but what has the Government that has been in existence for the last one month done? In the speeches of the Leader of the House and in the literature that has been circulated to us we do not find any actual work done in relation to cloth so far. The debate on this subject is expected to conclude with a reply by the Hon. the Leader. I would request him to tell us and the country what his Ministry has done in the past month. We were invited to come here for a short sitting. The meeting had dragged on and we have in our hands proposals for the constitution of village committees. I want to ask the Government what they have done, after wasting so much time? Have they moved their little finger in the direction of improving the cloth situation? Again, Sir, our Ministers have been touring the country and talking about this and that without understanding each other. I have in mind two such talks, one by the Hon. Mr. Giri and the other by the Hon. Mr. K. Bhashyam. The latter is understood to have stated that, if there was corruption among the officers, the public also were responsible; they were also guilty in the matter. Here, in this House we complain of corruption in the country and the Ministers on their tours tell the public that the public are also responsible for corruption. I wish that the Ministers have a co-ordinated policy for their talks in their travels.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Mr. Speaker, on a point of information, may I know . . .”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I rise to a point of order. I want to know whether anybody can get up and ask for information in the middle of a speech.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Member who rose first has not interrupted the speaker.”

* SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, I understood Hon. the Speaker to say that there must not be any speech or discussion in relation to black-marketing and corruption.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Mr. Salam was not referring to black-markets. He will please go on with his speech.”

* MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Even after one month the Ministry has come forward only with draft proposals for distribution. There is not a word said on the floor of this House, or in the literature published about the production of yarn or about the production of cloth. The sole concern of the Ministry has been with distribution. Distribution there was, distribution there will be and distribution there shall be. What about production, Sir, I ask this popular Ministry.

“We have with us the statement furnished by the Textile Commissioner. The very tone of it is dogmatic. It does not look like a proposal submitted to a popular House, a democratic Assembly. The Textile Commissioner's statement looks like a report submitted to his officers. He is so sure of his facts that he asserts that rationing is not possible and the Ministers who have taken charge of the administration have not been able to make him take a different view.

“Now, the proposals put forward by the Ministry do not contain any plans for the future production. Speaking from the Opposition I suggest that there must be two policies to meet the cloth situation. We must have a short-range policy as well as a long-range policy. You are arranging for the distribution of cloth through the village committees. What are you going to do for the erection of more textile mills in our presidency? If you will depute one of your Ministers to America or England to buy textile machinery and start more factories in our presidency and compete with the mills managed by Mr. Town, we will congratulate you and the country will congratulate you. We cannot go back. We cannot follow your philosophy. We cannot accept your village committees, based on the bullock-cart mentality of the Congress.

“As regards the short-range policy, I commend for the acceptance of the House the amendment of our Party Leader that cloth rationing should be immediately introduced. Hon. Members of the European Group or of the Independent party, might move amendments congratulating you on your achievements. You know the value of their stock. One of the Members of this House—the Leader of the European Group—was provoked to say that there is no civic consciousness or civic ideas among Indians or in India. I say, Sir, taking more salary than is due is also a kind of black-market operation. (Laughter.) If a man

[Muhammad Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur] [3rd June 1946]
has to be paid Rs. 1,000 for his work and the concern pays him Rs. 5,000 for it, it is a black-market price paid to him as director or as manager. I know it is very difficult for a Member of the European or Independent party to support our simple proposition regarding rationing. The leader of the Independent party, who was a Minister for some time on the plea that His Majesty's Government must be carried on, has chosen to give his support to the Ministry. Whether of the European Group or of the Independent Group, their Members know how to set their sails to suit the prevailing weather. (An hon. Member 'Are you speaking of politics or of philosophy?') I am speaking of politics."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Of cloth rationing please."

* MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"These groups are not supporting the amendments moved by the Muslim League party. There seems to be an unholy alliance, the European Group no longer playing an important part in the business of this House."

"Sir, this year is a deficit year both as regards cloth and food. Now we have in our midst large numbers of the military personnel with nothing to do. As military matters are the concern of the Central Government, may I request the Hon. the Premier to correspond with the Central Government to remove them from our midst so that both the food and cloth situation may ease a bit?"

"The country expects immediate and urgent action in the matter of cloth, not only in distribution but also in production and we expect the Ministry, instead of wasting its time and energy in petty party politics, to do its best at this critical period."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I listened to this debate on cloth with interest not unmixed with some amusement. Mr. Town made an excellent speech the other day the seasoned technician that he is. But he gave a sombre setting to the beginning and also to the end of his speech predicting with certainty a fall in production and a deficit running into millions of yards. Another member warned us against strikes. A third member would have us wait at the gates of the mills; a fourth added the woes of the dead to those of the living; a fifth, finding nothing else, lashed himself into unnecessary fury against the officials of the department some of whom bear the highest character and integrity I know of and indulged in bachelor's dreams of becoming a Prime Minister himself. Nobody gave the subject a cheerful setting, nobody gave it a note of confidence. I come forward on behalf of a small Association—it is called a child but it is fast growing into adolescence—with an offer of a crore of yards of cloth within the end of this year provided the Government will fulfil certain conditions. I do not mind mill cloth being muddled through, but I cannot certainly look on if khadi is muddled. Khadi is based on the new economics which is not the science of wealth as it formerly used to be, but the science of full and wholesale employment for all the people of this country, whether it be

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to fill under-employment or unemployment during certain seasons. Prices need not matter because, in modern economics, prices are not dependent on laws of competitive markets or on exchange, but are dependent on the order of the State and State intervention.

"Now let me make a positive contribution. We are to-day in the 12 districts of Taminad providing for a class of 2 lakhs of people and one lakh more is taking its cloth by exchanging its own yarn for cloth. That is to say one in every 120 wears khadar. We can treble that figure provided the Government undertakes to fulfil the following conditions. The All India Spinners Association must be the body entrusted with the work. It is a body of seasoned technicians even as Mr. Town's staff of the Binny Mills are a body of seasoned technicians in another line. The Government should give facilities at least in limited areas for the All India Spinners Association to set up service stations. What I mean by that is that in every taluk there should be a centre where charkas can be repaired, parts bought, cotton made available and even training given to the spinners."

"The third thing that I want the Government to do is that every weaver who is guaranteed by the All-India Spinners' Association with a certain quota of yarn for manufacture into cloth should not be given quotas of mill yarn. I trust that this is already being done. And if the Government get into touch with the Association, I am positive that within the next month or two you can have a minimum addition to our present stocks, of 18 lakhs of square yards of cloth. In this connexion, may I suggest that the All-India Spinners' Association is far more liberal than the Textile Commissioner? We are giving to our customers an average of 25 yards of cloth as against 10 yards of mill stuff that would be given as per capita quota for our Province. If we are allowed to go on uninterruptedly with our production we will be able to make a decent contribution to solve the difficulties of the Province. All this will cost a few lakhs of rupees. The Government must get into touch with the Association and ask them to help in the process of rehabilitation of villages and find out how much they would need in order to provide these facilities."

"Then there are two more qualifications and they are the most important. No spinning mills should be set up any more in this Province. We have far too much human power to be allowed to go to waste. I tell you we can find enough work to make up under employment and to provide employment in times of unemployment for the millions of our agricultural workers."

"Then this is another thing, Sir, and that is that certain areas must be declared self-sufficient for certain types of cloth and there should be wholesale or partial stoppage of the sale of mill and handloom cloth in those areas where we open centres and the production is in full swing. This will enable you to do many things. Mr. Town cannot then make his inroads into the countryside. Mr. Pocker will get the shrouds for the dead since we propose to provide the cloth for the living. There will be no strikes, for

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there are no strikes in the All-India Spinners' Association. You cannot get a strike however much you may cry hoarse for it. There will no be black-marketing because the prices are fixed and controlled by the Association and not a pie will be lost by way of improper conduct.

"This is the offer that I make and it is a very nice offer. Nobody could have any objection to it. It will increase the production of khadi cloth three to four times. Perhaps if the Andhra branch of the Association is asked to do the same thing, you will get another substantial addition to the cloth production. It is a modest programme; I do not claim that it will solve the entire difficulty, but it will make a substantial contribution to solve the difficulties. Much has been said about the life of handloom weaver, but I am afraid that nobody has laid his finger on the right spot. The plight of the handloom weaver has become worse and worse on account of the competition from the mills on whom he is perpetually dependent. To-day he is weaving for distant markets cloths of special pattern. A single change of fashion in the City of Bombay may lead to the wholesale stoppage of thousands of looms in places, say, like Proddatur and Narayanavanam. Perhaps the Government think that the local rates of wages are not miserable. It is sufficient for me to say that the wage cannot stand comparison even with the wages of the local agriculturists. That is the reason why the handloom is not thriving. It is not because it is not controlled or because it is left to itself and so on. It is better to link the handlooms to the spinning wheels of the village people in order that they may provide the yarn to the workers on the looms. The energy is there. The springs are there, but they have become dried up and you complain that the handlooms are not working. The only solution for the handlooms would be to link them up to the village spinners in order to avoid the subtle contamination that the Prime Minister would, without his knowledge, be introducing in village markets by entrusting both the handloom cloth and the mill cloth to the village committees. I say it deliberately and I want him not to hand over village markets to the mill people. Let the market for the mill cloth be confined to the towns. Let Binny's have the export business also. They are making a special kind of cloth and let them have all the facilities for export trade. Let them export to other Provinces if there is room there or to other countries. We do not want any export trade for our cloth. We are not asking for any facilities that the Government will not be able to give and we ask just what the Government will be able to give provided they make up their minds in the matter. The village spinner and the village weaver are fighting against the mighty combination known to economic history of pride and power.

"Sir, I shall conclude with one small statement. I want to enter a caveat in this House. I want the Hon. Prime Minister not to distribute the travelling allowances of the taluk and district committees till budget sanctions are obtained and till exact figures are ascertained. Till then, Sir, let us work like patriots

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doing honorary duties. Let all the district committees and the taluk committees stand on their own legs and not depend on Government money. Every resolution of this House would commit us to a certain expenditure and I, as one of the guardians of public finance, even as the Prime Minister himself is, ask him to consider the whole question and see that these travelling allowances are sanctioned only after the actual figures of expenditure have been worked out. I do not want him to work it out to so many rupees, annas and pies, but let us have the expenditure estimated for the budget, let the budget be voted by the House and then let us start these travelling allowances. Meanwhile I would request the Hon. the Premier to issue an order not to grant travelling allowances to the members of the district and taluk committees."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have just now heard from Mr. Varadachariyar an essay on Khaddar and its value."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"An essay? Say, it is a contribution." (Laughter.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It may be a contribution according to you, but it has no other value than an essay."

"Sir, I am very sorry that the present Government is not prepared to take the Opposition into its confidence and ensure its co-operation. The attitude of the present Government in this matter is, that they do not want anybody else's help and that they are the only custodians of the rights of the people of this Province. They do not realize the realities of the situation. They do not realize that an important section of the people of this province are not with them and that they are in opposition to the Government to-day. At a time when we are faced with very serious problems and when the Opposition is prepared to extend its hand of co-operation to the Government, they come forward with a very dry and unwarranted reply, 'We are here, we do not want you to help us in this matter.' When we proposed the formation of a Board consisting of the important elements in this province, it was not acceptable to the Government. It is indeed very unfortunate that the Member representing the European Chamber of Commerce could not understand it. He has been bred on the tradition of what is called constitutional forms of Government. He has forgotten that there is to be a national Government established consisting of representatives of all parties and that independence is coming shortly. Naturally when there was a war we were faced with a very serious situation. Now when the war is over we are faced with a more serious situation on account of the scarcity of food and cloth. When we were at war there was nothing but war. Now there is another situation equal to war, famine of food and famine of cloth. He does not seem to realize that there is need for a National Government here to tackle the national question of food. I can at least understand

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his attitude. But I cannot understand the attitude of the Government. The Government, I grant, has a very large majority behind it, but it has not got behind it a single member of my community, the Muslim community, either as a member of its Party or on the Cabinet. They must realize the seriousness of the situation. I do not believe that their policy is a policy of good will. The Hon. the Premier was good enough to plead for good will from the Opposition and from the Muslim League particularly. Well, Sir, it would have been graceful if he had offered that very good will from his side and then asked for good will from the other side; instead of offering good will himself, he wanted good will from our side only. That is not the proper thing to do. It is not reasonable. In spite of the attitude of non-co-operation adopted by the Government, and realising the serious situation in the country affecting not one community, but all communities, we have come forward with good will and to extend the hand of co-operation to the Government. We say that we are prepared to work with them if they establish a Board in which we will get an equal right and voice but they do not want us. They want us only as their hewers of wood and drawers of water and nothing more. They want to monopolize the whole thing. They do not want to give us an equal voice even at least so far as this serious situation, which is affecting the very existence of the people, is concerned.

"Sir, the question of food to-day is a very difficult one. But so far as the cloth situation is concerned, I do not believe that it is so bad. First of all, Sir, we are not self-sufficient so far as the cloth situation is concerned. We have to depend upon other places, like Bombay, Ahmedabad, etc. Mill cloth is to-day cheaper than handloom cloth, because its price is controlled, and that should be available in plenty in the province. The point I cannot understand is why in this province we are not getting our full quota of cloth. I understand that we are not having enough stock that will last even for a month. For the last few months we have not been getting our quota in full. I wish to ask the Government, Sir, whether they have enquired as to why the surplus provinces have not been able to give us our full quota. We have had only 16 to 17 thousand bales, whereas our quota should have been 36,000 bales in the last three months. It may be that the officer who is responsible for distributing the surplus has not been able to do his best for us in the matter. It is high time that the Government takes up the matter with the Government of India and get for us not only the prescribed quota but a larger quantity than we have been getting all along.

"It is very unfortunate that steps were not taken in the last four years when we have been facing this shortage of cloth, to open more mills in the province on a large scale so that we may be self-sufficient so far as mill-cloth is concerned."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"What about machinery?"

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I know that there is difficulty in procuring machinery on account of war. We do not want to establish cotton weaving mills everywhere in the province, but certainly there should be no difficulty so far as spinning mills are concerned. The establishment of spinning mills will put an end to monopoly and black-marketing. In Coimbatore they are endeavouring to have the whole industry concentrated in that district.

"Sir, every facility should be given by the Government to open more and more cotton mills, weaving as well as spinning. It is only then that we will be self-sufficient and we will not have to go to other provinces, surplus though they may be, for our needs, so far as cloth is concerned.

"The Hon. the Premier and Sri Varadachariyar told us much about Khaddar. We have known for the last 25 years since this Khaddar ideal was taking practical shape in this country to what extent it has been able to succeed. It is all an Utopian ideal. When the Khaddar ideal was propagated, if I am right, it was more to help the mill-owners of Bombay and Ahmedabad. If there is anybody who has prospered on account of Khaddar it is the mill-owners of Ahmedabad, Bombay and Sholapur. (An Hon. Member: 'How?') Hon. Members know what Khaddar is. If they cannot understand I cannot help them. (An hon. Member: 'You understood it and now forget'.) Sir, Khaddar can clothe only a very small number of people." (Sri N. S. Varadachariyar: 'One in 40 I said now'.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members will please not interrupt him. Let the hon. Member go on."

* ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Varadachariyar forgets that we are in the midst of a famine and that it will not be possible for us to bring mills into existence overnight. I want Mr. Varadachariyar to understand that the whole province will go without cloth if the state of affairs that now exists continues. Mr. Varadachariyar can talk about the economics of Khaddar. People before him have exposed this bogey of Khaddar long ago. Responsible people have stated in very clear terms how it has been a failure and I am sure I am not making a prophecy when I say that any attempt to meet the situation by propagating Khaddar is bound to fail. How many people can afford to wear Khaddar when people are not even able to afford to wear the handloom cloth. Sir, Khaddar is many times costlier than mill cloth. I want my friend Mr. Varadachariyar to realize that the poor people cannot really go in for Khaddar. (Sri T. Viswanatham: 'They can make their own cloth'.) Making their own Khaddar is certainly a Midsummer Night's Dream. I tell you, Sir, that everybody has not got the time to think of weaving and spinning. If we do that, then we will be a nation of spinners and weavers, whereas to-day, in the world in which we are living we have to think of many other things than making Khaddar. If we are to live in this world as a nation, if we are to compete with

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other peoples in the world and if in the years to come we are to contest with other nations in a war like the last, we will have to think twice, thrice and change this ideal.

“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, production is certainly not satisfactory. We have to become self-sufficient. Khaddar is not going to meet the situation. Handloom cloth is now very costly. Not only is it costly, on account of its being exported it is also not available in this Province. The handloom industry should be encouraged. The handlooms are in existence to-day, because there is demand for handloom cloth from outside. If these demands stop away then we will know what fate is awaiting the handloom weavers. Because there is scarcity of cloth to-day in Ceylon and other neighbouring places, and because there are no imports from abroad the handloom industry is thriving to-day. The moment cloth is imported from other countries then we will know what the fate of the handloom weavers will be so far as this Province is concerned. It is the duty of the Government to anticipate what will be the cloth imports in the future and see that the handloom industry is not affected.

“ So far as distribution is concerned, I am sorry, Sir, that I have to say that the scheme as adumbrated by the Government will not satisfactorily meet the situation. Sir, cloth is required by everybody, including the villagers and in very many cases it does not reach the village. Sir, the village committees, taluk committees and district committees will not be able to make cloth available to the people in the remotest parts of this Province. I know how these village committees will function and how the cloth that is required by the villagers will not reach them. As it is distribution is not satisfactory. It must be improved. Sir, the normal trade channels are not utilized, they are starved and certain monopolies have been created in the method of distribution. People who have been in the trade have not been getting their full share in the distribution of mill cloth. There must be equitable distribution equitable not only with regard to the various parts of the Province but also so far as the trade channels are concerned. I know, Sir, that there is not only black-marketing, but there is corruption and the Government must put down corruption as well as black-marketing. Black-marketing can be put down only when we have sufficient production and when we are able to put plenty of cloth in the market.

“ I must say in this connection that the Textile Department of this Province is still in a state of experimentation. Whatever we might say about the top, however satisfactory the top might be, I must agree with one of the hon. Members who gave such a graphic description of the way in which the lower strata of the Department is constituted. It is high time that the Government puts this Department in the hands of really reliable and responsible people from top to bottom. Unless that is done I am afraid, what is called black-marketing and what is called corruption will not be done away with. It is no use, after so many years of experience, to go on experimenting still. It is high time that

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you pursue a definite policy and a definite programme. I understand, Sir, that so far as Madras is concerned, distribution is in the hands of one or two individuals, so far as mill cloth is concerned. They are responsible for the distribution of mill cloth whenever it comes. When the mill cloth is distributed there is a regular hierarchy of wholesale dealers and retail dealers. The moment mill cloth comes in it is” (The gong was sounded and the hon. Member resumed his seat.)

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“ அக்கிராஸ்திபதியவர்களே, துணி 12 noon. விஷயத்தில் நூல் உற்பத்தி மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. நூலை எவ்வளவுக் கெவ்வளவு அதிகம் உற்பத்தி பண்ணுகிறார்களோ அவ்வளவுக்கவ்வளவு இந்தத் துணிக்கஷ்டம் நீங்கும். முக்கியமாக இப்பொழுது மில்கள்தான் நூலை உற்பத்திசெய்கின்றன. இந்த மில்களில் அநேகம் இரண்டு shift கள் ஒடுகின்றன சிலதமட்டும் மூன்று shift ஒடுகின்றன. இரண்டு shift கள் ஒரே மில்கள் அனைத்தும் மூன்று shift கள் ஒடினால் அதிகமான நூல் கிடைக்கும். மூன்று shift கள் ஒட்டும் விஷயத்தில் சில கஷ்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. மெஷின்கள் அதிக நேரம் ஒடினால் அதிகம் தேய்ந்துபோய்விடும், இருந்தாலும் அதற்கு வேண்டிய சாமான்களைப் போட்டால் செந்தூரப்போல் ஒட்டுவது சாத்யமாகவிருக்கும். தற்போது தேர்ச்சிபெற்ற ஊழியர்கள் அவர்களுக்குக் கிடைப்பது கஷ்டம். துணிக் கஷ்டம் நீங்கியபிறகு மூன்று shift கள் ஒடுவதை எடுக்கும்படியாக வரும். அப்பொழுது இந்தத் தொழிலில் அதிகமாகச் சேர்ந்த தொழிலாளிகளை நீக்குவதில் கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்படும். இக்கஷ்டங்களைப்பிடினும் இப்பொழுதுள்ள நமது துணி அவசியத்தை உத்தேசித்து மூன்று shift கள் எந்த மில்களில் ஒட்டமுடியுமோ அவைகளிலே ஒட்டும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்; அதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை ஸர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

“ நூல் கணக்கு விஷயத்திலும் மில்கள் சரியாக நடந்துகொள்ளுவதில்லையென்று எனக்குமுன் பேசினார்கள். எங்கும் அந்தப் பேச்சாய் இருக்கிறது. ஒரு மில்களிலே ஒரு நாளைக்கு ஒரு நூறு பேஸ் உற்பத்தி யானால், அவர்கள் நூறுபேஸ் உற்பத்தியானதென்று வெவியில் சொல்லுவதில்லை. இந்த உற்பத்திக் கணக்கைச் சரியாக எடுக்கவேண்டும். அதற்குச் சரியான மேல்பார்வை அதிகாரியை வைத்துக்கொண்டுவனிக்க வேண்டும், மில்கள் சரியான கணக்கைக் கொடுக்காவிட்டால் அந்தக் கணக்குக் கிடைக்க, வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கைகளை ஸர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும்.

“ அடுத்தபடியாக இந்த விற்பனையாகும் நூல் எவ்வளவு பலம் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று போட்டிருக்கிறதோ அந்த பலம் இருப்பதில்லை, ஒருவன் ஒரு வருஷத்துக்கு 4 துணி வாங்குகிறானென்று வைத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள், அந்தத் துணி நன்றாக உழைத்தால்தான் அந்த 4 துணி போதுமானது. இந்தத் துணி இப்பொழுது அதிகமாக உழைப்பதில்லை. அதன் காரணம் நூல் சரியான பலத்துடன் இல்லாததுதான். 40-ம் நம்பர் நூலை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் அவைகளில் அதிகம் எவ்வளவு பலம் தாங்கவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு பலம் தாங்குவது இல்லை. முந்தி ஒரு மில்லில் நூல் 10 ரூபாயிருக்கும், இன்னொரு மில்லில் நூல் ரூ. 9-8-0 இருக்கும், மற்றொரு மில் நூல் ரூ. 9 இருக்கும். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அந்தமாதிரி இல்லை. எந்த மில் நூலை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் ஒரே விலையாக, விலையில் standardise செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் நூலுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட பலம் இல்லாவிட்டால் அவர்கள்மீது நடவடிக்கை அவசியம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். எந்த நம்பர் சொல்லுகிறார்களோ அந்த நூல் அந்த நம்பர் இல்லையென்று புகார் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அத்துடன் அந்த நூல் அந்த நம்பருக்கு வேண்டிய பலம் இருக்கிறதா வென்றும் பார்க்கவேண்டும்.

“ கதர் நூல் நாம் உற்பத்திசெய்யலாம். கதர் துணியைப்பற்றி வரதாச் சாரியவர்கள் அழகாகச் சொன்னார்கள். முன் காலத்திலே நமக்கு வேண்

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman] [3rd June 1946]

டியது துணியெல்லாம் கதர்மூலமாகப் பெற்று வந்தோம். முன் மாதிரி இப்பொழுது கதரில் அவ்வளவு கஷ்டமில்லை. ஸர்க்கார் உதவியெய்தால் இந்தக் கஷ்டங்கள் நீங்கிவிடும். சில வருடங்களுக்கு ஒரு கெஜத்திற்கு ஒரு அணு வீதம் subsidy கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது 4 அணு அல்லது 5 அணு கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்தால் அதிகம் துணி உண்டாகி நம் தேவையைப் பூர்த்தி செய்யும். நம்முடைய தேசத்தில் நம் தேவையை கதர் மூலமாகப் பூர்த்திசெய்து கொள்ளும்படி ஒவ்வொரு ஊரும், கிராமமும் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இந்த மாதிரி எல்லாப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும் அதை உற்பத்திசெய்யலாம். இப்பொழுது உள்ள பாட புத்தகங்களிலே ஏதாவது ஒரு கைத்தொழிலைச் செய்யலாமென்று திட்டம் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இதை ஒவ்வொரு பள்ளிக்கூடத்திலும் செய்யும்படி செய்யலாம். இப்பொழுது நாட்டில் உணவும் உடையும் அவசியமாக வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. எனவே நம் குழந்தைகளும் உணவை அதிகமாக உற்பத்திசெய்வதிலும், உடையை அதிகமாக உற்பத்திசெய்வதில் ஈடுபடவேண்டும். பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை அதற்காக உபயோகமாகப் படுத்துவது மிகவும் நல்லது, இங்கிலாந்தில் யூதரும் நடந்து கொண்டிருந்தபொழுது அவர்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலே காய்கறித்தோட்டம் மாணவர்கள் போட்டார்கள். அவ்விதமே நாம் இப்பொழுது செய்யலாம். முன்பு அந்த அவசியம் இல்லாவிட்டாலும் இப்பொழுது அதற்கு அவசியம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. கதரைப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் உற்பத்திசெய்வதற்குச் சில சாதனங்கள் வேண்டியிருக்கின்றன. நகுந்த ஆசிரியர்கள் வேண்டும். அதற்கு இப்பொழுது கஷ்டமில்லை A.I.S.A. அநேகருக்குப் பயிற்சி கொடுத்திருக்கிறது அவர்களை வைத்துக்கொண்டு இன்னும் அதிகமான பேர்களுக்குப் பயிற்சியளித்து பள்ளிகளில் அதிகம் கதர் உற்பத்தி செய்யலாம்.

“கைத்தரிகளைப்பற்றிப் பலபேர்கள் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். குறைந்த பணம் நூற்றுக்கு நூற்பதாவது கைத்தரிகளுக்கு நூல் கிடைக்கவேண்டுமென்பது முக்கியமானது. புதுக் கணக்குப்படி 5 லெசனும் தரிகள் இருக்கின்றன. இந்த 5 லெசனும் தரிகளுக்காவது அவசியமான நூல் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். பம்பாயிலிருந்து துணி போர்கள் சரியாய் வருவதில்லையென்று அறிக்கையில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அங்கிருந்து நமக்கு எவ்வளவு பேல்கள் வரவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு பைனில்லையென்றால், உடனே எல்லா நடிவடிக்கைகளையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். பம்பாயிலிருந்து வேண்டிய அளவு துணி வரவில்லையென்றால் நாம் நம்பேல்களை அனுப்பாமல் நிறுத்தவேண்டும், அவ்விதம் செய்தால் தான் நம்முடைய துணி நிலைமையை அபிவிருத்திசெய்ய முடியும். எந்தக் காலம் வரைக்கும் கைத்தரிகாரர்களுக்குச் சரியானபடி நூல் கிடைக்கிற தில்லையோ அதுவரையில் ஒரு மாறுதல் செய்யவேண்டும். மில்களில் நூல் நூற்பதுமட்டுமில்லை. துணி நெய்வதும் இருக்கின்றன. நெசவு மில்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் நூலாவது குறைத்து கைத் தரிகளுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டும், அவ்விதம் அவசியம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்கிறேன். அவ்விதம் செய்தால் கைத்தரிகள் இப்பொழுது கஷ்டப் படுவது ஓரளவு நீங்கும்.

“கைத்தரிகளுக்கு போதிய நூல் கிடைக்கவில்லை, நூல் கிடைத்தால் கைத்தரித் துணியினுடைய விலை குறையும், இப்பொழுது போதிய அளவு கிடைக்காததினால்தான் விலை அதிகமாக இருக்கிறது. 30 நாளுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் சம்பளம் 10 நாட்களிலே வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள் ஆகையால் அதற்குக் கூலி அதிகமாகிறது. போதிய அளவு நூல் கிடைக்கும்படி இந்த விலை மிகவும் குறையும்.

“மில்கள் இவ்வளவு பேல்கள் நூற்றின்றனவென்றுதான் கணக்கு கொடுக்கின்றார்கள். தரிகளுக்குவேண்டிய மாதிரி மில்கள் உற்பத்தி இருக்கவேண்டும். இந்த நம்பர் பேல் இவ்வளவு, அடுத்த நம்பர் செய்யாமல் அவர்களுக்கு எது சௌகரியமோ அவ்விதம் செய்கிறார்கள். அந்த முறையிலே மில்கள் உற்பத்திசெய்யும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

3rd June 1946] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

“கைத்தரிகளிலே உற்பத்தியாகும் சரக்குளைப் பார்த்தால் நாட்டின் தேவைக்குக் குறைவான சரக்குகள்தான் உண்டாகின்றன. வெளி நாட்டிற்கு அதிகம் துணி நெய்து போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. சேலே, வேஷ்டி அதிகமாக உற்பத்தியாகவேண்டும். ஏற்றுமதி வியாபாரத்தினால் தேசத்திற்கு நன்மைதான், ஆகையால் பூராவும் நாம் அதைக்கட்டுப் படுத்தி நிறுத்திவிட முடியாதுதான். இருந்தாலும் நாம் கஷ்டப்படும்தோடு நம்முடைய தேவை யைக் கவனிக்காமல் வெளிநாட்டு வியாபாரத்தையே பிரதானமாகக் கவனிப்பது நல்லதல்ல; நம்முடைய தேவைதான் முதன்மையானது. ஆகவே வெளிநாட்டு வியாபாரம் எப்பொழுதும் நமக்கு இருக்கும்படியாக பார்த்துக் கொண்டு உள்நாட்டுத் தேவையைப் பூர்த்திசெய்யும்வரையிலாவது இந்த வெளிநாட்டு வியாபாரத்தைக் குறைத்து ஆகவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன். வெளி நாட்டு வியாபாரிகளும் கைலி, துண்டு, இவைகளு்தான் உற்பத்தியாக்குகிறார்கள். இது சண்டைக்கு முன்னால் உத்தியோகஸ் யாயிற்று? இப்பொழுது எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கவர்ன்மெண்டு உத்தியோகஸ் தர்களுமே இந்த தொழிலே தெரியாத மற்ற வியாபாரம்செய்து கொள் டிருந்தவர்களும் அவர்கள் வீட்டில் தரியை வைத்து உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்கள். அதுவும் நம் தேசத்திற்கு வேண்டிய துணியை உற்பத்திசெய்வ தில்லை. அதனால்தான் மற்றத் தரிகள் கஷ்டப்படவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் ஏற்றுமதி சரக்குத் தரிகளை எவ்வளவுதூரம் குறைக்கலாமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் குறைப்பது நல்லது. அதே சமயத்தில் ஏற்றுமதி வியாபாரம் கெட்டுப்போகாதபடி நாம் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

“லேசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கும் விஷயமாயும் நான் ஒரு வார்த்தைசொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இதுவரையில் வியாபாரம் செய்யாத பலபேர்களுக்கு லேசென்ஸ் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஏற்கனவே பரம்பரையாக வியாபாரம் செய்தவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் அவர்கள் வியாபாரம் குறைந்திருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இது விஷயத்தில் மிகவும் கண்டிப்பாக இருந்து தாக்கீஸ்யம் பாராமல் இது பரம்பரையாக வியாபாரம் செய்துகொண்டிருந்தார்களோ அவர் களுக்கே லேசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கவேண்டும், வியாபாரம் செய்யும்படி செய்ய வேண்டும். இல்லையெல் எல்லோருக்கும் அறையயிற்று உணவாகிவிடு விறது.

“சாயப்பட்டரைகள் முன்னால் சிலதான் இருந்தன, இப்பொழுது அந் க் மூலம் இருக்கின்றன. 1936-1939-ல் யார் யார் சாயம் தோய்த்துக்கொண்டிருந்தார்களோ அவர்களுக்குத்தான் வியாபாரம் செய்ய லேசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது சாயக்கூலியும் அதிகமாயிருக்கின்றது. அதிகப்பேறகளுக்கு லேசென்ஸ் கொடுக்காமல் கட்டுப்படுத்தினால் கூலியும் குறையும்.

“மில் துணி எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கிராக்கியாயிருக்கிறது. மில் துணி மோகம் நல்லதல்ல. தேசத்திற்குக் கெட்டது.”

* SINNA KAZIAN HAJI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, so many members have suggested many things. After all, all the suggestions were to improve the stock and to prevent leakage. I really appreciate the different ideas—whether you bring machinery from America or whether you use charka and thereby improve production—it is all the same. I only wish that we succeed in our attempt; but I would like to submit that these are long-range schemes. Now, what we have to do at this present crisis is the most important thing. When the house is burning, you cannot be digging a well to use its water to put out the fire. You should rise up to the occasion; you should do things with as much speed as possible, to meet the crisis and save the millions of this Province and thus do our duty. Now, when we get a large stock either by bringing in new machinery or by introducing charka, all these questions will

[S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [3rd June 1946]

vanish. What is the stock we have now and, how are we to distribute them to the tax-payers, is the question now. To tell you the truth, black-marketing has been going on everywhere. You may take this province as a black house, with black-marketing, then, I should like to say Sir, that Madura happens to be a dark room in that dark black-market house. Why is it so? Fortunately or unfortunately, it has one of the biggest spinning mills in the world. Madura is supposed to be one of the biggest hand-loom centres in this Province. I do not believe that we do not have yarn for the hand-loom. So far as Madura is concerned, I should like to submit, Sir, hand-loom work is going on day and night. I will submit another interesting fact which will be very convincing. Hand-loom licences are being purchased by ordinary men at exorbitant rates. If yarn is not available, if the workers have work only for ten days in the month, can people like me purchase hand-loom licences from the original licence-holders? It is rather a preposterous logic to believe this. But what is really taking place is this: you have ample yarn, but it is being sold in the black-market. Recently, last month, I was told that in Coimbatore when the Military department was making an investigation into details about sales of stolen petrol, at dead of night, a lorry was caught carrying bales of yarn, and a case has been filed against the mill-owners. This is the position. Regarding piece-goods also, I should like to say Sir, that last month in Madura a wholesale piece-goods dealer was booked for having under-ground stock. The white elephants in our country, I should say the cannibals, are the export licence-holders and mill-owners. One of the chief things the Hon. the Premier should undertake is to put an end to these licences and to put an end to the exporting system and to get hold of the spinning and weaving mills. This may no doubt involve great difficulty and risk. The Hon. the Premier, Sir, is the ruler of this Province. God says in Koran—

‘Ya Davooda Innajalnaka Khalifathan fil Arzi Fahakam leanan Nisi bill Kisth.’—

‘Oh, David, we have made you king among nations; do your duty, and safeguard the interests of our people by doing justice.’ That is what God says. The Hon. Premier has shouldered the present grave responsibility. No doubt there will be opposition. There are very big giants as licence-holders who export articles to foreign countries. They happen to be members of the Central Legislative Assembly, they happen to be members of the Council of State, and they happen to be members of this Assembly too. Whatever it may be, what does Lord Sri Krishna say, in the *Bagavad Gita* to Arjuna? ‘Do your duty; your duty is the chief thing.’ *Quoran* advises us in the same way; *Bagavad Gita* also teaches us the same thing. I know that with difference we cannot succeed. In the words of Mustapha Kemal, I should like to say, ‘undertake the greatest risks: there lies the greatest success.’ Thanks to Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, he did it and saved millions of people by enacting the Agriculturists’ Relief Act. There was opposition; many money-lenders were up to anything and they

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wanted to see that the Bill was not passed into law; he however took the risk and saved many people. Now, Sir, it is on your shoulders. Without risking, nothing could be done. Irrespective of the position of the man who holds the licence, and irrespective of the position of the man who happens to be the mill-owner, you should take a bold step and create a record in the history of this Province. After all, under normal conditions some men do things normally; and certain people do abnormal things under normal conditions; but doing abnormal things under abnormal conditions is the thing which will go into history and will be read by posterity. Let me not be misunderstood as being selfish in saying these plain facts. I may tell you I have to be selfish also, as at times and under certain circumstances, it would be a sin not to be selfish. What I want to bring to your notice is this: there are piecegoods everywhere; there is yarn everywhere. But the dead body of a Muslim—last month when I was away in Delhi—was lying in Madura for 24 hours for want of shroud cloth. I appeal to you, Sir, should you not make necessary arrangements for this? You say that food and cloth are life and death questions; really, if food is a life question, cloth also is a life question. You require food and cloth, when you are living, but after death also there is this cloth question for the Muslims; at least we should have shroud cloth after we die. When on some justification, Germany and Japan got food and cloth from the Allied nations, can you not have sufficient justification to see that we get shroud cloth freely, that is, without any difficulty. The pity is this: I was absent at Delhi and the corpse was lying there for 20 hours. When I reached Madura—I did not know how they came to know about it—the next moment my son went out and from so many places, the piecegoods dealers were prepared to give the shroud, just because I had come to Madura town. See how they do things and how they circumvent the rules. This is the position.

“The next thing, Sir, you know under the tenets of Islam, poor gosha ladies cannot go out, cannot stand in a queue, and cannot get supply of cloth. We all know it, and it does not require much explanation. In this chain of black-marketing, another black-marketing is taking place against the Muslim gosha ladies. So far as the Muslim gosha ladies are concerned, when there is no male member in the family, what is happening? Small boys go to the bazaar, stand in a queue and purchase piecegoods. They take it to the gosha ladies and the ladies are forced to purchase from those boys, because there is no alternative for them; as they cannot go and get it themselves. Apart from other considerations, these are the two life and death questions from the Muslim point of view. Hon. Members, and I trust the Hon. the Premier also, will agree with me that these things require special attention and that special arrangements should be made, so that we may get shrouds for dead bodies and also our poor gosha ladies without male members in their families can get cloth without much difficulty.

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“Now, Sir, we experience the same difficulty regarding our Ramzan, Bakrid and Muharram festivals. This can also be proved. Please see the Textile Commissioner's report at page 2, paragraph 7 which reads as follows:

‘Something like a crisis is reached on the eve of the important festivals like Deepavalli, Sankaranthi and Telugu New Year's day (Onam and Vishu in Malabar) when our people make the bulk of their purchases.’

Really, Sir, it seems to be the eighth wonder to me; till now we have been having only seven wonders of the world; this is the eighth wonder. I do not know what the Textile Commissioner thinks. Does he think we should go naked during our festival occasions? What about Ramzan, Bakrid and Muharram festivals? Has he purposely left them out, or has he forgotten them? What is happening outside has actually happened in the records also. I request the Premier that special arrangements should be made—we do not want special arrangements to be made for us, for us alone, Sir. When on account of shortage, cloth is not available, and when others do not get cloth for their festivals, we do not want special arrangements to be made for our festivals; but when there is stock and such arrangements can be made, I want the Premier to see that cloth is supplied to us all on such occasions.

“Sir, it is really fortunate that—I say that without any flattery or exaggeration—our Premier is up to anything (laughter). Though I have not known him before, though I have not come into contact with him in person, now I have seen him; he will be the first gentleman to undertake risks, to achieve his object and to discharge his duties. During the formation of the ministry, he did undertake a very great risk and he has become the Prime Minister. By undertaking such great risk, he has saved the prestige of this Province. (An hon. Member: ‘What is that?’) Without my saying it, everybody knows it; surely they do not want me to explain it.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“There is one more minute before you.”

SINNA KAJIYAR HAJI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“All right, Sir; you cannot, of course, exempt me from the general rules. Anyhow, if you give 2 minutes more I shall finish.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Like everybody else, you can have 2 minutes more.”

SINNA KAJIYAR HAJI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am sure, Sir, the Premier is going to take the stocks of these people; and he will legislate and take over all the mills into his hands or he will commandeer them. Sir, one other thing is, if you are going to take a bold step to cancel the licences of these big people, you will have to legislate on this matter and you will have either to take the mills in your own hands or commandeer them. Men have commandeered the mills during war in order to clothe the foreigners, but when millions of us are naked now, why not commandeer them. All the mills should be taken as Government property. Or get the mills under your control, give them some percentage of profit, and have direct control

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over them, and over all the things produced and distributed by them. There is no use of high-sounding philosophies being spoken here; unless these philosophies are translated into action, what is the use? It may appear in the press to the effect that so and so was talking here, he was so very fluent and so on and so forth, but these are not going to help anybody. I would, therefore, request the Hon. the Premier to see that these things are translated into action. With these few words, I resume my seat, Sir.”

SRI S. SAHAJANANDAM:—“கனம் தலைவரவர்களே, மனிதனுக்கு உணவும் உடையும் முக்கியமானவை. உணவும் உடையும் மக்களுக்கு அவசியமாக வேண்டும், உடை மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. அந்த உடையினால் தான் மக்களுடைய மானத்தைக் காப்பாற்றிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். உடையில்லாமல் போய்விட்டால் மக்கள் மானத்தோடு வாழமுடியாதவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். கன்ட்ரோல் விலை வருவதற்குமுன் ஒரு புடவை 12 ரூபாய், ரூ. 14, ரூ. 15 விற்குர்கள். ஆனால் கன்ட்ரோல் வைத்த பிறகு ரூ. 4, ரூ. 3. கன்ட்ரோல் வந்தது சிலாக்கியமான விஷயம். ஆனால் நம் பிரதம மந்திரி ஒவ்வொரு மக்களுக்கும் 5 கெஜத்தான் கொடுக்கலாமென்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்வதாயிருந்தால் இரண்டு வேஷ்டி ஆகிறது. அந்த இரண்டு வேஷ்டியில் ஒரு மனிதன் தோய்த்துக் கட்டாமல் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் ஒரு மனிதனுக்கு 8 வேஷ்டி இருக்கவேண்டும். 4 வேஷ்டி வெளுக்கப்போட்டால் 4 வேஷ்டி கையில் இருக்கவேண்டும். இன்றைக்கு இரண்டு வேஷ்டி தோய்த்துப் போட்டால் நாளைக்கு அந்த இரண்டையும் கட்டிக்கொள்ளலாம். ஆகையால் 8 வேஷ்டி இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆகவே இந்த 5 கெஜத்தை 20 கெஜமாகக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது இந்த அளவு வந்திருக்கிறதென்று ஸர்க்கார் சொன்னால் உடனே பிளாக் மார்கெட்டு விலை ஏறிவிடும், இல்லையென்று சொல்லிவிடுவார்கள். அவசியத்தை முன்னிட்டு அதிகப் பணம் யென்று சொல்லிவிடுவார்கள். ஆகையால் ஸர்க்கார் எல்லோருக்கும் கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாய்வுரும். ஆகையால் ஸர்க்கார் எல்லோருக்கும் கிடைக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். அவனுக்கு இத்தனை வேஷ்டிதான் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று திட்டம் போடுவது அவசியமில்லை. இப்பொழுது திருக்கின்ற உணவுப்பொருள் ஷாப்புகளுக்கெல்லாம் மிராசுதார்கள் தங்களுடைய வேலையாட்களுக்குத்தான் கொடுப்பார்களே தவிர தங்கள் வேலைக்கு வராதவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கமாட்டார்கள். அரிசி ரேஷனில் இவ்வாறு கிராமத்தில் புகார்கள் எழுந்தன. ஆகையால் கிராமங்களில் ஐக்கிய சங்கங்களை வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த வழியில் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் உணவு உடை எல்லாம் தரவேண்டும். அந்த உடை ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் கிடைக்க சர்க்காரே செய்யவேண்டும். நூல் நூற்க வேண்டுமென்று காந்தி கதருகிறார். ஆகையால் ஒவ்வொரு வீட்டிலும் கைத்தறி வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று ஸர்க்கார் உத்திரவு போடலாம். அவர்கள் தரிசுகளில் பருத்தி பயிரிட்டு துணி, நூல்செய்யவேண்டியது அவர்கள் எல்லாம் எதிர்பார்ப்பதைவிட கையால் நூற்கும் அவசியமாகிறது. மில் நூலை எதிர்பார்ப்பதைவிட கையால் நூற்கும் நூலானது சிலாக்கியமானது. எல்லோருக்கும் தொழில் கிடைக்கும். பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் இந்த நூல் நூற்றல் தொழிலைக் கற்றுக்கொடுத்து அதன் மூலமாக நூல் நூற்கக் கற்றுக்கொடுப்பது சிலாக்கியமாகும். அதனால் பிழைப்பும் உண்டாகும். சிதம்பரத்தில் தங்கவேலு முதலியார்கள் கன்ட்ரோல் துணி ஷாப்பு வைத்திருக்கிறார். அங்கே ஹரிஜனப்பிள்ளைகள் போனால் அடிக்கடித் துறத்துகிறார். 5 மணிக்குமேலே வரிசையாக நிற்க வைத்து சில முக்கியமானவர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் உள்ளே அழைத்துக் கொண்டுபோய் துணி கொடுக்கிறது. இப்படிப் பண்ணுவார்களே தண்டிக்க

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வேண்டியது ஸர்க்காருடைய கடமை. திருப்பரம் விஷயத்தை விசாரணை பண்ணவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஸர்க்கார் உடை விஷயத்திலும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கும் கிடைக்கிறதா என்ற விஷயத்தை கவனிக்கவேண்டும். சட்டத்தைப் பொருவது பொதுவில்லை. ஏழை ஜனங்களுக்கு உடை கிடைக்கிறதா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டுமென்று, கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, amidst the bewildering welter of conflicting crucibles of our geo-politics, one thing at least appears to be of common agreement and that is the standard of public morality in our country has sunk into an abysmal depth of infancy with corruption, corruption, corruption everywhere. Mr. Speaker, the cynic may turn round against us and say with apologies to Lord Tennyson: ‘More things are wrought by corruption than this world dreams of.’ And that is the reality of the present situation. I believe that of all Departments, it is reserved for the Department of Textiles to be corrupt to the core—almost from top to bottom; and I say this without any mental reservation and that is the bitterest experience that we have in the countryside.

“ Mr. Speaker, you have decreed that we should not discuss the question of distribution. Our grievances are not so much against distribution, but against maldistribution; not so much against adjustment of supply and demand, but against maladjustment of supply and demand; not so much against the practices of the administration, but against the malpractices. Indeed, our protest is not against administration, but against maladministration. I say that no department of administration has come in for so much public indictment and so much public indignation as this Department. Now was it given to so few to do so much harm to so many in such few years? There has come about a metamorphosis in the very personnel of this world of trade and he who runs can read how things have altered within this efflux of five years. The dealers who were carrying on this trade—most of them—have yielded place to new men, strange faces, and other minds indeed. I should say such is the discretion that is vested in the Provincial Textile Commissioner that we find ourselves in a rendezvous of undesirables as we get into the world of textiles. Black-marketing about which so much has been said on the floor of this House takes place in every nook and corner of this world of textiles.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“ So many hon. Members have talked about it.”

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ But, I wish to speak on one particular novel aspect of it. Sir. It is our tragedy that this black-marketing should appear to have come in with almost encouragement, inspiration and admiration from the powers that be. It is not among the old dealers who are running the stores in recognized channels of trade that we see this black-marketing so much, but among new licensed dealers in black-holes to which people have no easy access. They still thrive by night and by day and they remain *incognito* and they get patronage from the powers that be. I want the Hon. the Premier to

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institute an investigation by appointing a tribunal to go into the scandals of the administration. I wholeheartedly endorse the opinion of my hon. friend, Mr. Gopal Reddi, when he said that even if it means top-heavy administration to root out corruption, let it be started at once. Let him (the Hon. Premier) not go into the past, let the past bury its dead, let him at least deal with what happens at present and see that at any rate in future the menace of corruption is rooted out.

“ Sir, I see in the Treasury Benches new men, strange faces, other minds, all of them evidently actuated by a policy and programme as broad-based as possible, but they should not give any room for any complaint against their administration. In regard to the Hon. the Premier at least I should say this—and I am sure everybody agrees with me—in every wrinkle of his face that I see before me there is evidence of service and sacrifice—that I see before me there is evidence of service and sacrifice—hats off to him; but under him while actually confronted with the problem of putting down corruption, he will find the same old officials of the lower rungs of the administration, guilty of their past record. Sir, nowhere have we got an example of ‘penny-wise and pound foolish administration’ as we have in the Textile Department. The men who are actually carrying on this department, district authorities, textile control officers and others are drafted from the quill drivers of the Revenue Department, who even to-day continue to earn a pittance on paper. When these are the people who run the department, how can you expect them to live up to the high responsibilities of their duties. It is in their hands to make or mar the career of dealers and they are to-day in the unique position of conferring favours and they are the persons who are expected to maintain integrity. Mr. Speaker, you cannot expect integrity and intelligence from an administration which is based on such niggardly emoluments.

“ If the Hon. the Premier is serious about his drive against 12-45 corruption, let him first cry a halt to this arrangement; let him, p.m. if necessary, destroy this Department root and branch, and start a new Department of officers worthy of their responsibility drafted from gazetted cadres, preferably representative of all communities. I say that they must be representative of all communities because I know that clanish outlook has done so much harm in this trade. It is the irony of our situation that with our attainments and with our achievements, still we are not able to get out the ruts of clanish outlook from which we are born and in which we live. If the Hon. the Premier wants to give a decent burial to this Department in which favouritism and nepotism are so rampant, let him institute an enquiry and associate non-officials and see that the Tribunal is held soon so that at least the future is safe and we may be saved from the horrors of favouritism, nepotism and the spoils of this Department.

“ Mr. Speaker, I believe you agree with me that cloth and culture go together unless it be in nudist cult. So, when cloth is in short supply, culture is at stake. Even the course of love will

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not run smooth until we have raiment for the body, until we have glamour for the spirit—unless it be *in camera*. Cloth and charity are also bound up together. The saying goes that you must cut your coat according to your cloth but I ask are you going to cut your charity according to the cloth. It is clear that culture is at stake. I speak on behalf of philanthropic men and I am sure that this point will merit the consideration of the House. I speak particularly on behalf of men of philanthropy from my constituency of North Arcot district who are famous all over this Province. We have got and luckily, many men of influence and affluence who have got this age-long tradition during certain seasons of the year or part with cloth to the poor. All religions have ordained it and here let me not be misunderstood if I bring home to the memory of the House that an illustrious predecessor of mine, that prince of philanthropists.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I advise the member to revert to the topic under discussion and not to meander about philanthropists who have been making gifts.”

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, cloth and philanthropy go together. I believe, Sir, you agreed when I said that cloth and culture go together.

“That prince of philanthropists and that illustrious predecessor of mine was none other than Nawab C. Abdul Hakeem of blessed memory. May his soul rest in peace. As every religion has ordained, it is easier for the camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for the rich man to enter the Kingdom of God. In the case of rich men, they have to serve two masters; they must give unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's; and so it is among the Muslims, it has been ordained that they must part with *zakkath*, what may be called the ‘poor rate’ or ‘the capital levy.’ Since charity is the solvent of all sins and since this is drained at the very source on account of licences and controls, let the Hon. the Premier share the blessings of charity—charity is really thrice blessed; in this case, it blesseth the Hon. the Premier who orders the issue of licences, it blesseth the philanthropist who gives the cloth and it blesseth the needy who receives the cloth. I wish that there is special reservation made that there shall be no restriction at least in matters of charity.”

AN HON. MEMBER:—“The hon. Member is alluding to culture, charity and such other things that can more properly be discussed somewhere else.”

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I appeal to the Hon. the Premier to see that there are no reservations and no interference at least in the matter of distribution of cloth as charity. There cannot be a better award of charity than distribution of cloth to the poor, particularly in these hard days of scarcity. I would very much wish there were a thorough enquiry instituted very soon and if the findings warrant, the personnel of the administration come in for severe censure, so that we shall have a clean administration before we can expect to fight this

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famine of cloth. Cloth has got to be provided for everybody and for that reason, I say that we must at least safeguard ourselves against the scandal of nepotism and favouritism that we see so much in the administration to-day.”

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Mr. Speaker, it was on the 28th March 1946 that Mr. Thakersay, the President of the non-official Control Board, spoke as if there can be no famine of cloth in this country. He said that the production in 1945 was much higher than the production for 1944; it was about 3,794 million yards for 1944 and for 1945 the figure was 3,883 million yards and that worked to about 14 yards per capita. He also forecast that there will be a greater availability in 1946. Barely two months have gone by and we find cloth famine rearing up its head; I do not know what the real reason is for this cataclysm. On the 17th May 1946 the Government of India prohibited the manufacture of cloth for export till the end of July. This annual export of cloth was about 600 million yards and this prohibition will have the effect of saving for this country 120 million yards and it will stand us in good stead in the present state of affairs. Mr. Town was not quite willing even for this and expressed much solicitude for the loss of overseas trade. But let me tell him through you, Mr. Speaker, that we are not enamoured of overseas trade especially of manufactured goods. What this means and what free trade means is patent and plain to all of us who have been under the rule of his race. I feel that this is something like letting loose the free jackal in a free hen-roost and you know the result. We do not want to compete with any other country by exporting our manufactured goods at this stage, when we are starved for cloth.

“There are a number of gaps in the matter of yarn control and handloom cloth. According to the note in our hands, we find that the wholesaler gets 4 per cent; the retailer gets 10 per cent and the producer is given 15 per cent. I am not sure if in any other trade so much profit margin is allowed and I think you must find a way to reduce this big profit margin. I have not the figures nor the confidence with which my hon. Friend Mr. Anwar spoke before me in criticising the patronage that is so rampant in the Department; but I have got one thing to add to his list. I reliably learn that in the Madras list of quota-holders, there are some oddities. Book-sellers, musicians, newspaper managers and such like people find a place in the list.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“My list contains cartmen also.”

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Why should they alone be unfortunate. I wish to ask Sir, whether these people are attracted to the new field on account of huge profits. In connexion with the food debate the Hon. the Premier stated that he would put temple lands and trust lands under the plough under Government agency. I would like to know whether, and I would even submit to him that, he should nationalize the business, into which these

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gentlemen have freshly entered for black-marketing. The number of dealers, sub-dealers and the rest is something like the sub-letting in the zamindari areas. I understand that in Bihar and Orissa, in between the zamindar and the actual cultivator, there are as many as seventeen layers. The zamindars are going to be abolished and why should the same thing be allowed to recur here. I plead for the abolition of all these intermediaries between the producer and the actual consumer and I know, Sir, personally, how this system has been working too. During the last days of 1945, the Hon. the Premier as President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and as the President of the Cyclone Relief Committee took very great care to see that fishermen in the sea coast villages were supplied with yarn, as their nets were lost during the cyclone. For each box of yarn so supplied the dealers paid them to the extent of Rs. 50 and mulcted them. Therefore, I say that we should keep our eyes open and see that each bundle of yarn that is sent to the dealer is properly given to the weaver and he in his turn should weave it and render it back again to some agency nominated by the Government. In this connexion, I have got a word to say about co-operation. You have already a co-operative organization interested in the sale of handloom cloth, I mean the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society. I ask 'Why not make this the wholesaler for the whole of the Province?' Let them take the whole quota of yarn from the mills and get them distributed through the village committees. Along with it, I would like to impress that every weaver who receives his quota must deliver the cloth to some dealer approved by the Government in this behalf or where there is a co-operative society or stores to such an organization. If not this cloth will go elsewhere and we have to prevent it and see that it reaches the man for whom it is intended.

1 p.m. "Then, Sir, our friends, especially Muslim friends, are very critical about the bullock-cart mentality. In spite of the fact that many of our bullocks have been eaten away by the military, still we have the biggest bovine population. India has one-third bovine population of the world. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'You see them before us.') Then, you will have to ride them occasionally. We have also one-fifteenth of the world's total human population in this country. Some friends suggested the starting of mechanised industry in this country. Machinery is for such countries which have no big and large populations. Introduction of machinery will displace men from work, and would create unemployment. Therefore if we want to maintain full employment, employment which is not, in the words of Lord Keynes, digging up holes and filling them up, then the only way to do it is to introduce the charka. For, charka is not a fool's invention. It is the intuitive creation of a saint for the economic regeneration of a country, whose population is large and where capital is scarce. An hon. Member said that necessary capital would not be forthcoming. A charka can be made with two hours' effort. It requires only three rupees to be invested. (Mr. H. S. Town: 'Rs. 12.') With reference to my friend's claim

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I should say he is thinking of the Yerrawada charka, which costs Rs. 12. Then, Sir, regarding the lack of capital and the need for employing all people in this country, the only way is one by increasing the number of charkas and the like. Now, Sir, the All-India Spinners' Association is working with a capital of 6 lakhs of rupees."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That point has been covered by Mr. N. S. Varadachari. The hon. Member need not deal with it."

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The present All-India Spinners' Association is working in about 4,200 villages, employs 150,000 people, produces 46½ lakhs of yards of cloth costing about 60 lakhs of rupees. This outturn may be increased, if only Government invest one crore of rupees and thus employ six lakhs of charkas and 20,000 weavers, the outturn will be about three crores yards of cloth. The Hon. Premier, who experimented in the Jogannapalem area, I hope, would bring his experience to bear on the scheme, and change the present mentality, the present mode of administration and the present mode of work, and will produce more cloth. With these words I support the motion."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no intention of taking part in this debate as I felt that the subject could best be dealt with by technical experts or men in the line of business to neither of which I lay pretensions. But the remark laid at the door of the Independent Group by my hon. Friend Mr. Salam has compelled me to rise and vindicate our position. I say, Sir, that we here are entitled to hold our own views on all subjects. (Hear, hear.) We are not here to take sides with this or that party, but to freely and candidly express our views on subjects under discussion. If we happen to have identical views with other parties we shall certainly support them wholeheartedly. Otherwise, I am sorry, we cannot support merely for the sake of supporting this or that party. As I am about it, I may place before this House a few ideas that struck me during the course of this debate on the question of rationing of mill cloth. I am afraid, Sir, I cannot see eye to eye with the hon. Members who advocated rationing of mill cloth; for I feel the purpose underlying the idea of rationing of mill-cloth will not be served. The idea behind the proposal put forward by the Premier, is, to ensure the equitable distribution of mill-cloth among all the peoples of this Province, so that mill-cloth may be brought within easy reach of the poor people in villages and taluks. To this end quotas of monthly requirements are to be fixed by the committees proposed to be set up, dealers in and around the villages selected for distribution. A basic scheme of distribution is to be evolved and instructions in writing regarding distribution of consignments received by dealers are to be issued to them. This cumbersome process will I imagine involve much labour, and perhaps, expenditure. All for what? For the purpose of securing the supply, we are told, of one saree for ten families, one dhoti for a family and five yards of mill-cloth per capita per annum! Is it worth while,

[Mr. W. J. Fernandez] [3rd June 1946]

I ask? I think, Sir, the game is not worth the candle! To me, it seems, the real effect of rationing of mill-cloth would be to play into the hands of the black-marketeer by creating fresh avenues of supply for him. He will not be slow to grasp the opportunity of collaring the cloth and garments made available for the village folk through the agency of the villagers themselves in return for a small consideration as an inducement to part with the cloth. Thus the cloth intended for use by the villagers will find its way back to the blackmarkets in cities and towns. We should instead concentrate upon making more handloom cloth and placing it within the reach of the village folk at cheaper and controlled prices. I shall revert to this a little later. Meanwhile, I would plead that the Hon. the Premier abandon the idea, if any, of rationing mill-cloth as it will serve no purpose.

"It is an irony of fate that a Province self-sufficient in cotton yarn should overnight be converted into a deficit one by the findings of a committee. The present position of this Province in cloth clearly exposes the fallacies of the findings of the committee. I think Government should register a strong protest with the Imperial Government against the inequitable distribution of cotton yarn which has resulted in this position and insist that the quotas of mill-cloth short supplied to this Province by the Bombay mills should be made good within a specified period. I would even go further and hold out a threat, that if there is no redress of our grievance, cotton yarn will not be sent out of this Province, even though it may result in certain reprisals.

"Now I come to the proposed committees. I think there are possibilities for considerable good in the various committees proposed. Unfortunately the proposals are viewed with great suspicion and fear. One of my Muslim friends bases his fear on the statement made by the Hon. the Premier that tahsildars had been asked to remember that they are the servants of the Congress Government. The idea which the Premier probably had in view was as follows: 'You, tahsildars and other officers, as servants of the previous Government, you carried on a game to your own liking; remember you are under a new Government and if we get hold of instances of corruption we shall make an example of you, so that it will act as a deterrent to the other officials.' I ask, why not look at it from that generous point of view. I think we should be a little more charitable. Now these committees are proposed with the idea of tackling the cloth problem and I feel that the Premier, who, strikes one as being a man of determination, will see to it that these criticisms are groundless, and will prove in good time that the scheme which is now said to be impracticable and unworkable is practicable, and that all the fears entertained are groundless. I think the better course is to allow him to have his way. I therefore support his scheme."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHALAKSHMI AMMA:—"అధ్యక్షా! ఇప్పుడు మన టేక్స్ టైంట్ కమిషనరుగారి రిపోర్టులో బట్టల ఉత్పత్తి చూస్తే చాలా ఆశ్చర్యము గాను, విచిత్రముగాను ఉంది. ఏమంటే మన ప్రధానమంత్రిగారు చెప్పినట్లుగా 10 కుటుంబములకు ఒక చీర సప్లయ్ చెయ్యబడును అని అన్నారు. ముఖ్యముగా నేను

[3rd June 1946.] [Srimathi V. Seethalakshmi Amma]

చెప్పేది ఏమిటంటే ఆహారము లేకపోయినప్పటికీ ప్రతి మానవునికి తన ప్రాణముపోయే వరకు మానము కాపాడుకునేందుకు గుడ్డ అత్యవసరము. 10 కుటుంబములకు ఒక చీర అనేది ఎంత ఘోరమో, స్త్రీల మానము ఎలాగ కాపాడగలరో మీరే ఆలోచించవలయును. బట్టలకొరకు ఈ రాష్ట్రములో ఎంత కాటకముగా ఉన్నా కూడా కాంగ్రెసు మంత్రివర్గం ఆధికారంలో ఉండగా ఎగుమతులు వెంటనే ఆపివేసి తగిన చర్య తీసుకొనవలెను. ప్రస్తుతము మిల్లు బట్టలు దొరకడ మేలేదు. నేతబట్టలు సాధారణ కుటుంబములకు అందుబాటులో లేవు. మిల్లుబట్ట ప్రజలకు చాలినంతగా లేదు. గ్రామవాసులలో రూ 50 లు వరకు ఆదాయము వచ్చేవానికి ప్రతి కుటుంబానికి మిల్లు బట్టలు సప్లయ్ అయ్యేట్లు చూడాలి. పట్టణాలలో నెలకు రూ 100 లకు తక్కువ ఆదాయము వచ్చే వారికి మిల్లు గుడ్డలు అందేట్లు చూడాలి. ఆహారవిషయములో విడిధముగా మరల నుండి ముదుగు బియ్యం తీయించుటకు యేర్పాట్లుచేయమన్నారో అదేవిధముగా బట్టలు నుండి ముదుగుల నెలకు రూ 50 నుండి గూడా మిల్లుబట్టలు ముదుగుల తయారుచేయించవలెను. నెలకు రూ 50 నుండి 100 లు వరకు ఆదాయముగలవారు ఈ చేనేతగుడ్డలు కొనలేకుండా యున్నారు. సంతకర్తగానికి సాధారణముగా కనీసం ఒక స్త్రీకి 3 చీరలు కావాలి. చీర రూ 10 ల చొప్పున రూ 30 లు ఇచ్చి చీరలు కొనలేనవారు చాలామంది ఉంటారు కాబట్టి మిల్లు చీరలు బీదవారికి దొరికేట్లు చూడాలి.

"అంతేకాకుండా (All India) చరఖా సంఘంవారు పనిచేస్తున్నా ఖద్దరు చాలా సంతగా లేదు అని మన టేక్స్ టైంట్ ఆఫీసరుగారు అన్నారు. చాలినంతగా ఖద్దరు ఉత్పత్తిగావలెనంటే గ్రామాలలో బీదలకు చరఖాలు, ఏకులు వుంచితముగా ఇచ్చి రూ 100 లకు రూ 5 లు విలువగల చిలపలు పన్నులరుంపకముగా చెల్లించేట్లు చెయ్యవలెను. ఇప్పటి నిబంధనలప్రకారము రూ 5 ల ఖద్దరు కావలెనంటే ఆర్థిక చరకా సంఘంలో ఒక చిలపయన్ను, తమిళనాడు సంఘంలో కూడ రెండు చిలపలు నూని ఇవ్వాలని ఉంది. అలాగు ఇచ్చి ఖద్దరు కావలసినవారు కొంటున్నారు. నూలు ఉత్పత్తి అధికముగా లేదు కాబట్టి ఈ బట్టలకొరత తీర్చవలసిన భార్యత ప్రభుత్వమువారిమీదను ఉంది. కాబట్టి ముఖ్యముగా రూ 5 ల సిసలుకు ఒక చిలప నూలునైననూ ఖండితముగా వసూలుచెయ్యవలయును.

"మిల్లుబట్టలు ఎక్కడగా సక్లయ్చెయ్యవలయును. హిందూ విశంతులకు మల్లు దొరకడములేదు అని అంటున్నారు. వారు రంగు చీరలు అంచు బట్టలు కట్టుకోరు. మా సాంప్రదాయములప్రకారంగా కట్టడానికి వీలులేదు కాబట్టి మల్లు కావలెనని వారు అంటున్నారు.

చేనేత పార్శవామికులకు సహాయము ఎక్కడగా చెయ్యాలి. ఖద్దరునేయు మగ్గు ములకు Bonus ఇవ్వాలి. ఈ బట్టలకొరతను మన మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వం తొలగించాలి. అన్నవస్త్రములకు లోటులేని ఈ భారతదేశములో 10 కుటుంబములకు ఒక చీరకన్న ఎక్కువ ఇవ్వలేమని చెప్పుట విచారికరముగా ఉంది. రాట్నములు ప్రజలకు విరివిగా సక్లయ్చేస్తే ఈ కొరత తీరుతుందని నేను చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఇది నా విన్నవముగా చెబుతూ నేను శలవుతీసుకుంటున్నాను."

* **SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:**—"கனம் சபாநாயகரவர்களே, சனபயிலுள்ள கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களே, மிகக் கஷ்டமான சமயத்தில் இந்த சனப கூட்டப்பட்டு இருக்கிறது. சுமார் 10 நாளைக பிரமாதமான விவாதங்களை நாம் நடத்திவந்திருக்கிறோம். எதற்காக விவாதம் நடத்தினோமென்றால் உணவு, துணி அலகியம் வேண்டும் என்பதைப் பற்றியே பேசினோம். பலபேர் பல அபிப்பிராயங்களை வெளியிட்டார்கள். மனிதனுக்கு முக்கியமாக வேண்டியது உணவும் துணியும். இது இரண்டும் மனித சமூகத்திற்கு இருந்து வரவேண்டும். அதில் முக்கியமாக உடையினறி

மனிதன் வெளியே போக முடியாது. வெளியே போய்ச் சுற்றி பல காரியங்களைச் செய்து பொருளைத் திரட்ட அல்லது தானியங்களைப் பூமிமீலிருந்து கறந்துகொண்டு வருவதற்கு முடியாது போய்விடும். இந்த ஜீவாதாரமான உடையானது பொருமானவரை இப்பொழுது கொடுக்கமுடியாத நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கின்றது. நமது கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி 5 செஜம் துணியை ஒரு நபருக்கு கொடுக்கமுடியுமென்று சொன்னார். இந்த நிலைமையிலிருந்தால் ஜனங்கள் வெளியே போய் தொழில் செய்யவோ தானியங்களை பூமிமீலிருந்து கறந்துகொண்டுவரவோ, அல்லது வேலை செய்து சம்பாதிக்கவோ தொழில் முறைகளைப் பெறவோ முடியாமல் ஸ்தம்பித்து விடுவார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையை மாற்ற வேண்டுமானாலும் நம் மாகாணத்திலே உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டியது மில்களை யெல்லாம் ஸர்க்கார் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுவதுதான். ஸர்க்கார் மில்களையெல்லாம் எடுத்துக் கொண்டால் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டு அடியோடு அடிபிந்துபோகும். மில்காரர்களிடமிருந்து இதை எடுப்பதற்கு நேரமாகும், காலமாகுமென்றால் உடனடியாக நெருப்பு பெட்டி தொழிற்சாலைகளுக்கு எப்படி போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து போட்டு அதற்கு வரிவசூல் பண்ணுகிறதற்கு ஸர்க்கார் வேலைசெய்திருக்களோ அதே மாதிரி இந்த மில்களையெல்லாம் சுற்றி பந்தோபஸ்துபோட்டு கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டு நடக்கவொட்டாமல் நடுத்திட்டு வேண்டும். கோயமுத்தூரிலே சுமார் 32 மில்களிருக்கின்றன. மதுரை, அம்பாசமுத்திரம், மேட்டூர், இந்த இடங்களிலெல்லாம் மில்கள் இருக்கின்றன. சென்னையில் மில்கள் இருக்கின்றன. சென்னையில் சூனியில் என்ற ஒரு மில்லை முடிவைத் திருக்கிறார்கள். ஸர்க்கார் இதைப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டுதான் இருந்தார்கள். இதுவரையிலிருந்து அட்வைசர் ஸர்க்கார், இந்த நெருக்கடியான நேரத்திலே ஒரு பெரிய முதலைப்போட்டு லெக்ஷாதி லெக்ஷம் தொகையைப் போட்டு முதல்லைத்து அதற்கு இடத்தையும் கொடுத்து வேலை செய்து வந்த மில் ஸ்டாப்பிடு கிடக்கிறதென்றால் அம்முறை மிக பரிதாபமானதாகும். ஜனங்கள் துணியல்லாமல் நிர்வாகமானாக இருக்கின்ற காக்வி நாட்டில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிற காலத்தில் ஸர்க்கார் அதை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு என் நடத்தக்கூடாது. அப்படி நடத்தியிருந்தால் அந்த மில்லிலிருந்து எவ்வளவு துணிகளையும் நூல்களையும் உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்களென்று அது ஒருபுறமிருக்க மில் முதலாளிகள் மில்லில் உற்பத்தியாகும் நூல்களைச் சரியானபடி கொடுக்காமல் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டில் விற்கிறார்களென்று பல பேர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது உண்மையாயிருக்குமானால் அதற்கு ஸர்க்கார் எதனும் வழி கண்டுபிடிக்கவேண்டியதுதான்! அதைச் செய்யாமல் விட்டுவிட்டு தாக்கணயத்திற்கும் பணக்காரர்கள் கவுரவம் வாய்ந்தவர்கள், செல்வவந்தர்கள், சிறந்தவர்கள் என்றதற்காகவும் அவர்களுக்கு தாக்கணயத்தைக் காட்டுவார்களானால் ஜனங்களுக்கு பெறும் கஷ்டம் வந்துவிடும். மக்கள் இப்பொழுது மாண்டு மடிந்துபோகிற நேரம், இது அவசரமான நேரம், உயிரைக் காப்பாற்றும் நேரம், மானத்தைக் காப்பாற்றும் நேரம். இந்த நேரத்தில் இந்த வேலைகளைச் செய்யாமல் போனால் இந்த சபையானது தன்னுடைய கடைமையைச் சரியாகச் செய்யாமல் தவறி விட்டதென்று உலகம் பூராவும் நம்மை பார்த்து என்னி நலையுமாம் இரண்டு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னே வங்காளத்திலே ஏற்பட்ட பஞ்சத்தினால் மக்கள் பட்டினியால் மான்த்தைப் பார்த்து உலகம் சிரித்தது. இந்தியாவில் இந்த அவக்கேடு ஏற்பட்டதைக் கண்டு ஒவ்வொரு ஆண்டுகளும் நிலை குனிந்தான். இந்த நாட்டில் அதிகாரத்தைச் செலுத்திவந்தவர்கள் வெட்டினார்கள். தற்போது நமது மாகாணத்தில் ஏற்பட்டுள்ள நிலைமையை கண்டு அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்திவந்த அட்வைசர் ஸர்க்காரும் வெட்கித் தான் இருக்கவேண்டும். வெட்காமலிருப்பார்களானால் அவர்களுக்கு உணர்வு இருக்கவில்லை யென்றதான் நினைக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது நடவடிக்கை துரிதமாக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கனம் பிரதம மந்திரியை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். தவிர மில்லில் உணவிலிடம் வைத்துப் பகிர்ந்துகொடுக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது மில் துணிகள் 9½ அணவுக்குக் கிடைக்கிறது. ஏதோ 82-ம் நம்பர் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். 1½ செஜம் அகலம், இரண்டு செஜம் ஒரு மனிதனுக்குப் போது

மானது. இரண்டு கெஜத்தின் விலை ரூ. 1-3-0 ஆகிறது. நான்கொல்லாப்
4 முட்டைதான் கட்டுகிறேன். மில் துணி இவ்வளவு வரலமாகக் கிடைக்கிறது.
இந்த மில்லில் உற்பத்தியாகும் நூலைச் சரியானபடி பகிர்ந்து கொடுக்க
முயற்சித்தால் எப்படி குறைந்த விலைக்குக் கிடைக்காமல் போகுமென்று
கேட்கின்றேன். கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டுக்காரர்கள் நூலை பெல் பேலாக்
வாங்குகிறார்கள். மறுபடியும் மாஸ்டர் வீவரென்று அதற்குச் சிலபேர்
சுளை ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அந்த நூலைக்கொண்டுபோய்
வீவர்களுக்கும் கைத்தரிகாரர்களுக்கும் அதைப் பிரித்துக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள்.
ஒரு மாதத்துக்கு மூன்று பொந்து கொடுக்கிறார்கள். மூன்று பொந்து என்
ஒரு மாதத்துக்கு மூன்று பொந்து கொடுக்கிறார்கள். மூன்று பொந்து என்
ஒரு பாலு, ஒரு பாலு என்றால் ஒரு தான் என்று சொல்லுவார்கள்
ஒரு தான் எடுப்பதனால் மூன்று பொந்து வேண்டும். இந்தமூன்று பொந்து
போட்டு வேலைசெய்தால் ஒரு கைத்தரியாளனுக்கு நான்கு நான் வேலைதான்
இருக்கும். நான்கு நாளைக்குள் அல்லது ஐந்து நாளைக்குள் இந்த வேலை
முடிந்து போய்விடுகிறது. மறுபடியும் ஒரு மாதம் வரையில் வேலையின்லா
மல் இருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது நாட்டிலிருக்கின்ற கஷ்டம் எங்களைப்
போலுள்ளவர்களுக்குத்தான் தெரியுமென்பதாக நான் பிரதம மந்திரிக்கு
எடுத்துச் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். நம்முடைய ஜனங்கள் இம்மாதிரி
பட்டினியால் மாண்டு மடிந்துபோகிறார்கள். வாமமுடியாமல் அவர்களை
மாசு இருக்கிறார்கள். நிர்வாணமாய் இருக்கிறார்கள். இங்கு பேசுவதற்கு
ஐந்து நிமிஷம் அதற்குமேல் மணியடித்துவிடுகிறார்கள்; எனக்கு ஒன்றும்
புரியவில்லை. குருதியோடுத்தில் என் மனதிலுள்ளவைகளை எப்படி சொல்ல
முடியும். சுபநாயகர் அவர்களே, இன்னும் இரண்டு நிமிஷம் கொடுக்க
வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“நூல்களையெல்லாம் வாங்கும் சரியானமுறையில் பரிந்துரைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். மற் றும் கைத்தரிக்காரர்களுக்கு மாஸ்டர் வீவர்கள் ஓர்ப்பொந்து, இரண்டு பொந்து ஓவ்வொரு வீவர்களுக்கும் நூலை கொடுத்துவிட்டு அடுத்த மாத்தகுக்குக் கொடுக்கிறேனென்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். அப்படி நிறுத்திவிட்டால் அவனுக்கு வேலைசெய்ய முடியாமல் அந்த நூலை மற்றொருவனுக்கு விற்ப்புகின்றான். இப்படி இந்த மாஸ்டர் வீவர்கள் கொடுத்த நூலையெல்லாம் அதிக லாபம்போகாது திருப்பவும் வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பொருத்தத்தில் தரிகள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் பொருத்தத்தில் தரிகள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதிலே நெய்து ஓர கொள்ளை லாபம் அடிக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஸர்க்கார் பல சிக்கல்களையும் விதித்து பெறுத்த அபராதத்தையும் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆயினும் கள்ள மார்க்கட்டு நின்றபாடிலை. கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டு செய்பவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் கடுமையான தண்டனை கொடுத்தாலொழிய இது நிற்காது. நமது தலைவர் ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு அவர்கள் இந்தக் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டுக்குக் கார்ப்சியெல்லாம் தூக்கில்போட்டுவிடவேண்டும் என்று சொன்னார். இந்த Balok market காரர்கள் என்ன நினைத்தார்கள் எதோ ஜவஹர்லால் நேரு சொன்னால் அது முடியாத காரியம் என்று இருக்கிறார்கள். ஸர்க்கார் குறைந்தபட்சம் 10 வருஷம் அவர்களுக்கு தண்டனை கொடுக்கவேண்டும், அப்படிக் கொடுத்தால்தான் இந்த கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டு வியாபாரம் நின்று போகும். இப்படி தண்டனை அதிகமாகக் கொடுக்கிறதற்கு சட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னொரு விஷயம் நடக்கவேண்டும். சண்டை சமயத்தில் ராணுவத்திற்காக ரயில்வேகளையெல்லாம் சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு, ரயில்வேயிலிருந்த அதிகாரிகளையெல்லாம் சிப்பாய்களாகச் செய்தார்கள். இந்தியாவில் இப்பொழுதும் சிப்பாய்களாகவே இருக்கின்றார்கள்; பஞ்சம் வந்திருக்கும் நேரத்தில் அதைத் தவிரக் ஜனங்களுடைய உயிரைக் காப்பாற்றவேண்டிய அவசியமாய் நெசவு சிப்பாய்களென்றும், விவசாய பாற்றவேண்டிய அவசியமாய் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். விவசாயிகளுக்கு விவசாயத் தை அபிவிருத்திசெய்ய உதவி தரவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

The House then rose for lunch.

[Sri A. Subramaniam]

[3rd June 1946]

விடைக்கு விற்கிறதென்று பொது ஜனங்கள் கருதுவார்களானால், உடனே அரசாங்கத்தார்கள் கைத்தறிச்சார்களைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தி அதை அப்படியே கவர்ன்மெண்டா வாங்கிக்கொண்டு போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கும் இதர கவர்ன்மென்ட் சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் வழங்கவேண்டும். இப்படிச் செய்யலாமானால் துணிப்பஞ்சம் தீர்த்துவிடுமென்பதை மறுக்கமுடியாது, மிகுள்ள துணியை மற்ற மாகாணங்களுக்கும் கொடுக்க இருக்குமென்பதையும் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு இதை உடனடியாகச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI R. SUBBAYYA:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, within the 5 minutes allotted to me, I only rise to represent some of the grievances of my district and place before the Hon. the Premier some of my suggestions.

“In the matter of the distribution of yarn to various districts, I have got some interesting statistics regarding the number of handlooms in the following districts, as also the quantity of yarn supplied to each from June 1945 to December 1945:—

Name of district.						Number of hand looms.	Quantity of yarn supplied.
							BALES.
Madura	..	..	..	..	..	23,896	16,685
Tinnevely	..	..	..	..	..	50,300	11,425
Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	30,865	3,505

From the above figures, it will be seen that a great disparity exists in the supply of yarn. Therefore, I request the Hon. the Premier to look into this matter, and to order the distribution of an equitable quota of yarn to the Chingleput district.

“Secondly, a good deal has been said about the master-weaver and the need to eliminate him from this market. I would submit only one or two reasons why he has got to be eliminated. Sir, he is like the wholesale dealer in the business of procurement and distribution of foodgrains, having a key position in the scheme of things in regard to the distribution of yarn. The other day as I was coming to this House, a copy of a petition sent to the Textile Control Officer at Conjeeveram was handed over to me by some weavers of Karanaiputhucheri near Guduvancheri in my district. There is a master-weaver employing more than 100 weavers. When the weavers asked for fair wages, he turned them out. In such cases what happens is that the yarn finds its way into the blackmarket. I am reliably informed that a bundle of yarn costing Rs. 17-8-0 is sold at Rs. 60 in the blackmarket and the finished product is sold at Rs. 85. This is how the black-market flourishes. Therefore, just as we are arranging to eliminate the wholesaler in the matter of the procurement of foodgrains here also we must eliminate the master-weaver who sucks the blood of the weavers. These master-weavers draw the yarn due on the ration cards and send it to the blackmarket distributing precious little to the weavers and at the same time paying them poor wages. Seeing the possibility of getting yarn in the blackmarket, many new looms have been started in my own district. Even according to the figures furnished by the Textile Commissioner, there are now 75,000 new looms erected. In my district

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[Sri R. Subbayya]

a number of agriculturists have given up their profession and taken to weaving. I submit, therefore, that the weavers who have been in this profession traditionally must alone be given ration cards and steps should be taken to see that the agriculturists do not leave their jobs and take to weaving.

“Sir, we have heard a good deal here about corruption. I would suggest in this connexion that the practice of appointing officers of the Revenue Department to the Textile and Supply Departments should be deprecated. These officers are steeped in corruption, they are bred in corruption and nothing better can be expected from them. The Supply and Textile Departments should be manned by educated young men available in plenty. They must be directly appointed to these departments.

“Another suggestion I wish to make relates to the creation of a Khadi ministry. If this is done, the improvements which my hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari desired to introduce, could also be carried out.

“Sir, controls without commandeering have been responsible for three things: (1) the blackmarket, (2) corrupt officers and (3) a set of war-made rich people, the wholesale licensees and master-weavers. These are becoming a social nuisance and a menace to society. There are also many weavers who are weaving cloth for extra local consumption. Steps may be taken to see that cloth for local consumption is made in the looms of the locality concerned. The demand for cloth cannot otherwise be satisfied.

“The hon. Member from Nellore said that the stringent provision for sanction in the Defence of India Rules should be removed. I am against that removal. The Defence of India Rules are a formidable weapon in the hands of the executive. Sanction before prosecution is perhaps the only safeguard for the citizen. If even that is removed he will be at the mercy of petty officers.”

* SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“கனம் பொருந்திய தலைவரவர்களே, இன்று துணி விஷயமாகவும் நூல் விஷயமாகவும் பலர் பேசி விட்டார்கள். நான் ஒரு தொழிலாளி யென்பதை உங்கள் முன்னிலையில் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்று இருக்கும் நிலைமையில் நூல் பஞ்சத்தை வித்திக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்று இருக்கும் நிலைமையில் நூல் கண்ட்ரோலர் இங் ஒழிக்கவேண்டுமென்று பேசுகிறேன். இன்று நூல் கண்ட்ரோலர் இங் கிருக்கிறார்கள். இங்கு நூல் கொடுப்பதை நாம் பார்க்கின்ற காலத்தில் அவர்கள் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய கோட்டா வீதம் 10 தினங்கள் தான் தொழிலாளிகள் வேலை செய்ய முடியும். இன்னும் 20 தினங்கள் அவர்கள் பட்டினியால் வாடி கஷ்டப்படுகிற நிலைமையில் தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையை முதலில் போக்க வேண்டும். மாஸ்டர் வீவர் என்று சொல்லுகிறவர்கள் செய்யக்கூடிய அக்கிரமம் கொஞ்ச நஞ்சமல்ல. பல கிராமங்களுக்கு நான் சென்றிருக்கிறேன். நேற்றையதினம் காஞ்சிவரத்துக்குச் சென்றிருந்தேன். இன்றைய தினம் 100 பேர்களுக்கு மேலாக வேலையை விட்டுத் தள்ளி இன்று அத்தனை பேர்களும் சென்னைக்குக் கால் நடையாக வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த அக்கிரமத்தைப் பார்க்கும் போது மாஸ்டர் வீவர்கள் பேரில் இருக்கக்கூடிய கார்டுகள் அவர்கள் தொழிலாளிகளை விரட்டி விட்டு அந்தக் கார்டில் வரக்கூடிய

[Sri M. Kanniappan]

[3rd June 1946]

நூலக்கொண்டு பிளாக் மார்க்கெட் செய்கிறார்கள். இதை கண்ட்ரோலுக்கும் கமிஷனுக்கும் பல தடவை ரிப்போர்ட்டு செய்தும் அவர்கள் அதைச் சென்று பார்த்து நடவடிக்கை எடுத்ததாகத் தெரியவில்லை. போன வாரம் தான் சென்னைக்கு அடுத்த புதுச்சேரி என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய கிராமத்தில் 70 பேர்களுக்கு மேல் தொழிலாளிகள் வேலையிட்டு நீக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த 70 பேர்களுடைய நூல் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. இவர்களைப்பற்றி கண்ட்ரோலுக்கு எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள். இங்கும் ரிப்போர்ட்டு செய்திருக்கிறேன். இந்த நிலைமையில் இருக்கின்ற காலத்தில் தொழிலாளிகள் ஏதாவது கேட்டால் பூந்தமல்லிக்கடுத்த திருமழிசை கிராமத்தில் வேலை கொடுக்காமல் நீக்கப்பட்டதைத் தெரிவிக்கப் பிரியப்படுகிறேன். தொழிலாளிகள் “நீங்கள் செய்வது அக்கிரமம் எங்களுக்குப் பல இடங்களிலே கூலி சரியாகக் கொடுக்கவில்லை இங்கு 9 ரூபாய் கொடுப்பது தப்பு” என்று கேட்ட மாதிரத்தில் விடைப் பூட்டிவிட்டு வெளியே போ என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள், அது மாதிரமல்ல; மரத்திலே கட்டிவைத்து அடித்துமிருக்கிறார்கள், இதையும் ரிப்போர்ட்டு செய்திருக்கிறது. நேற்றுப்போய் 100 பேர்களையும் வேலைக்கு வேண்டாம் வெளியே போ என்று சொல்ல, சென்னைக்கு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கொடுமையைப் போக்குவதற்கு நியாயம் எந்தப் பக்கத்தில் இருக்கிற தென்பதைப்பார்த்து அதை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு சத்தியத்தின் பேரால் கமிஷனரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன் நியாயம் வழங்கவேண்டும், உடனடியாக தொழிலாளிப் பிரச்சினையைத் தீர்த்து வைக்கவேண்டும். அது தான் தர்மம். இம்மாதிரியாக விரோதமாக, முதலாளிகளோடு சேர்ந்தவர்கள் அவர்கள் சொல்லுவதை மாத்திரம் கேட்பது நியாயமில்லை. நியாயமான முறையில் நடக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி இருந்தால் தான் சரியான முறையில் நம் நாட்டில் வந்திருக்கும் துணி பஞ்சத்தை போக்க முடியுமென்று சொல்லுகிறோம். அந்த நிலைமை உடனடியாகத் தீர்ப்பது முடியுமென்று பொறுத்தது. அந்த தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு நன்மை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு அப்படிச் செய்தால் தான் நாம் உண்மையில் நல்லது செய்தவர்களாவோமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“Sir, at the end of a lengthy debate there is very little left for anyone to make any constructive suggestion. It seems to me that this cloth shortage is the just punishment to us for our indifference to hand-weaving and hand-spinning. There is no use of repenting now. We have been for a long time threatened with the Defence of India Rules for doing this and that by officers drawing fat salaries. If these officers had controlled the departments entrusted to their care and did nothing else, they would not be cutting a sorry figure now. Speaking subject to correction, I understand that a lot of yarn was given to special licensees. What was the need for it, we cannot understand. A lot of complaint is also heard about the quota for wholesalers, sub-wholesalers and dealers. When 5 per cent profit was enough for them they were allowed 20 per cent. Is it for this purpose that control is exercised? I am not here to find fault with all the activities of the department. It has miserably failed. I know that one gentleman is exporting all the mill cloth to Bombay. Why has not his licence been cancelled? Is it not the duty of the Government, in these abnormal times, to stop such sales? Sir, the callousness and the irresponsibility of the British Government under the I.C.S. officers are responsible for these evils. If they had done their duty properly, this famine in food and cloth could have easily been got over.”

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“To meet the present emergency, the Government must subsidize the weavers and also train some of them in weaving. I request the Government to exercise a fuller control over mills. They should put a stop to handloom weavers producing table cloths, window curtains and other things.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member's time is up.”

MR. J. M. WILSON:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem that confronts us to-day is firstly the limited supply of cloth that is available, secondly, the sky-high rises in the price of cloth and thirdly the difficulty of the cloth reaching the common people. The reasons for these three are not far to seek. In the floor of this House several Members have spoken and several instances have been given. The first thing is the scarcity of cloth or limited supply of cloth referred to in the statement of the Textile Commissioner. He told us that more cloth cannot be produced in the mills in this Presidency and that it is absolutely impossible to think of producing more yarn. He wants us to believe that this is a fact and asks us to find a solution for the problem. Secondly, there are exports from this country to outside. These exports are there. These two things are responsible for the limited supply of cloth that is available to the people of this Province. The second aspect is the abnormal rise in prices. Of course instances have been given here. I congratulate the Textile Commissioner on his using the words ‘the chain of dealers’ in his statement. He has used the appropriate words. The chain begins with the mill-owner. He is the first link in the chain. Then comes the wholesaler, thereafter the stockholder, sub-wholesaler and so on. This chain of dealers is the one thing that is responsible for the rise in prices. It is a chain which has been created and reared and fed by the Textile department and by the late Government. To this chain is added the blackmarket, the blackmarket in yarn, the blackmarket in mill cloth and also in the handloom cloth. Blackmarket has been rampant but somehow it has escaped the notice or observations by the Hon. the Premier. I will tell you how he is responsible for the rise in prices. Before the cloth reaches the people, it has to pass through a chain of dealers. When the margin of profit allowed to the dealers is added to the cost price, it goes up to 25 per cent. To this added the blackmarket price. Not content with the profit margin allowed to them, these dealers send some of the cloth to the blackmarket and only the balance reaches the general public.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member's time is up.”

MR. J. M. WILSON:—“I request you, Mr. Speaker, to give me more time.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have allowed other Members only 5 minutes each. If he had been present day before yesterday, when I called upon him to move his amendment, he could have taken more time. He cannot take advantage of that now and claim more time.”

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MR. J. M. WILSON:—"Then I am sorry."

*SRI K. SUBBA RAO:—"అధ్యక్షా! ఈ పదిరోజులూ ఆహార సమస్య వస్తూ సమస్య మీద చాలా చర్చ జరిగింది. ఆహార సమస్యకంటే ఎక్కువ సమస్య ప్రాధాన్యమైనది కట్టడానికి గుడ్డదొరకడములేమ కాబట్టి ఇంతవరకు ఆహారము అయింది. ఈ చర్చ సందర్భములో ఆనేక విషయములు తెలుపబడినవి. ముట్టమొదటిది అధికారుల మీద దండయాత్ర దీనిగురించి అంతగా చెప్పి అవసరంలేదు. ఎందుకంటే ఈ అధికారులను అడుపాజ్ఞలతో ఉంటే అధికారులను ఇప్పుడు మనకు ఉంది. ఇప్పుడు ఈ అధికారవర్గమునకువచ్చిన వారు అధికారుల చర్యలను తగినట్లుగా కంట్రోలు చేయవలయునని నేను ప్రార్థించుచున్నాను. లైసెన్సు ఎవరికివ్వవచ్చును, ఎవరి కివ్వకూడదనే విషయములూ (Non-official Committee) లకు ఒక్కచెప్పడం మంచిది.

"ఇక మిల్లుబట్టల విషయం సాధ్యమైనంతమట్టుకు మిల్లుబట్టల వ్యాపార ప్రచారం తగ్గించవలయును. ఇంత ఆందోళన ఆ విషయంలో అనవసరం (Textile officer) గారి స్టేబు మెంటు ప్రకారము నూలు మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రములో కావలసినంతమందిగాని దానిని ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు పంపడంచేత ఇంక రాష్ట్రంలో చాలమందా ఉన్నది. మన మంత్రి గారికి అధికారం ఉంటే మన నూలు ఇతర రాష్ట్రాలకు పంపకుండా చెయ్యవలెనని మంత్రివర్గం నా కోరుచున్నాను.

"మా ప్రాంతములో చేనేత పనివారికి తగిన సహాయముచెయ్యవలెను. ఇప్పుడు నేతవారికి 10 దినములకు మాత్రం నూలు ఉంది. (Black Marketing) ఏ విధముగా జరుగుతుంది అంటే నూలు తీసుకున్నవారుకూడా (Black Market) లో అమ్ముతున్నారు. అలాగైతే వానికి ఎక్కువ లాభము ఉన్నది. ఒట్టలు నేతవలన కీట్టుబటుకాలేదు. చేనేత ఒట్టలను కంట్రోలు చేసి ప్రజలందుబాటులో ఉండేట్లు చెయ్యవలెనని నా విన్నపము. ధరలనుకూడా నిర్ణయించవలయును.

"ఇక ఖద్దరు విషయంలో మన మంత్రిగారికి అధికారము ఉల్పాదము ఉన్నదని మనకు తెలుసును. వెంటనే ఈ ఖద్దరు ఉత్పత్తి అధికముచేసి స్వయంపాపక విధానమునై గ్రామాలలో ఉత్పత్తి చేయించవలయును. అప్పుడు మన దేశములో గుడ్డకరువు ఉండదు అని చెప్పుతు నేను విరమించుచున్నాను."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"Mr. Speaker, I come from a part of the City which is inhabited mainly by weavers and my experience is that a number of them are without work. I understand that the master-weavers who receive their quota do not use the yarn wholly for their loom. It is said that only a part of their quota is used on the looms, the other part being sold at higher price as yarn. In consequence, hundreds of weavers are without work. If there is any control or check on this activity of the master-weavers, the sufferings of the weavers could be relieved.

"I am not here going to repeat the several points that were raised by other hon. Members.

"Mr. Town, I am sorry, my hon. Friend Mr. Town (laughter) said that the 48-hour week will be disadvantageous and will result in underproduction by several million yards of yarn or cloth. I will suggest to him—and he knows it—that even if the hours of work are reduced, the machines can run all the time. What will have to be done is more workers will have to be engaged.

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"I would suggest that the Choolai Mill which is now lying idle might be taken on lease by the Government and work started. It has got 775 looms and 40,000 spindles. In one shift it can produce 35,000 yards of cloth."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Already the Premier has promised to consider the question of the reopening of the Choolai Mills. The hon. Member might refer to some other point."

SRI G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTI:—"I am thankful to you for this suggestion, Sir. It is the general complaint of both the consumers and others that the distribution of yarn and cloth is in a miserable state. I hope the Hon. the Premier will set right these things and give us relief.

"My next remark has reference to the queues formed in front of shops waiting for cloth in the streets of Madras. I understand, Sir, that you will not permit me to talk about the blackmarket. If so, I must use some other word for it. Cloths are purchased by others and sold at higher cost. I think the Police might make it an item of duty to check these unsocial elements.

"Finally, I should like to say that we are in the midst of realities and are not going to be guided by high-sounding words and idealists like Mr. N. S. Varadachari."

*SRI G. NARASIMHA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the supply of yarn to the handlooms it must be remembered that our mills are producing yarn from 20 to 120 counts. For higher counts of yarn cotton has to be imported from Egypt and Karachi. If the mills are asked to confine themselves to producing 20 counts only there will be no need to import cotton from outside. The local cotton will be sufficient. More bales of yarn could be produced and more yarn could be supplied to the handloom weavers; it helps to relieve the shortage of cloth. 3-15 p.m.

"There have been complaints from many quarters in this House that the wholesalers were making huge profits. But considering the number of licences issued by the Textile Department it will be found that the wholesaler and the retailer are not in a position even to meet their establishment charges (Cries of Oh, oh, and laughter). If this state of affairs prevails many of them will have to close down their shops and become unemployed. and the Government will have to open another Employment Bureau for these people. They have been for several centuries in this trade and still they are not able to get even 1 per cent profit. Some of them are not able to get even ten bales a month. I am prepared if the Hon. Prime Minister wants it to show what profit the merchants in the yarn trade were making before the war and what they are making now. There is no use entrusting the work to co-operative societies and eliminating the wholesalers and the retailers and creating unemployment.

"With regard to handloom cloth the wages of weavers have increased 400 per cent, from 6 annas a vard to Rs. 1-8-0 per yard. Unless there is some sort of control the price of handloom cloth

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will be increased enormously even at the source. It is stated that 15 per cent is allowed over the manufacturing cost. To whom does it go? Is it to the wholesaler or to the retailer or to the weaver? This should be explained.

“Then with regard to the licensing system I am told that the quotas and licences are granted according to the previous turnover of the applicant. Now I find that licences are given by the Department to people irrespective of whether they have been in the trade or not. In the Textile Control Order there is a rule, rule No. 14, under which licences could be cancelled without assigning any reason. This is a great hardship as there is no appeal over the order of the Textile Controller. If there is any contravention of control orders there should be a judicial enquiry before the licence is cancelled. The present rule 14 is worthy of a Nazi Government and not of a democratic, popular Government like ours. Justice should be done to the people and an opportunity given to them to explain matters before their licence is cancelled and if it has to be cancelled, it should be for good and sufficient reasons.

“With regard to the grant of licences for the export of handloom cloth I should like to state that they are given indiscriminately to people whether they have been in the trade or not. I should like the proceedings of the Textile Commissioner and the District Textile Officers published month to month in the form of a booklet showing how many bales were received, to whom they were delivered, to whom the licences were given and so on.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Mr. Speaker, I thank you for having given me a chance of expressing myself. First of all, I should like to say something regarding the composition of the village committees. It is stated that there will be two local dealers on the committee. I should like to know from the Hon. the Premier, through you, Sir, who are these dealers in the village. They are generally the richest men in the village. If the rich people are given such representation on the committee what is to happen to the consumer and the producer? The members of my community are all producers, though they do not consume as much as they produce. I want to know whether there will be any representative of the people who produce the cloth. Now, Sir, I should like to refer to the Nandval incident. Most of the people there who went to get the cloth could not get it at all. But some cases were instituted against them and they were put in prison. Is this the way in which cloth will be supplied to the poor people. Sir? I can understand the reason for the formation of village committees by the Premier: he has given a sort of village autonomy, but I want an assurance from him regarding how many seats will be given to the producers, to the consumers and to the weavers. These things should be defined clearly.

“Then again, what are the powers of these committees? Are their functions merely advisory or recommendatory or are they mandatory? When these committees are given certain functions

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it is necessary that they should also be given some powers. In the working of these committees, if anything goes wrong what power have they to set matters right. Are they to go to the tahsildar or the Deputy Collector or whoever may be the big boss? I urge, Sir, that the Members of the Committee must have enough power to check matters. We should not allow the red tapism that was allowed by the Advisers' Government. We are not here to follow the footsteps of people who have left us.

“With regard to the yarn position, I was told that our Province is a surplus one. If that is so, I fail to see why there should be a shortage. Yarn is sent to some other provinces like Bombay and Sind. But have we taken any guarantee from those provinces that they will give us their surplus cloth in return for the yarn taken from us? Sir, I am interested in hand-spinning and hand-weaving. We might have solved this problem then and there if we had taken steps from the very beginning, instead of sitting here for years doing nothing. What is the subsidy you are going to give to the spinners and weavers? Most of these people have been suffering for want of charkas and spindles. I would request the Government to see that every spinner and weaver is supplied with a charka and a loom so that he can produce more and more cloth.

“As regards licences I do not find that even a single Harijan has been given a licence. Do you mean to say, Mr. Speaker, that there is not even a single Harijan dealing in cloth. There are a good number. What injustice has been done to my community particularly! I hope such injustice will not be carried further.”

*** SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI:**—“அன்புமிக்க தலைவரவர்களே, கோயம்புத்தூரில் சுமார் 32 மில்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அதில், 22½ மணி நேரம் ஒடக்கூடிய மில்லும் 18 மணி நேரம் ஒடக்கூடிய மில்லும் இருக்கின்றன. நாங்கள் மில் முதலாளிகளைச் சந்தித்துப் பேசிய போது, 24 மணி நேரம் மில்கள் ஏன் ஒடக்கூடாது என்று கேட்டபோது பாரின் கிடையாது. அதற்கு கவர்ன்மென்ட் Spare parts கிடையாதென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதற்கு கவர்ன்மென்ட் Spare parts எல்லாம் சீக்கிரத்தில் தருவித்துக் கொடுத்தால் அந்த மில்களை 24 மணி நேரம் ஒட்ட முடியும். அதனால் அங்கு நூல் உற்பத்தியை நீட்ட முடியும். கோயம்புத்தூர் மில்களில் இன்றைய தினம் Textile கமிஷனுக்கு என்று ஒரு கணக்கு வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தங்களுக்கு என்று தனியாக ஒரு கணக்கு வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தங்களுக்கு இரண்டு கணக்குகளை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். மில் முதலாளிகள் இரண்டு கணக்குகளை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள், மில் முதலாளிகள் இரண்டு கணக்குகளை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள், மில் முதலாளிகள் இரண்டு கணக்குகளை வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். கவர்ன்மென்ட்டுக்கு காட்ட ஒரு கணக்கு தங்களுக்கு ஒரு கணக்கு. அப்படி இருக்கும்போது மில்லில் உற்பத்தியாகும் நூல் குறைவாக எடுப்பதைத் தவிர பாக்கி இராக் காலங்களில் மில்களிலிருந்து மோட்டார் ரகசிய களிலே நூல் பேலை ஏற்றிக்கொண்டு Blackmarket காரர்கள் ரகசியமாக விற்கிறார்கள். இதை யெல்லாம் தடுக்கவேண்டும். இதை நேரில் பார்த்திருக்கின்றோம். அதிகாரம் இருந்திருந்தால், போலீசுக்கும் கைப்பிடியாகப் பிடித்துக் கொடுத்திருப்போம். கோயம்புத்தூர் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் டெக்ஸ்டைல் ஆபீசுக்கும் நாங்கள் எழுதினோம். அங்கிருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டிக்கும் பிரதம மந்திரியவர்களுக்கும் அந்த அதிகாரிகளை மாற்றினால் 24 மணி நேரத்தில் 34 மில்லிலும் இருக்கும் Blackmarket-ஐ ஒழிக்க முடியுமென்று சொல்லுவேன். சென்ற அட்வைசர் கவர்ன்மென்ட்டு இருந்த காலத்தில் அவர்கள் சரியாக நூல் விநியோகம் செய்யாததால் இந்த Black market-ஐ ஒழிப்பதற்கு தகுந்த திட்டங்கள் செய்யமுடியுமென்று உறுதி

[Sri R. Kuppuswami]

[3rd June 1946]

சுறமுடியும். இன்றைய தினம் நெசவுத் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு மாதத் திற்குக் கொடுக்கும் நூலை ஒரு வாரத்தில் அந்த நூலை நெய்துவிடுகிறார்கள், பாக்கி மூன்று வாரத்துக்கு அவர்களுக்கு நூல் கிடைப்பாது. இந்த மூன்று வாரத்துக்கான நூலையும் அவர்கள் Blackmarket-ல் வாங்கி நெய்கிறார்கள். அது மில்லிலேயே உற்பத்தியாகிறது. அதில் ரகசியம் எத்தனையோ இருக்கிறது. இருபதாம் நெம்பர் நூல் Control விலை ரூ. 12. அதை ரூ. 25-க்கு விற்கிறார்கள், 60, 80-ம் நெம்பர் ரூ. 24, Black-market-ல் ரூ. 60, ரூ. 120, 32-ம் நெம்பர் Blackmarket-ல் ரூ. 80-க்கு விற்கிறார்கள். இன்றைய தினம் கோயம்பத்தூரிலே இதைப் பிடித்துக் கொடுக்க முடியும். இப்பொழுது கோண்டால் பஞ்ச சதேசி கதர் நெய்யும் கைராட்டைக்காரர்கள் வாங்குகிறார்கள். கோண்டால் பஞ்ச மில் முதலாளிகளுக்குத்தான் லைசென்ஸ் இருக்கிறது. அதனால் கிராமங்களிலிருந்து வாங்கவேண்டுமானால் மில் முதலாளிகள் மூலமாகத்தான் கைத்தறி நெசவுத் தொழிலாளர்கள் வாங்கிக் கைராட்டையில் நூற்கலாம். திருப்பூரில் இரண்டாயிரம் கைராட்டைகள் ஒகின்றன. ஆயிரம் தரிகள் ஒகின்றன. 1935-ம் ஆண்டுதிலே 150 ரூபாய்க்கு விற்பது இன்றைய தினம் மில் முதலாளிக்கு ஏகபோக உரிமை இருப்பதால் ரூ. 500-க்கு விற்கிறது. அதனால் அவர்கள் அதிகமான விலைக்கு வாங்கும்போது துணி விலை ஏராளமாக ஏறிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அதையெல்லாம் ஸர்க்கார் இன்று மற்றப் பஞ்சுக்கு எப்படி Control செய்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதே மாதிரி கோண்டால் பஞ்சுக்கும் Control விலை வைத்து கோவாப்பேரடிச் சொஸட்டியிலே அந்த கோண்டால் பஞ்சை வாங்க உதவி யளித்தால் துணியை லகுவாக உற்பத்தி செய்யமுடியுமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

3.3) * Sri V. PONNUSWAMI GOUNDER :—“தலைவரவர்களே, இன்றைக்கு
p.m.

நாமெல்லோரும் உடுத்தவேண்டியது உடை. ஆடைப் பிரச்சனையைப்பற்றிய விவாதங்களை அதிகமான அங்கத்தினர்கள் இந்த இடத்தில் விவரித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் கணம் நமது பிரதம மந்திரியவர்கள் ஏற்பாடுசெய்திருக்கும் முறையானது நாம் வரவேற்கவேண்டிய விஷயம்தான். ஏனென்றால் அட்வைசர் ஸர்க்கார் அவர்கள் விலை நிர்ணயம் செய்துவந்த மாதிரி பங்கீடு நிர்ணயம் செய்யாமல் விட்டதால் ஒரு கெஜங்கூடக் கிடைக்காத மனிதரும் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கிறார்களென்பதைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டுதான் பிரதம மந்திரியார் அவர்கள் இதைக் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன். இருப்பினும் இன்னும் சிலவற்றை ஸர்க்காருக்கு நான் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். கிராமத்திலுள்ள ஏழை மக்களெல்லாம் அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய துணிகளை அடைவதற்கு கூட கிடைப்பது துர்லபமாகிவிடும். நகர புறங்களிலே இருக்கக்கூடிய வியாபாரிகள் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுப்பதில்லை. அந்த ஜவுளி மூட்டைகள் வரும் போதே அதைப் பிரித்து வேண்டியவர்களுக்குப் பங்கிட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். கிராமத்து ஜனங்களுக்குக் கொடுப்பதில்லை. இந்த பங்கீடு முறை இருந்தாலுங்கூட புதிய வியாபாரிகளாயிருந்தபோதிலும் அவர்களுக்கு ஸர்க்கார் லைசென்ஸ் தந்து கிராமத்தில் கடை வைத்துக்கொள்ள உரிமை இருக்கவேண்டும். துணி உற்பத்தி அதிகமாகும்போது அவர்களுக்கு அதிகமாகத் தரப்படவேண்டுமென்ற அவசியத்தையும் சொல்லுகிறேன். துணியை எந்த விதமாக அதிகப்படுத்தலாமென்பது பற்றி ரொம்பப் பேர் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். நம் தேசத்திலிருக்கிற கேவலமான ஒரு வழக்கமும் இந்தத் துணிப் பஞ்சத்திற்கு ஒரு காரணமாயிருக்கிறது. அதாவது கடையை வைத்துக்கொண்டு துணி அடகு வாங்கி அவர்களை நிர்வாணமாக்கிவிடுகிறார்கள் சில வியாபாரிகள். இதை ஸர்க்கார் முதலாவதாகக் கட்டுப்படுத்தவேண்டும். இரண்டாவதாக நூற்றுக்கு 20, 30 பேர்கள் தங்களுடைய துணிகளைத் தங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய குடிவகை ராக்களுக்காக தனிப்பட்ட ஆட்களுக்கு விற்பதுவிடப்போய் குடித்துவிடுகிறார்களென்பதை கிராமங்களிலிருந்து நான் நன்றாகத் தெரிந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறேன். ஆகையால் மதுவிலக்கு அவசியம் வேண்டும். நூல் வாங்குமிடத்தில் நெசவுக்காரர்கள் அவர்கள் நெய்த துணியை நூல் வாங்கிய

3rd June 1946] [Sri V. Ponnuswami Gounder]

இடத்திலேயே கொடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். அப்படி இல்லையானால் அது கள்ள வியாபாரம் மூலமாய்ப் போய்விடுகிறது. துணி நெசவு செய்கிறவர்களால் லாம் ரொம்பப்பேர் ஏழைகளாகத்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய வருமானம் ரொம்பக் குறைவு, அதற்காக சர்க்கார் நெசவாளர்களை தங்கள் முன் வைத்து அவர்கள் கூலியையும் நிர்ணயித்து அவர்கள் நெய்த துணியை நூல்வாங்கியவர்களுக்கு ஒப்படைக்கும் உத்தரவை ஸர்க்கார் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்று கணம் பிரதம மந்திரியவர்களைக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

Sri P. S. VELUSWAMI GOUNDER :—“சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நாமெல்லோரும் துணிநெய்துவிட்டோம் துணிப் பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்க. ஆனால் துணி யென்று பேசுகிறோம், பருத்தி விளைகிறது இடையிலே உள்ள விஷயத்தை மறந்துவிட்டோம். அதாவது நூல் ஸ்பை. நூல் இல்லாவிட்டால் அதனால் பாதிக்கக்கூடிய துணிப் பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்கமுடியாது. இப்பொழுது சுவரைவைத்து சித்திரம் எழுதவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிற மாதிரி நாம் இந்த நூலை அதிகரிக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும். காந்திஜி சொன்ன வார்த்தைகளை கிராமவாசிகள் கவனிக்கவேண்டிய காலம் வந்துவிட்டது. ராட்டினத்தில் நூற்பதை மறந்துவிட்டோம். இப்பொழுது அதைப் புதுப்பிக்கவேண்டும். நூல் நூற்கும் சங்கத்தை வைத்து அதனால் வாழ்பவர்கள் நஷ்டமடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதைக் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கங்களில் சம்பந்தப்படுத்தி நூலை அதிகரிக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும். பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலே பிள்ளைகளுக்கு தொழில்கள் கூட கற்பிப்பது போன்று வியோடுவது போன்று நூற்கும் வேலையையும் ஒரு மணி நேரமோ அரை மணி நேரமோ கற்றுக்கொடுத்தால் அதனால் ஒரு அவர்களும் நன்மை பெறக்கூடும். ஜவுளி வாங்குகிறவர்கள் ஒரு சிட்டம் நூலை ரூபாய்க்கும் 20, 25 ரூபாய்க்கும் வாங்குகிறவர்கள் ஒரு சிட்டம் நூலை நூற்றுக்கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று விதி ஏற்படுத்தினால் இந்த மாகாணத்திலே ஏராளமான நூல் கிடைக்கும். இந்த நூல் நூற்கும் வேலையை கிராமக் கூட்டுறவு சங்கங்கள் மூலம் ஏற்பாடு செய்து நூலை அதிகரிக்கச் செய்யவேண்டும். நூல் உற்பத்தியானால் தான் துணிப் பஞ்சம் ஒழியும். துணிப் பஞ்சத்தை ஒழிக்க நாமெல்லாம் துணிவு கொண்டதனால் துணிப் பஞ்சம் சீக்கிரமாகத் திரும். ஆனால் இன்று பஞ்சப் பேயும் லஞ்சப் பேயும் இப்பொழுது தலைவிரித்தாடுகின்றது (Black-market)-லே. பிரகாசம் அவர்கள் வந்த பிறகும் Black-market என்ற அமாவாசை இருப்பது ஆச்சரியப்படத்தக்கவிஷயம், இவைகள் எல்லாவற்றையும் குழி தோண்டிப் புதைக்க நாமெல்லோரும் ஒற்றுமையாக இருந்து வாழ கடவுள் கிருபை புரிவாராக.”

Dr. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO :—“Sir, the debate has gone on now for some days and I have not got very much to add to what has already been said. Considerable factual information has been placed before the House, and it is gratifying to find that every effort will be made to solve the problem of scarcity of cloth. The difficulties that are suffered by the poor and the lower middle classes in this country are most heart-rending. With regard to Khaddar, some hon. Members in the Opposition have been trying to show that it has been a failure. I wish them to remember that Khaddar has never had a fair chance as yet. Since the movement began, it has had to struggle against all kinds of discouragement, against invidious distinctions and against all kinds of opposition with the connivance of the Government official and find its way. It was only when the local Government came under the control of the Congress that some encouragement was given to Khaddar propaganda. It was only during the last Congress regime that Khaddar was given a chance. Then it went down. A decade ago I happened to be in Germany and I

[Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao] [3rd June 1946]

was introduced to the wife of a tin-magnate. She said: 'We are following the dictates of your great Leader Mahatma Gandhi.' 'What do you mean by that?' I asked her. She replied that they in Germany were taking to hand-spinning again. Khaddar has had a chance elsewhere, but not so much in this country, but my belief remains that an honest attempt will be made to encourage Khaddar, not so much because it should come into the markets and compete with other goods, but as it was originally intended, it should find a place in every home in the village to make it self-supporting. It is only then that the problem could be solved.

"It has been said, Sir, that rationing of mill-cloth would lead to the cloth being driven into the blackmarket. I know, Sir, from my experience that mill-cloth is being rationed in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore and there is no tendency there for the mill-cloth to go into the blackmarket. Anyhow, Sir, the poor people get the cloth that they want, at least the cloth that they need. This war has shown the bankruptcy of the mills to produce enough to meet the demands of the country. On the other hand, we know full well that in China during the war people got their clothing not through the production of mills but by handspinning and handweaving. I suppose, Sir, in the eventuality of another war coming, unless we develop a civilisation in which all war will be completely taboo, it is safe to decentralise all manufactures, particularly of cloth, so that each village and each cottage home in the village would be in a position to make its own cloth. However ridiculous it may seem from one point of view, this is the only way by which a huge country like India can always clothe itself. Therefore every attempt should be made to spread khaddar as much as possible, especially as that alone will meet the vital needs of the country at a time when the whole country will be feeling scarcity of cloth.

"The handloom cloth is, as it were, a half way house between khaddar and mill-cloth. Attempts have no doubt been made to make handloom cloth meet the needs of the country. I had the opportunity of running for sometime one of the largest khadi banders of the province. The handloom weavers I have always found to be not easily satisfied with khadi yarn. They have been in a way spoiled by mill yarn. They do not realise their responsibility to the country. Unless a particular type of yarn is supplied to them, they do not come forward to weave. We must appeal to their patriotism. The Government should take courage in both hands and determine to bring the country to a state of self-sufficiency with regard to its needs of cloth. Every necessary step should be taken by the Government for this purpose and they ought not to be afraid of any opposition."

3-45 p.m. SRI R. RAMAMURTI:—“అధ్యక్షా! ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆహార విషయములలో అయితే నేమి బట్టల విషయములలో అయితే నేమి సౌకర్యపరమం విధానములను విర్వర్ధింపక రాష్ట్రములో ఇకముందు ముందు ఈ ఉద్యోగముల దౌర్జన్యములకు, ఈ ఉద్యోగ

3rd June 1946] [Sri Ramamurti]

ములంబగొండి తనమునకు ఆవకాశము ఉండదు అని ప్రజలుగట్టి నమ్మకముతో ఉన్నారు. అయితే ఈ వద్దకులలో గ్రామ జీవితము, గ్రామ సౌభాగ్యము, ఆసలు గ్రామ ఘోషకు స్వయంపాపకముగా ఉండడం అనే విధానము ఇకమీదట రాగలదు అను నమ్మకముతోయన్నారు ప్రజలందఱు. తమ నివేదికలోయన్న కార్యక్రమము సక్రమముగా జరిగితే మద్రాసు రాజధానికే కాదు నిజముగా భారతదేశానికి అంతకూకూడా ఒక నూతన యుగారంభమునకు కారణము కాగలదని భావించవలసియున్నది. ఇందులో గ్రామ స్వతరిపాలనా సూత్రములు చక్కగా ఇమిడి ఉన్నవి. ఇవి ముందుముందు గ్రామ లకు రావలసిన విధానానికి పునాదులు అని చెప్పడానికి ఆవకాశం ఉంది.

“ఇకను ఖద్దరు విషయములలో ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక చక్కని విధానము ఏర్పాటుచేసి మన దేశములో సుమారు 100 సంవత్సరములకిందట మహాన్నతస్థితిలో ఉన్న ఖద్దరు నేడు పునరుద్ధరించడానికి ఒక చక్కని ఆవకాశం చిక్కింది. నేడు ఇది మద్రాసు ప్రభుత్వానికే కాదు అన్ని దేశాలకూడా మార్గదర్శకముకాగలదు.

“ఇప్పుడు మన రాష్ట్రములో ప్రతి తగినంతగాలేదు. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు ప్రతిని తప్పించి సరఫరా చేయవలసిన కోరుచున్నాను. విదేశీ ఫిర్యాలుకాదు, అన్ని ఫిర్యాలులలోను కూడా ప్రతి వండించే ఆవకాశములను కల్పించాలి. తప్పకుండా ప్రజలు వర్కా స్వీకరించి ఎవరి బట్టను వారు తయారుచేసుకుంటే బట్టల కరువురాదు. సూలు వదులుకు మంచి ఆవకాశము ఏర్పడింది శ్రీకాకుళం ఆ ప్రాంతములలో సన్నములు వడికి బట్ట తయారుచేసి బొంబాయి పెడలైన ముఖ్య పట్టణములకు పంపించి మంచి ప్రఖ్యాతిని గడించినారు. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఖద్దరును ప్రోత్సహించవలయునని నేను కోరుచున్నాను.”

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, to-day our province is on the threshold of a terrible economic crisis, as terrible a crisis as that of food, a crisis for which the present ministry which took office only on the 30th of April last is not responsible and which we look up to for giving relief. I do not want to blame the Advisers' Government. Whatever it be, I hold that Government responsible for the present situation, that Government which has been ruling over us for the last 175 years and that Government which has made us dependent for our very clothing on that little island which is 6,000 miles away from us. However, the present Government has to successfully tackle this problem, certain conditions are necessary. The first is a sound planning and to-day the Hon. Premier has laid down a policy which is as sound as soundness could be. The second condition is, time to implement such requisite essentials; and the third is the necessary machinery to put it into action. Now, Sir, I must tell you that the policy that has been adopted by the previous Government is not at all satisfactory. That policy is one which is attendant with many dangers. My words will not be liked, but the distribution of the goods was such that goods were not made available in the open and public market, but they made their simultaneous appearance in that bloody market, the blackmarket. This is what control and rationing meant in the previous regime. Control of prices was not the only thing adopted in those days but actual rationing was not introduced. Even now, rationing is not properly working. Many

[Sri G. Kumaraswami] [3rd June 1946]

schemes were introduced, such as the All-India Cloth Distribution scheme, the Cotton Control scheme, etc. Whatever it be, the net result was that ten or twenty out of thirty weavers are to-day going without yarn. I may tell you, Sir, that in the days of 1942 and 1943, when there was cloth shortage and when any number of mills were brought into existence in this country, people could still clothe themselves with hand-spun and hand-woven cloth. I am proud, Sir, that in my district, the Vizagapatam district, the industry of hand-spinning is at its height and I may say that in the whole world there is no such industry at all. We can have thirty counts, forty counts, eighty counts and even hundred counts fine cloth produced. The beautiful Pondaru the beautiful Chicacole and the beautiful Bonthola Koduru are there. What is required is, the Government should take the initiative; they must have the courage to introduce any number of charkas in each district and see that the people are clothed with hand-spun and hand-woven cloth. I am glad, Sir, that the opposition group also are one with us to-day in this respect. They share our view in the solution of this problem; they said: "We extend our hand of co-operation, goodwill and support"; and so, with the support of so many honourable members of this House, the Hon. the Premier can certainly introduce, with that great courage which is not lacking in him and with that initiative which is not lacking in him, a measure by which the people of our province can be clothed with hand-spun and hand-woven cloth."

SRI W. S. SREENIVASA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the time is very short, I shall get into the subject direct. As for the bullock-cart policy which members have been criticizing, I only want to say that so long as there are large tracts of land in this province which are ploughed with bullocks and for the cultivation of which bullock carts are necessary, we cannot condemn it. Apart from that, Sir, there are many poor people who cannot get mill yarn for weaving clothes. Therefore, khaddar is a very important item and it should be encouraged by this Government, especially the Congress Government that has come into power."

"Then, Sir, as regards mill cloth, it has to be rationed throughout. If not, the blackmarketeers will come into the picture and retailers will not be selling cloth uniformly to all the people. The blackmarket is omnipotent and omnipresent and we cannot but see it in all places."

"As for yarn, there is only one way for the present, before the proposed committees come into power and that is, for the yarn that is given, cloth should be returned. Then, Sir, the wages of the weavers should be fixed. The price of the cloth also should be fixed. There should be a restriction on the export of lungis, because there are only very few people in this province who use lungis. The proportion of lungi production in the province is a thousand times more than the quantity required by people who wear them. Wherever you go, you find lorry loads of lungis being exported to foreign countries. That is why you find stocks of

[3rd June 1946] [Sri W. S. Sreenivasa Rao]

local dhoti and other varieties of clothes are not available. If lungis are not exported from this province, we will at once be able to get as much cloth as is necessary for us. This is a very important point."

"Then, Sir, as regards corruption and blackmarket, there are still many honest officers in the Government departments. They did not get a place in the Advisers' regime; they did not collect sufficient money for the War Fund. They were thrown into the corners, in the districts. But now since the popular government has come into power, I suggest the Government may make use of these officers. They are very honest. They want to serve the public. They could not do it then and they can be now made use of. They may be substituted for all the corrupt officers who are now found to be in the department. As regards the Police Department also, there are some honest people who were sent away as Public Prosecutors or other District Officers because they could not do dishonest work under the previous regime. They should also be brought back and posted to frontier places. They should be given powers to book the people who are carrying on black-marketing. If this is done, we won't have famine in our province. That is why I think the Commissioner has said that there is no famine and others have also said so. There is famine more because of these blackmarketeers and the lorries which are carrying these blackmarket goods, not the bullock carts."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his thought-provoking famous book called "China Builds for Democracy," Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has, in his inimitable way, said that India's requirements in cloth can be got from handloom cottage industry to the extent of 9/10. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sir, is not a hollow sentimentalist. He is the President of the National Planning Commission and he is trying to see that India is industrialized and that all the villages in India are rebuilt, buzzing with a new life, a new life that will bring happiness and prosperity, spreading its fragrance everywhere. I saw this, Sir, to show that not only Mahatma Gandhi has himself in an article in the *Harijan* in the year 1940 said that the Madras Government's move to establish a textile mill in Ravalaseema was not in consonance with the spirit of the Congress manifesto; but men like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru are also trying to make the handloom and khaddar a living industry in India, so that side by side with the key industries, this handloom and khaddar, the music of the charka can be heard in our villages."

"In this connexion, Sir, I would like to remind this House that recently the Travancore Government has passed an order prohibiting the establishment of textile mills. In a country like India we cannot depend upon textile mills, because India is not fully developed as far as industrialization is concerned. So, it has to develop its villages; the Indian villages have to be rebuilt in a new Gandhian social order. The Gandhian social order is that there should be no exploitation. The western civilization

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"I do not like, Sir, to take much of the time of the House at this fag end of the day but I would like to place before you one or two difficulties and hardships that are confronting my community, the Harijan community. Whatever may be said whatever may be the attitude of Gandhiji, the caste system is prevailing to-day. If you go to the villages, you find that the untouchable is still an untouchable. He is not allowed to come near the caste Hindus. He has to stand at a distance of a few yards if the caste Hindus in that locality are sympathetic or at a distance of a furlong if they are caste-ridden. In many places, the caste Hindus take away all the cloth that is given to a shop with the result that hundreds of thousands of Harijans in a number of villages are not having even a yard of cloth. In the districts of West Godavari, Kistna and East Godavari, I came across a number of Harijan friends who made complaints. I did see the Minister in charge of Harijan uplift, Mr. Giri, and placed this matter before him and the Hon. Minister has promised to see that separate shops were brought into being and Harijans were supplied cloth squarely. Sir, in this connection. I appeal to the Prime Minister to see that sufficient care is taken to ensure that real representatives of the Harijan community are given a place in the committees that are coming into existence, so that whatever cloth or yarn is available for distribution by these committees, may be distributed properly to the people who are in actual need of such cloth and yarn."

“ ఇప్పుడు ముఖ్యముగా దర్శిచ్రానికి కారణమైనట్టి కొన్ని దుర్భాసములనుకుండు తొలగించాలి. అలవాటువలన ఆజ్ఞానంవ్వి ఆశ్చర్యముగాను శారాంతముగాను చాలా నష్టము కలుగుతూ ఉంది. ఆ దుర్భాసములు వివరించి మధ్యపానము (Smoking and Drinking) పాగాకు తాగడము ఈ రెండూ కుండు లేకుండా

[Sri S. Guruvulu]

*SRIMATHI ANJALAI AMMAL :—தலைவரவர்களே, இப்பொழுது நாடெல்லாம் காங்கிரசில் சேர்ச்சொல்லி பேசிவந்திருக்கிறோம். பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற கஷ்டம் அத்தனையும் ஒரு பக்கம் இருந்தாலும் நம்முடைய அரிசி சாப்பாடு விஷயத்திலே அவர்களுக்கு என்ன ஏற்படுகிறதென்றால் முதலுக்கு 12 அவுன்சு இல்லை 10 அவுன்சுதான் என்று எண்ணக்கூடிய நிலையில் அந்த இரண்டு அவுன்சும் பிடிக்கப் போவதில்லையென்று சொல்லியிருக்கின்றேன். கிராமங்களில் போய் நாம் முதலில் சொல்லவேண்டியதாயிருக்கின்றேன். கிராமத்து ஜனங்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லி அங்கு அரிசி யெல்லிருக்கிறது. கிராமத்து ஜனங்களுக்கு எடுத்துச் சொல்லி அங்கு அரிசி யெல்லாம், கம்பு கேழ்வரகு எல்லாம் விளையும் உங்களுக்குப் பசியாற எது வேண்டுமோ அதைக்கொடுக்கக்கூடிய நிலையில் இருக்கிறதென்று நாம் சொல்லுகிறோம். சொல்லுவதற்குப்பொறுப்பு மெம்பர்களிடம் இருக்கிறது. கதர் என்று மகாத்மாஜி கொண்டு வந்தார். கிராமங்களிலே தூறறால் ஒரு சிட்டம் என்று 2½ அணு விற்கிறது. இதை நாம் பலப்படுத்தி பஞ்சு வெளியிலே போக்கூடாது, கிராமங்களிலேயே வைத்து தூறக்கவேண்டுமென்று கவர்ன்மென்ட்டிலே சட்டம் பால் பண்ணிவிட்டால் துணிப்பஞ்சும் இல்லாமல் கேடிமமாமிருப்பதால் வண்டனில் ரேஷன், கணக்காய் சாப்பிடுவார்கள். நம் தேசத்தில் போம், லண்டனில் ரேஷன், கணக்காய் சாப்பிடுவார்கள். ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் அப்படி, இப்பொழுது வீட்டிலே கூட வந்து விட்டு, கிராமத்தில் பயிரிடுவோர்கள் காலையில் எழுந்து வயலுக்குப் போய் விடுவார்கள். 10 மணிக்கு அவர்களுக்குச் சாதம் கொண்டு போவார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு உணவெல்லாம், துணி இல்லை, இங்கே ஒரு கோட்டு, இரண்டு கோட்டுப் போட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள், டவுனிலே பஞ்சுமில்லை. கிராமத்திலே கோமனம் கட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய துணி கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“ Sir, more yarn must be found to supply the 496,000 looms in the province unemployed for twenty days in a month. The handloom industry has survived the onslaughts of many mills that had come into existence and flourished in the latter period of the last war. I think it is time now to make some mutual adjustment between the mill products and the handloom products. It would be to the advantage and benefit of both if a certain article of manufacture is prescribed for the mills and something else for the handlooms. A more favourable thing would be to supply

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yarn to the handloom weavers to manufacture sarees, solid border cloths and various other designs which are not possible for the mills to produce. In the words of the Textile Commissioner, scramble is for one or more of the varieties of coveted designs, viz., shirtings, coatings, suits, drills and certain other articles and these articles may be limited to be manufactured by the mills. This would solve partially the cloth problem to an extent and afford also more yarn for the handlooms and would secure for us a good market for handloom products as well as for mill products, but I am not in favour, at present, of capturing foreign markets and of exporting mill goods outside India. According to the statistics of the Textile Commissioner, we find that as much as 5,200 bales of cloth were sent out for capturing the markets elsewhere. The export is made. At what cost, Sir, I ask? Is it at the cost of the internal requirements? I cannot understand such arguments put forward when our own needs are not met. On the other hand, our needs are being handicapped on this account and as a matter of fact, our handloom weavers are going without employment and they do not get work even for one-third of the month. Under these circumstances, Sir, I do not find any reason for exporting textile goods outside India and it must not be allowed.

"In regard to the other argument of Mr. Town, viz., that we could not get coal or some other things that are required for the textile industry, I would ask him, is the export under the barter system? Does he get coal for yarn or cloth? No, Sir. If such is the argument, I can certainly agree to export only such quantity as is necessary for the amount of coal or other articles required for the textile industry. We have another organisation which must be utilised for production of yarn and cloth, viz., jails in the province. This is a question which must be seriously considered. I am afraid it has not yet caught the imagination of the Hon. Minister, Sir. There are a large number of jails in this presidency and if we can only make an honest attempt in respect of spinning and weaving in the jails, and open and yarn. In the circumstances obtaining at present, it is worth making an attempt and it will really be to our advantage. It will also be advantageous if these institutions are utilised under the management of the All-India Spinners' Association to produce and supply khaddar to practically every one of our staff. When and if textile mills are opened in the jails, more yarn will be available for handlooms.

"Again, Sir, as I understand it, not from the report of the Textile Commissioner, but from private sources, all the yarn that is actually produced by the textile mills have not come into the account given by the Textile Commissioner.

"Then, Sir, the statement of the Textile Commissioner in regard to the sale of cloth in the market is not correct, in view of the fact that more cloth is sold in the market than what the

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mills actually supply to them. It is really a surprise, and unless it be that there has been underground yarn, how can there be more cloth in the market than what is supplied to them under the quota system by the Textile Commissioner?

"Again, Sir, arguments were advanced for control of prices in respect of handloom produce. The Textile Commissioner also wants the handloom products to be brought under control as if the price of handloom produce is disadvantageous for want of control.

"I will be failing in my knowledge if I do not come to the following conclusion: Firstly, prices are mostly dependent on the number of middlemen employed and that argument had been put forward by many hon. Members. Secondly, regularity of employment to the handloom weavers and thirdly, durability of the product. Marketing is also responsible. When compared with the handloom cloth, mill cloth is nothing; especially to the agricultural classes, durability is all they consider. It is high time that all these handlooms are brought under one control, that is, under the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society. The advantages in favour of handloom industry are these. Practically, there will be no cost of repairs for many years; free of factory conditions; ready assistance of the inmates of the house; the durability of the cloth so far as the cultivating classes are concerned; variety of designs and natural economy of the industry. These, Sir, are absolutely the advantages in favour of the handloom industry and these must be certainly taken into consideration before any plan is put in action.

"Lastly, as regards the situation in the Salem district, which is the premier district in this province, possessing as many as 75,000 looms, the proportion in employment is falling and the number of idle looms is really appalling."

SRI A. DEVANAYAKAYYA—கனம் தலைவரவர்களே, இன்றைய தினம் நாம் துணியைப்பற்றிப் பேசிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். ஏதோ இது தும் பைலிட்டு வாலைப்பிடிப்பதைப்போல் இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் காரியம் இதுவரையில் அரசாங்கத்தார் செய்திருக்கவேண்டியது. அவர்கள் இன்றையதினம் உற்பத்தியின் காரணமாக நெறுக்கடி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதனை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு வழியென்ன. பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்குவதற்கு வழியென்ன என்று யோசித்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதோடு இனிமேல் அப்படி வராமலிருப்பதற்கு ஒரு வழியைக் கண்டுபிடிப்பார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன். இதுவரையில் அவர்கள் இந்த தேசத்தில் கைத்தொழில் விரித்தெய்தியவேண்டுமென்னும் எண்ணத்தோடு அவ்வாறு செய்திருப்பார்களானால் இன்றைய தினம் இந்த பஞ்சம் ஏற்படுவதற்கு வழி இல்லை. அவர்கள் அன்னியருடன் ஒப்பந்தம் செய்கிறார்கள். தங்கள் நாட்டினரும் மற்ற நாட்டினரும் இந்த நாட்டில் ஒரு மார்க்கெட்டை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொள்ளுவதற்கே இது வரையில் ஆக்கியைநடத்திக்கொண்டுவந்தார்கள். ஆகையால் கைத்தொழிலை விரித்தெய்தியதில் தங்களுடைய கவனத்தைச் செலுத்துவதற்கில்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்தில் காக்ரில் ஆக்ரி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மத்தியிலும் ஒரு ஆக்ரி ஏற்படுவதற்கான ஹேஷ்யங்கள் காணப்படுகின்றன. இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்திலாவது இந்த நாட்டுக்குவேண்டிய உடைகளைத் தயாரித்துக்கொள்ளுவதற்கு சூடுமான வரையில் ஒரு வழியைக்கண்டுபிடித்தாகவேண்டுமென்பதை ஞாபகத்தில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தை நழுவவிடுவோமானால் இதற்குப் பிறகு பல வருஷங்களுக்கு காரியத்தைச் செய்வதற்கில்லாமல்

[Sri A. Devanayakayya]

[3rd June 1946]

போய்விடும். ஏதோ சுதந்திரம்தான் வந்துவிடப்போகிறதென்று நினைக்காமல் இந்தக்காலத்தில் பெரிய காரியங்களைச் சாதிக்காமல் இருந்துவிடக் கூடாது. இந்த தேசத்திலே கைத்தொழில் விருத்தியாவதற்கான வழிகளை நாம் மேற்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இன்றைய தினம் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்தப் பஞ்சத்தைப் போக்க வேண்டும். அதற்குச் சில விஷயங்களைச் செய்யமுடியும். இப்பொழுது யந்திர சாலைகளிலே இருக்கும் ஆட்கள் குறைவு. அதிகமான ஆட்களை வைத்து வேலை செய்தால் அதிகமான துணிகளைத் தயாரிக்கமுடியுமென்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். அதிக நேரம் வேலைவாங்குவதால் தொழிலாளிகள் இந்த வேலையைச் செய்வதில் கொஞ்சம் சோம்பலாக இருக்கிறார்கள். வேலை செய்ய பின் வாங்குகிறார்கள். அதிக நேரம் இருக்கும்படியான வேலை நேரத்தைக் குறைத்து ஆட்களை தற்காலிகமாகவாவது பெருக்கினால் உற்பத்தியை பெருக்கமுடியுமென்று நான் சொல்லவிரும்புகின்றேன். தவிர நூலை நெசவு செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு நேரில் கொடுக்காமல் மத்தியில் இருக்கின்றவர்களிடத்திலே கொடுப்பதினால் வியாபாரிகள் கொஞ்சம் பணத்தைக்கொடுத்து இந்த நெசவுக்காரர்களை விலக்கு வாங்கிவிடுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்குச் சொந்தமாக நெசவு செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நூல் கேட்டால் தங்களிடத்தில் வாங்கியிருக்கும் பணத்தை கொடுத்துவிடும்படி வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய நூலை வாங்குவதற்கு வழியில்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். கண்டிரோல் ஆபீசர்கள் ஜில்லாக்களிலே நூல் கொடுப்பதில் பல தவறுகள் ஏற்படுகின்றன. திருட்டு வியாபாரம் நடக்கிறதென்று கண்டுபிடித்து அதிகாரிகளிடத்தில் ஒப்புவித்தாலும் கூட அதைப்பற்றி நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுவதில்லை. எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் 2, 3 கேசுகளைப் பிடித்துக்கொடுத்தோம். நாளதுவரையில் எவ்வித நடவடிக்கையும் எடுக்கவில்லை. மேலதிகாரிகளுக்கும் இது சம்பந்தமாக ரிப்போர்ட்டு அனுப்பியிருக்கிறோம். அங்கிருக்கும் அதிகாரியை வேறிடத்திற்கு மாற்றவேண்டுமென்று போட்ட உத்திரவைக்கூட மாற்றி அவரை அங்கேயே வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். திருட்டுத்தனமாக வியாபாரம் நடக்க துணை புரியும் அதிகாரிகள் பேரில் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டும். அதிகாரிகளுக்கு இதற்கு முன்னால் எவ்வளவு சொத்து இருந்தது, இன்று இருக்கிற சொத்தென்ன என்பதையும் கணக்கெடுத்துப் பார்க்க வேண்டுமென்று ஞாபகப்படுத்துகின்றேன். அவர்கள் அநேகர் தங்கள் மனைவிபேரில் சொத்தையும் நிலத்தையும் வாங்கி பாங்கியில் பணத்தைப் போட்டுவைத்து வேலையிலிருந்து விலகிவிட்டால் சுகமாகக் காலம் கடத்த வசதிசெய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களென்பதை ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன். அவர்கள் பேரில் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து அவர்கள் பணத்தைப் புரிமுதல் செய்வார்களானால் மற்றவர்களுக்காவது பயமிருக்கும். நூல் வினியோகப்பதைக் கணியில் சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்கிடத்தில் கொடுக்கப்படாது. தங்கள் செய்துசேர்ச்சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதனால் பலகஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்படுகின்றன. எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் **Communist** கஷிக்காரர்கள் சில இடங்களில் சங்கத்தைவைத்துக்கொண்டு காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் போய் நூலைக்கேட்டால் கொடுக்க மறுக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் ஏழைத் தொழிலாளிகள் கஷ்டங்களை அடைய வேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் ஏற்படவிருக்கும் கமிட்டிகள் இதை வினியோகிக்கும் வேலையைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். நாம் இன்றைய தினம்கூட துணிகளின் செலவைக் குறைக்க வில்லை. இன்றைய தினம் மந்திரிகளுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்ற பியூன்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்ற துணி அதிகமாகக் காணப்படுகிறது என்று தெரிவிக்க ஆசைப்படுகின்றேன். அவர்கள் சாதாரணமாக உடை உடுத்திக்கொண்டிருப்பதுபோலவே உடுத்திக்கொள்ளச் சொன்னால் துணி வீண் செலவு குறையும். இந்த மாதுரியாகப் பல வழிகளிலும் இன்னும் நூல் சரியான வழியில் வினியோகப்பதற்கும் உடைச் செலவைக்குறைப்பதற்கும் வேண்டிய முறைகளைக் கையாண்டால் இந்த தேசத்திலிருக்கும் இந்த நெருக்கடியைப் போக்கிவிடமுடியும்.”

4-30
p.m.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Mr. Speaker, you have endeavoured to give an opportunity to every member as far as possible to speak on the question of cloth as well; every one of

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the members of this House irrespective of party has tried his best to make his own contribution to the debate. Sixty-two members took part in the food discussion and 61 in the debate on cloth. It is a matter for congratulation for every one who took part in the debate; for it has not been a debate made at random simply for the sake of making a speech. Every one, whether he or she who spoke in English or in vernacular, made his or her contribution. The voice of the millions, I should say, has been expressed in this House. Now, Sir, to reply to all the points is not simple or easy, but I have to do my duty.

“ Soon after assuming office, I received a letter of congratulation and offer of hearty co-operation from Mr. Town, the Leader of the European Group. The words he used in that letter are very significant. The words are—I am not using the exact language of the letter—“ myself and my party offer our congratulations and offer our co-operation to you and to your friends at this juncture when you are establishing your provincial freedom and when you are endeavouring to reach your goal.” I could never forget these words, very significant words, used at a psychological moment, having due regard to the struggles in this country for freedom carried on by all, primarily by the Congress and by all the rest in their own way. Although some of my friends were not in agreement with me when I said that we had reached a definite stage after 25 years of struggle, I always believed that we did reach a definite stage. I believe that plan has been working until now even though agreement has not been reached in all essentials on the top between the leaders of different sections. Agreement is bound to be reached; disagreements cannot go on for ever; even my good friend Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the leader of the Muslim League, has given expression to words to the effect, that we cannot be quarrelling for ever; so that the day will not be far off when we shall be bound to establish freedom in this country ourselves. British statesmen including the Cabinet Mission have always been telling us ‘ It is a matter of self-determination with you; make your own constitution; establish your own freedom. When we come here, it is only to help you out of any difficulties and to make up differences if possible.’ That has been the correct attitude for Britain and it is for that purpose that we have been struggling, not for a short space of time but for a long period of years. When we were fighting politically or economically, we were not always including the best amongst us, aware of the difficulties and troubles in which we got involved during the last 150 years of British administration in this country. When the Act of 1935 was passed and when we were called upon to accept office and form ministries, the Congress did not agree until there was a convention created to the effect that the Governors in the provinces would not exercise their special powers—powers of individual discretion or powers of that kind. It was only after the statement was made by the Secretary of State for India and the same was repeated by the Viceroy and the Governors in the provinces that the Congress accepted office. They accepted office and continued to work for two years and four months and then they were obliged to lay down

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office because of the declaration of war and the declaration was made against the advice given by the Ministers and also by the Congress and the country here. All that has become a matter of past history now; seven years have passed since the Ministry resigned. In between, there have been non-violent battles; we were called once, twice, thrice to perform individual satyagraha. Immediately after the resignation of the Ministry when direction was given by the Congress to offer individual satyagraha, Ministers also joined in it and went to jail. You will not find anywhere in the history of the world such things happening. There might have been small mistakes on this side or that but the fight went on. Now, Sir, after the last release, this Government has been formed with the blessing of all and with the offer of co-operation of all in the country. We have taken up office on behalf of not merely the Congress but on behalf of all the people of the country. Even though some of you may disclaim it altogether, with all respect to them, I would submit that any Government that comes into office will be the Government not only of the party to which the Government members belong but of the people over whom the Government has to be carried on.

"Now, Sir, I am coming to the question of cloth. Food and cloth famine has overtaken us immediately after the close of the war. In this world, since its creation, human struggle has been going on only for the sake of food and cloth. If battles have been fought, it was only for securing food and cloth to the belligerent ruling powers that declared war. If business is carried on, it is only for earning food and cloth and enabling people to live. When a Government assumes office, it is the primary duty of that Government to make all necessary arrangements for the collection of taxes from the people and at the same time make all necessary arrangements so that every facility will be given to the people in the matter of bread and cloth. As a primary duty of the State, it was the primary duty of the British Government which had been ruling over this country for such a long period to see that the people of every province, of every area, got enough of food and cloth.

4-45
p.m. "The Government, the British Government, was established here primarily as a mercantile power and it was its business to see that its business was not in any way jeopardised. Therefore it was that the whole system, the British system, had been built up in such a manner that to-day even after Provincial Autonomy is established and to-morrow or the day after, after India's full independence is established, it becomes the duty of the new Government to find out, whether it is in a province, whether it is in the whole of India or the world as a whole, as to how to solve the problem. Let me tell you, I myself did not know, when the zamindari enquiry was made by me and by other friends, all the implications of that system, and then I got to the very bottom of it through the help of the records preserved in the Fort St. George dating back to a period of about 150 years. Similarly, to-day with regard to the cloth and food situation every individual in this land, whether he is a member of the

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Assembly or a member of the Council or any other human being, every one ought to have known these two things in the history that he was studying in the schools and colleges; it is the duty of every one to know what was the position of food and cloth in the country, whether it was the food of the Muslims, the Christians, or the Harijan community—which term I do not wish to use—for others. I do not like to hear this community aspect of things from our friends on this side. That community distinction must cease to exist, if not to-day, at least to-morrow. There must be no distinction of a community being called Harijan. Harijan is a name for the transition period, and I am longing to see that period to be as short as possible. Therefore, Sir, about food and cloth, it has become the duty of everyone to know. Let me confess to you, Sir, and to all the hon. Members that, although I have studied so many subjects and the departmental notes during the last 10 years, I myself did not know the extent and the magnitude of the business regarding food and cloth, because I have not had an opportunity of serving in this province or in the Centre. Now, Sir, I have found out for the last one month and odd that the whole thing is so serious and so much entangled that it has not been an easy matter to get relief either in the matter of food or cloth for the country and the people who have been making cloth hitherto and growing food. Now, it has been the most impossible matter to get the required sympathy from other countries, to get full sympathy and full support even from the Government of India. We have seen during the last few years, how lakhs of people died in Bengal for want of food. That is a most tragic period in history. Here when we have suddenly got upon the verge of famine in food and cloth, everybody woke up, including the Government. Everybody woke up—I do not say people on this side or that—everybody woke up including the Government. But the Government of India was not able to get out of the fetters forged by itself round its own body, round the body of the Provincial Governments and round everybody's body. That has been the position. Now let me come to the point straightaway, namely, the policy of the Government of India and the policy of the Government in the provinces, in regard to food and cloth. With regard to cloth, I spoke enough on the food question; let us see how the questions became involved. We have been in a tangle as it were. Sir Theodore Gregory, the Economic Adviser in the Centre, spoke yesterday or the day before—if you read this morning's paper, you will see it—and said that with regard to this food and cloth business, there must be self-sufficiency. His idea of self-sufficiency is different from our idea of self-sufficiency. His self-sufficiency doctrine must be applied to the Government of India as a whole, and he said the self-sufficiency doctrine must be applied to India treating India as a whole. I am submitting to the Government, to Lord Wavell, and even to the Secretary of State who is here in this country on a special mission, that the policy of this Government exercising its own powers and its own duties is that this province must be self-sufficient with regard to food and cloth. This province should not be tied down to the Government of India, in its policy of self-sufficiency for the whole of India. Already,

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it was wrong on the part of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State who approved the policy to have stated that the Government of India is one unit and still to be declaring the policy with regard to the provinces and regulating the food and cloth of the peoples of the provinces. This should have been objected to on the spot. It should have been prevented on the spot. But that could not be. As you all know and we all know, even the ordinary politicians and the Congress have been fighting for the freedom of this country. The policy of food and cloth does not relate to the Government of India that rules from Delhi. Government of India, having nominated members on its Executive Council, cannot be expected to know how to regulate the food and cloth of the different provinces. Out of sheer mercy, if not anything, the Government should have allowed the policy to be regulated by the provinces. (Hear, hear.) You have seen in the literature that I have placed before you, that in spite of the protests of the Provincial Government of Madras, not the Provincial Government that has come into existence a month back, but the Provincial Government that came into existence a few years ago, that Provincial Government that was functioning at a critical period, that it should not be tied down to the policy of the Government of India, but should be given freedom to get along, that has been denied. Every one of the hon. Members here who have followed the whole subject protested against the discrimination shown by the Government of India with regard to the application of the differential values between Bombay and Madras. So much trouble had arisen on account of one report. I am trying to place before you these words so that they may reach the highest authorities who have been responsible for all the trouble that has been going on here during the last two months. They made the original mistake of taking the policy on hand, of regulating the food and cloth of the various provinces, directing the food of one province to go to another province, and that way it became a gambling chance. Things were going on that way. Suddenly we have been caught in the net soon after the war closed. But for it, this trouble would not have arisen. Having mastered the facts and figures so far as this province is concerned, I must say that this trouble would not have arisen if this province had been left to itself. The Government here were labouring hard and I have been criticised by some friends outside for having stated that the Government have laboured hard. I have to give expression to my feeling when I refer to facts, having regard to the position which we are facing to-day. They laboured hard asking the Government of India to let them have some freedom. Those requests were not complied with, and even in the latest question with regard to the further reduction of the ration, whether it should ever go from 10 ounces to 8 ounces, we fared no better. What on earth is going to happen, God alone knows. But I am hoping that that thing would not happen now. The conditions have changed within a few days. The weather has changed. The rain has come in the monsoon area, if not exactly in the middle of May, at least a few days later. We are also getting the necessary stuff for our existence from outside India. From America a more hopeful view was given by Mr. Morrison who

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spoke in the House of Commons the other day after returning from America. They expected the very statement which held out the quantities of grains. . . .

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“It is only rough.”

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“My friend would not be patient even for one second. I only mentioned Mr. Morrison's name and my friend could not contain it. There are commentators and commentators in this country of ours, wonderful commentators. Mr. Morrison spoke only a short while ago. One commentator said that he made a positive statement. There was another commentator, who said—I do not remember his name—that it was only a surmise. Mr. Morrison having returned from the place and having said everything as it occurred makes a positive statement, and some gentleman—of course, I do not know whether he has correctly stated—says it is only a surmise. You may say that my standing here and speaking here is a surmise and not an actual fact. We will presume that statements like that are true, and that they even have to be worked out also. When we see things are changing, there might be a ground for us to say that we might be able to tide over this crisis with regard to cloth and also food. That is the position. Now, Sir, when I say that the provinces must have been left to follow the rule of self-sufficiency, I will not stop there, because Sir Theodore Gregory said that his doctrine of self-sufficiency should be applied to India as a unit. I say that doctrine must apply to the province as a province. I go further and say—I have been labouring the point before you all in the hope that whatever might be the prejudice in your minds against the bullock-cart from out of which you are born in those villages wherefrom you shifted on to towns and cities for some profession or other or for some studies, we must all have come from the bullock-cart country, without any exception; this does not apply to Mr. Town—that this self-sufficiency will lead to most serious mistakes if you say that this self-sufficiency rule must apply to Madras City, Bombay City, Calcutta City and a few towns, where we fashionable men learning English education which the English Government was good enough to give us, have shifted for the sake of our professions. We have built up some of these cities ourselves, having come from the villages. Even after retirement, some of our hon. gentlemen would not be willing to go back to the villages. These hon. gentlemen will go to places like Bangalore and stick up there to spend the rest of their lives. That is the condition to which we have been reduced in this country of ours. Therefore I say this self-sufficiency doctrine has to be applied to the masses of this country, to the people of this country 90 per cent of whom are living in villages, and not to Mr. Salam. Mr. Pocker worked himself into a fury the other day. I always took him to be a mild Mussalman. I have known him for a long time as an advocate. I did not take him for a Moplah when he was living as an ordinary advocate. The other day he got so furious when he was dealing with the question of village committees.

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I have seen Moplah ladies, Moplah children, young and old, in colleges and outside in Malabar. It is not a thing over which Mr. Pocker should have become so furious. We are all here for those people. I do not mind any harsh language being used in righteous indignation, though I am bound to check it up if it goes beyond the limit. (Mr. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: 'No harsh language was used'.) No, it was not. This is the first session of this Assembly when we poor fellows are in charge of this Government. It has become our duty to place before the House how best this trouble can be solved. Can this food and cloth trouble be solved by any other means or by the means applied by Britain in 1929-31 when it became impossible for the British people, men and women, to carry on their business and to live in their own country, with every article made by them not being able to be sold in their own market, and when Russian articles would come there and capture the whole market and when everything could be got for a song? That is what has happened, Russia coming and capturing the English market in the struggle. I may tell you what the English merchants and traders, the biggest men of Britain, did. They sent a Commission to Russia to find out what was the cause of this trouble with Russia, how could they have made the same goods which we are making in our own countries, for cheaper prices; the same manufactured there, brought all the way to London, and put in the market and undersold? I have made a special study of this. Some of you might have forgotten it. The Commission returned and said in their report 'We cannot compete with Russia. Russia has manufactured all the goods at the lowest of wages in the world. Because it was Russia, it could do it. It was not possible for Britain to do that. Therefore it was that Great Britain at once decided. 'This is the cause, this is the mischief that has been done to us. We have been advocating free trade for ourselves, India and other places. No more free trade. Let us not allow free trade. Let us not allow Russian goods. Prohibit all the Russian goods.' They put their points, and they succeeded in developing their trade and their business in every aspect and they tided over it. Now, Sir, some years ago I had to go to overseas countries. I happened to go to that French Colony called Indo-China. What was the position there with regard to cloth? For every man and woman—please note it—cloth was made in Gujerat. The cloth was sent from here, from India and China, and money was brought in exchange for it. Just then I happened to be in that area. They said 'Why is the cloth coming from India? Why not we put a stop to these things?' In one minute they passed a law imposing a tariff rate of 85 per cent for every article that comes from Gujerat. The whole thing was done in twelve months, and they were able to sell from Paris and other places. That is the position in which we people in India are situated. We want freedom, not that Mr. Town's business should go out of Madras. I do not wish that. We want freedom for ourselves. How best can we do it? People would require not even two months to solve the food and cloth problem, if they were absolutely free in this country. If we had

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such a freedom as that, we could have straightaway dealt with the situation. We have been complaining here. The stock is there, the paddy is there hoarded somewhere which we have not been able to get. With all our powers we have not been able to get it. That was the condition in the country when we took up this office. If that was not possible and the crisis had come upon us, what is that we can possibly do? In the other House, one friend jocularly said, if a man had hoarded and does not respond, shoot him. (A voice: 'No, he was not serious after completing the speech.') You should have been there to make him serious. Therefore he is hoarding somewhere. How are we to get it? The Co-operative Department I have studied not only in our country, but in other countries. The Co-operative Department has been there with so many links missing. We have not been in a position to call the department to get the whole thing and get the stock. It was only this morning after getting light from the speeches, from the wonderful contribution made in the speeches, that I requested Mr. Giri, the Member in charge of that portfolio, to call the departmental heads. This morning we met and came to know how certain mistakes were there. You would be surprised to learn after a few days more how what was not forthcoming in spite of persuasion and the methods employed, would be forthcoming. I am hoping now that the people have begun to understand. Even without going to them, I am able to tell you they have begun to understand how they would have to meet the situation. Realizing and recognizing that, it has been their duty to solve this problem because it is they that made us Ministers on behalf of the country. I hope that they will come very soon with the real help of the Co-operative Department. You suggest alterations to this principle. Let me tell you, Sir, if the conditions regarding the working of the Co-operative Department had been similar in all the districts, we should not have taken even one month to solve this problem and to get all the things. That is the position in which we are. Therefore, Sir, I say that the method that has to be applied now is a method that would serve not only for a month or six months or even six years. This method should enure for a long time, to solve the food and cloth problem for all time.

"My hon. Friends want to know where the village committees would work and whether these organizations would work well. The village committees would be functioning only in places where the co-operative movement is not able to start work immediately and would have to start from the very beginning. These committees would not interest themselves in political work or any such thing. They are not intended for political purposes. Some hon. Members have entertained such misgivings. These committees would be functioning like the co-operative organizations in places where the co-operative movement is not there now. Various objections have been raised by some Members to the formation of these committees and to the provision for appeals. I know the people of our country and I know my own mind. Although I have made

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provision for appeals and other safeguards for convincing the people who doubt the soundness of the scheme, I always believe that once the people understand what the scheme aims at, they will not give much trouble. On the other hand, it is when the people were subjected to various controls and rules and restrictions that they exercised their minds as to how they could circumvent those rules and restrictions. It is in this way that things have been going on, having regard to the weaknesses of human nature. When once freedom is given to the people and when once they are told that it is their business and that it is their money that is involved, the village people, and the village officers too, will not conduct themselves in the manner they have been conducting themselves hitherto. The village officers will probably ask for increase of salaries. If the villages are reconstituted and they are made to develop the villages, the whole responsibility will be upon them. But this is a different matter altogether. What I want now to point out is that the villages are the basis for our future action, whatever it is. I have known some villages where the population is mainly Muslim. The villagers do not think in terms of communities. It is only at the top that there is some sort of fighting for places. For a very long time the villagers have been getting on in the manner I have described. Let there be no differences among them now, at any rate, in matters relating to food and cloth. I need not add that these are for the common good of all.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Town, forgetting what khaddar has done, what it is capable of doing and what troubles it had to endure, made some sceptic references to it. I know that khaddar has made a poor impression on him and his speech on the subject shows it. I leave it there. Mr. Town and other friends cannot be in agreement with me regarding the potentialities of khaddar. We know its utility and we are going to make khaddar a permanent factor in this country as far as possible, to provide food to all the poor people who cannot enjoy a higher standard of living and to prevent their rushing to the mills for the nice cloth made there. Perhaps at the present time I cannot say that without mill cloth people can get on. But you will see what is going to happen in this world. One world war was over and we never expected a second world war. We know how it started and how it went on and what happened to all the countries which had mills flourishing and making their own cloth. Why have they not been able to get cloth from Manchester? The present crisis would not have arisen if that cloth had been forthcoming. Do not make any mistake in supposing that this 'bullock-cart business' will not last and that mills and atomic bombs will last for ever. This world war has taught us a different lesson. Do not look with contempt upon the khaddar programme or the wheel programme or the method proposed for making the villagers have their own food in their own village. When the time comes, I will place before you schemes aiming at making the village the unit of Government and convince you how the village government can be constituted and made to function permanently with a budget of its own. The

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village budget will take into account the needs of all the men, women and children of the village and when these village budgets are received at the provincial headquarters, the provincial budget will be framed incorporating the main items of the village budgets. Therefore I say the village units should not be looked upon with contempt. The village as a unit has come to stay. It is the village unit each in its own way that has been fighting all these 25 years the battle of freedom.

"Now, coming to the remarks made by my hon. Friend Mr. Salam, I would like to invite him and his friends to go to a village with me and see the conditions there. In certain areas it will be difficult even for the bullock-cart to enter. I will not ask Mr. Salam to go in a bullock-cart. It is our duty to give all the villagers the facilities that Guntur possesses with the help of electricity. The Government are working in that direction. Now we have three hydro-electric systems such as (1) Pykara, (2) Mettur and (3) Papanasam, and these are serving 850 villages in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, North Arcot and South Arcot. These three systems have over 3,000 miles of high tension lines operating at voltages from 11,000 to 110,000 serving 45 towns. Many important industries are served by them. In course of time these villages which some of us intend to visit sometime later will be quite different from what they now are. I have asked Mr. Sundaram, the head of this department, to go with me to see how we can make more villages benefit from these systems. I had been longing, before assuming office, that electricity should be made available to every village as far as possible in this country. We are hundred years behind other countries in this respect. Our friends must note that. (A voice: 'Electricity was invented only 50 years ago.') I accept the correction. (Laughter.) We are some fifty years behind other countries. Electricity need not necessarily be generated from big rivers or from falls like those at Pykara. Even in this country, an engineer said several years ago that electricity could be generated even from the Kistna canal or the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. We have not worked out those plans. But, if we all work together now, the face of the country will be changed before long. I am not suggesting this for the sake of holding office either as Minister or as somebody else, but for developing the country as a whole and for seeing that the country has plenty of food and cloth. You will be convinced of the benefit that electricity is capable of giving if you take a look at the yield in areas where electricity is available. With the help of electricity, agriculturists pump up water for their fields and they yield a rich harvest.

"Sir, one point which Mr. Town made against the proposed committees is this—he is under the mistaken impression that these committees will be torn with faction. He stated that the village panchayats and other local bodies have not been a conspicuous success and that therefore it was unwise to set up such committees and give them power on behalf of the Government. The village

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panchayats and other local bodies were introduced by Lord Ripon with the best of intentions to enable the people to learn the art of Government. They were functioning with a Democles' sword hanging over their head. Everything failed because there was no incentive to the people to work them and there was no inclination on the part of the authorities to give these committees any useful power to carry on the administration. Now it is up to us to decide what we should do with these local bodies, whether they should work in the manner in which they have been working, whether they should turn a new leaf altogether and become autonomous bodies. We will decide this matter later. The failure of the old local administrations will not deter us from going forward with our schemes. The new committees will have a new job and they will make a new beginning altogether. Our people will give these committees new life.

"Then Mr. Town argued that we would be creating a large number of petty officers and extra expenditure will have to be incurred for working this scheme of cloth distribution. He is labouring under a mistake. He is under the impression that the Government's draft proposals would involve these committees in buying and selling activities in the matter of cloth. I would invite his attention to paragraph 2 of the draft proposals which says that the village committees will only give instructions specifying the families to whom the consignment should be distributed and the quantity in each of the available varieties to be sold to each such family. The sub-committee which each village committee will appoint is, however, being given power to visit shops and look into the cash receipts or credit notes evidencing the sales made by the dealer in order to see that the distribution has been in accordance with the rules. These provisions have probably created the misapprehension in the minds of those who always suspect the dealers and others. It is to put heart into the members of the sub-committee that they have been given this power to verify on the spot. No petty officers or additional expenditure would be required for working the Government scheme regarding the distribution of cloth. On the other hand, these committees will enable the Government to avoid the additional expenditure that will always be necessary for enforcing the proposed arrangement.

"Next, Sir, I have to make an observation about another point. Sometimes, when hon. Members make speeches, they do not verify the facts they allege. We have been all these days discussing the question of food and cloth with a view to finding ways and means of solving the problem. Our immediate task is to get more food to tide over the critical three months ahead. When we started this debate, the conditions did not appear to be as favourable as they are to-day. We, therefore, concentrated our attention on the needs of the next three months. Incidentally, hon. Members themselves introduced the question of 'grow more food' and referred also to a long range programme. Truly these are connected subjects and one cannot confine himself exclusively to one subject.

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"Sir, some of my friends are reported to have stated, they took the liberty of saying, that we were beside the mark, that we did not touch upon the 'grow more food' programme, that we did not think of bringing more lands under cultivation and producing more food, etc. If such criticisms appear in newspapers, the readers in Bombay for instance will flash back saying 'Here are these criticisms.' I appeal to hon. Friends and to critics outside to note how other provinces will interpret their criticisms. We might have made mistakes. Mistakes are bound to occur and when they are noticed or when they are brought to notice by hon. Members, they are immediately corrected. It is only as a result of the discussions that we are trying to formulate finally our programme. I therefore appeal to hon. Members not to base their criticisms on what they hear without verifying the facts. The concrete fact is the crisis facing us and the need for taking steps to overcome it. This necessitates our confining ourselves to the true facts of the situation. We must procure food from wherever it is available. There is a general impression that it is secreted and that it should be brought out. That is our first duty. And what is our second duty? The second method of meeting the present crisis is to appeal to the Government of India to withdraw the present control policy. The whole control policy is in their hands and it is this thing that has brought us into this trouble. Everybody was trying to get as much as possible for himself although those who promised food failed for some reason or other. We were obliged to get food from outside. Every effort was made to get as much as possible from outside. These are the two methods we adopted to meet the present crisis.

"In this situation, we are advised to leave these two methods alone and concert measures to bring more lands under cultivation immediately. Supposing I take steps to bring more lands under cultivation immediately by applying for tractors and ploughs, will I get food out of them? I must ask my friends to discharge their duties in a less hurried manner. In this respect they are behind, far behind their leaders. Unknowingly and without taking particular care, let them not do any harm to us.

"One hon. Member stated in his speech that licence was given to a dealer for the first time. Here is what he said: 'The Textile Control Department have given an export permit for handloom cloth to one Mr. T. Sadasivam who had never done any cloth business till then.' The Provincial Textile Commissioner says that this allegation is completely untrue and unwarranted. Mr. Venkateswarlu alleged that permit had been given to Mr. Sadasivam for exporting handloom cloth to Ceylon. As a matter of fact, the Textile Control Department in this province has nothing to do with exports to Ceylon. These are regulated entirely by the Export Trade Controller, Madras, who is an officer working directly under the Commerce Department of the Government of India. The hon. Member who made that charge against the officer here should have taken some little care to verify whether this

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Government had any jurisdiction over export trade at all and whether this Government was doing any business with regard to export of cloth.

"Then, as regards blackmarkets, all are agreed that the blackmarkets must cease to exist and that corruption should cease to exist. Every member laid stress on this and made it very clear that unless these two institutions cease to exist, this country cannot prosper. Many would not have known, even after 150 years, what has been going on in the departments controlling the destinies of the people of this country.

5-45 p.m. "The hon. Member Mr. Town said that there was no civil consciousness in the people. To a great extent this is due to the system of Government that has prevailed in this country. This civic consciousness has been absent even in responsible Government officials who have refused to act upon known facts and put down corruption. That being so, the ordinary common man has not the necessary courage to expose corruption, for he is afraid that he may be proceeded against on some count or other. I have known the people of this country and I know how things are working. I have seen it from all sides. Corruption has regulated itself in certain departments as perjury has become a profession with some people who deal with the courts. It will be our endeavour to remove this corruption by educating the people. The Penal Code says that the giver of the bribe as well as the taker of the bribe will both be equally guilty. But what is it that happens in actual practice? (Interruption.) If I am not correct in what I say, if there is the slightest untruth in it, I shall correct myself. We shall have to put courage into the mind of the common man, the man who will have to give us the necessary information. I am trying to see what is the best way of getting at the truth of the whole matter and at the same time serve the purpose we have in view, namely, the getting out of the goods that are not now coming out. I hope that my hon. Friends in this House will help the Government in bringing out the goods which have not been forthcoming hitherto. I do not suggest the taking of police officers and magistrates, but certain other methods which this Government are already trying, by making some alterations in the rules which will enable us to get at the goods. I may be a bit slow, Sir, but I am not altogether slow and forgetful. I may assure hon. Members that blackmarketing will be destroyed in no time; in less than six months you will not be hearing of blackmarketing. (Hear, hear.) In less than six months, no public servant will take any bribe for doing a public duty. Anyone who has been systematically taking bribes will know it to his cost and he will not and dare not take it even though it is forced upon him.

"I have taken more time than I expected, but I am glad I have secured the fullest co-operation of this House in the efforts we are making. My hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi asked me why we should not appoint a senior Civilian Officer. Sir, nothing will be left undone; we shall consider all the suggestions that have

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been made. Just as we have taken into consideration all the suggestions made with regard to food, so also with regard to cloth we shall try our best to consider and give effect to all the suggestions which will prove useful. But one thing is certain with regard to the question of cloth. Hon. Members of this House, especially those who spoke in the Indian languages, have described the tragic condition of the people in regard to cloth and it has gone home to everybody. The best way in which the people of this country can solve the cloth problem is for them to take to handspinning. It is not a compulsory matter. Those who are not spinners cannot be compelled to become spinners. I was not myself a spinner for a very long time. Nobody compelled me to become a spinner though there are rules in our organization with regard to spinning. (Mr. H. S. Town: 'Are you a good spinner, Sir?') Whatever I am, there are other friends here who can spin 60, 80 and 100 counts from which very fine cloth can be woven. We have all got faith in it. I have gone through the villages where women are spinning and getting one anna for spinning. That is the stage of the country which we are trying to develop. I ask you to help us in the best possible manner. Mahatma Gandhi started this khaddar movement long ago and the charka is the symbol put on the national flag. When some of his co-workers abandoned it, he did not mind, he was himself carrying it on through the All India Spinners Association. If we are absolutely faithful to this, if the country has responded with one voice to Mahatma Gandhi's call in regard to khaddar, even without going to jail and without putting ourselves to all these troubles, we will have earned the freedom of the country and provided for sufficient food and cloth for the people.

"After I became Minister I went to a village to find out the extent to which the people can develop that village by co-operating among themselves. Reference was made to the bullock-cart. But I would ask the hon. Member to go to that village which is not very far off from here. Though other villages are complaining and crying for food, people of this village are not complaining about food. They are in a position to produce their requirements. They use their bullocks not for carrying goods on the roads for which they were using them formerly, but for the purpose of increasing the food production. I was one of those who were helping those villages for some time. Then some of us went to jail. That retarded their progress. These villages have unknown potentialities and these people who have been responsible for the country's progress and prosperity for ages and ages must be helped.

"So far as these committees are concerned, I give my assurance to hon. Members that there is nothing political in them. I am a man who will try bit by bit. If people come together on one matter on this occasion, it will pave the way for them to come together in another matter. Most of the things are common to us all. There is no quarrel about them. It is only on some top matters that there are differences.

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"With these observations, Sir, I should like to close. I offer my thanks to every one of you for the splendid manner in which you opened not only my eyes on certain matters but opened the eyes of millions of the people of the country. This discussion for seven days has had more propaganda value than the propaganda of the last two or three years. The way in which the consciousness of the people of this country has been roused has been such that it is certain that nothing but good will come out of it. (Applause.) Before we adjourn, I want to make one statement regarding . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Premier has not indicated the attitude of the Government towards the five amendments which have been moved. They have all to be put to the vote of the House before we proceed to the next business."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I was myself feeling that I had omitted something. With regard to the five amendments I have no objection to the amendment of Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar. The other amendments, that is, those of Mr. Majeed, Mr. P. Venkateswarlu, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Pocker Sahib, I am sorry I cannot accept them."

*M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Add the following at the end:—

'and on such consideration, the House is of opinion that the draft proposals presented by the Government to the House with regard to the cloth administration are impracticable and unworkable and ineffective to tackle the impending crisis in cloth; and giving effect to the said proposals is fraught with dangerous results; and

such defects as are existing in the present system are remediable without the necessity of substituting the present system by a completely new system as adumbrated by the draft proposals; and

the present crisis in the cloth situation requires immediate and special attention. It is necessary that a Board consisting of not more than 15 members and not less than 11 be constituted for the province consisting of representatives of the major political parties of the Provincial Legislature with plenary powers to deal with all questions relating to cloth in the province, that the Board shall elect its chairman and that the Board shall constitute advisory committees in the districts and in taluks consisting of the representatives of major political parties.'"

KUMARARAJA SIR M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Add the following at the end:—

'and on such consideration this House is of opinion—

I. that the scheme of differential cloth quotas now enforced by the Government of India is not based on any just and equitable principle and that a uniform per capita allotment for all areas in India should be introduced with immediate effect for the following reasons:—

(1) in a hot climate like that of Madras more cotton cloth is required than in Northern India by reason of more rapid wear.

(2) in the areas in Northern India, a large proportion of the clothing of the people has necessarily to be in wool and such supplies of woollen clothing are available to them.

(3) the proportion of mill cloth to the total cloth quota of the area is now the lowest in Madras among the Provinces and States in India and it is but reasonable that there should be, as far as possible, equality of treatment in this respect as between all areas in India.

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Before I proceed to put the amendments to the vote of the House, I want to express my sincere hope that the Hon. the Premier will succeed in his endeavour to avert the food and cloth famine and I pray God to help him, so that the poor people may have enough of food and cloth."

The amendments of Mr. Majeed, Mr. P. Venkateswarlu, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Pocker Sahib were one by one put to the House and declared lost.

The amendment of Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar was by leave of the House withdrawn.

The original motion that the cloth situation in the province be taken into consideration, was put and carried.

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With the permission of the Chair, may I ask for information on one point? The Hon. Premier the other day informed the other House that the Legislature would very soon have to reassemble for the purpose of election to the Constituent Assembly. We shall be obliged if he can give us some definite information."

II. (1) *that the quota of yarn allocated to this province under the All-India Yarn Scheme is grossly inadequate and has been causing serious hardship to the handloom industry as it gives the handloom weavers numbering nearly half a million, work for only ten days in the month and this is the main reason for the serious disparity in prices between handloom cloth and corresponding mill cloth, resulting in prohibitive prices for handloom cloth far beyond the means of the ordinary consumer.*

(2) *that this allocation based upon estimates given by the Fact Finding Committee which have been proved to be very bad under-estimates should be revised on an equitable basis forthwith.'*"

SRI P. VENKATESWARLU:—"Add the following at the end:—
'and on such consideration, the House is of opinion—

(1) that the draft proposals are inadequate and ineffective to meet the situation;

(2) that to ensure proper distribution of cloth, handloom cloth be also brought under rationing scheme;

(3) that a thorough investigation be conducted into the working of the Madras Provincial Textile Department by a committee consisting of eleven members of this House as well as that of outside public opinion.'"

MR. T. J. M. WILSON:—"Add the following at the end:—
'and on such consideration the House is of opinion—

(1) that the draft proposals are inadequate and ineffective to meet the situation;

(2) that in order to protect the handloom industry and to safeguard the interests of the handloom weaver the Government should fix the minimum living wage of the handloom weaver;

(3) that since the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies at present are being discouraged the Government should by all possible means encourage the formation of a large number of co-operative societies of genuine handloom weavers;

(4) that for the purposes of ensuring a regular and continuous supply of more yarn at controlled prices and eliminating wide spread blackmarketing in yarn the Government should take over the management of all textile mills during the present crisis, allowing not more than a minimum profit to the mill owners, take steps to step up production and distribute yarn through

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has my permission. The Hon. the Premier may give that information if he likes."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That is the very matter on which I wanted to say a few words. We are dispersing now, and when are we to meet again is the question. I am saying this so far as I am able to see and from what is going on in the country. I have no particular authority from Government or other sources for what I am saying. I am only placing my views before the House so that Members may be prepared if they should be called for another meeting at an early date. The Budget Session will begin on the 31st July next. Some of you may be under the impression that the rest of this month and the whole of July will be a holiday. It may not be so. It may be that a meeting of this House may be summoned about the middle of this month. We are already on the 3rd June. A meeting of this House may be summoned for the sake of the Constituent Assembly elections. We cannot suddenly come here and go through all the formalities of nominations, withdrawals, scrutiny of nominations and elections in one or two days. Therefore the House may be summoned about the middle of June. The last day for the receipt of nominations may be about 30th June. The scrutiny of nominations may be on the 1st or 2nd July. The date for the withdrawal of nominations may be two or three days later. The elections may be held about the 10th July and the results declared about the 15th July."

"But one thing I should make clear to hon. Members. All this may not happen if there is no agreement there in Delhi and if no further step is to be taken in pursuance of that. Agreement or no agreement, one thing I must make clear and that is, unless there is a direction from the Congress High Command, so far as we are concerned, we cannot say that all this will happen. But I am only speaking generally having regard to all that has been going on until now, and I have mentioned the dates to which the House will stand summoned and the programme of elections for the Constituent Assembly."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have not been able to follow the two things. I do not understand why the Hon. Premier says that the House would be summoned to meet about the 15th June, if the elections are to take place in July."

earn ration retail depots, thereby eliminating the chain of middlemen unnecessarily created between production and distribution ends; and

(5) *that in order to ensure equitable distribution of adequate yardage of cloth per head among the public the Government should ration handloom cloth also.'*"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Add the following at the end:—
'That on further consideration this House is of the opinion that rationing of cloth be introduced in the Province and that rations be fixed according to the requirements of the various classes of consumers in regard to quantity, quality and variety.'"

[3rd June 1946]

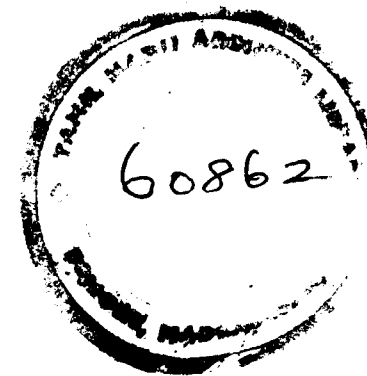
THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If I have given that impression, it is a wrong impression and I must remove it straightaway. I do not say that the House will be meeting here on the 15th June. A notification will be issued on the 15th June stating when the House will be summoned for that purpose and it will also indicate the dates for nominations, scrutiny, withdrawals, elections, etc. I think I have now made that position clear."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, may I know whether the Leader of the House has got any information in this matter as Premier of this province?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"As an ordinary man and as a Premier I have made this statement having regard to all the information that I could gather. But I have got nothing from the higher authorities of the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I thank hon. Members from the bottom of my heart for the kind co-operation they have one and all given me in this the first session of this House. I adjourn the House *sine die*."

The House then adjourned *sine die*.



[illegible]

தவணைத்தாள்.

ப. எண் :

[illegible]

