

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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

Volume V (Nos. 1-14).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 26th March 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

[Question held over from the list of 21st March 1947.]

Muslims in the Village Committees and Producers' Co-operative Societies in Malabar.

* 398 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of members selected to the various village committees in (i) Ponnani taluk, (ii) Palghat taluk, and (iii) Malabar district;

(b) the number of Muslims in such committees in (i) Ponnani taluk, (ii) Palghat taluk, and (iii) Malabar district;

(c) the total number of directors in Producers' Co-operative Societies in (i) Ponnani taluk, (ii) Palghat taluk, and (iii) Malabar district; and

(d) the total number of Muslims as directors in such societies (i) Ponnani taluk, (ii) Palghat taluk, and (iii) Malabar district?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The total number of members selected to the various village committees are—

(i) In Ponnani taluk	...	...	...	371
(ii) In Palghat taluk	...	...	...	639
(iii) In Malabar district	...	...	...	4,980

“(b) the number of Muslims in such committees—

(i) In Ponnani taluk	...	...	...	152
(ii) In Palghat taluk	...	...	...	100
(iii) In Malabar district	...	...	...	1,641

“(c) the total number of directors in the Producers' Co-operative Societies—

(i) In Ponnani taluk	...	...	...	49
(ii) In Palghat taluk	...	...	...	124
(iii) In Malabar district	...	...	...	740

“(d) the total number of Muslims as directors in such Societies—

(i) In Ponnani taluk	...	...	...	12
(ii) In Palghat taluk	...	...	...	9
(iii) In Malabar district	...	...	...	194 ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The answer to this question, Sir, is a lengthy one and it has been placed on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Since the answer is laid on the table of the House, hon. Members may put supplementary questions on this question."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government has issued any orders on the representations made by the Muslims of Malabar during the visit of the Hon. the then Premier, about the lack of real Muslim representation on these committees?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I should like to know, Sir, whether this question arises out of the statement laid on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Will the hon. Member please repeat his question?"

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government has issued any orders on the representations made by the Muslim representatives in Malabar about the lack of real Muslim representation on these committees?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is advised to put a separate question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, May I submit that this question relates to the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me inform the hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan, that the Hon. Minister has not got a ready answer to the question. Therefore let Mr. Moideen Kutty put a separate question and it will be answered on the floor of the House next time."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they are aware that the Muslims taken on these committees are the so-called Nationalist Muslims and they do not represent the Muslims of the district?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I take the information from the hon. Member."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will rectify the matter and see that proper representation is given to the Muslims not only by selecting a larger number of Muslims, but also by selecting representative Muslims."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by 'representative Muslims', Sir. But whatever it may be, I may give this assurance that we shall not be lacking on our part to give due representation and proper representation to Muslims and other minorities in the constitution of these committees."

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[Question held over from the 1st of 25th March 1947.]

Licences for yarn.

* 405 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) How many yarn licences were issued to Annasagaram village of Dharmapuri taluk, Salem district, at the outset of the introduction of Yarn Control Order under the ordinance of Government of India;

(b) whether such licences were issued to the master weavers also at the outset of introduction of the ordinance and if so, what are the dates of the same and the persons to whom the licences were issued;

(c) the date from which the master weavers were refused yarn licences and what became of the yarn dealers' applications after the refusal of yarn licences to the master weavers;

(d) how many applications were received from yarn dealers with the dates and names of the applicants in the said Annasagaram village and in Papparappatti and Komarasampatti villages in Dharmapuri taluk, Salem district;

(e) how many of them were restored and how many were rejected with the dates, names and residence of the applicants;

(f) what are the specific reasons for restorations and rejections of each of the applications of the said Annasagaram, Papparappatti and Komarasampatti villages in Dharmapuri taluk; and

(g) how many looms are active and how many are idle in the said places and what is the quota issued to each of the looms per month and the total quota for each of the said villages with the number of yarn licences for each of them?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) & (b) On the promulgation of the Yarn Control Order two licences were issued to the following master weavers in Annasagaram village on 9th March 1943:—

(i) M. K. Subramania Mudaliar.

(ii) S. K. Velu Mudaliar and Kandappa Mudaliar and Co.

" (c) Master weavers were refused yarn licences with effect from 19th May 1944 as the need for such licences ceased to exist due to the imposition of effective and comprehensive control over yarn from mills downwards. For the same reason the licences of the existing master weavers were also cancelled and applications received from master weavers subsequently were rejected.

" (d) to (f) Since the introduction of control, 13 applications for licences were received from persons residing in Annasagaram, Papparappatti and Komarasampatti villages, out of which 7 were from master weavers and 6 from persons other than master weavers. Particulars required by the

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hon. Member in respect of the latter six applications are given in the statement^a laid on the table of the House.

“(g) Information required by the hon. Member is included in the statement^a laid on the table of the House with reference to clause (f).”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Master weavership is a bar for issue of yarn licences and whether the ex-master weavers are not asked to choose and elect among themselves to take up the looms or to take yarn licences? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Sir, even if they elect, I believe the grant of a permit will depend on the bona fides of the election.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know whether the master weaver (M. K. Subramania Mudaliar, etc.) who was given licence was asked to surrender the licence on the assurance given to him that a licence for dealing in yarn would be given to him? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ May I suggest to the hon. Member that such specific cases may be put in a separate question or the hon. Member may come and discuss the matter with me.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, why the name of Mr. M. K. Subramania Mudaliar of Annasagram who applied for a licence on 13th November 1944 is not found in this statement? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Most probably it is an oversight, Sir.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the statement placed on the table contains licensees who were master weavers? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether all the three licence-holders are having and running their shops in the Papparapatti village or elsewhere? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I could not follow . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member may please repeat his question.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether all the three licence-holders of Papparapatti are having and running their shops in the Papparappatti village itself or elsewhere? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Notice, Sir.”

^a Printed as Appendix I. on page 79 infra.

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Sir, may I know from the Hon. the Minister what is the general policy of the Government so far as the Harijan weavers are concerned? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ There is nothing special, Sir. Every application will be considered on its merits and as far as the minorities are concerned, certainly due help will be given to them as far as it is consistent with the efficient running of the administration.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether all the three licensees in Papparapatti are retailers or wholesalers? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Sir, may I submit that these are all details which cannot be given off-hand. I suggest that the hon. Member may place a specific question about this matter and certainly we shall furnish all the possible answers.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ Sir, the question I have put is quite in conformity with the statement laid on the table of the House, and I request that an answer . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ In view of the fact that the Hon. Minister requests you to put a separate question, you may put a separate question.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether in view of the fact that, in spite of the previous Government's instructions to the Textile Controller to see that the Harijans were given licences as far as possible, not even a few Harijans are given licences even to-day, will this Government consider the desirability of granting licences to the Harijan weavers as liberally as possible? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I would suggest to the hon. Member, Sir, that he may bring to the notice of the Government specific cases. There is no use simply generalizing that people have not been given.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Arising out of the answer to clause (g), may I know, Sir, whether the Government has any machinery for ascertaining that after a yarn licence is issued and after the distribution of the yarn takes place, all that yarn is converted into cloth then and there? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ It is presumed that the yarn that is supplied does get itself converted into cloth.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Apart from such presumption, Sir, will the Government take effective steps to see that all the yarn issued, either to private weavers or to master weavers, is converted into cloth and will the Government appoint officers or devise some other machinery to see that there is a check kept for this purpose? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ The suggestion of the hon. Member will certainly be considered.”

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister to my supplementary question, may I bring to the notice of the Government that it is not a special instance, but generally the Harijans are not given yarn at all?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I have already answered the question, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is asked to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister grievances whenever they occur. The hon. Member must resume his seat."

(Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar stood up.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Has Mr. Natesa Chettiyar any other supplementary questions to put?"

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir. Yes. (Laughter.) May I know whether the number of licences issued for retailers and wholesalers depends upon the number of looms in the locality?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Naturally, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, whether in these circumstances, three licences were found necessary in the Papparapatti village for 793 active looms?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister wants notice. I pass on to the next question."

(Questions from the list of 25th March 1947.)

Deputation of elementary school teachers.

* 418 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Hon. the Minister has received any deputation from the elementary school teachers;
- (b) if so, what their demands are;
- (c) how many of them have been met so far;
- (d) what are the remaining demands; and
- (e) when they will be met?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The answer is in the negative.
" (b) to (c) Do not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Am I to understand from the answer given by the Hon. Minister that he did not receive any deputation? He may not have received, Sir, but what about his predecessor?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He may ask my predecessor, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it the policy of this Government, Sir, not to encourage and not to put into practice the policy of the previous Government?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Certainly, it is the policy of the Government, Sir, to follow the predecessors' example."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If that is so, Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister, whether his predecessor received any deputation or not?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not know, whether my predecessor has received any deputation."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is the Government aware, Sir, that there is dissatisfaction in the teacher-world as regards their salaries? Will the Government consider this question afresh and do them justice?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As I said yesterday, Sir, not only among the teachers but in every section of the Government service, there is dissatisfaction."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it right on the part of the Hon. Minister, Sir, to reply that for a certain answer the Member might refer to his predecessor? Is he not following the policy of the previous Government, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The specific question is, whether the Hon. Minister has received any deputation from the elementary school teachers and it is not whether the 'Government' has received any deputation. If that is put so, perhaps I would have said 'Yes'." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I tell the Hon. Minister, Sir, that it is not Mr. Gopala Reddi who is asked this question. It is the Minister and therefore it does not made any difference who the Minister is. I do not therefore understand the meaning when the Hon. Minister says that the question was asked not of the Government but of the Hon. Minister. The Minister, Sir, is part of the Government."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I draw a distinction between the Government and the Minister. If the question had been put, 'Has the Government received a deputation . . . ?' I would have replied 'Yes'."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I then know, Sir, whether all the other answers which the Hon. Minister has been giving hitherto are from his personal point of view or as a Member of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As a Member of the Government, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I may suggest to the Hon. Minister that he may go through the files and if he finds anything connected with the deputation, he may answer the question. I would also suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question. We may now pass on to the next question."

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(Question left over from the list of 25th March 1947.)

Pay of clerks and Superintendents of the Madras Secretariat.

* 421 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the scale of pay of clerks (lower division and upper division) and Superintendents in the Madras Secretariat Departments including Legislature Secretariat;

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring the Madras scales on a par with other Provincial and Central Secretariat scales; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to take up this question now?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Revised scales of pay recently sanctioned are—

	Madras Secretariat Department.	Legislature Secretariat.
Superintendents.	200-20-400	200-20-400 (Except Superintendent, cash and current section).
Assistant Superintendents.	200-20-300	190-10-240 (for the Superintendent, cash and current section).
Upper division clerks.	90-5-125-10-175	90-5-125-10-175
Lower division clerks.	51-3-75-2½-100	51-3-75-2½-100

“(b) & (c) The answer is in the negative.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know why there is this difference in the pay of the clerks and superintendents of the Secretariat of Madras Legislature and the pay of similar staff in the other departments of the Secretariat?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Evidently the hon. Member is referring to the class of assistant superintendents, because in the case of others the pay is the same. I should like to look into this matter before I can give a definite answer as to why this decision was arrived at.”

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—“May I know what is the difference between the scales of pay mentioned here and the scales of pay sanctioned for the teachers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I would like to point out for your consideration that the question of teachers does not arise.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I rule it out of order.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know what is the policy followed by the Government in effecting the revision of salaries?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Member has been long enough in this House to understand what is the policy followed by my predecessors. That remains.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Most of the Members are unable to follow the policy of the Government in this matter and I should like to raise the question. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to give me a direct reply.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“If the hon. Member would put down a separate question, or if the hon. Member likes to discuss the matter with me, I may be able to satisfy him.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“A separate question may be put.”

Re-employment of officers.

* 422 Q.—SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has issued orders to the Heads of Departments not to send proposals either for re-employment or for extension of service of the officers; and

(b) whether it is a fact that officers who applied for leave preparatory to retirement are refused leave?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Extension of service is granted rarely. In cases where extensions of service are found necessary, the practice has been to retire Government servants and re-employ them for specified periods.

“(b) On the 10th June 1946, the Government issued orders that thereafter no person who had been retired from service should be re-employed unless there were exceptional circumstances justifying such a step. Instructions have also been issued to the effect that there is no obligation to retain retired persons in service to the end of the period for which they have been re-employed and that their services may be dispensed with on a month's notice. The Government do not consider it necessary to issue further instructions.

“(b) Yes, in a few cases.”

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know in how many cases officers have been re-appointed?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have not got the information handy, Sir. I should like to have notice.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“With regard to the ‘exceptional circumstances’ mentioned in answer to clause (a), may I know what is the principle involved in it and how the word is defined?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is very difficult to define any word because it is merely relative. But for the information of the hon. Member, I may say that ‘exceptional circumstances’ may mean that perhaps we are unable to get the type of officer required for the service on hand and in such circumstances, the Government may find it necessary to re-employ the officer who was in such a responsible post.”

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI ILLAI:—“Due to the paucity of Harijans in the services, will the Government consider the advisability of granting exemptions in the case of deserving Harijans?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am afraid, Sir, the question does not arise, but as the hon. Member seems to be so anxious for the benefit of his community, I am prepared to say that Government will consider any reasonable case.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact, Sir, that a number of retired police officers have been appointed in the anti-corruption department recently started by the Government?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“In view of the information given by the hon. Member, I will cause an enquiry to be made.”

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, in how many cases extension of service has been granted to officers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have not got the information handy.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether under cover of ‘exceptional circumstances’ only Brahmans have been re-appointed?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am sorry, Sir, the hon. Member is not audible.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether under the cover of ‘exceptional circumstances’ qualification, only Brahmans were able to get re-employed after retirement?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not aware of the community of the extended gentlemen. I will make an enquiry.”

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“Will the Hon. the Premier reconsider the appointments of retired men which have already been made and cancel them if possible?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Yes, Sir, it has already been stated in the answer that instructions have been issued that the services of these re-employed persons may be dispensed with on a month's notice. In view of this, I shall cause an enquiry to be made of these extended gentlemen and see what could be done with regard to the filling up of the posts with younger men.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to make out a list of such appointments showing the ‘exceptional circumstances’ in which they were made and place it on the table of the House?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“In view of what the hon. Member has said—he should be better aware of it than I am—I shall make an attempt to get the information he wants.”

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Sanjeeva Reddi put the question to the Hon. the Premier and may I know why it should be answered by the Hon. the Leader of the House.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That is an arrangement among the Ministers.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a permanent arrangement, Sir?”

(Several hon. Members rose in their seats.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“One hon. Member at a time, please.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the arrangement a permanent one or is it for only one day?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBAROYAN:—“I do not think it is a point on which I can satisfactorily give any information.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Off-hand?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Not even off-hand. It is a matter of mutual adjustment among the Ministers of the Government. Any member of the Government can answer questions addressed to any other Member of the Government. That is Parliamentary practice.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I remind you, Sir, that last week a question was put to Mr. Raghava Menon by Mr. Hameed Khan and just at that time another Hon. Minister, Mr. Bhashyam, came to his rescue and gave him some instructions and strong objection was taken to that.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That was quite a different question and has nothing to do with this question.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know which of the officers who applied for leave preparatory to retirement have been refused leave?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That again is a matter into which I shall have to cause an enquiry to be made.”

Re-employment of retired Government servants.

* 423 Q.—SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have ordered the discontinuance of the services of the retired Government servants who are re-employed after their retirement;

(b) if so, whether the Government Order is given effect to in all departments in this Province in general and in Tinnevely district in particular; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to take immediate steps to discontinue the services of such of them as are still retained?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the second paragraph of the answer to clause (a) of Legislative Assembly question No. 422.

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“(b) The Government have no reason to believe that their orders are not followed in any department.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“சட்டம் ஒழுங்கு இந்த இலாக்காக்களை நிர்வகிக்கும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களே: பிற்பாக்கு வகுப்பாகிய வன்னிய குல கூத்திரிய ஜாதியில் உள்ள (Retired Deputy Collector) களாக உள்ளவர்கள் விண்ணப்பங்கள் போட்டால் கனம் மந்திரியார் அவர்கள் அவைகளை கவனிப்பார்களா?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“விண்ணப்பங்கள் வந்தால் எப்படி செய்ய முடியுமோ அப்படிச் செய்வோம்.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“ஏற்கனவே வன்னியகுல கூத்திரிய குல வகுப்பாரி இருந்து விண்ணப்பங்கள் அனுப்பப்பட்டிருந்தும் அவைகளை உதாசனம் செய்யப்பட்டிருப்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“நம் நாட்டில் எவ்வளவு ஜாதிகள் இருக்கிறது என்பது கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியும். ஆகவே ஒவ்வொருவரும் அதே மாதிரி கேள்விகள் கேட்டால் அதற்கு பதில் சொல்வது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கும் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have accepted the policy for the future that no more retired officials shall be re-appointed.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“If the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition had listened to what I stated in the course of my answers, he would have found that except in very exceptional circumstances, the Government have decided not to re-employ men who have attained the age of retirement.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Sir, both the questions and the answers are in Tamil and we are not able to follow the proceedings.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I cannot help it. Does the hon. Member want me to translate the questions and the answers? It is not possible for me to do it.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Minister concerned can give the answer both in Tamil and English.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Only if he is conversant with both the languages or a number of languages!”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am prepared to repeat my answers in English if the hon. Member so desires.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In one of his previous answers the Hon. the Leader of the House gave one to understand that the re-employment of retired persons was a matter in the discretion of the Government and that they would reconsider the question. I want to know whether the Government have already made up their minds not to re-employ retired officials.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not prepared to go an inch further than what I have already said.”

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Recruitment to the Police department.

* 424 Q.—**SRI S. NAGAPPA:** Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Police constables recruited for the last five years districtwar;

(b) how many of them are Harijans;

(c) how many of the Harijans were promoted in the Police department to the higher ranks;

(d) how many Harijan Sub-Inspectors there are in the whole Province and how many of them were promoted as Circle Inspectors;

(e) how many Harijan Deputy Superintendents were recruited for the last five years; and

(f) what are the principles followed by the Government in recruiting to the Police department?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) A statement^a furnishing the information is placed on the table of the House.

“(c) One hundred and twenty.

“(d) Forty-eight and one respectively.

“(e) One.

“(f) The hon. Member is referred to rule 3 of the Special Rules for the Madras Police Service and to rules 9 and 10 of the Special Rules for the Madras Police Subordinate Service printed in Volumes II and III of the Madras Services Manual. The communal representation rule is not applied to the recruitment of constables.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“From the statement laid on the table of the House, is the Government aware, Sir, that very few Harijans have been recruited though the total number happens to be 18,000?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Perhaps recruits of the required standard for the service were not available.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Am I to understand, Sir, that in the Harijan community there are not sufficient people fit even for appointment as constables?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Member does not really understand the peculiar position in which police constables are placed, especially in these times of stress and trouble. Certain qualifications are necessary for the post and if these qualifications are fulfilled, I do not mind instructing the Inspector-General of Police that the representation of the Harijan community should be raised to its proper limit.”

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Leader of the House, may I know what he means by 'standard'?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall have to hold an examination."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In one answer the Hon. Leader of the House said that the communal Government Order did not apply to the recruitment of constables and in the latest answer he said that there was a limit with regard to certain communities. May I know which of the answers is correct?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I never said that there was any limit with regard to communities, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I remind the Hon. Leader of the House that in the end he said that he had no objection to instruct the Inspector-General to see that Harijans were recruited to the limit?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It does not mean communal rotation at all. All that I meant was that if Harijans were available, they would be recruited."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the words 'special standards' in the answer, does the Hon. Minister feel that it is the monopoly of one or two communities to have special standards?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Standards are never the monopoly of any community. That they can be obtained in all communities is my opinion."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know whether the standards expected will be made known through vernaculars so that the applicants may know them?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I think they do know it already."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—"மதமுன் சிட்டு போலீஸ் பிப்ரவரி மாதத்தின் சம்பளத்தை வாங்காமல் இருக்கிறார்களா?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"இந்தக் கேள்வியை தனியாகப் போட வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது போட்டால் பதில் சொல்லமாட்டார்கள்."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that there is only one Deputy Superintendent from my community, will the Government consider the desirability of recruiting more and more from my community until the quota set apart for that community is reached?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I quite understand the hon. Member's anxiety that his community should be represented. But I should like to point out to him that even the one Deputy Superintendent was taken under special circumstances because the then Prime Minister pleaded for him with the Services Commission."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My question is: Will the Government consider the desirability of recruiting more and more members from my community to reach the quota of one out of twelve?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If candidates with requisite standard come forward, they will be provided for."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I know what the special circumstances are under which the one Deputy Superintendent of Police was recruited?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is a long history, and it will take too much time if I go into it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know if the Government will consider the relaxation of standards for members of the Backward communities?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is very difficult to say it. I must consult my colleagues and the Head of the Department before I come to a decision on that point."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether it is not the policy of the Government not only to do justice to the Harijan community, but also more than justice and, if so, to recruit more candidates from my community, especially for the post of Deputy Superintendent?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not know what he means by 'more than justice' Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the Congress has pledged itself that it will do not only justice but more than justice to my community, will the Hon. Leader of the House be pleased to state that he will recruit Harijans and only Harijans until the quota is filled up?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As I understand, the Congress resolution is the raising of the standard of the common man, which includes the standard of the Harijans also. I do not think this question about loaves and fishes will arise."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member Mr. Nagappa has in mind the reply of Mr. Patel in the Central Assembly to a question or cut motion from Mr. Sivaraj. I think the Hon. Mr. Patel told the House that he was going to do not only justice but more than justice. Probably he has that in mind."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am thankful to you for the information and I must examine it in the light of the information you have given."

Application of the communal Government Order in certain departments.

* 425 Q.—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the reasons why the Government are not following the

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communal Government Order in the matter of appointments to the Textile department, Firka Development Scheme and co-operative societies (consumers-cum-producers)?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“*Textile Control Department.*—As the Textile Control Department is a temporary one, appointments to it are not being made on communal basis. The Government declared that the conditions of service in that Department are matters not suitable for regulation by rule. Hence the principle of communal rotation is not applicable to the appointment of officers in that Department.

“*Firka Development Schemes.*—The following considerations are being borne in mind in selecting persons for filling the posts sanctioned in connexion with the scheme:—

- (a) Possession of necessary enthusiasm and aptitude for rural reconstruction work;
- (b) organizing capacity; and
- (c) ability to feel at home in rural surroundings, to study the needs of the villagers with sympathy and understanding, to evoke their confidence and to secure their willing co-operation in pushing through schemes of rural uplift.

“The Government attach very great importance to the successful working of the scheme of intensive rural reconstruction and in order to obtain the services of the best men available possessing the qualifications mentioned above for filling the posts sanctioned in connexion with the scheme, they are not making appointments on any communal basis.

“*Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies.*—These societies organized in Malabar and in Northern Circars districts under the special schemes of procurement and distribution sponsored by the Government are new to the work entrusted to them. They therefore require efficient men as Secretaries who alone will be able to manage the work of these societies on sound business lines. Selection to these posts of Secretaries are, therefore, made after rigorous tests. For lower posts in the societies it is intended to employ as far as possible suitable men from among the staff under the private merchants ousted on account of the formation of the societies. Further, the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies are non-official bodies and the communal Government Order does not, therefore, apply to them. Efficiency and business experience are the chief criteria in the matter of making appointments to these posts.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer that, because the departments are temporary, the communal Government Order is not applied, may I know what the special difficulty is in applying the Government Order even if the departments are temporary?”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“As already submitted, it is not a question of difficulty. Because the posts are temporary, the communal Government Order has not been applied.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“My question has not been answered. Even if the departments are temporary, what is the reason for not applying the communal Government Order?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“In G.O. No. 955, Development, dated 4th March 1944, it has been ordered that the conditions required of officers in the Textile Department are matters not suitable for regulation by rules, and as such communal rotation is not followed.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask whether the Government are not aware that the communal Government Order was passed to remove inequalities and to do justice, so far as the services are concerned, to all the communities, and whether it does not follow from that that the communal rule should be followed even in the making of temporary appointments?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“If candidates who are otherwise suitable apply, their cases will certainly be considered.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What prevented the Government from advertising for these posts and making the selection from the applicants?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“In view of the necessity for the appointments being made quickly because of the then needs, they might not have been advertised. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be borne in mind for the future.”

SRI N. SANJEEVA REDDI:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of officers appointed in these departments and the communities to which they belong? If he has not got the information, will he kindly place it on the table at least to-morrow?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It may not be possible to place the information on the table tomorrow. I suggest to my hon. Friend that he may put a separate question on the subject and all the details will certainly be furnished to him.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“May I know whether the Government considered that the persons possessed the necessary technical qualifications before making appointments in the Textile Department?”

(An hon. Member belonging to the European Group passed between the chair and the member speaking.)

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MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member should not pass between the Chair and the Member speaking.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“We have to presume so, Sir.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Had the Government received any applications at all or made appointments from persons whom they had in their minds?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he recognizes that the Government Order passed in the Development Department is not in conformity with the ordinary accepted rule so far as appointments are concerned and, if so, whether he will see that the Government Order is modified suitably?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I may tell the hon. Member that the communal Government Order has not been abrogated. As I have already submitted, those particular appointments were temporary and so the communal Government Order had not been observed. In future, every effort will be made to see that no community or interest suffers.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Though the appointments in question are temporary, they constitute public or Government service all the same. Then, what is the difficulty of the Government in applying the communal Government Order to them and why has that not been applied?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“May I submit, Sir, that this question has already been answered?”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister that, because the appointments were temporary, the communal Government Order was not applied, does not that itself form a reason for appointing more Harijans?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“No answer can possibly be given to this question.”

Application of the communal Government Order in certain departments.

* 426 Q.—A. AARON RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the communal Government Order is being applied in the appointment of personnel in the recent schemes brought into being by the present Government, such as Firka Development Scheme, Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies, District Textile department, etc.; and

(b) if the answer is in the negative, why it is not being applied?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) No.

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“(b) The reasons for not following the communal Government Order are given below:—

Firka Development Scheme.—The following considerations are being borne in mind in selecting persons for filling the posts sanctioned in connexion with the schemes:—

- (i) Possession of necessary enthusiasm and aptitude for rural reconstruction work;
- (ii) organizing capacity; and
- (iii) ability to feel at home in rural surroundings, to study the needs of the villagers with sympathy and understanding to evoke their confidence and to secure their willing co-operation in pushing through schemes of rural uplift.

The Government attach very great importance to the successful working of the scheme of intensive rural re-construction and in order to obtain the services of the best men available possessing the qualifications mentioned above for filling the posts sanctioned in connexion with the scheme, they are not making the appointments on any communal basis.

Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies.—These societies organized in Malabar and in Northern Circars districts under the special scheme of procurement and distribution sponsored by the Government are new to the work entrusted to them. They, therefore, require efficient men as secretaries who alone will be able to manage the work of these societies on sound business lines. Selection to these posts of secretaries are therefore made after rigorous tests. For lower posts in the societies it is intended to employ as far as possible suitable men from among the staff under the private merchants ousted on account of the formation of the societies. Further, the Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies are non-official bodies and the communal Government Order does not therefore apply to them. Efficiency and business experience are the chief criteria in the matter of making appointments to these posts.

Textile Control Department.—As the Textile Control Department is a temporary one, appointments to it are not being made on communal basis. The Government declared that the conditions of service in that department are matters not suitable for regulation by rule. Hence the principle of communal rotation is not applicable to appointments in that department. However, representation to different communities is provided as far as possible.”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—(After reading a portion of the written answer.) “I have answered the previous question (Question No. 425). The answer to this question also (Question 426) is the same.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know the policy of the present Government in regard to temporary appointments firstly, when temporary appointments become necessary, whether they would consider the application of communal Government Order and whether appointments would be made by the Public Services Commission? These are the three questions I wish to ask.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I do not accept the position taken up by my hon. Friend. When any Government to-day or yesterday or day before, want to abrogate the communal Government Order because of special circumstances, the rules are relaxed.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“My previous question has not been answered. What I wanted to know is how these special circumstances militate against the Government giving effect to the communal Government Order with respect to these temporary appointments.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I cannot give more information than that I have already given.”

MR. A. E. THOMPSON:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, does not the Hon. Minister feel that if he were to drop the whole idea of Producers-cum-Consumers' Co-operative Societies, there would be no need for communal appointments?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I do not agree with my hon. Friend that the method suggested is the best.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“With regard to various appointments in connexion with the Textile Department and the Firka Development Scheme, it was stated that certain technical qualification is necessary. May I know whether these technical qualifications that have been prescribed and applied, were published and whether the public were informed of the same beforehand, whether it was stated that only candidates possessing these qualifications need apply and whether applications were called for from candidates?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I believe the qualifications were certainly mentioned in the Press Communiqué issued by the Government. Whether the posts were advertised, I cannot possibly say now. I am quite definite that the qualifications necessary for the jobs were mentioned in the Press Communiqué of the Government.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What are these qualifications?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have already replied to my hon. Friend's question.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know the maximum salary of the officials in the Textile Department and in the Firka Development Scheme and in the Co-operative Societies?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Notice.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Question No. 427 (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur rose in his seat to put a supplementary question to question No. 426.) We have got 12 more questions. The hon. Member the Leader of the Opposition will co-operate with me.”

Supply of cloth in the Province.

* 427 Q.—SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that in the districts people are finding it difficult to get on without cloth, many of them not having any cloth to wear; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to remedy the serious shortage of cloth in the Province?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) The supply position of cloth in the districts is not as serious as the question implies. The per capita allotment of cloth made to this Province by the Government of India is 10 yards per annum. Only about a fifth of the total quantity of cloth allotted to this Province has to come from the Bombay surplus area. This is allocated by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, every month and is released by him partly from the mills in the surplus area and mainly from the quota holders at Bombay and Ahmedabad. The representative buyers of this Government at these surplus centres promptly buy the cloth released by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, and bring it down into this Province for distribution. In addition, a part of the cloth produced by the mills in this Province, is also made available for consumption. The total mill cloth available forms about a third of our requirements.

“To make up the balance handloom cloth is readily available in sufficient quantity in the varieties to which the people are accustomed. The prices of handloom cloth are however comparatively high. Steps are being taken to regulate them and get them stamped on the cloth.

“Every effort is being made to obtain as promptly as possible this Province's quota of yarn and cloth under the All-India Distribution Schemes and to distribute it to the various centres in the Presidency. Steps have also been taken to restrict

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the exports of handloom cloth to places outside the Province and to send it only to those Provinces and States which have agreed to place an equal quantity at the disposal of this Province. Thus, every attempt is being made to see that adequate quantities of cloth are available for consumption in the Province at reasonable prices."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that large quantities of mill cloth are lying in the stores of big owners of stocks in Bombay, will the Government take very prompt action in order to see that the stock that is available with the stock-holders of cloth is brought out and distributed among the people in the Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir."

MOHAMED RAFFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government aware of the fact that there are serious complaints with regard to distribution of cloth by the Village Committees and if so, will the Government issue instructions to Textile Officers to redress the grievances of those who have not had their due quota?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Textile Officers are there for this specific purpose and if my hon. Friend brings to my notice any definite cases, I shall certainly do my best to see that the grievance is removed."

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Has the Government considered the fundamental fact that if stock of cloth is secured, it will solve the problem of distribution in the Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The fundamental problem as stated by my hon. Friend, is obvious."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the policy of the present Government with regard to increasing the production of mill cloth in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, may I submit that this supplementary question does not arise out of the present main question."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what is the policy of the present Government of which my hon. Friend is a Minister in charge of this portfolio, in regard to the question of increasing production of mill-cloth in this Province?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can put a separate question."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is shortage not only of mill-cloth but also of khadder in the Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Government is aware of the shortage of all cloth in this Province."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister see that khadi at least is distributed as far as possible at reasonable prices to the people?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If my hon. Friend gives the necessary quota of yarn, it is not difficult to get khadder cloth."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It is not my job; it is the Government's job that distribution of khadi is made to all people."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"May I submit that it is as much the duty of my hon. Friend to co-operate with the Government to see that adequate cloth is got and if he wants khadder, he must necessarily give yarn?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is possible that the Hon. Minister is not ready with the answer. It is not proper for him not to answer my question what the policy of the Government is with regard to production of cloth. It is a different matter if he is not ready with his answer."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have asked the hon. Member to put a separate question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The question put by my hon. Friend, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib, does arise out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister previously about the shortage of cloth now. It is the duty of the Government to tackle the shortage of cloth. Whether they have made up their mind to relieve this shortage and whether they are adopting every method that will go to production of more cloth, that is the meaning of the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the Opposition as well as the House knows that the Hon. Minister is not ready with the answer; the hon. Member is requested to put a separate question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will make at least special efforts with the Government of India to see that the quota that is fixed for our Province is satisfactorily supplied?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As I have already stated, the Government is certainly doing its best to get the quota of cloth allotted to the Province."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister see that the ration of cloth is increased from 5 yards to 12 yards particularly in the case of the urban population?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The question of increase does not arise when there is only a small quantity of cloth available."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government go carefully into the question of categories of cloth and see that only such varieties are imported into this Province for which there is a general demand in the Province?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir."

* 428 Q.—MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not present in the House. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

Number of posts in certain categories in the Province.

* 428 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the total number of posts in the Province in each of the following categories:—

- (a) Deputy Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards;
 (b) Municipal Commissioner;
 (c) District Panchayat Officer;
 (d) Secretary, District Board;
 (e) Assistant Panchayat Officer; and
 (f) Executive Officer?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—

Total number of posts in each category.

	Number of posts.
"(a) Deputy Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards"	4
"(b) Municipal Commissioners"	81
"(c) District Panchayat Officers"	25
"(d) Secretaries of District Boards"	24
"(e) Assistant Panchayat Officers"	64
"(f) Executive Officers of Panchayat Boards"	313.

Pay of village officers.

* 429 Q.—SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any difference between a village officer serving in a ryotwari ayan village and a village officer serving in a zamin area as regards salary, etc.; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to raise the scale of salaries of vettians and talayaris whose salaries are very low?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) Yes in certain respects.

"(b) Besides the recent increase of Rs. 3 per mensem in the pay of all village officers and servants, there is no such proposal. The attention of the hon. Member is, however, invited to the answer to Question No. 127 given on 12th February 1947."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I ask him what is the reason for the difference in the scales of pay of village officers in ryotwari and zamindari areas and will the Government consider to equalize the scales of pay in both areas?"

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THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The work done by these officers in the two areas, varies."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider the matter to equalize the scale of pay in both areas?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"In view of my answer, that question does not arise."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that in the case of Village Officers in the zamindari villages, the Zamindars also pay some emoluments for doing their work?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Perhaps so, Sir."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that in zamindari areas, collection of rent is made by separate clerks of the zamindari and that the karnams and munsifs do not attend to that work?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"That is what I meant by my answer to the question of my hon. Friend from Ramnad."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MONIGAR:—"May I know whether the Government have come to a decision of treating these officers either as paid employees or as honorary officers?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The whole question of reorganizing village establishments on more economic and efficient lines is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask whether the vettians and talayaris are given travelling and daily allowances when they perform their official duties?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Some allowances are given."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"What are those allowances?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Village servants of villages lying beyond a radius of 5 miles from Taluk headquarters are paid annual fixed travelling allowances at the following rates:—

Distance.	Ryotwari areas.	Proprietary villages.
MILES.	RS.	RS. A. P.
5 to 10 ..	12	8 0 0
10 to 15 ..	15	10 0 0
15 to 20 ..	18	12 0 0
Beyond 20 ..	20	13 8 0

"The allowances should be shared equally by the village servants in the village who are normally employed in carrying accounts to the Taluk headquarters."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether the Government is satisfied with such a large amount that is given to these poor vettiyaans and talayaris? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" I have already answered that the whole question is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Is it a consolidated allowance? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir; it is a fixed consolidated allowance."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that there are certain places which are beyond 5 miles, still they are not included as beyond five miles in the list of the distance of villages? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" I shall take the information given by the hon. Member."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know if the Government will give a definite date, in considering the question of finally terminating the entire services in the zamin area? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" It is a large question, Sir, and I cannot give a fixed date."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Question-time is over; answers for the rest of questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Percentage of establishment charges compared to outlay in Public Works Department.

* 430 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the percentage of the establishment charges compared to the outlay in—

(1) the irrigation branch of the Public Works Department up to 1940 and also since then up to 1946;

(2) the building branch of the Public Works Department including Defence and A.R.P.; and

(3) in the Highways Department as constituted in 1945?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" A statement* showing the particulars is laid on the table."

* 431 Q.—Postponed.

S.S.L.C. text-books.

* 432 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that text-books are not available for S.S.L.C. students in most of the schools particularly in Andhra districts; and

* Printed as Appendix III on page 81 infra.

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(b) whether the Government propose to take action to rectify this defect?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) Yes. The delay in the supply of text-books was due to the postal and railway strikes and the inadequacy of the number of copies originally printed."

" (b) Arrangements have been made for reprinting the books. Steps are being taken to reduce portions of text-books for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination of 1947."

Memorandum from District Elementary Teacher-Managers' Association, Guntur.

* 433 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a memorandum submitted by the Guntur District Elementary Teacher-Managers' Association, Guntur; and

(b) if so, what action is proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) Yes.
" (b) The matter is under consideration."

Aided elementary schools in the Province.

* 434 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what the total number of aided elementary schools in our Province and the total number of pupils in them are;

(b) whether the Government propose to return the amount of cut imposed by Inspecting Officers in each school; and

(c) whether the Government have been paying any dearness allowance to the teachers?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The total number of aided elementary schools and the total number of pupils in them according to the report on Public Instruction for 1944-45 (latest report) were as follows:—

Aided elementary schools for boys	...	...	15,814
Aided elementary schools for girls	...	...	1,531

Total	...	17,345
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Number of pupils in aided elementary schools for boys	...	...	12,67,087
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Number of pupils in aided elementary schools for girls	...	...	1,76,100
--	-----	-----	----------

Total	...	14,43,187
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“(b) The cut in grants to aided elementary schools may be due to two reasons—

- (i) insufficiency of budget allotments for payment of the assigned grant in full in which case a pro rata cut is imposed.
- (ii) cuts for defects in organization, discipline, etc., of schools.

“No cut was imposed in the amount of teaching grant for want of provision of funds during the last three years 1943-44 to 1945-46. But cuts were imposed on the assessed grants for defects in organization, discipline, inefficiency, etc. There is no proposal to restore these cuts.

“(c) A dearness allowance of Rs. 16 per mensem is being paid by Government to aided elementary school teachers.”

Kanarese as the medium of instruction.

* 435 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether Kanarese was used as the medium of instruction in any of the schools of Madras City till last year for students coming from Kannada districts or areas;

(b) if not, which language was used as the medium of instruction for them; and

(c) whether any arrangement has been made at present for teaching such students in their own language?

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

“(b) No information is available. The students should have received instruction in English or in one of the regional languages.

“(c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (b) of question No. 41 answered on 5th February 1947.”

Teachers in Labour department.

* 436 Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to place on the table of the House the rules pertaining to the appointment of teachers in the Labour department and to the discharge of teachers when retrenchment is effected?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Question No. 218, answered on 3rd March 1947.”

Harijans in caste Hindu quarters.

* 437 Q.—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state whether it is a fact that numerous complaints have been made to the Government by the Depressed Classes that they were not allowed to live in the caste Hindu quarters?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

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* 438 Q.—Postponed.

Land acquired for residential purposes of the Harijans.

* 439 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state, why the portion of land at Punnapalle, Venkatagiri taluk, which has been acquired under the Land Acquisition Act has not been given possession of to the Harijans for their residential purposes even after collecting the due value of the said land from them?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Survey Nos. 97/1, 97/2A and 99/2-B measuring 1-86 acres in all were acquired for providing house-sites to Adi-Andhra of Punnapalli village. Award was passed in this case on 29th December 1945 but taking possession of the site was deferred till now as there was standing crop on the land. The crop was harvested in the last week of January 1947. The Deputy Tahsildar, Venkatagiri, has been directed to take possession of the land and the site will be handed over to the assignees after observing the rules governing the assignment of house sites.”

Muslims elected to Taluk and District Committees in the Province.

* 440 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state the names of the Muslim Members who have been elected to each of the Taluk and District Committees in the Province?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The names of Muslim members who have been elected to each of the Taluk and District Committees in the Province are given below:—

Name of the district.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the District Committee.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the Taluk Committee.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Anantapur ..	Nil	Anantapur—Janab Mastan Sahib of Bukkarayasamudram. Darmavaram—Nil. Gooty—Janab B. Mahaboob Sahib of Palyam. Hindupur—Nil. Kadiri—Nil. Kalyandrug—Nil. Madakasira—Nil. Penukonda—Nil. Tadpatri—Nil. Uravakonda—Nil.
2 Bellary ..	Nil	Siruguppa—Janab Razak Saheb of Tekkalakota. Bellary—Nil. Rayadrug—Nil. Adoni—Nil. Alur—Nil. Hospet—Nil. Harpanahalli—Nil. Hadagalli—Nil. Kudligi—Nil.
3 Chingleput ..	Nil	Ponneri—Janab Ahmed Sahib. Other taluks—Nil.
4 Chittoor ..	Nil	Nil.

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Name of the district.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the District Committee.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the Taluk Committee.
(1)	(2)	(3)
There is one co-opted member in the District Committee—Janab Patcha Saheb (alias) Baba Saheb Haji Sait—Chittoor.		
5 Coimbatore .. Nil		Punganur—Janab Syed Ahmed Saheb of Gundagalli. Palmaner—Janab Rahiman Khan of Venkatagirikota. Other taluks—Nil.
6 Cuddapah .. Nil		Avanashi—Nil. Bhavani—Nil. Coimbatore—(1) Janab Syed Ismail Rowther, (2) Janab Sardar Hyed Khan. Darapuram—Nil. Erode—Nil. Gobichettipalayam—(1) Janab S. M. Mahomed Khan Sahib. Kollegal—Nil. Palladam—Janab P. K. Shahmuddin Sahib. Pollachi—Nil. Udamalpet—Nil.
7 East Godavari .. Nil		Proddattur—Janab Khasim Peeran Saheb. Rajampet—Nil. Badvel—Nil. Siddhout—Nil. Other taluks—Nil.
8 Guntur .. Nil		Nil.
9 Kistna .. Nil		Bapatla—Janab Ghouse Beig Saheb. Guntur—Nil. Vinukonda—Nil. Palnad—Nil. Narasaraopet—Nil. Ongole—Nil. Repalle—Abdur Rahman Beig, Nizampatam of Repalle taluk. Sattenapalle—Nil. Tenali—Nil.
10 Kurnool .. Nil		All taluks—Nil.
11 Madura		(1) Nandikotkur—Nil. (2) Kurnool—Janab Dawood Khan Mandojie. (3) Sirvel—Nil. (4) Koilkuntla—Nil. (5) Dhone—Nil. (6) Pattikonda—P. Chinna Dastagiri Sahib. (7) Nandyal—Nil. (8) Markapur—Janab M. Khader Beig. (9) Cumbum—Nil.
		(1) Dindigul—Janab M. Peer Md. Rowther. (2) Melur—Syed Md. Rowther. (3) Palni—Janab S. Mahmud Ismail. (4) Nilakkottai—Janab Abdul Aziz Bahadur.
		(1) Janab Abdul Aziz Bahadur of Nilakkottai taluk. (2) Janab Abdul Sathar Sahib (Dindigul Town Rationing Committee Representative). (3) Janab Allah Pichai (Co-opted Member).

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Name of the district.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the District Committee.	Name of the Muslim members elected to the Taluk Committee.
(1)	(2)	(3)
12 Calicut	(1) Janab Kayamkara Muhammed, P.O. Tirur. (2) Janab M. P. Assan-kutty Kurikkal Sahib, Manjeri.	(1) Chirakkal—(i) Janab K. K. Ibrahimkutty Saheb Bahadur, Pappinisseri Madai Firka, (ii) Janab Nangarath Mukrinatakth Muhammed Kunni Saheb Bahadur, Peralam amsom, Payyanur Firka, (iii) Janab Poomangalarath Puthi-apurayil Muhammed Kunni Saheb Bahadur, Taliparamba, (iv) Janab A. C. Muhammed Saheb Bahadur, Irrikur. (2) Kottayam—Nil. (3) Wynaad—(1) Chaliyadan Ibrayi Sahib, Periya Firka, (ii) Valliyil Abubacker Saheb Bahadur, S. Batery Firka. (4) Calicut—(i) Janab Haji S. Imbichi Koya Sahib Bahadur, Nagaram, (ii) Janab Balam-prom Kuttath Unni Mayam, Thazhecode amsom. (5) Kurumbanad—(i) Janab Edukudi Kunhammed Saheb, Purameri, (ii) Janab V. P. Moideen Sahib, Pallikara. (6) Ernad—Janab M. P. Assan-kutty Kurikkal Saheb, Manjeri, (ii) Kodithaodika Muhommed Haji Saheb, Morayur (iii) Janab N. Mammu Moulevi Sahib, Porur, (iv) Janab K. T. Cheriya Unniman Thangal Saheb, Kondotti, (v) Janab P. E. Monuddin Saheb, Kondotti, (vi) Janab Chakkeri Mohammed Kutty Saheb, Cherur, (vii) Kuruniyan Muhammed Haji Saheb Mattathur, (viii) Janab Kardan Muhammad Saheb of Tirurangadi, (ix) Janab K. Kunhalikutty Naha Saheb of Parappanangadi. (7) Walluvanad—(i) Janab N. P. Veerankutty Saheb of Arakurussi amsom, (ii) Janab Ponnayikurussi Ali, Valambur amsom, (iii) Janab K. P. Pokker Saheb, Mullikurissi amsom, (iv) Janab T. P. Unni Mammed of Edapatta amsom. (8) Palghat—Nil. (9) Ponnani—(i) Janab Arakkal B. Yusuf Sahib, Punnayurkulam, Andathode, (ii) Janab P. M. Abdur Rahman, Naduvattam, (iii) Janab Kayanikara Muhammed of Trikkandiyur amsom.
13 Nellore	Nil	Atmakur—Janab Md. Khaja Mohideen Saheb Bahadur. Other taluks—Nil.
14 Nilgiris	Nil	Ootacamund—Janab Abdul Rasack. Coonoor—Nil. Gudalore—Nil.

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Name of the district. (1)	Name of the Muslim members elected to the District Committee. (2)	Name of the Muslim members elected to the Taluk Committee. (3)
15 North Arcot	Janab K. S. K. Muham- med Badsha Saheb Bahadur of Wandiwash.	(1) Vellore—Nil. (2) Arni—Nil. (3) Polur—Nil. (4) Tiruvannamalai—Nil. (5) Chengam—Nil. (6) Wandiwash—Janab Muham- med Baksha Saheb of Wandiwash. (7) Cheyyar—Nil. (8) Wallajah—Janab Abdul Aziz Saheb Bahadur of Wallajah. (9) Arkonam—Nil. (10) Kudiatham—Janab Abdul Latiff Saheb, Valathur, (ii) Janab M. A. Abdul Kari- yum Saheb of Pernampet. (11) Tirupattur—Nil.
16 Ramnad	(1) Janab K. M. Basa- rudin Saheb, (2) Janab P. R. M. Md. Ismail Saheb Ilayan- gudi (Paramagudi taluk).	(1) Ramnad—(i) V. N. K. M. Sultan Saheb, (ii) K. M. Baha- ruddin Saheb, (iii) Abdul Razak Saheb. (2) Paramakudi—(i) Janab Md. Sheriff Saheb, (ii) Md. Ismail Saheb (iii) Syed Ibrahim Kasim Saheb. (3) Mudukulattur—Janab Syed Hussain Ibrahim Levvai Saheb.
17 Salem	Nil	(1) Hosur—(i) Janab S. A. Rub, son of S. A. A. Abdul Aziz, (ii) Janab Ahmed Hussain Saheb. (2) Krishnagiri—Nil. (3) Dharmapuri—(i) Janab Meer Muhammad Kali Mulla Saheb. (4) Harur—Nil. (5) Omalur—Nil. (6) Trichengode—Janab S. K. Syed Madar Saheb Bahadur. (7) Salem—Nil. (8) Attur—Nil. (9) Namakkal—Nil. (10) Rasipuram—Nil.
18 South Arcot	Nil	(1) Cuddalore—Abdul Hameed Saheb, Kalpattambakkam. (2) Chidambaram—Sheik Dawood Saheb of Lalpet. (3) Vriddhachalam—Abdul Razak Saheb of Mangalampet. (4) Tindivanam—Nil. (5) Villupuram—Nil. (6) Gingee—Nil. (7) Tirukkoyilur—Janab Syed Khader Saheb of Sihilinga- madam. (8) Kallakurchi—Nil. All taluks—Nil.
19 South Kanara	Nil	(1) Tanjore—Janab Kadaras Saheb of Vallam. (2) Papanasam—Janab Abdul Sathar Saheb of Valengaman. (3) Kumbakonam—Janab K. P. Y. Razack Saheb of Shola- puram. (4) Nannilam—Janab V. K. S. Md. Mohideen Saheb of Koradacheri.
20 Tanjore	(1) Janab A. R. M. Md. Salihu Maricoir, Kottapatnam, Arantangi taluk.	

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Name of the district. (1)	Name of the Muslim members elected to the District Committee. (2)	Name of the Muslim members elected to the taluk Committee. (3)
		(5) Pattukottai—Janab S. M. K. N. Md. Abdul Hasan Maraicoir of Kottapatnam. (6) Arantangi—(i) Janab A. R. M. Salihu Maraicoir of Kotta- patnam, (ii) Janab V. S. S. Yusuf Rowther of Arantangi. Other taluks—Nil.
21 Tinnevely	(1) Janab Kasi Row- ther. (2) Janab D. S. Md. Hussain Saheb.	(1) Ambasamudram—(i) Janab M. K. M. Pakkir Mohideen Rowther, (ii) Janab Maina Md. Mohideen Lebbai. (2) Nanguneri—(i) Janab Mohi- deen Abdul Khader, (ii) Janab Syed Yakub Sahib, (iii) Janab K. M. Mohideen Sahib. (3) Tenkasi—(i) Janab Md. Hussain Saheb, (ii) S. M. Abdul Kurrim. Other Taluks—Nil.
22 Trichinopoly	Nil. But Khan Baha- dur G. S. Abdul Kharim has been co-opted to the Dis- trict Committee.	(1) Kuzhithalai—Janab Chinna- thurai Rowther. Other taluks—Nil.
23 Vizagapatam	(1) Janab Abdul Rah- man Khan.	(1) Tekkali—Janab Abdul Rah- man Khan. Other taluks—Nil.
24 West Godavari	Nil	Nil.

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

II.—POLICE FIRING AT CHILAKALURPET IN GUNTUR DISTRICT.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Mr. Speaker: yesterday I have sent a short notice question regarding police resorting to firing at Chilakalurpet in Guntur and the Hon. Leader of the House has not explained why he has not placed the answer to it . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The answers are not ready; it is a short notice question and information has to be obtained. I will ask the Leader of the House to explain it.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I may point out to the hon. Member that very often questions are asked and we are asked to waive notice. I am prepared to waive notice where information is available in the Secretariat, but information very often has to be obtained from district headquarters and in such cases however, I am afraid, I have to inform hon. Members opposite, that as far as administrative convenience is concerned, I will not be prepared to waive notice for such short notice questions.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, in the present case, it is an important matter, because the police had recourse to firing, about 40 people have been injured and taken to hospital and about seven rounds were fired; and I want to know why the Hon. Minister is not able to get the information.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has not obtained the full information yet. Even if he has certain information, he will have to get full information, for he will be put supplementary questions and he will have to be fully prepared to answer them all."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I expect from the Hon. Minister that the replies will be given at least to-morrow? He can get the information by telegram if he wants."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid, I can give no such assurance: I shall try to reply as early as possible, but certainly not to-morrow, Sir."

III.—STATEMENT BY HON. THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to your notice that evidently when I interrupted you yesterday and pointed out that you had already made a decision to call the next question, you thought that I was trying to dictate to you. There was no question of dictation at all and that is what I want to point out now. I simply said that it would be to the expedition of the business of the House, that once you have made a decision, it is better it is stuck to; that is all I want to say, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You say, you meant no insult to the Chair; I accept the explanation and the matter will be considered closed. Mr. Prakasam will continue his speech."

IV.—STATEMENT BY SRI T. PRAKASAM (EX-PREMIER)—cont.

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, yesterday, I referred to the fact that before the election date fixed for choosing a leader, namely, the 7th of April, three of us were called to Delhi and after certain discussions there, we returned to Madras. Before the adjourned date for the election of the leader, advice had been tendered by the Congress High Command to choose a particular gentleman as the leader of the party. The party met and discussed and refused to accept the advice of the Congress High Command. Thereupon instructions came from the High Command that a panel of candidates for the leadership should be sent up to them. That was also negatived by the party which decided upon choosing a single leader as it pleased. This was a constitutional issue that arose for the first time in this Province under the new dispensation of the control by the High Command. The High Command evidently felt that because the Provincial Congress parties were still infant parties, they might not be able to exercise their judgment properly, and might be led into mistakes. To avoid such mistakes, I take it, Sir, that the Congress High Command offered that advice and wanted to help these infant bodies to enable them to arrive at a right decision. But, Sir, at that time there was not very much difference between the major Provincial Congress Committees. I have been one of those, Sir, who were not inclined to accept the position that the

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Provincial Congress Legislature party of Madras was not able to choose its own leader. It has been the fundamental elementary rule of any democracy organized with full powers of Provincial Autonomy to exercise its own power, choose its own leader, form its own Government and to carry on the administration to the best of its ability. That is how a constitution has to be understood, a constitution has to be worked. I therefore joined the other Congress parties and supported them in that contention. But we are all weak. I cannot say that the Congress High Command in offering this advice was entirely wrong. Having regard to the circumstances and the experiences we had gone through, it is not easy for new organizations that have been entrusted with full Provincial autonomous powers to understand the implications of the same, apply the same and carry on the administration on that basis. That is what the Congress High Command felt and that is why they offered their advice. Rightly the Provincial Congress Legislature party resented the offer of advice and tried to choose its own leader. But at the same time, immediately within a few moments as it were, the weakness in some of us exhibited itself. That was because of the internal rivalry for the leadership. Because all could not agree upon choosing one leader, some were inclined to agree with the suggestion of the Congress High Command that there should be a panel of names sent to the Congress High Command. That was the first weakness noticed in our own ranks, but yet, as they were trained men to abide by the rule of the majority, they discussed and finally the panel idea was rejected, in spite of the advice tendered by the Congress High Command and they decided upon choosing their own leader. The meeting that was originally fixed on the 7th of April could not be held and was adjourned to 22nd of April. By the time we came to the date of the election, as I represented to you, Sir, yesterday, our own ranks split up, because it was felt by those friends who were working with me that after our visit to Delhi, they had been commanded to oppose my election and to defeat me. They thought, as they expressed at the time, that they were bound to set up a candidate against me and did set up one. The election took place and the result was in my favour at that time. I told you, Sir, yesterday, after I was elected, I was called by His Excellency the Governor and I accepted to form a Ministry, and also what method I adopted in consulting the leader of one group first, and on his rejection, consulting the leader of the other group at that time, and then how I selected the Ministry and the Government was formed. And I told you, Sir, yesterday that I accepted all the names suggested by my friends and co-workers, but excluded one. That exclusion of one became the cause of a very serious trouble. I did not believe, Sir (Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur: 'May I know the name of the gentleman?')"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please do not disturb him."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir. That became the starting point of my trouble as a Prime Minister; but I did not know that a single omission like that would be the cause of any serious trouble in a matter of such importance and of that nature. Yet,

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we proceeded with the work and the hon. Members whom I chose had to take their oath the next day. Some information reached me, Sir, then, that unless the one name which I did not accept was accepted, the other members who were accepted by me would not be taking their oaths the next day. The matter was put in that form, but I did not believe; I was rather inclined to reject it; so I waited to see whether any such mistake would be made. No such mistake was made as I anticipated, and all took their oaths on the next day and we started on our work. But from now, Sir, the hon. Members of this House should be interested to know, with you, Sir, how we were carrying on our business. Except that one omission that I made, I had no reservation in my mind. I had no suspicion in my mind that there would be any difficulty in carrying on the administration of the Government which is for the benefit of the people, not for the benefit of any section or of any individuals or any group. What happened? Shortly thereafter, Sir,—and I refer to it because the incidents have been rather too many and I should not be detaining you, Sir, and the hon. Members too long on this matter,—the election of the Speaker came, yourself being a candidate for that place. Officially we decided to set up one candidate, and we chose one candidate. Thereupon, Sir, yourself met me and told me that you would be a candidate for the Speakership. I would have readily agreed to your Speakership, Sir, at that time if I had in the least suspected that there was any division in our own party, in our own ranks. Out of ignorance and because I did not know there was any split threatened at that time, I told you, Sir, that we had selected a candidate and that you might have to contest. You cheerfully said 'yes, I would have to contest'. We agreed; we proceeded; the hour came, the nomination was made on the official side; your nomination, Sir, was made by other friends who supported you. Then the ballot was taken. Before the ballot was actually taken, there was great activity in the matter of attempting either to canvass or to measure the strength, the significance of which a man like myself was not able to understand, because we were commanding a clear majority and even without previous intimation, if it was said that there was an official candidate accepted, we thought all would vote for him and we would succeed. But, Sir, it could not be. The official candidate was voted down, Sir, and you were declared successful and you were congratulated by us and also by others, because your election would have been unexceptionable even without any opposition if only such a thing had been known. Now, I have been telling you and the hon. Members of this House how we started, how we appointed the Ministry and how within less than a month, three or four weeks, a thing like this happened. Later we had evidence to show that a certain whip had gone from one side, Sir, and therefore votes had been cast against the official candidate. That was the beginning of the disruption of the Government that was formed by me; but I knew, Sir, in spite of such a result, we might be able to survive by a little more co-operation amongst ourselves and clearing the doubts. Although I have been charged with not having got into contact with all the members of the party from

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time to time with a view to gain their confidence, I may repudiate that, Sir, as I had always repudiated, that there was no such thing as want of contact on my part or lack of confidence, generally speaking, in the party amongst the members. As I explained yesterday, my temperamental reserve should not be misunderstood in a man of my temper. Sir, as it might be remembered by those who have known me from my earlier days either as a lawyer practising in the High Court or as a politician. I was not so peaceful, Sir, as I am to-day (Laughter). As I had gained experience, learnt from younger men things which I had not known perhaps beforehand, I could reconcile myself to the situation created within less than a month by the defeat of the official candidate by our own men, Congressmen. If I had not reconciled myself, if I had not been endeavouring to manage with those friends who had taken a different view, who had made their contribution to defeat the Congress candidate, I might have thrown up the whole thing immediately, and they might have called upon me to throw up the whole matter, because I was not commanding their confidence, although I was elected just a month previously. They were good enough not to take such a view and I was careful enough not to draw any such conclusion on account of the conduct of my younger friends with whom I had to work. We pulled on in spite of that; the first experience of a very grave nature about the solidarity of this party, about the mental attitude of this party, it would be easy for you and the honourable members of this House to understand. What could have been the reason at that stage for this extreme step to be taken by some of the Congressmen to throw away the official candidate for the Speakership and vote for another because there was not much interval between the date of the leader's election and the date of Speaker's election? Nothing else could be found beyond the one mistake made by the leader, Sir, in the matter of the selection of candidates for the Ministership and that one exception. Knowing that, we proceeded. I for my part, reconciled myself and the hon. Members on the other side also reconciled themselves, and we went on with our work. Then, Sir, having come in the middle of the year, we had to think of the Budget. One thing which I noticed, Sir, earlier than this which I omitted to mention was: almost immediately after the leader's election, in the very first meeting of the Congress party, one hon. Member got up and moved a resolution, as it were, that the Ministry that was constituted should be re-shuffled and should be reconstituted, because it was not acceptable in his view, to himself and perhaps to some others. Almost immediately, Sir, this happened; a thing which would not have happened perhaps in any other part of the world, and when it came, I had to deal with that proposition as absurd; I rejected that proposition. I rejected that proposition because that gentleman said, your Ministry has been wholly unconstitutional, and your step has been wholly unwarrantable and therefore not applicable and so take the Ministers away, and reconstitute them. I did reject that proposal. From that date onwards, that gentleman who moved that resolution had been carrying on a systematic propaganda in the country

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showing that this Ministry was not a competent Ministry—I cannot recall the exact words. Thus, Sir, a counter-propaganda has been carried on against this Ministry from that day by that gentleman almost to the end.

“Sir, then there is a second item which I have to refer to and it is a very important item. In the preparation of the Budget, we came upon the Prohibition item. We proposed to have four districts originally. The Prime Minister of the first Congress Government of 1937 started his Prohibition with one district in Salem and later on, without much delay, he extended it to four districts. They were doing very good work and then they had to leave office and went out. The Advisers' Government continued it for some time but that was a Government, Sir, which had no faith in Prohibition. Therefore, after some time, they cancelled the whole of Prohibition in those four districts. On account of that cancellation, excise income accumulated in our exchequer and produced some big amount for future work. When we assumed office, Sir, we felt that to start with four districts would be a good beginning and there would be no opposition within our party. On that basis, we proceeded. We prepared the Budget and when the Budget came before the Party at a later stage in the ordinary course, there was a great agitation in the minds of some hon. Friends who wanted to have Prohibition started in all the twenty-four districts simultaneously. Agitation was started, Sir. How? Not within the Party, not with a view to persuade the Members of the Government who would naturally be in trouble in managing larger areas but by agitation in the Press and by holding public meetings. While this Government was functioning and was in charge of the work, the agitation was started for the adoption of total Prohibition in all the twenty-four districts and a public meeting was organized in the Gokhale Hall. There, Sir, a few Congress Leaders who were for total Prohibition addressed the public and advocated total Prohibition. Amongst them, there was also present a great friend and leader of ours who was occupying a high place in the High Command as well. All these gentlemen advocated total Prohibition when we had prepared the Budget and when we had brought it according to the recognized rules. Sir, before the Party meeting, the point was raised that the policy or even the preparation of the Budget must have been done with the previous consent of the Party, a thing unknown in the history of the world under any democratic constitution. The preparation of the Budget and the presentation of the Budget were such that they would be carried on in the arm-pit of the Chancellor in England. Only on the morning on which it has to be presented before the House, its contents will be known and until then the contents will not be disclosed to anybody. Sir, I was anxious to observe that policy, a policy which has been observed even during the first Congress Government. But, Sir, conditions differed this time. An exception was taken—a very serious exception was taken—even before the introduction of the Budget in the Party meeting, and there they claimed the right to evolve a policy themselves. It was denied by me being a man who had known something of it. I explained the constitutional

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position to the hon. Members and did my best to convince them but not without surrender on my part. They would not accept and they were insisting that all the twenty-four districts should be taken up immediately. By way of a compromise, Sir, I proposed that we might increase it to eight districts and so we had to change the Budget and had to take the matter once again to the Cabinet meeting—a most unusual thing—because we were all ignorant at that time and we had to train ourselves in the art of this administration under a constitution of this type. We could reconcile ourselves with that also. The Budget was altered and again it was put as eight districts.

“Sir, when there was so much reconciliation, when there was so much adjustment on the part of the Government and when there was so much anxiety on the part of the Government to co-operate with the members without minding the troubles involved, I should have expected, Sir, a change of heart in those who had differed and who had defeated the official candidate for Speakership; I should have expected a change of heart in them and a real co-operation on their part. Sir, I was presuming at every turn that that co-operation was forthcoming and I was believing myself that we could go along with our work. We went on with our work, Sir, always ready to adjust ourselves. I, for my part, Sir, believed that there was nothing left in the minds of the hon. Members of this House—such a responsible House—such a big institution who have a responsibility to the peoples in this Presidency, a Presidency which is as big as Great Britain over which the Prime Minister of Great Britain and his Cabinet are carrying on their administration. I expected, Sir, that this will be possible amongst us also. Sir, it has been my endeavour at all stages to explain the position and to beg of the hon. Members to carry on the administration in full co-operation and I believed I was having that co-operation with me. I did not know, Sir, in the least that from the very beginning, there was no spirit of ‘Forget and forgive’. After some time, we came upon more troublous times and it was not easy to go on with our work. We started with food famine and cloth famine and we started with strikes from the very beginning and they continued for several months—strikes of a very formidable nature and not of any ordinary type. Sir, we were facing those strikes and we were formulating many schemes that had been presented to this House from time to time. In spite of these, I did not take these as real troubles and I did not, in the least, feel that these would be continuing because, there was no resistance on the part of the Government to any of these movements until they came to a breaking-point. Sir, the South Indian Railway strike was of the biggest magnitude that had been known in the Labour history. A very difficult situation arose and it was not in the least easy to cope with that strike. It was not a strike that could be controlled and could be terminated in the manner in which it has been done finally. During that strike, what happened? The sympathies of the public had been with the Government because, the South Indian Railway strike was calculated to strike at the root of the existence of the

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human beings in South India. Sir, with regard to the conveyance of food from one station to another station, special arrangements had to be made when all the railwaymen were on strike. Sir, special arrangements were made to carry food on these railways from Madras up to a distance of nearly 1,500 miles. Sir, I must also mention in this connexion, the arrangements made by the police to help the Government and also to help the people of this whole Presidency. Help was rendered by them both day and night, as it were, in guarding the railwaymen on duty from one end to the other, as it were very anxious time, Sir, the Government were spending, and very anxious times, Sir, those who were co-operating with the Government were also spending because the strikers were very strong in number and were determined to break this Government. During that strike, I happened to visit Trichinopoly. Among those friends, the young leaders of the strike community who met me and had discussion with me, was a very intelligent, able, young man who could carry on the strike in a very effective manner, of course, with great reason on his side. In the course of the conversation I asked him, 'You are doing all these things; what is your ultimate object?' I forgot his name now. I asked, 'Will you please tell me, supposing you succeed in doing all these things, what is your ultimate object?' The answer was, 'The ultimate object is to capture power, get into the seat of Government and carry on the business ourselves.' He made no secret of it. Even at that stage, one could imagine the situation. Then we tried our best to effect a settlement between the Railway Company, which did not belong to the Madras Government, but which belonged to the Government of India, and those workers. While in Trichinopoly I asked them to come up here to Madras and here again I tried, but we failed in that attempt. But, although we failed in the matter of settling the strikers, in the matter of defeating them in their object and in the matter of making them realize that they were defeated. There was no relaxation on our part. The situation, no doubt, was very tense. But, what happened? Sir, with regard to the strike at that critical moment, I would request the attention of the hon. Members of the House and yourself in this connexion. What happened? We were on the point of success and strikers were on the point of yielding. What happened in this city, hon. Members may note now. I hold a letter received at that time from the Governor, with regard to an interview which one gentleman in the City of Madras sought with him—a publicist. He went to His Excellency the Governor on behalf of a great leader who was not in a position to go in person to the Governor and explain. On his behalf this publicist went to His Excellency the Governor and told him about the strike as he and his chief effort to bring about a settlement between the workers and the Railway Company and the Government. He gave the terms of settlement to His Excellency the Governor. He told the Governor that the only way in which this matter can be settled, Sir, is by appointing an arbitration, arbitration presided over by the Chief

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Justice of Madras and two other hon. Members—and those hon. Members to-day will be found, and I do not wish to mention their names or even the places occupied by them just now—the names of those hon. Members were given. If such a thing were done, the Communists would be ready to accept the suggestion and the whole matter could be settled. Mark this. I appeal to every one of the hon. Members of this House; I appeal to them to dismiss from their minds whatever prejudices or predilections they may have had against those in office or even against me in certain matters, of their own, because of ignorance and I appeal to them to dismiss all those things from their minds and to look at this question which I am placing before you all with a dispassionate mind. What happened? The Ministry was functioning here. It was well-known what steps the Ministry, including myself, had been taking to solve this strike trouble and to terminate it honourably without the least loss of prestige or dignity to the Government. That was the work which this Government was carrying on at the time. Without coming either to me, as the head of the Government, or to any of the Ministers, that great leadership deputed a publicist to approach the Governor and propose these terms to him asking him to bring about a settlement (cries of shame from the Muslim group). Over the head of the Government this was done. What is the position, Sir? What is the position, I am asking the hon. Members of this House to consider? What will be the position, supposing it had been accepted, of the Government after that time? The Government would have been a thousand fathoms deep under the earth and it will be thought that Government ceased to function; Government with all its efforts failed in bringing about a settlement and another friend outside was able to make proposals to the Governor and through him brought about an arbitration into existence and through that arbitration settled the matter. What would have happened to this Government and what would be their position then? That was the effort made in this connexion by the leadership belonging to one of the groups, whose activities have been responsible for all the latest events and for all the latest happenings. I call this in the mildest language, sabotage of the Government and its activities and I will even go to the length of suggesting that the object must have been to make this Government look ridiculous before the world, that it was not able to carry on its work, that it was not able to produce results and that it was not able to suggest even an Arbitration Board to solve the problem. I may tell you in this connexion that all kinds of things had been said, almost against every one of us, indiscriminately sometimes and without having patience to know things.

"In regard to labour troubles, they had been settled in this Province of ours in a much better manner than in any other Province in the whole of India, as has been acknowledged by the other Provinces also from time to time. Every effort was made in that connexion. Then, Sir, His Excellency the Governor wrote to me about all those things expressing his own opinion. It might be good perhaps if anything could be done through a last minute effort, but what will be the position of the Government?"

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It would show the weakness of the Government. That is how he felt as he expressed himself in that letter and I felt more strongly than he. I was not a man inclined to yield whatever might be the trouble coming upon our heads and upon all of us. Fortunately, it did not happen. Within a very short period after this proposal was made, the whole trouble ended and the Golden Rock events ended and the matter was settled. This is the nature of the troubles we were having from inside.

"Now, coming to the setting how we have come out of office to-day, it is not a matter of a single day; it is not a matter of a single out-voting on that day by 116 votes and I shall come to voting, the character of the votes and what happened about voting after I deal with this matter? I would like to finish this aspect of the matter. We could understand non-co-operation because we were born in that non-co-operation movement (loud cheers) and we were brought up and our bodies were surrendered and buried by the sacrifices we made. I could understand non-co-operation on the ground of protest saying, you are doing the wrong thing, you must mend yourself here because you are wrong. You may say that, but if Congressmen themselves begin to take strike work on hand and ask labourers to go on strike, what will be the position of a Congress Government? Well, Sir, that also we had to face. All of us, Congress organizations have got a Labour department also to control labour and to carry on labour organizational work also. One Congress labour organization took up on hand to foment a strike amongst the labourers belonging to a particular union belonging to a factory—a European-managed factory. The Labour section officer of this Congress Committee wrote a letter to the management of the labour union—that letter was written in Tamil—in reply to a letter received from that labour union. It is written, Sir, there, we are ready to help you; 'have you given a strike notice already; if you have not given a strike notice, give at once; all our strength will be available for you . . .'

1 p.m. "I appeal to the hon. Members of the House how a Government in office when it had the opposition of hostile parties can carry on if opposition is also started from inside the Congress Party, Sir? When this thing was found by me, Sir, I was simply shocked at the position. I could not trust that such a thing could have happened. But I did not arrive at any hasty conclusions. I asked another friend of the Government or servant of the Government, to go and verify whether there was any truth in the matter, whether there was any such letter received, whether the letter addressed to the Manager of the Union fell into the hands of the management of the factory, along with other tapals. That was noticed, Sir, by one Member of the Central Assembly, a Labour Member. He was good enough to convey the news to another gentleman and he brought the information from that hon. Member. He went and found out and brought a copy of that letter to me, Sir, in Delhi. I could see the seriousness of the question. Therefore, I put all these papers in the hands of the

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Congress President, the hon. Friend who came here in this connexion, to settle our dispute. I gave one set of papers to another Member of the High Command and a third set to a third Member which was returned to me after reading, as I wanted to keep that in my hand to help me in this matter. Then, Sir, with regard to this matter, as it was a matter of grave consequence both for the Government, for the hon. Members of this House and for the public generally, I wanted to verify further by calling the Manager or the Managing Director of that factory and summoning him to produce the original, because we had only a copy of it. The original was produced by that hon. Gentleman and he gave a statement before me, Sir. But it was only before me. I thought, Sir, that in a matter of that kind, I should not keep that information with me, but I should convey it to the hon. Members who were my colleagues. I, therefore, wanted this matter to be considered by the Cabinet, by the whole Cabinet. Mr. Scott Brown was the Chief Secretary at that time. I asked him to summon this General Manager of that factory to appear before the Cabinet. I asked another gentleman also, who was a detainee, but who was released by the Government after satisfying themselves that he was not a violent Communist. These two persons were asked to be summoned before the full Cabinet. They came and they were in attendance in the other room. We had finished our work in the Cabinet. Mr. Scott Brown was there. Meanwhile, I thought, Sir, being a domestic matter between ourselves—it was not a domestic matter for the Government as such—I went out of my way, Sir, and I thought that the public enquiry cannot be made before the full Cabinet, and in the presence of the Chief Secretary, an official of the Government. I also decided that these two friends who were summoned should not be put before the Cabinet at once before I explained the whole situation to them. They might come at a later stage. Then I placed the whole of this matter before the full Cabinet and all the Members were present and were apprised of the whole situation. Almost every one without any exception was of the opinion that in a matter like this it was very wrong on the part of the authorities or the Congress organization to have done that. Then I requested Mr. Scott Brown to go away and I wanted the witnesses also to go away so that we may consider the matter between ourselves, where we were and what we should do in future, if we wished to have control over our own administration.

"Then after some time there came another trouble in these big train of troubles, the resignation of four of my colleagues. (Laughter in the House.) I had taken the resignations, Sir, not only from these hon. Members, who had resigned, but from almost all the Ministers who came into office with me or at my instance. I was carrying them in my pocket and when I went to Delhi I told some of the Members of the High Command also about this. After their resignation, these four Members wrote a letter in which they took exception to what I was talking of in my tour in the Andhra districts where I had gone for four or five days. Further, they said that they were pained to notice that so and so,

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the Manager of such and such a company, had been called and examined in connexion with the activities of these men. It is humiliating that for this they wanted to part company. I did not enter into any controversy, Sir, with regard to this or about the resignations. I never entered into any controversy with regard to any of these matters. I found in the letter which they sent to me as a last one it had reference to this enquiry of mine about this incident which I have narrated. I have referred to that now, Sir, with a view to enable all the hon. Members of this House and you, Sir, to understand how we have been getting on with our work.

“Then, Sir, came the Coimbatore Mills’ strike. This was a big strike. Forty thousand workers were involved in that. When the strike notice was given and when the trouble arose, the Labour Minister, the Hon. Mr. V. V. Giri, proceeded to the spot with the Labour Officer and tried to settle the matter. He succeeded in bringing the parties together and making them agree to arbitration proposal. An Adjudicator was appointed, who heard the appeal from both the parties, fixed the wages and everything that was necessary according to him and that was just and impartial in his opinion. In the ordinary course, after any strike when the matter is referred to adjudication and the Adjudicator gives his verdict, including the biggest of the strikes in the City, Sir, the Adjudicator’s verdict was taken as final. When some of the biggest mill-owners expressed their dissatisfaction and they were pointed out the consequences of disobeying the Adjudicator’s verdict, they reconciled themselves and they carried out the behests of the Adjudicator. Matters were thus settled, but in the Coimbatore Mill strike, Sir, it could not be done. The Adjudicator’s award and everything was finished and some of the workers had accepted the bonus or whatever you might call it. The rest were not satisfied with it and they wanted more. So the trouble was revived. Who were responsible for this? It was only the Congress leadership that became responsible for that. I may tell the hon. Members of this House and you, Sir, that I have got evidence to place before any tribunal or anybody if I am called upon to do so. I am narrating all these things to this House because I want to show to the hon. Members how I was carrying on the administration for the last 10 or 11 months and how I was forced to surrender and come and occupy this seat.

“Finally, Sir, when I went to Delhi, I placed the whole matter before the Congress President, Mr. Kripalani. I gave all the papers to him. I pointed out to him the danger of this Coimbatore Mills’ strike involving 40,000 workers and I wanted him to go into the matter and give us the necessary advice. Myself and Mr. Giri, who happened to be present on this occasion, explained the whole position to the Congress President. Before I left for Delhi I found again at Coimbatore they had fixed a date of 12th or 13th of that month as the date for going on strike. I came from Delhi to Madras by air. The same night I left for Coimbatore. Mr. Giri could not come having been detained on other business there. I went to Coimbatore. My

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hon. friend on the opposition also was there and with the Collector we looked into the whole matter. I thought I could settle the matter by giving my own award, right or wrong, lawful or unlawful, legal or illegal. The same was the position with regard to mill-owners and we alone in the Government sometimes are so ignorant in such matters. We had to learn at every stage from whomsoever we came across with. Finally, we requested them all to come over to Madras, two or three days later and assured them that we would settle the matter. They did come, we made another effort but the matter could not be settled. I had to leave again for Delhi and I requested them to wait till I returned. In spite of the wrong impressions given by some friends, we were pulling on and we tried our best to settle the matter. An hon. leader on the other side was standing behind the strikers and it was agreed that the workers and the mill-owners would abide by the decision that would be given by me as their sole arbiter. That was done and that arbitration was given while this no-confidence motion has been moving in the air and all round. You can imagine the anxiety with which and the care with which we have been working and attending to these matters. Things had been going on in this manner. In a press interview given by a leader on the opposite side on the 5th of February last, he stated to the representative who was interviewing him: “Let me tell you that I would not like to make a secret of my intentions hereafter; I am determined to defeat this Ministry, I am so strong now.” I have got the paper which has published this matter and I will not trouble you and hon. Members of this House with reading from out of it. But the cases I am mentioning here are matters that could be verified. These were the circumstances under which the Government had been functioning and carrying out their policies and programmes—some hon. Members may not agree with some of the items or programmes and criticisms are there which must be considered and dealt with as they come—we have been doing our work in spite of all these things. In some of his speeches made before the declaration of the 5th February, I have mentioned, he exhorted the strikers to carry on the strike but he cautioned them that the strike must be carried out in a non-violent manner; that was the only qualification and the non-violent strike is the one that has been giving us so much trouble from the first day of our administration until now. While we were doing our work in a manner stated by me, wherefrom did this no-confidence motion come and for what purpose did it come? Did I offend any of the hon. Members of this House on any occasion? I must take you into this history very shortly. Mr. Raza Khan, one of the young members of the opposition party, in one of his speeches on a previous occasion put the thing in a nut-shell and he asked: “What about the trouble inside the Congress Legislature Party? Were there any differences in the matter of programmes or policies? So far, we are unable to find anything; but if there are any differences, your place will be with us on the opposition and not on the other side.” He stated this humorously. On that occasion, he used a certain expression which I would not use now. On this

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side, the whole thing was summed up by one of the important gentleman working on the opposite side in the inside group system. He also made a statement that we were agreed and that there were no differences amongst us and the differences were only with regard to certain methods I am repeating now, Sir, that differences arose with regard to Ministership. I will explain how it arose. In the beginning, when I formed the Government as a man responsible for constituting the Government, I invited one party leader to come and accept responsibility along with me. After discussing for over an hour with me that friend convinced me that at that stage he was not inclined to come and his party people would not come. Then I approached the other party and I formed the Government. Hon. Members are aware how in the beginning, both in this side and outside all kinds of rumours had been going on about the continuance of this Ministry which had been formed on the 30th April 1946. Some predicted the life of the Ministry at three months if it did not collapse earlier. Month after month and day after day, we were surviving and we were not in the least perturbed by the thought that we might disappear at any moment. We were pursuing our programmes and policies with great responsibility and now we could produce a skeleton of a result to impress upon your mind that we had not been idling our time under fear of imminent collapse and we were not deterred on account of all the troubles that had been enveloping us but we were deeply engaged in carrying on real work. I happened to go to Delhi to meet the Hon. Members of the Interim Government concerning the food and other troubles and I was obliged then to meet them often because they were for the first time installed there from amongst Indians themselves. In that connection, one of the leaders of the three or four groups that have been functioning in this House came to me and suggested that there might be a re-shuffling of the Cabinet and that some men of his party might be taken into the Cabinet. Because his party denied to itself the offer made to it by me at the beginning, I thought it was a perfectly reasonable proposal and I agreed to do so. I was attempting to devise ways and methods. The question arose in that connection whether some of the existing members could be dropped and others taken in their stead. I straightway told him that that would not be possible and I would take two from his group and make the number larger and accordingly seven names were handed over to me from out of which I had to select. I also told him to leave me alone until the Budget session was over and until the end of April and it would be reasonable and sensible also for us to take up this question then. He was not perhaps very much impressed with my suggestion for postponing it till the end of April. Once upon a time, this question cropped up not only with him but also in the presence of another great friend and leader. There also I explained my position and I requested that I should be allowed to take up this business at the end of April. This is what happened there. When I came here certain developments took place not exactly in this connection but with regard to various subjects

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upon which different views were held in the party. I least suspected that any trouble would come when I was prepared to carry out this suggestion made by a good friend with the best of intentions. I never believed that any trouble would come upon us. All the subjects of the party meeting were over and we had to come here and begin our work. Then one morning the air got thick with rumours and the press was very prompt in publishing all rumours, good, bad or indifferent. And rumours also are great phophets. From that one could understand that there was some difficulty in some quarters but I was unable to know which that quarter was."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member might continue his speech after lunch time. The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will continue his statement."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I was telling you how we were engaged in settling up this small matter regarding taking in of new members into the Government. After our party meeting was over, at the instance of some friends I was actually engaged in settling up this matter. One hon. Member belonging to the group I was referring to, was talking to me, and I told him, without waiting till the end of April, as desired by some of them we could complete our work. He came and talked to me, not once or twice, but several times, in the matter of fixing up. I took it, Sir, that without any trouble the matter might be taken as settled so far as that group is concerned. And as regards another group, I requested the member of the Andhra group, whether he could come in in the place of one who had resigned his ministership. In that way I thought both the groups could be satisfied, and I even went believing that the whole thing would come up as desired; and I even went to the length of requesting His Excellency the Governor to attend the Secretariat the next day to administer oath to those two from one group and one from the other group. He accordingly made arrangements to attend the Secretariat at the appointed time the next morning; but at about midnight, the friend who had been talking to me until then turned up and said, that the whole thing had gone out of his hands, because of the arrival of two friends in the city, and because of certain things which I need not state here. In that way, that fell through. Thus the second attempt, although on account of this group mentality and the group pacts, that also could not come up. Then I had to avail myself of the opportunity of finding another friend, who had expressed his desire to come in. That was the only thing that was done. Up to this point, there was no question of no-confidence or no question of difference inside the party or difference that might lead to a break up, or tabling of a no-confidence motion. The gentleman who had been coming to me and talking to me about the main group, issued a statement in the Press on 20th February. He stated clearly what happened,

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confirming what I have stated here, to this House, just now. He even stated there that up to a stated point there was no idea of a no-confidence motion. But he put to me the constitutional point as a main point, that is the difference between myself and the High Command. We may leave aside that question for the time and we may deal with these Ministerships. It is conclusively established that the whole of this trouble centred round only the Ministerships that were demanded for one group or the other. All these groups, the three groups including the group of the Andhra area, were functioning and holding on for the purpose of making me, or persuading me or compelling me to yield to their demands. After all, this is a constitution under the Act of 1935. Whatever adjustments we might make for the sake of peace and settlement, the spirit of the constitution cannot be abandoned, Sir. It has never been my intention or my object to stick to office at any cost, surrendering everything of principle and everything of constitutional importance. As a constitutional lawyer and as a student of constitutional law I was absolutely certain that the British principle of democracy that is embodied in the Government of India Act of 1935 and that is being endeavoured to be embodied in the statute hereafter, the principle of the power vesting in the people, the people electing their representatives to the Assembly, and those representatives electing their leader and that leader becoming the representative of all the millions of the people who sent their representatives to the legislature and electing Ministers to govern the country in the name of the Ministry—that should never be forgotten by any one of us, either in this House, or in the Upper House, or even under the new constitution that is going to be forged by all of us in the Constituent Assembly. I have been endeavouring to stick to that principle and I have been endeavouring to correct not only hon. Members of this House, with whom I have been associated all along and in whose midst I have been throughout, but I have been endeavouring to put this in the forefront of our whole programme for our own guidance here and in the forefront of the national programme, even in the Government of India, although that so-called Interim Government is practically a Government not of a democratic nature under any constitution. It is only hereafter when it comes to the electors, and when members are elected by the electors, and when members become responsible to the electors and to the people through their electors, that would become a responsible government. We are not so here. It is for that reason that I was never inclined to brook any interference from the High Command with regard to the internal administration of this Province, just as I was not willing to brook any interference on the part of any Governor or Viceroy or even the Secretary of State. When once power passes into the hands of the people, and the people send their representatives, and their representatives appoint their leader and that leader brings into existence a Cabinet similar to the Cabinet of Great Britain, there is an end to all interference from outside. I am very jealous in this respect, and it is why I resisted the Congress High Command, and I resisted

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even the topmost man. For an expression I used in a meeting on 9th April I got into very hot waters, because I took liberty to use 2-45 p.m. my own language in the usual way. I did not know that the words used by me would give offence and those would cost me anything by way of trouble for this wonderful seat of leadership in this Assembly and the Prime Ministership. Sir, I have gone through the whole thing and I have survived. It was I, Sir, that was mainly responsible for taking my friends of other Provinces with me in South India when this question came up as between the Congress High Command and our own Congress Legislature Party. By some good fortune, we succeeded because the head of the Congress High Command was able to realize the responsibility if they were to take over the power to nominate the Leader of this House, when the whole of the Congress Legislature Party had been elected and when they were available to choose their leader, by saying: 'No, don't choose your leader, you are yet young; you are yet inefficient, you have not got enough judgment, you have not yet got over your minority; let us exercise that power.' Certainly I said that that should not be the case. I say that to-day, Sir, and I will say that to the end of my life so long as the principle is correct. Now, I am not afraid of any of these things, that is put against me by the hon. Member who negotiated for those two seats or more in the press statement issued by him. He said: 'The weak point of Mr. Prakasam is he could not reconcile himself to accept this domination of the Congress High Command. He could not reconcile himself to leave the matter to the Congress High Command and submit himself to what the Congress High Command said.' It is a fact, Sir, that I would not submit myself. But at this juncture the question did not come up on that. He came to me to negotiate for two seats, after two days for three seats. On the third day there was a proposal that 'two' must be increased to 'three'. A few days later it was proposed that 'three' must be increased to 'four'. (Cries of 'shame', 'shame')."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The exclamation 'shame' is not allowed in Parliament."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is by way of appreciation, Sir."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"With what grace would I have reconciled myself to such a position as that? I had to say 'no'. Sir, there is a rule, there is a principle upon which this Government should be conducted. This is not one man's Government, this is not ten people's Government or thirteen people's Government. This is the Government of the millions of the people outside although they have no name and they have no voice direct here. For them we are responsible and for others also we are responsible. We could not err. This is all the offence, Sir, that had been committed by me. This is the thing that brought about the no-confidence motion originally signed by thirty people. The first signatory was the very friend who was negotiating with me (Laughter) for the two seats, for the three seats and so forth and thus came the thirty signatures. This came into my hand under

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the tree in the arch where I was living. I looked into it and I was amazed at the whole thing. The language of the no-confidence motion, you might remember, Sir, was simply this. 'We the following require you to convene a meeting to consider a motion that our confidence in your leadership has ceased.' That was the motion, which they wanted to move. I took it. I told them, Sir, as I was leaving the next morning for Delhi, that I would give them a reply after I returned from Delhi. I went to Delhi and returned and gave them the reply. They wanted the day to be fixed two days later, immediately. I, after returning fixed the date on the 28th February, which was the last day before the commencement of our Assembly session. I thought over the matter. Under the rules by which we are guided there was no provision for a no-confidence motion against the leader of the party. There is provision under rule 9 for a no-confidence motion in the Ministry, in the Speaker, in the Deputy Speaker, in the President and in the Deputy"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Including the Speaker?" (Laughter.)

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I am not saying, Sir, that we have no-confidence in you. You are commanding the confidence of everyone here. I am giving the substance of rule 9 of the Business Rules. That rule lays down that a no-confidence motion could be moved in the Ministry, in the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker, in the President or the Deputy President provided it was raised by the Executive in the House, i.e., in the Assembly and not in the party meeting. I gave my best consideration to it. There is no provision for a no-confidence motion in the Leader whose tenure of office is only for one year at the end of which annual elections are provided for. As understood in other Acts of Statutes, when there is no provision for a no-confidence motion in the Leadership, which will come up for election every year, it was even held that a no-confidence motion could not be moved in the leadership or in the leader under such circumstances. Relying upon that and construing the whole thing in the natural course I ruled that motion of no-confidence in the leadership as out of order. Sir, the moment I gave my ruling, there was opposition, not against the ruling; it was asked 'Well, Sir, have you finished the meeting? Have you dissolved your meeting because that is the only subject?' I said: 'Yes, I have dissolved the meeting.' They said: 'If you have dissolved, Sir, we here, who are together, will hold a meeting here on the spot just now as you sit there.' Those were their words. 'We will hold a meeting, we will elect another Chairman for the meeting.' Then I pointed out to them: 'You will be out of order for this purpose; nowhere under any constitution, either here or outside, when a ruling is given by a leader who was presiding, those who are not in agreement cannot say "We defy you, we defy your constitution, we defy your rules, we do not care for anything. We convert ourselves into a meeting here and then we will pass a vote of no-confidence in you". That is what they said. Then they were told: 'This will not be a meeting of the party.' That was why they wanted to have the meeting dissolved to have their own meeting and they wanted

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to pass that resolution. That resolution was adopted by them, although the other Members who were present until that time when I gave the ruling and had left because the purpose for which the meeting was called was over and the meeting terminated. I alone sat there because I wanted to see and to have some enjoyment for myself. (Laughter.) I stuck on and there was the great General Secretary of All-India Congress, Mr. Shankar Rao Deo sitting there. Both of us witnessed the whole thing. There was no discussion, no consideration, no second name was mentioned; none of the people who had left could be present there. Sir, this is the no-confidence motion about which the whole world has been talking about and this is the no-confidence motion by which the High Command was made to believe that there was a no-confidence motion passed by a majority of the party. I shall be placing before the hon. Members of the House and yourself just now the absurdity of the whole position.

"Sir, I obtained the opinion of the Advocate-General later on because the President of the Congress was coming here. Although I was sure of the position taken by me, inasmuch as the Congress President was coming, I referred the matter to the Advocate-General and the Advocate-General gave his opinion, a very well-conceived opinion which will not strike to ordinary persons. His opinion, Sir . . . makes so much difference. I am sorry for the mistake I have been committing though I was warned from behind by my hon. Friends. (Laughter.) The Advocate-General's opinion, Sir, took the point in this manner with regard to the holding of another election, choosing another chairman and electing that chairman and through him conducting the meeting, and passing the vote of no-confidence; he said the whole thing would be out of order, unless and until a vacancy occurred. Assuming that this no-confidence motion was in order and it was passed, until the man against whom the no-confidence motion is passed vacates the place or the place is declared vacant through the legitimate constitutional process, no meeting can be held to elect another leader. That was the point made out by the Advocate-General. The next morning the Congress President was getting into the aeroplane on his tour in the south. I sent this opinion to be delivered to him at the aeroplane because I did not know whether he had applied his mind to the legal aspect of this, although he had told me that that meeting was not valid and that my ruling was not valid and therefore he was going to have a separate meeting for the leader's election.

"So far as this no-confidence motion is concerned, this motion 3 p.m. which seems to have convinced the High Command in Delhi about the propriety of acting upon such news, you must examine, Sir, a little more closely with me this matter of no-confidence. On what basis did this news reach the hands of the Congress High Command and how did they accept it as true? Except by a show of hands at a meeting which is now admittedly declared invalid and not having taken place, there is no other material before them except the list of 114 names that was said to have been flying in the air and found its way to Delhi and into the

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hands of some of the members of the High Command. I am the man concerned with the 114 names here who were expected to vote their no-confidence against me. That list was not sent to me, Sir, although a Press Communiqué was issued here by four gentlemen, leaders of the four groups as it was then, saying that the list of 114 names had been sent to the Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee and a copy of it had been given to Mr. Prakasam here. It never reached me from those gentlemen, Sir, who made that announcement. Until now I did not get it from them. I got it only from Mr. Shanker Rao Deo after he visited Madras and after he returned home. I called upon him by a telegram to send that list at least now. I got that list before the election which took place after the Congress President returned from his tour. Why was it kept secret from me the paper containing the 114 signatures against me? I had only the thirty signatures paper in my hands. They wanted to persuade the Congress High Command on the basis of the list of 114 names which they had sent up to them that they should take it that 114 people had voted no-confidence against me, that it was a majority and therefore action could be taken against me.

"Sir, examine this list of 114 names closely. What happened after the list was sent? One friend, Sir, who is a Member of this House—I believe he is sitting here now—wrote to the press, to the vernacular press or he told a representative of the vernacular press: 'It is said that my name is put in the list saying that I expressed no-confidence in Prakasam. It is absolutely untrue. Let this be published.' Another friend, Sir, whose name also is said to have appeared in the list, was approached by a Member of this Assembly and he was asked whether he had done any such thing. He wrote in his own handwriting a letter addressed to me in which he said: 'I have confidence in you and I have been having confidence in you all these days.' That is the letter, Sir. Then, Sir, in the newspapers, another Member of the House *suo motu* issued a press note explaining the circumstances under which the meeting was held and the signatures said to have been taken. He reviewed the whole situation and made his own proposal as to how to get over that mentality, that attitude that was taken by the persons there. There was yet another gentleman, Sir, sitting here in this house, and he wrote to the press agreeing with the previous friend who had published a note and expressing himself as having confidence in Mr. Prakasam and so forth. Yet another gentleman, Sir, a Member of the Upper House approached the Congress President in person and explained how he happened to have accepted a certain thing when a certain paper was taken to him. It is such a list as this that found its way into the Congress President's office and the hands of another gentleman there. It is on that list that these gentlemen came to the conclusion that all these people had passed a vote of no-confidence against me, and that therefore I should not be the Leader or the Prime Minister. How wrong it would be, one can imagine! If I had been a man who was hankering after

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this office here, anxious to hang on at any cost, I had so many legal points to raise, I had so many points to obstruct, so many points even to take it into a court of law and put the whole thing into the hands of the judges for adjudication. I had left the courts long ago. I have no inclination in that direction and it would be wrong on my part to have thought on those lines and to have forced a matter of this type into a court of law. This is above all courts of law. The millions who have got votes, the millions who have sent us into this House to act as their representatives, to appoint Ministers in their name and carry on their Government,—they are far above High Courts, Privy Council, House of Lords and all these things. It is they that have power in their hands to pass laws and over-rule the decisions of even the highest courts of the land. Therefore I left the court when I came into this arena and I have been trying to establish that supremacy of law which is the main formula by which Great Britain has been guided. As a student of Constitutional History and law, it has been my endeavour to interpret law so long as I was in courts so as to prove that the law as administered by the Law courts representing the people is supreme and above all other things. Having left the courts and come into this arena, having been fighting for these 26 years now, I can never leave this point at any cost. Right or wrong a decision may be, we must educate our people, even the most innocent of them. How can we educate those people on a constitutional issue of the magnitude of that which has arisen to-day? A no-confidence motion that was presumed to exist when there was no no-confidence motion! A Ministry resigning on a point of honour, not because there was any no-confidence motion passed against them! A Ministry leaving the people to themselves because a suspicion has been created in particular minds by only a handful of interested people! I can give the names, I can prove to the hilt who were responsible for the whole thing, for misleading the High Command, for misleading the people themselves and misleading 114 innocent friends of mine who were supposed to have voted against me."

Some hon. Members from Opposition Benches:—"Please give us a list of those names."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Please excuse me, I am with you. You can bear with me."

"This list is supposed to be guiding the destiny of the whole people. No destiny for me. I am looking to the people who sent me here. I am looking to the people who sent every one of the Members here to represent them. One hundred and sixteen people on one side, seventy-three people on the other side and one vote invalid: that decided the result and the Congress President had accepted this. I was sitting there mum. I did not wish to raise any objection before the voting was over. I did not raise any technical objection on any ground with a view to postpone the election. I sat quiet until the whole thing was over. This was done by the Congress President. He is a good friend of

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the country. He is a saintly man. He is not a lawyer. He could not find the legal intricacies and complications that might change the attitude and votes this way or that. He is a man who sees straight with his eyes straight. How many hands were lifted on this side and how many hands were lifted on that side: that was his guidance. One thing he forgot. Before he left for the south, I put into his hands a piece of paper signed by me after he declared that all his attempts at reconciliation had failed. For the final attempt at reconciliation, three representatives of the three different groups and myself were invited by him into his house. He told me that these representatives were not reconciled with me and they were against me. I asked him: 'Why do you want me to go over there? Let them decide the matter themselves.' He said, 'because I am making a final attempt, you should also be present so that we might make a last effort.' I went over there. After I reached his house, he made me sit with the three friends in that room and he retired saying, 'You discuss among yourselves.' Well, I discussed the matter, because I was the seniormost men amongst those with whom we were working. I discussed with each one and tried to persuade them, but they were very strong. They said that the rank and file were against the whole thing and so they could not commit themselves. One of the leaders was very frank and said: 'I am opposed to the whole thing.' A third, a friend of the Province to which I belong, had the honour to tell us: 'Everything is all right so far as we are concerned, but it is the word of honour we have to keep. I am using the exact words, 'word of honour.' I argued with him because I could take liberty with him not on one occasion but on more than one occasion: 'Word of honour for what? Word of honour in a matter like this? To enter into a contract with others with a view to produce a result of this kind, what word of honour are you talking?' (Laughter.) These things happened in the presence of the Congress President before he declared, 'the whole thing has broken up and you may go away.' These things happened and afterwards he met the Members of the Assembly privately in an informal meeting. He again addressed them. He referred to the various conditions in the country and made an appeal to the Members. When he appealed, I was in the Chair. I gave a reply on behalf of all the hon. Members of the party. Notwithstanding what has happened until now, we give you the assurance, Sir, that we shall try our best once again. Never did I put myself in such a position, to agree to anything with a view to make it known to the world that we are a practical people who would surrender anything important, even the so-called principles, and that we could all work together. I tried. Before the Congress President came, Sir, I thought it was my first duty to call three of my old friends from Andhra area to the house. They were good enough to come. Then I expressed my desire. They suggested what was the good of the matter being considered by them alone? Let another friend, Dr. Rajan, come in. Then, a car was sent for Dr. Rajan and for Kamaraja Nadar. Kamaraja Nadar could not be found, Dr. Rajan came in, and then we had

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a discussion once again. Before dispersing, they said: 'Nadar is not here. We shall go and talk to him. To-morrow morning, if there is any agreement or any such thing, we shall come to the Assembly' and so forth. They could not come to the Assembly and the matter ended there.

"I promised to disclose as far as possible all the happenings in this connexion because they are happenings with which you are all connected as Members of the Assembly. I have studiously avoided stating anything which relates, exclusively to the Congress High Command. I have kept those things aside to be dealt with separately. That is a separate work for me. So far as the hon. Members of this House are concerned every one is interested in the situation that has developed in the resignations that have been tendered by us, I believe that I will be failing in my duty if I would not disclose to you all the happenings. I was anxious, Sir, not for the sake of this office, not for the sake of continuing for a month or two or for some little time. I was anxious that the good name of this Province, the whole of South India, which had fought every battle so valiantly and which had made sacrifices to the highest, ought not to be sullied, not to be discredited, not to be dishonoured on account of a wretched disension that has arisen with regard to the addition of two more Ministers or three more Ministers or four more Ministers to the existing Government. That was my desire. It was for that purpose I struggled hard. What is happening outside in the north of this country and what is happening in Britain to-day? What is going on there? They have made the position clear that by 30th of June 1948, 'We vacate. The "Quit India" would be given effect to,' a result that had been achieved through the 1942 non-violent battle, the last battle delivered by this Congress and the country. With that slogan, everybody was taken charge of and put into prison. The whole Congress was ridiculed by those four hon. Members who signed that manifesto and flung it into the face of leadership saying that they were committing the worst blunder of their life. It is through that, call it revolution or whatever it is, it is through that and through the efforts of all others outside that this result has been achieved. We are on the point of achieving full freedom which many people did not expect here. But I had a hope under the circumstances that such a thing would come. While that is going on there, we should have been fighting here! I had the privilege to take liberty with every one of these members and tell them that they were going the wrong way in this matter and that they should come together and carry on. But they did not consider this and they forced that vote. Now, Sir, how have we come here? Resignations. How did we give resignations? How were we treated by the Congress High Command? That is a matter which is *sub judice* between the High Command and myself. I should not take you into that ground so far as that matter is concerned. But I can tell you this much, Sir, because this House is entitled to ask, and learn from me, how did you give this resignation? Why did you

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give this resignation? Are you justified in giving this resignation? I have to answer these questions to this House. That is why I have spent your time and the precious time of the hon. Members both yesterday and to-day. No-confidence motion did not exist. People may say anything they like. It is proved legally and otherwise, because I can face the hon. Members whose names are down there in the list and whose number is shown as 114 in the list. Some of them in the list came out and said the circumstances under which their names might have appeared, some totally denying that their signature was ever given to it. What should be the value that should be attached to a list like that? I have argued many cases in courts of law, very difficult cases I have argued also, obscure cases also I have argued. I could have no trouble in this matter if it were a matter for adjudication by a judicial tribunal. We do not attach value, Sir, to a no-confidence motion formally passed. When the Congress High Command sent word, when the Congress President himself wrote without knowing all the facts, without knowing the legal aspects, without knowing the other aspects, even without knowing the moral aspects, without knowing the effect of the resignation on this House and on the millions of people who have sent us here, I knew it would be a breach on my part to violate the verdict they have given. I knew at the same time the Congress High Command had been regulating all the fights and all the conduct of the people here in this country. I could not disobey them, although I know that some interested people by going there so often and making misrepresentations poisoned their ears. I have never been in the direction of disobeying the highest authorities if they should be in the right. I was always inclined to join issue with them with a view to persuade them and convince them wherever they were in the wrong. But on the other hand, what sort of vilification was carried on even after I have taken up this office, Sir? I quite understand people raising scandals and spreading false rumours with a view to prejudice highly-placed people against us, whose opinion against me might have influenced. Even after taking charge of the Prime Ministership, after I started the constructive programme, the khadi programme, the village industries programme, after all these were done, what was the act done there in that area by some people? I am not asking you to adjudicate who those people are. I am simply saying with a view to prove the absurdity of a scandal. It was given out in the highest quarter that Prakasam, the Prime Minister, had ordered for one lakh of charkas and that he had given the order to one contractor, whereas the direction of that great man was that charkas should be got made in each village by the village carpenter. This thing was put before them. Then correspondence passed between them and myself. I had to show the absurdity of the whole thing. Because the Textile Commissioner did not book any order, he himself went there and proved the absurdity of it by pointing out that the whole thing was false. If such a thing could be done by friends who are supposed to be interested in regulating our conduct in this Assembly

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and in carrying on this administration, what is the guarantee and where is the safety for anybody? One lakh of charkas booked with one man, implying thereby that a lot of commission, 50 per cent if not 75 per cent must have been obtained by the Prime Minister and his associates! Such things were carried on. In my reply, I pointed out the whole absurdity of it and I requested them not to trust people who would give such information. Again, Sir, one good friend of mine, an elderly man, was going from place to place carrying on some information or other, telling some information or other. About my portfolios criticism was offered here and I welcome the criticism on the administration of the portfolios which I kept for myself, but not on my right to allocate them. It may be wrong or it may be perfectly justified under the circumstances if, as the head, I thought it was necessary. Even these things were carried as a charge against me. I can understand Mr. Salam raising the point. Any moment I can face him and I can tell him. When facts are placed, he will at once consider and stop. But where is the defence, Sir, if gentlemen go so far away as 1,500 miles and there deliver this sort of information? Even from there, Sir, I got a private and confidential letter, not included in the typed letter that was sent to me by the same great leader. In a private letter, he said: 'What is this? Such and such a friend came. He poured forth all his grievances among which your portfolios also were mentioned.' What is the defence for me? A Prime Minister of a major Province like Madras should be put on his defence with regard to a complaint made by some one, however good he might be, however educated he might be! But yet I could not avoid, and I gave a reply in my own handwriting explaining the whole position and also forwarding to the gentleman a number of letters written to me by the informant. The replies given by me to those letters, I have got them here. But I do not want to offend any gentleman now. In those letters, he was on good terms with me before the election and he was all praise for me, he was all support for me. In those letters, he advocated how I was a foolish man in having trusted one man, placing him in a place of trust and giving him an opportunity to abuse his office as against me to any extent. That good friend has written to me. He said: 'All the traitors are betraying you; you gather them together and you always try to do something for them.'

“ Good friends went about and said something against me. Was there anything really that will stand scrutiny? What was the position? I have been trying to make with such friends who have been misled; they have not been giving me a chance, because they believed in the declaration of that great leader who said on 5th February in his interview to the Free Press Journal of Bombay. He declared so then; I make no more secret of my intention. He declared I am determined to pull down this Ministry, this Congress Ministry to which we belong. I am very strong now. These friends pleaded in their statement; they thought they could combine; join together, get a consolidated vote

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and defeat me. I was warned about this in the Constituent Assembly in that first bench in which I was seated with three other friends. One of my friends warned me 'there is danger brewing against you.' I said I always look to you for help in all hours of danger. I do not deal with the rest of the matter. This thing happened in Delhi. All these things were organized in Delhi; all these plans were organized in Delhi. Some friends who were not present there, who had no occasion to be present there, were wired for; they also came there. Their votes and their groupings produced this wonderful result a rat coming out of a mountain in labour. All this was done. Those who were active in Delhi came down here. Although I gave them a chance of two of them being sworn in what happened? They are living in this world as human beings. Is this the conduct of ordinary human beings, to remove one man from his office by so much combination, so much conspiracy, so much intrigues and with so many wrongs committed with regard to the list of 150 names. I have disproved the absolute correctness of the list of 114 names, by giving the names of those friends who have disclaimed. It is not a matter for enquiry and for investigation if I happen to be an ideal man. I have been a cautious man because of the responsibility that was thrown on my head. These groups and this group system are prohibited under our Business Rules. The Rules say that no groups should be formed for the purpose of serving private interests and for spreading political opinions. Rule 30 finally says 'if it is proved that such is the case—that groups have been formed—those who form members of the groups are liable to be removed. I found there were one, two or three groups; I shall take each group now; the first group consisted of 32 persons; the second group consisted of men who belonged to my own area; with such small beginnings this group spread itself; it became a big thing—something like 37 persons. Although I tried to look into the matter, I did not know who the persons were. If I had known beforehand who they were, I am absolutely certain that I would have asked them 'what is the offence I have made? Why are you putting in your signatures to the statement? Some friends have done so. One of my colleagues asked one of my friends though not a man of equal position with him—but of his own district—why have you signed it? He said 'what are we to do; it is said that something has come from above, something from above; it is scandalous; I do not charge the High Command; but there are men in the world who have been doing anything to suit a small purpose; there are such people in this world. This is a matter that should be gone into, that should be enquired into; I aimed to take steps in that direction.

"When I went to Delhi, I wanted to have a ruling; before I went to Delhi I sent a telegram to the Congress President, believing that he was in Delhi and also copies of it to the other members of the Congress High Command. I asked them 'please

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convene a secret session of your Working Committee to consider the following points: One is the Coimbatore Mills; they were not closed then. The second is the group system that is prevailing in our Congress Legislature Party. I wanted that the Congress Working Committee should enquire into this matter. I wanted the Congress Working Committee and the High Command to have a secret session, a separate session which would go into the whole thing, decide it and restore peace and order in this Province. By the time, I went there, the Congress President was touring in Bihar; I remained for four or five days; there was no chance of his coming there in five days; I left a note with other leaders with whom I had discussed some of these matters that I was returning to Madras. When I was there, the enquiry could not be held. As head of the Party I wanted to enquire into this matter myself, because I am invested with powers under Business Rules; I appointed a specified date to enquire into such matters and to decide them. On my return from Delhi I constituted a Committee by virtue of the power that was invested in me, not consisting of myself only; in consultation with some friends, I thought that we should put on the Committee, the President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, the President of the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee, the President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee and the President of the South Kanara Provincial Congress Committee. I constituted a Committee consisting of those persons and issued notices among others, to Mr. Kamaraja Nadar, who declined to sit on the Committee. With regard to the South Kanara representative, it was pointed out that the Secretary was not the representative; I at once wired to the President of the South Kanara Provincial Congress Committee that he might come and enquire into the matter. I omitted his name because he was in Hubli, far away from the boundary limit of his Province. But when I heard from him that his name ought not to have been omitted, I requested him to come up; he got into lot of troubles here on that account. I continued the sitting of the Committee; Professor Ranga was there on the Committee. I have concluded the enquiry; I have made a report also. Under our Business Rules, this matter has to be submitted not to this House but to our party meeting; they will have to decide the matter. That is why I am not placing that material before the hon. Members of this House. I have done everything that is possible with a view to win back the goodwill of every friend, if I had lost it in any way. I never had any suspicion that I had lost the goodwill of any of these friends. Some friends came to me in Delhi and told me in person 'what is this?'—this signed paper of the so-called no-confidence motion. Some friends met me in the Assembly at Delhi. They told me nobody ever thought that this would be put to this use; we all believed that it related only to the reshuffling of the Ministry and that it would not touch you in any way. That is the story of that list.

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"In my letter of resignation I have stated that there is no reason for my resignation; in the matter of my friends surrendering their resignation there is no reason except one, to show our bona fides that we have not been after this office; the Congress High Command will consider that they were misled in the matter; there can be no objection or exception to our actions. The Congress President has not enquired into the matter; the enquiry could not be held in Delhi: the Congress President came here; he saw all leaders with a view to settle the matter; when he was attempting to bring about reapproachment between the four leaders, I put into his hands a paper in writing tendering our resignations, the moment he asked us without questioning even about the resolution of the Working Committee whether there was a resolution or not; whether it was good or bad we did not question. I explained my position to him. He is a very nice gentleman; he will not mince matters; the misfortune was he was not a lawyer; he was not able to take sides as a lawyer; that was not possible for him; I told him that all my efforts had failed; we handed over our letters of resignation to him. I gave him a written memorandum and I request him that he should go into the question of grouping in the Assembly Congress Party and find out what has been happening here all these eleven months, how we have been struggling, how we have been living to-day, and how we have been surviving as Ministers. We were glad to give away our resignations; we did not want to take back our resignations on the pretext of asking him to hold an enquiry. It was not our intention to take him to task by asking him to go into the matter. There is one old man in this world who has been struggling with all his friends in their anxiety to make this organization one complete whole without any demarcations, without these groups, one, two or three, to remove these demarcations, to make the whole group as an economic group, to feel with one heart, to work with one heart and vote with one heart. That has been my desire also. It is with that object that I have been working until now. Though to-day groups have survived, groups have voted and groups have voted out, we are sitting on this side; we are here trying to correct them, whenever they go wrong; we are trying to take them with us whenever they have to come with us; that is the object with which we are sitting here.

3.45 p.m. "I will be sitting here as an ordinary member just as I was sitting there as a Prime Minister all these eleven months. My desire is that this party in the House should be fused into one whole. It has been disrupted into several groups, as Group No. I, Group No. II, Group No. III, and so on. Except in the formation of groups, no member has any mind to consider other matters to-day. What should be the result of all this agitation? Why should I have been talking yesterday and to-day at such a great length? I have still got hopes that nothing had gone wrong with the honourable Members of this House who had voted to that strength of 116. They did not know exactly that there may be very

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few who were prepared to go to the whole hog with a view to remove some of us. But most of us knew that they did not have any ill-will against us. We did not incur their displeasure in any respect, unless it be the displeasure that I had not had the power to distribute some office or other among all the people. It is an impossible task for anybody. My hon. Friend Mr. Reddiar might have been realizing his troubles to form a Ministry of 12 in the last three days. He will discover how great they are as he goes on. I have known human nature; I have studied human beings so closely that I can understand them. Where has this seed of destruction started? The seed of destruction was sown here, not by us, not by any group, not by any committee, but by somebody else. That seed has grown up and we are asked to pay for it and we have to pay for it, before we can destroy its root and branch. That is the position in which we stand to-day.

"Sir, I have taken more time than I ever dreamt of in my life, with regard to the statement which I wanted to make before you. I appeal to the hon. Members who are now sitting here as Ministers and I tell them to look into themselves and to consider each one for himself. Two of them had opposed the Congress in 1942; they are here to-day. And others are here in some form or other; and in guiding the ship of Autonomy here, the responsibility on these hon. Friends of mine is very great. I was wishing them all godspeed even while I was supposed to have been defeated, because I was present there and knew the result myself and was looking into the faces of hon. Members. Before I sit down, I should mention that out of the 116 plus 73 members of this House who took part in that voting, on that day, 73 strong people voted and supported my view and my party. Ordinary people cannot do that, let me tell you, Sir. Everybody trembled when it was said that something was coming from above, from the High Command and if an order has come from the High Command, who can resist it? Sir, I called for a meeting of all the friends; it was to be an informal meeting before we had this general meeting. I fixed the meeting originally at 6 o'clock believing that there was another meeting to be held at 8-30, consisting of my opponents. Then they sent word to me, 'You better change your hour, so that we shall also be able to come and attend that meeting, after we had held our meeting, as we have fixed it at 6 o'clock.' I changed the hour of my meeting from 6 to 8-30. That meeting went on in a private house. This meeting has been continuing, whether they liked it or not, under one leadership, which leadership had to be removed the next day. At least for the sake of courtesy, I thought they would come and I have been expecting all those members who were called upon to meet in a private house, to be present here also. The leaders did not come and many of the members also did not come and we were told that there was opposition there also among themselves and that some were pointing out their error. And so, they did not come here. Why should

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matters have been taken to heart to such an extent? I was trying to face them. I was sitting with them and was prepared to take the result, not as a result which was going to affect me personally, but that was a result that is going to affect the whole Province, and the country generally. That was the appeal made by the Congress President and that was the appeal made by me. That was the appeal which I made at the last moment to the members who were holding another meeting in a private house of a particular gentleman who was moving heaven and earth to remove the last Government and instal his own Government here. Sir, I should not take you more into that matter. This is the way in which things had been managed here. That is why the Congress President said he was going with a heavy heart, not because I was not elected or somebody else was elected, but because that unity was not brought about.

“ Sir, I must tell my last word about the 73 people who voted for me and the 116 who were said to have voted against me. They were told in the private meeting, ‘ We must stick to our original view. We sent up a petition signed by 114 as embodying a no-confidence motion; we must maintain that number uniformly to show that that strength is there.’ That was the logic that was used. That is what I was told by those who were present. That is how it happened. Therefore, Sir, I say, I pay my compliment to every one of the 73 gentlemen and women who supported me, not as Prakasam, but supported the position of the Congress and not supporting these people who are not here. Sir, I don’t say anything against the 116 people also, as I have been very guarded in saying that they were not the people who had made up their minds against me for any special reasons. No reasons have been given in any public place or anywhere until now for the so-called existence of a no-confidence motion.

“ Sir, in this world I have seen so much of it myself. I could never forget how weak human mind is, and how, particularly when there is a temptation, the human mind cannot rise above that temptation. In Britain also the same state of things prevailed at one time. I had referred to it in the 1937 Congress Legislative Assembly on one occasion. It is because that Britain had gone through all stages of trials before, that she has attained the perfection which she is enjoying to-day. Once there was in Great Britain a great man known as Lord Hope Littleton and he was held in greatest respect all over the world. He was in charge of the judicial administration as Lord Chief Justice of Great Britain and there were also ten other judges working with him. In those days, Sir, the King had the prerogative to interfere with the judicial administration arbitrarily. An ecclesiastic case was being investigated by these eleven judges. The King sent word to them saying ‘ Don’t proceed with this case; this is a Royal Warrant and you stop it.’ But these eleven judges without taking notice of the King’s Warrant proceeded with the trial. Then came

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another warrant; this time not a simple warrant, but a warrant actually carried by the King’s Sergeant ordering that the eleven judges should be carried bodily before the King, and so these eleven judges were actually marched before the King. The King then called upon them to explain why they have disobeyed his mandate and how they dared to disrespect his orders by proceeding with the trial. When the question was put to the first ten puisne judges, they prostrated before the King on their belly from foot to head and touching the King’s feet with their hands, they apologised to him saying, ‘ Pardon, pardon us, Sir, we have made a mistake.’ But this man, this Lord Hope Littleton stood up and said, ‘ I will not bow like these friends; they are weak; they have succumbed to your threats; but I am here on my oath along with these friends to administer justice between man and man, irrespective of the fact whether he is a king or an ordinary man. Whether you are the party to it or not, I am bound to administer justice.’ That, Sir, is the history of the foundation of the British judiciary. Like that, here this is a landmark in the history of this Assembly, in which we have been called on to hold office for barely a year for some reason or other.

“ Sir, I do not like to detain the House further by going into all the details with regard to the formation of groups, with regard to the election of candidates and of the doings of all kinds of things by the members of these groups. This will become a matter of history. Sir, do you expect people to be equanimous, to be bold enough to stand and say, ‘ Even though you are the High Command, we cannot follow you; we have got our own judgment; you are wrong and we are right; we will fight against you when you are in the wrong ’? Sir, we did so on the first occasion. At the second time, we had not the strength. These 116 friends who voted against me, I should certainly admit are strong people. They had also made great sacrifices. I don’t mean any disrespect to anyone of them, because I have been carrying on with such friends all these 26 years, not merely on the floor of this Assembly, but on the battle field outside, or whatever name you might give to it. Therefore I compliment not only the 73 valient men who stood firm irrespective of the consequences, irrespective of the result, but also the 116 members with whom I had had to work. They have worked with me all along and I shall congratulate them and I give my thanks to both. Sir, I sit down.”

(At this stage there were shouts of clapping of hands from the occupants of the visitors’ gallery on the eastern side of the Hall.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Call the Police; clear the gallery; get those people out; not one of them should be allowed to remain there. Yesterday I warned them against clapping; they are still persisting; they must be taught a lesson.”

(The gallery was immediately cleared.)

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I intercede with you, Sir, on their behalf to excuse them a second time. Please give them a warning this time also."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" No, they should be taught a lesson.

" Now, the Hon. Leader of the House will make his reply."

4 p.m. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I submit, Sir, to you that the hon. Mr. Prakasam has made a statement giving the reasons for his resignation, and he has told us that whatever happened affects the work of this House and also the Government of this Province . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" What is your point of order? I will allow you one or two minutes, you please point out the point of order."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I beg to submit, Sir, that he having made that statement, I do not think that the Hon. the Leader of the House only can make a statement in reply to that statement. As it happens, Sir, you have always been referring to what was happening in the Mother of Parliaments, and I wish to draw your attention to what happened in the House of Parliament in the year 1938, when Mr. Eden, once Minister of the Parliament . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" Please come to the point. "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Yes, Sir. When he resigned his office, he made a statement and then a reply thereto was to be made by Mr. Chamberlain who was the Prime Minister of that Government; but before he could make a statement, he moved a motion, Sir, viz., for the adjournment of the House. After he made that motion, he made a statement and there were other Members of the House who also spoke on that occasion. I therefore suggest, Sir, the only proper thing that can be done on this occasion also, as you have always been following the parliamentary practice of the House of Commons, the Mother of Parliaments, I would suggest, Sir, that it would be in order—to give an opportunity to other Members of the House, particularly to those belonging to the other parties, the Opposition, to participate in this discussion."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" In this respect, I cannot follow the proceedings or the practice that is taking place in the House of Commons. I told the Leader of the Opposition yesterday that I would give an opportunity to him to make a speech provided he put in a question and wanted me to have a debate under rule 14."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of order, Sir. You were good enough yesterday to refer to rule 45. I will now trouble you, Sir, to read only clause (3) of that rule 45. It says: 'On such statement no debate shall be allowed.' It does not stop there. It says further: 'provided

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that a member of Government shall be entitled after the member has made his statement, to make a statement pertinent thereto.' That is what is stated. Here, the first portion refers only to a debate on it; if the clause stops there with the first line, it would have ended there, as you suppose it does. But then there is the proviso which is contradictory to the first portion of the clause, Sir. Therefore, when there is any contradiction in the rule, it is for you, Sir, to cure that contradiction and give a direction in favour of the rights of the members. Here, Sir, I think you can and you will permit a debate to be carried on in this House on this subject after a counter-statement is made by the Hon. Leader of the House, because you have got room under this rule."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" I have listened to the speech of the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. The rule here is clear. It says: 'On such statement, no debate shall be allowed.' That being the case, I cannot allow any debate. I have already told the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition that I would give him an opportunity to have a debate provided he followed what I told him the other day."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" One more word, Sir. If the rule simply says 'On such statement, no debate shall be allowed' and if it stops there, it will be in keeping with the British parliamentary practice which has been quoted before; but then it does not stop there. It really entitles you to allow a debate because when another member replies to the statement, it is, I say, in spirit, a debate."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, I shall read the rule. The first portion says: 'On such statement, no debate shall be allowed.' If the rule ends there, your interpretation would be correct; but there is a further proviso which says: 'Provided that a member of Government shall be entitled after the member has made his statement to make a statement pertinent thereto.' The point is this: the resigning Minister makes a statement; then it is open to a Member of Government, in this case perhaps the Leader of the House, to say that he does not want to make any statement; in that case nobody can force him to do so. The proviso says that once he exercises his right under this rule to make a counter-statement in reply to the resigning Minister . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—" What is the point of order; you please come to it at once."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" My point is that when once the Member of Government exercises his option to make a counter-statement, it is open to the Hon. Speaker to say 'Let there be a debate.'"

Mr. SPEAKER:—" The rule is clear. Regarding the point of order raised by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, let me tell him: if he wants a change in the rules, the House will have an opportunity to change the rules very soon; the Rules Committee

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have already sat and they have suggested certain changes. Those changes will be before the House very soon and if the House wants, it may make those changes."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know from the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam, in view of the fact that the High Command has behaved in such a way, why he has not chosen to come and face the no-confidence motion in this House instead of facing it in the party?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"That should be answered by the hon. Mr. Prakasam, himself, but perhaps he is not prepared to answer."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, when I rejected the requisition for holding a meeting for moving a no-confidence motion in the leadership straightway on the spot, I said 'I am ruling this out because there is no provision in the rules for a no-confidence motion in the Leader; but there is provision in rule 9 to move a no-confidence motion against the Ministry.' 'Leave out the leader, we are all Ministers here, you please move a no-confidence motion in the Ministry straightway.' I gave them that option, but they did not avail themselves of that option. That is how it happened. They did not wish to move a no-confidence motion against me and my colleagues as Ministers, but they wanted only a no-confidence motion in the leadership of the party. That was all they wanted and this opportunity was given to them, but they did not wish to avail themselves of that opportunity. That is why it did not come up. They declined to avail themselves of that opportunity; if they had tried a no-confidence motion against the Ministry and put it into my hands, I would have got that accepted by the party and then I would have brought it before this House on the very next day. In so many words, this was what I told them—that I would take it without any loss of time and place it before this House. That is how it happened, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a further point of order, Sir. Rule 45 (1) says: 'A member who has resigned the office of Minister may, with the consent of the Speaker, make a personal statement in explanation of his resignation.' Then we go to sub-rule (3) which says 'On such statement, no debate shall be allowed.' Now, Sir, you are allowing the leader of the House to make a statement. Shall there not be a debate on his statement?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, there cannot be a debate. The Hon. Leader of the House will now make his reply."

*THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am rather in a difficult position in this matter, because I was not a member of the last Ministry or even a member of this House. But at the same time, as the present Leader has asked me to make a statement in reply to the one that the hon. Gentleman representing the Madras City North Central Non-Muhammadan, non-reserved constituency . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Prakasam comes from South Central. I know; I come from the reserved seat and he comes from the general seat."

*THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I stand corrected, Sir; I must have said South Central; evidently, the Hon. Speaker having come from that same constituency, wants to be certain of the seat."

"Sir, there is one thing I would begin with. The hon. Gentleman remarked that there was a letter signed by certain people to the great leader of the nation when the 1942 movement was mooted. Might I tell him I am not one of the signatories to that statement? He was wrong in his conclusion. Dr. Rajan was, but I was not a signatory. But he was correct in assuming that I did agree with the signatories that the time chosen was such that having talked of . . ."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Did not the hon. Member oppose that resolution in Bombay?"

*THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"All that I said was that I was not a signatory to that statement. If the hon. Gentleman had waited for a second and followed me, he would have understood what I was going to say. What I said was that even though I was not a signatory to that statement, I did agree with that statement. I did feel that having stated that in the middle of a struggle that we were not going to embarrass the British people in their struggle against Hitlerite Germany, it would be wrong at that stage to do anything which might make it impossible for the democracies to go on top at the end of the struggle. And as the right hon. Gentleman pointed out, I did also oppose the resolution in Bombay, and I was one of the thirteen who voted against that resolution. And what is more, I would like to point out to the hon. Gentleman, that Mahatma Gandhi referred particularly in name to me and said that he appreciated the courage which impelled me to vote against that resolution. Therefore, that is neither here nor there."

"What has really happened is this: I am here to defend the High Command against the attacks made by my hon. Friend opposite. We have been working under the Congress constitution. My hon. Friend opposite owes his seat in this House, to the *imprimatur* of the High Command, if I can so put it." (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please do not disturb him."

*THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"He owes it also to the people, I admit; but if his name had not been selected by the High Command, he could not have stood before that constituency as a Congress candidate. That is all I put forward. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan stood up in his seat.) I refuse to yield, I am entitled to hold unless there is a point of order. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Congress dictatorship') I am not going to brook any interruption; and it now ill-lies with the hon. Member to talk of Congress dictatorship, because I know my right hon."

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Friend the Member for Kurnool (Muhammadan) had himself to go before the League High Command to get his seat settled (Hear, hear). Therefore, there is no use throwing stones against each other. Both the Congress and the League were working on certain principles and I am glad that my hon. Friends of the League have admitted that imitation is the best form of flattery and have adopted the organization as put forward by the Congress. I leave it at that.

4-15 p.m. "What I meant was that the High Command had every right, because of the Congress constitution, to tell the Congress Legislature Party in this Province what they should do with regard to the election of a leader. Even though they had a right, following the democratic principle, the High Command only said, after people had gone up to them and told them that such and such was the situation in Madras, that 'it looks as if you cannot agree on the selection of a leader.' After considering the objections that have been put forward by friends who went from Madras, not because the High Command wanted it, but because friends from Madras sought their advice and, after mature consideration and deliberation, the High Command decided that Sjt. C. Rajagopalachariar would be the best leader for the Congress Legislature Party in this province. (Interruption.) But, they did not direct. What they said was that they recommended him as the leader, but the Congress Legislature Party chose to reject that recommendation and the High Command had thought it was a democratic right of the Congress Legislature Party. But, because the High Command felt that there was still trouble, they suggested that a panel of names should be sent to the President of the Congress who would decide then as to who should be the leader. My hon. Friend told us that that was also voted down by the Congress Legislature Party. Perhaps memory played him false in this connexion because, if I remember aright, there was no question of voting on the panel issue. The hon. Member who represents Bobbili was the Chairman of the meeting. I believe he got into communication with the President of the Congress on the second occasion and the President of the Congress said, 'If it is your general wish, you are entitled to elect your own leader.' Therefore, there is no question of the majority of the Congress Legislature Party declining to accept the recommendation of the High Command on the second occasion when they were asked to send up a panel of names to the President of the Congress. But that was allowed. The hon. Gentleman who just sat down was elected by a majority of votes. All that the Congress High Command was concerned with in this matter—and that is how I read their minds—was that, if possible, the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party in Madras should be elected by the consent and by the unanimous determination of the members of the Legislature. But, in that attempt they failed and the Leader was elected. When the leader was elected, what did the Congress High Command do? The President of the Congress, when approached, said that he had come to the conclusion that as far as the Congress Parliamentary Board was concerned, they would

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not have anything to do with Madras. So that, Sir,—that is what I am pointing out—so far as Madras is concerned, we became an island in the Congress organization. Is that what we have been working for for the last twenty-five years?"

(A loud voice from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery: 'You have not worked!' At this stage, there was some disturbance in that Gallery.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Send that man out; clear that gallery at once."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a previous occasion also, I wanted to inform you that for the sake of one man, the whole gallery should not be asked to clear out."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is not the first time. I have been noticing from here that they have been disturbing a number of times and so I want that Gallery to be cleared. That is the only way to teach a lesson so that they may not repeat it again."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, when the freedom struggle has nearly come to an end and the ship is almost getting safely into the harbour, can we, in this Province, afford to be an island apart from the great organization which has brought the struggle to such a successful conclusion? The hon. Gentleman talked of the Interim Government not being a popular one. I do not know how he came by that view. Sir, our leaders installed there as a popular Government represent the majority of the people of this country. Let us see who are the Members of this Interim Government. First of all stands the man whom the world knows as the greatest fighter for freedom, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and there is Sardar Vallabhai Patel, a man of steel, who fought through many a struggle and who represents the people of this country in every aspect of their life." (Hear, hear from Congress benches.)

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order. I am only rising on a point of order to point out that this Assembly is not concerned with the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru or Sardar Vallabhai Patel. We are concerned with . . ." (Loud interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are only concerned with the affairs of this Province and of this Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Pocker, do not lose your temper; you can speak calmly. I am allowing you to speak on a point of order. Why are you losing your temper? We must take a lesson from the hon. Member, the ex-Premier, who spoke for more than four hours without losing his temper in any way."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have not lost my temper. My temper is quite all right. I hope the Hon. Mr. Speaker will not misunderstand me. What I am submitting is only this. Sir, you gave a ruling a little while ago on the construction of

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Rule 45 that no member of this House shall be entitled to speak upon this question. Mr. Prakasam has given his statement. While doing so, he very often repeated that he wanted to avoid the issue with the High Command because that was *sub judice* and because this House was not directly concerned with that. But on the other hand, the Leader of the House has begun his statement by praising Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhai Patel and perhaps he is going to praise all the rest of them. Sir, we are not concerned and this House is not in the least interested on that subject. It is not the subject-matter of this debate either. Particularly, in view of the ruling given by you, Sir, as our mouths are shut, we cannot allow such a statement to be made by the Leader of the House without giving us an opportunity to speak. I submit, Sir, that you should allow us to reply to that statement. I do not fight shy and I am prepared to reply to that statement on behalf of myself and my party." (Hear, hear from the Muslim League benches.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"After all, Mr. Pocker, you need not lose your temper. You can speak calmly and we can proceed with our work. Whatever may be the opinion of others, I simply wondered at our ex-Prime Minister because for the last four and a half hours, he spoke so calmly without losing his temper and we should all learn a lesson from him in that respect. I request the Leader of the House to proceed with his speech."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If hon. Members opposite had a little patience, they would have heard me proceed to refer to their own Leaders. (Voices from the Muslim League benches: 'We do not want'.) You need not hear it but I am entitled to say what I want."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. The Leader of the House just now said something about our Leader. I will never allow it." (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. Mr. Salam, please resume your seat. You can stand up either on a point of order or on a point of explanation. This is not the way in which we should carry on the work in a Parliament. So, I would request you not to do it again."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, if the hon. Gentlemen opposite did not like it, I would not have made any single reference to the Interim Government. But, Sir, the hon. Gentleman in giving an explanation about his resignation had referred to the Interim Government not being democratic. I did not want that statement to go down un rebutted. What I mean is that it is a democratic government which represents the people of this country. I was going to say after mentioning my own Leaders that men like my hon. Friend, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan—perhaps he is not even known to some of the people as any of my site—he is as much a representative of the people as any of my own leaders are. He is also there in the Interim Government representing the Muslim community of this country . . ."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We know much better about our own Leaders."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Then, Sir, I shall drop that matter. All I intended to say was that the Interim Government is really democratic and is really representative of the people of this land. That is what I wanted to make out. Now, I leave the High Command for a moment. I do grant that as long as the Congress Legislature Party works under the Congress Organization, the High Command, the Congress Parliamentary Board and the Congress Working Committee have got every right to say how business should be carried on, not by the members of this Assembly but by the members of this Congress Legislature Party. I leave it at that. The hon. Gentleman talked of 'No Confidence' motion against him and he said that all that he had was a list of signatures of thirty members given to him on the date when the requisitionists wanted to meet and call for the moving of this 'No Confidence' motion. All that the Party rules provide for is this. There is no question of all the signatures of all the signatories giving him the 'No Confidence' motion because when that motion was taken up, it was then the time to find out whether the majority of the Congress Legislature Party was against him or not. When this was handed over to him, he told the signatories that he was going to a Conference at Delhi and that after he came back he would call for a meeting as soon as possible. As was only correct, my hon. Friend did call for a meeting on the 28th of last month and when the meeting assembled and one of the members raised a point of order, my hon. Friend said that the meeting was dissolved and that he had accepted the point of order. All that the signatories wanted was to bring home to my hon. Friend that the majority of the Congress Legislature Party had lost confidence in him and as the only way they could do it was by continuing the meeting and voting on the motion, they continued the meeting, with my hon. and learned Friend also being present, as also the General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee. A majority voted against my hon. Friend continuing as Leader of the Congress Legislature Party. Therefore, when that was carried, if my hon. Friend so desired, he could have told the members that as he has lost their confidence, he was going to resign. But this was not done till the Congress Working Committee came to a decision on this matter. I am not going to refer to the resolution of the Congress Working Committee, because to this day it has not been released. When the President of the Congress and the General Secretary of the Congress arrived in Madras, the hon. Gentleman placed his resignation in the hands of the Congress President, and as he has himself described, the Congress President did have a meeting of him and three of the people who were the sponsors of the no-confidence motion and after a great deal of discussion there could be found no point of agreement between the sponsors of the no-confidence motion and my hon. Friend. Therefore, the Congress President said, whatever may be the legality of the meeting that was held on the 28th February,

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he was going to call a meeting of the party on the 21st of this month in order to elect a new leader, in which my hon. Friend will also be entitled to stand and he took that advice and accordingly the meeting of the 21st March was held. And what was the result? Whatever may be the legality, whatever may be the consideration you put on the meeting of the 28th February, I contend that the meeting of the 21st March was validly held and that meeting decided to elect my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Reddiar as the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party and, I think, my hon. Friend accepted the position and recommended to His Excellency that he should be the person who should form the Ministry and that is how the present Ministry has come to be formed.

"Sir, the hon. Gentleman talked about the Ministry being not completed. That is a matter for the Leader, because in all contingencies there are occasions when thought has got to be bestowed before finally the Ministry is settled upon. I could only quote the conduct of my hon. and learned Friend opposite, because his Ministry began with 11, became 13, became 12 and became 13 again and as he himself suggested, he was going to make it 15 except for the fact that there was some hitch in the middle—I am not concerned with that.

"I am grateful to my hon. Friend, as you yourself pointed out, for the patient way in which he dealt with the whole situation and I am ending with the appeal he made in the end, that it should be possible in this Province for the Congress Legislature Party to get together, to become one united happy family, co-operating with each other, for the good of the Province as a whole, for the good of the Congress and for the coming in of our right to be a free and independent nation."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, I have got a few questions to put. Shall I put them one by one or shall I put them all at once?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"To whom?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"To you, Sir, so that I may get an answer from the Hon. the Leader of the House."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Might I say, Sir, it will tantamount to a debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It won't. I will see that it does not tantamount to a debate. The hon. Member, Mr. Ismail cannot put questions and I cannot allow questions. If, on the other hand, he asks for a point of information then it can be done."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Perhaps you forgot, Sir, that I rose only on a point of information. In the course of eliciting that information I want to put certain questions. That is what I said, Sir."

"Now, the first information I would like to have from the Leader of the House is this. He spoke of the Congress High Command. Now, I want to know whether there is any constitution

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for the Congress; whether the High Command also is bound by that constitution; whether the Leader when he was elected originally last year, was he elected according to that constitution and if he was not elected according to that constitution why did not the Congress High Command take action even then? That is information number one, Sir.

"The information number two that I want is this. Till now we have not yet been given the reason why there was any change in the Congress Ministry? Even the great Congress President to whom my hon. friend referred said that he did not know what was the reason on earth which made people to differ here, in this Province. So, Sir, I am quoting the authority of the Congress President to buttress my contention, namely, still the House is in the dark as to the reason which enabled some of the members of the Congress to make a change in the Ministry.

"Thirdly, the Hon. the Leader of the House spoke that if at all there was any reason for any change in the Ministry, he said that the reason was that they did not want this Province or the Congress Party of this Province to be made into an island in the midst of the Congress organization. If it were so, the Congress President did not refer to it and he was wondering what was really the cause of all the fuss that is being made over the question here. Therefore, Sir, that reason is not a convincing one and I want elucidation upon that.

"Then another point is this. Speaking of the present incomplete nature of the ministry, which I take for granted from what was stated by the Hon. the Leader of the House, that it is the affair of the Leader and the Premier. Well, let it be, as even it was the look-out of the former Leader, to make changes in the Ministry. But what I want to know is this. He said that he took exception to what the hon. Mr. Prakasam contended that he was right and that he had a right to form the Ministry in any way he thought best and it was contended by some of our friends, that was the complaint made by Mr. Prakasam and now our Friends are trying to repeat the same mistake.

"Then the final information that I want is this. Can the present Ministry assure us, in view of the fact that the Ministry is not yet complete and that they are not masters of themselves according to them, whether the Province can expect a stable Ministry and if so, when?"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to add only one point, Sir. I just want to know from the Hon. the Leader of the House a definite and clear information as to the grounds on which this change in Ministry has been effected as it is a matter in which this House is vitally interested and which this House is entitled to know. I want to know whether this change has been occasioned on any question which affects public interests or the interest of the Congress or the personal ambitions of the members of the Congress Party.

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"Only one more point, Sir, and that is in regard to the change in this Ministry. It has now been fixed at eight. I want to know whether the strength of the Ministry will be a fluctuating one according to the demand for it in the market of the Congress or for any other ground."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"By way of information, Sir. We want to know definitely whether the present Ministry has come into office ousting the previous one because there was difference in policy or whether the past Ministry was ousted and the present Ministry has come into office for any other reason. This is a question of vital importance to the people and to this House, particularly because if there was no difference in policy between the present incumbents and the past Ministry, then it must be presumed that the grounds were other than legitimate grounds."

MAHOMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIR BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know from the Leader of the House whether he is aware of the feeling in the country, not only in this Province but throughout India, that since a non-member has been elected Leader of the House, it proves, that there are not many brainy and intelligent persons in the party."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No. May I know whether the Hon. the Leader of the House will answer the points of information raised."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is a very simple matter and my answer is, I refuse to answer because this is tending to become a debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House is not willing to answer. The House knows that I have not got the power to force a Minister to give an answer."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order. I did not ask any question so far about matters relating to the resignation or otherwise of the Ministry. But the attitude of the Leader of the House is most discourteous to the Opposition. I would appeal to you, Sir, that the remedy lies in your hands. You said you are not in a position to force a Minister to answer. But, Sir, you have to take action. As a matter of fact you cannot allow any member to show any discourtesy, not to any single member but to the whole party. I may submit, Sir, that it is your portfolio to see that the rights of all sections of the House are respected and since the manner in which my hon. Friend has dealt with the question is certainly most reprehensible. I would request you to see that he answers the points raised and if he does not answer the remedy lies in your hands."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"By way of information, Sir. Sir, you will remember that when we wanted to raise a debate you pointed out that under rule 45 there would be no debate. Of course we have not yet changed our view and at that time you said you would elicit some information and you gave that promise and now we request you to redeem that promise by forcing the Hon. Minister to give answers."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Speaker has no power to force a Minister to give an answer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then what about your promise, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Promise! I only said that I would allow you to put your questions or raise points of order or points of information. I never promised that I would ask the Minister or force the Minister to give an answer."

"The House will now proceed to the next item on the agenda."

V.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1947-48—*cont.*

DEMAND X—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

4.45
p.m.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I beg to move that on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,65,400 under Demand X—Legislative Bodies.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion before the House is that under Demand X—Legislative Bodies, a sum of Rs. 8,65,400 be granted to the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to submit, Sir, that the House has been treated very very discourteously by the Leader of the House and he refuses even to answer questions. Even at the beginning we said that this is a question in which the House and also the Province was affected and we, as representatives of the people, wanted to know where we were so far as the Government and the Ministry of this Province were concerned. Sir, we wanted to have an opportunity to have our say and to make things clear so that the people of the Province may be satisfied that things are not seriously wrong with them, even as they are being led to believe to-day. Only a minute ago you said that you will, through points of information, enable us to get certain points cleared and we believed in you, and we trusted in you. Now, Sir, we find that you are powerless, you are not able to do it, and over and above all this, Sir, discourtesy is being heaped on the heads of the members of this House. As a protest, Sir, we are walking out."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I enquired of the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan and he informed me that he meant no discourtesy to any one."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I may submit, Sir, he said 'I refuse to yield.' His very refusal to answer our very reasonable questions is very discourteous. I am using very very mild words in this parliament. Discourtesy does not really represent the feelings which we entertain to describe the action of the Hon. the Leader of the House. Therefore, as a mark of protest, we do not propose to take any further part in the proceedings of the House to-day and we walk out, Sir."

The Opposition members (the Muslim League) walked out of the assembly with cries of 'Pakistan Zindabad'.

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also feel that the Leader of the House has actually insulted the House in not answering questions. Moreover, I request him to consider that this House is not like that in 1926 or 1929, when he was occupying the Treasury Benches. It has developed a lot since then and I request him to take that point into consideration and view the House in that spirit and answer all questions. Because he has refused, we cannot but make a protest and walk out. We are not in sympathy with the League; in spite of it, we have to leave this House.”

* SRI P. NATESAN :—“ Sir, it is very unfortunate that when I am about to move my cut motion there has been an actual walk out by the Opposition. During the course of my speech when I supported the Ordinance, I referred to the fact that the then Government was most unstable and it was not possible for the people of the Province to understand what sort of Government they were going to have. Then, Sir, a few days later I put a question to the Hon. the Premier as to why four of his colleagues suddenly resigned. Unfortunately, then the ex-Premier said that it was not the form in which the question must be put and even to-day, Sir, I have not been able to find out whether it was on a question of policy or for personal reasons that the four Ministers resigned. I also add my remarks as to the unfortunate attitude taken up by the Hon. the Leader of the House but in case I did not exhibit a walk out, it is because, Sir, I am honestly under the impression that the Hon. the Leader of the House did not mean any discourtesy. It may be that his language was not very good; he could have been a bit more courteous by answering the questions raised.

“ Now, Sir, I beg to move—

“ that the allotment of Rs. 8,85,400 for “ Legislative Bodies ” be reduced by Rs. 100.”

“ There are two or three points I should like to urge for the consideration of the Government on this cut motion. The first is regarding the Speaker's visit to the House of Commons. Sir, last year, I moved a resolution to the effect that the Speaker might be deputed to visit the House of Commons. The Premier then accepted the resolution and unfortunately it was not possible for the previous Ministry to arrange for the deputation of the Speaker. I may recall in this connexion, Sir, that in 1938 when Mr. Bulusu Sambamurthi was the Speaker, the House sanctioned an expenditure for his visit to Britain. Later, Sir, a direction came from the All-India Congress Committee asking him not to undertake such a trip. At that time, the Congress leaders were not in favour of fraternization with the British Government and did not like the idea of a prominent Congressman proceeding to England to study the working of the Parliamentary institutions when they themselves were carrying on a fight here in and outside the Legislatures. There was a good deal of controversy then, Sir, as to whether the Congress High Command can make the Speaker in Madras to go against the wishes of the House and Mr. Bulusu Sambamurthi then gave an explanation on the floor of the House as to why he was

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not able to proceed to England. There was considerable discussion on the Speaker's statement and it was urged that the Speaker was bound to go by the decision of the House. Then, Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar was the Premier and he, with his own dilectical skill, tried to avoid this controversy. He came forward with the plea that although sanctions are given by the House it was not necessary that the things should go through because sometimes sanctions are given but no action is taken. Anyhow, the matter was dropped there.

“ Conditions have now changed and I hope that there will be no more fiats from the Congress High Command asking you, Sir, Mr. Speaker, not to proceed to England. I am recalling the episode of 1938 to show how keen was the desire of the House that the Speaker should go to England. When it is remembered that the Speaker is the guardian of the rights and privileges of the House and the House the guardian of the rights and privileges of the people, the high importance of the office of the Speaker is obvious. So much weight is attached to the Speakership and his office that every convention that was sought to be established, went to enhance the dignity and independence of that office. Sir, it is a matter of regret that you were elected to the Chair by the party in power. I think your name was proposed by the Hon. the Premier on the floor of the House.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ I think my name was proposed by Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai and not by Sri Prakasam.”

* SRI P. NATESAN :—“ I stand corrected. I do not want that the Speaker should have even a remote feeling that he owes the Chairmanship of the House here to a particular party. In theory, Sir, the choice of the Speaker should be left to the free and independent will of the House that is what I mean.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ May I also tell the hon. Member the convention here is that the Leader of the House should propose and the Leader of the Opposition should second it. In my election, it did not take place. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai proposed my name and Mr. Velayuthapani seconded it.”

* SRI P. NATESAN :—“ I only meant, Sir, that the Speaker should not feel that he owes his position to any particular party in the House, which commands a majority. His election should be unanimous. He represents the whole people. I would like him to be returned to the Legislature unopposed even in general elections. There ought to be a convention, Sir, that the Speakership ought not to be contested. I only hope, Sir, that there will be a series of conventions at least from now on. Such healthy conventions are bound to come but my anxiety is that it should come as early as possible. Sir, the Speaker's visit to the House of Commons will be useful not only in getting himself acquainted with all the conventions and practices of that House but also for acquiring that first-hand knowledge of the working of the House which will be found to be invaluable in handling difficult and sometimes extremely delicate situations. Sir, in the House of Commons you

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will see how well the Speaker exhibits his dignity, tact and impartiality. Talking of dignity, Sir, I should like to suggest an equipment grant for the Speaker's official robes. It is not necessary for me to make any elaborate plea on the need for an impressive and ceremonial robe. All offices which carry dignity and authority have their own separate robes. The Judges have their wigs and gown and the Mayors have their gowns and chains. I strongly urge the need for a similar impressive robe for our Speaker who combines in himself the duties of a Judge and President of the Assembly. The Speaker of the House of Commons wears the usual court dress. It is in this dress he sits in the Chair and presides over the deliberations of the House of Commons. Here, Sir, we shall have to devise our own robes. It may be a big gown and a wig on the head. We might have a light material to suit the climatic conditions. Combined with more dignity, impressiveness must be added to the Speaker's office by the addition of these symbols of power and authority. I suggest also, Sir, that a mace similar to that in the House of Commons should be carried by a sergeant-at-arms and placed on the table below the Speaker's Chair. We have ourselves seen while we were colleagues in the Madras Corporation that we did adopt something like this."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. member may continue his speech to-morrow. I now adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

[26th March 1947]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 405 asked by Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 26th March 1947, page 4 supra.]

Statement showing the number of applications received from persons other than master-weavers residing in Annasagaram, Pappalapatti and Komaraswampatti and orders thereon.

Serial number and name of the applicant and address.	Date of application.	Orders on the application with date.	Reasons.
1 T. M. Ramalinga Mudaliyar, Nadu street, Annasagaram.	30th July 1945.	Rejected on 24th November 1945.	The applicant contended that he had done business in yarn for about a period of one year, but the accounts produced in support of it did not appear to be genuine.
2 K. K. Ganapathi Mudaliyar, No. 18/47, Dhandupathi street, Annasagaram.	27th March 1946.	Rejected on 30th June 1946.	The applicant had never done yarn business.
3 K. V. Vyapuri Mudaliyar, Ward No. 8, No. 29, Mettu street, Pappalapatti.	14th November 1942.	Licence issued on 28th August 1943.	Licence cancelled and fresh licence issued in the name of his brothers Messrs. K. V. Narayana Mudaliyar and K. V. Pachappa Mudaliyar per family agreement in the partition deed.
4 K. N. Rameswami Mudaliyar, No. 1, Subramaniaswami Koil street, Ballurpet, Pappalapatti.	16th September 1943.	Licence issued on 2nd October 1943.	Nil.
M. R. S. Kuppuswami Mudaliyar, No. 39, Sengundhar street, B. Pappalapatti.	14th August 1942.	Licence issued on 27th September 1943.	Nil.
6 M. Murugan and Company, Komaraswampatti.	Do.	Licence issued on 9th March 1943.	Wholesale and retail licences were first issued but were subsequently converted into one retail licence as the major part of his transactions was retail.

Clause (g)—Statement showing the number of active and idle looms, etc., in the said villages.

Serial number and village.	Number of looms.		Total quota allotted and quota to each loom.	Number of yarn licensees in the village.
	Active.	Idle.		
1 Annasagaram	320	80	Eight bales of 28s or 30s at one bundle per loom per month.	Nil.
2 Pappalapatti	793	243	Twenty bales of 28s or 30s at one bundle per loom per month.	3
3 Komaraswampatti	325	75	Eight bales of 28s or 30s at one bundle per loom per month.	1

NOTE.—These figures are however only approximate as the actual supply depends on the total number of bales received in the district.

[26th March 1947]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 424 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 26th March 1947, page 13 supra.]

Statement showing the total number of constables recruited during the last five years and the number of Harijans among them.

Serial number and district.	Police constables.	
	Total number of Police constables recruited during the last five years.	The number of Harijans among them.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Vizagapatam, North	289	4
2 Vizagapatam, South	633	8
3 East Godavari	887	96
4 West Godavari	473	43
5 Kistna	559	27
6 Guntur	739	20
7 Nellore	835	73
8 Kurnool	453	22
9 Bellary	246	43
10 Anantapur	141	12
11 Cuddapah	454	36
12 Chittoor	534	23
13 Chingleput	972	177
14 North Arcot	641	179
15 South Arcot	645	57
16 Tanjore	787	91
17 Madura, North	690	78
18 Madura, South	282	24
19 Ramnad	1,076	61
20 Tinnevely	1,159	129
21 Trichinopoly	939	227
22 Salem	586	93
23 Coimbatore	634	44
24 The Nilgiris	180	13
25 Malabar	786	11
26 South Kanara	453	7
27 Railway Police, Madras	429	33
28 Railway Police, Trichinopoly	388	40
29 Police Training School and Central Recruits, School, Vellore	5	..
30 Madras City	1,145	131
Total	18,040	1,802

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 430 asked by Sri A. B. Shetty, at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 26th March 1947, page 26 supra.]

Statement.

(1) The cost of outlay, establishment charges and the percentages of the establishment charges compared to the outlay, on Irrigation works are as follows :—

Year.	Cost of outlay on irrigation works (in lakhs of rupees).	Cost of establishment (including pro-rata establishment) (in lakhs of rupees).	Percentage of establishment charges compared to outlay.
1939-40	51.44	19.94	38.76
1940-41	50.44	19.85	38.85
1941-42	48.68	17.45	35.84
1942-43	52.55	17.16	32.56
1943-44	80.85	23.91	29.56
1944-45	119.53	28.35	23.82
1945-46	107.64	27.30	25.36

(2) The cost of outlay, establishment charges, and the percentages of the establishment charges compared to the outlay, on the building branch of the Public Works Department, including Defence and A.R.P. are as follows :—

Year.	Outlay in lakhs of rupees.	Establishment charges in lakhs of rupees.	Percentage of establishment charges to outlay.
1939-40	45.17	16.79	37.17
1940-41	39.12	16.49	42.15
1941-42	40.55	19.56	48.24
1942-43	57.61	14.56	25.27
1943-44	64.91	15.34	23.63
1944-45	88.99	18.09	20.32
1945-46	149.71	20.50	13.69
1946-47	73.75	12.59	17.07

(3) The Highways Department was formed on the 1st April 1946 only.

The expenditure incurred during the year 1945-46 under "Establishment" in special road circles and divisions and the outlay on works in special road divisions and the percentage of establishment charges compared to outlay are furnished below :—

Year.	Outlay in lakhs of rupees.	Cost of establishment in lakhs of rupees including pro-rata establishment.	Percentage of establishment charges compared to outlay.
1945-46	145.38	9.21	6.38

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 27th March 1947.

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

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBER.

Haji Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur was sworn in and took his seat in the House.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ On a point of information, Sir, I like to know now that the Hon. Minister for Education joined the Opposition, when has he resigned the Ministership? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ He is only talking to his friend.”

Question left over from the list of 25th March 1947.

Publicity Officer for Malabar.

* 419 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have appointed a District Publicity Officer for Malabar;

(b) if so, the name of the officer;

(c) the educational qualifications of the said officer; and

(d) his salary?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ (a) The answer is in the negative.

“ (b) to (d) The questions do not arise.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know whether the Government have advertised for some more posts of Publicity Officers? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Notice.”

Starred questions from the list of 26th March 1947.

Anicut or reservoir in the river Vamsadhara in Vizagapatam.

* 431 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken by the Government to see that an anicut or reservoir is constructed over river Vamsadhara of Vizagapatam district;

(b) what are the recommendations of the Hon. Minister regarding the construction of the project after his visit to the said site in the month of October last; and

(c) where the project is likely to be started?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Special staff has been sanctioned for the preliminary investigation of the same.

“(b) No recommendations have been made by the Minister regarding the project. After discussing the scheme with the local officers, he instructed the Executive Engineer to send up a report after the investigation is completed so that the question of sanctioning the scheme may be considered.

“(c) It is not possible to say now at what place the project will be located and when it will be started.”

Scholarships to Harijan students.

* 438 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the amount that has been set apart for granting scholarships to Harijan students; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the amount set apart for granting scholarships to Harijan students should not exceed more than twenty-five thousands and, if so, why?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) A sum of Rs. 1,25,100 was provided in the Budget for 1946-47 for the grant of scholarships to all students belonging to the communities eligible for help by the Labour department who profess the Hindu Religion. Separate figures for ‘Harijans’ and ‘other eligible communities’ are not available.

“(b) No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that a large number of applications were rejected on the ground for want of funds this year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I take that information from the hon. Member.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“In view of the recent Communiqué No. 7 issued by the Government classifying communities eligible for help as Harijans, converts and Backward communities, will the Government allot separate funds for scholarship to converts and Backward communities instead of reducing the allotment set apart for Harijans.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“He wants that separate sums should be allotted to Harijans. But now the practice is to bracket the Harijans with converts and he wants information whether allotments to Harijans and converts will be made separately.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“If a fund is ear-marked for Harijan uplift, I am sure it will be used only for that purpose.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Government in their communiqué have classified communities eligible for help as Harijans, converts and backward communities. I wish to know

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from the Government whether they are going to make a separate allotment for converts and Backward communities instead of touching funds meant for Harijans?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Funds ear-marked for particular communities shall be spent only for those communities. If any further grant is to be made, I suppose separate allotment will be made for that.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Having taken the information from me that the amount set apart for Harijans is inadequate, will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to set apart adequate funds at least next year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Nobody ever admitted that funds were inadequate; you may take it from me that the Government will provide adequate funds consistent with what the Budget would allow.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister that he will not allow even a single Harijan student to suffer for want of funds?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“That is more than I could say.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“So far as residential scholarships are concerned, will the Government consider the desirability of granting these scholarships to the hostel managements and allow Harijan students to have their boarding in common hostels instead of in separate hostels?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I do not know whether it actually arises out of this question.”

Alleged murder of a Kisan leader of Chirakkal taluk.

* 441 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the alleged murder of a Kisan leader of Chirakkal taluk, namely, Sri P. Narayanan Nambiyar of Irukkur firka; and

(b) what steps the local authorities have taken to trace the murderer and bring him to book if Sri Narayanan Nambiyar was murdered as has been alleged, or in the alternative to prove to the satisfaction of the people that it was not a case of murder?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Investigation revealed that Sri P. Narayanan Nambiyar was not murdered as alleged and that his death was caused by an accidental fall into a well while in a drunker state. There were no injuries or marks of violence on the body.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether Government have received any memorandum alleging that the janmis of the locality have employed some goondas to beat Narayanan Nambiyar and cause his death?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir. All that I know is that the District Magistrate was referred to on this question and he had declared after examining that no injury or marks of violence were found on the body of Narayanan Nambiyar and that it had been reported after investigation that he fell into a well while in a drunken state and died because of that fall in the well."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I inform the Hon. Minister for Law and Order that he was never addicted to drink and it is only a police concoction and will the Hon. Minister . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is giving information."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Let me complete my question. Will the Hon. Minister appoint an impartial committee to enquire into the matter because serious allegations have been made regarding his death?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government are not prepared to appoint such a committee."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer concerning the report of the District Magistrate, is it the policy of this Government also to depend upon the reports of District Magistrates and keep quiet in the matter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Any Government worth the name has got to depend upon the officials concerned, unless they come to the conclusion that there has been some miscarriage of justice."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"It is a very serious matter and local evidence is available and can be produced concerning the allegations regarding the death of Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar and may I request the Hon. Minister in view of this fact, once again, whether he would appoint a Committee?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the hon. Gentleman will convince me of the allegations he makes, I might change my opinion but at present, as situated, I am not prepared to appoint a committee."

Revision of salaries.

* 442 Q.—**SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:** Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether, in the recent revision of salaries, Government have recommended different scales for those in Government service and local boards; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to permit local boards to pay at Government rates if they choose to do so?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Where the nature of the work and the conditions of service are similar, the same scales of pay have been adopted for both Government

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and local administration employees. In the case of other posts, slightly lower scales of pay have been laid down for those in the service of local boards and municipal councils.

"Salaries of teachers are lower under local boards than under Government partly because they generally serve near their homes and are not subject to long distance transfers and partly because the state of Provincial and local board finances will not admit of the scales of local board teachers being equated with those under Government.

"(b) No."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Are the Government aware that certain local boards adopted the same scale of pay as obtained in Government service before the recent revision of scales?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As I have already pointed out in the answer, the difficulty is one of finance. We will take that matter into consideration because I know the difficulties the low-paid employees labour under. As I pointed out, there is this difference that they are not liable to be transferred from district to district and their transfer is only to places near their own homes. Therefore, a slight variation in the scales of pay is not such a hardship as it would be to those who are liable to be transferred to all districts in the Province."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The Hon. Minister has stated that owing to the limited resources of the local bodies, they are unable to pay their teachers at Government rates. Will the Government please take steps to take over education in their own hands and not entrust it any longer to the local bodies?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That again is a matter of policy and we will consider the matter as suggested by the hon. the lady Member but I cannot give any definite answer at the present moment."

K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, whether the Government servants are liable to transfer to other districts or not, it is a question of their having to purchase their necessities of life at the same price as any stranger who is transferred to that place, will the Government consider this aspect of the matter and revise their scales of pay so that both the Government servants and those employed under local boards may get the same salaries when they occupy similar rank?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid I have got nothing further to add to the answer I have already given."

Alleged strike of constables in the City.

* 443 Q.—**SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:** Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of the Madras constables are on strike without taking their salary;

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(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the reasons; and

(c) what do they propose to do in the matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The Madras City constables are attending to their duties and are not on strike. A majority of them however have not taken their salary for the month of February payable on 1st March 1947.

“(b) The refusal to draw pay is mainly on the ground that there has been no adequate increase in the revision of pay and allowances recently sanctioned as a result of the recommendations made by the Salaries Sub-Committee.

“(c) The question is being considered by the Government.”

SRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN:—“Will the Government consider the advisability of taking immediate steps to redress the grievances so as to prevent a catastrophe like that which is happening in Bihar?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I can assure the hon. Member that Government are trying their best to come to a conclusion, and also that orders will be issued during the course of to-day or to-morrow.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware of the fact that those constables who have refused their salaries are contemplating to go on hunger-strike from the 29th March?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The behaviour of the Police constables has been exemplary, and they have been a very disciplined force. I am here to pay my compliment to them. Unless my hon. Friend's party take a hand in this matter, I am not afraid of the situation.” (Laughter.)

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that some constables look to petty merchants and rickshaw-wallahs for some bribe, and does that not show that constables are ill-paid?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not prepared to argue with the hon. Gentleman with regard to the pay of constables, because I feel that they are under-paid and the question of revision of their salaries is under consideration.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“Will Government consider the advisability to pay the constables suitable salary so as to improve their lot and thus avoid their taking bribes?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not prepared to grant the premises of the hon. Gentleman, because I do not take it that a Government servant takes a bribe unless the guilt is brought home to him. At the same time, I may say that revision of their salaries is under the active consideration of the Government.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to take the information from me that the policemen are not at all being guided by the Communist Party or by any other political party. They are driven to that extent certainly because of the low salaries prescribed by the Government, and hence it is the immediate duty of the Government to consider a revision of their pay . . . ?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“You are making a speech.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am gratified to take this assurance.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Members of the Treasury Benches were not themselves agitators once and they used to excite all officers, workers and members of the public to ask for more and more wages?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“We continue to be agitators as long as the freedom of the country is still at stake.”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“உடனடியாக கவனிக்கப் படுமா?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“கவனிக்கப்படும் என்று தான் சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன்.”

* No. 444 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not in his seat. The answer will be printed in the proceedings.”

Vellore building scheme.

* 444 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have sanctioned the Vellore building scheme and lay on the Table particulars regarding this scheme?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The Government have given general approval to a scheme submitted by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the formation of a Co-operative House Building Society to undertake a scheme of town extension for the residents of Vellore Town.

“An extract” from the Government Order containing an outline of the scheme is laid on the Table.”

Spinning and weaving mills in the Province.

* 445 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

- how many spinning and weaving mills there are in the Presidency;
- where they are situated;
- how many spindles and looms are there in each of them;
- what is the quantity of yarn produced in each mill;

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- (e) what is the quantity of clothes produced in each mill; and
 (f) how many mills work one shift, how many two shifts, and how many three shifts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) There are 55 textile mills in this Province as shown below:—

Purely spinning mills	45
Combined spinning and weaving mills which have surplus yarn for handlooms	8
Purely weaving mills (which consume their entire yarn production for their weaving section)	2

“(b) to (e) The information is furnished in the statement placed on the Table of the House.”

“(f) The number of mills working one shift	2
2 shifts	39
2½ shifts	9
3 shifts	3
The number of mills not working	1

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the same quantity of yarn produced in May 1946 is continued to be kept up even now?”

THE HON. H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have no information, Sir.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what is the policy of the present Government in regard to the expansion of these spinning and weaving mills in this Presidency in order to increase the mill yarn in this Presidency?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“This question does not arise out of the present question.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government intend to encourage the expansion of the mill industry in the Ceded districts in view of the fact that these districts have been backward in regard to this matter?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“That is a separate matter distinct from this question. The present question contemplates only certain information which has been furnished.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to increase the number of shifts in such mills as are working one shift alone?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the information given in the statement, that is, 99 per cent of these mills are only in Tamilnad and not even one in

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 213-215 infra.

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Andhra Desa, will the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of accepting the spindles that are hanging on with the Central Government at least for the sake of Andhra Desa?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I have already submitted that this question does not arise out of the present question.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I say, Sir, that this question certainly arises when not even one mill is in Andhra districts.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It is for the Speaker to give a ruling in the matter.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If the Hon. Minister is not able to reply he may get the information from his Colleagues.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If the Hon. Minister wants, he may take time and answer.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The answer will then be given, Sir.”

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the new Ministry is satisfied with the existing number of spinning and weaving mills in the Province to meet the cloth shortage.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“This Ministry is convinced that there is cloth shortage.”

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will Government issue permits to new mills to produce yarn and cloth to meet the dire need for cloth and yarn prevailing now?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, with regard to the question of policy of the Government, the Hon. Minister has stated that a separate question may be put, and that my question does not arise. I refer you, Sir, to question (a) ‘how many spinning and weaving mills there are in the Presidency’. My question does arise out of the answer given by the Minister. I am asking what is the policy of the Government with regard to increasing the number of the mills. This question certainly arises. It does not require . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Policy cannot be stated in a word or two. It requires time for the Minister to enunciate it. He only asks you to put a separate question.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know if the present Ministry proposes to allow the spindles from the Government of India to go through?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Sir, question 445 relates to certain statistics. I have furnished the statistics. The present question does not arise out of the answer I have given. There is no harm in my hon. Friend putting a separate question. I also like to have notice.”

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I observe, Sir, that this spindles question has been before the public for a number of months, and owing to the acute shortage of mill cloth, mill owners would like to know the policy of the Ministry in regard to these spindles."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Ministry took office only two days ago. They want time to look into all these things. I am not defending the Ministers, but if they require time we should grant them that time."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then, let him say so."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is why the Minister said he would require time."

Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur kept standing in his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. We will now proceed to Question No. 446."

Lockout in D'Mellow's Foundry, Madras.

* 446 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the D'Mellow's Foundry, D'Mellow's Road, Madras, have declared a lock-out on 27th January 1947 without giving due notice and that 90 workers are suffering on account of it?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes, Sir. Seventy workers have been thrown out of employment."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, what is the policy of Government regarding cases where lock-outs are declared even without notice, and may I take it for granted that as they can be prosecuted under the Defence of India Rules, will the Government adopt that policy also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"May I point out to you, Sir, that this question does not arise out of the answer I have given."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I submit, Sir, that this question arises, because the employers have declared a lock-out. The workers are suffering. Even in the notice it is clearly laid down."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What is the question?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My question is what is the action that Government propose to take in this case against the employers who declared a lock-out?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question is what is the number of workers thrown out of employment, to which I have given the answer."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I want the Hon. Minister to read the question once again. The question is—"

"Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the D'Mellow's Foundry, D'Mellows Road, Madras, have declared a lock-out on 27th January 1947 without giving due notice and that 90 workers are suffering on account of it?"

The supplementary question is—"What is the attitude of the Government towards the employers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The answer is to the first part of the question. It is—"Yes, Sir. Seventy workers have been thrown out of employment."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know if the foundry is working now?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Notice, Sir."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want a ruling from you, Sir. When a question like this is asked, i.e., when a member asks what action the Government propose to take, whether the Minister is or is not bound to answer that question?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the answer is ready, he will give it. If not, he will ask for notice."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Arising out of the answer given, I ask whether the Hon. Minister in charge is going to take any action in this matter. I want to have a definite reply."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In all these lock-outs the Government are taking action, but what that particular action is I am not in a position to disclose now."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"தொழிலாளிகள் கஷ்டத்தைத் தீர்ப்பதற்கு உடனடியாக நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ள முடியுமா?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"ஆங்கிலத்தில் பதில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். தமிழில் மறுபடியும் சொல்லவேண்டியதில்லை."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"மத்யஸ்த கோர்ட்டு அமைக்க முடியுமா?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"எந்தெந்த சமயத்தில் சமரச கோர்ட்டு அமைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சட்டமிருக்கிறதோ அப்பொழுது தேவையாக இருந்தால் மத்யஸ்த கோர்ட்டு அமைப்பார்கள்."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"முதலாளிகள் Lock-out செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதை உடனடியாக தடுக்க அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏதாவது செய்ய முடியுமா?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு Workshop-ஐ திறந்து வைக்க அதிகாரம் கிடையாது. ஆனால் அதை திறந்து வைக்கும்படி செய்ய எந்தெந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள முடியுமோ அதை எடுத்துக்கொள்வார்கள்."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"இரண்டு மாதமாக தொழிலாளர்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களே அதற்கு உடனடியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யாவிட்டால் நம்மை பழிக்கமாட்டார்களா?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is his opinion."

[27th March 1947]

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask Government whether a lock-out without proper notice is not illegal, and if so, may I know what steps have been taken to bring this fact to the notice of the foundry people? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I am not able to follow the question."

The question was repeated.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" In all cases of illegal acts a certain procedure is adopted and Government are following that procedure in this case."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know what the procedure adopted is; may I know whether the factory people have been approached by the Government direct or through the Commissioner of Labour to bring home to the foundry people the desirability of reopening the foundry and to set right their illegal action? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I want time to answer that."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Seeing that the lock-out began on the 27th January 1947, will the present Ministry tell us what the previous Ministry did on this matter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I am not in a position to say, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" You can see from the papers."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the Government aware of a feeling in the country that this Government is prejudiced against all workers because of the Communist influences in this matter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" No, I do not endorse that opinion."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" As the lock-out has been continuing for the last two months, is it not the duty of Government to take early action."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Yes, Sir. I accept it. Early action has been taken; but what action has been taken, I am not in a position to say just now? "

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" Sir, முதலாளிகளுக்கும் தொழிலாளிகளுக்கும் சமரசம் உண்டுபண்ணுவது அரசாங்கத்தாருடைய பொருப்பு என் பதை உணர்ந்திருக்கிறார்களா? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" உணர்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" அப்படியானால் என் அரசாங்கத்தார் சீக்கிரத்தில் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" அவர் ஆங்கிலத்தில் கேள்விகள் கேட்டு பதில் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கு ஏற்கனவே பதில் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். தமிழில் கேட்டால் தமிழில் பதில் சொல்லும் படியாக இருக்கும். தெலுங்கில் கேட்டால் தெலுங்கில் பதில் சொல்லும் படியாக இருக்கும்."

[27th March 1947]

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Inasmuch as the Hon. Minister is not able to state what action has been taken by the previous Government, do we understand, Sir, that no action was taken by the previous Government? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I am not in a position to answer the question, because I am not aware of the facts as to what the previous Government did. Therefore I am not in a position to answer the question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is not the Hon. Minister able to find out from the file whether action was or was not taken? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" He has already answered that question. In view of that, it is not right for the hon. Member to ask whether he has gone through the file or not."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I did not ask whether he went through the file or not. I only asked whether he found anything in the file to show whether action was or was not taken."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" If I had found it there would not have been this discussion at all." (Laughter.)

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" In view of the fact that lock-out without notice is illegal will the Government see that for the whole lock-out period wages are paid to the workers at the time of settlement? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Notice."

Cement factory in Kurnool district.

* 447 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the licence that has been granted to start a cement factory in Kurnool district by the Central Government has been cancelled by this Government; and

(b) if so, for what reasons?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) Does not arise."

SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:—" May I know the reasons "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Apparently the hon. Member has not heard the reply of the Hon. Minister. The Hon. Minister will please read out the answer."

The Hon. Minister read out the answer again.

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know whether there were not many applications for starting cement factories in Kurnool district? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"Are they still pending; if not, what action has been taken on them?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The Madras Government have recommended to the Government of India the application of Rao Bahadur B. P. Sessa Reddi."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I ask, on whose name the licence has been granted for this factory?" (Interruption.)

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The granting of licence is by the Government of India and not by the Government of Madras."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"The Hon. Minister may know the name of the licensee."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I rule it out of order."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Is the Government aware that this application was originally sanctioned by the Government of India even though it was not within the quota allotted for this Province?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I take the information."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will Government see the advisability of imposing conditions before the licence is confirmed so as to enable Government to acquire most part of the cement manufactured in this factory for Government purposes?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask, Sir, whether under the scheme of nationalization of industries, the cement industry also is going to be nationalized by this Government?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I am afraid it does not arise out of the present question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister that he will consider the suggestion of Sri N. S. Varadachari, may I know whether such restrictions as are necessary will be imposed in all cases and not merely in this particular case?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, the suggestion of the hon. Member will certainly be considered in respect of the entire industry. It cannot be localized to one industry."

Arrest of Sri T. N. Parameswaran Nayar.

* 448 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Sri T. N. Parameswaran Nayar, Secretary of the South Indian Railway Labour Union Branch at Golden Rock, who was arrested on 5th September 1946 and kept in the Trichinopoly District Headquarters Hospital for treatment of severe head injuries received during the police lathi charge, was chained to his cot?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"After the injuries had healed up, he was secured to the cot by a leading chain as a precaution against attempts to escape."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, if it is the policy of the Government to chain prisoners as a precautionary measure?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, I do not want to enter into a controversy with the hon. Gentleman opposite. He knows it as well as I do that there is such a thing that is practised by members of his party as going underground, and as long as that policy remains, Government think that there will be a breach of law, and so Government have to take care that these persons do not escape and go underground."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Was not the Congress party adopting that policy of going underground?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"That question does not arise."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why this prisoner should be kept in chains even while bleeding from severe head injuries?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, I said, after the injuries had healed up, he was secured to the cot by a leading chain as a precaution against attempts to escape. If the hon. Member had listened to my answer, this supplementary question need not have been put." (Laughter.)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I request the Minister to inform me . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To inform you?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I request the Hon. Minister to say why when this prisoner never tried to escape and moreover while he was bleeding from injuries he was kept in chains?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"That question has already been answered."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether chaining is the only method of preventing persons from going underground? Are there no other civilized method of preventing it?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall try to find out other civilized methods by which these gentlemen can be prevented from going underground."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will Government at least see its way to give up this barbarous method of arresting a man and keeping him in chains?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As long as Government is responsible for law and order and as long as Government feel that things may go wrong powers of detention ought to be taken and utilized."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know if it is the policy of Government against other political parties, that on mere suspicion that these people will go underground, to chain them after arrest, and if so, why not put them on guard instead of the Police keeping them in chain?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the party to which the hon. Member belongs come out in the open and say that they are going to follow a policy of non-violence and are also not going underground, but try to influence society to adopt their economic and social ideas, then perhaps Government will reconsider their position."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does not the Minister consider this method as brutal and particularly when practised upon a sick man who is in hospital?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"That has already been put by the hon. Member over here."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When a man has been arrested, how does the question of chaining him up arise, as he is already under arrest?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already said there is a chance of escape. Gentlemen of the party who are on parole have escaped, and not even returned, and so Government have to take precautions to see such things do not recur."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether Aruna Asaf Ali was not a member of the Congress Party before she went underground?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"That does not arise."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I request the Minister to refer to the previous Assembly debates, where the policy of our party has been clearly stated to be one of non-violence as that of any other party, and hence there is no need for repressive measures unless it be on political vindictiveness?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not a question of vindictiveness at all. Hon. Members announce that it is non-violence; but they are guilty of inciting to violence."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My question is not answered."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has answered your question." (Laughter.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Minister encouraged his son going underground at any time?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"That does not arise."

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South Indian Railway strike.

* 449 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons (Railway men and others) against whom cases are pending in the various courts in the Presidency in connexion with the recent South Indian Railway strike;

(b) the number of persons (Railway men and others) already convicted in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw cases pending against Railway men in the courts in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike;

(d) whether the men arrested at Golden Rock on 5th September 1946 (the day of shooting) numbering about 260 and lodged in the Central Jail, Trichinopoly, were treated as convicts or as under-trials; if as under-trials, whether they were given the facilities allowed under the rules such as daily interviews, receiving fruits and cooked food, shaving materials, books, newspapers, etc., and if these facilities were denied to them why they were denied;

(e) whether there was any hunger-strike by these men in Trichinopoly Jail to protest against the treatment meted out to them and if so what action was taken in the matter;

(f) whether the Hon. Minister for Law visited the Trichinopoly Jail in September 1946 when the above under-trials were in jail and if so, whether he visited the ward where the above were kept and heard their grievances; and if not why not; and

(g) whether Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar, M.L.A., was also one among the above under-trials and if so, whether any special treatment was meted out to him, he being a member of this House?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) 383.

" (b) 268.

" (c) No.

" (d) They were all treated as under-trials and were given the facilities admissible under the rules.

" (e) There was no hunger-strike but some of the prisoners refused to take their morning congee as seven of them could not have their interview the previous evening. On the assurance that they would be permitted to have their interview first on the next occasion, they took their midday meal.

" (f) The visit to the Trichinopoly Jail in September 1946 was for the special purpose of finding out accommodation for any increase in the jail population owing to the introduction of prohibition.

" (g) Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar was one among the under-trials. No special treatment was meted out to him as he was not specially classified at that time."

[27th March 1947]

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ I suggest, Sir, that the answer may be printed and placed on the table of the House to-morrow so that we may put supplementary questions to-morrow. I feel the answer is too long.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Yes, the answer will be placed on the table of the House to-morrow.”

Loss of revenue owing to Prohibition.

* 450 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state—

(a) the exact loss of revenue from October 1946 to March 1947 consequent on the introduction of prohibition in eight districts; and

(b) the total expenditure to be incurred by the Government for the enforcement of prohibition in this period?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ (a) The estimated loss of revenue is Rs. 253 lakhs.

“ (b) The expenditure likely to be incurred, including the expenditure on ameliorative work connected with prohibition is Rs. 11.86 lakhs.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the fact that some of the Members of the Treasury Benches proposed total prohibition in the last budget, will the Government consider the proposal for introducing total prohibition at least now? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member may please repeat his question.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the fact that some Members of the Treasury Benches proposed total prohibition in the past, will the Government have a change of policy in the matter and will they introduce total prohibition now? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ There is no change of policy, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that some Members of the Treasury Benches canvassed total prohibition in the past? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The Hon. Minister says there is no change of policy. He means that there will be total prohibition but it will be by stages; that is what he means.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that some Members of the Treasury Benches at present, canvassed total prohibition in the past? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ The question does not arise out of this.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ It is for the Speaker to say whether the question arises or not.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ May I know, Sir, what kinds of ameliorative measures the Government have taken? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ For whom? For the tappas? ”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ Yes, Sir.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Notice, Sir.”

* 451 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member, Sri B. Shetti, is not in his seat. The answer will be printed in the proceedings.”

National Highways.

* 451 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the proposal to have a National Highway from Cape Comorin to Bombay via Malabar and South Kanara has been omitted from the list of National Highways and if so, for what reasons; and

(b) whether the Madras Government have suggested any alternative alignment of this Highway through South Kanara with a view to reduce the cost?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) This Government proposed to the Government of India the inclusion of the Cape Comorin-Bombay Road via Malabar and South Kanara in the list of National Highways, but the Government of India have not accepted the proposal. In reply to further representation the Government of India have stated that consideration of further additions to the system of National Highways should be deferred until after the present five-year plan of post-war road development has advanced substantially.

“ (b) No. This Government however suggested that if the Government of India did not agree to classify the Cape Comorin-Bombay Road as a National Highway, at least a road on any one of the following routes might be chosen to connect South Kanara by a National Highway with the Madras-Bombay National Highway:—

- (1) Mangalore to Hasan (in Mysore).
- (2) Mangalore to Aarsal.
- (3) Mangalore-Karkal-Agumbe-Shimoga.
- (4) Mangalore-Bhatkal-Sirsi-Hubli.

“ The Central Government's reply regarding the classification of the Cape Comorin-Bombay Road does not contain any reference to these alternative routes. The Government are considering the question of making a further representation in the matter.”

[27th March 1947]

Transport of paddy in Kistna and West Godavari.

* 452 Q.—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to have a bridge over Upputeru to connect Kistna and West Godavari districts facilitating transportation of agricultural produce;

(b) whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of having a road in Kolleru lake connecting Kistna and West Godavari districts in the interests of Grow More Food campaign and easy procurement of paddy from the lankas; and

(c) if so, whether the Highways department will be instructed to prepare estimates?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes. The work is proposed to be taken up under the Post-War Road programme.

“(b) It is presumed that the road referred to is the one from Kaikalur in Kistna district to Ellore in West Godavari district, 12½ miles in length. The first two furlongs from Kaikalur side and five miles from Ellore side of the road are metalled and the remaining portion is earthen. Improvements to the road at a total cost of Rs. 5.89 lakhs are included in the original programme of post-war road development which is under revision.

“(c) The Chief Engineer (Highways) has stated that the bridge referred to in clause (a) and a bridge over the Tamileru river on the road referred to in answer to clause (b) will be included in the list of works to be taken up in 1947-48.

“Plans and estimates for these works and other improvements to the Kaikalur-Ellore Road will be prepared and sanctioned in accordance with the priority that may be fixed for them in the Post-War Programme which is under revision.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“In view of the fact that these two are very important schemes will the Government be pleased to expedite these works.”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I have answered, Sir, that these works will be taken up in 1947-48.”

Municipal High School, Chicacole.

* 453 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the principle on which grants are being given to High schools in the Province;

(b) the strength of the Municipal High School, Chicacole, in Vizagapatam district;

(c) the grant that the Government give to the school every year; and

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the grant?

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) Grants are given to high schools under private managements and also to those under the managements of local bodies. In respect of high schools under private managements teaching grants are paid under the provisions of the Grant-in-Aid Code based on one half of the net cost of maintenance in the preceding year. High schools under local bodies which were opened prior to 1930 are given fixed lump sum subsidies towards the cost of their maintenance. No subsidy is paid towards the cost of maintenance of such schools opened after 1930.

“(b) 1,334 in the current year.

“(c) Rs. 2,454.

“(d) The question of granting subsidies to high schools under local bodies on the basis of half the approved net cost in the preceding financial year as in the case of private aided high schools is under consideration as a general question in connexion with the revision of the scales of pay of the staff in high schools.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, will the Government be pleased to call for information whether these high schools are giving free tuition to Harijan students; if so, what is their number, if not, why not?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I decline to answer, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“By saying ‘I decline’ the Hon. Minister rather means that he wants time to answer the question. The hon. Member may put a separate question. (Voices of protest.) It would be better for the Minister to answer the question in a different way. Instead of saying ‘I decline to answer,’ it would have been more courteous on his part to have said ‘I want notice.’ Or he might have requested the Member to put a separate question. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi rose to speak.) I hope the Hon. Minister will take this from me and hereafter he will do like that.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Certainly, Sir.”

Training teachers for basic education.

* 454 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of training schools started in this Province for training teachers in basic education;

(b) where they are situated; and

(c) how many are receiving training in each of the schools?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) Two.

“(b) One at Periyanaickenpalayam and the other at Vinayasaram.

“(c) Sixty-four teachers are receiving training in the school at Periyanaickenpalayam and 72 teachers in the school at Vinayasaram.”

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what is the kind of training that is being given in the name of this basic education?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The usual training, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that this term 'basic education' has been introduced only just now and therefore there is no meaning in his saying that it is the usual education. Sir, it is a thing started anew and he is bound to give us some information as to what is the kind of training that is being given under this name of basic education. The House is entitled to know that."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is better if the hon. Member puts a separate question. This is an important question and the Hon. Minister wants time to answer that question."

SOME HON. MEMBERS:—"Let him say so."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I know it. It is not possible for the Hon. Minister to answer the question now."

Training instructors for basic education schools.

* 455 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of training schools for basic education the Government propose to start next year and where;

(b) whether Government propose to start colleges for training instructors to run training schools; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken for that purpose?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The Government have sanctioned the opening of two training schools for basic education in 1946-47, one at Periyanaickenpalayam in the Coimbatore district and the other at Vinayasaram in the Guntur district. These two schools will be continued during 1947-48. The question of opening more training schools next year is separately under the consideration of the Government.

" (b) & (c) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the opening of colleges for training instructors for the Basic Training Schools. If so, the answer is in the negative."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: "Will the Government help private agencies to start training schools and colleges for this basic educational training?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If proposals are sent up, they will be considered."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, what is the period of training in these training schools and whether basic education is centred round one craft or more than one craft and what those crafts are?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think it extends over four or five years."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The second part of my question has not been answered."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what are the qualifications for the teachers in these basic schools and also what are all the subjects that are taught in these schools?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to define the term 'basic education,' Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What does the hon. Member mean by asking for a definition of the term 'basic education.' I take it that it is another way of putting the question that was put by the hon. Member, Mr. Pocker."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I observe, Sir, that when the term 'basic education' is not defined, no purpose will be served in putting a question for answer on that subject? Are we . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I suggest that instead of putting a supplementary question on the subject hon. Members may put a separate question on the definition of basic education and then they can put supplementary questions on that."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"The point is that when you do not understand what is meant by basic education what is the use of putting any question . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"So you put a separate question. The hon. Member, Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman who has put the main question understands the term 'basic education.'"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is for the House and the country, Sir. It is not enough if the Member . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"So you put a separate question. I shall allow the Hon. the Minister to answer that. I shall see that it is answered on the floor of the House."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I suggest, Sir, that the question may be taken up to-morrow."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to submit, Sir, that the Minister for Education before coming to the House should have known what basic education is."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Hon. Minister says he wants time, it is better we take it. The hon. Member need not argue that question with me. The Minister for Education wants time."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I suggest, Sir, that this question may be deferred till that question is put?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"On basic education you can put a separate question and it will be answered on the floor of the House. Why do you want to postpone this question?"

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The suggestion has been made, Sir, that we can put a separate question to know what basic education is. Till that question is put why not defer . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not prevent you from putting a separate question. If Mr. Sinna Kaziar wants he can put a separate question. I now pass on to the next question."

Control on coconuts and jaggery.

* 456 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that great hardship is caused to the people by the control introduced on coconuts and jaggery?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government do not think so."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, now that a new Ministry has come into office, whether this Government will be pleased to consider the whole question *de novo* in the light of the criticisms made on the floor of the House and outside the House?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"May I, for the information of the hon. Member, say that there has been two days ago a conference of all coconut producers and merchants and there was a discussion with the Government. The final report of the conference has not yet reached the Government. When we get the report we will be in a position to give all the answers required by the hon. Members."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, when the Government propose to introduce floor prices for coconut and copra in the district of Malabar . . . (interruption) as compared with the ceiling prices, so that the prices may not go down far below, the ceiling prices and the producers may be guaranteed a fair price?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As I said, Sir, this question has been discussed in the conference and we are awaiting a report."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the latter answer given by the Hon. Minister that the Government will be considering the report when the report comes before them, can I take it, Sir, that the first answer given by the Hon. Minister to the main question, namely, that 'the Government do not think so,' is not correct?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, the questions are put months ago and the answers are given months after. In between the question and the answer so many things develop. The answer given relates to a particular period of time. I have also stated what has happened since."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I take it, Sir, that the consideration of the matter has not been concluded by the Government and that it is an open question before the Government."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I had made that point very clear. I said that there has been a conference of all coconut growers and merchants and the whole discussion took place only two days ago and we are awaiting the report."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the free movement of coconut and jaggery within the province is permitted or not?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is one of the questions discussed in the conference, Sir."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government have received any memorial or representation from the people of Malabar that sufficient representation has not been given to the coconut growers of Malabar in the conference recently summoned by Government?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"So far as I am aware, Sir, the Government have not received any."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government realize that jaggery also is an important foodstuff like coconut and whether they will give it the same importance like coconut?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government have realized it, Sir, and have already taken action with regard to the price of jaggery. As far as I know the price of jaggery has been fixed so as to prevent inflation of prices."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"May I know, Sir, whether in the conference that is said to have been summoned recently, the interests of the consumers also have been considered?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Everyone who is concerned in it has been consulted."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the large interests in the North Arcot district in the production of and trade in coconuts, may I ask, Sir, whether this question cannot be postponed till the report of the conference is made available?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No action is proposed to be taken at all in this matter and we are awaiting the report of the conference."

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know from the Hon. Minister, whether there is any and, if so, what representation is given to the coconut producers of Malabar and if the representation is inadequate, whether the Government will consider the desirability of giving better representation to them as the coconut industry is a very important one in Malabar? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ So far, I am not aware of any representation to that effect and if representations are made, the Government will certainly consider the matter.”

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Hon. the new Minister . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ New Minister? ”

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Yes, Sir. Will the Hon. Minister, who is new, enquire and find out whether the conference recently held here was fully representative or not of all the interests concerned and give that information to the House at a later stage? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ I may inform the hon. Member that I opened the conference, and was present at the conference for some time and as far as I could see I imagined it was a fairly representative conference. If it is shown that the conference was not representative or could be made more representative by any other procedure, the Government will certainly consider it.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I wanted to know whether there are any representatives of the coconut producers of Malabar in that conference, and if there are no proper representatives or if the representation is inadequate, whether the Government will consider the necessity of giving sufficient representation to the Malabar coconut producers in that conference? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ I want the hon. Member to bring it to the notice of the Government if the representation is inadequate and certainly the Government will make due provision for it.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of having a permanent advisory committee in Malabar to advise the Government through the Collector of Malabar on the position of coconut markets which is an industry that affects the prosperity of Malabar? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The Collector of Malabar was one of those who attended the conference along with some other representatives whom he suggested. The question of the coconut industry in Malabar was gone into by that conference.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member has not made the position clear. Let me put it to the Minister. What the hon. Member

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wants to know is whether the Government will be pleased to have a permanent committee in Malabar to go into the question of the coconut industry now and then and report to the Government.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ Yes, Sir, the Government will consider it.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY, SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In the matter of these controls, will the Government be pleased to give an assurance that they will consult public opinion before they embark on any scheme? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The Government cannot give any such assurance.”

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ Pending the decision of the Government on the various aspects of the question which will be covered by the report, may I suggest that at least the control over the movement of coconut and other products be removed? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The question of control over the movement of coconuts has been considered by that committee and I expect a very early report.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Question time is over. Answers to the remaining questions will be printed in the proceedings.”

Q. 457 postponed.

Permits for buses.

* 458 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of permits issued for transport of passengers and goods in this Province for the last three years, district-war;

(b) how many of the buses acquired on such permits were treated as spare buses in this Province; and

(c) the list of bus owners in the Salem district with the number of buses owned and run by each of them?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ (a) to (c) Statements showing the particulars required are placed on the table of the House.”

Promotions in the Secretariat.

* 459 Q.—SRI DURAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the basis of promotion to the posts of upper division clerks in the Secretariat;

(b) whether there is any proposal to debar S.S.L.C.'s from getting the upper division clerk's post in the Secretariat; and

(c) the number of S.S.L.C.'s in upper division and Superintendent's posts in the Secretariat?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Promotions to the posts of the Upper Division clerks in the Madras Secretariat Service are made on grounds of merit and ability, seniority being considered only where merit and ability are approximately equal. Ordinarily promotion is from Lower Division clerks other than those in the Central Branches or typists including stenotypists and in very exceptional and deserving cases also from Lower Division clerks in the Central Branches in the Secretariat Service. No special qualification is prescribed for promotees except in the Finance Department where a pass in the Accountant Test for subordinate officers, Part I is required. Candidates who in the opinion of the appointing authority are suitable for promotion are so promoted.

“(b) There is no such proposal.

“(c) 61 and 24 respectively.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, may I know the procedure adopted by the Hon. Ministers in answering questions? Are they merely repeating the answers prepared by the departments or do they really study the problems involved in the questions. If they are going merely to repeat the answers prepared by departments, there is no meaning in our putting supplementary questions here. They are taking away the privilege of the House. I want a ruling from you as to whether these questions are really studied by the Ministers so that they may be able to answer supplementary questions raised on the floor of the House.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“My ruling is that I consider that they study these questions thoroughly and they are prepared to answer supplementary questions.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. I request that Question No. 460 be taken up to-morrow.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That question stands in the name of the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Salam. He is here now, and if he wants it, he will write to me and I will reply to him.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Dr. Rajan, that some of these questions were put three months ago, that answers were prepared two months ago and that the information relates to what happened two months ago, I want to ask, Sir, what is the use of our getting these answers if they are not brought up-to-date? May I know from the Hon. Minister whether before they give replies to our questions here, they would take care to bring the information up-to-date?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister Dr. Rajan may reply, if he wants.”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“There is nothing for me to reply. It is a simple statement of fact. I have endeavoured to give all the facts available with the Government at the time when the question was asked some time ago and at the time when supplementary questions are asked here. We are not simply reading the answers prepared in the departments and if hon. Members had listened to the statement which I made, they would have realised that we are in full possession of all the facts with regard to questions put here and all the available information in the hands of the Government is given to the House.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether this procedure is followed by all the Hon. Ministers, and all of them are quite prepared with the answers and the answers are brought up-to-date?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“In these matters, we can only speak for individual Ministers. As far as I am concerned, I am trying to bring the matter up-to-date and whatever I have said are not merely what are supplied by the Secretariat, but they are also the opinions I have formed after reading the files of the Secretariat.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We shall now proceed to the next item on the agenda, namely, voting of Demands for Grants. The hon. Member, Mr. Natesan, will continue his speech.”

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

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1947-48—cont.

DEMAND X—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—cont.

* **SRI P. NATESAN:**—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was speaking about the desirability of deputing the Speaker to the House of Commons and also about the necessity of having suitable robes and a mace for the Speaker. To-day I continue my speech on the subject, and would like to preface my remarks by saying that the Secretary to the Legislature also should accompany the Speaker to England. The present Secretary to the Legislature has already studied Parliamentary Procedure at first hand and it would be very useful if the Speaker is accompanied by the present Secretary. (An hon. Member: ‘What about the Deputy Speaker?’) The Deputy Speaker also should have a chance of proceeding to England to study Parliamentary procedure, but I do not know whether the Leader of the House will find it possible with the slender finances at the disposal of the Government to send as many as three officials at a time. (An hon. Member: ‘She is still young.’) As my hon. Friend says, she is quite young and can perhaps wait. I may recall, Sir, that the late Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai who was then Secretary to the Legislative Council was deputed to England to study Parliamentary procedure. He later on became the President of the Legislative Council. If the present Secretary goes to England, I have no

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doubt he will be of great help to the Speaker, because he has got previous social and Parliamentary contacts in England. It will also give him an opportunity to acquire further experience of Parliamentary procedure and bring his knowledge up-to-date. This will therefore be the first time when the Speaker and the Secretary will be together studying the House of Commons at work. I am sure their combined experience will be invaluable to this House.

"Sir, a word about the status of the Secretary to the Legislature. He occupies a position analogous to that of the Clerk of the House of Commons. In the British Parliament the Clerk of the House of Commons enjoys certain privileges including a rent-free residence. The Clerk of the House ranks with the permanent Under-Secretary of State in England. At Delhi also, the officer who corresponds to the Secretary here ranks with the Secretary to the Government of India with all the rights and privileges attached to that office. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that the Secretary of our Assembly should be made a pucca Secretary to the Government with the same emoluments and pensionary rights. He should be given a salary which is not less than that paid to holders of listed posts in the Madras Government. Sir, even the Secretary of the Committee on Judicial and Executive Functions has since been made a Secretary to Government and I want that the same status should be given to the Secretary of the Legislature also.

12-15 p.m. "One word more. There are the Deputy and Assistant Secretaries of the Legislature. Their status and salary should also be raised to those of their counterparts in the Secretariat.

"I also suggest that this Legislative Department should be made a non-vacation department in view of the enormous legislative activities now.

"Then, Sir, I want to refer to the Reporters' work in the Legislature. I am sorry that reporting in the Legislature is hopelessly bad. I say that it is so because you do not give the reporters a good salary. A reporter who gets experience of reporting work here goes away to Delhi or to private firms, because he can command a good salary there. I suggest that their salary should be at least Rs. 250—20—450. A reporter does strenuous work, he is expected to write at least 200 words per minute, and he is also expected to set right defects in what we speak here. Many a time we start off with a sentence and stop without even completing it in our excitement in talking. Sir, it is the reporter's duty to see that the speeches are properly edited. I therefore suggest that they should be paid better salaries than now. I have got with me a statement of the salaries paid to the reporters in Northern India. In the Central Government, their scale of pay is Rs. 400 to 600. What is the work that they do which the Reporters in Madras do not do? After all, even in Delhi reporting has got to be done and the same type of speakers speak there also. Why should these poor people in Madras be paid . . . (An hon. Member: 'Worse.') I do not say worse. But why should the Reporters in Madras be paid a smaller salary simply because

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Madras is cheap? If you are going to appoint cheap shorthand-writers, you will have only a low quality of reporting. As I said, in the Central Government their pay is Rs. 400 to 600. In such a small province as Sind, the scale is Rs. 200—15—305—20—425. Although I prefaced my remarks by saying that reporting is bad here, I certainly maintain that, if you pay good salary, you will get good Reporters and they will also stick to this province. I am reminded of one of the statements made by our esteemed educationist, Sir C. Ramalinga Reddy, that Madras is well known for its long tongue and shorthand. We have got plenty of long tongue, but we are losing the benefit of shorthand-writers. I do not want that Madras should lose the benefit of shorthand-writers.

"With your indulgence, Sir, I propose to congratulate my Hon. Friend, Dr. Sybbarayan, the Leader of the House, who, as the hon. Members know, is an able Parliamentarian. He has been in the Assembly at least for three terms, once as the Chief Minister and then as the Education Minister in the previous Government and this time as the Leader of the House. I have no doubt that his experience will be of great value to us.

"Unfortunately, I must refer to what is called the 'Group politics' that has been taking place in this Legislature. I once complained that the so-called Ministers here were responsible to the Group leaders. The Tamil Nad Leader has one or two Ministers in his hand and I dare say they consult him every time. The same thing happens with the man who is in power in the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee. This Group system . . . (An hon. Member: 'There is nothing like that, Sir.') Whatever some gentlemen may say, yesterday's statement of the Ex-Premier showed the presence of these groups and the machinations and the wonderful way in which they had been manouvering I have heard of, and I can understand, the existence of parties in legislatures. But I cannot understand the existence of groups. I wish that you, as the Speaker, will also do your best to discourage the group system from claiming a hold over the Ministers. Mr. Prakasam's long statement has brought prominently to public attention this question of groups. This will retard the progress of parliamentary government in this province. I do not think such a system exists anywhere in India or even elsewhere. I must honestly say that we have become the laughing stock of the whole of India, particularly at a time when the Congress claims that everything is O.K. on their part, that they have discipline and that their creed is non-violence. It is no good encouraging these groups, because they are not based on any principle or policy. These groups, as I conceive, took a definite shape when our Ex-Premier became the leader of the Congress Legislature Party. This started right from then and no wonder it has developed to such an extent as to unseat the Ministry. Otherwise, I cannot understand why the Prakasam Ministry should have gone. They said that there was no difference on policies. If so, why should individual Ministers resign? I am told that they resigned on

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account of personal differences. As I said the other day, they are responsible to the people. They owe a duty to this House and they have no business to resign to-day and come in to-morrow. Mr. Prakasam's election as leader was due to the support of certain groups. Then he approved of those groups and set his official stamp on them, because it suited him then to become the leader. He made an honest and sincere attempt and said: All right, I will have a chance of running the Government. This group system started then and continues till to-day. Who knows attempts will not be made to displace this Ministry to-morrow? I am not a political astrologer, but I see how things are developing here. I am sure you, Sir, will not recognize the existence of groups in a legislative body or encourage their continuance.

"In this connexion, I should like to make a general observation. What I say is that the Government should treat this House with due respect and should not rush through legislation as though the approval of the House is a mere formality which should be completed as expeditiously as possible. I have got to draw the attention of the House to this fact because just now I have received an express telegram from the Mangalore Chamber of Commerce. For the information of the House, I will read the telegram:

"We beg to draw your attention to the textile distribution policy to take effect from First April. *Traders dealing in textiles for generations are sought to be deleted* . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. This has nothing to do with Legislative Bodies, which is the demand under discussion at present."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I am glad the Leader of the House has corrected me. I also know it. But the unfortunate trouble is that the telegram refers to a policy which is going to take effect from the First of April. While on the subject of rushing through legislation, I wanted to impress upon the Government the inadvisability of such a procedure. That is how I am justified in speaking on the subject. This wonderful 'group' system has made us sit here day after day, and we could not get through the Budget.

"May I complete reading the telegram? (Mr. Speaker: 'Yes.')

Reconsideration of policy is imperative. Pray orders stay and revise policy to suit popular demands."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's object in reading the telegram is—as legislation is rushed through here—to impress upon the Government the need for avoiding it."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"You have come to my rescue. That is how I was justified in reading the telegram while speaking on this Demand.

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"A large number of Bills are sought to be rushed through with unnecessary haste. I request you, Sir, as the custodian of the rights and privileges of the House, to tell the Ministerial Party not to rush through but allow us sufficient time to go into the merits of each Bill.

"Sir, I do not think I need take up any more time of the House except to appeal to Government to revise their textile distribution policy and cancel their order which affects very seriously traders who have been dealing in textiles for a long number of years.

"Sir, I request the Leader of the House to make a statement here if he will find it possible with the present finances to allow the Speaker and the Secretary to proceed to England this year, so that they may take advantage of the summer recess. As I said yesterday, I hope the Congress High Command would not issue a fiat saying that the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly should not go. That was done last time, and Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti had to cancel his trip to Europe. I wish the Leader of the House will point out to the Congress Working Committee, if necessary, the desirability of the Speaker and the Secretary proceeding to England this year."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In supporting the out motion, I am very sorry to remark at the very outset that the Government have been looking upon this body as something which they can command to do whenever and in whatever manner they like. If you just reflect for a moment on what has happened during these ten months, you are sure to agree with me, Sir. To put it in a nutshell, Sir, the result of the policy—whether it is the grouping policy or any other policy—that has been followed by the Congress Legislature Party has been to make this Legislature a farce. I am very sorry to say that. This is the budget session, and it is during the budget session that the members have got an opportunity of ventilating their grievances and there is no session more important than the budget session. Originally how many days were allotted for budget discussion, and as a result of all that has happened, how many days are we actually going to have? How many Demands have been discussed and how many more demands will we be able to discuss according to the present programme of work? Of course, every Demand will be guillotined. Who has suffered as a result of all the bickerings and internecine quarrels among the members of the Congress Legislature Party? Whether it is immoral or not, it is not for me to say. It is for them to say. But so far as public interest is concerned, it is very seriously affected. How many number of days have we wasted in enacting this farce of a discussion here. After the resignation of the old Ministry was tendered to His Excellency the Governor and before the new Ministry came in, no doubt you have allowed discussion on some of the Demands. I say it is nothing but a farce because it is like arguing a case before a judge whose very conduct is under enquiry. Which

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advocate will have the spirit to argue a case before a judge who is not going to be the judge to-morrow or whose continuance as judge is very doubtful?

"What is the spirit in which that so-called judge can hear arguments? In what way will he be impressed? What is the weight that impression will have on him? He will be more concerned with enquiry about himself than with the arguments of the Advocate as regards his poor client's case. For three or four days this House has been wasting its time; hon. Members have been wasting their time. Discussion of matters does not produce any result; it does not satisfy the sepaekers or their constituency; it does not create any impression on the Ministry.

12-30 p.m. "Now with the new Ministry that is formed, what is it that you find? Of course I do say, according to Rules, the outgoing Minister was entitled to make a statement and he has done so in the most beautiful manner and in a most admirable manner. I should say it is the good luck of the public; there was an occasion for the public to know these secret things that have been going on; but for the resignation of this Ministry these things would not have seen the light of day. By the wonderful statement made by the hon. Member, Mr. Prakasam, the public have been enlightened. So many very valuable things have been put before the public who are entitled to know; they are entitled to know things which are being done in their name. He made a very long and exhaustive statement covering about four hours. Hon. Members of this House did expect categorical answers to these questions, put, categorical affirmations or denials of acts which a responsible gentleman, the Ex-Premier has made on the floor of the House. What did we get? We got some formal theorisation of the constitution of the Congress Party or of the High Command. We were absolutely disappointed at the way in which the Hon. Leader of the House met important and vital questions that were raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Prakasam. Mr. Prakasam made very serious allegations against Members of a responsible Party to bring down the last Ministry; responsible Members of the Congress Party or some groups of them had gone to the extent of inciting the workers to strike, to paralyse the administration of the country; he made this categorical charge; he made not only this charge but many more serious charges which bring discredit to the Congress Party or any Party; they bring great discredit to this Province as well. Serious charges have been put forward by Mr. Prakasam. I say that, no doubt, the country is very much indebted to him for having brought to light these wonderful happenings which would not have seen the light of day but for the statement made by him. I have just referred to these facts in order to show that the Government have looked upon this House rather with contempt. They do not take us seriously; they know they have got their group majority; whatever they want they can have it carried here. The Opposition is only very few. Even if we raise both our hands, we are nowhere. The Government are showing scant courtesy to this House.

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"I do agree with your interpretation of Rule 45; I do agree with you in spite of the fact that the Leader of the Opposition put a different view, about the construction of that Rule. But all the same, out of your fairness and sense of justice, you allowed us to put some questions to elicit information on some points. Out of your fairness and sense of justice you allowed them; we put some very important questions and the Hon. Leader of the House did not take serious notice of them. He simply stood up and said 'I decline to answer'; his reason was, if he answers, 'it will be tantamount to a debate.' That is tantamount to questioning your ruling. You said 'you can put questions to elicit information'; he says, 'I won't give information, because if I give information, it will tantamount to a debate' . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What did the Hon. Member, the Leader of the House, say yesterday?"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He said 'I do not answer these questions because if I answered them, it would be tantamount to a debate'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to inform the House that I shall decide what is a debate or not. It is not the business of the Hon. Member, the Leader of the House, to say whether it will be a debate. I am here to judge the matter. I feel sorry it escaped my notice on account of the noise that was created. He was not right in saying so. It is for me to decide. I am thankful to the hon. Member, Mr. Pocker Sahib, for bringing this matter to my notice. I hope the Hon. Member, the Leader of the House, will not encroach on the liberties and privileges of the Chair."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is never my intention to encroach on the liberty of the Chair. If I pointed out that it would be tantamount to a debate, it was subject to your ruling; that is how I read the English language."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I did not hear the Leader of the House, as there was lot of noise, that he refused to answer the questions. I did not hear of any reason he gave yesterday. Only now I hear it from the hon. Member, Mr. Pocker Sahib, that the Leader of the House gave the reason. I hope such a thing will not happen again. Mr. Pocker Sahib will continue his speech."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"It is for you to decide whether putting certain questions will lead to a debate. Is it not open to any hon. Member of the House to suggest to you or to submit to you that putting some questions may lead to a debate or that some questions are irrelevant and should not be put. If these points are put forward, it is by way of suggestions only. I agree that it is certainly open to an hon. Member to submit propositions to you for your decision."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Every hon. Member is at liberty to make suggestions and submissions to me. Somebody asked me yesterday whether there could be a debate; I told him 'you cannot have a debate.' After my giving that answer, I told hon.

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Members that they could put some questions for getting information. I feel sorry that this particular matter escaped my notice yesterday. I hope it will not happen again in this House."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"In view of your advice, I would like to have your ruling whether an Hon. Minister could give a reply 'I refuse to answer the question; I decline to answer the question.' To that extent, is he correct or not?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"During question time, I told the Hon. Minister for Finance that it would be more courteous on his part to say that he wants notice and not to say point-blank 'I refuse to answer the question.'"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am glad that the matter has been clarified and now we know where we stand."

"The only result and the real result of the bickerings in the majority Party in the Legislature is that the House is deprived of its legitimate right—a very important right—of discussing the Budget and ventilating its grievances; this is the only occasion on which hon. Members can ventilate their grievances effectively."

"I would just refer to some other points and say a word or two. I entirely agree with the hon. Mover of this cut motion; I take it my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesan, moved the cut motion, because I was not here then. I entirely agree with him that so far as reporting is concerned, it is awfully bad. I also agree with him with his reason that this bad reporting is due to the fact that reporters are not properly paid. I do not wish to spend more time on this point. It would appear that reporters who have had their training here had left their jobs because they got better-paid jobs. The posts of reporters should be made sufficiently attractive so as to make them stick to their jobs without being tempted away to take up other jobs which are more paying. I would request you, Mr. Speaker, to see that reporters are properly paid."

"So far as another point on which I just like to mention one word is that the staff of the Legislative Secretariat is not sufficiently representative; there is not sufficient and adequate representation of Muslims in the staff of the Legislature Secretariat. I am sure that you will take notice of this fact and see that this grievance does not exist."

"As regards Officers in the Legislature Secretariat, they ought to be put on the same footing as that of the other Secretariats. It is rather incomprehensible that they should be placed on a different footing than the other Secretariat. The duties of the Officers and staff of the Legislature Secretariat, I say, are much more responsible than those of the other Secretariats. At any rate, they are equally responsible as those of other Secretariats. I do not see why the staff and Officers of the Legislature Secretariat should be treated in a step-motherly fashion. I request you, Sir, Mr. Speaker, to see that their salaries and status are put on the same level as those of the people in the other Secretariats."

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"As regards the accommodation for the Legislature I would just like to say with your permission that year after year we are going on repeating the very same grievance and still we find that we are in the same congested dungeon, if you will permit me to call it. No doubt on your intervention hon. Members who come from the mufassal are better housed now than they were before. We made very serious plans last year and as a result of that and because you took serious steps in the matter, there is better accommodation for them now."

"Sir, whether we are here as a result of a summons from you, or as a result of a warrant under the Public Safety Act, we feel as if we are in a prison here, from the point of view of physical inconvenience. I would very much request you to take up this question very seriously, as the health of the members of this House is all important. The better and proper accommodation for the housing of this Legislature is a matter of urgent necessity and earnest steps should be taken in that direction."

"Sir, another matter on which I should like to invite your kind attention is this. I understand that a great number of rooms which were occupied by the Legislative Department previous to the dissolution of the Legislature in 1939 were taken up by the Government and have not been returned to the Legislative Department. I would request you, Sir, to see that those rooms are returned by the Government, as we are already wanting accommodation for various purposes."

"One other small matter, Sir, to which I should like to draw your attention, is this. It is very necessary that the Leader of the Opposition should be provided with a separate room. Now there is no separate room for him."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I agree with you."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are very thankful to you, Sir, for your accepting that suggestion."

"Another matter I should like to refer to is this. No doubt we are provided with a prayer room, but that is not adequate . . . (P. K. Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur: 'It is not a room; it is only a passage'). My hon. Friend points out that the so-called prayer room is not a room, but that it is only a passage, where one door is closed. Sir, it is not also properly equipped. We are very anxious that the prayer room should be adjacent to our party room, and it must be decent and equipped with necessary furniture."

"Now, Sir, another point to which I should like to draw your kind attention is this. The lunch room for the Muslims—I do not know about the other lunch room—is very bad and it looks like a lumber room and no decent person can take his lunch there. Either we must be provided with a better room, or it must be renovated in such a manner as to enable decent people to have their lunch there. I also understand that they are not furnished with proper materials also, which the caterers used to be furnished with previously. That is all I have to say, Sir, on this cut motion."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in further supporting the cut motion, I have to say that it is a pity that the party in power has had to change the horses in the mid-stream. What should have happened if they had waited for some days more till the Budget discussions are finished or why should it not have been done long before the budget session? Perhaps they are not aware that they have converted this August Assembly under your Presidentship into something like a cockpit for their fighting out their battles. Sir, we are deprived of the opportunities of ventilating the grievances of the public on the floor of this House and this Assembly has been converted into . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That point has been made by Mr. Pocker; it is better that you come to some other point. It is rather jarring to hear the same point repeated very often."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is only on account of that, that opportunities could not be given to all sections of the House in the matters of discussion of the budget and this House has been converted into a Congress Working Committee meeting, and not treated as an Assembly where such matters could have no place."

"Again, Sir, regarding the budget discussions, very few days have been allotted and a major portion of the days allotted have been taken away by discussions in which we have had no share. Is it not a fact, Sir, that these discussions and happenings in this Assembly have an effect on the entire Province? Yet there was a gag, as it were, on the members of the opposition from speaking on this matter and the Leader of the House has not only not answered the points that were raised, but has said it so discourteously and I therefore appeal to you, Sir, that such things should not happen in the future."

"Sir, there was a suggestion made that the Speaker and the Secretary should be deputed to foreign countries to study parliamentary procedure there. I endorse it, Sir, and I would say that if the Deputy Speaker is not also sent out, there will be a crisis. (Laughter.) Because, the Speaker, when he is present would give some ruling and in his absence if the Deputy Speaker occupies the Chair, she would give a different ruling, as she has no proper training, in the matter. It is for that reason that I suggest that she should also be deputed for foreign studies."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Instead of sending the Deputy Speaker to England, you can send her to America and I shall go to England, so that we can exchange our knowledge after our return." (Laughter.)

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am thankful to you, Mr. Speaker, and I quite endorse that both of you can compare notes after you had finished your course."

"Again, Sir, in the matter of questions, a point was raised this morning that the answers given are not only unsatisfactory, but are not up-to-date. Even a Member of the Treasury Bench

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this morning admitted that the answers given are the answers that ought to have been given some months ago; Sir, he did not care to bring the answer up-to-date. It has been our experience also that very often the answers given are either unsatisfactory or that the figures furnished are not up-to-date and lastly the way in which the Hon. Minister gives the answers was also not to the liking of the members of the House.

"I will give you only one instance, Sir. About four days ago, I sent a short-notice question regarding the police resorting to firing and injuring many people in Guntur. I do not know why the Leader of the House has not answered that question even to-day. To-day is the 27th and the incident occurred on the 23rd. I do not know what law and order he is maintaining, if he is not able to tell us anything about the police firing even after four days after the incident had happened. Cannot he get into contact with the District Collector either by telephone or by telegram? He now comes and says, 'I cannot answer these questions.' Sir, it is a matter of very great importance to us on this side, that proper answers should be given to all questions. What does the Minister mean by saying, 'I am not in a position to answer these questions.'? If he is a Minister for Law and Order, he must know what the answer is and having known the answer, why does he refuse to answer? Is it that he thinks that it is not worth answering, because the questions come from the other side of the House?"

"Again, Sir, questions which are not properly answered have again to be put, but the way in which Ministers treat members is really not liked by the Members of the House. Sir, there was a question about spindles, there was a question about strikes and there was a question about coconuts. To all these questions the Ministers were not ready with the answers."

"Regarding spindles, Sir, a whisper is just now going on that even the Members of the Treasury Bench have got shares in the mills that are going to be started in the future, and when a question is put on the matter, we are not able to get any answer. Is it not a fact, Sir, that some of the new Ministers have got shares in the mills that are likely to come in the future and is it not the right of this House to know where we stand, what interests the Ministers have, and whether it is proper for them to have such interests in the matter? Sir, Democracy requires that no Ministers should have any interest in things that are going around. Simply because, a Minister is concerned with the directorate of a producer-cum-consumer co-operative society, simply because a Minister is concerned with some shares in the spindles, simply because he is a relative of a businessman or has financial connexion with the director or managing director of a mill, or a cement industry, or a paper industry, he should not refuse to answer questions put to him. It is an accepted principle of parliamentary practice that a Minister as soon as he accepts office should resign his directorship and sever all his connexion

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with his previous business. I ask the Ministers whether they have done whatever that is necessary before they accepted office in this Province.

"Again, Sir, Mr. Pocker has referred to the hasty way, and not only the hasty way, but the haughty way in which the party in power has treated us, the opposition, in the matter of bringing in legislation. The way in which the Public Safety Bill was rushed through, the way in which the Municipalities Act was got in, and the way in which the elections were stopped, all these clearly showed that the opposition had not been treated properly.

1 p.m. "Again, Sir, I think I have asked a number of questions regarding the matter of accommodation of the Legislature in the Province. When there was a discussion about the construction of a separate House for the Legislature and of spending money on it, it was suggested that while we were going to get separate linguistic provinces very soon, why such a large amount should be spent on such construction. Sir, it has been the cry of the Congress for the last quarter of a century that we should have separate linguistic provinces. If the Government believes it, and believes it sincerely, and not merely for getting votes, they should now at least come forward with a categorical reply regarding its ideas about the Andhra Province and regarding the housing of the Legislature. It is a pity, Sir, that in the matter of the mess in the Government House at Mount Road, only a vegetarian section has been opened. I do not know why a non-vegetarian section has not been opened. Even though the majority of the members are non-vegetarians, no section has been opened for their convenience, and the Deputy Speaker who is a Member of the House Committee has not done anything in this matter.

"Sir, in the building that has been allotted to the Members of the Legislative Assembly very recently, arrangements have been made for a telephone; but very strangely, there is a bill collector there and for every call he is collecting some amount, I think 1½ annas. I say that is creating a nuisance—it is not a question of payment at all, but a legislator being asked to pay down annas and pies on the spot, when he has no change about him and has therefore to be standing there for a long time. I think the Leader of the House will look into this matter.

"Again, Sir, as we are discussing the question of legislation and Legislatures, I may say there was a question of mine pending since last three months; it came up before the House, but for want of time it was not answered. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the members of this Assembly who belong to the party in power have been interfering very actively in the administrative and other activities of the officials. No answer has been given, as I said; I expect a reply to-morrow. I know it is usual for the Government to deny everything and I am sure they will deny this also; but I want to know whether

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it is a fact that the Members of this House, simply because they belong to the party in power, can go on interfering like that. My only request is that a circular should be sent out to the officials to find out whether that is a fact or not. My leader by my side reminds me about the mosquitoes in Government House; I do not know whether there is any comparison between the mosquitoes of the Government House and the Members of the Assembly in this Province. But provision will be made, I think, not only for the members of the Assembly but also for combating the mosquitoes, by supplying to the members mosquito curtains. Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the motion for the demand. In doing so, I want to make a few helpful criticisms which can be put into force by the Government in power now and at once. I am not touching on any controversial subject at this moment; we all know we want some more amenities here. The room in which we are meeting is so close and so ill-ventilated that members feel more at ease outside the room than inside it. Something has got to be done with respect to that.

"I want to refer to one important matter, i.e., the question of the library of this Legislature. It is a matter that has not been receiving any attention at least for the last four or five years when the Legislature was not sitting here at all. I should like to draw the particular attention of the Leader of the House to the necessity for providing the library with the latest and up-to-date books not only in English but also in the vernaculars, books relating to Economics, constitution-making and also political science. It is only in that way that we can really make the library a very well-equipped one and useful to the Members of the Legislature. There is also the library room which is so bad; you cannot sit there for reading any books; it is so ill-ventilated and it is so close. In the first instance, the attention of the Leader of the House should be directed to this. Of course hon. Members may well ask, 'why did you not do all this yourself.' I may say, Sir, I was coming to it; we had to take things one by one; there were more pressing questions, as people may know, not only questions relating to the Legislature but those relating to public policy and administration, to be attended to. It all took time and I could not devote much attention to this matter. I should like the Hon. the Leader of the House to give some attention to these things and provide this library with more up-to-date books and with all the necessary facilities for the study of such books in the library itself.

"Sir, a suggestion has been made that a deputation may be sent of you, Mr. Speaker, and the Deputy Speaker, as well as the Secretary, to England to study the Parliamentary Procedure there. I know the English Parliament is the mother of all parliaments in the world and people would certainly like to know how it works, how it functions and how people behave in that Parliament. It is necessary, Sir, that more than the Speaker, all the Members of this House should go to England; and I would especially like Members of the Opposition to go there and know

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something about how they put questions in the Legislature. It is not as if a Member can put questions for the purpose of discrediting the Minister concerned or giving him a sly hit here or there, or for making him feel not quite at ease. It is not that way that members should ask for information; they ought not to cross-examine the Ministers; they ought not to invite their opinions on particular matters. I think questioning should all be done in a way that will help useful criticism and will bring forth the necessary information and also help the Government to carry on the administration. Therefore, Sir, from that point of view, I would like, on this question of deputation, to say that if you do go to England, please take us all along with you, Sir, rather than go alone, all by yourself. Speaking seriously, Sir, I feel that perhaps this is not quite opportune that you should go to England, now that we are to have a change in our very constitution, and we do not know what the shape of the future constitution is going to be. I would suggest that in our own House and in the Houses throughout this country, we develop our own conventions and our own practices in conformity with our requirements and habits and practices. But if in the process of establishing conventions, it is found necessary that the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker should really go to England, then I hope that when they come back to our province, they would give us the benefit of their visit by a very good lecture as to how all of us here should behave ourselves in this Assembly.

"One more thing, Sir; I do not want to say anything which would raise a controversy. But complaints have been made by the members of the Opposition that answers to their questions were not made ready, that they were not given properly, that they themselves are not taken into the confidence of the Members on the Treasury Bench and things like that. I had myself a good share of that criticism when I was sitting on the opposite side; but I must say this. As we know from the rules, questions are put only for the purpose of eliciting information; and for nothing more than that can question-time be utilized. It is not as if you can, through questions, criticise the policy of Government or offer criticism on any measure brought forward. For instance, somebody questions: 'What is the policy of the Government in respect of this matter?' Sir, it is a big question; I may perhaps here refer to the question in regard to basic education that was being asked on the floor of this House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. May I say, even though we are now on the Legislature demand, can he criticise the manner in which the Speaker has been conducting our proceedings? I beg to submit, Sir, that the supplementary questions you have allowed are being criticised by the hon. Member. Of course hon. Members here might have asked supplementary questions, but they cannot ask them unless and until the Speaker allows them to do so; and the very fact that the Speaker has allowed these questions certainly does not mean that they should not have been allowed. He

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means indirectly, Sir, that the Speaker has allowed supplementary questions which should not have been allowed. In that way, he is criticising the conduct of the Speaker and the proceedings in this House. I think, Sir, he is not in order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told the House that nobody dare question my ruling, I have already told this House so; and my friend, Mr. Bhashyam, will not question my ruling; I know it. But he is giving some suggestion, I think not to me, because he was a Minister; he has found out the difficulties in regard to some of these questions; for instance, regarding basic education, the question arose from the side of the opposition, to the effect that the Hon. Minister should define it; he says on such matters, the Minister should be given some time. I think he is explaining the difficulties on that point."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"It is far from me, Sir, to question any of your rulings; I was simply trying to advise the Members of the House as to how to put questions with a view to elicit really useful answers to them from the other side. It is not by merely provoking them or by cross-examining them that really good answers could be obtained; if it is a case of getting some information on a particular subject, the Member should ask the question nicely and in good language and not provoke the Government Member by saying unnecessary things and get in return some sort of stuff as reply—that would be the result of putting all kinds of questions. Therefore, it is not a reflection upon any of your rulings, Sir, it is nothing of the kind. In fact, as an instance, I was referring to questions on basic education—a subject on which I would support your ruling. Therefore, I think I have explained myself sufficiently to be known that as a matter of fact, I am as respectful of the rulings of the Chair as any other Member of this House on either side. As regards basic education, a definition was asked on the floor of the House. Sir, this basic education has been there for the last five years or so; people have talked about it and read about it and Members have been explaining it again and again; and yet, some of the Muslim Members asked: 'What is the definition of basic education?' Sir, is it to be said that they do not know anything about it? And when a reply is given, they say: 'So, you do not know anything about it . . .'" (Mr. B. Pocker Sahib stood up in his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Pocker wants to raise a point of order."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the hon. Member is questioning the *bona fides* of a Member of the Opposition in having put that question, when he says that the hon. Member must have known what basic education was, because it was there for the past five years. He is not in order, Sir."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I really question whether any point of order has been raised at all. On the other hand, by putting such questions, the Opposition Members were disputing the *bona fides* of the members on the Treasury Bench and of the

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Congress people. We have been trying to deal with these questions, subject to your ruling; and if we did not do so, it would be contradictory to what you have ruled already in respect of this matter. . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“What has it to do with basic education?”

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“A complaint was made on the floor of the House that the Minister in charge of Education was wrong in refusing to answer certain questions regarding basic education. I want to illustrate it as a case of bad criticism, as a criticism which was not really quite correct and not proper; and I think I am entitled to say so. I hope, Sir, when members of the Opposition put questions and want answers therefor, they will put them on matters which really concern the subject, and the Minister who is in charge; they should not relate to any policy as such and question-time is not really useful for such a purpose. If you go to England, Sir, . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“You need not expatiate on that matter. I have already given a ruling that it is not possible for the Minister to give an answer at once; I hope you will now come to the next point.”

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“I am glad, Sir, you have understood my point well, but there are others who do not and that is why I am expatiating on it; if they also have understood the thing, I shall close my remarks on that subject.

“I now want to say one word before I sit down on a controversial question that has been raised about legislation. So far first into power, there were some urgent matters on which legislation had to be undertaken, in some hurry; but afterwards, in respect of every piece of legislation that was put through the Legislative Assembly, long enough time was given for the purpose of public criticism and also for the knowledge of the Members of the House. I think, Sir, the criticism that there has not been time enough for the purpose of discussion in the House or that there has been undue haste in the matter of passing through any legislation is not correct; that is my respectful submission to this House and to you, Sir. I further submit that so far as this question of legislation is concerned, there is a suggestion made which I will submit to the Hon. Leader of the House and the Member in-charge of the Legal department for consideration; that there should be a committee appointed consisting of experts—and lawyers may be had for the purpose—for going through legislation whenever it is possible to do so. I think that is the best thing, because after all drafting requires some skill; it is not done by everybody. While the House may express its opinion on certain definite matters and say what it wants to be done, the drafting has to be done by a skilful man who really knows how to draft well. And if a committee is appointed of experts, lawyers and public men, for this purpose, it will be a very good thing to do. This suggestion, I submit, Sir, for the purpose of being adopted by the Leader of the House.”

27th March 1947]

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் 1-16
மேம்பார் Legislative Bodies-க்கு கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் out motion-ஐ p.m.
எடுத்துப் பேசுகையில் நான் அதை எதிர்க்கிறேன். ஏற்கனவே அதா
வது யுத்தம் தொடங்கியதிலிருந்து 8 ஆண்டுகளாக பெரும் பாலைவனத்
தில் அகப்பட்டுக்கொண்ட பிராணிகளைப்போல் அட்வைசர் ஆட்சி நடந்து
வந்தது. காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு வந்த பிறகு ஹரிய நிழல் மக்களுக்கு
கிடைத்ததுபோல எல்லோரும் சந்தோஷமடைந்தார்கள். கடந்த பத்து மாத
ங்களாக கனம் பிரகாசம்மாரு அனை நன்மைகளை செய்திருக்கிறார்.
ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய பல குறைகளை போக்கிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக மதுரா
யில் ஒரு ஹரிஜனன் சுடுகாட்டில் தன்னுடைய குழந்தையை கொடுத்திய
தால் அவனுக்கு 6 மாதம் தண்டனை கொடுத்தார்கள். அதை நாங்கள்
கனம் பிரகாசத்தினிடம் சொன்னவுடன் தானே அதை கவனித்து அந்த தண்
டனையை ரத்து செய்து விரும்படி உத்தரவு கொடுத்தார். இதை எல்லாரும் கல
னிக்கவேண்டும். மேலும் கோயில்களை வெகு துரிதமாக திறந்தார்கள்.
கோயில்களின் Portfolio கனம் கோட்டி ரெட்டியின் கையில் இருந்தும்
கூட அந்த காரியங்களை வெகு துரிதமாக நடத்திவந்தார்கள். இன்னும்
ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு வெகு வாக நல்ல காரியங்களையும் செய்துகொண்டு வந்தி
ருக்கின்றார்கள். அதற்கு நாங்கள் நன்றி பாராட்டுகிறோம். அவர் ஹரிஜனங்
களுக்கு மிகவும் இரக்கம் காண்பித்து நல்லது செய்து வந்தார். ஆனால்
இரக்கம் காண்பித்தாரே ஒழிய உரிமை காட்டவில்லை. அதனால் கவலை
அடைந்தோம். இந்த மந்திரி சபையில் ஜனத் தொகைக்கேற்றவாறு எங்க
ளுக்கு முன்று மந்திரிகள் கொடுத்திருக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி அவர்கள்
கொடுக்கவில்லை. இங்கிருக்கும் 30 பேர்களும் கூட்டம் போட்டு பேசினோம்.
மகஜர் அனுப்பினோம். அவர் கவனிக்கவே இல்லை. கடைசியில் கனம்
வீராசாமியை நியமித்தார்கள். அவர் சபைக்கு வந்து ஒருநாள் கூட சபை
யில் பேசவில்லை. அவர் போன பிறகும் அவருக்கு பதிலாக ஒரு ஹரிஜனை
நியமிப்பார் என்று எதிர்பார்த்தோம். (கனம் பிரகாசம்) செய்யவில்லை.
இப்பொழுது அவர் சபையிலிருந்து மாறிவிட்டார். இந்த மாகாணத்தில்
மொத்த ஜனத்தொகை 400 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அதில் ஹரி
ஜனங்கள் 80 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள்; 5-ல் ஒரு பங்கு இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த முறை
யில் பார்த்தால் பத்து மந்திரிகளில் இரண்டு மந்திரிகள் கொடுக்கவேண்
டும். இப்பொழுது ரெட்டியார் வகுப்பில் மூன்று மந்திரிகள் இருக்கின்றார்கள்.
இப்பொழுது இன்னும் சிறு தொகையுள்ளவர்களுக்கு ஒரு மந்திரி
கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு மேல் பதவியும் கொடுக்கின்றார்கள்.
நாங்கள் 30 பேர்கள் இருந்துகொண்டு கேட்டுக்கொண்டே இருக்கிறோம்.
இன்னும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. கோபால் ரெட்டி கட்சி, காமராஜ் நாடார் கட்சி
என்று எவ்வளவு கட்சிகளிருக்கின்றதோ அவ்வளவு மந்திரிகள் இருக்
கின்றார்கள். கவர்ன்மெண்டைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டும் கூட எங்களுடைய உரிமை
களை இன்னும் கொடுக்கவில்லை. கேள்விகள் கேட்டால் சந்தோஷமாக
பதில் சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். மந்திரி பதவிகள் கேட்டால் கொஞ்சம்கூட
இடம் கொடுக்கவில்லை. எங்களை புழுக்களாக அலட்சியம் செய்துவருகிறார்கள்.
நாங்களும் நேற்று முஸ்லீம்களைப்போல் வெளியேறுவதாக இருந்தோம்.
ஆனால் அது காங்கிரஸ் கொள்கைக்கு விரோதம் என்று அப்படி செய்யாம
லிருந்தோம். மந்திரி பதவிகள் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டால் இரக்கம் காட்ட
வில்லை. இது ரொம்பவும் தவறாக இருக்கிறது.

“மேலும் ஏற்கனவே அதாவது 39-வது ஆண்டிற்குமுன் பட்ஜெட்டில்
16 கோடி இருந்தது இப்பொழுது 58 கோடி வந்திருக்கிறது. மாகாணத்
தில் 5-ல் ஒரு பங்கு இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த ஒரு பங்கு ஹரிஜனங்கள்தான்
உழைத்து பிரகாசதாரர்களுக்கும் வியாபாரிகளுக்கும் பணம் தருகிறார்கள்.
இதைக்கொண்டு மற்றவர்கள் வேலை முதலியவைகள் நடத்த காரணமா
யிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்கள்தான். எல்லாவற்றையும் நடத்த காரணமா
யிருக்கிறார்கள். உழைப்பாளியாகிய எங்களுக்கு ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்காகிய 12
கோடி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அதைச் செலவு செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படி
செய்யவில்லை. போன வருஷம் ஒரு கோடி கொடுத்ததற்கு சந்தோஷப்
பட்டோம். அந்த ஒரு கோடியையும் செலவுபண்ணாமல் Surrender பண்ணி
இருக்கிறார்கள். அது துக்கரமான காரியம். இப்பொழுது கடைசி காலத்
தில் கனம் பிரகாசம் இந்த பணத்தை செலவு செய்ய ஒரு Scheme

[Sri A. S. Sahajanandam] [27th March 1947]

போட்டிருப்பதாக பேப்பரில் வந்தது. அவரும் இப்பொழுது விலகிவிட்டார்கள். 20 வருஷமாக நான் இந்த கவுன்சிலில் இருந்து வருகிறேன். இதுவரையில் ஒவ்வொரு காரியத்திற்கும் கமிட்டி வைத்து அங்கத்தினர் அபிப்பிராயம் கேட்பார்கள். ஆனால் பிரகாசம் கவர்ன்மெண்டில் அப்படி கேட்கவில்லை.

‘செய்வினை செய்வான் செயன்முறை யவ்வினை யுள்ளறிவானுள்ளன்கொளல்’

(குறள்)

“ஒரு காரியத்தை செய்கிற முறையானது அந்தக் காரியத்தில் ஆழ்ந்த கருத்தறிவான் உள்சத்தை அறிந்தபிறகே அம்முறையை கையாளவேண்டும். 30 பேருக இந்த சபைக்கு நாங்கள் அங்கத்தினர்களாக வந்திருக்கிறோம். எங்களுடைய கோரிக்கைகளை தடுத்து விட்டு கனம் பிரகாசத்தினுடைய மனோராஜ்யத்திற்கே ஒரு காலனி ஏற்படுத்தி அங்கு நாடார்கள், சாயபுகள், ஹரிஜனங்கள் மற்ற எல்லா ஜாதியாருக்கும் வீடுகள் கட்டிக் கொடுக்கப் போகிறோம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது எங்களுக்கு திருப்தியில்லை. இப்பொழுது சேரியில் போய்ப் பார்த்தால் ஒரு சின்ன லீட்டில் 10 பேர்கள் குடியிருக்கிறார்கள். பன்றி குட்டியிருப்பது போல் குடியிருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி காலனி கட்டிக் கொடுப்பதாக மனோராஜ்யம் செய்து காண்பித்தார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய யோசனைகளைக்கேட்டு அதன் படி நடக்கவேண்டும். அதுதான் அரசாங்கத்தாரின் முறை. அவர்கள் இஷ்டப்படி நடப்பது சரியல்ல.

“ஆனால் இப்பொழுது ஒரு விஷயத்தில் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறோம். இப்பொழுது ஓமந்தூர் இராமாசாமி ரெட்டியார் பிரதம மந்திரியாக வந்திருக்கிறார். அவர் பயிர்த் தொழில் செய்யும் குலத்திலிருந்து வந்தவர். காந்தியியை அப்படியே கொள்கைகளில் பின்பற்றுகிறவர். அவர் எழைக்களுடையவும் பயிர் செய்யும் குடியானவர்களுடையவும் நிலைமையை நன்றாக உணர்ந்தவர். இப்பொழுது அவர்கள் கையில் தேவஸ்தான போர்டு இலாகா இருப்பதால் அவர் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இருக்கும் குறைகளை போக்கி நீங்கி நன்மைஅடையலாம் என்று எதிர்ப்பார்க்கிறோம். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு மூன்று மந்திரிகள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சொல்வார்கள். இப்பொழுது ரெட்டியாருக்கு மூன்று மந்திரிகள் கொடுத்தால் இவர்களுக்கும் ஐந்து மந்திரிகள் கொடுத்திருக்கவேண்டும். என்னென்றால் இப்பொழுது 80 லட்சம் ஹரிஜனங்களிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் அதிக ஸ்தானம் கொடுத்திருக்கவேண்டும். இன்னும் எங்களுக்கு பாருங்கள். ஏழை ஹரிஜனங்கள் உழைத்துதான் நீங்கள் இங்கு வந்திருக்கிறீர்கள். 30 பேர்கள் இருந்துகொண்டு மனது எரிந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இன்னும் எங்களுக்கு ஒரு மந்திரி ஸ்தானமும் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. நேற்று முஸ்லீம் வெளியேறிச் சென்றார்கள். இந்த 30 பேரும் வெளியேறி விடலாம் என்று பேசினார்கள். ஆனால் கனம் முனுசாமி பிள்ளை காங்கிரஸ் உத்திரவை மீறி நடக்கக்கூடாது, உள்ளே இருந்துகொண்டு சண்டை போடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னதினமேல் இருந்துவிட்டோம். அப்படி செய்தால் Mr. Speaker கூட எங்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்தான். இப்பொழுது கனம் பிரகாசம் கோஷ்டிக்கு 73 பேர்கள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். இப்பொழுது குறைகளை உடனே தீர்க்கவில்லையென்றால் நாங்களும் முஸ்லிம் லீக் மெம் பர்களும் கனம் பிரகாசம் கோஷ்டியில் சேர்ந்துவிடுவோம். நாங்கள் மனதில் புண்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். இவைகளைப்போக்க கனம் Dr. Subbarayan வேண்டியதைச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

“இன்று Interim Government-ல் காங்கிரசும் முஸ்லீம் லீகும் ஒன்றாக வேலை செய்து வருகிறது. அந்த மாதிரி இங்கு இந்த முஸ்லீம் லீக் கட்சியிலிருந்தும் மற்ற ஒவ்வொரு கட்சியிலிருந்தும் 2, 1 பேர் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு ஒரு மந்திரி சபை அமைத்தால் அந்த மந்திரி சபைக்கு அழிவே வராது. கூட்டு மந்திரி சபை அமைத்து அதன்படி நடக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் ஹரிஜனங்களை கூட்டி வைத்துக்கொள்ள

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வேண்டும். அவர்களுடைய பசிக்கு வேண்டிய உணவு கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஆகவே எதிர்காலத்தில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சர்க்காரில் ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு ஒரு கோடி பணம் அதிகம் ஒதுக்கிவைக்க வேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் ஒரு Communism தான் வரும். பிறகு நாட்டில் ஒரு முதலாளிகூட இருக்க மாட்டார்கள். எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் சர்க்கார் பூரணமாக உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டு வந்தும்சுட உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் இன்னும் லஞ்சம் வாங்குகிறார்கள் என்று ஜனங்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். Senior Collector, High Court Judge இவர்களுக்கு ஆயிரக் கணக்காக சம்பளம் கொடுத்தால்தான் அவர்கள் லஞ்சம் வாங்கமாட்டார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அப்படி நிறைய சம்பளம் கொடுத்தால்தான் அவர்கள் ஒழுங்காக நடந்துகொள்ளுவார்கள்; வேலையையும் சரியாக செய்வார்கள், அதிகாரிகளுக்கு 5,000 ரூபாய் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். மந்திரிகள் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு 1,500 சம்பளம் வாங்குகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அவ்வளவு வாங்கியும் Income-tax முதலிய வரினை கொடுத்தபிறகு அவர்களுக்கு ரூ. 200 கூட மிஞ்சவில்லை. அவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் அதிகம் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் Mr. Speaker இருக்கிறார். அவரும் எங்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்தான். அவருக்கு இன்னும் ஜஸ்தி சம்பளம் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அவர் தான் வாங்கும் சம்பளத்தில் அநேக தான தர்மங்கள் செய்து வருகிறார். இன்னும் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு Scholarship கொடுத்து உதவுகிறார்கள். அதனால் அவருக்கு பணம் மிஞ்சவில்லை ஆகையால் அவருக்கும் இன்னும் பணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லி நான் இந்த டிமாண்டை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no intention of intervening in this debate but for some remarks made by the ex-Minister for Law. I believe, Sir, that the technical sense of the lawyer in him has taken hold on him when he was describing the manner in which questions should be asked and the manner in which the answers should be given. You know, Sir, that the question hour is a privileged hour. It must be a lively hour. Supplementary questions are really the salt of the question hour. If, according to the rules, only questions of fact can be elicited, I ask, Sir, why questions should be put at all. You know, Sir, that even questions of fact can be avoided from being answered under one rule or other because information can be obtained from certain publications or in certain books or in certain Government Orders. The Minister can always say that the fact has already been published in this book or in that volume and so on and so forth. So, Sir, if questions are to be put and answered in the mere technical sense, there is nothing to be asked and nothing to be answered.

“Sir, you remember that many questions are really helpful, although they may not be asked within the technical sense of questions. So, Sir, the hon. the ex-Minister for Law had asked, ‘What is the fun of asking what the policy of the Government is or what action the Government propose to take with regard to a certain matter.’ Sir, if a certain Member wants to know what the facts are, you can always refer him to some publication or some communications. But why then the question is asked? When a question was asked whether it was a fact that there was a lock-out in a certain factory, it was admitted that there was a lock-out in that factory. But, is it not helpful to this House and to the public to know what the Government is going to do in the

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matter and whether the Government have taken any action at all in that matter by means of supplementary questions? So, Sir, it is a right on the part of the Members to ask by means of supplementary questions as to what the Government proposes to do or whether they have already taken action on a particular matter. That is a proper and legitimate right. To hide behind the technicalities of the rules for not answering a question is really very unwelcome and undesirable. I know, Sir, it is that gentleman alone who had always raised this sort of technical objection. It is only from him we received answers like 'Questions may be put separately' and 'Question does not arise' as the technical sense of the lawyer in him always cropped up and he was not helpful with the answers that he gave. I have simply come now to point out that to you.

"Sir, you, as Speaker, have always been very helpful and have always been trying to protect the rights of the Members of this House. But for your clever handling of these questions and permitting us to ask supplementary questions and elucidating information, we would not have so much help and the people would not also have had so much help.

"Then as regards the question of cross-examination, Sir, I know there is a difference between a supplementary question and a cross-examination. I know it as a lawyer as well as my hon. Friend. There is difference between asking a question in a cross-examination and asking a supplementary question by way of elucidating further information.

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member will finish his speech in two or three minutes, we can continue. Otherwise, he may continue his speech after lunch."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will continue after lunch, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn for lunch and will meet at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to cite another instance and that is in regard to the question of the establishment of mills. It is admitted by the Minister in charge, Sir, that there is scarcity of cloth and he has also given the statistics with regard to the number of mills.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. I would like to point out that we are discussing the Legislative demand."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now, it is a well-known fact that the previous Ministry was opposed to the increase of mills. In these circumstances, if any Member asks the question to the present Ministry what is going to be its attitude.

MR. SPEAKER:—"In explaining all these things, you say you are not satisfied with the answers given by the Minister. That is your point, I think."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No, Sir. Is it not relevant to ask, what is going to be the policy of the present Government with regard to the increase of the number of mills, especially when the previous Ministry was opposed to the increase of the mills. I can understand, Sir, that, since this Ministry has come into being only two days ago, it might not have decided on this important question. But, what we expect is this, Sir. The Minister would stand up and say, we are considering the matter and we have not yet come to any decision with regard to the matter. That is the sort of answer we expect from a responsible and popular Minister.

"Take for instance another matter. Yesterday, Sir . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"One point will do; why do you take a number of instances."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am coming to it, Sir. Yesterday, Sir, the ex-Prime Minister made very serious charges against the party in power, as to how it managed to come into power, how this party, this faction or group of factions sabotaged the Ministry, not on the ground of differences in policy but on personal grounds, on the ground that they wanted to come into power and wanted to have places on the Ministry. That is the charge that was levelled against them, Sir, and the Leader of the House who was called upon to answer the charges pertinent thereto has not answered those charges."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That point has already been raised by many members of your party and it is a mere repetition."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I do not know whether the Hon. the Leader of the House is conscious of the harm he has done to his own party by not answering the question. There is a charge against his party and that is that he was moved not by any worthy motives, but by motives which are anything but legitimate and worthy. He has failed to answer those questions, but the public outside has got a right to know what is the reason why the party in power at that time had been ousted and how they have come into power. The party in power led by the Leader of the House has failed to answer the questions little knowing what harm he is doing to his own party and little knowing how his failure to answer the question will throw a doubt on the sincerity of the fair means by which it worked itself up to this position.

"Now, Sir, you as the guardian of the privileges of this House—and this House is the accredited and representative body of the large proportion of voters who are the masters of the party in power and ourselves—in the interests of the public and in the interests of democracy, allowed us to ask questions and I must really thank you and I can openly express our gratitude to you, Sir, for the high sense of democratic principles that prompted you to allow us to ask questions. You did very well, Sir, in allowing us to ask questions on this very important matter. Sir, I ask the party in power, are you really representative; have you really the confidence of the people who are your masters and

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have you got anything to explain to them saying, these are the reasons why we have ousted the party in power and that these are the valid and legitimate grounds for doing so. So, Sir, in order to protect the rights of the people, the masters of this House, you have allowed us to put questions and now, Sir, I ask whether it is open to the party which has come into power now, who are supposed to be the servants of the public at large to say 'No; I refuse to answer.' Is this democracy? This constitution is not the same as the constitution under the Montford Reforms of 1919, when nominated members can buttress and support some elected members. But, this is a popular Government and this Ministry is responsible to this House and through this House to the people at large. So, what is there that can be a secret and should not the Leader of the House say, these are the reasons for which they ousted the previous Ministry.

"Here, Sir, I would like to ask a further pertinent question and that is this. Is this going to be ruled by an outside body—the Congress or whatever it is? That is one question and the other is, what is the reason why you have ousted the previous Ministry. These are very pertinent questions, Sir, that were put, which the Minister declines to answer; not only declines to answer but in a discourteous manner refuses to answer them. Now, Sir, I appeal to you, as the guardian of the privileges of this House and through that means, the upholder of democratic Government in this country under the Constitution Act of 1935, whereby an autonomous Government is granted to us, I appeal to you in the name of democracy, in the name of the people, in the name of this House, should you allow this gentleman, the Leader of the House, to say, I refuse to answer. Can there be any member of a democratic constitution who can say 'I am not going to answer questions.' Sir, there might have been Assemblies and Councils when lordly people, vested interests, zamindars and others who used to decorate the benches of the House in the past, but this is not such a time. Times have changed (Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur: 'Hear, hear.' People who will be coming hereafter are not going to be those persons, but the real workers who have got democratic principles in their mind; it is they that will come and ask you questions, heckle you and want to find out where the fault lies.

"Now, Sir, you prepare answers to questions. Are we to take those answers to be granted and are we not entitled to point out that in that statement there lurks a secret; there lurks a point which is injurious to the administration? It is in that spirit, Sir, that questions should be answered. You are a democratic Government, you are a popular Government and what is there for you to secrete yourself; you cannot afford to do it and be arrogant; you are arrogant not to us, to Mr. Baig or to Mr. Salam or any other gentlemen, but you are arrogant to the people by not answering both the questions. Let that be remembered, Sir. Now, Sir, I would request you in the name of democracy, in the name of the millions of people who have returned us to this Assembly."

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SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"On a point of order, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let Mr. Baig finish his sentence."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, if my hon. Friend opposite knew what democracy and popular Government means, he would realize that they are the servants of the people and as such they will realize that they cannot answer questions like that."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Well, Sir, can any Member of this House raise a debate or discuss about a subject which has been decided and on which the Speaker had already given a ruling, namely, you, Mr. Speaker, gave a ruling yesterday that you cannot compel any Minister to give a reply to any question and when you have decided like that and the House has agreed to it, I wish to know whether any Member is entitled to re-open the subject and discuss it in his speech?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What Mr. Baig was saying was, he was requesting the Minister that in future he might answer questions."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Thank you, Sir."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"I wish to know, Sir, whether any Member is entitled to deal with a subject when it was once ruled by the Speaker?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is thoroughly mistaken. Mr. Baig is not questioning my ruling. He is asking the Minister to comply with his request to give answers to questions."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Therefore, Sir, my submission is this. This Ministry has been in office only for the last two days and I should think they are a little tactless. If only they had said, we want notice, we have not yet decided and we will come to a decision later on and we came only two days ago, how nice and how welcome it would have been and how gentlemanly it would be? I am loath to think they did anything unintentionally but in order to escape answering questions which are inconvenient and which they have not decided and therefore they might have unwittingly used those words. I am prepared to be charitable enough to admit if they had used the words unwittingly. I want to impress the necessity on you also, Sir, of asking or compelling the Minister to answer questions because in a democracy there cannot be any."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I cannot compel a Minister. In a Parliament, the Speaker cannot compel a Minister to answer."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But, Sir, we can do that either by convention or by changing the rules, because in a democracy no Minister can say, 'I cannot give the information' unless it be on very high grounds of policy where it will be injurious to the interests of the public to disclose such information. I know that common phrase that is usually used

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'this cannot be disclosed in the interests of the public.' That is another matter. But, where you could answer and where you ought to answer in a democratic Government, I think there is no excuse for Ministers to answer questions.

2-45 p.m. "One more point, Sir, and I am done. It is this. No doubt for one Minister another Minister can answer questions. But, what about supplementary questions, I ask? Only the Minister in charge of the portfolio knows what his policy is going to be, what are the orders passed by him, what is the attitude that he has taken and is going to take on that. Although I doubt there is joint responsibility, does that mean that in regard to all questions of detail and the actions taken, the Cabinet meets and joint responsibility is taken? No, Sir. In order that supplementary questions may be effectively answered, usefully answered, and in a democratic way, the Minister holding that particular portfolio should answer. That will be useful and I have been compelled to make these observations on account of the action of the Ex-Minister for Law and also by the way in which questions have been answered by the gentlemen now in power."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information we want to know, Sir, whether the Premier is observing his silence periodically and if so, whether he is observing the same weekly or monthly or yearly, so that we may adjust our business and programme accordingly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He is entitled to have that information so that we may adjust the business of the House."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is a private affair, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is better if the Prime Minister informs us whether he is observing his silence every month, on the Kirthigai day."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, I am observing it every month on the Kirthigai day."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"On a point of order I may ask, Sir, is he bound to know about the personal matters of every Member of the Government Bench?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a personal matter. If the Hon. Minister had attended office yesterday, this question would not have arisen. Yesterday other Hon. Ministers answered on behalf of the Premier. That is why the hon. Member wants to know the facts so that he may adjust his questions. If he knows that the Prime Minister will not be present on a particular day, he will probably postpone his question for the next day to be answered by him personally. Therefore, it is not a personal matter."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make only a very few observations while supporting this demand. I wish to draw the attention of the Members of this House that we are on the threshold of a new age and are making a new

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constitution. The British Parliament, some members said, is the mother of Parliaments. It was almost suggested that we might pattern ourselves on the British Parliament but to me, Sir, it seems that we should, even as the British Parliament has built up its own traditions and has grown out of the peculiar circumstances of British history, we should also build up our own traditions and grow out of ourselves. There are several things in the British constitution which I would call as anomalous. There is a king, Sir, in England without the real attributes of sovereignty. There is a cabinet, Sir, which governs but does not have the sanction of law. The constitution is not written and based on any statute but has been framed on the broad unwritten consent of the whole of the people. It may change every day and imperceptibly it changes from decade to decade. It suits, Sir, the island, its climate, the temperament of its people, the businesslike and almost I was going to say the phlegmatic temperament of the Britisher. Sir, we have to draw up a constitution which will suit our people, the emotional and underfed masses, the distracted and the clamant middle classes and the comfortable upper class not knowing its own mind. Sir, we shall have to make a supreme effort to evolve a constitution which will suit our own country, our own history and our peculiar traditions and will suit also that temperament of our people. I shall say nothing more. Let us in the framing of our rules and in the conduct of our debates model our conduct on our own and not borrow freely from others.

"I will go on to the next point. I am in perfect agreement with one Member of the Opposition who suggested that we should deprecate the discussion of party affairs in this House. The Assembly is neither the forum nor the platform for such things. It is the forum for discussion of policies and programmes with which the entire Assembly is concerned and here, Sir, let me say one thing. It can easily be said that policies will remain the same. This statement makes no meaning to my mind. For instance, Sir, in England, the Conservative, Anthony Eden, and the Socialist, Bevin, say that their policy is friendship with Russia but what difference does it make in the execution of the policy, in the shaping of that policy and in the emphasis laid upon the policy. Similarly, Sir, there are many things on which all of us may be in agreement. For instance, we want increased food production at once. We want a programme for that purpose. We all agree but it is not the written policies that matter, it is the execution of the policies, it is the framing of the policy and it is the review of results from time to time of that policy that matters, Sir. It is here, Sir, that essential differences may lie. Let me tell the hon. Members of the Opposition that their references to our conduct were not couched in language that would make us tend to cure our ills. I was almost inclined to say to them, Sir, 'we can cure our own ills, but physician, heal thyself.' We are representatives of the people and we are as good or as bad representatives of the people as those people can make us."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You are equally bad."

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* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"We are as bad, Sir, as the people can make us. We are as good as the people can make us but we are true representatives of the people. I challenge any Member to say that we do not represent our people. We represent their strength and their weakness too. Let us admit, Sir, that if we have frailties they are frailties not common only to us but to our people as a whole. That is why, Sir, I wish to make a few observations on this aspect of the question. Let us observe one golden rule at least which the British Parliament observes. There, Sir, the Cabinet and the Members of the British Parliament debate and decide but do not govern. If each Member of this House takes this golden rule to heart and does not attempt to govern but merely decide after a full and free discussion and debate, we shall be worthy of the trust that the people have bestowed upon us. That, Sir, is the guiding principle of the Congress party. Our aim in the past, in the present and in the future will be to adhere to that golden rule in our daily conduct. Let me say, Sir, that we shall make good all the promises in this spirit, and in no other. The complaint about answering questions and all that is not for me to answer, Sir. Those who answer questions and who are called upon to do so will deal with that aspect. I suggest that we act in a spirit of mutual co-operation and not pointing the finger of scorn at each other but remembering that we are one solid House pledged to carry out in a disciplined manner, the policies and programmes laid down by the Government, whatever Government may be in power from time to time."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Physician, heal thyself."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Hameed Khan may borrow a few expressions from me and if he hurls them at me, I freely gift those expressions to him. I tell him, Sir, that there will be a day when he will himself learn the lesson, take it to heart and shape his conduct in such a manner that he will observe the rule which I have suggested. It is the rule of the British Parliament. It shall be the rule of this House and of this Parliament also. Sir, we are going into a large future. We must have imagination enough to think that we are not merely a small House but we are going to be recipients of much more power and therefore of much more responsibility. Now, Sir, one more point and I have done."

"I was going to refer to the library, as Mr. Bhashyam did. For years we have not been purchasing any books for the library or adding to it. I suggest, Sir, that a Committee of this House which is interested in improving the library, be constituted for the purpose and that books on economics, politics, history and geography be added in considerable number."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In which language he wants the books?"

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Let it be in Urdu if that will please Mr. Hameed Khan."

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* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no idea of taking part in this debate. While I support the demand moved on the floor of this House, Sir, I would like to say that I feel it is a sad tragedy perpetrated on the Harijans by the absence of a member of my community in the present Ministry. Sir, the Hon. the Leader, the Hon. the Prime Minister, may have very many valid reasons for not including a man of my community into the Treasury Benches just now but I have to answer the man in the street and to many of the communications and telegrams that I have been getting from this Province as to the omission of a Harijan Minister in the Cabinet. It is my duty, Sir, to openly say in this House what is in the heart of the Harijans of this Province and of the representatives of the Harijan community in this House. Sir, it has been said in the papers that eight Ministers have to be chosen for the purpose of piloting the budget. I may ask, Sir, by including one more Harijan Minister will they not be able to pilot this budget, Sir. I assure you, Sir, it is not only one demand but all the demands can be moved by one Harijan Minister and get passed in this House. ('Hear, hear.') When you yourself was chosen to this honourable office, some of my friends were doubting whether you will adjust yourself to the task and the high position. To-day, Sir, we feel in every quarter that you have more than enough satisfied not only the members in this House but the whole public."

"From your ruling, Mr. Speaker, we can understand the mettle 3 p.m. you have been made of; you have added laurels to the gadi in which you are seated and you have kept in line with the illustrious predecessors that have occupied that chair."

"Often, it is said that one Harijan Minister must be chosen. I do not know the reason. There are seven Christian representatives in this House and they say they are entitled to one Ministership; but when we are thirty in this House, we are also told that only one Harijan is to be chosen. I do not think that representation to minorities should be handled in this manner. The other day, when the Interim Government was formed, out of fourteen Ministers they chose only one Harijan and what was the feeling of the people in the country? Long before the Interim Government came into existence, from the Himalayas to Cape Camorin, there was a great clamour that more than one Harijan must be chosen. But later on, what happened? The Muslim League came to add to the quantum of representation of Harijans in the Interim Government. I do not wish to go into the merits or morality, why a particular man was chosen and what his conduct had been and all those things; but as far as the quantum of representation in the Interim Government is concerned, the Muslim League came to our rescue. Now, in this House, it has been said: 'You cannot keep yourself secluded; you must merge along with us.' We have done that. But when the formation of the Ministry comes, we have been simply excluded. Is this reasonable, I ask in all seriousness. The minorities feel it and every one of the members that represent that community is getting

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boisterous. My hon. Friend Swami Sahajanandam said that we must have more than one Harijan Minister and some other Harijan M.L.As. suggested that we all walk out from this House if we are not given more than one Ministership. But I told him that as a Congressman who understands discipline, it was against the rules and such things should not be thought of and that we shall fight for it in a different way. But what happens? We are told: 'You, Harijan fellows, wait for the crumbs.' But I ask, Sir, why we should wait for the crumbs; we have got a right and you must give it unasked and that is my position. When there are enough numbers among the Harijan M.L.As. who could occupy that office with honour, when there are persons among us with academic qualifications and with robust commonsense, it is rather a disappointment not only to me but to so many of my Harijan friends here and people outside. I do not want it to be understood that I say anything about the discretion of the Hon. the Prime Minister in choosing who is to be his colleagues. But the number that is to be chosen, more than one, that is the thing on which I lay special emphasis. Take the country as it is today and you see agrarian trouble is making headway. The Harijan M.L.A. here not only represents his community but he also speaks for the agricultural labourer and he can quite well understand what is going on in the country at the present moment. Therefore, it is not one Harijan Minister or two even more than that number should be seated on the Treasury Benches, if you think, Sir, that matters must go on smoothly.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari referred to the constitution that will be forced on India very shortly by the Constituent Assembly. When representation for minority communities is handled in this manner, I feel that every member that will be responsible for the future constitution making of India must bear in mind that representation for minority communities should not be given by way of charity but that unasked they must be given the proper quantum of representation in all places of vantage.

"On this occasion, I will be failing in my duty if I do not support the proposal that was brought by my hon. Friend Mr. Natesan, who suggested that the Speaker and the Secretary of the Assembly must visit the Mother of Parliaments in England. I also support that because some of our own community men in the past have gone there in connexion with other work and they acquitted themselves quite well. With these words and without exhibiting any discontent, I would like to impress on the Prime Minister the feeling of the Harijans in this matter and suggest to him that he must consider to do justice by getting at least three Ministers from the Harijan community."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, while supporting this cut motion, I feel it is my duty to thank you and to congratulate you on the most and efficient manner in which you are conducting the business of the House. In spite of the fact that you belong to the minority community,

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the Muslim League may claim to be a minority here; but here the only minority is you and I. My hon. Friend Kallur Subba Rao says that you belong to the Congress Party but I say, Sir, but it is not only the Congress Party but the whole House is also behind you.

"Regarding transaction of business in the House, I have to offer my remarks regarding groups in the House—I do not mean the formation of groups within the Congress Party in this House as it is not my immediate concern. There are two groups, the European group and the Independent group, but the Communist group is not recognized. It is a solitary group consisting of one now but we were two until one of us has been locked up in the Trichinopoly Central Jail and so automatically our number has been reduced to one. But I am sure sooner or later—sooner than later, we will become two. There are 4, 6 or 7 in the European group and the number in the Independent group is seven or so. For a group to be constitutionally recognized it must consist of ten. If you can recognize them as groups, I am not able to find the reason why we should not be recognized as a group. It is not mere numerical strength alone that counts; other things like the strength of the party, the ideals of the party and the work the party has been doing for the country outside and inside the House should be the determining factor; that must be the criterion by which you must measure the importance of any party or group. Another thing is that the number of members returned to this House from this party does not represent our strength and it is not commensurate with the number of votes polled in our favour and on so many occasions I have referred to it as a draw back in our electoral system."

(An hon. Member rose from his seat on a point of information.)

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"If it is merely a point of information, I am afraid I cannot yield.

"I appeal to you, Sir, to treat us on an equal footing with any other group in this House. Let me tell you that next to the two political parties in this House, we have got a right to be treated as a political party with distinct political programmes. At present, Sir, you will see that the place where I sit in the House is the only place where I can take shelter or work during the time the House is sitting or I must roam in the verandah. Hence I request you to take note of these facts and allot us a separate room for the Communist group in the Assembly.

"Regarding questions, I must say that most of the questions are not properly answered. For most of the questions, we receive the answer 'It will be considered'. I do not see why all of us should spend so much of our time in getting such answers which literally mean that it may not at all be considered. They could as well say that it will not be considered but instead of giving a negative answer they say so in order to escape further questions. All these ten or eleven months, we have gained experience of how much consideration the Ministry is giving to the viewpoint of the opposition. I am sorry to say that the Hon. the Leader of the

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House has introduced new methods of replying to questions. Every political party has got a right to criticise other political parties and it is not right for the Leader of the House to take advantage of his position to deny such opportunities. The Hon. Leader of the House can ask for half-an-hour debate on the question to be dealt with at the end of the business of the day and he can as well take advantage of the rules. It is not proper for the Leader of the House to ask us to promise to abjure violence and all the rest of it, during the question hour when I am not in a position to give a proper reply. Had I been allowed I would have given a reply which may after all convince the Leader of the House of the futility of raising such issues during question hour. Sir, we are accused of violence. I say that it is not the Communist Party that believes in violence. My hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan must remember that it was Sardar Patel that was responsible for the "sword for sword" policy of the Congress. The Communist Party on the other hand believes in non-violence as much as the Congress or the Muslim League and we are pledged to implement it in a true spirit. Apart from that during question hour my hon. Friend said that these people go underground. My point is that we will not allow ourselves to be hunted by the Police. All his efforts will fail if he were to carry on the policy of repression. I leave that point there.

"As regards hasty legislation let me say a few words about the Public Order Bill, the Rowlatt Act of Madras. You know how it has been carried through. An Ordinance was issued in the first instance and because it expired on a certain date, the measure has been forced down our throats and no proper discussion was allowed. Night sittings were arranged and whereas such an important measure as that ought to have taken up ten or fifteen days, it was put through within three or four days. In those days the Congress Party in the House was divided into so many groups and they were not able to come to any definite understanding at the outset. Even one or two came out in the open but ultimately they adjusted their differences and formed an unholy alliance by means of which they were able to push through the measure in a very short time."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order. I am interested in listening to the hon. Gentleman. But this is hardly the demand on which he can raise the points he is doing now. He could have spoken on this point on the general discussion of the Budget or on Ministers' salaries. I am afraid he is traversing outside the province of this Demand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will keep it in mind and he will continue his speech."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Most of the Members have previously raised this question under this Demand and consistent with that I have done it now. Even a Member from the Congress Benches, my hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari, raised so many points but I am sorry the Leader of the House did not interrupt him."

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"It is our feeling that the Public Safety Bill has been hurried in such a manner that no proper discussion upon it was possible. If there had been a real Congress Party functioning, I may say that it could have been amended. Groups were functioning in the party and they were able to carry the party with them in passing that legislation."

"Now, Sir, I come to the question of language. We heard 3-16 p.m. so many Members on the Congress Benches speaking in their own language during the Debates. I quite welcome it, but I am not able to follow it. That is why I wanted translations. Even the Hon. Minister's reply in the same language, so much so, people who are sitting here without a knowledge of Tamil think 'is it merely to witness or to do any useful purpose that we are here.' That is why I want translations . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members who do not know English are in the same position when you put your questions in English and the Ministers answer in English."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Thank you, Sir. For that I want to make a simple suggestion. To-day particularly, the question of Labour policy came up. I do not know what my hon. Friend, Mr. Kanniappan, was saying and what reply the Minister gave. This is vital for me. I leave out other issues, because I do not want to trouble you. But I want to know how they are reacting to their own Congress Ministers. That is the point which I want to understand. That is why, I request you to give us translations, particularly when policies regarding kisans, labour, etc., are involved. Some of our Friends speak in Tamil. I do not want whole translations; but translations only on important issues. When questions regarding Labour are raised, I want questions and answers in Tamil to be translated into English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"By whom?"

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Either by the Parliamentary Secretaries if they are paid for it or by the Ministers themselves who know Tamil or Telugu."

"Then another suggestion, Sir. I do not know whether to congratulate or not, the Minister for Industries who has been separated from Labour. It is the policy of our party that Industries and Labour should be under the control of one Minister. Appointing an Industrialist as Minister for Industries will only mean more and more control over industries going into the individual hands. What I suggest is instead of dividing Industries and Labour, a man quite responsible and with clear knowledge of the problems of Labour should be appointed as Minister for Industries and Labour, because both go hand in hand. If one becomes the Minister for Industries and another the Minister for Labour, there will be no co-ordination and that will not also do good to the Province. That is why I say the system of dividing Labour and

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Industries should be given up. A person who has got the heart for Labour should be appointed as Minister for Labour and Industries."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In Government of India it is different, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"If the Government of India commit any mistake, we need not follow it, Sir. There is another item regarding electoral rolls. In the supplementary budget estimate, my hon. Friend presented

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You can discuss it on the 29th."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I am not discussing the whole budget, but only the portion which is concerned here."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We will take this up on the 29th."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The next point is regarding the existence of groups within the Congress Party, and how that has affected the budget discussion. Most of our friends have complained; so many days have been wasted because of these groups."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A number of times this has been discussed."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I will just say two sentences and pass on to the next point. Sir, we wish for a stable Congress Ministry; we do not want changes in the Ministry every two or three months, because people cannot understand what their policies are. One hon. Member on this side said that in execution there will be difference. It is the execution that matters to us. If the persons change often and often what is the consistency that we can expect. From the statement by the Hon. ex-Prime Minister it is clear 75 persons belong to one group. Sir, I am not interested in the groups. Even this morning, from the replies given by the Hon. the Leader of the House, we see that Congress Party is carrying on a war against the Communist party. It is not with any selfish motive that I am pleading for a stable Ministry. But I say a stable Ministry, to do good or even bad things, is needed for our Province."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Even for bad things!"

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yes, Sir, even for bad things. (Laughter.) Because people will come to know what sort of Ministry they have got. It is the people who are to judge the commissions and omissions of the Congress Party. Congressmen also tell us 'it is the people who have made us Ministers'. If the people understand what sort of Ministry they have, then they will make them better. I feel honestly that the Ministry must be a stable one—whether it is formed under the leadership of Hon. Prakasam or the Hon. Reddiar. For consistency in policy, the rank and file of the Congress Party must be

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given an opportunity to discuss those policies within the party itself instead of rushing them through under the sword of discipline. In my opinion, so many of the measures of the Ministry would not have been carried, had it not been for the sword of discipline. Most of our Members from the Congress and League Benches are expecting the day of delivery by independence. I feel what that independence will be, seeing what is taking place in Punjab and other places. Moreover, the Attlee Government had made it perfectly clear that they are not going to withdraw the British army. With the British army here, the so-called independence will not be real independence. Still we have to fight. I request the hon. Members who have newly come to office to bear this in mind in chalking out their programmes or in executing the programme which has already been chalked out.

"Lastly, Sir, I appeal to the Treasury Benches to give up this policy of anti-communism, because it will lead them to the policy of anti-people. I am not worried about their following anti-communism, but I am more worried about the shooting and other things that they are carrying on to-day in every nook and corner of this Province against kisans, labourers, and everybody else who fights for kisans and labourers. Sir, with these words, I support the cut motion."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I rise to support the motion moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House, and at the same time I oppose the cut motion moved by my Friends sitting opposite. In doing so, I like to bring a few points to the notice of the Leader as well as our Premier. The House is aware that my friends coming from my community have been pressing on the Cabinet the feeling of my community outside this House in the matter of non-representation of my community. You are aware, Sir, that for the last one month, this Government is being run without Harijan representatives. I do not request, I do not cringe this Ministry to give us a share. But demand that I have a right. (Laughter.) We are one-fifth of the population. We are thirty members of this august body. For instance you take the total number of the Congress members. We are 164. Out of 164, we (Harijans) are 30. Mathematically we are two-elevenths. So, for every eleven there must be two Harijan Ministers. (Laughter.) If it is going to be more than 12, there must be more than two Harijan Ministers. If it is 12, I want that there must be two Ministers and three Parliamentary Secretaries. If it is less than this, I do not think any Member of my community will accept anything. We will even prefer to go without the Ministry than to accept anything less. If any Member of my community goes forward and accepts office for less than what I have said, he will be betraying not only himself, but the whole community. I strike a note of warning to this Ministry that I have a demand on them. It is not a request. I am not craving their mercy. I am here to claim my demand, my right. I have been told 'you please join us; you are Hindus; we will do you justice.' I ask, Sir, is this justice? ('Hear, hear.') Justice requires minimum

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two Ministers. People talk tall but act so small. I am ashamed to see that they have been acting in a narrow-minded way. This Ministry shall stop this exploiting mentality. These people have been exploiting my people outside ever since the world was created. But even here (in this House) you have begun to exploit us. ('Hear, hear'.) Simply because we are following you, simply because we have joined you, you want to exploit our political rights. No; I would not allow you to do that. (Laughter.) You must remember that we have a share in the administration. You have been talking tall saying 'we will remove all your disabilities'. What are the disabilities? Make me a king the disability will disappear. You talk of so many things. What is it that you can do without power? So, I request Mr. Reddiar particularly to make note of my speech and see that justice is done to my community. Simply talking tall will not do. I tell you we are on the verge of independence. If your treatment continues to be like this, I do not know whether I have to continue to be within the Hindu fold or any other fold. If you are going to exploit us, I am sure we will not allow you to exploit. We are prepared for the worst—even if it be a civil war. I tell you we have a right to have two Ministers. You must and should give us two Ministers. If it is less than that, and if any Member of my community accepts it, he will not only be betraying himself, but the whole community. Once again, I claim and made by a few members of my community that every one of them repeat my demand. You have been noticing from the speeches has the same feeling. Do not think that only those who spoke are having this feeling. It is the feeling of the 30 Members here including the Speaker. (Laughter.) Not only 30 Members, but every Harijan, whether he is outside this House in England or elsewhere, has the same feeling. So, I hope this Ministry, which is the popular Ministry, will do this. I cannot allow them to talk so tall and do no justice. It is real justice if out of 15 Ministers, we have three Ministers. If it is twelve, there must be two Ministers and three Parliamentary Secretaries.

"Coming to other points, I find in the budget demand on Legislative Bodies a vast disparity between the salaries of Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Assistant Secretary. While the Assistant Secretary gets a salary of Rs. 250 the Secretary and Deputy Secretary get some hundreds, Rs. 800 and so on. Why should there be so much disparity? After all, the lowest rung of the ladder serves the greatest. For, the greater the position the burden of service is reduced. No doubt, there is the responsibility, but the service done is less. After all he goes on affixing his signature."

M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I am not yielding, Sir. There are about 20 temporary clerks and 30 peons that are employed during the Assembly meetings. The peons are paid on daily wages. It

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is not fair for a Government to employ them like this. When the Assembly is not meeting, they can be sent to some other departments. When the Assembly is in session . . ."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member said that he was supporting, but now I take it from his speech that he is opposing. Let him clarify as to what is he exactly doing." (Laughter.)

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Let my hon. Friend understand that I am supporting with constructive criticism. (Laughter.) When I support it does not mean that I should not point out the defects in the Ministry. I am entitled to point out the defects and at the same time support the Ministry. Simply because I am supporting, I am not a 'yesman' for everything. (Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 'I quite welcome it.') Sir, I request the Ministry to take into consideration the points I have referred to."

"As regards the Library, I need not say much, because very many friends have already spoken in the matter. In the Library there are no books in all the vernacular languages. Most of the members of this august body are not well versed in English. It will be better if books in vernacular languages are provided for the benefit of members who can read vernacular languages."

"Now, Sir, as regards Deputy Speaker's salary, in view of the fact, the previous Government came forward with a Bill . . ." 3-30 p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"No, Sir."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"The Bill was published, and I hope the Government will take immediate action and see the disparity between the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker is removed. (Laughter.)"

"Well, Sir, as regards sending the Speaker to foreign countries I do support that. It does not mean that you have not been managing us very well. You have been doing that very well when compared to other Speakers. I do not say you are lacking in anything. I hope if you are sent to foreign countries, especially to the House of Commons, which is the mother of Parliaments, you will be much more useful, not only to-day but for all time to come."

"Sir, the books that are available in the library are not in vernacular. I hope the Minister in charge will look to it and see that books are provided as early as possible for Members. Another thing I wish to say is this: especially yesterday and this morning I had the bitter experience of a Minister replying to a supplementary question saying: 'He declines to answer'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"At question time I have already drawn the hon. Member's attention to the fact that in future he will not follow that line. In view of that, you need not refer to that point."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Thank you very much for that assurance. Sir, we put supplementary questions to elicit opinion from Government on several matters, and so we have to put a number of questions. I do not know, why, particularly, Mr. Raza Khan raised the point that I am, so to say monopolizing question-time; and ever since that day I have not been given that indulgence I received till then. (Laughter.) I hope, Sir, you will be kind enough to allow me to put more and more questions. (Laughter.) I do so, Sir, in the good interests of my community. I thank you, Sir. I once again support the Demand and oppose the cut motion.”

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—“On a point of information, Sir. In the Constituent Assembly election, Mr. Nagappa, though he is entitled to eight seats, was given only six seats. Why did he accept it?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is a private thing between Mr. Balakrishnan and Mr. Nagappa. This Assembly has nothing to do with that.”

*** SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:**—“நலைவர் அவர்களே, சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். சட்ட சபை சாதாரணமாக ஒரு நாளைக்கு 5 மணி நேரம் நடக்கிறது. சில நாட்களில் இன்னும் அதிகமான நேரம்கூட சட்ட சபை நடக்கிறது. நல்ல கவனமாக சட்ட சபையில் நடக்கிற நடவடிக்கைகளை கவனிக்க விரும்பினோமானால் அவ்வளவு நேரமும் ஆசனத்தில் உட்கார்ந்துருக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆசனத்தில் அவ்வளவு நேரம் உட்கார்ந்துருந்தால் பலவிதமான தொந்தரவு ஏற்படுகிறது. இந்த பெஞ்சுகளில் நடை நேரம் உட்கார்ந்துருப்பதற்கு வசதியாக இல்லை. சில பெஞ்சுகளில் பின்னால் சாய்கிறபடிதான் பொத்தான் போட்டு வைத்து இருக்கிறது. அந்த மாதிரி உட்காருகிற ஆசனங்களிலும் பொத்தான் வைத்து வைத்தால் ஒருவிதமாக உட்காருவதற்கு சுமாராக இருக்கும். அதிக நேரம் உட்கார்ந்துருப்பதால் சில அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு ஒரு விதமான வெப்பம்சூட ஏறிவிடுகிறது (இந்த எண்ணெய்த் துணியினால்) இந்த துணியை மாற்றிவிட்டு வேறுவிதமான துணியைப்போட்டு வைத்து வைக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“இரண்டாவதாக இங்கிருக்கும் ஹோட்டல் அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு இடைவேளை போஜனம் செய்வதற்கு ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இங்குள்ள ஹோட்டலைப் போல் சாதாரணமாக நாம் வெளியில் பார்த்ததில்லை. அங்கத்தினர்களுக்காகவே ஏற்பட்ட இந்த ஹோட்டல் முன் மாதிரியாக (எடுத்துக் காட்டாக) இருக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம். ஆனால் இந்த ஹோட்டலில் சுத்தம் மிகவும் குறைவாக இருக்கிறது. சாப்பிட்ட தட்டுகளையும், கப்புகளையும் ஒரே வாளியில் போட்டு கழவுகிறார்கள். காலையிலிருந்து சாயந்தண்ணிரைக் கொட்டி புதிய தண்ணீரை ஊற்றுகிறார்கள். அந்த வாளிகையாக ஒரு நண்பர் கூட இதைப்பற்றி சொன்னார். வாளியிலுள்ள தண்ணீரை கடைசி நேரத்தில் அல்லது சாயங்காலத்தில் பார்த்தால் காப்பியாக அழுக்கான தண்ணீரில் கழுவிய பாத்திரங்களில் சப்பை செய்கின்றார்கள். வெளியில் நாம் இவ்வளவு மோசமான நிலைமை பார்ப்பது இல்லை. ஜனங்களுடைய செளகரியத்திற்காக சுகாதார சட்டத்தை ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு ஹோட்டலிலும் சாப்பிட்ட பாத்திரங்களை ஒகிற தண்ணீரில் கழுவவேண்டும். அப்படி கழுவிய பிறகு அதை கொதிக்கிற வெந்நீரில் போட்டு எடுத்து உபயோகிக்கவேண்டும் என்று இருக்கிறது. இங்கு ஹோட்டலானது எடுத்துக்காட்டாக இருக்கவேண்டியது மிக மிக அவசியம்.”

[27th March 1947] [Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

“மூன்றாவதாக மலஜல வசதிகள் விஷயத்தில் அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு ஒரு வகையான ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இங்கு இருக்கும் வசதியானது ஐரோப்பிய வழக்கம் உள்ளவர்களுக்கும் காலசராய் போட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறவர்களுக்கும் உபயோகிக்க அனுசூலமாக இருக்கிறது. இந்திய வழக்கமுடையவர்களுக்கும் வேஷ்டிகள் கட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களுக்கும் வசதியாக இல்லவே இல்லை. அங்கத்தினர்களாக இல்லாத பிறருக்கு இங்கு இன்னொரு பக்கத்தில் வசதி செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இது பரவாயில்லை. ஆனால் அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருப்பது ஓரளவுகூட வசதியாக இல்லை. அதை மாற்றி நம்முடைய முறையில் மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“நான்காவதாக Telephone விஷயமாக சொல்லவேண்டும். அங்கத்தினர்கள் இங்கு வந்த சமயத்தில் Telephone உபயோகிக்கும்படியாக இருக்கிறது. இவைகளில் பல சரியாக வேலை செய்வதில்லை. இதனால் அதிக நேரம் வீணாகிறது. தவிர மிகவும் சிரமமாயிருக்கிறது. ஆதலால் இவைகளை உடனே திருத்தி, ஒழுங்குபடுத்தி அமைக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

“வாசகசாலை விஷயமாக அநேகம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசிவிட்டார்கள். வாசகசாலையில் கடைசியாக வெளிவந்துள்ள புஸ்தகங்களும் சிறந்த புஸ்தகங்களும் இருக்கவேண்டும். அத்துடன் தாய் பாஷையிலுள்ள நல்ல புஸ்தகங்களையும் வைக்கவேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம் என்று சொல்லி நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

*** SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAN:**—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் இந்த மான்யத்தை ஆதரித்து பேசுகிற முறையில் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். தற்போது இந்த தேசத்தில் குறிப்பாக சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் 60 லட்சம் வன்னியகுல கூத்திரியர்கள் என்று சொல்லக் கூடிய பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களில் முறைப் பிரகாரம் இந்த சட்ட சபைக்கு அங்கத்தினர்களாக வந்து இருக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் குறைந்தது 60 பேர்களாவது இந்த சட்ட சபைக்கு வந்திருக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் துர்அதிர்ஷ்டவசமாக 7 பிரதிநிதிகள்தான் இங்கு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள் இந்த 60 லட்சம் வன்னியகுல கூத்திரியர்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதிகளாகவே இன்றையதினம் இங்கு இந்த ஏழு பேர்கள்வீற்றிருக்கிறார்கள்.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“On a point of order, Sir, I am afraid hon. Members think this is a general debate on the budget. The way in which Mr. Subrahmanian has begun his speech makes me believe he is also treading the same path.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“மந்திரிகளுக்கே communal relation வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“This is not a Ministerial Demand either.”

*** SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAN:**—“நான் பேசப்போவது மந்திரிகள் விஷயமாகத்தான் பேசப்போகிறேன். இதை ஆரம்ப பீடிகையாகவே சொன்னேன். இந்த ஏழு பிரதிநிதிகளில் ஒருவராவது மந்திரியாக வரவேண்டுமென்பது என்னுடைய ஆசை. ஆனால் இந்த ஆசை ஏதோ நான் உத்தியோகத்திற்கு ஆசைப்பட்டு சொல்லுகிறேன் என்று கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் இந்த சபையிலுள்ளவர்களும் நினைத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது. நேற்றைய தினம் கூட நான் இந்தச் சபையில் பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பாளர்களுக்கு சலுகை காட்டவேண்டுமென்று ஒரு கேள்வி கேட்டேன். அப்போது சபைத் தலைவர் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த மாதிரியாக ஜாதிவாரியாக உத்தியோகங்கள் கேட்டால் சமாளிக்க முடியுமா என்றும் இதை எல்லாரும் ரூபகத்தில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றும் சொன்னார். நான் ஜாதிவாரியாக பிரதிநிதிகள் வேண்டுமென்றும் அல்லது ஒரு ஜாதியாருக்

[Sri A. Subrahmanyam] [27th March 1947]

கே பிரதிநிதிகள் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் தனித்தொகுதி வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்கவில்லை. நான் சொல்வதெல்லாம் கிருஷ்ணதேவராயர், முகம்மதியர்கள், ஹரிஜனங்கள் இவர்கள் எல்லோரையும்விட மிகவும் பிற்போக்காய் இருக்கிற வன்னியருல் கூடித்திரியர்களுக்கு இந்த சட்ட சபையில் உத்தியோகங்கள், தனியாக சலுகை காட்டிக்கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்பதுதான். இந்த யாராவது மறுக்க முடியுமா? ஆகையால் இந்த சபையில் ஏற்படுத்தப்போகிற மந்திரி சபையிலாவது இந்த விஷயத்தில் சரியானபடி அக்கரைக்காட்டி பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கொடுத்து உதவவேண்டும். இல்லையேல் இந்த Parliamentary காரியதரிசிகளாவது கொடுத்து உதவவேண்டும். அதிகமாக ஜனத்தொகை கொண்ட நாங்கள் உத்தியோகங்களில் மைனாரிட்டிக்கு மைனாரிட்டியாக இருக்கிறோம் ஆகையால் பொதுஜன அரசாட்சியில் உள்ளவர்கள் இதை யோசித்து ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வந்து நான் படியே தான் நாங்கள் இருந்து வருகிறோம். ஆகையால் இனியாகிலும் எங்களுடைய குறைகளில்

3.45 p.m.

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"Point of order." (Interruption.)

*Sri A. SUBRAHMANYAN:—"ஆகையால் எங்களுடைய குறைகளை நீக்குவதற்கு எங்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்களில் முதற்படியாக சலுகைகள் காட்டவேண்டும். காங்கிரசில்கூட வகுப்புவாரியாக ஸ்தானங்கள் வேண்டுமென்று பேசுகிறார்கள் என்று நினைத்துவிட்டது. என்னுடைய சமூகம் மிகவும் பிற்போக்காக உள்ளது. கல்வி, செல்வம், ஒழுக்கம் இவைகளில் அவர்கள் மிகவும் பிற்போக்கடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் அரசாங்கத்தார் சலுகை காட்டவேண்டும் அதுவும் முதல் சலுகையாகக் காட்டவேண்டும். இதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் உதவி செய்ய முன்வரவேண்டும் மேலும், இந்த நாடு தமிழ் நாடு. சென்னை மாகாணச் சட்டசபை தமிழ் நாட்டிலிருக்கிறது எனவே சட்ட சபையில் தமிழில் பேசும்படி உரிமை அளிக்கவேண்டும்."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. Now, from the recent speeches it seems rather a difficult problem for the Prime Minister to run the administration when there are requests to appoint so many Ministers from Congressmen. So may I invite the attention of the Premier to consider the advisability of having at least 50 Ministers."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Is this your point of order, Mr. Sinna Kaziar." (Laughter.)

Sri A. SUBRAHMANYAN:—"சென்னை மட்டும் அல்ல வட திருவெங்கடம் முதல் திருப்பதி வரையில் தமிழ்நாடு இருக்கிறது."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Before that, I may also tell you, Mr. Speaker, that it is very inconvenient for me to come here if I want to say anything."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You will be provided with a mike there."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"The hon. Member must realize that whatever may be the limits of Tamilnad, the House does not consist of Members only up to Tirupati. It consists of Members up to the Vizagapatam district also. He should not presume that we have come here only for the sake of Tamilnad."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"Is this a point of order?"

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Is this not a point of order? I require a ruling from the Chair."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"It is not a point of order."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"How . . ." (Laughter.)

* Sri A. SUBRAHMANYAN:—"இது முக்கியமான விஷயம் ஆகையால் டிபுட்டரிவாரியாக இந்த சட்ட சபையில் தமிழில் பேசுவதற்கு எங்களுக்கு அதிக உரிமை அளிக்கப்படவேண்டும். அதற்கு அறிகுறியாக இங்கு வந்திருக்கும் கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் இங்கே தமிழில் பேசத்தான் வந்திருக்கிறேன் என்று சொல்லுகிறார். இது யானைவரும் பின்னே மணி ஓசை வரும் முன்னே என்ற பழமொழிக்கு ஒத்திருக்கிறது. இதற்கு நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். இனிமேல் கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் குறுக்கே புகுந்து என்ன பேசுகிறார்கள் அர்த்தம் புரியவில்லை என்று கேட்கவேண்டாம். எந்த பாஷை அவரவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமோ அந்தந்த பாஷையில் அவரவர்கள் பேசும்படியாக இனி மேல் அனுசரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று அங்கத்தினர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதையும் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

"இந்த மந்திரி சபையில் எங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய பிரதிநிதிகள் கண்டிப்பாக கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக் கொண்டு என்னுடைய வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Leader of the House will now reply."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I will deal with what the hon. Member representing the South India Chamber of Commerce said. One of the points he raised during the debate was the deputation of the Speaker and the Secretary to England in order to learn what is happening in the Mother of Parliaments. Considering the financial situation (Mr. Speaker: 'You are unable to do.') I am not in a position to give a definite answer to this. But the Government will consider when the occasion arises, if it is possible to depute the Speaker and the Secretary to England. But some other hon. Friends will be pleased if we translate the whole of this House to England and America. I do not think that is quite necessary because the expenditure involved will be such."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"On a point of clarification. . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Leader of the House is not yielding."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"He also made a certain number of suggestions with regard to the pay of the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary. That again is a financial matter and myself and my colleague the Minister for Finance will have to carefully go into that question before any decision is arrived at"

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I submit, Sir . . ."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"He is not yielding."

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* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Then, Sir, there was a reference to our Reporters. I have lost touch for some years now with the quality of the Reporters in this House. My experience which extends to nearly twenty years has been that the Reporters in this House have on the whole been good. But, of course, if hon. Members say one thing and want something else put down (laughter) which I know was the case even in the old days, you might then heap your coals of fire on the poor Reporter's head. Because you intended to say something and you have said something else you conveniently bring the Reporter into action, because you think he has taken it down wrongly. Of course, if you want better salaries paid to these Reporters, it is a different matter. I quite agree. Wherever I have been, whether to the Central Assembly, to the United Provinces Assembly at Lucknow or in Bombay, I found our South Indian Reporters are in great demand. Naturally therefore it is that, if better salaries are offered, as was pointed out by my hon. Friend the Member for the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, they go there, because it becomes a question of demand and supply. We shall try and do what we can; but I hope my hon. Friend will not take it as a commitment or a promise because one of the hon. Members on the other side of the House suggested that supplementary questions are asked in order to get the Government committed. So I shall have to be very weary in the matter of answering supplementary questions if what I say is going to be a commitment of the Government. But I think, Sir, I have long been in the House not to be caught napping on such occasions.

“A great deal of heat was shown about the existence of groups in the Congress Party. As I pointed out to you, Mr. Speaker, that really does not arise in the debate on this demand. But as it has been raised and as I want to make an appeal to my brother Members in the Congress, I think this has given me an opportunity to repeat it. While ending his speech, my hon. Friend the Member for the City of Madras (South Central Constituency) did make an appeal for union in the Congress Party and I hope it is coming and that too soon. We who have fought together on so many occasions are not going to divide now when freedom is at hand. It was really, I think, a domestic quarrel and I am sorry it has been brought on the floor of this Legislature because there are other occasions when this domestic quarrel could have been more satisfactorily settled. I hope my hon. Friends in the Congress Benches will take it for what it is worth because I too want to make an appeal to them that we should be united, we should put our house in order, to become one group and not to allow our opponents, however friendly they may be towards us, to fish in troubled waters.

“There was a complaint that opportunities are not being given during supplementary questions by Ministers' refusing to answer questions. I would suggest for the consideration of my Colleagues, in view of the ruling you have given, that it will be much easier if they too sit glued to their Benches and you go on

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to the next question, which I know is the attitude taken by some of the Ministers in the House of Commons. I can cite hundreds of instances in the Hansard where Ministers have replied in England that they refuse to answer a particular question. I should like however to cite only one instance. With regard to the recall of Lord Wavell, Mr. Attlee did refuse to answer to particular question from Mr. Churchill and when further badgered, he said: ‘I have said all that could be said.’ That is the attitude my colleagues might easily adopt when necessity arises. This was dealt with by the hon. Gentleman who represents Labour from Guntur and other districts.

“He also complained that I had made this the forum for an attack on the political convictions he holds. It was far from me to do that. All that I wanted to impress on the hon. Gentleman was that as long as there is this policy of trying to make it impossible for any administration to be run, which seems to be the policy of the Party at the present time, as the Minister in charge of Law and Order I shall have to execute what I think is necessary for the carrying on of the administration. I leave it at that.

“The hon. Member for the University of Madras—my learned Friend is not here at the present time—talked about the Library and the number of books in it. Here again, I have lost touch. But from my knowledge of the Library I think it is well-stocked with recent books both on political science, constitutions and economics and I only wish hon. Members make better use of our Library.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We have in hand now Rs. 10,000 for the Library.”

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Yes, Sir, I was coming to that. As a matter of fact the allotment that we made towards the purchase of books last year could not be fully utilized, not because our energetic officers of the Legislature were not willing to spend the sum, but because owing to paper restrictions in England and America and restrictions on postal communications, it has not been possible to buy all the books that we need or that has been suggested should be bought. I think there is a Library committee, because reference was made to the existence of a Committee, and I am sure in view of what has been stated on the floor of the House the Committee will meet and with the money allotted to them, will try and see what kind of books should be bought and spend the allotment also during the year, which as I said is entirely in their power.

“Sir, there are troubles with regard to the luncheon rooms, etc., which my hon. Friend, the Member representing the City of Madura raised. I was speaking to the Secretary of the Legislature over this question and he said that every attempt was being made to observe the cleanliness which the hon. Member really wants and rightly too. But the difficulties of water-supply and other circumstances make it difficult to do what exactly would be

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really required. But I may assure, Sir, that the Secretary will take the suggestion that has been put by the hon. Member for the City of Madura.

"The hon. Member representing the City of Madras (South), to whom I am indeed obliged to. Some people thought that he was also traversing the matter which was outside this Demand. But I think he had a right to do so; because every other member had as of right raised points if my hon. Friend liked to reply to it, I think, he was quite entitled to do so.

"I come next to the Member representing the Reserved Seat for Thiruvannamalai . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Thirukkoyilur."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am obliged to you, Sir. I come to the hon. Member representing the Reserved Seat for Thirukkoyilur. I quite see that there is a feeling among the Harijan community that their representation ought to be greater than what it is. But I am afraid they have come to the wrong door and I will have to leave it at that.

"As far as the Assembly quarters are concerned, because that is a point raised during the debate, we are in a difficult position at the present time. A new constitution is being forged and what kind of House would come, it is impossible to divine at the present time and also there is the question of linguistic provinces.

4 p.m. "A particular question was put to me whether I was in favour of an Andhra Province. I have made it crystal clear that I stand by the resolution of the Congress that linguistic provinces ought to be the order of the day. Then we would not have the complaint of hon. Friends that they are not being replied to in the language they understand. For instance, the hon. Member for Labour from Guntur complained that he did not understand what the hon. Member representing Athur-Rural said when I happened to reply to him in Tamil. I can assure hon. Members that if they find that Tamil replies are not understood by them and if they make a reference immediately, the answer is given, I would be prepared to answer them in English. Other languages except Tamil and English would be rather difficult for me, for though I can converse in some of the other languages, I cannot undertake to reply in those languages on the floor of the House. (Interruption.) The hon. Member representing Kurnool wants to know about Telugu. I think he has talked to me in Telugu and it is an unnecessary question to ask of me now. (B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: 'Malayalam?') Mr. Pocker wants to provoke me further about Malayalam. I can understand Malayalam just as much as he understands Tamil. (An hon. Member: 'Urdu?') I am afraid I cannot go into such deep waters.

"I was coming to the question of housing the Legislature and I think it will be difficult for the Ministry to decide on building new quarters for the Legislature when the new constitution is on the anvil. We have got on for so many years in this House. It may be uncomfortable, but people who have visited the House

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of Commons, I am sure, know that while there are 615 members there are seats only for about 350 members. Of course, they follow other precedents, but every hon. Member here perhaps wants a seat in this House and we have to provide for those seats. It may be uncomfortable, but seeing what is coming, I hope hon. Members will put up with this for some time more. After all the date for quitting India is 30th June 1948 and in another year's time we may have a new constitution and perhaps then a new House may be built. I will leave the matter at that.

"The hon. the Muslim Member (Mr. Pocker Sahib) complained of the accommodation given to them. I am not acquainted with it at the present time, but the Secretary and I will go into this matter and see in what way their wants can be satisfied with regard to accommodation in this House.

"I think, Sir, I have dealt with most of the points that have been raised."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister may make the usual request to the mover of the cut motion to withdraw his motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I believe my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesan, is quite willing to withdraw his motion even without my asking him to do so."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, after the most disappointing reply of the Hon. the Leader of the House, I am afraid no good purpose will be served by my not withdrawing the cut motion. The Hon. the Leader of the House, though he is a good parliamentarian, has been categorically saying 'Yes', 'No', and 'Yes', 'No', in an I.C.S. style. He says that he has no finance. I am not so sure whether it is want of finance or anything else that is now worrying him. In any case, I am sure, as an experienced parliamentarian himself, he would like to see that our Speaker visits the House of Commons and learns the procedure there. Under the circumstances, I withdraw the cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn. The Demand for Legislative Bodies was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XV—EDUCATION.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,00,09,000 under Demand XV—Education.'

"Sir, the policy of the Government in this matter is before the House and I need not explain it now. Many cut motions have been moved. Many questions have been put and many supplementary questions have been also put. The policy of the Government is well known to hon. Members and at this stage I need not say anything more except this that this is the largest demand in our budget and that this is the biggest budget for Education next only to that of the Government of India."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—
that the allotment of Rs. 7,00,09,000 for Education be reduced by Rs. 100."

"I want to discuss the policy of the Government in regard to education. Sir, we may have spoken on so many demands during this session of the Assembly, but there is no other demand which we consider so important as this demand.

(At this stage, the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

"Madam, I am sorry that the demand is not large enough for a subject of so much importance as education. My hon. Friend the present Minister for Education may not be responsible for this budget. He may plead that the amount has been provided by the previous Government. But I do not know whether it will be proper for him to say so in view of what I believe the ex-Premier has stated that this budget is the budget not of one section of the Congress Party but of the whole party including all the groups thereof. Such being the case, I take it that the present Minister for Education is as much responsible for this as the previous Government. For a Province so large as ours, and which is, as the ex-Premier has said, equal in area to the British Isles and has a population of 50 millions, the amount provided in the budget is not at all adequate. When the total revenues of this Province were not more than Rs. 17 crores, the education budget came to about Rs. 3 or 4 crores. To-day, when the total revenues are nearly Rs. 50 crores, I do not know why the Demand for Education has not been proportionately increased. If the Demand has been increased proportionately, it should have been at least Rs. 13 crores. Madam, as regards this matter, I want to make a deliberate point that in this Province and in the other Provinces of this country, if there is anything of great importance and primary importance and which needs the concentrated attention of the Governments concerned, it is education. Everyone in the Government now and those who are outside the Government know that for centuries our education has been neglected with the result that the percentage of literacy in this Province is negligible. Therefore, it is the duty of any Government to see that more money is spent on the spread of education so that every child and adult in this Province may receive education at least to the extent of being literate.

"Madam, there is another reason why education is a very important subject, and that is that we are trying to work a democratic constitution. The franchise has been extended and the electorate increased. We make a demand on the electorate to return representatives who will act with a sense of responsibility. The kind of representatives will depend on the manner in which the electorate understands its duty. The electorate should be able to understand what is democracy, what representation means and who should be the representatives. The condition precedent for making democracy a reality and seeing it work properly is an educated electorate which understands its

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duties and responsibilities and is not carried away by slogans and names of individuals, and which is able to distinguish between policies and programmes put forward by various parties seeking its support.

"Madam, I expected my hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, when he moved this Demand for Education to have told us why he wants this money, what exactly his policy is and whether the Government intend to spread education and make it free and compulsory, what kind of education they are going to give, whether they are going to satisfy the minorities—the Muslims, the Christians and the Scheduled Classes—, what their policy is in the matter of secondary education, university education and industrial and technical education. Madam, I am afraid we must feel disappointed that no policy or programme has been formulated or at any rate placed before this House by the Hon. Minister for Education."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As the budget contains all the figures, I thought I need not make a long speech explaining the policy of the Government at this stage."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The budget deals with figures which are dry, and it does not give any indication of the policy of the Government. After all, a policy should have been formulated. People have been waiting for the Government to tell them whether they are going to follow the footsteps of the previous Governments or whether they have a policy of their own. Increase of a few thousand rupees here and a few thousand rupees there does not make a policy."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"They have said that they are going to continue the previous Government's policy in everything."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I said 'previous Governments.' May I emphasize the word 'Governments?' I did not refer to the Government which immediately preceded this Government. I meant all the Governments in the past which were not regarded as people's Governments, the Advisers' Government, the British Government and the other Governments. The present Government claim to be a people's Government. If that claim is real, I think they should deviate from the old policy."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Right from 1920, Education portfolio was held by a popular Minister except for the period of six years of the Advisers' regime."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If my hon. Friend regards a popular Minister under the old Government of India Act as the same as a popular Minister of to-day under a different Government of India Act, I have no question. If he says that he occupies the same political status and the same autonomy, I have nothing to say. Really speaking, I believe that there is difference. The present Government are autonomous politically and economically. My Friends may say, as they have already said, that we are on the threshold of great events.

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When such is the situation, for my hon. Friend to say that the portfolio of Education has been under a popular Minister from 1920 is not to give a satisfactory answer."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"He will give a satisfactory answer at the end."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I hope so, Madam. I am afraid I should not press this point too much on account of the fact that he may not be altogether responsible for the doings of the past Minister. The preparation of the budget, so far as education is concerned, was done by a Minister who had ceased to be so. Probably he feels that he is keeping the seat warm, ready to hand over the portfolio to somebody else. I hope not. I shall be very glad if he continues to be a Minister for Education, so that I may not have to repeat what I have said on previous occasions. I do not know whether my wish will be fulfilled, but I hope it will be fulfilled and that he will continue to be the Minister for Education, and also Finance, if possible, for education depends upon finance."

"Madam, I now come to elementary education. There was a great demand by the people of this Province that any Government seeking to serve the people should discharge the primary duty of making elementary education free and compulsory throughout the Province. There are two views with regard to elementary education. One view is that it should be free and compulsory up to the lower elementary stage or the fifth standard and the other view is that it should be so up to the higher elementary stage or the eighth standard. Perhaps people who hold the former view believe that education up to the fifth standard is sufficient to make a pupil literate. I do not agree with that view. My view is that a person who receives elementary education should become not only literate but should also continue to be literate even after he leaves the school. I am afraid that education imparted up to the fifth standard is not sufficient for this purpose. A pupil who receives education up to the fifth standard will lapse into illiteracy some time after leaving the school, and the money spent on his education will be a sheer waste. If education should be real and effective, I believe it should be taken up to the eighth standard. If every boy and girl in this Province is given free and compulsory elementary education up to the eighth standard in an effective manner, then this Government would have discharged its elementary duty."

"What should be the curriculum and the nature of elementary education? Madam, I am afraid I cannot agree to the Wardha system of education. It has many defects. Of course, there may be very many points in favour of that system. It may be right from one standpoint. Certainly it is not satisfactory so far as the Mussalmans, or for the matter of that, even the Christians, are concerned. I hope that even the Hindu friends who want religious education for their children will not be satisfied, for the system is completely devoid of any religious education. Receiving education and at the same time becoming craftsmen

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and manufacturing articles for sale to pay for education is certainly not a wholesome principle. Though it may be regarded as a morally high principle, it lacks morality. It makes a pupil feel that he is practically begging for his education. We find in the present system of education that passing of the elementary stage of education is only a stepping stone to secondary education. In the same way, secondary education is only a stepping stone to collegiate or university education. That idea must be given up. So far as education is concerned, my view is that each one of these stages must be a complete entity by itself. Elementary education up to the eighth standard taking a boy or girl up to the fourteenth year must be complete in itself, for a large percentage of them stop with elementary education and do not receive secondary or collegiate education. If they are not to lapse into illiteracy after leaving the school, the elementary education that is imparted to them should be so complete that they may be useful as good citizens, able to serve in any capacity satisfactorily, and be in a position to receive training in crafts. That is why I say that elementary education should be so organized as to be complete in itself and it should not be merely a stage for passing over to the secondary education stage. In the same way, secondary education should also be complete in itself and it should not be merely a passport to collegiate education. It should be of such a standard that after passing, it should enable a young boy or girl to become a useful citizen and be able to take to business. To-day, I am afraid, the passing of the S.S.L.C. or Matriculation examination is always considered as a passport to collegiate education or some service as clerk. The type of education that is given to-day in the various schools of the Province may not cope with the changing times. One view is prevalent that the people would like to give technical education to their children, and the educationists have come to the conclusion that secondary education should be divided into two categories, one confining itself to the literary side and the other to the technical side. In other words, they say that there should be bifurcation in the course of secondary education so that at a certain stage, the boy or girl may be asked to choose that course which will better fit in with his or her future course in arts or in technical education."

"The question whether bifurcation is necessary may require further investigation. For, it is just possible that the child may not be ripe enough to come to a decision as to what kind of education he or she should seek so that one could eke out his livelihood. The other difficulty is there; if you are going to leave the question to the teacher himself to decide which line of education will be suitable and proper for a particular child, it is also a dangerous thing; because the teacher is likely to make more mistakes than necessary in trying to come to a decision as to the kind of education that will suit a particular child. I leave that point for it is a very naughty question which requires thorough investigation."

"With regard to collegiate education, I do not know what my hon. Friend, the present Minister, will say. So far as the ex-Minister is concerned, his views were not very clearly stated;

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from what I know there is some sort of hostility or animosity for higher education. If that view is taken in order to find more money for elementary education, perhaps to that extent it may be satisfactory to some; but I do not agree with that view. For, if we wish that our whole child population should receive elementary education, we will be called upon to appoint a larger number of teachers and to have a large number of schools. We cannot run schools if there are not enough teachers. For having more and more teachers, collegiate education and university education is absolutely necessary. We will have to produce a larger number of graduates. After taking degrees in education, persons should become good teachers.

"While I am on this point I would like to observe that so far as training of teachers is concerned, we see that the lower grade elementary training course is gone; higher elementary training is going; I am not sure whether the secondary grade training is satisfactory. The Government will have to devise ways and means to get better class of teachers—not only better class of teachers but teachers who will be paid sufficiently so that they can discharge their duties satisfactorily contented; with ease and facility they should be enabled to carry on their work satisfactorily. If they are not properly paid—as they are not to-day—I can assure emphatically without any fear of contradiction that all the money that we are spending on education and on the spread of education in this Province will be a waste, because a teacher getting a low salary is a very uncertain commodity. He will certainly not be as useful as he should be if he is contented man; if he has all the facilities that are necessary, he will make a good teacher. He should not only be a well-trained teacher; he should be a teacher all his life; so he should be a student all his life. If he has to be a student all his life, he should have adequate facilities. Good salary and all facilities should be given to him if he should become a better teacher day after day. That cannot be attained and that consummation cannot be reached until the teacher is paid well and paid satisfactorily.

"I do believe that the Government should pay adequate attention to technical education. They must have more and more polytechnic institutions; they must have more and more institutions where a large number of young men will be trained in various industries or given industrial education. Those courses are lacking so far as our country is concerned. The present education without bias for scientific education or without bias for technical aspect of education is certainly not complete and it is necessary that the Government should open more and more polytechnic and technical centres, so that a larger number of young men can get their training in these institutions.

"While I am saying this, I am reminded of the fact whether this Government believes in technical education and for what purpose. If they do not believe in starting industries, if they do not believe in expansion of industries, I do not think that the Government will be justified in giving technical education to the youth of the country. For what purpose will this training serve

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if they are not to find employment in their own industries in the Province itself. Perhaps one may say that other Provinces are there and that industries are being started in other Provinces. These Graduates in Sciences can find employment in other Provinces. To say the least it is a beggarly policy which will not do credit to any Government. More industries should be established in the Province. If the Government is prepared to discharge its duty adequately by the public, it should see that more and more industries are started so that those students who receive technical education or education in higher sciences and applied science find employment in these industries concerned. I believe these two things go together; expansion of industries, education in sciences, education in applied science and technical education all go together. All of them should be started by this Government and encouraged.

"I am glad that the universities in our Province are functioning very well and very satisfactorily. So far as the Madras University is concerned, I do not think that anybody can justifiably point his finger at its working. The Madras University has raised its standard of education, has raised its cultural standard to such an extent that it can take its place among the various universities not only in this Province and country but also in the whole world, as first in grade and importance. There is the Madras University; there is the Annamalai University; there is the Andhra University. I do not wish to make comparison between one university and another. I can say that all the universities that are in our Province occupy very high places in the field of education; they are doing great service for the spread of elementary education and higher university education. All the credit goes to the Province for it occupies a very high place in the matter of education as compared with other Provinces.

"While I am speaking of various stages of education I remember one of my duties to the people of my Province; that is to represent to the Government their duty so far as education of Mussalmans, Christians and other minorities are concerned. I have spoken of education in general; I have spoken about the need for the spread of education amongst people of this Province, about the need for higher education, collegiate education, technical, industrial and other education.

"When I come to the educational needs of the Mussalmans, I am afraid I have to remember what happened recently in this Province with regard to Muslim education and what happened in Travancore so far as Christians are concerned. It is a very sad memory. I hope that the attitude of the Government will change and that the Hon. Minister will see that justice is done to the Muslims so far as their educational needs are concerned. It is a very different question—this is a view which is held by some hon. Members—whether there should be any difference between the education of one community and that of another, whether we should have separate education for this community and that community. That is a question that cannot be understood by all alike and solved by all alike; only the wearer knows

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where the shoe pinches. Muslims know where their education is defective, whether the need for their education is satisfactorily solved or not. The Mussalman knows whether his demand has been met; what exactly his demand for education, he has made it clear. Muslim education will not be complete unless and until provision is made for religious education for them. Muslim education will never be complete unless and until Urdu is recognized as the national language of the Mussalmans of this Province. We have been asking that Urdu should be made the national language of the Mussalmans of this Province. Some of my friends who have very inadequate knowledge of the needs of Mussalmans may come forward and say what about the Mussalmans in Tamil Nadu, what about Mussalmans in Malabar, etc. This simple question is put because of their ignorance. They may say that Tamil is the language of Mussalmans in Tamil Nadu, that Telugu is the language of Mussalmans in Telugu districts, that Malayalam will be the language of Mussalmans in Malabar and that Kannada will be the language of those in South Kanara. Only these languages are in the vocabulary of the ex-Minister for Education, these regional languages. He could not see beyond the limited atmosphere in which he lived—the three or four regional languages in this Province; there can be no room for any other language; that is the mistake that he made; I hope it will not be repeated in the regime of my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi.

4.45 p.m. "Sir, I know there are several languages in the Province, viz., Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and the Urdu. But Urdu is the language of the Muslims of the whole of the Province and of the country. Not only is Urdu the language of the Muslims, but it is also the language of the Hindus and others who want to make Urdu the language of their country, as it is the language of the vast masses of our people in this country. Urdu, as I said, is the national language of the Muslims and as such, everything should be done by the Government of the day to encourage the spread of education in that language. Unless and until the Government acts in a just manner and satisfies the demands of Muslims, so far as language is concerned, Muslims will not only be not satisfied, but they will make their demands, day after day, month after month and year after year, till their demand to make Urdu the national language of the Province is met.

"Well, Madam, let me now come to Muslim education. I am afraid, Madam, that this Government has not given any attention to the question of Muslim education. It is indeed a laudable thing, that the Government is spending large sums on the scheduled classes. I am one with the whole of my people, when I say that if the Government spends large sums of money for the education of the scheduled classes, they are doing justice to that section of the people. The scheduled classes are in a very backward condition. They are backward politically, they are backward educationally and they are backward economically.

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If we spend any amount of money on the elevation of those people, we are doing nothing but justice to that class of people. But when I come to the question of how much money has been allotted for the education of Muslims in the present budget, I must express a feeling of great disappointment, for, Madam, no provision has been made for higher education of Muslims in this year's budget. What has this Government done? They have not even provided for a separate college for Muslim girls, although the Government of the Advisers were good enough to provide money for opening a college for Muslim girls. The building of that college has not yet been taken up and my hon. colleague, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, has been reminding the House and reminding the Minister for Education from time to time the need for providing sufficient money for the college buildings as well as the hostel for Muslim girls in Royapetta. The question of the hostel for the college was raised in the House at question time, from time to time and the answer that has been vouchsafed to the Muslims and to the Begum Saheba was not satisfactory. It should have been easy for the Government to find accommodation for the hostel adjoining the college buildings. The Government has neither provided any amount for the construction of the college buildings, nor have they made any provision for housing the hostel for the Muslim girls. The Advisers' Government were also pleased to allot funds for the provision of a Science Block for the college, on account of the liberal attitude that they took, so far as Muslim education was concerned. I ask, what is the part played by the ex-Government or by the present Government, so far as Muslim education is concerned? The money that was allotted for Muslim education is trifling. We cannot for a moment say that the present Government or the past Government paid any attention to the needs of Muslims and the education of the Muslims. Demands have been made for scholarships, for college buildings and for hostel and other facilities. One is ashamed to have to bring to the notice of this Government so many failings and so many defects in the educational policy of the Government, for do not we all know, how difficult it is to find accommodation for a small hostel for Muslim girls? Do not we see how difficult it is for Muslims to get buildings for their schools? Even for a high school run by the Government in Trichinopoly, there is no adequate space or building to house that school. I had been to Trichinopoly recently and I saw the wretched condition of that school. It is housed in a small building, which is supposed to be a small bungalow of a certain individual, while, as a matter of fact, it is more or less a hovel, and it is supposed that the school could be run satisfactorily in that sort of building. The same is the case of the school run by the Government in the Cuddapah town. I wish that the Hon. Minister visits those places and see for himself whether they are suitable for housing a high school. They do not have sufficient accommodation for class-rooms, and certain rooms are improvised by thatties, without sufficient amount of space. So far

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as the Trichinopoly high school is concerned, there was a proposal to take that school and house it in a new building somewhere near a Christian Missionary School. Although the Christian Missionaries did not raise any objection to the proposal, certain friends who did not want the school to prosper, induced the Christian Missionaries to put forward a plea that since the school that was adjoining that land was intended for girls, a school for Muslim boys adjoining it, would be a dangerous thing. Madam, I am sorry to say that that plea was put forward not by the Christian Missionaries but by the people of the locality. Madam, even in Royapetta, by the side of the Wesley College, the Hobart High School for girls is situated. There is a hostel belonging to the Wesley High School in Royapetta which has come into stay. The boys who stay in the hostel can easily overlook the compound of the Hobart Muslim Girls' School. That has been going on for a long time and nothing has happened till now. But in Trichinopoly, that plea has been put forward not by the missionaries themselves, but at the instigation of the people in the locality who think that if the Muslim boys come there, that would become a dangerous place. Madam, these are very sad things, and to say this is most disheartening and most disgusting. I hope that the mentality of our people will change and that they will not stand against the Government discharging its sacred duty by the Muslims, by putting forward such pleas.

"Then, Madam, there is need for Muslim high schools in various districts. All the districts in the Province do not have Muslim high schools at the rate of at least one school for each district. There are many districts where there is no Muslim high school at all. Malabar suffers a great deal for want of educational facilities for Muslims, although it contains one-third of the Muslim population of the Province. The accommodation and provision of educational facilities there, is not only inadequate, but it is also shabby and shameful. Madam, that is the position so far as Muslim education is concerned."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Will the hon. Member finish his speech by 5 o'clock?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall try to quicken my speech and shall finish it within 5 o'clock."

"Madam, it is very necessary that the Government should pay attention to the opening of more and more schools for Muslims in the districts where there is a demand. In the Andhra districts, in the first instance Urdu should be made the medium of instruction for Muslim boys. More and more schools should be opened in Malabar and in other districts where there are no Muslim schools. The Government should also open more colleges for Muslims in places where they do not exist. In the whole of the Andhra districts, there is not even one single college for Muslims, as also in Malabar. One knows how difficult it is for Muslim boys to get admission in colleges. Of course, it is true, there is

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difficulty with regard to admission for other boys also, but provision has been made for them in certain colleges, such as the Vivekananda College, for admitting them and where admission is supposed to be given for all communities, but in reality it is only intended for one section of the community. The doors of the Pachayappa's College are closed for Muslims. Such is the case in colleges which are run by charities and which are exclusively Hindu bodies, yet the Government is giving them grants. Such being the case in all colleges, the need therefore arises for opening more and more separate colleges for Muslim boys and girls in the City and in the districts and especially in Malabar where education is demanded by the Muslim population.

"Madam, I come now to my last point and that is, what place English should occupy in the scheme of our education. On that question, Madam, there can be more than one opinion. I believe that the time has come when we should decide the question as to what place English should occupy in the scheme of things, so far as secondary and collegiate education is concerned. We believe as we are satisfying the national needs of the country by crying from the housetops that the English language should also quit from this country along with the Britishers. If there is to be a searching of heart by my hon. friends who have received the best and the largest and the biggest advantage from the western type of education, they will be the last people to say that English should be altogether eliminated from the scheme of education."

(At this stage, the Hon. Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

"Mr. Speaker, I was just speaking about the place of English in the educational system of this country. I believe, Sir, that English has come to stay, not so much as a language of the Government or of the country, but as an international language which is necessary for India too, at least as the third language in the scheme of education. Sir, the first language should be the mother-tongue."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can continue his speech to-morrow."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If you will allow me, Sir, I shall finish my speech in five minutes."

"Sir, I was saying how necessary English is if our higher and collegiate education is to be real and useful to the people of this country. English language is very necessary, if our people have to take their proper place in the affairs of the country, in the business and commercial affairs of the country, in the political and national affairs of the country and also of the other countries. Sir, it is therefore very necessary that we should give a proper place to English in so far as our education is concerned. There is no use talking merely glibly and attacking English altogether and trying to eliminate English from our education system. I believe, Sir, it is necessary that English should also form part of our educational system."

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"Sir, I shall close with telling my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education that so far as Muslims are concerned, we demand a few fundamental requirements for the Muslim community. The first consideration is that they should respect and honour our feelings; they should respect and honour and grant and concede our demand for the recognition of Urdu as the national language of Muslims in this part of the country. We should also like to emphasise, not by mere words, but sincerely and most honestly, that we regard religious education as a fundamental factor of our education and that we do not regard any education, so far as we are concerned, complete, without any adequate provision being made for religious education. Then we want more and more schools for our boys and girls. The feeling that separate schools are responsible for creating a spirit of separatism has absolutely no basis. It is baseless and it is wrong, for it is not separate schools which have been responsible for creating any feeling of separatism between Hindus and Muslims; there are other things which are responsible. I do not think it will be proper for me nor is this the time for me to tell the House what are the things that are responsible for getting the Hindus and the Muslims apart. They are very far from separate schools; neither separate schools nor separate electorates, but there are other things. Therefore to put forward the plea that separate schools are not conducive to unity is certainly a mere plea put forward with a view not to concede the legitimate demand of Muslims in respect of their education. It is more to keep Muslims away from education that this plea is put forward, not as a just reason given with any very high objective. Sir, I said that should be done. To sum up, religious education, Urdu and separate schools for Muslim boys and girls and separate colleges for Muslim boys and girls in Malabar and other parts of the country. Sir, I move the cut motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on this demand will be continued to-morrow. Now the Hon. Minister for Local Administration will make his motion."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I just move that we adjourn for ten minutes for taking tea?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think even if I allow ten minutes, all the members cannot take tea within ten minutes. I suggest to them to go batch by batch and take tea. That will be much better. In ten minutes, hundred members cannot take tea."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If we go by batches, Mr. Speaker, the batches that will be away will not have the opportunity of participating in the discussions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Member who is sitting by your side will inform you of what has taken place in this respect. Now, I call upon the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government to move the motion that stands in his name."

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IV.—THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL No. 7. OF 1947)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the report* of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) and move that the Bill as approved by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

"Sir, I do not want to say anything about the Bill, because the Bill as it emerged from the Select Committee is exactly the same as it was originally discussed here and the principles of the Bill have been discussed at such length that any further elucidation will be out of place. As the Bill has not been amended by the Select Committee in any way and as the principles of the Bill have been discussed at length, I suggest to you, Sir, and through you to the Members that, considering the urgency of the matter, we can dispense with much of speaking on this motion and proceed with the actual consideration of the Bill clause by clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is that the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947, as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has already stated that the Bill has emerged from the Select Committee without any change, even the change of a comma. We know that this is a confession of what is going on here. Everybody is so agreeable to submit to what the majority or what the Government says. Well, let us not also be included in that category of people, who submit to such a thing without at least having our say in the matter. It is only to discharge that function, that I stand up before you and try to take up your time and the time of the hon. Members of this House."

"Sir, it has been our cry that the Muslims do require separate representation so far as these municipalities and local bodies are concerned. The object of this Bill as it is, is to give better representation to the minority communities. That is conceded. The only question is, which is the best method of giving effect to, or of carrying out, that object. It is by way of suggesting the best method of giving effect to the adequate representation of the minority communities that we suggested that separate electorates should be introduced and that Muslims should be given representation through separate electorates. That will be the best method of representation not only to Muslims, but also to other minority communities."

"Now, Sir, this principle has been recognized so far as this parent body, namely the Legislature, is concerned, a Legislature in which all the measures are evolved. Well, Sir, if you can have separate representation by separate election for these minority communities in the Legislature which passes these

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measures, I ask, what is the real reason for the Government to oppose this separate electorate in the case of the local bodies. From my experience, I can tell you, Sir, that a great deal of communal trouble has been occasioned on account of the elections to the local bodies and municipalities. You know when seats were reserved for minority communities, there was a lot of complications that arose out of it. When Government in some particular areas or in some particular constituencies belonging to both communities introduced the system of reservation. I know, Sir, that in 90 per cent of these cases, a great deal of communal bitterness has been caused on account of the elections to these local bodies.

"Sir, I would go to the extent of saying that we shall have either separate electorates or no separate representation at all, because it will be much better that there is no separate representation at all for minority communities if there is no separate electorate. So, Sir, they should have separate electorates in areas where they are in a majority; otherwise, let them not have any representation at all. I say so after deliberation and consideration, because I know what amount of bitterness has been caused on account of the reservation for particular areas or particular localities. Therefore, Sir, if it is conceded that these minorities do deserve separate representation, the only other question is, what is the best method to be adopted in order to achieve this object. This object can best be achieved by creating separate electorates.

"Well, Sir, in the elections to this Legislature, we have been going through our elections and the non-Muslims also have been going through their elections and there is absolutely no bitterness caused so far as these elections are concerned. On the other hand, you can see that a good deal of bitterness has been caused in the elections to the local bodies. Therefore, I would say that so long as we have this separate electorate for the legislative bodies, it is only proper and legitimate that you should follow the same course as regards the local bodies also. I do not see any real reason for the Government opposing this very modest and reasonable request of the minority community. I do not know how really the other minorities like the Harijans feel about it. At any rate, speaking for Muslims, I for one would say, 'either separate electorates or no kind of separate representation at all.' This is my submission, Sir.

"Now, Sir, it is very deplorable that even amendments as regards this small measure have not been accepted by the Select Committee. I say, Sir, that it is high-time, that the Government changes its angle of vision so far as these matters are concerned. If they change their angle of vision and look at things from the proper perspective, it would not only be good for the unity and harmony of this Province, but also for the unity and harmony of the whole of India.

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"Well, Sir, another matter on which I wanted to speak is that the Government is not quite right in introducing this Bill. To have an interregnum for a period and to have special officers at the time of these elections is very unfair to these municipalities and local bodies. I see no reason, why the same body should not continue until the elections. It is with that view, Sir, that amendments have been proposed, but they have all been thrown out in the usual manner. Therefore, I submit that it is high-time for the Government to reconsider these matters and to look at these things in the proper perspective, so that it will be conducive to the harmony in this Province. Sir, I want to know whether the Muslim members here who have been returned by separate electorates have been in any way a source of danger to you. What harm has been done by the fact that they have been returned by separate electorates? Is it not a fact that we are able to represent and voice forth the views of the Muslim community much better than it would have been if some seats were reserved in mixed constituencies? Therefore, Sir, I hope that Government would take a lesson from the representation in the Legislature and would logically follow it in the local bodies also. With these words, Sir, I oppose the motion."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in opposing the Bill, I have to say a few words. To tell you briefly, there are only two issues in this subject, one about the nature of the electorate and the other thing is about the desirability of appointing special officers during the interval. These are the two main issues. Now, Sir, separate electorate has been demanded not only by us, but also by fifty lakhs of Muslims of this Province, and this principle has also been recognized by all the leaders in India so far as elections for the Legislatures are concerned. I ask you, Sir, why it should not be so for the local boards and municipal councils also. Please let us know what is there in your heart. Let us have an outspoken and plain explanation and then we will meet the points face to face and argue about them. Simply to say that joint electorate will disturb the communal harmony is nothing, but circumvention to achieve your own object. If you are going to have joint electorate, you will be throwing a stick between the Hindus and Muslims and thus you will be simply helping the revival of the communal disturbances in this Province. Sir, so far as the Assembly elections are concerned, the elections were quite satisfactory and there have been no troubles. Again, if you have joint electorate, what will be the result and what will be our position? What will be the position of the real representatives of the Muslims? The other day, I have explained what is meant by the real representatives of the Muslims and the other Muslims. I have plainly told you, Sir, that those Muslims who are supported by the majority of the Muslims of this Province alone could be the real representatives of the Muslims and not the Congress Muslims because the latter cannot be the real representatives of the Muslims as they are enemies of Islam.

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5-20 p.m. " Now, let us not tell you what is going to happen if we are given joint electorates. I will give you a concrete instance as to what has already happened by such elections. From this you may judge what will happen in future. Sir, in reply to question No. 440, the Hon. Minister replied yesterday that several village committees were organized. There he had also given a detailed note about the election of Muslims from village committees to taluk committees and from the taluk committees to the district committees. Please think over the matter for a moment, Sir. Do not be persistently obstinate; live and let live; let us have our own share; we do not want to beg of you, Sir; but we want to have the things which we must have. You should think that if you do not give us, we will take it from you. You should think, Sir, we did not come to India as shepherds to graze our cattle; we did not come to India as beggars to beg from door to door. We came to this land with Crowns on our heads and scriptures in our hands and we have been the rulers of this land for 800 years. You see now for our present degenerated, degraded and demoralized condition you are responsible. You keep us like this because you happen to have a majority, a steam-roller majority in every constitution and in every institution of this Province.

" Now, Sir, what happened during the elections to the taluk committees and district committees? According to the statement of the Hon. Minister for a total of 24 district committees, our representatives were sent only from seven taluk committees; for a total of 130 taluk committees, only to 55 taluk committees we have been able to send our representatives—not our real representatives. From 75 village committees out of 130 and from 17 taluk committees out of 24, no Muslim was sent to the taluk and district committees respectively. This is our position. Likewise, if you are going to have general electorates, Sir, who will be elected? As I had already told you and as on a former occasion also I explained it to you, there will be a ward and in that ward you will reserve a seat for the Muslims and there there will be Muslim as well as non-Muslim voters in that ward. As I had already told you, Sir, not only in the Madura Municipality, but in at least 90 per cent of the municipalities of this Province, you do not have any ward where the Muslims are in a majority. So far as the Madura Municipality is concerned, out of 29 wards there is not even a single ward in which the Muslims are having a majority of voters. Under such circumstances, if you reserve any Muslim seat in a ward where you have 40 or 45 or even 49 per cent of Muslims, how can a Muslim candidate really representing the Muslims, succeed in the election, Sir? It is impossible. Our demand is a legitimate demand and also a reasonable demand and let us have separate electorates. Just now, Sir, Mr. Nagappa asked for three Ministers for the Harijan community and similarly another Vanniakula member asked for three Ministers for his community but we do not want to have even one Minister; all that we want is an assurance for certain seats on the municipalities

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and the local boards. This is our demand. If you stand in our way in this enlightened world—of course the world has changed and is changing still—your action will not be judged by this House, but it will be judged by the people by whom you are elected and returned here. Sir, if you think you have a sweeping majority here and you can do anything you want, you should know that in democracy you do not have such sanctions. You know for the last one century, democracy has been the popular sort of Government in the whole world. Recently we came to know what happened in the western countries. A world revolution was created; Fascists and Nazis became powerful, wanted to invade and dominate the world. Why, Sir? So long as democracy was fair and good, democracy was popular, but the moment democracy changed into autocracy or plutocracy or any 'cracy' you like, what was the result, Sir? Fascism and Nazism have ruined the Western civilization. I would like to say that they are the daughters of the degenerated, demoralized and degraded democracies. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim group.) If you go on desperately like this, democracy may change to some 'cracy' or 'cracies' as I told you and it may also lead to anarchy. So, Sir, in your own interests and in the best interests of this Province, I appeal to you, please grant us our request. This is our appeal, Sir, and as a friend of yours, I should also like to say, please do not sort yourselves under that category of men about whom God says in the Holy Quoran:

ولهم آذان لا يسمعون بها ولم عيون لا يبصرون بها ولهم قلوب لا يفقهون بها *

It means, 'They have ears, they do not hear; they have eyes they do not see and they have the mind they do not consider and so on' and God compares such men with something which I do not want to say here for the sake of courtesy. This is, Sir, so far as separate electorate is concerned.

" Now, Sir, coming to the appointment of a Special Officer, I am really sorry for you—though you are not sorry for yourselves. Sincerely, I tell you, I am sorry for you. It is not a platform oratory but an exposition of facts. The Congress which is said to be the biggest national organization in India, which is putting its fight for freedom and which wants to eradicate ante diluvian and prehistoric customs and manners, this great organization said to be fighting for human liberation does not want an organization for this purpose, but instead want to appoint an individual as a Special Officer. Sir, I would draw your kind attention to another fact. What is it? Does it stand to logic or common-sense? What about your nationalism? You are crying from your housetops about nationalism? Do you think that all the non-Congressmen of this Province are the enemies of humanity? Don't you think that they are also Indians—though they might be Congressmen or not—and whoever they are though nominated by

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the Government, are they not Indians? May I ask, you, Sir, how many of our Ministers were in the Justice Party some time ago?

5-30 p.m. "In the year 1922 I was in the Congress. Our Hameed Khan Sahib was in the Congress and the Leader of the Opposition was in the Congress also some years ago. To change political creeds is not a sin. I was told that Sir John Simon changed his party at least half a dozen times. Man is not a machine and should not be a hypocrite. Whenever he thinks that he should change the creed he can change as many times as he likes. I will continue to be in the League so far as my conscience permits. When I think that the salvation of myself and that of my community lies in the adherence to the League, I will continue to remain in the League. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim League benches.) If with a job-hunting policy, with a hypocritic principle I stick up to the League to become a member of the Assembly or to get some favours from Quid-e-Azam or Nawab Liaquat Ali Khan, I will be the worst enemy of humanity, of my community and my nation. Likewise, do you think that those men who are now running the municipal administration are the enemies of humanity? To-morrow they may be Congressmen as so many of our Ministers have already become. So many others also have become Leaguers or Congressmen. So, Sir, nationalization or nationalism is a different thing from what you think. You should take all the Indians alike. That is nationalism. When you think that they are your enemies, how can you think India as one? You want to nationalize the industries, nationalize every thing and you plan big schemes for that purpose. First nationalize yourselves and then nationalize the industries. (Voices: 'Hear, hear.')

"Sir, about these so-called wicked men who are holding the municipal administration about whom you have got so much fear, what is it they are going to do? Sir, please believe me. Even an ordinary Congress worker in Madura is more powerful than the M.L.A. Sinna Kaziar, there. The whole administration, even the officers and administrators of justice and other Government servants feel shy in talking to the Muslim Leaguers. They talk for only two or three minutes and they look half a dozen times around to see whether any Congressman is watching. That is the position in the mufassal, Sir. After all, the existing members of the Municipal Councils are not going to do any harm. I may tell you Sir that an amendment of the Act reads:

'Where elections have to be held for the first time after the commencement of this Act to fill vacancies in the office of the

and so on. Now you are going to remove the nominated members. You are going to appoint Special Officers. I agree. What about the next election? What about the election after three years? The Council will be here. Are you going to appoint Special Officers even after three years? Will you have the same system

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even then? If that is so, I think you have not properly amended the Act now. Again, you say that these members are nominated members. So they are not real representatives of the people and they were nominated by the Advisers. After all, what powers these members have? As a Municipal Councillor, I have been in the Madura Municipality from the year 1920 continuously. I am the oldest member though not in age but in service in that municipality and in several others. I know what powers the Chairman of the Council has. He has to-day practically no powers, as also the Council. What powers were granted by the 1920 Act have been withdrawn by weekly, monthly and yearly Government Orders, rules and regulations and amendments of the Act. Practically the Chairman and the Council have no powers. I say this sincerely. This is only a bare fact of facts."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please be brief. We have to finish the Bill before 8 o'clock to-day."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to finish my speech as early as possible. I am sure, Sir, that you are going to appoint only the Commissioners as Special Officers. Or you may be appointing some new persons as Special Officers. The only reason against these persons is that they were nominated by the Advisers. Are you going to dismiss all the men who were appointed by the Advisers? If at all the municipal chairman has any powers it is the power to order the sweepers to sweep in this way or that way and to erect a fountain here and to have some new roads. These are the powers they enjoy. Heavens will not fall if these men continue. My humble opinion is you may have even election within a fortnight if you so desire. We do not stand in your way but you want to send out the existing men and appoint a fresh man in their place. This will be an insult not to these men but to the people of this province as a whole. They may or may not fully represent the people. Whatever it may be, however worst that organization or institution is, it must be much better than an individual. With these words, I oppose the Bill, Sir."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while speaking on the report of the Select Committee I cannot but point out that the Hon. Minister for Local Boards did not explain anything, either what had happened in the Select Committee or the aims and objects with which the report has been presented. Even the previous Minister for Local Boards did not come out with an elaborate statement on the aims and intentions of this amendment and as our hon. Friend from the League said the Chairman had no big powers and no attempt has been made to democratise the municipalities by removing the Special Officers who are all in all and who are above even the heads of the Government. He did not explain his attitude, the attitude of his Government regarding this point with the result that we are left in the dark. I expected the Hon. Minister for Local Boards to elaborate

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on this point and come out with arguments why he did not remove the Special Officers or to give more powers to the Chairmen who are elected by the representatives of the people. That point was not at all made clear, Sir. Perhaps this is the way in which the Congress Ministry is going to run democracy and the Ministers who are enjoying the confidence of the High Command are going to carry on the Government. This is how I understand the problem. That is why even at least in his reply I will call upon the Minister for Local Boards to come out and make a statement that they are going to remove the Special Officers, democratize the municipalities and give more powers to the Chairmen. These Special Officers should be abolished. They have no business to exist. They were created by the Justice party, if I remember correctly. Those traditions are being today continued by the Congress Ministry. The Ministry in 1937 was able to tolerate and put up with these Special Officers and perhaps this was all done in the name of the Congress. If it had been an act of an individual I would not have worried much but being a democratic organization and a freedom-fighting organization, surely things must change. In spite of all these things, you find these defects which show how the Congress leaders are implementing their pledges to the people and to the electorate who are responsible for sending these hon. gentlemen to this House and to occupy the Treasury Benches.

"Even previously I have referred to adult franchise. The previous Minister for Local Boards gave me an assurance that it will be included in the five-year plan or it may be a hundred years plan, I do not know. He said he will give an explanation afterwards. Unfortunately or fortunately to me, I do not know, he has resigned and there has been no explanation. Even the new Minister for Local Boards did not think it proper to explain why adult franchise was not introduced. I ask and appeal to each and every individual Congress member whether they are not for adult franchise. They say and they dream that freedom is coming on a fine morning in the month of June 1948. Probably it may be the party in power and the Ministers, going to run the administration on the same lines or will they fulfil their election pledges?"

MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I submit, Sir, that the question of enlargement of the powers of the Chairmen of municipal councils and adult franchise do not arise while we are discussing the present Bill."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I know it. I am going to rule it out of order."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"An amendment is moved to the Madras Local Boards Act. I am suggesting that this should be the main part of the amendment. There is no meaning in amending this Act without these. Therefore, the point I am discussing is quite in order."

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"Now I am speaking on the question of adult franchise which the Congress has been voicing since its birth. We know and we have experience of the 2½ years of the previous regime. They forgot about this adult franchise completely. This formed a part and parcel of their election programme but they have not implemented it. After a period of about seven years they are again occupying the Treasury Benches. Even now, they do not care to introduce this adult franchise. It appears as though they are not worried about this matter. I therefore say that they are representing only about 15 or 16 per cent of the population and not the people as a whole because they refuse to accept the principle of adult franchise. I do not know where their election manifesto has gone."

"My hon. friend Mr. Nagappa has been claiming that his community must be properly represented. I support it but I do not want that they must request for it from the Congress Ministry though it is a very reasonable and consistent demand on their part. I say that if the system of adult franchise is introduced, if all people irrespective of caste or community are enfranchised, I feel that most members of the House sitting before me will not be returned to this House and there will be members who only represent the masses and not those who represent the landlords, jenmis and mirasdars who are sitting over the heads of the people. I make this appeal even to the Muslim League. Even the Leader of the Muslim League did not make his position clear regarding the question of adult franchise and to-day they have got the occasion to say whether they stand for adult franchise or not. The hon. member who preceded me said that they could never hope to attain majority as the Hindus are always in a majority. In this presidency as long as politics is viewed on this basis the caste system will obtain. But I do not propose that it should continue and for that the only solution is the introduction of adult franchise and proportional representation. In this regard some of the western countries have adopted that system and I can say so though like the Leader of the House I have not had opportunities of visiting foreign countries. In the most democratic country in the world, I mean, Switzerland, there is proportional representation and they have adult franchise and even France and Yugoslavia are enjoying this system. But most of the members are fond of calling the British Parliament the Mother of Parliaments. It is wrongly called so and that represents a system which so far has been used to enslave us and make us perish and I am not at all enamoured of it. I am constrained to say that most of our members are trying to emulate and even aping that system."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is the fourth time that you are referring to the question of adult franchise, beginning from the stage of introduction of this Bill and I, therefore, suggest that you be brief in your remarks."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My only explanation is that we have got a new Ministry and a new leader

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and I am trying to carry conviction to him so that even now he may consider my appeal and carry out an amendment to the Bill even at this stage.

"This system of election obtains in the most democratically advanced countries of the West. I cannot understand why we should take the model of the British Parliament; why must we take that as an ideal? As far as I am concerned, gone are those days and this procedure will not suit our conditions and it has to be changed and it is essential. I regret to say that most of our leaders are aping them in their way of speaking and even in their using their officials against the people, we find there is great deal of agreement and you will find 'His Master's voice' performance on their part. I am not sure why they must persist in it. I leave that question there. If the scheme of proportional representation with adult franchise is accepted, I feel that the demands of the Muslim League will also be met. I will explain how. To-day they form 12 or 14 per cent. To-day we find that the Muslim League is the most, if not the only, representative organization of the Muslims. With their solidarity they can fight the elections and their representation will increase according to the proportion of population and that is guaranteed. Of course as long as politics is viewed along the system of castes, religions and other such things continue, their remaining in a minority cannot be helped; but if you change your view point and talk of things from the political plane and decide issues on a political basis, we can reduce majority to a minority, for then it will be the masses who will determine what is good for the country. To-day the Muslim masses are the poorest of the population and their problems cannot be different from the rest of the poor masses of the country. If they are allowed to decide questions concerning them by themselves, for that will be what it will come to by a system of adult franchise, there can be no question of differences between the Hindu masses and the Muslim masses and certainly they can one day become the majority party in this country and not the boosters of the mirasdars and land-holders. Then it will be that the masses will take power and guide the destinies of this Presidency. I have been appealing to you over and over again and even in my district the District Muslim League accepted it because it is going to benefit them. The same is the position concerning the scheduled classes. My hon. Friend Sri Nagappa to-day justly demanded more seats in the Ministry. If adult franchise is introduced he needs neither beg nor demand but dictate. They can be appealing to the majority party for two Ministers or three. It can be fulfilled only if you introduce this system of electorate. I appeal to the Members on the Treasury Benches that this is the most democratic system and that it must be done whether the High Command accepts it or not. The Hindu-Muslim problem and the continuous bickerings that have been going on for years can be solved only by introducing this system. My hon. Friend Nagappa's demand is a warning. It is not an isolated or individual affair and he is reflecting the

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mentality of most of the Scheduled Class people and they are coming to their own. I appeal to you to accept it because that is the only way by which our society can be kept intact."

MOHAMED RAFAEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, let me preface my remarks by assuring you that I will not take up much time. I would refer to what I consider the fundamental point in this Act, namely the basis upon which elections are to be held. This point of separate electorates has been sufficiently canvassed by other members of my party not only on this occasion but on the previous occasion when the Bill was brought into this Assembly for the first time. As the Hon. the Minister has stated, that Bill as it has emerged from the Select Committee has not changed in any way and the Bill has not incorporated this fundamental principle of separate electorates and so it has become necessary even at the cost of repetition to say a few words concerning it as we, on this side of the House, feel that without that fundamental principle being accepted, there is nothing left for us in the Act to worry about. If these elections are to be held on the basis of joint electorates, municipalities and district boards have no value for us and we are sure that our true representatives cannot go into the local boards and municipalities. I do not want to appeal to the sympathy or to the generosity of the Government on this point. I would like to appeal instead to their reason and to their sense of logic and to tell them that if they follow the principles of reason and logic, they have to grant the principle of separate electorates. After all, what is the principle underlying elections to local boards and municipalities? It is that these local bodies should contain people who have the confidence of the majority of the people and are the true representatives of the people to carry on the civic affairs of their municipalities or district boards. If you grant that principle, is it not logical or reasonable to give the choice of selecting the representatives to those people whom they are there to represent? If, for instance, you are going to give representation to Muslims in the local boards, the meaning is that you would like to have men who can really voice forth the necessities, wants, grievances and requirements of that community. Now, therefore, is it not logical to say that those representatives should be selected only by members of that community whom they represent in the local boards? Is it not unreasonable to say that representatives who have to voice forth the grievances of one community should go for the votes of another community? I ask if it is according to the principle of logic? Actually what happens in the elections is that Muslims who are in a minority cannot hope to get elected in the local boards unless they get a majority of votes of the other community. The answer given to our criticism is usually that separate electorates bring about separatist mentality, that by making the Hindu to go to the Muslim voter for his vote and by making the Muslim to go to the Hindu for his vote, you are bringing harmonious relations between them and that you

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are bringing those two communities nearer and nearer. But I ask whether in practice the Hindu candidate need ever go to the Muslim for his vote. He can depend entirely upon the votes of his own community. On the other hand, can you say that Muslim candidate can depend entirely on the votes of his own community? Even if he does get all the votes of his community, still he cannot be successful. The person who gets the majority of the votes of the other community is the person who has the only chance of getting elected to these bodies. I ask, and I want to put this simple question, and I want the Hon. Minister to give me a simple answer. If it is really your intention that by these methods of joint electorates you can bring these two communities together, will you make it a point that unless the Hindu candidate gets a majority of the votes of the Muslim community he will not be declared elected. Actually, in practice no Muslim candidate can hope to be successful unless he gets the majority of the Hindu votes. Will you make it a rule, I ask, that no Hindu candidate will be declared successful unless he gets a majority of the votes of the Muslim community? If you want these two communities to come together, if you think that joint electorates will make the two communities come together, then the only honest way of doing it is the way I have suggested. I am sure the Government will give a negative reply to this. I am also sure that Government will give a negative reply to our demand for separate electorate, but still we have to voice forth here the views and opinions of our community. We have unbounded faith in, and we are convinced of, the need for separate electorate in this country. Experience of the past several years has confirmed our views, and the results of the past few years prove the justification and the desirability of having separate electorates. It is no answer to say that it is the separate electorate which is responsible for all the troubles in this land. That would be shutting your eyes to the real fact. If you want that the true representatives of the Muslims should not be in these bodies, I can understand your insistence upon joint electorates. If this is a fact go on; go ahead; insist upon joint electorates in the matter of this Assembly also. I dare say our hon. Friends will move this point in the Constituent Assembly. Whether they will be successful or not we are not concerned. But it is our wish to place the opinion of our community before this Hon. House and we leave this matter in the hands of those who have the power to do it.

"Now, Sir, there is another small matter, a matter which may not strictly come within the purview of this Act, but which still concerns the local bodies. I should like to draw the attention of Government to the distribution of seats, reserved seats in the various local bodies. There is a move to increase the number of reserved seats for the minorities. Speaking of my own district, in Nellore Municipality there is a proposal to increase the number of reserved seats from 3 to 5. Though you are increasing the number of seats, your idea is to give more representation to the members of the Muslim community in that

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town. But you are asking the Municipal Council to express its opinion with regard to the allocation of these seats. The Municipal Council commands a majority of the members of the other communities. Is it not reasonable to leave the selection of these additional seats to the Muslim members of the Municipal Council, to the representative bodies of the Muslims of the place? Please consult their wishes about this matter. Please ask them 'where do you want these additional seats to be located?' I request Government to go by the wishes of the community for whose benefit they have allocated these seats. Instead of that, Sir, what happened is that a letter has been sent to the Nellore Municipal Council asking for its opinion with regard to the allocation of additional seats. The Municipal Council in spite of the expressed view of the majority of the Muslim Councillors has taken a different view, and these seats have been provisionally allotted to certain localities where the Muslims do not want these seats to be located. May I ask the Government to go into this matter and see that the wishes of the Muslim community, for whose benefit those two additional seats have been allocated, are respected?

"Sir, I do not want to take any more time of the House. I am very thankful to you for having given me this opportunity to speak."

* SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போது கொண்டு வரப்பட்டிருக்கும் ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன திருத்த மசோதாவை, நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இப்போது மாகாணத்திலிருக்கும், ஸ்தலஸ்தாபனங்களில் பெரும்பான்மையானவை நாமினேஷனல் அனுப்பப்பட்ட அங்கத்தினர் கொண்ட சபைகள், நாமினேஷன்கள், 1942-ம் வருஷத்தில் செய்யப்பட்டன. நாமினேஷனல் ஸ்தானங்கள் எல்லாம் பொது ஜனங்களால் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட ஸ்தாபனங்கள் ஏற்படும் வரையில் தான் இருக்கமுடியும். இந்த நாமினேஷனல் ஸ்தாபனங்கள் ஏற்பட்டு ஐந்து ஆண்டுகள் ஆகியும், இன்னும் பொதுத் தேர்தல்கள் நடக்கவேயில்லை. காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி சபை, பதவி ஏற்றுக் கொண்ட பிறகு, தேர்தலை நடத்த வேண்டுமென்று, எவ்வளவோ பிரயத்தனம் செய்தும், ஏதோ காரணத்தால் தேர்தல் நடத்தமுடியாமல் போய்க் கொண்டு வருகிறது, நாமினேஷனல் செய்த அங்கத்தினர்களை வைத்துக் கொண்டு இந்த ஸ்தலஸ்தாபனங்களை நடத்துவதானது பொது ஜன அபிப்பிராயத்தை பிரதிபலிப்பதாகாது. இக்கருத்து எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்த விஷயம் இந்தக்காரணத்தை முன்னிட்டேத்தான் இப்போது இந்த திருத்த மசோதா கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சில மாதங்களுக்கு முன்னால், ஜில்லா போர்டுகளைக் கலைத்து, அதிகாரங்களை தனிப்பட்ட உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களிடம் ஒப்பிவிட்டார்கள். இப்போது அதே மாதிரி முனிசிபல் கவுன்சிலுடைய அதிகாரங்களையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறார்கள். இப்படிச் செய்வதில் எந்த விதமான தவறுதலும் இல்லை. பொறுப்புற்ற சர்க்காரால் நியமிக்கப்பட்ட அங்கத்தினர்களால், ஒரு கவுன்சிலில், எப்போதுமே ஜனங்களுடைய அபிப்பிராயத்தை பிரதிபலித்துவரும் செய்ய முடியாது. இப்போதுள்ள சர்க்கார், பொது ஜன பிரதிநிதித்துவம் வாய்ந்த சர்க்கார், ஜனங்களின் வாக்குகளைப் பெற்று வந்த சர்க்கார். ஆகையால் இந்த பொது ஜன சர்க்கார் நாமினேஷனல் அங்கத்தினர்களால் நடத்தப்படும் ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன சபைகளை எல்லாம் கலைத்து, தனி ஸ்பெஷல் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களைக் கொண்டு, பொது ஜனப்பிரதிநிதிகள் அச்சபைகளின் அதிகாரத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளும் வரையில், அந்த ஸ்தலஸ்தாபனங்களை நடத்துவதில் எந்த விதமான தவறுதலும் இல்லை.

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

[27th March 1947]

என்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இப்போது, பொது மக்கள் வாக்குப் பெற்ற பொதுஜன சர்க்கார் ஆட்சி நடத்துகிறது, ஆகவே ஸ்பெஷல் ஆபீசர்களை நியமித்து, தேர்தல் காரியங்களை நடத்துவதிலும் தவறு இல்லை. தேர்தல் நடத்துவதில் அதிக கால தாமதம் ஏற்படக் கூடா தென்ற காரணத்திற்காகவும், இவ்விதமான திருத்தம் கொண்டுவரப் பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதையும் சொல்லிக் கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். ஆகவே இதில் எந்த விதமான தவறுதலும் இல்லை, இது மிக ஒழுங் கான முறையுமாகும். தவிரவும், இது மிகவும் அவசியமான திருத்த மசோதா வென்றும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்போதுள்ள முனிசிபல் கவுன்சிலுக்கும் சேர்மனுக்கும் எந்த விதமான அதிகாரமும் இல்லை, கொஞ்சம் அதிகாரம் தான் இருக்கிறது. அந்த அதிகாரத்தை வைத்துக்கொண்டு, ஒரு காரியமும் செய்துவிட முடியாதென்று எதிர்க்கட்சி நண்பர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். கொள்ளி லுக்கும் சேர்மனுக்கும் எந்த விதமான அதிகாரமும் இல்லை என்றால், அந்த முனிசிபல் கவுன்சில் வேலைகளை நடத்த ஸ்பெஷல் ஆபீசர்களை நியமிக்க சர்க்கார் முன் வந்தால், என் அதை எதிர்க்கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் ஆகேஷனை செய்ய வேண்டும்? முனிசிபல் சேர்மனுக்கு அதிகாரமில்லை என்றால், சர்க்கார் அந்த முனிசிபாலடியை சேர்மனுக்கு அதிகாரமில்லை நியமித்தாலும், ஆகேஷனை செய்ய எவ்வித காரணமும் இல்லை, எவ்வித காரணமும் இருக்கமுடியாது.

“அட்வைசர் ஆட்சியில், ஜூரீக்ளையும் ஹானாரரி மேஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டு களையும் நியமித்ததை போல் தான் முனிசிபல் சபையின் அங்கத்தினர் களையும் நியமித்தார்கள். அந்த ஜூரீக்ளையும், ஹானாரரி மாஜிஸ்ட் ரேட்டுகளையும் அப்படியே இன்னும் இருக்க நியமிக்கப்பட்ட முனிசிபல் அங்கத்தினர்களை மாத்திரம் என் கலைக்கவேண்டும், நீக்க வேண்டு மென்று முஸ்லீம் மெம்பர்கள் கேட்டார்கள் இவர்கள் எல்லோரையும் அட்வைசர் சர்க்கார் தான் நியமித்தார்கள் இருந்தாலும், இந்த ஜூரீ களுக்கு, முனிசிபல் அங்கத்தினர்களுக்கும் ரொம்ப வித்தியாச மிருக் கனால் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட சட்ட சபை ஏற்பட்ட பிறகு, நீடித்திருக்க்

“இன்னொரு விஷயம் இது இந்த திருத்த மசோதாவுக்கு சம்பந்தப் பட்ட விஷயம். நமது சபையிலுள்ள மதுரை முஸ்லீம் பிரதிநிதி பேசுவதைத் தான் நான் இங்கு குறிப்பிடுகிறேன் இப்போது மட்டு மல்ல, முன் ஒரு சமயத்திலும், இப்போது சொன்ன புகாரை அந்த முஸ்லீம் மெம்பர் கூறியிருக்கிறார். மதுரையைப் பொறுத்த வரையில், அங்கு அதிகாரிகள் காங்கிரஸ் காரர்களைக் கண்டு பயப்படுகிறார்கள். எவ்வளவு சொன்னாலும் நியாயமாக இருந்தாலும், காங்கிரஸ் காரர்களைக் கண்ட வுடன் பயப்பட்டு நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க தயங்குகிறார்கள்; முஸ்லீம் M. L. A. அந்த முஸ்லீம் நண்பர் கூறினார். ஒருவன், குற்றம் செய்து விட்டு, அவ னை முதலில் போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷனுக்குப் போய் புகார் கூறினால் அவன் பேச்சு. உண்மையைக் கூறாவிட்டால், ஸ்தல அதிகாரிகள், காங்கிரஸ் காரர்கள் புகார்கள் கூறினால் நியாயமாக இருந்தாலும் ஒருதரத் திற்கு, பத்துதரமாக யோசித்து, ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க முன் வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் புகார்களை ஸ்தல அதிகாரிகளிடம், முஸ்லீம்கள் ஒருதரத்திற்கு 50 தரம் யோசித்துதான் நடக்கிறார்கள். விஷயங்கள் இவ்வித மிருக்க மதுரை முஸ்லீம் மெம்பர் கூறியது மிக ஆச்சரியமாக இருக்கிறது.

“இன்னொரு விஷயத்தை சொல்லி முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இப் போதுள்ள ஓட்டுரிமை, கூட்டு முறையிலே இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கூட்டு ஓட்டு முறை காங்கிரஸ் பதவி ஏற்றுக்கொண்ட பிறகு வந்த தல்லை. காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் ஆட்சி செலுத்த முன் வருவதற்கு முன்னாலேயே

27th March 1947]

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

இந்தக் கூட்டு ஓட்டு முறை இருந்திருக்கிறது. இந்த முறையானது அநுபவத்தில் மிகவும் திருப்தியளித்திருக்கிறது. மதுரை ஜில்லா பொறுத்த வரையில், மதுரை நகர முனிசிபல் சபை, இதர முனிசிபல் சபைகள் ஜில்லா போர்டு இந்த ஸ்தாபனங்களில், இந்த கூட்டு ஓட்டு முறை வெற்றிகரமாக, நன்றாக வேலை செய்து வந்திருக்கிறது. ஆகையால், இந்த விஷயத்திலே காங்கிரஸையோ, அல்லது காங்கிரஸ் சர்க் காரையோ குறை கூறுவது தகாது. விஷயங்கள் எல்லாம் இப்படியிருக்க இப்போது கூட்டு ஓட்டு முறையிலே தேர்தல் நடக்குமானால் வகுப்புச் சச்சரவு அதிக மாகு மென்று மதுரை முஸ்லீம் மெம்பர் கூறினார். இது ரொம்பவும் பொருத்தமற்ற அர்த்தமற்ற பேச்சாகும். அவருடைய பேச் சுத்தான், ஜனங்கள் மத்தியில் துவேஷத்தை கிளப்பிவிடுமே தவிர, இந்த கூட்டு ஓட்டுரிமை முறையினால் எவ்வித சச்சரவும் உண்டாகாது என்று திட்டமாகச் சொல்லுவேன். இவ்வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு இந்த மசோதாவை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—“I want to clarify my position, Sir.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, என்னுடைய பேச்சு விஷயமாக ஒரு விஷயத் தை விளக்கவே ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, முக் யமாக ஒரு விஷயத்தை ஒரு காரணமும் இல்லாமல் எனக்கு தெரிந்த மட்டில் தந்தி மூலமாக மதுரையிலிருந்து இரண்டு உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களை மாற்றி விட்டார்கள். என்னுடைய decision ஐயும் என்னுடைய பேச்சைப்பற்றியும் நான் சொல்லிக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். வேறு ஒன்றும் இல்லை.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“On a point of order, Sir. Any gentleman can speak only once in a debate. I think this is the second occasion the hon. Member is speaking.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“On a point of personal explanation he is speaking.”

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—“இரண்டாவதாக நான் யாரைப் பற்றியும் குறை கூற வில்லை. என்னுடைய position எவ்வளவு தூரம் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டு மோ அதைப்பார்த்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஒரே ஒரு instance சொல்லு கிறேன். அந்த instance ல் நானே இரண்டு முஸ்லீம்களை நானே போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷனுக்கு கொண்டுபோய் நானே அபராதம் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். இன்னொரு instance ல் நானே arrest செய்து charge பண்ணி அபராதம் வாங்கி கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன். ஒரு காங்கிரஸ் காரராவது நான் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. ஒரு கேசில் முஸ்லீம்கள் அடிபட்டார்கள். ஆனால் நான் செய்த பிரகாரம் எந்த காங்கிரஸ்காரர் அடித்தவர்களை ஸ்டேஷ னுக்குக் கொண்டு போய் அபராதம் வாங்கிக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். எவ்விதம் பிடித்து தண்டிக்கவில்லை, காங்கிரஸில் சேர்ந்த ஒரு நண்பர் கூட அவர் Constitution Assembly-யில் ஒரு மெம்பர் பழய மாஜி. M.L.A. அவர் வந்து கூட சாட்சி சொன்னார் இவ்விதம் எந்த காங்கிரஸ்காரர் செய்திருக்கிறார்.”

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill as approved by the Select Committee. I wonder why this Bill ever went to the Select committee, because we find that the provisions of this Bill as introduced have been approved by the select committee. From this, I wonder whether a democratic government is functioning in this Province. Select committees are constituted with a view to give opportunities to the members of this House to go into the Bill in detail and to make

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amendments, if possible, wherever they find some of the provisions to be rather harsh. Sir, representatives of my party were taken into that select committee, and they had tried to impress upon that committee their own points of view. But unfortunately, Sir, their points of view were rejected, and the Bill now comes before us here, as was originally introduced on the floor of this Assembly.

"Sir, I cannot help harping on the most two important points which have been stressed by the members of this side of the House. As I have once said on the floor of this Assembly, only by repeating we can impress upon you the legitimacy of our claim, the honesty of our intentions, and we repeat so that you can understand our point of view. At the time when the Bill was originally introduced, and when a discussion was allowed, the Hon. Minister who was then in charge, I mean, Mr. Daniel Thomas, appealed to us in the name of nationalism, that we must accept joint electorate. Sir, the nationalism on which he has appealed to us is a nationalism to which we do not subscribe. We are here as a separate party. We represent a separate nation. We have fundamental differences with the people of other communities in this Province. We have our own grievances, our own disabilities, our own ambitions and aspirations and it is necessary that we have to elect our own representatives from our people and this we can do only, under a separate electorate. To say that under a joint electorate also we can elect a proper man is not a right thing. Because we have the past experience before us. Therefore we say that only under a separate electorate we can send the real representatives of our people to the panchayat boards, to the municipalities and to district boards; and any representatives elected under a joint electorate will not give vent to our own grievances on the floor of those local bodies. In days gone by, when Indians were sent from this country to foreign countries for conventions and conferences as representatives of India, the very people who are now sitting before you and who call themselves Congressmen, went about saying that they were not real representatives of the people. Why should they say so? Were they not Indians; were they not people with proper ability and intelligence? Because they did not represent your party, you cried out, they were not real representatives of this country. We say the same thing and you are not conceding to our request. If you want proper representatives of our nation, allow us our separate electorate, and only in that way you can create in us that confidence so that you and we may work together shoulder to shoulder to establish freedom and liberty in this country in the fullest sense.

6-30 p.m. "The second aspect of this Bill is the question relating to the appointment of Special officers. Sir, I had the other day, an opportunity of visiting a panchayat board. And I had that opportunity of visiting that panchayat board along with an hon.

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Congress Member of this House—I mean Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. We were at Panruti. He asked me to visit one of the Firka Development areas of that place. While we were going we were invited to the panchayat board at Panruti. At that time, when we were invited, the Chairman of that Board stated certain facts before the Congress Member, the Parliamentary Secretary. He said: 'You have appointed an executive officer, I have no authority even to pass any Bill even for an amount of Rs. 10. It must be sanctioned by that Executive Officer. Are we not the representatives of the people? Have we not the right to pass even small bills like that?' Are these local bodies reduced to such a state of affairs that even the real representatives of the people are not allowed to carry on in the manner in which they want to do? Sir, in a democracy, people must have even the liberty to commit a sin, even to commit an error. And by appointing executive officers you are going to put a shackle upon that liberty. There will be no question of liberty in our local bodies. Sir, this happened before the eyes of a Parliamentary Secretary belonging to this very Government. Therefore, Sir, why appoint an executive officer at all? Are not the local bodies, the panchayat boards and the district boards now functioning in this Province, bodies containing representatives of the people elected by the people? Are these bodies not competent to carry on the administration till you hold your elections? Why should there be an interregnum and in that interregnum why should we have an executive officer or a Special officer? It is because you are losing confidence in the people. As I said, Sir, we are not having democracy in this country. On the other hand we are having a Fascist Grand Council where you want people who can think alike, walk alike and speak alike and you do not want people who desire freedom. In order to create that regimentation you are having such powerful officers as Mussolini and Hitler had in their days to destroy democracy in those countries. Therefore, Sir, in the name of democracy, in the name of liberty and freedom, I appeal to the Minister to drop this idea of appointing Special officers during the interregnum. The elections for the local bodies must be held without appointing these Special officers. With these words, Sir, I oppose the Bill."

MR. SPEAKER (called upon Sri K. Brahmanandam Reddi to speak):—"Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi, we must finish the Bill before 8 o'clock."

* SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"Yes, Sir, Mr. Speaker, Sir, fortunately for us the atmosphere is not so hot as it was during the discussion on an analogous Bill, now an Act. My humble submission to you, Sir, is that it will be most helpful to the debate in question if irrelevant matters are not said, repeated and reiterated.

"Now, the Bill before us aims at two things. One is increased representation to the minority communities. That is number one.

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The second thing is the appointment of Special officers for conducting free elections. They are the only two things that this harmless Bill aims at. If matters not pertinent to the Bill in question, for instance the adult franchise, proportional representation or no representation, and the separate electorates, are brought to bear upon this point, my humble submission is, Sir, that we are going out of the way. As our ex-Minister has promised us that he will be bringing a comprehensive legislation with regard to the local bodies, it will be then time for my hon. Friends, especially the Muslim friends, to raise the question of separate electorates or joint electorates, and my hon. Friend, the only Member of his party, the Communist Member, to speak about adult franchise and proportional representation. This is my submission, Sir.

"I quite agreed with Mr. Rafeudin from Nellore when he said that if the question of separate electorate was not to be decided he had no quarrel with the Bill. That is a perfectly legal position, Sir."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I did not say that, Mr. Speaker. On the other hand I said: 'If separate electorate is not going to be granted there is nothing for us to worry about in the Bill'."

* SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"I do not think my hon. Friend has said anything different from what I have said, Sir. If these questions as regards the separate electorate, the joint electorate and adult franchise are taken out from our view, then the Bill becomes harmless. I ask: 'Is there any Member in this House who questions or who says that the minorities should not be given more representation?' I do not think so, because the Congress in its sense of fair play and justice to all minor communities is saying that the minorities should be fairly and effectively represented. With a view to that end the ex-Minister has brought in the Bill proposing the increased representation, that is, from one-fourth to one-third. After that is done, I hope the Muslims, the Christians, the Harijans and other minor and backward communities will have an effective control in the administration of the local bodies. If that point is not in question, the second one is the appointment of Special officers."

"I do not see, Sir, any reason why Special officers for a particular period should not be appointed. My friends from the Opposition are talking much of democracy and Congress violating the principles of democracy and all kinds of things. It is not so. If the hon. Friends carefully peruse the Statement of Objects and Reasons published with the original Bill they will find that it is to ensure 'free elections'. That is all. If it is the intention of the Government to do otherwise, the present Government with all its strength, could have easily said: Let all the municipal councils and district boards which were in existence in 1942 come but once again into existence. They have not said that. The

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Congress in its sober judgment has not said that. It could have easily said that. They have ample grounds to say that. In justice to the minority communities, in their sober judgment they have said 'No'. Now, these Special officers will only be there, as is made out in the Statement, for a temporary period. It may possibly be two weeks, three weeks or for a month at the latest. If that is so, I do not see any reason why so much discussion should take place on this question.

"Sir, during the discussion on the previous Bill, I was wondering whether the Members of the Opposition were doubting the bona fides of the Government. Probably they thought that the Government might, by taking powers into their hands to appoint Special officers, appoint non-officials and thereby their partymen and their henchmen and disturb on the whole the state of affairs. But on the practical side of things, when the Bill has been worked out in detail, our Friends had occasion to see that only officers, people in service alone, like the District Panchayat Officers and other people in the District Board service were appointed as special officers of the district boards. Sir, that must have put their doubts at rest. If the Government had intended to appoint X, Y or Z, people going on the road and put them in power in the District Board, my hon. Friends would have a vital ground to object to this kind of measure. But when only officers who can reasonably be expected to control the administration for a temporary period are put in, then I do not see any reason why my friends talk of democracy, fairplay, the Congress's promise and pledges and all that. So, Sir, having submitted that the question of joint electorates and separate electorates is not pertinent to the debate on hand, it is unnecessary for me to expatiate on their merits or demerits. Much has been said for and against that question and it has been a thorny problem. But I feel very earnestly that with regard to local bodies, joint electorates will give the best results."

"In this connection I would like to invite the attention of hon. Members to what is stated in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons for this Bill:—

'In order that undue influence is not brought to bear upon any section of the electorate during the next elections to municipal councils, it is desirable . . . to place municipal councils in charge of special officers . . .'

'Government also consider it desirable to have power to increase the representation provided for minority communities on municipal councils and local boards in suitable cases. . . .'

"Hence, Sir, my submission is that my hon. Friends on the Opposition should read the Act and see what is pertinent in the Act and withdraw their objection."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in opposing this Bill, I beg to submit that it is being freely said everywhere in this Presidency and particularly in my part of the country that the Government are so arranging the elections to local bodies to take place so as to see that Congressmen are all

6-30
p.m.

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returned without much opposition. I believe, Sir, that that story has some evidence and some truth in it particularly when applied to the conditions in Malabar. It has been freely said that elections to the local bodies will not be held until all the communists in Malabar are put safely behind prison bars, so that Congressmen can get into the local bodies without opposition from the party from which they expect the greatest fight. I also believe, Sir, that the work of putting them behind prison bars is being carried on with much enthusiasm. The elections have been postponed not once but twice. It is the aim of this Government to see that things are safe when they actually order the elections. The elections have been postponed, I beg to submit, on very flimsy and not convincing grounds, such as communal tension here or labour tension there or some other tension elsewhere. Particularly in my district, conditions were not so bad as to necessitate postponement of elections.

"One thing that further supports this conclusion is that not only the members of my party but many right-thinking men in the country have condemned the attempt of the Government to introduce Special officers. It has been argued by my hon. Friend who spoke just before me: 'What is the harm in having Special officers for these Municipalities?' My hon. Friend, Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi, is either a very harmless or innocent soul as not to understand the implications of these things, or he has very greatly succeeded in concealing his own feelings and his political intentions. But in one sentence he did let the cat out of the bag. He said that the Government have been magnanimous enough, fair enough and reasonable enough not to have brought back the old councillors. In that sentence he let himself and I believe his party also out. It would have been much better for them to have brought back the old councillors. They lost their offices as a result of the 1942 movement. Being unable to do so, the next best thing is not to have the present councillors but to have Special officers. The first thing being impossible, the next best thing to do is to appoint Special officers, that they would ensure of the appointment of Special officers, that they would ensure free elections and so on. I want to know on what particular date did the Hon. Minister get the idea that free elections could be guaranteed only if the interregnum is covered by the Special officers. I want to know whether this method of ensuring free elections has ever in the past been practised by any Government in this country and whether during the time when the Congress was in office on the previous occasion, this was resorted to and Special officers were appointed. I believe, Sir, that Special officers are absolutely unnecessary to guarantee freedom of elections. As has been already said by hon. Members, with Municipal Councillors and Municipal Officers being reduced to helplessness, there is not much that the Municipal Councils could do just now so as to torpedo any chance of free elections. I myself am a nominated member of the Municipal Council of Calicut. Having been

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elected to that body as early as 1941, it was superseded by the Government and I was nominated by the Government to that body. There is absolutely no chance for the nominated members to interfere with the elections. The argument that only by the removal of the nominated councillors would you be able to ensure free elections is an argument which according to the circumstances, of which I have personal experience and as far as I could see, has no basis whatever. Therefore this has a very sinister object. Our experience of nearly 11 months in this House has necessarily made us believe that these Special officers would be directed to see that Congressmen are given the greatest assistance. The only most charitable conclusion I can come to with regard to the Government's intentions in appointing Special Officers is that they would interfere in the elections in favour of the Congress. Otherwise, the Municipal Councillors and the Municipal Councils having been reduced to helplessness, they cannot do anything against Congressmen. The Municipal Councils and the Chairmen have no power under the law in this matter. Therefore, it can only mean that the Special Officers are to interfere in favour of Congress Party men.

"With regard to separate electorates, my hon. Friend 6-40 p.m.
Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi again appeared to be so innocent, harmless and un-understanding that he could not understand what has been said about it. He said the object of this Bill was to increase the minority representation and asked: 'Therefore why do you object. It has been very clearly said by my Leader: Either give us due representation or do not give us any representation at all. My hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas, in replying to the debate last time, said that he could not understand the argument put forward on behalf of the Muslim League. If you want that minority communities should be represented, give representation through proper men and not through half-caste people. Give us Muslims commanding the confidence of the Muslim community. But if you are unable to do so, don't foist upon us people who have proved themselves to be our traitors or who have sold their souls to somebody else for a pittance. That, I believe, is the burden of the argument. I feel that there can be only two ways. If you are anxious to see that minorities are properly represented, see that they are given not only due representation according to population and such weightage as they can command, but also separate electorates to select their own men. Do not by any means foist upon us people who the majority of Muslims have proclaimed to be the enemies of our religion. We trust in God and in the conviction of our being in the right and that, by the grace of God, we shall not fail. If you do not concede our request, I congratulate you for you will add one more to the list of injustices and tyrannies done to a minority. I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that by the grace of God we shall finally attain our goal of an independent nation.'"

*SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே. நகராட்சிகளிலும் ஜில்லா போர்டுகளிலும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குச் சரியான

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போதுமான ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை. சாதாரணமாக தாலுகா ஒன்றுக்கு ஒரு ஆளுக்காவது ஹரிஜன சமூகத்துக்கு இடம் இருக்கவேண்டும். South Arcot ஐ எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் சில இடங்களில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. உதாரணமாக விழுப்புரத்திலும் கடலூரிலும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக ஜில்லா போர்டில் பிரதிநிதியாவதற்கு ஸ்தானமே கொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. இதற்கு என்ன காரணம், யாது என்று பார்த்தால் அங்கு கிருஸ்தவ பெண்கள் தொகுதிக்கு ஸ்தானம் ஒதுக்கி வைத்து reserve seat ஆகக் கணக்குப் போட்டதே காரணமாக தெரிகிறது. பொதுவாக பார்க்குமிடத்து ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் அதிக ஸ்தானங்கள் கிடையாது. ஆகையால் இனிமேலாவது அதிக ஸ்தானங்கள் எங்கள் சமூகத்துக்கு கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இரண்டாவதாக இப்பொழுது ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு பொதுத் தொகுதி தேர்தல் தான் வேண்டுமென்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஆனால் டாக்டர் அம்பேத்கார் கோஷ்டி தனித்தொகுதி வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அவ்வாறு சொல்வதற்கு காரணம் என்ன வென்றால் காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்கள் எங்கள் சமூகத்திற்கு உழைக்கக் கூடிய நல்ல ஹரிஜன ஆள்களை மேற்படி ஸ்தானங்களுக்கு பொறுக்கி எடுக்காது தான் முக்ய காரணமாகும். சில இடங்களில் எங்கள் சமூகத்தின் நலனுக்கு நேர் மாறாக இருப்பவர்களை பொறுக்கி எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த சட்ட சபையிலுள்ள தலைவர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய ஸ்தானங்களுக்கு கிருஸ்தவர்களை பொறுக்கி எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். 1936-ம் வருஷத்தில் இவ்விதம் நடந்திருக்கிறது. இப்படியாக எங்களுடைய ஸ்தானங்களுக்கு தவறான முறையில் ஆட்களை தேர்ந்தெடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். சிதம்பரத்தில் நகராண்மைக் கூழகத்தில் எங்களுடைய ஸ்தானத்திற்கு மண்ணை மடையன் என்பவர் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களால் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டார். அவர் சட்ட சபை தேர்தலில் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கு விரோதமாக வேலை செய்தார்கள். தவிரவும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கோயில்களை திறந்து விட வேண்டுமென்று காங்கிரஸ் மந்திரி சபை ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கும்போது இந்த ஆள் சிதம்பரம் தீட்சதர்களிடம் பணத்தை வாங்கிக் கொண்டு ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கோயில்களை திறந்துவிட வேண்டிய தில்லை என்று கையெழுத்து வாங்கி மகஜர்களை சர்க்காருக்கு அனுப்பியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே ஜில்லாவுக்கு, தாலுகாவுக்கு ஒருவர், இருவர் நல்ல அறிவுடைய ஹரிஜனங்கள் இருப்பார்கள். அவர்களை எங்களுடைய ஸ்தானங்களுக்கு தேர்ந்தெடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“தவிரவும் நாங்கள் பொதுத் தொகுதியை விரும்புவதுடன் எங்களுக்கு இன்னும் அதிக ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் சரியான பிரதிநிதிகளை பொறுக்கி கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். மேலும் எங்கள் சமூகத்தில் வயது வந்தவர்களுக்கு எல்லாம் வோட்டரிமை இருந்தால் சரியான பிரதிநிதிகளை தேர்ந்தெடுக்க சகாயமாக இருக்குமென்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். எங்களில் சிலரை வரிகள் கொடுப்பதற்கும் படிப்பு படித்தவருக்கும் வோட்டரிமை பெற்றிருப்பதால் தக்க ஹரிஜனங்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளாக தேர்ந்தெடுக்க முடியாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் வயது வந்தவர்களுக்கெல்லாம் எங்கள் சமூகத்தில் வோட்டரிமை கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இன்னொரு விஷயம். இப்பொழுது சென்னை கார்போரேஷனில் வகுப்பு வாரியாக தலைவர்கள் வரவேண்டுமென்று வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதே மாதிரி மாறி மாறி வந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்கள் கூட இரண்டு முறை வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்கள் இடங்களில் இந்த விதமாக ஹரிஜனங்கள் தலைவராக வருவதற்கு இடம் இல்லை. அங்கே ஸ்தானம் ஒதுக்கப்படவில்லை. ஒவ்வொரு சபையிலும் ஏதாவது ஒரு தடவையாவது ஜில்லா போர்டிலும் நகர சபைகளிலும் ஒரு முறை ஹரிஜனத்திற்கு தலைவர் ஸ்தானம்

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இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சட்டம் இருக்கவேண்டும். அப்பொழுது தான் ஹரிஜனங்கள் தலைவராக வருவதற்கு சந்தர்ப்பம் இருக்கும். ஆகையால் ஒவ்வொரு ஸ்தாபனத்திலும் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு தலைவராவதற்கு இடமிருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லி இது சம்பந்தமாக கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களையும் வேண்டியதைச் செய்யும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

SRI M. P. PERIYASWAMI:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, வரும் ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு அதிக ஸ்தானம் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய ஜனத்தொகைக்குத் தகுந்தபடி அவர்களுக்கு seat ஒதுக்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு தாலுகாவிலும் ஒவ்வொரு ஹரிஜன மெம்பர் இருந்தால் அந்த ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்து சொல்வதற்கு சௌகரியம் ஏற்படும். இப்பொழுது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் 3, 4 seats வரையில் இருக்கிறதாக தெரிகிறது. ஒவ்வொரு தாலுக்காவிலும் கண்டிப்பாக ஒவ்வொரு seat இருந்தால் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி நிவர்த்திசெய்து கொடுக்க சந்தர்ப்பம் கிடைக்கும். முனிசிபாலிட்டியிலும், யூனியனிலும் எந்த இடங்களிலும் அதிக ஜனத்தொகை இருந்தும் ஒரு சீட் (seat), இரண்டு seats தான் இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் சில இடங்களில் reserve செய்து வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் முனிசிபாலிட்டி, யூனியனில் அதிக ஜனத்தொகை இருந்தாலும் அந்த இடத்தில் ஒரு seat தான் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் ஒருவர் இருந்து யூனியனில் மெஜாரிட்டியாக ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் இருப்பதால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சௌகரியம் செய்து கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சேர்மனுக்கும்கூட சொன்னாலும் உடனே செய்துகொடுக்க முடிவதில்லை. Caste ஹிந்துக்கள் தெருவில் குறைகள் இருந்தால் உடனே அந்த குறைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்துவிடுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஹரிஜன தெருவில் குறைகள் இருந்தால் உடனே செய்வது இல்லை. யூனியனில் லேட் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். Caste ஹிந்துக்கள் தெருவில் பக்கம் பக்கமாக லேட் எரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ஹரிஜனங்கள் இருக்கும் தெருவில் ஒரு லேட் ரிகன் இருந்தாலும் 1, 2 லேட்தான் எரிந்து வருகிறது. ஒரு லேட் இரண்டு லேட்கள் தான் போடுகிறார்கள். அவைகளும் ஹரிஜனங்களைப் போல் பிற்போக்காக இருக்கிறது. மற்ற இடங்களில் நன்றாக எரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ஹரிஜன சமூகம் எவ்வளவு பிற்போக்காக இருக்கிறதோ அவ்வளவு பிற்போக்காக லேட்டுகளும் இருக்கிறது. லேட்களும் நன்றாக படித்து தெரிந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களுடைய தெருவுகளைப் பார்த்தால் ஜோராக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம். காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்கார் இதை ரொம்பவும் முக்யமாக கவனிக்க வேண்டும். நாங்கள் அதிகமாக ஸ்தானங்கள் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிற காரணம் என்னவென்றால் நாங்கள் இப்பொழுது அசெம்ப்லி M.L.A.களாக 30 பேர்கள் வந்திருக்கிறோம். இதே மாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு தாலுக்காக்களிலும் வந்தால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு அதிபிரியமும் சந்தோஷமும் ஏற்படும், குறைகளும் நிவர்த்தியாகும். இந்த மாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு தாலுக்காக்களிலும் ஒவ்வொரு பிரிக்காலிலும் ஹரிஜனங்கள் வந்து அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி அவைகளைத் தீர்க்க சலபமாக இருக்கும். அதன் மேல் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு விமோசனம் செய்து உடனே போய் வந்து குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொன்னால் ஜனங்களுக்கு திருப்தி உண்டாகும். அதற்காகத்தான் அதிக ஸ்தானம் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதற்காகவே தான் சுவாமி சகஜா நந்தா அவர்கள் சொன்னார் இந்த மாதிரி கொடுக்காவிட்டால் நாங்கள் தனியாக பிரிந்து போகும்படியாக இருக்குமென்று அந்த மாதிரி நாங்கள் இந்துக்களிடமிருந்து பிரிந்து போவதற்கு எங்களுக்கு மனம் இடம் கொடுக்கவே கொடுக்காது. ஆனால் எங்களுக்கு குறைகள் இருந்து கொண்டு வருகிறது. எங்கள் குறைகளை எடுத்துக் கூறுவதற்கு எங்களுக்கு அதிக ஸ்தானங்கள் ஒதுக்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றுதான் சொல்லுகிறோம். ஜில்லா போர்டு நாமியேஷன் காலத்தில் 1, 2 ஸ்தானம்

[Sri M. P. Periyaswami] [27th March 1947]

கள் வைத்தார்கள். ஜனநாயக கவர்ன்மெண்டு வந்திருப்பதால் ஜனத் தொகையை அனுசரித்து அதிக ஸ்தானத்தைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்த ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய குறைகளை இந்த காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் உடனடியாக கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இத்துடன் நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

6-50 p.m. M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir,

Mr. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member will please be brief; we must finish this Bill before 8 p.m. today.”

M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Sir, I stand to oppose this Bill. Of course it will be a repetition of what my Leader, Deputy Leader and other speakers of my Party said. But I cannot resist the desire to stress the self-same point which has been brought to the notice of this august Assembly. By saying that this Government are going to increase the representation of minority communities and by not granting the choice of their own representatives, who will be proper representatives, they want to mislead the Muslims of this Province. Do you think that we would yield to such a proposition? As the hon. Member Mr. Brahmanandam has inadvertently mentioned, they want to increase the number that will suit them; they want to mislead the Muslims. Muslims will have to seek the favour of majority communities if the former want to be represented on the municipalities where they want to increase representation. Is it to their mercy that we, as a nation, should be left, we who are not less than one-third of this sub-continent. If there should be proper representation, is it not for the Government to see that the legitimate demands of the Muslims are first given and then say ‘have we not done so?’ They want to take shelter by saying that they want to give more representation and adequate representation; but it will not be proper representation; they will not be proper representatives of that nation. Does this mean democracy? Mr. Brahmanandam inadvertently mentioned also that this was not the time when we should ask for separate electorate for Local Boards, District Municipalities and such bodies. He failed to see what kind of representation it will be, if separate electorates are not conceded. Joint electorate means that the so-called Muslims that will be elected will have to be under the mercy of the majority community. If it is so, certainly as all of us have said, we do not want any increase of representation on that basis. When the whole Municipal Bill is to be amended, this question may be taken up and representation given to us properly and adequately.

“ By appointing Special Officers temporarily for the period before the election, I wonder if it is not the object of the Congress Party to see that by such a medium they capture all the seats they want. If they should deny that, where is the harm to leave the existing bodies as they are, while conducting the elections? It is for the Government to understand that we Muslims, who

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represent one-third of the population of India, cannot be hoodwinked like this. Therefore, Sir, we only wish that the elections should be postponed or may not be postponed. They can carry on the elections without giving us any more representation and with the appointment of Special Officers. With these remarks I oppose the Bill.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ There are three more hon. Members who wish to speak; I shall allot them five minutes each.”

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support 7 p.m. this Bill and in doing so, I want to bring to the notice of the House that I was one of the Members of the Select Committee and in that committee, I tried my level best to convince the hon. Chairman of the Committee and the Minister in charge of the Bill, my point of view, but I am extremely sorry to say that I could not convince them, as I happened to be the only Harijan member there. They were able, somehow or other, to get through the Bill, even without changing a comma. When you want to raise the representation of the minorities, you must raise their number to the maximum. The hon. Chairman of the Committee himself admitted that there are so many municipalities, where, if all the minorities are put together, they will be more than 50 or 60 per cent of the total strength. In that case, how are you justified in allowing them only one-third of the seats? Now you have been saying that you have raised the reserved seats from one-fourth to one-third. But even then you are not fair with regard to these minorities. I should have been satisfied if the hon. Chairman has raised it from 33½ per cent to 40 per cent. After all I pleaded for only 7 per cent more. The hon. Chairman of the Committee as well as the Members were not kind enough to extend this much to me. Now, what were their reasons? What were their grounds for not acceding to my request? They said that Members who are given reserved seats are not precluded from standing for general seats. Well, Sir, I do see the point, but I know, it is a pious wish. I asked the Chairman of the Committee, I asked the hon. Member who piloted the Bill, how many Members of the Harijan community had come through the general elections. Can you show me a single instance, where a Harijan has succeeded in a general seat? There is not even one Member in all these local boards from the Harijan community, who has been elected through the general seat. If there had not been this reservation to-day, neither would I have found a place here, nor any members of my community would have any place anywhere in the local boards. That is the situation to-day. Sir, then what wonder is there in my asking for more representation? You say you want to give more representation. Then give it, Sir. You invite me to your house for dining with you, and when I come there, it is your duty to see that I am fed fully. What is the good of your giving me food only for half a belly and asking me to go out? Your action is something like this. When you want to give full representation to the minorities, you must see that you give them more seats. When all the minorities are put

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together, they become a majority. Then, how am I wrong, Sir, in asking for two-fifths of the seats. After all I have let out more than 50 per cent of the general seats.

“Now, Sir, with regard to the method of representation. What is the method of representation? I am not at all for separate electorate; I am always for joint electorate. But I see that in the joint electorate, you have been clubbing a Harijan seat and a general seat. After all, a Harijan who comes through a general seat is a pocket member. (Interruption.) My friend, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, denies it. He has been able to pocket even M.L.As. Then, where is the question of our not being pocketed in the district boards at all? He was capable enough to bring down even Harijan M.L.As. to his side though his views have not coincided with them. When that is the case, how is it possible for members of the Harijan community to assert themselves? I ask, Sir, when a non-Harijan can represent Harijans in all other firkas, why cannot a Harijan represent non-Harijans in the same? I say, in firka No. 1, a Harijan should stand. Whether they are Christians, whether they are Harijans, whether they are non-Harijans, all must vote only for that representative. Can he not then represent them all?”

“Sir, am I not championing the cause of Harijans as well as non-Harijans? So also, why not my friends believe that Harijans also will represent them? Why should a Harijan be clubbed with another non-Harijan and given a scope to the clever non-Harijan to abuse the Harijan, Sir? Sir, I request the hon. Gentleman who pilots this Bill to take note of this thing.

“Only one minute more, Sir, and I shall finish. So, that is why, I had to differ from the Members of the Select Committee. Now, I think, I am justified in explaining my position to the House, why I have differed from them. That is all I have to say, Sir.”

M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இன்று ஜில்லா போர்டு, முனிசிபாலிடி இவைகளைப்பற்றி கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் சீர்திருத்த மசோதாவை நான் எதிர்க்கிறேன். ஏன் என்று கேட்டால் இந்த டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டிலும் முனிசிபாலிடியிலும் முஸ்லீம் பிரதிநிதிகளை இல்லாமல் முஸ்லீம்களுடைய விரோதிகளாக இருக்கப்பட்டவர்களே பிரதிநிதிகளாக வருகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் முஸ்லீம் சமூகத்திற்கு எந்தவிதமான பிரதிநிதியும் கிடையாது. முஸ்லீம்கள் இருக்கின்ற கிராமங்களுக்கு போக்குவரத்து செய்யப்படும் பாதைகளிலும் ரோடுகளிலும் இருக்கப்பட்ட கஷ்டங்களை சொல்ல முடியாது. அப்படி இருக்கும் கஷ்டங்களை நிவர்த்திசெய்துகொள்ள வசதி இல்லாமலிருக்கிறது. அதுதான் இந்த சர்க்காரின் நியாயமாக இருக்கிறது. முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு தனித்தொகுதி இல்லாவிட்டால் முஸ்லீம் எனது மேன்மைபொருந்திய கங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகள் சிலர் தேசிய முஸ்லீம் என்று பெயர்வைத்துக்கொண்டு 10,000, 20,000 முஸ்லீம்கள் வசிக்கப்பட்ட ஒரு ஊரில் ஒருவர் இரண்டு பேர் இருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் ஒருவரை தேர்ந்தெடுத்தால் இந்த 20,000, 50,000 பேர்களுக்கு அவர் பிரதிநிதி யாவாரா? முஸ்லீம்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகளை தேர்ந்

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தெடுத்துக்கொள்ள முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு உரிமை வேண்டாமா? அவர்களை தேர்ந்தெடுத்துக்கொள்ள ஏன் தனித்தொகுதி ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுக்கக்கூடாது? ஒவ்வொரு டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டிலும் ஒவ்வொரு முனிசிபாலிடியிலும் எங்கள் முஸ்லீம் பிரதிநிதிகள் இல்லாமல் நாங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றோம். சிரமப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றோம். எங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடியவில்லை. எங்களுடைய மத சம்பந்தமானதும் சட்ட விரோதமானதுமான தீர்மானத்தை கொண்டுவந்தால் அதை எதிர்ப்பதற்கு ஒருவரும் இல்லை. சமார் ஆறு வருஷத்திற்குமுன்பாக நண்பர் தேசிய முஸ்லீம் இருந்தபோது ஒரு சட்ட விரோதமான தீர்மானம் வந்தது. ஏன் அதை எதிர்க்கக்கூடாது என்று கேட்டதற்கு நான் காங்கிரஸ் பிரதிநிதி முஸ்லீம்கள் பிரதிநிதி இல்லை. அதை எதிர்க்க முடியாது என்று மறுத்துவிட்டார். அப்படி இருந்தால் எப்படி எங்களுடைய குறைகளையும் மதக்கோட்பாடுகளையும் எடுத்துக்கூறமுடியும் என்று கேட்கிறேன்.

“முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு இன்னும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் ஒரு சௌகர்யமும் ஏற்பாடும் செய்துகொடுக்கப்படவில்லை. ஏன்? எங்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகள் இருந்தால் எங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடியும்ல்லவா. இவ்விதம் இருந்தால் எங்கள் சமூகத்தின் குறைகளை எப்படி நிவர்த்தி செய்துகொள்ளமுடியும்? தலைவர் அவர்களே, பள்ளிக்கூடங்களிலும் பாடசாலைகளிலும் elementary school களிலும் முஸ்லீம்களுடைய மதக் கல்வி கற்றுக்கொடுக்க எங்கள் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டார் உபாத்யாயர்களை நியமித்துக்கொடுக்கவில்லை. ஒரே ஒரு உபாத்யாயருக்குத்தான் சம்பளம் கொடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். இந்த குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல எங்கள் பிரதிநிதிகள் இல்லை. இப்படி இருந்தால் நாங்கள் எப்படி நிர்வகிக்கமுடியும். எங்களுடைய சமூகத்திலிருந்தே எங்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகளை டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்டுக்கும் முனிசிபாலிடிக்கும் அனுப்பினால் அல்லவா எங்களுடைய குறை நீங்கும்.

“இன்னும் அனேகமாக ரோடுகளில் இருக்கப்பட்ட கஷ்டங்களை தேசிய முஸ்லீம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறவர்களிடம் சொன்னால் எங்களால் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல முடியாது என்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். எங்களுடைய சமூகத்தின் முஸ்லீம்கள் அங்கு இருந்தால் எங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி சீர்திருத்தம் செய்துகொள்ள முடியும் அல்லவா. ரோடுகளில் யானையைக்கூட புதைக்கக்கூடிய யானைப்பள்ளங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. கார் வருவதற்கு கஷ்டப்படுகிறது. வண்டி வருவதற்கு கஷ்டம். பார் வண்டிகள் வர முடியவில்லை. வண்டியிலிருந்து பாரங்கள் இரக்கி மாற்றவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை எங்கள் கண்ணால் பார்த்துக் கஷ்டப்பட்டு கவலைப்படுகிறோம். எங்கள் ஜனங்கள் சிரமப்படுகிறார்கள். எங்கள் குறைகளை கவனிக்க பிரதிநிதிகள் இல்லை. எந்தவிதத்திலும் நியாயத்தை ஏன் கவன்மெண்டார் அளிக்கவில்லை என்று கேட்கிறேன். இது நியாயமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். எங்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகளை நாங்களே தேர்ந்தெடுத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடிய அதிகாரத்தை ஏன் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது? அதை மறுக்கக் காரணம் என்ன? அதற்காகத்தான் தனித்தொகுதி வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கப்படுகிறது.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“Mr. Baig, you are the last speaker.” 7-10 p.m.

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am forced to speak on this motion on account of the very pathetic appeal made by Mr. Nagappa. This is one of the rarest occasions in which he spoke in that very pathetic way. Even a hard-hearted man must, I suppose, hear his appeal, be convinced and must grant it. That aggravates the indifference with which the proceedings in the Select Committee were conducted. It is said that not a comma was changed. If it was the intention of

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the Government not to change any provision in the Select Committee, why did they refer the matter to the Select Committee at all? The Government with its strength on its side could have brushed aside any motion for referring the matter to the Select Committee. I believe, Sir, it was the Minister for Local Bodies, who himself moved that the matter be referred to a Select Committee. I submit it is criminal waste of time of the Members of this House and perhaps of money also. It is a very strange thing and I submit that it is a very wrong thing.

"The second point which I am forced to refer to is the point raised by my friend from Narasaraopet. He seemed almost to say that the question of separate electorate and the question of adult franchise are irrelevant and ought not to have been allowed to be raised. I know, Sir, he is a very clever lawyer; he ought to have seen that these are relevant. He should have known also that the original Act was passed in 1920; subsequently, several amending Bills were passed one after another and several questions were debated and several changes were made; and if his party was so anxious to scrap this Act altogether, eleven months must be enough to bring in a consolidated Bill. Was his party sleeping or was there no time on account of the internal troubles, I do not know. Anyway, I submit that these questions are relevant. For, what is the proposal? We want to increase the representation of the minorities. My communist friend said that if only you had adult franchise, the Harijans who are poor and have not got the qualification for having a vote—because it is on some property basis—will be voters and there will be no necessity for this reservation of seats for them. Is it not relevant, Sir? It is more relevant than the rest of the speech my friend has delivered.

"Then the next question is with regard to the separate or joint electorate. You are making provision, you say, for Muslim reservation; but we say 'well, my dear Sir, why do you make any reservation for us at all? If you must make reservation for us, give us proper men or none at all'. So, I think my friend, Mr. Brahmanandam Reddiyar, was off his mark to-day perhaps."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your time is over, please. The Hon. Minister will now make his reply."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before the Minister begins, may I know from him how many minutes he will take?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I want only about five minutes, Sir."

"Sir, I did not anticipate this discussion about separate electorate and adult franchise in this Bill so much to-day, as about

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four days were taken on these subjects when the Bill was originally introduced in the Assembly before it was referred to the Select Committee. Certainly I cannot oblige my hon. Friends with my opinion about separate electorate and adult franchise on this Bill. I certainly agree, with due deference to my hon. Friend Mr. Baig, that in this amending Bill which is only an amendment of sections 7 and 44 of the Madras District Municipalities Act of 1920, the question of franchise or the nature of the electorate does not come in at all. And certainly I will be charged with absolute irrelevancy and I may even be called to order by the Speaker of the House or even a Member of the House if when referring to the clauses here . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to give my ruling afterwards on the amendments relating to these points."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"What I say is this, Sir. I feel that lawyers like Messrs. Pocker and Hassan Koya and other friends on that side can perfectly understand that this is an amending Bill for amending sections 7 and 44 of the District Municipalities Act which do not have any concern either with the electorate or with franchise or have any reference to it. Whatever it may be, a personal explanation or opinion is not quite relevant to the subject-matter of the Bill and as such, at this juncture . . . (Mr. B. Pocker stood up in his seat.) I am not going to yield, I am replying to the criticism as to the relevancy of the issue, and there is absolutely no necessity for exacerbating feelings or attempting to get excited over questions that are not relevant. Other opportunities such as at the time of the discussion of the Budget may be availed of for the purpose. I do not want to say anything about adult franchise or anything that has nothing to do with this matter."

"I would like, Sir, to say a word or two in reply to my hon. Friend from Madura, who seemed to be obsessed with the idea that this Bill has been brought forward with the object of abolishing the nominated councils. Let me clear one misapprehension. There are 57 municipal councils which are not nominated councils; there are only 24 nominated councils; so that, if the object of the Bill is to do away with the nominated councils, the other 57 councils should also be going off; and this Government has no particular love for the existing elected councils at all. So that, it is not intended to do anything like that at all."

"My friend, Mr. Hassan Koya, made certain remarks which I only feel as uncharitable. My friend said that the appointment of the special officer has shown a sinister motive on the part of the Government to see that during the period of the preparation of the electoral rolls the special officer will be there and the Communists will be in jail; and he also said 'You want to clap up as many Communists as possible so that there may not be any opposition to the Congress when the time for election comes.' Sir, long ago the electoral rolls were prepared for the Assembly and

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the municipal councils when we and our men were not there, were not free but were mostly in the jails of this Province and of other Provinces. But now we have come in mostly in our own right and we have none of these sinister feelings. I can only say that everything is yellow to the jaundiced eye. So that, the only two matters that arise in this Bill are firstly the increasing of the number of reserved seats for the minorities and secondly the appointment of a special officer.

7-20 p.m. "As it is, Sir, the local boards are having these special officers. Government do not want a different principle with regard to the municipal councils. That is one of the main reasons. Secondly, even otherwise, elections are conducted not by municipal councillors but by the executive officers. These special officers are not going to be there for long but only until elections are over and it is certainly better that the people who are not interested in any party are there to prepare the electoral rolls for all parties concerned. So, it is with that object that we are having these special officers for the municipalities during the period until the elections are over. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hassan Koya, asked, why these councils should be dissolved. With his experience of the Calicut Municipal Council, he might have known that on four meetings, there was no quorum. Very important matters had to be transacted but the council adjourned without quorum. There are many instances of meetings being adjourned in nominated councils for want of quorum. Thus, Sir, in these municipal councils no business used to be carried on and the councillors have become more a burden than a help in the transaction of business. So, Sir, it is necessary that, in order that proper work may be done until elections are over, these special officers are necessary there. Sir, I do not want to answer the criticisms with regard to the cheap jibes such as 'Disgrace to democracy' and all that. I do not want to answer these cheap jibes. The question of separate electorate and adult franchise has not arisen in this case because the district boards can continue the existing representation based on the population of the town or the area, and so that question decides the point. I have nothing more to add in reply. (Interruption.) My friend, Mr. Nagappa, asks, what about his point. I am one of those who feel that there should not be any longer any Harijans. We have done considerable wrong and we have to atone for it and we have to rectify that wrong by there being no separate community as Harijan hereafter. I do not want them to remain as Harijans for ever. It is our religious duty to see that Harijans are part of the Hindus and they get their seats, not by reservation, but as a matter of right and as a matter of atonement by us."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The motion before the House is that the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) as approved by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

The motion was put and carried.

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Mr. SPEAKER:—"Now, we will take the Bill clause by clause. I will take the Preamble in the end. I will take up clause 2 first. There is an amendment proposed to this clause by the Leader of the Opposition. I wish to give a ruling on this matter. I will give an opportunity to the House to say a few words about my ruling. This is my ruling. Rule 60 (i) of the Assembly Rules says: "An amendment must be relevant to, and within the scope of, the subject-matter of the Bill or motion to which it relates." The hon. Sir Abdur Rahim has defined the word "Scope of the Bill". This is Volume VI, September 1937. The hon. Sir Abdur Rahim has defined the word "scope". He says: "The scope of the Bill as has been more than once laid down by the Chair is to be judged from the Preamble, the title, the clauses of the Bill and the Schedule."

"Here, the Bill wants to amend sections 7, 8 and 44 of the District Municipalities Act, and sections 7, 9, 11 and 51 of the Madras Local Boards Act. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ismail, wants to introduce amendments to sections 47 and 49 of the Local Boards Act, and section 43 of the District Municipalities Act. I have already told the House that the amendment of the hon. Mr. Ismail does not come within the scope of the amending Bill. The amendment given by my hon. Friend wants to change the method of election whereas we are dealing here with sections 7, 8 and 44 of the District Municipalities Act, and sections 7, 9, 11 and 51 of the Madras Local Boards Act. The hon. Sir Abdur Rahim has given a ruling on a similar matter. It is in Volume VI, 1936, August-September, page 878. This is the ruling on a similar case. I will read the ruling for the benefit of the House:

"The point of order raised is whether the amendments No. 7 and 9 and other amendments of that kind which deal with what are called key industry companies and public utility companies are in order. The objection is that the amending Bill is limited to certain purposes, and the purposes of the amending Bill are to be gathered, as has been pointed out before, from the preamble read with the clauses and the Schedules. My attention has not been drawn to any clauses of the amending Bill or even in the main Act, VII of 1913, which deals specifically with key industries or public utility companies. Now, I am asked to decide whether the clauses dealing with these companies mentioned in amendment No. 7 and also amendment No. 9 and other similar amendments, if any, are within the scope of the Bill or not. I have no doubt whatever that having regard to the scope of the Companies Act as well as the amending Bill now before the House, these amendments are beyond the scope of this Bill."

a Clause 2 (iii).

MAHOMED ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to move that—

"After the existing proviso, the following further proviso shall be inserted:—

"Provided further that separate electorates for Muslims shall be constituted by the Government and that the number of Muslim seats in a Municipal Council shall be so fixed as to work out, when taken together with the number of Muslim members of all other Municipalities of the Province, 16-2/3 per cent of the total number of District Municipal Councillors in the Province."

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This is the ruling given by the hon. Sir Abdur Rahim. The House of Commons also follow the same rule regarding this matter. I wish to draw attention of the House to Erskine May's Parliamentary Procedure, Edition 14, page 521 'An amendment which is out of order on any of the following grounds cannot be proposed from the Chair. An amendment is out of order if it is irrelevant to the subject-matter or beyond the scope of the Bill.' So, the amendment of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is not within the scope of the present Bill. Before I finally give my ruling, I will give an opportunity to the Members of the House, if they want to say anything on it, I am prepared to listen to them."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the purpose of the Bill is . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I also tell you, Mr. Pocker, that if you want to change the other clauses, you will have to do it by bringing in a separate amending Bill to the other clauses?"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, as regards the question as to whether this amendment comes within the scope of rule 60, my first submission is; that so far as the purpose of the amending Bill itself is concerned, first of all, that purpose is mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons given for this amending Bill. I believe, Sir, that will be taken into consideration in deciding what the scope will be.

7-30 p.m. "My submission, Mr. Speaker, is that the object, the purpose and the scope of the Bill have to be gathered from the Objects and Reasons given by the Mover also, along with the other matters referred to in the Objects and Reasons."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may refer to the Statement of Objects and Reasons relating to the Bill. May I read it for the benefit of the hon. Member? It runs as follows:—

'Government also consider it desirable to have power to increase the representation provided for minority communities on Municipal Councils and Local Boards in suitable cases. In order to achieve this object, Government have taken the power to fix, if necessary, the total number of reserved seats in local bodies in excess of the limit laid down in the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, namely one-fourth of their sanctioned strength. It has been provided that the strength of the Municipal Council or Local Board should also be increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased, and the total number of reserved seats should not exceed one-third of the strength as so increased.'

So, nothing is mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons about the method of election."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now, Mr. Speaker, what the Statement of Objects and Reasons states is that it is desirable to have power to increase the representation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not the method of election."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes. With all respect to you, I submit, Sir, that representation cannot fall from Heaven; it has to be provided by some means or other. The object of the

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Bill is to increase the representation of minorities and that cannot be denied. I am very glad that you gave the ruling that the objects and reasons are relevant factors to be taken into consideration in deciding the scope of the Bill. When that is so and when the Statement of Objects and Reasons states that it is desirable to have power to increase the representation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not only the Objects and Reasons that should be taken into consideration, but also the Preamble and the Title of the Bill, the clauses and the schedule."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, Sir, all these have to be taken into consideration. If I am precluded from referring to the Objects and Reasons I should have been very sorry; now, I am glad you allowed me to refer to the Objects and Reasons. That is enough for my purpose. It is stated there that the object is to increase the representation provided for minority communities. You want to increase the representation of the minority communities. The only question is, how that representation has to be increased. Representation cannot be increased automatically, and it has to be increased by some method or other. One method of doing it is suggested and I say your object is better achieved by another method of giving representation than by what you suggest. Therefore, I respectfully submit that my amendment to increase representation by another method than what is suggested in the wording of the Bill, is absolutely relevant to the scope and object of the Bill. I therefore appeal to you to give your ruling in my favour to the effect. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a question of giving my ruling in your favour or anybody else's favour. I will have to do justice to all and I must also conform to the rules on the subject."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is good justice to the cause and not only to the cause of minorities but also to the cause of proper procedure. Sir, when the objects and reasons specifically say that the purpose of the Bill is to increase the representation, I submit that the method of representation is also relevant and it cannot be said that when the object of the Bill is to amend a particular section, no other amendment can be brought forward to amend any other section or any other clause of the section. When an amending Bill is brought to amend a particular section with a particular object, the House is entitled to consider amendments which are germane to that question. The only view to be taken is whether the purpose of the amendment is germane to the purpose of the Bill itself and not as to whether the amendment seeks to amend that particular section or any other section. So, the fact that the result of my amendment will be to amend some sections, other than the sections sought to be amended by the amending Bill, is beside the point. Therefore, in so far as the Objects and Reasons specifically mention what the object of the Bill is. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told the hon. Member that he should not take into consideration merely the Objects and

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Reasons, but the Preamble, Title, etc., have also to be taken into consideration. I have also given the definition of 'scope' from the ruling given by the Hon. Sir Abdur Rahim. I may also inform the hon. Member that I am anxious to finish the business by 8 o'clock."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am also very anxious to finish soon, Sir. I am only anxious that my amendment should not be ruled out on this technical ground. I know what its fate will be otherwise, but let it not be ruled out on this technical ground and let us not lay down a bad precedent as regards procedure."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, what is sought to be done by this Bill is to give representation by reservation and when that increased representation is sought to be given by increasing the reserved seats, is it not relevant for a person to say, we do not want reservation, or we want reservation of a different kind. Supposing it is moved by some hon. Member from the other side, to delete the words 'reservation of seats', it is relevant and it must be admitted it is relevant. Supposing my Friend, Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi, moves an amendment like that it will be perfectly relevant. Now, Sir, the object of the Bill is to give representation by reservation. A member says, no reservation at all; another member says, reservation not by this method but by some other method and the object of the Bill is after all to give representation by a certain method. When the central idea is to give increased representation to minority communities, it is open to this House to say, no reservation at all. Is it not possible for Mr. Brahmanandam to say, delete that clause relating to reservation? When you say increased representation, no reservation at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is the method of election."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am coming to that. If it is relevant for Mr. Brahmanandam Reddi to say, no reservation at all to a proposition brought forward by my hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, that there should be increased representation, if that is germane to that, then my submission is, give us no representation at all and if at all you want to give representation to us, give proper representation, not by the method of reservation but by giving us our own method."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"There is no necessity to try to confuse the word, Sir. What is sought to be done is to increase the number from three to four or four to five and what is sought to be amended by the amendment is that election should be by separate electorates. When the only point is to increase the number from three to four or four to five, to say that the election should be by separate electorate, it is only attempting to confuse the issue and I would only use the phrase used by Mr. Hassan Koya in connection with this."

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SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"May I submit at 7-40 p.m. once it is very difficult to convince hon. Members who refuse to be convinced. It is so very clear as the Hon. Minister has said that the Government considered it desirable to have power only to increase representation. My friend Mr. Nagappa is perfectly in order when he says that representation is not adequate. So far as that point is concerned he is perfectly in order. Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that in so far as it is the number alone that is sought to be increased and not the method by which representation should be given, it is perfectly out of order."

MOHAMED RAFAEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to draw your attention to proviso (2) to section 2 of the Bill. It says:

'The executive authority or any person authorized by the election authority in this behalf shall prepare and publish in such manner and at such times as the Provincial Government may direct, the electoral roll for the municipality or the alterations to such roll.'

"What I wish to point out, Mr. Speaker, is this that if the separate electoral system is introduced it will involve a change in the electoral roll, upon which the elections to the municipal and local bodies will be based and since this proviso refers to an alteration in such a roll or to the preparation of such a roll in any manner as the Government may direct, I submit, Sir, that the separate electorate will fall within the scope of this Bill."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"My friend has not realized that if the amendment is allowed or passed it amends various other sections of the District Municipalities Act which is not before us."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already made the position clear as to the reasons why I wanted to give a ruling on this matter. Now I stick to my original opinion and rule it out of order."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I beg to move the following amendment, Sir:—

'Clause 2 (iii), New sub-section (3-C).

After clause 2 (iii) the following sub-section shall be inserted:—

"(3-C). One-eighth of the total number of seats are reserved to the registered Trade Unions wherever they exist and where no such Trade Unions exist, factory, municipal and other labouring class shall have the right to elect for the seats reserved for the registered Trade Unions."

"I hope this amendment is in order, Sir. Sir, in moving the amendment let me first of all bring to the notice of the House the assurance given by the previous Minister for Local Boards that he will consider giving representation to the Trade Unions, registered Trade Unions, and I expect the Treasury Bench even

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though it might have come just about two or three days back, in spite of that it will take this fact also into consideration, at least in the Select Committee and this Select Committee report has been signed by the previous Minister.

"The previous Ministry has given us an assurance and that assurance has not been taken into consideration just as every assurance given by the Congress Treasury Benches has not been taken into consideration.

"I beg to bring to your notice, Mr. Speaker, that hon. Members are disturbing me and usurping your powers (Laughter).

"I am sitting to-day in this House because there is a seat for labour or else I would not have been here. So also are most of the Congress Labour representatives. We have been hearing so much from Hon. Members from the Treasury Benches in the matter of following the constitutional procedure of England and other foreign countries. Everywhere trade unions have right of representation and on that analogy I require representation in the local boards. That is why I appeal to the Treasury Benches to accept the amendment."

The amendment fell through for want of a seconder.

MR. SPEAKER:—"For the reasons which I have given on the amendment of Mr. Ismail, I rule the amendment of Mr. Venkateswarlu for clause 2 (vii), i.e.,

'After the words "shall prepare and publish" occurring in the proposed sub-section (2), the words "on the basis of adult franchise" shall be inserted,'
out of order."

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

The amendment of Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur, i.e. After the proviso to clause 3 (ii) the following further proviso shall be inserted:—

'Provided further that separate electorates for Muslims shall be constituted by the Government and that the number of the Muslim seats in a local board shall be so fixed as to work out when taken together with the number of Muslim members of all the other local boards in the Province, 16-2/3 per cent of the total number of members of all the local boards in the Province.'
was ruled out of order.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

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Clause 5.

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I move, Mr. Speaker, that at the end of clause 5 (1) (iii) the following proviso shall be inserted:—

'Provided that the Provincial Government shall have the discretion to extend the term of the councillors previously holding office till the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into Office.'

The object of the amendment is absolutely clear and I do not think I need take up the time of the House at this late hour, when all of us are feeling hungry. I only hope that the Government will have the good sense to appreciate the point of view that underlies this amendment. If the Government think that they can have their own way in everything and they care a two-pence for what we on the opposition say, I have nothing more to say and I shall sit down. I am particularly appealing to them just to test their bona fides and a new point of view which the new Ministry might take. In that spirit only I am just appealing them to consider the advisability of accepting this amendment. I have already made reference to the change in the Ministry, and I was anxious to know why the Ministry was changed, and what has brought about the change. I am still in the dark, and that question is still kept unanswered even now. The only other method by which I can pry into the secrets which might have been behind the change in the Ministry is to test them by certain propositions before them and see whether they are tarred with the same brush or by a different brush. Therefore, I ask you whether you will not consider the advisability of accepting this amendment which will not in any way interfere with your objects. I can assure you that you are so powerful; your brute majority is there in the country even now so far as these matters are concerned."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The amendment itself is self-explanatory."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I appeal to the new Ministry to look at things with new eyes and not with jaundiced eye, the expression used by my hon. Friend as regards the speech made by one of my colleagues. I want to know now whose eye is jaundiced. (Hear, hear.) I want to know whether it is his eye or our eye. I appeal to him to look at the matter in a bona fide manner and understand the object with which we are moving this amendment. Therefore, I appeal to him to accept this amendment in a very graceful and honourable manner rather than persist in the sinister object with which it is introduced."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is enough, Mr. Hameed Khan."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know something about the origin and . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—“Then I will have to say to the House that we shall sit till 8-30.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I know something about the origin and the place of the amendment in the scheme of things. Hon. Members who have anything to do with the municipalities in the Province know how the absence of such a provision would have hit the members of the various municipalities. The amendment that has been moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Pocker which stood in the name of the Leader of the Opposition (Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur) reads—

‘Provided that the Provincial Government shall have the discretion to extend the term of the councillors previously holding office till the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into office.’

This amendment, if accepted, will certainly be helpful to justify the objects that are common to both the Government and the Opposition. We do not want the Government to persist in a policy of domination. The result of the Bill that was passed by this very House some time ago, with regard to the District Municipalities Amending Bill, would have been that the members of the various municipal councils would have gone out of office at the end of this month. We will be passing this Bill possibly to-night or to-morrow and there will not be enough time to give notice. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: ‘They know it already.’) Give them sufficient notice for the holding of elections, after a certain time. This time will not be enough. Therefore, I hope the Hon. Minister—I know he will agree to this amendment—will see that the members of the various councils in the municipalities have some breathing time to prepare themselves for the coming elections. The interval between the abolition of the existing councils and the holding of the next elections will not be too long. That certainly will be a very undemocratic act. I hope and I am confident that the Hon. Minister will accept this amendment.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“For two reasons, Sir, I am sorry I cannot oblige my friends on the opposite side. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: ‘No obligation.’) Certainly, in the first place, it will be illegal to accept this amendment. I did not raise a point of order, because I did not want to waste the time of the House. The existing Act XXIV of 1942 was passed by His Excellency the Governor when the Assembly was not in session. The life of the existing elected municipalities was up to 1st March 1938 while the other 57 municipalities had got life up to 1st April 1938. Twenty-four municipalities have life up to 31st March 1937. So, if the amendment is to have any sense, the wording has to be changed to ‘that the Government shall have discretion to extend the life of the 24 municipalities for any time and the 57 municipalities to some other period.’ This amendment would not fit into section 4 of the Act of 1942 passed by His Excellency the Governor.

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Secondly, it will be practically negating the objects and reasons of the Bill, if I accept this amendment. I oppose the amendment, Sir.”

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clauses 6 and 7 were put and carried.

Clause 1.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Preamble.

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have given my reason for ruling out of order the amendment of my hon Friend, the Leader of the Opposition. The same reason holds good here also.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I have got other points to submit, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have not yet ruled it out of order. It is now 8 o'clock. (After a pause) All right; I will give you an opportunity.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“So, I move the amendment, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I am going to rule it out of order. Before that, I want you to explain to me why I should not rule it out of order.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Sir, my 8 p.m. amendment is—

‘After the words “for the purposes” occurring in line 5, the words, “of introducing adult franchise with proportional representation” shall be inserted.’

“Sir, if you start from the Preamble it is evident instead of going into the operative part”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The House has heard enough. (Laughter.) I rule your amendment out of order.” (Laughter.)

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Sir, I move ‘that the Bill be passed into law.’”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“It may be taken up to-morrow, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The understanding was as follows: I consulted the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition as well as the Leaders of the other two groups. I told them that we will be able to finish this Bill from 5 to 8 p.m. to-day. Now we will take only 15 minutes more to finish this Bill. So I have not included this Bill in to-morrow's agenda.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We have not even had two hours to speak on this Bill. I do not know why Government have been rushing through this legislation in this House, I do not think you, Mr. Speaker, will be a party to it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will not be."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I know, you will not be. Therefore when you are not a party to it, I cannot see why this Bill be finished before 8-15 p.m."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As I have already said, I took into my confidence the leaders of parties, and I told them that we shall be able to finish this business in three hours, and they agreed to it."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know whether it is the Leader of the Opposition or the Leader of the House, or whoever it might be, who entered into a contract to finish this Bill within a time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a contract. I consulted them; I said it would not take more than three hours and they did not raise any objection."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The question is whether the third reading stage would be proceeded with now. We have all tried to finish the business before 8 p.m. I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would be the last person to give an assurance that the Bill will be finished by that time. It will be illegal and immoral, on the part of any member to give assurance that the discussion will be finished within a short time. Therefore I dare say the Leader of the Opposition would not have given such an undertaking. At best he would have said, 'if possible we shall finish' and not anything more than that. I am absolutely certain about it. But whatever it is, now it is not at all fair to the Members of this House to treat them so cruelly. We have been here from 11 o'clock in the morning; we are also human beings having to attend to our necessities, and so it is not proper and fair to ask us to sit still further. Further discussion may be taken up to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This Bill ought to have been passed in February."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not our fault."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the Opposition asked then to give him some holiday then to study the Bill. In view of that, the Bill was postponed. At that time, the ex-Premier who is here, made an appeal that the Bill would have to be taken into consideration afterwards. Otherwise the Bill would have been passed even then."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The delay is due to this crisis!"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, at that time there was no crisis."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When did the crisis start?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I don't remember. I hope my friends will co-operate with me in this small work. The Hon. Minister has already moved that the Bill be passed into law."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before you want us to sit to finish this Bill, I submit we are as anxious as anybody else that we should pass this Bill within a short time. At least on this occasion it is very necessary that we should tell this Government, it is not good rushing with legislation. As a matter of fact, as my friend, Mr. Pocker told the House through you, we have been sitting here from 11 a.m., and then the agreement was that we should sit from 5 to 8 p.m. to consider this Bill. The House has so sat; now we have not finished the work even though it is 8 o'clock now, the hour till which we agreed to sit to consider this Bill. So, I think, it stands to reason—and I am sure Mr. Speaker is more reasonable than any one of us—to agree that since the allotted time has come to an end, it is only just and proper that we should adjourn now and meet again to-morrow to consider the Bill. I do not think any purpose will be served by adopting abnormal methods of procedure. I do not think the Heavens would fall if this Bill is not passed now. I do not think there is any risk of this Government going out of office if this Bill is not passed now. After all by passing this legislation no local bodies are going out of existence. We know what volume of opinion there is in the country against this Bill. So there is no necessity to rush through this legislation at this late hour."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me hear what the Hon. Leader of the House has to say."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I have heard with great interest the hon. Muslim Member for Kurnool. But he forgets the fact that this Bill was before this House, and there was a discussion in all its aspects before referring it to the Select Committee. The members who wanted to have their say had it, and had it in full. The select committee have not changed any part of the Bill. Almost all the Muslim members representing the nation, which they claim to represent in this part of the world, though I cannot say whether there is a Muslim nation—still they had their say and that in full. So I cannot see why they want to have another say now. If they want to obstruct the passage of this Bill well and good. I do not see any reason or logic in that claim. I rather feel in all the discussion so far we have had they had their say. I do not want to take the matter any further."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I 8-10 p.m.
make a submission, Sir. After what the Hon. Leader of the House has stated, for the very reasons that he has put forward that not an iota of the Bill has been changed, there is every reason and very good reason that we should have our full say and that is

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the reason why this Bill should take a long time for consideration. Of course if you want us to sit here for two hours we are prepared to sit. I am afraid a reasonable Speaker. . . .

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am prepared to sit here for two hours."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That will not be reasonable, Sir. Your sitting means, your forcing us to sit. That is what it means. Your sitting there merely without the House is not the only thing. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I make a request to the hon. Members. It is merely a request. When the Bill was in the first stage I have allowed the Members to speak and I gave them full freedom to speak on all its aspects. That being the case, I thought that this Bill could be finished within an hour. This is a very important Bill and it has to go to the other House and that is the reason for the hurry. On account of that I have allowed so many Members on this side to speak even now. Whenever Members came to me and asked me to allow them to speak I told them that the Bill should be finished before 8 o'clock and with that understanding I allowed them to speak. I would therefore request the hon. Member to speak on the Bill."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With due deference to the Chair, I beg to submit that the very reason why we should have our say is that this Government did not see any reason to accept even harmless amendments and we went through the farce of taking this Bill to a Select Committee without even changing a word or even a comma of this Bill. They are very good reasons for any parliamentary body to have its full say to prevent this Bill being passed into law, if we can do that."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has already moved that the Bill be passed into law. If you want to say anything you can do so."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am sorry, Sir, although it may appear to be taken rather in a light mood."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not taken in a light mood."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that we are repeating the same methods which the Congress Government started in the year 1937 when the last Congress Ministry was in office. I can name various measures which were passed by the Assembly brought forward by the then Government. What happened to the Prohibition Bill? What happened to the 'Reconciliation Bill? What happened to the various Bills that were brought forward by the then Ministry and were before this House for its consideration. The words 'placed for its consideration' have become a farce indeed, Sir. What is it that is intended by any promoter of a Bill? What is it that he wants? What is it that the Government wants? It is true, Sir, that there is a difference between a Government Bill and a private Member's Bill. It is true that the rules have been so framed as to give a certain amount of latitude to the Members of the Government as regards the procedure of a Bill through this

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House. But certainly, Sir, those latitudes, those rules have been framed in order to enable the Government to get through a legislation which is urgent and which is of such a nature that it cannot brook delay. But nobody with any imagination would for a moment agree that that if this Bill is not passed the Government will lose financially, that it will bring about a financial crash or that the Government will be put to the necessity of having to pass an ordinance or that the Government will become a laughing stock in the country or if it is not passed the Government will go out of office. Is there any such contingency that can be imagined if this Bill is not passed at fifteen minutes past eight on the Twenty-seventh of March nineteen hundred and forty-seven. Quarter past eight o'clock on the 27th March 1947 is not such a sacred hour that this Bill should be passed, at that hour. If this Bill is not passed at quarter past eight or half past eight of the clock to-day and if it goes into the month of April and if after it is passed by this House and goes to the Council at a meeting in the month of April, no reasons have been advanced by the Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill to tell us that the Government will be adversely affected and that it will be wrong for us not to do it." (An hon. Member: 'Midsummer madness!')

MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. With reference to the Councils nominated under Act XXIV of 1942 the power to extend their lifetime ceases with the 31st March 1947. Therefore unless this Bill becomes a statute on or before the 31st March the position will be anomalous."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With this information my case becomes stronger, because, Mr. Speaker, why did not this Government come before this House earlier. That is one thing. Secondly, Sir, if the hon. ex-Minister who was in charge of this Bill in the first instance was given freedom at that time, as he is free to-day (Mr. Daniel Thomas: 'I am always free') he would not have brought forward such an undemocratic Bill. On the other hand he would have come forward taking into consideration the critical situation in which the then Government was placed in, with a different kind of Bill."

"That Bill would have been a one clause Bill, a preliminary Bill coming before a comprehensive Bill, and intended to give power to extend the life of the existing councils by such time as will be required by the Government to have a comprehensive Bill passed. Sir, the Government should not be so autocratic as to select only a few sections of a measure, come forward with a Bill and then tell the House, 'We have so circumscribed the provisions of the Bill; you cannot move amendments relating to the very basis of the Municipal Act, namely, the electorate.' The question of the electorate has been agitating the minds of the people particularly the Muslims. We have been agitating for separate electorates not yesterday or to-day but for many years. That is our elementary right. That has been an important plank in our programme. That is our Magna Carta so far as the Municipalities are concerned. The Government have left out that important

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aspect, the basic aspect of the matter the electorate and this has made it possible for the Hon. Speaker to rule out of order any amendment dealing with the electorate itself. Why did the Government bring forward such a piecemeal Bill? Why did they not bring forward a comprehensive Bill dealing with the electorate also? They come here on the sly and want to have a Bill passed casting to the winds all the aspirations of important sections of the House and of the country. If the Government were reasonable and accommodating enough to carry the Muslims with them, they should have come forward with a comprehensive Bill dealing with the electorates also. But they have brought only a small Bill dealing with the number of seats and some unimportant matters. It does not mean that we should be forced by the Government—of course they have a very large majority—or we should be cowed down by the Government to agree to this Bill without even having our full say in the matter. But it is not we alone that are concerned. There is also the opinion in the country. Long before this party came into power, they were saying from the house-tops that if they came into power they would enlarge the limited electorate and introduce adult franchise. What has happened to this promise, this assurance, this principle, this formula and this consideration? There is a very large section of opinion in the country which is not prepared to accept this limited franchise which the Government have fixed. Two Governments or rather three Congress Governments have come and gone and so much has happened in the country. A lot of water has flown in the Cooum. Still what do we find? We are exactly where we were. We have not advanced an inch in democratising the municipal bodies. My hon. Friend the ex-Minister for Local Administration said that if we did not pass this Bill now such and such a thing would happen. Who is responsible for it? Are we responsible for it? No, Sir."

MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I wanted to move even in the beginning of February that the Bill be passed into law."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Bill was published on the 21st January. It was discussed in the House on the 13th and 14th February and referred to a Select Committee on the 14th February. On that day, I told the House that we should take the Bill on the next day, but the Leader of the Opposition wanted to have a holiday."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is true that this Bill was moved by my hon. Friend on a certain date and then, Sir, of course you were right in telling us that the Leader of the Opposition wanted that the consideration of the Bill should be postponed for a few days."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He wanted to have a long holiday."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"A long holiday for how many days, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not remember."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The holiday was expected to be short, but if it happened to become long, who is responsible for it? You have of course, Mr. Speaker, very rightly said something about some delay having been caused by this side, but you have very carefully avoided mentioning the much longer delay which has been necessitated by the very many things which have happened since then for which neither you nor we are responsible. We have to take that into account. We cannot throw the entire blame on the Leader of the Opposition or hon. Members on this side of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am not blaming anyone. I am simply giving the facts and I should not like to be misunderstood."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, you gave the reason for the delay, but the main reason for the delay is the longdrawn period of crisis. Apart from the delay, I ask a very fundamental question: 'Why has the Hon. Minister, instead of coming forward with a comprehensive Bill which would have satisfied all sections of the House, come forward with a throttling Bill, a Bill intended to destroy the so-called democratic bodies of local administration?' On the debris of these institutions, the then Hon. Minister, Mr. Daniel Thomas wanted to build a huge structure! What was that structure to be? That structure was to be a big Congress House, a palatial Congress House. I do not know how many storeys and how many dark rooms there will be and what all furniture will be put in that building. That was the intention of the Hon. Minister then. If he was so anxious to see that the Bill satisfied all sections of the House and all sections of the people in the country, he should have waited and come forward with a comprehensive legislation, including therein the most important and basic subject, namely, the electorate. What will happen when this Bill becomes law? In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is said: 'It was proposed to hold ordinary elections to municipal councils and district boards in November and December 1946 and accordingly programmes of dates for the various stages of such elections were fixed. But the elections had to be postponed for various reasons'."

8.30
p.m.

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"On a point of order, Sir. I find that the hon. Member is merely repeating what has been said already. I think repetitions should not be made. Unless he has got new points, I suggest that he may be asked to shorten his speech."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Did the hon. Member in his point of order say that there are no new points in my speech but only repetitions?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has requested you to shorten your speech."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I have got a point of order, Sir. In the agenda it is stated that we will sit up to 8 p.m."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"With the consent of the House, we can sit even till 12 o'clock."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Has that consent been taken, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told you, and you were silent. Silence means consent. The fact is that the Bill should be passed into law to-day, because it should be taken up in the Upper House on the 29th. 30th is Sunday and on the 31st it will have to receive the assent of His Excellency the Governor. You must realize the difficulty of the Ministers also. Otherwise, they would not press you."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I agree with you, Sir. At the same time, I would like to submit that you, after your election as Speaker, are the Speaker for the whole House. I do not think you have any part or lot with the Government, being entirely free and independent. I say this side of the House, particularly the Opposition, is very small."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We should also realize the difficulty of Government when they say that the Bill should be passed into law before the 31st."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I should like you to go into the difficulty more thoroughly. Who are the persons responsible?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let us not apportion blame now."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not a question of apportioning. It is throwing the blame entirely upon their heads."

"Instead of appealing to us here, is it not the Speaker's prerogative to examine whether these hon. Gentlemen have not done a very grave wrong in rushing this legislation through and making us sit at this late hour? (An hon. Member: 'We are starving'.) I am not concerned with starvation, because I am not starving. I am prepared to sit till midnight, as you suggested."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I never suggested that we should sit till midnight. When an hon. Member asked, I replied to him that with the consent of the House we could sit even till 12 o'clock."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I submit that the Hon. Speaker will have some consideration for us on this side at least hereafter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Because no crisis will occur hereafter."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The crisis might happen on this side also, Sir."

"Apart from that, will the Hon. Speaker see that hereafter at least the Government do not repeat the history and do not come forward with legislation to be rushed through with this

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indecent haste? Certainly that is due to the fact that they have got a very large majority. They believe that they can bring forward legislation and get it passed without our considering it. The fact that we are small number may weigh with you, but certainly it does not weigh with them. It weighs with you in a different way altogether. It weighs with you in this respect that you regard all sections of the House as equal. Where the numbers are small. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The smaller the minority, the greater the protection."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When you say so, I would respectfully submit that you should go further and implement your sympathy for the protection of the rights and privileges of the minority. I should like that you go further into the question as to who the original sinner is."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"We shall try our best to meet the wishes of our friends on the other side hereafter."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With this assurance from the Hon. Premier, I do not propose to speak further."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I must thank the hon. Members of the Opposition for having agreed to co-operate with us in this matter. As the Hon. Prime Minister said, it shall be our endeavour to see that we give sufficient notice and time in such matters."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

The House then adjourned.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 444 asked by Sri A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1947, page 89 supra.]

Extracts from G.O. Ms. No. 603, Development, dated 17th February 1947.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has submitted proposals for the formation of a Co-operative House Building Society to undertake a scheme of town extension for providing houses for the residents of Vellore town. The main features of the scheme are as follows:—

The Society will acquire 1,200 acres of land lying on either side of the macadamized road between Katpadi and Vellore and divide the area into 5,010 plots after setting apart the required area for common purposes such as laying out roads, construction of schools, hospitals, temples, etc. These plots will be divided into five classes and will be sold to members for prices ranging from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 400 each. The cost of the acquisition is estimated at Rs. 9 lakhs and the promoters propose to find this amount entirely from their share capital. The sale of plots is expected to fetch Rs. 34.9 lakhs. Out of the surplus proceeds of about Rs. 25 lakhs realized by the sale of plots, Rs. 5 lakhs will be set apart for making adequate provision for payment of cost of acquisition and for levelling and demarcation of plots, Rs. 10 lakhs for laying out roads, undertaking drainage, lighting, etc., and Rs. 5 lakhs for meeting working expenses. The remaining Rs. 5 lakhs will be constituted into a Dividend Equalization Fund for payment of dividend to members on their paid-up share capital during the initial years. The members to whom the plots are allotted will be required to construct the houses within a specified period and those requiring financial assistance will be given loans by the society under the scheme for the grant of State loans to building societies.

The Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies discussed the scheme with the chief promoters at Vellore and it is reported that there will be no difficulty in undertaking the scheme. The Municipal Council and District Board are also said to be in favour of the scheme. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies therefore requests that the Government may accord their general approval to the scheme. In view of the fact that the scheme has been supported by the Municipal Council, the District Board, the Town-planning Expert and the Public, His Excellency the Governor of Madras considers that the Registrar's scheme should be given a trial, and approves of it generally.

APPENDIX II.

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[Vide answer to starred question No. 445 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1947, page 90 supra.]

APPENDIX II.

Serial number and name of the mill.	Where situated.	Number of		Quantity of yarn produced per month (bales of 400 lb.).	Quantity of cloth produced (bales of 1,500 yards).	Remarks.
		Spindles.	Looms.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<i>Coimbatore district.</i>						
1 The Coimbatore Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited.	Coimbatore	46,402	302	1,153	222	
2 The Kaleswarar Mills, Limited	Do.	43,716	295	891	346	
3 The Somaesundaram Mills, Limited	Do.	23,200	390	465	257	
4 The Coimbatore Murugan Mills, Limited.	Do.	11,480	..	347	..	
5 The Lakshmi Mills Company, Limited.	Do.	40,672	..	850	..	
6 The Cambodia Mills, Limited	Do.	29,824	..	1,338	..	
7 The Kumaran Mills, Limited	Do.	5,880	..	104	..	
8 The Jayalakshmi Mills, Limited	Singanallur.	2,130	..	210	..	
9 Kothari Textiles, Limited	Do.	13,824	..	224	..	
10 The Vasanta Mills, Limited	Do.	28,104	270	611	322	
11 Seroja Mills, Limited	Do.	11,760	..	248	..	
12 The Kaesthuri Mills, Limited	Do.	9,540	..	186	..	
13 The Coimbatore Cotton Mills	Do.	20,840	..	460	..	
14 Sri Balasubramaniya Mills, Limited	Do.	12,096	..	194	..	
15 Radhakrishna Mills, Limited	Peelamedu.	36,672	..	1,072	..	
16 The Coimbatore Pioneer Mills, Limited.	Do.	19,280	..	253	..	
17 Sri Rangavilas Ginning, Spinning and Weaving Mills, Limited.	Do.	28,716	81	677	54	
18 The Coimbatore Kamala Mills, Limited, Uppilpalayam.	Singanallur	9,504	..	129	..	
19 The Rajalakshmi Mills, Limited	Do.	26,592	..	547	..	
20 Janardhana Mills, Limited	Do.	17,860	..	340	..	
21 The Pantaja Mills, Limited	Puliyakulam.	25,756	..	636	..	

Figure for May 1946.

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Serial number and name of the mill.	Where situated.	Number of		Quantity of yarn produced per month (bales of 400 lb.).	Quantity of cloth produced (bales of 1,500 yards).	Remarks.
		Spindles.	Looms.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
22 The Vijayalakshmi Mills, Limited	Kuniyamuthur.	11,032	..	359	..	
23 The Gnanambikai Mills, Limited	Vellakkinar.	11,936	..	403	..	
24 Sri Palamalai Ranganatha Mills, Limited.	Periyanaickenpalayam.	5,600	..	121	..	
25 The Dhanalakshmi Mills, Limited	Tirupur.	25,300	126	653	227	
26 Asher Textiles, Limited	Do.	14,000	..	332	..	
27 Sri Ramaloga Choodambikai Mills, Limited.	Do.	13,424	..	302	..	
28 The Venkatesa Mills, Limited	Udumalpet.	25,520	..	357	..	
29 Palaniandavar Mills, Limited	Do.	21,024	..	370	..	
30 Thirumoorthy Mills, Limited	Do.	11,200	..	228	..	
31 Lotus Mills, Limited	Sundarapuram P.O., Podanur.	13,240	..	284	..	
32 Sri Sarada Mills, Limited	Podanur.	13,996	168	352	131	
<i>Madura district.</i>						
32-A Soundararaja Mills, Limited	Dindigul	6,400	..	130	..	
33 The Madura Mills Company, Limited.	Madura	285,776	..	7,268	..	
34 Sri Kothandaram Spinning Mills, Limited.	Do.	4,000	..	195	..	
35 The Mahalakshmi Textile Mills, Limited.	Do.	18,500	..	735	..	
36 Sri Meenakshi Mills, Limited	Do.	36,564	..	1,855	..	
37 The Rajah Mills	Do.	8,080	..	187	..	
<i>Tinnevely district.</i>						
38 Madura Mills Company, Limited	Ambasamudram	137,256	..	5,127	..	
39 Madura Mills Company, Limited	Tuticorin	74,156	..	3,320	..	
40 The Lakshmi Mills Company, Limited.	Koilpatti	7,776	224	392	372	
41 Loyal Textile Mills, Limited	Do.	24,242	..	965	..	

Rannad district.

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42 Rajapalayam Mills, Limited	..	Rajapalayam	..	700	..	
43 Jayaram Mills, Limited	..	Do.	..	90	..	
<i>Trichinopoly district.</i>						
44 The Trichinopoly Mills, Limited	..	Trichinopoly	..	276	..	
<i>Salem district.</i>						
45 Pulcar Mills, Limited	..	Trichengode	..	109	..	
46 Mettur Industries, Limited	..	Mettur Dam	603	906	1,104	
47 Sree Rajendra Mills, Limited	..	Salem	..	374	..	
48 The Jawahar Mills, Limited	..	Do.	..	371	..	
<i>Malabar district.</i>						
49 The Malabar Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited.	..	Kallai, North Malabar.	..	375	..	
<i>East Godavari district.</i>						
50 Sree Ramachandra Spinning and Weaving Mills.	..	Pandalapaka	..	76	..	
51 Sri Suryanarayana Spinning and Weaving Mills.	..	Do.	..	74	..	
52 Sri Setyanarayana Spinning Mill	..	Rajahmundry	..	NIL	..	Not working.
<i>North Arcot district.</i>						
53 Thirumangal Mills, Limited	..	Gudiyattam	..	175	..	
<i>Madras district.</i>						
54 The Buckingham and Carnatic Company, Limited.	..	Perambur	2,787	5,518	4,132	May 1946.

NOTE.—1. In respect of the combined spinning and weaving mills the figures under yarn produced are gross quantity out of which the requirements of the weaving sections are met. The surplus is made available for sale.

2. The figures under cloth produced represent total cloth manufactured out of which supplies against war orders and export obligations are met. The balance is made available for other companies in the Province.

3. Except where otherwise stated the figures relate to July 1946.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 458 asked by Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 27th March 1947, page 109 supra.]

Statement I.

Statement showing total number of permits issued for transport of passengers and goods in this Presidency for the last three years and the number of buses acquired on such permits which were treated as spare buses in this Province (districtwar).

Name of district.	Total number of permits issued for transport vehicles in the Presidency during the last three years.		Number of buses running with such permits which were treated as spare buses in the Province.
	For transport of passengers.	For transport of goods.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Vizagapatam	123	141	5
East Godavari	107	111	3
West Godavari	116	23	6
Kistna	198	249	9
Guntur	155	285	7
Nellore	129	96	9
Cuddapah	54	112	7
Anantapur	60	70	6
Bellary	83	78	5
Kurnool	84	56	5
Chittoor	125	87	11
Chingleput	239	181	21
North Arcot	258	202	29
South Arcot	88	75	8
Tanjore	198	36	14
Trichinopoly	212	148	25
Salem	208	179	15
Madura	304	315	42
Ramnad	202	67	15
Tinnevely	261	73	28
Coimbatore	307	435	26
The Nilgiris	56	321	6
South Kanara	125	246	7
Madras	247	471	25
Malabar	216	953	40
Total	4,164	5,008	374

NOTE.—The figures furnished in columns (2) and (3) exclude temporary permits.

Statement II.

List of bus owners in the Salem district with the number of buses owned and run by each of them.

Serial number and name of bus owners.	Number of buses owned.	Number of buses run.
1 Messrs. S. B. Renga Vilas, Krishnagiri	17	17
2 " N. S. Motor Service, Salem	32	32
3 " K. R. M. S., Dharmapuri	32	29
4 " Swarnambigai Motor Service, Salem	29	29
5 " Sreedharan Motor Service, Atur	23	23
6 " R. U. M. S., Limited, Rasipuram	26	26
7 " B. S. A., Limited, Salem	19	18
8 " Salamath Transports, Namakkal	15	15
9 " T. S. Royal Mail, Namakkal	19	16
10 " C. S. T., Limited, Erode	4	4
11 " Islamia Motor Service, Bangalore	14	14

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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item IV on page 165 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The SELECT COMMITTEE appointed, to consider the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 21st January 1947.

3. The Committee was appointed on the 14th February 1947. By a motion made by the Hon'ble the Premier, under rule 77 (2) of the Madras Assembly Rules, the strength of the Select Committee was increased to sixteen members, with the result that the Hon'ble Sri K. KOTI REDDI, the Minister in charge of the Local Administration Department, was appointed a member of the Select Committee.

4. The Committee met in the Committee Room, Fort St. George, at 5-15 p.m. on Monday, the 17th March 1947, considered the provisions of the Bill and approved of the Bill as introduced.

5. The Select Committee considers that, in the circumstances, it is not necessary to republish the Bill.

6. A copy of the Bill as approved by the Committee is annexed.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17th March 1947.

DANIEL THOMAS,
Chairman.

ANNEXURE.

L.A. BILL No. 7 OF 1947.

(As approved by the Select Committee.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1947.

Amendment of Madras Act V of 1920.
(i) in section 7, sub-section (1), for the words "The municipal council", the words, brackets, figure and letter "Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3-B), the municipal council" shall be substituted;

Madras Act V of 1920.
Madras Act XIV of 1920.
Madras Act XXIV of 1942.
Madras Act XVI of 1946.

Madras Act V of 1920.

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(ii) in the same section, in sub-section (3), the first proviso and the word "further" in the second proviso, shall be omitted;

(iii) in the same section, after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3-A) The total number of seats reserved under sub-section (3) shall not exceed one-fourth of the strength of the municipal council as notified under sub-section (1).

(3-B) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3-A), the Provincial Government may, if they think fit, by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any municipal council, in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3-A):

Provided that—

(i) the strength of the municipal council as notified under sub-section (1) is also increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased and is specified in the notification aforesaid; and

(ii) the total number of reserved seats is so fixed as not to exceed one-third of the strength of the municipal council as increased under clause (i).";

(iv) in the same section, in sub-section (5), for the word, brackets and figure "sub-section (3)", the words "this section" shall be substituted;

(v) in section 8, in sub-section (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

"Provided further that the Provincial Government may, for sufficient reasons, direct from time to time, the postponement or alteration of the date of an ordinary election or any stage thereof, and the election authority shall give effect to such direction.";

(vi) in section 44, sub-section (1)—

(a) in the first paragraph, after the words "whose name is included" the words "or who is qualified to be included" shall be inserted;

(b) in Explanation (1), after the words "who are entered", the words "or who are qualified to be included" shall be inserted and the words "as entered in such roll" shall be omitted.

(vii) in the same section, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(2) The executive authority or any person authorized by the election authority in this behalf shall prepare and publish in such manner and at such times as the Provincial Government may direct, the electoral roll for the municipality or the alterations to such roll."

Amendment of Madras Act XIV of 1920. 3. In the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920—

(i) in section 7, for the words "The total number", the words, brackets, figures and letter "Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3-A) of section 9, the total number" shall be substituted;

(ii) in section 9, after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3-A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the Provincial Government may, if they think fit, by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any local board in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3):

Provided that—

(i) the strength of the local board as fixed under section 10 is also increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased and is specified in the notification aforesaid; and

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(ii) the total number of reserved seats is so fixed as not to exceed one-third of the strength of the local board as increased under clause (i).";

(iii) in the same section, in sub-section (6), for the words, brackets and figures "sub-sections (1) and (2)", the words "this section" shall be substituted;

(iv) in section 11, sub-section (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

"Provided further that the Provincial Government may, for sufficient reasons, direct from time to time, the postponement or alteration of the date of an ordinary election or any stage thereof, and the prescribed authority shall give effect to such direction.";

(v) in section 51, in sub-section (1)—

(a) in the first paragraph, after the words "whose name is included" the words "or who is qualified to be included" shall be inserted;

(b) in Explanation (1), after the words "who are entered", the words "or who are qualified to be included" shall be inserted and the words "as entered in such roll" shall be omitted;

(vi) in the same section, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(2) The District Panchayat Officer or any person authorized by the prescribed authority in this behalf shall prepare and publish in such manner and at such times as the Provincial Government may direct, the electoral roll for the local board or the alterations to such roll."

4. In clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946, before the words "to advance" the words "from time to time" shall be inserted. Madras Act XVI of 1946.

5. (1) Where elections have to be held for the first time after the commencement of this Act to fill vacancies in the office of the councillors of any municipal council whose term of office has been fixed under section 3 or section 4 (1) (c) or section 5 of the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, then, notwithstanding anything contained in section 6 of that Act and in the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, it shall be lawful for the Provincial Government— Madras Act XXIV of 1942. Madras Act V of 1920.

(i) to cause elections to be held to the municipal council so that its newly elected councillors may come into office on any date fixed by the Provincial Government which may be different from the date of expiry of the term of office of the councillors previously holding office;

(ii) from time to time, to advance or postpone the date fixed under clause (i) and fix instead another date;

(iii) to appoint for that municipal council, a Special Officer during the interval between the date of expiry of the term of the councillors previously holding office and the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into office.

(2) Where any date other than the first day of November of any year is fixed under sub-section (1) as the date on which the newly elected councillors of a municipal council will come into office, the term of office of such councilors shall, subject to the provisions of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1921, expire at noon on the first day of November immediately succeeding the expiry of three years from the date so fixed. Madras Act V of 1920. Madras Act II of 1923.

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Madras Act V of 1920. (3) A Special Officer appointed under sub-section (1) shall exercise and perform the functions specified in section 41 (3) (b) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, in the same manner, as if he had been appointed under that section.

(4) A Special Officer appointed under sub-section (1) who is not a District Collector or a Revenue Divisional Officer may, if the Provincial Government so direct, receive payment for his services from the municipal fund.

Madras Act XIV of 1920. Elections to district boards under supersession at the commencement of Act. 6. Where elections have to be held for the first time to a district board which has been superseded under section 45-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and has not been reconstituted at the commencement of this Act, the Provincial Government may, notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (4) of that section, postpone from time to time the reconstitution of the district board for such period as they think fit.

Madras Act V of 1920. Validation of orders postponing or stopping elections. 7. All orders issued by the Provincial Government before the commencement of this Act, directing the stoppage or postponement of elections to a municipal council or local board or any stage thereof, shall be deemed to have been as valid as if the said orders had been issued under the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended by this Act.

Madras Act V of 1920. Power to remove or of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, or the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, as amended by this Act, the Provincial Government may, as occasion may require, by order, do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty. Madras Act XXIV of 1942.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 28th March 1947.

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

I.—PORTFOLIOS OF NEW MINISTERS.

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. The other day the Leader of the Opposition suggested to the Leader of the House that, whenever new Ministers are appointed or portfolios allocated, a statement should be made on the floor of the House. Therefore, I want to know from the Leader of the House or Premier if he has got any statement to make with regard to the appointment of Ministers and re-allocation of portfolios."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall make a statement at 3 o'clock when we re-assemble."

II.—GENERAL STRIKE TO TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY OF MADRAS.

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is stated that there is going to be general strike in the City of Madras; it is also stated that the Government is taking every step to meet the situation. We would like to know whether the Hon. the Minister in charge will take us into his confidence."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under what category does the hon. Member raise this point?"

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"These are very ticklish matters."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Such points should be raised after question time."

III.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

South Indian Railway strike.

* 449 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons (railwaymen and others) against whom cases are pending in the various courts in the Presidency in connexion with the recent South Indian Railway strike;

(b) the number of persons (railwaymen and others) already convicted in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike;

(c) whether the Government propose to withdraw cases pending against railwaymen in the courts in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike;

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(d) whether the men arrested at Golden Rock on 5th September 1946 (the day of shooting) numbering above 260 and lodged in the Central Jail, Trichinopoly, were treated as convicts or as under-trials; if as under-trials, whether they were given the facilities allowed under the rules such as daily interviews, receiving fruits and cooked food, shaving materials, books, newspapers, etc., and if these facilities were denied to them why they were denied;

(e) whether there was any hunger strike by these men in Trichinopoly Jail to protest against the treatment meted out to them and if so, what action was taken in the matter;

(f) whether the Hon. Minister for Law visited the Trichinopoly Jail in September 1946 when the above under-trials were in jail, and if so, whether he visited the ward where the above were kept and heard their grievances; and if not, why not; and

(g) whether Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar, M.L.A., was also one among the above under-trials and, if so, whether any special treatment was meted out to him, he being a member of this House?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) 383.

“(b) 268.

“(c) No.

“(d) They were all treated as under-trials and were given the facilities admissible under the rules.

“(e) There was no hunger strike but some of the prisoners refused to take their morning congee as seven of them could not have their interview the previous evening. On the assurance that they would be permitted to have their interview first on the next occasion, they took their midday meal.

“(f) The visit to the Trichinopoly Jail in September 1946 was for the special purpose of finding out accommodation for any increase in the jail population owing to the introduction of prohibition.

“(g) Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar, M.L.A., was one among the under-trials. No special treatment was meted out to him as he was not specially classified.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“With reference to answer (c), may I know whether it is not a fact that the ex-Premier promised to consider the release of prisoners convicted and withdrawal of cases pending, as he had done in the case of the Madras Provincial Motor Workers? Has this Government changed this policy for the worse?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I do not know what the commitments of the ex-Premier in this connexion are; but if the hon. Gentleman will put to me cases which deserve consideration, I am prepared to consider them.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Just now I wish to refer to the cases . . .”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“Not now; it is not possible for me to listen to one case after another; the hon. Member can go to the Hon. Minister's room later and give the information.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“It does not require any notice.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Is the hon. Member going to enumerate the cases; let him not do so.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“To question (c) regarding withdrawal of cases, the answer is ‘no.’ In reply to my previous similar question the ex-Premier in reply has promised to consider the withdrawal of cases and the release of convicted persons. I should like to know whether this Government has changed its policy or whether they will consider release and withdrawal of cases?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister has already answered this question; he told the hon. Member to enumerate the cases to him and that he would decide them on their merits.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether there is any change in the attitude of the Communist party or of Labour leaders since these prosecutions have been launched and whether there is any improvement in the situation?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is a matter which the hon. Gentleman must address the Leader of the Communist party.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Government aware of any change of heart on the part of the members of the Communist party?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“On the question of change of heart, I am not prepared to take the point further than what I have stated.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Minister in charge of Home Department has studied the position in the City and the Provinces as to the conditions that are obtaining, and are supposed to have been created by the Communists. Is there a change in the conditions or do conditions remain the same?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The question has been repeated in a better manner; at the same time I am not prepared to give any answer other than what I have given.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“With reference to answer (d), is the Hon. Leader of the House aware of the fact that under-trials are not allowed all the facilities they are entitled to under the Jail Manual?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“As I have said, the hon. Gentleman may point out specific cases; where such instances are pointed out, I shall consider them on their merits.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"In the case of under-trial prisoners and of those arrested, and kept in jail I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether they are given newspapers, books, etc., to which they are entitled to; as far as my information goes, no such books or newspapers are allowed to them."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am prepared to take the information from the hon. Gentleman and shall look into the matter."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the reply given by the Hon. Minister in charge of Home that I should put the question to the leader of the Communist party, may I enquire whether he has abdicated his powers to the latter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Gentleman has not understood what I said. The policy of the Communist party is not within my purview. As he wanted to know what the policy of the Communist party was, I said that he had better put the question to the leader of that party."

[Q. 450 to Q. 456 were answered on 27th March 1947.]

Procurement of paddy.

* 457 Q.—**SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

- (a) the target fixed for procurement of paddy in Vizagapatam district for this year;
- (b) whether it is more or less than last year's;
- (c) how much has already been procured; and what the quantity procured by this time last year was; if last year's quantity was more than this year, what are the reasons for failure in procurement this year; and
- (d) what steps the Government propose to take to procure more this year?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The target for the present kharif year 1946-47 is 57,500 tons in terms of rice. (b) The target fixed is more than that fixed for the last kharif year by 11,500 tons.

" (c) Four hundred and seventy-three tons of rice have been procured during the period 1st November 1946 to 31st January 1947. During the corresponding period of the last kharif year 842 tons of rice were procured. The quantity procured this year shows a decrease of 369 tons, the decrease being very large in January 1947. The monopoly of procurement work in the district was transferred to the Co-operative Central Stores, Vizianagram, with effect from 31st December 1946 and the stores could complete its arrangements and actually start work only on 24th January 1947. This was the main reason for low procurement in January.

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" (d) The work of the Central Stores is being closely watched. Every attempt is being made to step up procurement. If the stores lag behind, the question of restricting the area of the operation of the stores, will be considered if necessary and the work of procurement entrusted to some other agency."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether Vizagapatam is a surplus or a deficit district so far as paddy is concerned?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have not got the information with me just now."

MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government satisfied that the decrease in procurement has been in any way due to the part played by village and taluk food committees?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have stated that this decrease in procurement that has arisen is due to the first experience of the co-operative societies. The village committees and the village food programme do not come into the picture. The Co-operative Central Stores, Vizianagram, completed their arrangement a little later than expected. Procurement will be all right from this month onwards. Food committees do not come into the picture at all."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that the decrease in procurement was due to the inability of the co-operative stores to make suitable arrangements—it took nearly one month to make the arrangements—what prevented the Government from waiting for some time more to enable the stores to make the arrangement? What was the hurry to take up this procurement work all on a sudden?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It was not taken up in a hurry; it was taken up according to plan, and according to the policy of the Government that as far as possible procurement work should be entrusted to co-operative societies to avoid enormous profits made by middlemen. One organization was entrusted with the work; we do not want to create two or three agencies to do the same function for the simple reason that we would add to their difficulties."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since the expectations of the Government have not been fulfilled in the matter of procurement, will the Government consider the advisability of revising their plans?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have already answered that every attempt is being made to step up procurement. If the stores lag behind, the question of restricting the area of the operation of the stores will be considered if necessary and the work of procurement entrusted to some other agency."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the Government's procurement policy has failed already? Do not Government desire or intend to take steps to revise their plans? Why do they want to wait further?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government do not accept the proposition made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. The scheme of procurement has not failed."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know whether the Collector of Vizagapatam has not made a definite proposal for the division of the large area into two regions to intensify the procurement programme?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Just now, I am not aware of the fact. It is just likely that the Collector has had some idea in the matter and he might have informed the Government and the Government might have been taking action in the matter."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether advisory committees are not formed to help the co-operative stores in the matter of procurement, and is not procurement proceeding according to the advice of the advisory committees?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are not aware of any special advisory committee for that particular co-operative society. It may be that they have an advisory committee."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the admission made by the Hon. Minister himself in his answer, that procurement has not been satisfactory, when will the Government give up making experiments in this direction with the lives of the people of the Province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are not in the habit of making experiments with the lives of the people. Procurement by various co-operative societies has been, to a certain extent in the beginning, a little bit slow, but I may inform the hon. Member that all co-operative societies in the districts of East Godavari and Kistna have so far improved and they are in a position to procure all the target figures of paddy that are required of them. Therefore, the question of changing that agency does not arise."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Are the Government satisfied, Sir, in the interest of efficient procurement, that it is a wise policy to make a monopoly of procurement in the case of these societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Till these societies came into the scheme, the monopoly of purchase was in the hands of mill-owners and individuals. Now there is no such thing as monopoly. The Government must be assured of the target figures which they have laid for that particular

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society. This is a matter of produce purchase and the Government think that a co-operative agency is any day better than an individual."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are we to take it, Sir, that this Government do not contemplate a departure from the policy of the previous administration in the matter of co-operative societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"We are not in a position to answer the question at all, for we have yet to see and satisfy ourselves that the policy pursued so far has not done any good and is likely to fail. But I may assure the hon. Member that we shall not hesitate to take such action as may be necessary in the event of failure of procurement by these societies."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it the policy of the Government to entrust this procurement to co-operative societies alone, even if they do not do this work properly and make people starve?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know the basis on which the Government fixed the increase in the target for this year over that of last year?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Probably the seasonal conditions made the Government believe that they could demand a greater target figure for this year."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that there has been a fall in procurement in almost every district in the Province, even where such procurement is not the monopoly of co-operative societies, that is where private individuals have also been employed for procurement?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not accept the proposition that there has been a fall in procurement."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact that the Supply Department in the Vizagapatam district under the supervision of the District Collector is rendering all possible assistance and help to the Co-operative Stores, Vizianagram, to see that procurement of paddy is successfully made?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am not in possession of the fact in regard to those agencies, but I will certainly call for information, if the hon. Member wants it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In answering the various questions, the Hon. Minister was referring to the middlemen and the increase of prices on account of these middlemen. Sir, may I ask what exactly was the additional rate that was charged by the middlemen for this transaction?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I don't think I made a statement to that effect."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Government are not aware that on account of the diminution in procurement they were compelled to issue a Press Note with regard to the price of paddy asking paddy producers to surrender stocks at once, otherwise the prices might be reduced? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The fact of the matter is this. I may make a statement to that effect, in answering this question. The Government are always interested in having the procurement to their satisfaction and at the same time they have got to watch the various factors that operate in the minds of the producers and those who hold the grain. Producers are waiting perhaps for a bonus or for an increase in price to be given by the Government and they may hold the grain, hoping that the Government might do some such thing. The object of the Government in issuing the Press Note is to inform those people not to hold the grain in the hope of getting some better price, because the policy of the Government is not to give an increase in price, and it is in conformity with the decision of the Government of India, Food Department. This is an all-India question and the price is fixed by an All-India Committee. Therefore this Government is bound by the stipulations made by the Government of India in this matter. Under these conditions, we thought it better to inform the people who hold the grain that they could not expect any increase in the price, nor could they expect any bounty from this Government.”

[Q. 458 and Q. 459 were answered on 27th March 1947.]

Alleged interference in the administration of Revenue and Judicial departments.

* 460 Q.—S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that certain Congress M.L.As. are interfering in the day-to-day administration of the Revenue and Judicial departments in the districts; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether the Government propose to send a confidential circular to the officers to find out the truth in this matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ (a) No.

“ (b) No. If specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government, suitable action will be taken.”

Extension of service and re-employment of retired persons.

* 461 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there have been any cases in which Government have departed from their declared policy of not permitting extension of service beyond the age of superannuation or re-employment of retired officers in the gazetted ranks of the Police, Public Health and Education departments;

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(b) if so, what were the special reasons in each case for such violation of the declared policy of Government; and

(c) whether extension of service or re-employment is given only for one year at the most and whether there is any limit to the number of terms of such extension or re-employment?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ (a) There is no gazetted officer serving on extension of service in the Police, Public Health or Education departments. In the Police department there are five retired officers who have been re-employed. There are no re-employed retired officers in the Public Health and Education departments.

“ (b) The policy of the Government is that no person who has been retired from service should be re-employed unless there were exceptional circumstances justifying such a step. There has been no violation of this policy in the cases referred to in the answer to clause (a).

“ (c) The answer to the first part of the question is that extension of service is not generally granted to any Government servant. Retired officers are re-employed for specific periods each case being decided on its merits. The answer to the second part of the question is in the negative but the services of re-employed retired officers are always liable to termination on one month's notice.”

Administration Reports.

* 462 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the departments of the Government that publish administration reports; and

(b) whether they are all circulated to Members of the Assembly?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ (a) & (b) A statement^a is laid on the table of the House.”

Alleged representation by Mr. Palat Kunhikoya, the Majlis candidate from Malappuram constituency.

* 463 Q.—P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation was received from Mr. Palat Kunhikoya, the Majlis candidate in the Malappuram Muhammadan rural constituency in the last elections to the Assembly, by means of a telegram, dated 26th April 1946;

(b) if so, what was the purport of the telegram; and

(c) what action the Government took on the telegram?

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 297-298 infra.

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) It is presumed that the telegram referred to by the hon. Member was in connection with the last general elections. The answer is in the negative.

“(b) & (c) Do not arise.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What is the origin of the presumption on the part of the Government that that telegram must have referred to the last general election?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“No information was given and the Government had to make some presumption and this is the presumption that they have made. If the hon. Gentleman is prepared to make any correction, I am prepared to take the correction.”

HAM K. M. AHMAD KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Would not the Majlis candidate have forfeited the security according to the rules which were in force at the time when the election results were announced and which were amended after the announcement of the results?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I believe my hon. Friend the Prime Minister has already made a statement on the subject, dealing fully with the matter.”

Industrial Development of Rayalaseema.

* 464 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Planning be pleased to state—

(a) what are the resources in each district in Rayalaseema that can be developed industrially;

(b) what attempt the Government have made so far to exploit the natural resources of Rayalaseema;

(c) what are the recommendations of the Ceded Districts Economic Development Board, so far;

(d) how many of them have been given effect to, so far, and when; and

(e) if none has been given effect to, why not?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) & (b) The resources of the districts in Rayalaseema have not been fully investigated. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 19 of the Budget Speech of the Hon. Prime Minister while presenting the Budget for 1946-47 where he stated that a geological survey of the Ceded Districts would be undertaken and the abundant and valuable mineral wealth of the tract utilized. The Government are accordingly considering a proposal to appoint a Development Commissioner for the integrated development and rehabilitation of the Ceded Districts;

“(c) to (e) The recommendations of the Board cover numerous points such as development of irrigation, malaria control, suitability of different crops, development of railway

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communications, construction of wells, electric supply, contour bunding, etc. These recommendations have been accepted whenever possible and necessary.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the fact that this is a famine-stricken area, will the Government be pleased to expedite action on the recommendations of the Rayalaseema Economic Development Board and relieve this area of the pangs of famine and poverty at an early date?”

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

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know what steps the Government have taken to develop the handloom, brass and bell-metal and paper industry in the Cuddapah district?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I should like to have notice, Sir.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I suggest, Sir, that in view of the admittedly backward nature of the tract, special consideration may always be given in the budget allotment?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“The Government will take up the suggestion of the hon. Member.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the fact that this area is a backward area, will the Government consider the desirability of implementing some of the schemes at least in the next budget?”

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

Pandulapaka Spinning Mills.

* 465 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the recommendations of the adjudicator appointed in the dispute of Pandulapaka Spinning Mills, were implemented by the management; and

(b) if not, what steps the Government have taken to see the recommendations of the adjudicator are implemented?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) No, Sir. The management of the mills have not yet implemented the award of the adjudicator.

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

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, how many months ago the award had been given in this case?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I am not in possession of the particular date.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know if the award had been given a pretty long time ago, and in spite of repeated requests from the labour union and reminders

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from the labour office, the management is refusing to implement the award? Is the Government prepared to prosecute the management if the award is not implemented immediately?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have already said that the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

Yarn quota allotted to South Arcot.

* 466 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) the total yarn quota allotted to the South Arcot district;
- (b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that though under the district quota scheme all the yarn supplied to the weavers of a district is being supplied only to the merchants of that district, a portion of the South Arcot district quota is being supplied through the dealers of the Madras City;
- (c) if so, the reason for the same; and
- (d) what action was taken by the Government on the deputations from the South Arcot District Yarn Merchants' Association lead by M.L.As. and M.L.Cs.?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) The total quota allotted to the South Arcot district is 378 bales per mensem.

" (b) & (c) It is true that every month about 264 bales from that quota are diverted to Madras City for the supply to the district through the Madras Yarn Retail Dealers Company, Madras. To enable the weavers to take their yarn from near enough centres, the company has opened six depots in the district since 1946. When the district quota scheme was introduced in August 1944, South Arcot district was made an independent unit like other districts for purposes of yarn distribution. The weavers in South Arcot district made a representation in September 1944, to the Provincial Textile Commissioner to permit them to draw their yarn supplies at Madras as in the pre-war days, since they lacked facilities for dyeing and bleaching in their own district. As the weavers were getting their supplies of yarn in pre-war days from the merchants in Madras, their request was complied with. The fact that there were very few dealers in the Chingleput and South Arcot districts, most of them being only very small retailers, would go to show that these districts relied to a very great extent on Madras for their supplies of yarn.

" (d) For the reasons given in answers to clauses (b) and (c), it is proposed to reject the request made by the deputations."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"May I know if any reply has been sent to the South Arcot District Yarn Merchants' Association in reply to the memorandum presented by them at the time of the deputation?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As stated in answer to clause (d), the deputationists handed in a memorandum and the memorandum has been rejected."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, why an extra-territorial company has been imposed upon that district? Are there not established yarn dealers in that district to look after the distribution of yarn?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, as already explained in answer to clauses (b) and (c), there were special circumstances. The weavers of the South Arcot district wanted to get their yarn from Madras because they felt that they had no facilities for bleaching and dyeing as already stated in the answer, and it was at their request and as it was found that they were previously getting from Madras, this arrangement was made."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"Is there any idea of doing justice to the yarn dealers of the South Arcot district in the near future?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"There was no idea of doing any injustice to anybody at any time, Sir."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the merchants in Madras connected with the South Arcot supply were connected at all with any yarn business before?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I would like to have notice of that question."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask if any principle is followed in the allotment of quotas of yarn for the various districts, and if so, what that principle is?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"One of the principles is the number of hand-looms in the particular district; that will be the main consideration, Sir."

Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners.

* 467 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there are any qualifications prescribed for the posts of Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners; and
- (b) whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint non-officials generally to these posts, and, if so, whether party affiliations are taken into consideration in making the appointments?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) Generally, non-officials are appointed as Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners. Party affiliations are not taken into consideration in making the appointments."

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H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, if all the appointments have been made throughout the Province, and if so, how many of them are Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If I remember right, Sir, this question has already been answered on the floor of the House a few days back; but if my hon. Friend wants the information once again, I can furnish it if he specially asks for it."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, in view of the fact that most of the Harijans as a class are weavers, may I know why Harijans were not appointed as Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners in spite of their applying in large numbers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The fact that one is a weaver is not necessarily one of the qualifications to be an Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In reply to clause (a) the Minister said that 'we have not fixed any qualification; if that is the case, is not a weaver better qualified than anybody else?'"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"It may be one of the qualifications, Sir."

Muslim Wakf Bill.

* 468 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state the stages through which the Muslim Wakf Bill passed when it was introduced last?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Muslim Wakf Bill was introduced in the last Assembly by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed on the 30th March 1938. Subsequently he moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The then Hon. the Minister for Public Health (Dr. T. S. S. Rajan) moved an amendment that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion in three months. The motion as amended was carried by the Assembly on the 17th August 1938. After the receipt of opinions Mr. Basheer Ahmed again moved in the Assembly on 7th December 1938 that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The motion was put to vote and declared lost."

Introduction of prohibition.

* 469 Q.—SRI M. KUMARAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons who have been thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of prohibition in eight districts;

(b) the quality of jaggery produced from out of the coconut trees formerly tapped for toddy; and

(c) the steps that are being taken to lessen the number of unemployed and to increase the output of jaggery in those areas?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) The number of persons who have been thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of prohibition in eight districts is nearly 21,000.

" (b) Jaggery is not being now produced from coconut trees in the prohibition districts, as the tapping of those trees for sweet toddy has been prohibited by the Government in the interests of the enforcement of prohibition.

" (c) Instructions have been issued to the Engineers in charge of the Highways department in the prohibition districts to give the same preference to ex-tappers for employment on road works as is shown to ex-service men. The Government have also under consideration certain proposals for the formation of co-operative societies for cottage industries, for the reservation of vacant lands in certain co-operative land colonization societies and for the undertaking of rural housing schemes in weaving centres, in order to provide employment for ex-toddy tappers in the prohibition districts.

" Co-operative societies have been organized in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot and Chittoor for the manufacture of jaggery which will provide employment for ex-tappers and increase the output of jaggery."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I know whether it would not be advisable to stop even sweet toddy tapping to avoid manufacture of illicit toddy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"So far as I know, there is nothing like manufacture of illicit toddy. I have already answered that the whole object in some places of restricting the tapping of sweet toddy has been to see that the enforcement of prohibition is successful."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that prohibition on the drawing of sweet toddy entails a huge loss for the Province, will not the Government think of any other means or concentrate on other means of enforcing prohibition excluding this one measure which they are adopting?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As already answered, this is a very important measure that is necessary to prevent people from making illicit use of sweet toddy. That is why it has been enforced in certain areas, as already stated."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that these unemployed tappers have now taken to the manufacture of another alcoholic drink by burying tender coconuts under the ground for some time?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I take the information from the hon. Member."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether fermented toddy is to be made out of sweet toddy and whether the issue of licences for tapping sweet toddy increases the number of cases of manufacturing fermented toddy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Yes, Sir."

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DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"In view of the large number of palmyra trees in the Ceded districts, may I request the Hon. Minister to consider the feasibility of stopping the jaggery industry in those districts?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The suggestion will be considered."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Can the Government set up a separate department to manufacture jaggery out of sweet toddy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"I do not think, Sir, there is any need for a separate department for the purpose."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that jaggery forms an important ingredient for illicit brewing, and if so, does the Government propose to take any action to control the distribution of jaggery in these areas of prohibition?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"If the facts are as stated by my hon. Friend and are likely to lead to illicit distillation, his suggestion will be considered."

Representations from employees of certain municipalities.

* 470 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the employees of Kurnool and Nandyal Municipalities;

(b) if so, what the representations are;

(c) what action the Government have taken so far; and

(d) if no action was taken, why not?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) to (d) A representation from the Municipal Employees' Association, Kurnool, requesting grant of bonus of one month's pay to the employees of all local bodies has been received. The Government are examining the financial condition of municipal councils to decide which of them will be able to give effect to the new scales of pay recommended by the Cabinet Salaries Committee for municipal employees. They are also examining, as an alternative, whether the municipalities which cannot afford to give effect to the new scales of pay will at least be able to give a bonus to their employees drawing Rs. 100 or less per mensem."

"A memorial has been received from the Nandyal Municipal Employees' Association, containing the following requests:—

(1) Payment of arrear dearness allowance for the period from 1st July 1944 to 31st December 1944.

(2) Raising the basic pay of employees by at least cent per cent.

(3) Enhancement of conveyance allowance from Rs. 4 to Rs. 10.

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(4) Enhancement of Provident Fund contribution paid by municipal council for the employees from one anna in the rupee to two annas in the rupee.

(5) Enhancement of allowance to the Radio operator from Rs. 6 to Rs. 12. All these requests have been duly considered by Government. The payment of arrears of dearness allowance has been sanctioned by Government and the Commissioner, Nandyal Municipality, has also reported that the same has been paid. The position regarding the revision of scales of pay of municipal employees is as given above. The rates of conveyance allowance fixed for the servants of local bodies follows the rates allowed to Government servants. As no revision has been made in the rates fixed for Government servants, it is not considered necessary to revise the rates in the case of servants of local bodies. The present rate of Provident Fund contribution in force in municipalities is the same as allowed by Government to their officers who are borne on the contributory Provident Fund system and it is found that local bodies cannot afford to raise the rate without retrenching some essential service. The question of enhancing the allowance for Radio operators is one mainly for consideration by the municipal council concerned."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, having regard to the length of the answer and the importance of the question affecting other municipalities also, may I request that this answer may be roneoed and circulated to-morrow?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It will be done. You want to take it up for supplementary questions to-morrow."

* 471 Q.—"As the hon. Member is not in his place, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

Engineers deputed for training abroad.

* 471 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Engineers who have been deputed for training abroad; and

(b) how many of them have returned after completing their training and how their services are now being utilized?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) Seventeen, excluding three whose deputation has been sanctioned but have not yet left.

" (b) Eight Engineers have so far returned after completing their training.

Their services are being utilized as follows:—

Two have been posted to the charge of Highways Circles, and one to the charge of a Public Works Department circle.

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Three have been posted to the charge of Highways Divisions and one as Deputy Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence).

One has rejoined the Corporation as City Engineer."

Overseer's course in Annamalai University.

* 472 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government intend admitting the students of the Overseers course in the Annamalai University in the Government Engineering College at Guindy for the third year's course; and

(b) if not, whether the Government have any proposals to make them duly qualified to hold Overseer's posts?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) The matter is under consideration.”

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to open a third year course in continuation at the Annamalai University or a separate course in the Government Engineering College for those students?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Whether a third year course will be opened at the Annamalai University or whether the students will be admitted to the Guindy College is still under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government contemplate taking in of the students for the L.I.E. Course at the Annamalai University to the L.I.E. Course in the Engineering College at Guindy?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is also under the consideration of the Director of Public Instruction.”

Amendment to Andhra University Act.

* 473 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Andhra University Act so as to enable the affiliated colleges to open Honours and post Graduate Courses; and

(b) whether there is any proposal before the Government to affiliate all Rayalaseema Colleges to the Andhra University?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) The Government propose taking up the matter of amending the University Act shortly and when that is done, this also will be considered.

“(b) The Government are setting up a committee to consider the question of bringing the Rayalaseema districts within the jurisdiction of the Andhra University.”

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Government intend to amend the Madras University Act also and whether they have appointed a committee for this purpose?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The amendment of the Madras University Act is also under the consideration of the Government but no committee has been appointed.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether a committee for this purpose was not appointed and if so, what happened to that committee?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“That was a committee of the Syndicate and it was not appointed by the Government. With regard to Andhra University Act, a committee was appointed to explore the possibilities of bringing back the Rayalaseema districts to the Andhra University from the Madras University.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“As far as my recollection goes, a committee was appointed and that committee did not function. May I know whether this is a fact?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I am not aware of that fact.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, how much time the committee will take to settle this matter?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is a matter concerning the Rayalaseema members and it is a subject for the Legislators of the Rayalaseema districts.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“My question was what time the committee will take to settle that matter and the answer of the Hon. Minister was that it was the concern of the Rayalaseema members. I think, Sir, my question has not been answered and I request the Hon. Minister to give me a direct answer.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“As a matter of fact, Government have appointed a committee but the actual orders of appointment have not been issued and it will take some time perhaps before the committee meets and decides the matter.”

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether he is aware that the people in the Ceded Districts are totally opposed to the affiliation of the Ceded Districts College to the Andhra University?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is a matter which the committee will go into.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In answer to clause (b), the Hon. the Minister said that something was the concern of the M.L.As. hailing from the Royalaseema districts. May I know, Sir, why that matter is the concern of only the members hailing from Royalaseema?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Just now, Sir, the colleges in the Royalaseema districts are under the jurisdiction of the Madras University. The committee will go into the question of bringing them back under the jurisdiction of the Andhra University. The Leader of the Opposition is aware that they were taken by the Madras University under the Act of 1929. The committee will now go into the question whether they should be allowed to remain under the Madras University or whether they should be taken back by the Andhra University. Perhaps some people are opposed to the colleges being taken back by the Andhra University. The committee will also consider that question. The committee will certainly take the information of the members of the Royalaseema and consult the members of the Madras and Andhra Universities also in this matter so that they may come to a conclusion and a report will be placed before the Government for consideration."

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what the policy of the Government is in appointing a Muslim who has lost his deposit during the last general elections in Kurnool to the said committee?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"He is an old member of the Legislative Council and he was in touch with the educational institutions in Royalaseema and elsewhere."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask, Sir, what are the special reasons that induced the Government to revive the question?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Because the Andhra University Senate passed a resolution requesting Government to bring back the Royalaseema districts under the jurisdiction of the Andhra University."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. the Minister said that a member who has been appointed to the committee was appointed because he was an old member of the Council. May I ask him whether the Minister is not aware that by losing his deposit during the last general elections, the member lost the representative character of the people and may I ask the reason why such a Muslim has been appointed to that important committee?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The mere fact of forfeiting the deposit during the last general elections does not show that he is unfit for any work."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is in this way that this Government wants to represent the interests of Muslims when there are four Muslims from four districts who have been returned to this representative body and why should Government pitch upon a Muslim who has lost the confidence of the Muslims of that district? Is it in this way, Sir, that the Muslim interests in the Ceded Districts are to be represented on an important committee?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"While every effort will be made to meet the demands of the Muslims, the Government do not propose to victimize these people."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the students as a whole are for going back to the Andhra University and that they have passed a resolution to that effect?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You mean the Royalaseema students?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yes."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware of the fact."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of excluding Brahman legislators from the committee that is set up?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As far as I am aware, there are some Brahman members also in that committee."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, in view of the opinion of the accredited leaders of the Muslims in these parts that Mr. Beyabani Sahib who is a member of the committee nominated by the Government does not really represent the Muslim community, whether the Government will consider revising the position and nominating an accredited leader of the Muslims in his place on the committee?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The suggestion cannot be considered now. I may inform the hon. Member that those Hindus who differ from the Congress and those Muslims who differ from the League must also be found places in the Government and in the administration."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether these members are appointed to such committees for the purpose of representing the people concerned or for any other purpose? If it is to represent the people, then are not the real representatives of the people entitled to sit on those committees?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not a question of representing anybody. This committee is appointed for a specific purpose. The committee will take the information from all concerned and then send up their recommendations to Government."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, the purpose of nominating this gentleman who is not representing the Muslim community in these districts? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not accept the suggestion that simply because a person differs from the League and has forfeited his deposit during the last general elections, he should not be given any place anywhere."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether he is the only gentleman who was nominated to this Committee? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think he is one of the nine. He is the only Muslim who is nominated."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it the intention of the Government, Sir, to exclude certain people simply because they happen to represent the bulk of the Muslim community? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Nobody will be excluded. If the hon. Member wants, a Muslim Leaguer can be nominated to that committee."

SHAH ALAM KHAN SAVOI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. the Minister, may I ask, is it the policy of Government to victimize Muslim Leaguers by appointing Nationalist Muslims to these committees? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I have already stated that it is the policy to victimize neither the Muslim Leaguers nor the Nationalist Muslims."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that Mr. Beyabani Sahib does not represent anybody but himself and that the Muslims cannot be hoodwinked by nominating a Muslim purporting to represent the Muslim interests? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I do not know whether he does not represent anybody but himself but I think he is quite fit to serve on this committee."

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—" Do the Government know that Mr. Beyabani Sahib did not contest the last election as a Nationalist Muslim? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am not aware, Sir."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What are the special qualifications of this Muslim gentleman? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" He was for a long time in the Legislative Council."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the students and senators in the Ceded districts passed a unanimous and favourable resolution to go back to the Andhra University? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" That is a matter for the committee to go into and I am not prepared to express any opinion on the matter."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Can the Hon. the Minister give us the reason why, when there are four Muslim members from the Ceded districts in this present Assembly which is autonomous under the present constitution, not one of them has been nominated to that committee and why a person who had been a member in the old Legislative Council should have been appointed? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As I said, Sir, simply because he forfeited his deposit, he did not commit any moral turpitude. Government thought he had sufficient qualification to be on the committee. He is a B.A., LL.B."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" Is it not a fact that apart from his being a member of the Council for a long time, he is a man of great culture, the Muslim culture? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I am personally aware that he is a great scholar in Urdu."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know Sir, whose opinion is to be considered in this matter whether the opinion of the Muslims or whether the opinion of those gentlemen who do not know anything about Muslim culture? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As an ardent student of Urdu myself, I am convinced, Sir, that he will do well on the committee."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is not the opinion of a single person against the opinion of a whole nation? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Whether it is the opinion of a whole nation or a community, I know him personally and he is a very good fellow." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

* 474 Q.—Postponed.

Educational reorganization.

* 475 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many answers have been received to the Questionnaire on Educational Reorganization;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up any committee to consider these replies; and

(c) if so, when they expect to get a report of the Committee?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) 760.

" (b) & (c) The matter is under consideration."

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Nationalization of transport.

* 476 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government scheme to nationalize transport will be confined to passenger bus services or whether it will include goods traffic also; and

(b) whether the Government propose to publish the scheme for eliciting public opinion?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The question of including goods traffic also within the scope of the scheme for nationalization of motor transport is now under consideration.

“(b) No scheme has yet been formulated by the Cabinet Subcommittee appointed for the purpose. The question of publishing the scheme for eliciting public opinion will be considered after the scheme is ready.”

447 Q.—Postponed.

Rice supply in Ponnani taluk.

* 478 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the rice supplied in Ponnani taluk in Malabar is so bad that it is not fit for human consumption?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As a general proposition it is not a fact that the rice supplied in Ponnani taluk is so bad that it is not fit for human consumption. If a detailed complaint is made Government will enquire into the matter.”

479 to 482 Q.—Postponed.

Regional Transport Authorities.

* 483 Q.—SRI A. RAYAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) in what matters and under what circumstances Government can interfere with the decisions of the Regional Transport Authority;

(b) whether the Government have powers of interference apart from the Motor Vehicle Act and the rules made thereunder;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government have set aside the orders of the Regional Transport Authority, Cuddapah, on the question of grant of permits on the Adoni-Uravakonda route, Bellary and Anantapur districts; and

(d) if so, under what statutory or other authority the Government have revised the orders?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The hon. Member is referred to rules 148 and 150 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

“(b) The answer is in the negative.

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“(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(d) The Government's orders were issued under rule 150 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We will now proceed with the next item on the agenda, namely, voting of Demands for Grants. The discussion of the Budget Demand—Education—will now be continued.”

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

* 1.—STATEMENT ON THE GENERAL STRIKE TO TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY OF MADRAS.

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Before we proceed with the Budget, I wish to raise a point of information. Sir, it is reported in the papers that the City of Madras is threatened with a general strike and that the Government have taken all precautionary measures to meet the situation. I would like to know what information the Government have and whether the Government will take the House into confidence on that matter which is very important as far as the public are concerned.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Sir, the Government have in their possession the news of a threatened strike by the tramway workers, motor drivers and others who are in charge of the traffic of the City, on the 29th instant. I had a meeting of the leaders of the tramway workers, leaders of motor drivers and all the others concerned in the strike yesterday evening here in the Committee Room of the Secretariat at 5 o'clock. I just explained to them the implications of their action. The threatened strike was to exhibit their sympathy with the Buckingham and Carnatic Mill workers who are on strike for the last 17 days. I explained to them how their strike is of no help to those people, because Government are already moving in the matter, that we have been negotiating with the strikers and with the management of the Mills for the past three or four days and we expect a settlement early enough. I also pointed out to them the inconvenience that would be caused in this big City of Madras by the strike to all the citizens using the conveyances; it is unfair to do so and that it is not really exhibiting their sympathy with the strikers. I tried to persuade them and I had a long talk with them and I listened to them all, but they were not convinced of our *bona fides* although they were told that they would be making the negotiations very difficult for the Government. I might also say, Sir, I asked them what is the thing they wanted the Government to do in the matter to satisfy them. Curiously enough, they said that Government should immediately arrest and confine the management of the mills. I asked them, what else they wanted. They said that the Government must take up the management of the mills themselves immediately and call the strikers back to work. Government were not prepared to accept those conditions or promise any such thing, except to warn them of the fact that serious inconvenience will be caused to the public of the City by

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their act and that Government's opinion was that that was not the way of exhibiting their sympathy with the strikers. After that, of course, the meeting terminated. If the hon. Member wants any further information I am ready to give him."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the Hon. Minister's persuasion has not borne fruit, I want to know what arrangements Government will make at least for the hon. Members of the House to attend this House to-morrow?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"We are still hoping that the strike may not come off but in the event of its coming off well, I do not know how Government can help members of the Legislature because the whole of the public conveyances in the City might stop and unless the Government take it into their heads to ask somebody else to take charge of the vehicles and run them, there is no other way, I am afraid."

MR. SPEAKER:—"At least those Members who are in the Government House quarters . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Why, Sir, only those members?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"My point is, I must have quorum here. First let me ask the Hon. Minister whether he is going to do anything for the Members."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That will be unfair, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister has not yet answered my question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before that, I wish to raise a point of information, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to state that he must care for all the Members and he must not care only for a few members for the sake of quorum and then try to carry on the business of the House with a minimum of members. Members of the Government House quarters have already got the privilege of having been housed in the Government House and if they are being sought to be further benefited by making special arrangement for their conveyance, it will be unfair for the other members. If any arrangement is to be made, it must be made for all the members of the House and all members must be given the opportunity of taking part in the deliberations of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the Opposition has thoroughly misunderstood my point. Why I asked the question was, there are at least 70 members in a single place and it is possible for the Government to bring them here. Apart from quorum here, I think it is possible to bring them here either by lending their cars or by specially hiring cars, but for others it is difficult to do so. I have, of course, got as much interest in the

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other hon. Members as in those hon. Members who are residing in the Government House. Let me assure the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition of that fact."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Sir, the assumption is made that the strike will come off. I think, Sir, that we should not give it that unfortunate turn. We should, as Members of this Assembly, not speak about the strike at all, but make all efforts possible to prevent its taking place."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In addition to what I have already stated, I may say that we are still hoping that the strike may not come off and we are making efforts to avert that strike and all our efforts will continue till the very moment of the strike. What I am feeling is that it will not come off because our efforts seem to be bearing some fruit already and I fairly expect it may not come off at all."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister, while the compromise talks were going on, what was the attitude taken up by the management of the mills in regard to the adjustment of the wages of the workers, so that an early settlement may be effected?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is going into details; I will not allow that question. I now call on the Kumararaja of Chettinad to speak."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On this subject, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, on the Education Demand. I have already stated that."

IV.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1947-48—cont.

(1) DEMAND IV—EDUCATION—cont.

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHITH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, while I want to speak on a very important Demand, I am not sure which Member of the Government is likely to make the reply on this occasion."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Minister in charge of Education will reply."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHITH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I am delighted to know from my Hon. Friend Mr. B. Gopala Reddi that the Minister in charge of Education will reply. Sir, I was listening to the happy news that there are going to be five more Ministers this afternoon and so my reference was very pertinent. I do expect that the gentlemen who recently vacated will again occupy their places and will give the reply in the afternoon and it is in that view I raised the point. Of course, I have great affection for my Hon. Friend, Mr. B. Gopala Reddi, and I plead with him for more finance being provided for education, but unfortunately he is in charge of Finance. Now, I appeal to him as

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the joint Minister for Finance and Education portfolios, not to stand in the way of allocating more money for higher education in this Province. I know, Sir, the Hon. Minister who was in charge of Education till recently and who, I think, will soon take up the portfolio again, was very anxious to put in more money for educational institutions, but he has not been able in the past to do it. I shall not go into those reasons, except to say that every one feels that more money should have been allocated for education, particularly higher education.

“As I have already said, Sir, in our enthusiasm for elementary education, we should not neglect higher education. Sir, moneys allocated for higher education are almost routine items and except for a few deviations, we do not find any attempt to solve the pressing problem of admissions in the month of July. In answer to a supplementary question on the floor of this House, it has been said that Government were making attempts, but all their attempts have not succeeded. Now we are in the month of March and admissions are coming off in May and June. I only wish to point out that increased admissions in existing colleges, if forced upon by Government, have necessarily to be abided by the institutions. There will be deterioration for want of accommodation in hostels and class-rooms. The educational institutions are already over-crowded and on top of it Government say that 10 or 20 per cent more should be admitted on pain of withholding the usual grants. So, Sir, I would implore on the Government that they should devise ways and means of starting new colleges and if they cannot start more colleges, it is up to them to point out to these young men who have passed their examinations that they have got other avocations in life. If they are not able to say so, I should think that the Government have failed in their duty in not providing alternative education. Sir, we are talking of technical education, technological education and other alternative courses of education. All these talks have been in the air for several months past, but nothing has so far taken place and everybody is right in impeaching the Government for their complete failure in this respect. Again, Sir, you are ordering the institutions to admit 20 per cent more students in the month of June. It does not bring any credit to the Ministry if they should force the institutions to admit more students. Sir, I only wish that more money is provided for opening extra colleges and not only that, even with regard to higher scientific research, Government have not provided as much money as is required. Since science is a growing subject, it requires all the attention of the Government and unless a large amount of money is provided it is not possible to encourage this subject.

“I realize, Sir, that here are ideological principles which Government want to experiment upon, but I must say, they are almost in a state of bankruptcy; otherwise, what makes them say, we are not able to do this or do that. That is the only slogan that we are hearing on the floor of this House. Now the days of such slogans have changed and I do not know whether the

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change in the Ministry will bring about any change in their policy also. I am afraid, there is no chance of any change in any aspect of their policy though we all very much wish for a change of policy. They are already in a vicious circle from which they are not able to get out. I think the only way is to get out of it. Even with all their intentions, they have not been able to find money and they want to go to other items of taxation. They cannot even raise money loans as experience has shown. Then the only question is, if they are not able to do that, they should go out. Even in Great Britain, the most popular Labour Government is coming to its last days—it looks like it. Perhaps people may think what I am saying is an exaggeration, but sooner or later they will know that it is not an exaggeration. Here also we find the beginnings of such difficult days. I think, therefore, it is our duty to warn the Government that such days are not far off. It is probably the eleventh hour within the eleven months they have got into. I do hope they will change their financial policy to enable them to be in a position to improve the conditions and to carry on with ameliorative measures and that such a promise will be made early.

“Sir, let me not take up much time except to mention something about technical education. It is always remarked that the Madras is a very good technician and even during the recent war many thousands of our men have proved themselves good technicians and it will therefore be a good thing if many technological institutes are started. Of course, I do not wish to say that there should be only higher technical institutes which go by different names like technical or technological colleges, engineering colleges and so on, but I wish to refer to the many mechanical institutes which may be started here and there, so that they may absorb an enormous number of students who would otherwise demand admission in the Arts colleges of our Universities.

“I want to know from the Minister for Education how many of the technical institutions of the Government of India created during the war that the Government of Madras have taken over. I raised this question several times during the Advisers' Government and they said they were making attempts to get about 32 or 34 of them. I do not know the results and I shall be glad to know the results in this matter.

“Let me be permitted to mention, Sir, that if you are keen and sincere on improving and increasing the scope of elementary education, you must have trained teachers. Government must open many more educational institutions to train teachers. Without trained teachers it will be impossible to extend elementary education in any manner. The training facilities in this province are very inadequate. Even the higher grade training for the L.Ts. and B.Ts. are inadequate and I think that you should put more money in the hands of existing colleges and schools and Universities to start such institutions. It will be

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very difficult for the Government to start all these by themselves. It will be easy for them to give aid to private bodies so that all can put their heads together to solve this problem.

“Let me refer to the question of salaries. The question of non-gazetted officers took a serious turn in this province and the Government and the Legislature took notice of it. They realized the enormity of the problem. The question of the salaries of teachers is an even greater problem. With regard to the teachers in Local Boards and District Boards, even the Minister for Finance-cum-Education could not promise any increased grants to these bodies to enable them to pay more wages or salaries to their teachers. These bodies have to manage with their own resources. There is another source by which they can increase the salaries. That is the source of tuition fees. I hope the present Education Minister is in agreement with this as he is nodding his head. I shall be very glad if the Minister for Education would declare on the floor of this House that it will not be wrong and that is the only alternative possible. That is another way of indirect taxation. Let the Government declare their policy. The Minister for Education wants me to support him. I won't support him unless I am with him on the Treasury Benches. If they come to us we will suggest. They are certainly trade secrets and we will sell them to the best bidders and get whatever price we can or get public opinion in return for it. The Local Boards and District Boards should not be left in this awkward position. How can the private individuals be asked to give more money? Do you want to give money or you want them to increase the fees and to what extent it should be increased? Be frank in dealing with this situation. I am no less enthusiastic than any other person in the matter of the spread of elementary education but the best method of encouraging elementary education is by way of providing mid-day meals for the children. I find that provision for this is being curtailed or otherwise removed. One would have hoped that the provision for the mid-day meals would be increased by several lakhs of rupees. Without this it will not be possible to spread elementary education to any reasonable extent.

“Sir, there is one other matter I should like to refer. We have heard of the University Grants Committee at the Centre and we have also heard about the Universities Grants Committee for this Province. What are its functions at Delhi, Sir, and what have they done so far and in what manner the Madras Government has been able to persuade the University Grants Committee to give money to the Universities? This is yet to be known and we hope the Ministry of Education will give all the information they have in the matter and if they feel that the support of this House would go to strengthen their hands in the matter of making representations to the Government of India for more money from the Universities Grants Committee, I have no doubt that this House will support the Ministry in this matter. I

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should say, Sir, that the Government of Madras should raise big cries for a big slice of money from the University Grants Committee for the Universities in Southern India.

“In addition to these grants for Universities, the Government of India have got with them enormous sums of money for research institutions. I would ask the Minister for Education what steps has he taken so far to move the Government of India in getting money for scientific research. The matter may be referred to the Department of Education of the Government of India or I do not know under which department this thing comes because the departments are changing in the centre as Ministers are changing in this Province. Certainly a Member of the Government of India may be dealing with a subject to-day and to-morrow it will be another subject. It is mentioned that they are going to spend Rs. 50 lakhs for research institutes and that they will allocate Rs. 10 or 15 lakhs for this Province. Sir, I am sorry the Prime Minister is not here. He will be interested to know what I have got to say. An institute of oil technology should be located in South Arcot from which he hails. I understand that the South Arcot Groundnut Marketing Society has got by way of commission alone 4 lakhs and they still are getting commission, for the sale of groundnut in the whole district is to be carried out under the auspices of this society and this society gets a commission. I would ask the Ministry to go into this matter and see that that money is devoted to the purpose of starting an oil technological institute. Incidentally that may concern itself also with the question of manure from oilcakes and research may be made. Let not the Minister for Education say that it refers to the Agricultural department. It is not so. It is a question of higher studies in science. I would ask the Minister for Education to cry aloud and ask the Government of India to locate some of these institutions here for which they propose to allocate several crores of rupees for higher scientific research. The Ministry should have the support of this House in this matter, and get some money.

“With regard to the Universities Grants Committee about which we have heard, we have yet to know how much money the Madras Government have placed in their hands or how much of their recommendations have been followed. We would like to know the proceedings of the Committee. I wish that the proceedings of the Committee are placed on the table of the House. For the information of the members the Minister should at least twice a year tell us taking advantage of the budget session and some other occasion what the work of this Committee has been and how far he is accepting its recommendations.

“There is one other thing. I have raised this subject in the general discussion and that is about the Advisory Committees in this province. As in other provinces, such Committees should be composed of non-official members of this House with the

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Minister in charge of the particular portfolio as ex-officio chairman. Periodically policies should be discussed generally by this Committee though the decisions of the Committee may not be binding on the Ministry as such. Anyhow it would be helpful to the Ministry and to the Government. I would ask the Minister for Education to constitute an Advisory Committee without any delay. I find some sort of a Committee has been appointed but that consists of not members of the Assembly alone. It is not the Advisory Committee I am suggesting. From a perusal of the proceedings of the Parliament in England it will be evident that there is an Advisory Committee attached to every Minister; I do hope that it will be the case here also just as in England where the Committee system has come to stay and that such Committees will be appointed for all the departments here."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In Ceylon also such committees exist."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTINAD:—"In Ceylon the committees are extremely powerful and they rule the Ministers. I do not want to suggest that similar powers should be given here. We always go on the basis of legislative work. We do not want to assume powers for executive work. I have already taken exception to the appointment of members of this House on the various Food, Cloth and other Committees, in every village, taluk and district, for I feel strongly that members of the legislature whose duty it is to criticize all the actions of the district officials, district committees and so on should not mix up with various committees. Charges are being levelled that they are doing all this to run the administration themselves in different forms. I would ask them to impose on themselves a self-denying ordinance and to dissociate themselves from these committees. In the interests of good parliamentary work and in the interests of good debate in this House, it is essential that the Members of the Legislatures should not get proceedings of the various committees and executive orders. They will embarrass the officials and the non-M.L.A. members of the committees. Many complaints are heard that the Muslims and others have not been given full representation in these committees. That is why I suggest that the Members of this House should dissociate themselves from these and Government should appoint Advisory Committees instead."

12 p.m. "One other set of Advisory Committees which I would ask the Ministry to revive is the Committees for Cloth. These were in vogue in 1939 during our time. Soon after the Congress party assumed office, these were abolished. If I am wrong I would like to be corrected. As things exist to-day in this country each community is bound to speak for its particular interests. It will be another 20 or 25 years before things will change in this respect. It will not therefore be inconsistent with the policy of the Government if the Advisory Committees are appointed with regard to various things. I do not want that any injustice

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should be done to any community. I desire that the rules prescribed should be properly administered. I can anticipate the Education Minister saying while replying that rules have been framed and the principals of colleges are expected to administer the rules. But what is the objection in an advisory committee sitting round the principal and seeing to it that the rules are properly administered. I would suggest that the committees should be revived. I do not know whether the subject of admission to medical colleges will come under this portfolio."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Principals of the three Medical colleges constitute the Committee for purposes of selection of students for admission in the colleges."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I would still urge the appointment of an Advisory Committee for the three colleges or if necessary, there may be one advisory committee for all the three colleges and the three principals could also be there."

"Let me say, Sir, that education is no less important than any other department of Government and I do hope that Government will find its way to put as much money in it as possible; that is the only way of ensuring greater use to the public in this matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A number of members wish to take part in the debate and I therefore, fix a time limit of fifteen minutes for each member."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, the subject of education is one which has been already discussed at great length on the occasion of the previous Budget and the answers given by the Government at that time as well as their policy during the previous Budget and now are likely to discourage members on this side of the House from placing their views before them again. But there is one factor which is greatly encouraging to me especially and that is the presence on the Treasury Benches of a person who is now in charge of this portfolio, whom I know for a very long time and from whom not only I but all members of my community have great expectations. He is a man of great culture and as he has himself said, is an ardent admirer of Urdu language. This is a factor which greatly encourages me to put forward my demand again this time even though I know that he may not for long continue in charge of this portfolio; but still I am sure . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Is it the desire of the hon. Member that I should not continue in charge of this portfolio?"

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Certainly not. If I have my say. I will put him in charge of education and education alone (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'And face the music.') but I know, Sir, neither I nor my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi has got a final say in that matter

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and I am afraid that he may not be for very long in charge of this portfolio. Therefore, I must request him before he transfers this portfolio to another gentleman, to leave his impression upon it and that he will pass it on with his recommendation to his successor so that the next gentleman who takes charge of this portfolio will in honour be bound to see that his recommendations are carried out. With these words, I would like once again to place before him our view point with regard to the most important thing concerning the educational policy of Government, namely the medium of instruction. With regard to this matter, I would request members of Government to put aside all political considerations for one moment and view the whole question from the point of view of actualities and plain logic. I suppose it is an admitted fact that the medium of instruction should be the mother tongue of the respective pupils. I believe it is nowhere stated that it should be the regional language. It might be a fact that the mother tongue and the regional language might be the same but it might be a fact also that the two may be different. First of all, do you admit the fact that the medium of instruction should be the mother tongue of the pupils and if it happens to be also the regional language well and good and that is the medium of instruction; but the primary thing is that it is not the regional language that is the medium of instruction but the mother tongue of the pupil. If you grant that principle, the next thing is what is the mother tongue of the Muslims. Does the Government deny that the mother tongue of the Muslims of this Province is largely Urdu? It might be that the Muslims of Malabar might have Malayalam as their mother tongue; it might be that a portion of Muslims of Tamilnad might have Tamil as their mother tongue. But is it not a fact that the Muslims of the rest of the portions of the Province have Urdu as their mother tongue? It might be possible that in a few cases in the Andhra Desa, just as in the case of people called Duditungas, a few of them might be having Telugu as their mother tongue but in the case of 99 per cent of Muslims of the Andhra area—I might even say 99.9 per cent—their mother tongue is Urdu. That is a fact which is easily liable to be found out by the appointment of a fact-finding committee if the Government have any doubts in the matter and if they feel that they are not in a position to accept the opinion and the recommendations of the representatives of the people. Such a fact-finding commission might find out what is the percentage of the population among Muslims who speak Telugu and what the percentage is which speaks Urdu. But I do not think that it is really necessary. Members on the opposite side have not very long ago admitted that the mother tongue of the Muslims of the Andhra parts is Urdu and not Telugu. In view of this admission, is it not unreasonable for me to ask that the Government proceed to make arrangements for instruction to the Muslims in the Andhra area being imparted through the medium of Urdu. I do not think that any honest man—I am sure that the Hon. Education Minister is pre-eminently honest and truthful—will deny the force of this argument.

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“Apart from this bigger question, I would like him to consider the smaller question of the high school in Nellore for which not only I but Muslims of the whole district have been agitating not only for the last year but for so many years. During the time of the Advisors’ Government and during the previous Congress Government and during the previous Ministry, the Muslims of Nellore district have been demanding the raising of the status of the present municipal middle school to that of a high school and they have been requesting that the management of that high school should be taken over by Government. Deputations have been waiting upon Governors and Education Ministers and successive Ministers and Governors have gone into this question, have paid a visit to the place and one after another they have promised serious consideration of this question; but I am sorry to say that till now our aspirations have remained unfulfilled and it is my great hope that now at least when a member from our district is in charge, even though he is temporarily in charge, he will be in a position to fulfil the aspirations of the people of the district from which he comes. In this regard, I may point out that it is the desire not only of the Muslims of the place but also it is the desire of the Hindus. You may be aware, Sir, that the municipal council which is largely a Hindu body, in which there is a large number of Hindu gentlemen passed a resolution recommending to Government that the municipal middle school should be raised to the status of a high school. Recently last year, the Government were pleased to sanction the conversion of another middle school, the Hindu middle school, into a high school; that is in Stonehousepet. Is it too much to ask that the same consideration and concession should be given to the Muslims of this area? The Government are aware that in Nellore district, we have a Muslim population of over one lakh and 99 per cent and if I may say so 99.9 per cent of them are Urdu-speaking people and for them there is no single high school in the whole of the Nellore district, although there is a high school in every divisional headquarters. May I request the Hon. Minister in charge of Education to pay serious attention to this matter apart from the bigger question of the medium of instruction and on the policy of the Government with regard to it. I would like to request them to examine the question from the point of view of the demands of the Muslims and the necessity of the Muslim population of Nellore district. The Minister in charge of Education knows that there is congestion in the various schools of Nellore district, that students have to be turned out, that they are working with very little accommodation and that they are admitting pupils in excess of the sanctioned strength permitted by the Education Department. Therefore, is it not proper that another high school should be opened in which Muslims may be admitted, and in which Hindus also may be admitted? I do not want any restriction in point of admission of one community alone. If this institution were raised to the status of a high school, the Muslim population of the district will have one more school for their benefit.”

“Let me now turn to the question of high school for girls, as I have spoken so far about high school for boys. This girls’ school

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is not situated in my district and although I have no direct authority to speak on this subject, still I am bringing it to this notice of the Minister. In Madras there is a high school for girls, the Hobart Muslim Girls' High School. I understand that the high school is working with very small accommodation. On top of that the recently opened college for Muslim girls has been shoved into the same building with the result that there is great difficulty of accommodation for the high school department. I understand there is an adjacent site available for acquisition and that site belongs to a missionary institution. I am sure that if negotiations with the mission authorities are started, they will be willing to part with it for the benefit of the educational institution intended for women. If that site is acquired, it will greatly benefit the Hobart High School in the matter of accommodation.

"With regard to the same school, there is a great complaint with regard to conveyance of girl students. At present, they are conveyed in bullock-carts and on account of their limited number and by their very nature, they being of slow motion, it is not possible to convey students quickly to school. As a result, students have to start for school from early daybreak and they return home late after sunset and when they come home back, it is nearly eight at night. I submit that this arrangement will affect their physique and interfere with their education itself. This is a matter upon which I need not dilate and I do hope that Government will pay serious attention to this very important matter.

"I do not want to deal at length with regard to the pay of teachers. Many of my friends on this side of the house have spoken upon that aspect of the question. What I wish to say is that even though you do not increase their salaries, please do not increase their work. It is an admitted fact and even the Government have confessed that the teachers are inadequately paid. But what is it that you have been doing about it? At least are you limiting their work? Are you not imposing extra work upon them? I am bringing to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Education that teachers in districts are asked to prepare and write ration cards for food and mill cloth. Is this the type of work that the teachers should be called upon to do? I understand from reliable authority that instructions have been issued to the teachers employed in local bodies that they should set apart certain hours each day for the preparation of food ration cards and mill cloth ration cards. They are not given any extra allowance for this. Apart from this extra allowance, I ask is it fair and just to take them away from their proper activity, namely, education, and ask them to devote a portion of their time to the preparation of ration cards. There is the Revenue department, the Textile department and also the Police department who may be called upon to do this work. For the extra work entrusted to them they (teachers) should be paid an allowance."

12-45 p.m. Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has taken the time allotted."

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MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Secondly I ask the Minister in charge to issue instructions cancelling the previous orders in the matter. Lastly, I would refer to the appointment of Mr. Beyabani to the Reorganizing Committee of the Andhra University. The Minister will be pleased to say that Mr. Beyabani is a man of great culture and a man of great learning. I ask him, Sir, what is the basis for this appointment. Is it to give representation to the Muslims on that Board or is it to appoint a man of culture who has special knowledge of Urdu."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There are four Muslim Members from the Ceded districts. Two of them are Mr. Hameed Khan and Mr. Raza Khan. Both of them are not in the Ceded districts. There is a vacancy in the Bellary district. The remaining districts are Cuddapah and Anantapur. Both of them are definitely against bringing back Rayalaseema into the Andhra University. Perhaps this was the difficulty of the Government."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Minister did not explain why Mr. Beyabani was appointed to this."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"In the end the Minister will give a reply."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I assume, Sir, these Muslims are appointed to these committees with the idea that they should represent the interests of Muslims. That should be the object of the Government. It is not because that Mr. Beyabani is a man of great learning, but it is because he commands the confidence of the majority people that he is appointed to this committee. I do not think it is necessary for me to say that Mr. Beyabani does not at all command the confidence of the people. He is a man, to put it in the mildest form, who has forfeited the confidence of the people (community). To appoint such people on the committees is to insult the community. If I may suggest, you may even reduce the number of Muslim seats in that body; but if you are going to appoint any Muslims, please appoint only persons who command the confidence of the people. Sir, I thank you very much."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know whether the Hon. Minister in charge of Education portfolio will continue to hold that portfolio after 2 p.m. to-day and if a new Minister is to come after 2 p.m. may I know whether that new Minister is really attending to this debate and whether he will be able to reply to the discussion raised under this demand."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"You can wait and see."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, I am not sure if discussion on this Education budget is going to do any good because I consider that

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it is taking place in the atmosphere of unreality. My Hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi is, of course, answering certain questions put by Members here. But I am not sure if, as my hon. Friend (Mr. Ansari) just now said, he is going to reply to the various points that will be raised by the Members of this House. To that extent, Sir, I say that we are carrying on this discussion in an unreal atmosphere. I consider that education must have been given the highest priority, because next to law and order I think we must have education. We have been spending so much of money on Prohibition, and we have been trying to kill the textile policy practically by putting in so much staff. All this money that we are spending ought to go for education. After all this country is supposed to be the most learned country, and yet we find the highest amount of illiteracy here. Unless you make people understand what the Government is doing, it is no good your running the Government. I must observe that if the Congress Party is in power to-day, I say it is due to the illiteracy of the masses (laughter). Let me say, Sir, people put their votes in the yellow box without any sense of responsibility . . .

MR. SPEAKER:—"We have now literacy franchise."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes, Sir: that is coming later. I say by this time the Government should have done its best to educate the masses. The masses do not understand for whom they are exercising their votes. If you are going to tell them 'Vote for the yellow box and Congress', where is the Government, I ask? I say, Sir, because you are unable to get the right type of people, a number of groups exist in the Congress Party. This is my honest conviction, Sir. The masses need not understand English. Let them learn to understand Tamil or Telugu or whatever be the regional language so that when you go in for election, they may understand that the man is for such and such a cause. After all, I am not condemning the Congress organization. Let me tell you that I have the highest regard for the Congress organization. Prominent Congressmen suffered and the organization has the best brains like the hon. Mr. Prakasam. Leaders have gone to jail. But going to jail is a different matter. I say the people must have proper education. Congress leaders have time and again on platform after platform used to cry hoarse on the question of the illiteracy of the masses. Many of those sitting on the other side of the House have laid the blame for the illiteracy of the masses at the doors of the British Government. They used to say: 'After two hundred years of British rule, the masses are kept in ignorance and illiteracy, because they want to keep us in subjection till the end of time.' They said: 'If a national Government is there, the situation can be changed overnight.' Now they are in power, and I ask 'What have they done about it?' To this extent I say the Congress Government is criminally responsible.

"Supposing the Ministry had given Education, the first preference, and tackled its problems seriously and sincerely, would they not have done some real good to the people, something

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tangible to which they can lay claim? Is not Education a nation-building department? In my opinion, it is the Nation-building department. Cannot these experiments in Prohibition wait? Cannot these excesses in textiles wait? Where was the hurry? A huge staff has been employed for the purposes of destroying the drink evil. And another similar set, with officers on heavy salaries, is devoting its attention to kill textile development in the Province. All this money could be better employed for mass education to kill illiteracy and destroy ignorance. Why was it not done? We spoke last year about technical education. What has been done? Technical education is at a standstill. We have been told by the last ministry that some technological institutes are being opened. That alone is no good. You must make the parents understand that their boys will have to take up some profession or other when they come to the school final class. This is very important. What is the idea of starting any number of colleges? What is the education to be given? Yesterday there was an interpellation about basic education, and the Hon. Minister was not able to define what 'basic education' was. When you do not know what basic education is why do you increase these arts colleges and thus make a number of graduates roam without jobs in the streets of Madras—in the streets of this Province. You are not going to provide them with employment. Why have more colleges, then? What is the policy of the Ministry? What is the education they proposed to give. If you are going to have linguistic provinces, what is the use of giving English education in the arts colleges? Grants for science and other subjects should be liberally given. Our education policy must be standardized. Let us understand where we are. I say members, without understanding basic education, put questions and answers also are given by Hon. Ministers. (Sri N. S. Varadachari: 'What about yourself?') I am also in the same groove. There are eminent educationists in this country—men like Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. Ruthnaswami and Sir C. R. Reddy. Why not let all these educationists into a committee, and consult them as to what we should do. (An hon. Member: 'I wish that you were one.') We want educational brains. I cannot be an educationist. I do not know anything about education. There is no use of my talking about a subject which I do not know. You need experts' advise: that is what I mean.

"As regards University education, I only want to know, are you going to manufacture more and more arts graduates? Why not you tell the parents that they must make up their minds as to what they are going to do with their boys. Many a parent does not understand what his son is going to be. When he comes out of the school final class, he is admitted in the Intermediate class. If there is no other group, there is the history and economics group for him. Every other graduate you come across is a history and economics group man. The man is not able to get a job, but he can add two letters 'B.A.' to his name. I do not have the honour of adding these two letters to my name, because

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I have not studied so far. If a graduate goes to a Government office, you say there is communal rotation. If he goes to a business office, they say 'we want brains in a business firm.' In spite of all these things, you say, Wardha education, basic education, etc. What is it that you have in your mind? What do you want my boys to read? I want you to state the policy. (An hon. Member: 'Manual work.') Even manual work has got its own attractions. A manual worker can get Rs. 100 a month which a poor graduate cannot. Yet, a parent spends a fortune on the education of his boys. I say, Sir, we must have a well-defined policy with the introduction of the mother-tongue in lower classes, I ask what is going to be the future of University education? What is the policy of Government with regard to industrial education. Whoever be the Minister that comes here to reply, let him give me answers one by one."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Industrial education is under the demand Industries."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I am not talking of industrial education, but I am asking what is the policy of Government with regard to industrial education. It would not matter much if the Minister said that this should come under Industries. Did we not talk about Ministers yesterday under the demand Legislative Bodies? I do not think this is a serious point. My hon. Friend will be relinquishing his portfolio (Education) very soon, and he is in a hurry."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think it is a valedictory address, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes, Sir. Please take it like that. Now, Sir, what is the policy of Government with regard to aided and primary schools. There are a number of schools which are mismanaged, and who do not pay their teachers properly. The teachers who are already getting poor salaries have to wait for months before they can draw their salaries for the month for which it is due. This is the case not only in aided schools but even in district boards; for want of funds these teachers are not paid promptly. My own bills for electric supply, the Municipalities are not able to pay, because the Commissioner says 'taxes have not been collected; I am not in a position to pay.' It is worse in the case of the aided schools. Of course there are a few institutions which pay their teachers very well. Let Government give liberal grants to them and see that they are run efficiently."

"Now, let me go into the question of privately managed institutions. I want to know from the Ministry definitely what their educational policy is, and on what principle will it be—will that be on the Wardha principles or progressive principles? That is what I want to know. (Sri A. Vedarathnam Pillai: 'What do you mean by progressive schools?') Progressive principles will be in accordance with the ideas of the Hon. Minister who happens to take up the education portfolio, because nothing can be defined in these days. If basic education and regional languages are

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Wardha principles, I do not understand anything. At least in the sphere of education the Ministry could have shown a sense of responsibility, and have done some good to the people. I am afraid, they have not done anything so far. I ask: 'What shall it profit this country if it has got Prohibition, economic self-sufficiency, agricultural progress, industrial prosperity and so on, but if it has not got the one great thing that really counts—Education?' If you give education to the people, the rest of the things will come as a matter of course, as day follows night. As I said already, I put the blame on the people for backing this Congress party. Sometime ago it was pointed out by my merchants: 'What is this Ministry; they are going headlong.' I asked them: 'Why did you put your vote in the yellow box and now cry?' (Laughter.) Their own elected representatives in the districts are not able to help them. They say: 'Well, we are Congress members and cannot do anything'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day is Friday. We will now rise and meet at 3 o'clock."

The House then adjourned till 3 o'clock.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

STATEMENT ON THE PORTFOLIOS OF NEW MINISTERS.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following are the Ministers and the allocation of portfolios among them:—

- (1) Hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswamy Reddiyar—*Prime Minister*—Public (excluding Law and Order, Elections, Excluded Areas and Partially Excluded Areas), Hindu Religious Endowments, Khadi and Firka Development.
- (2) Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan—*Home Minister*—Home, Public (Law and Order), Legal, Legislation and High Court.
- (3) Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan—*Food Minister*—Food, Labour and Motor Transport.
- (4) Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam—*Public Works Minister*—Public Works and Planning.
- (5) Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi—*Finance Minister*—Finance, Commercial Taxes, Public (Elections and Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas).
- (6) Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas—*Prohibition Minister*—Prohibition Excise, Housing and Registration.
- (7) Hon. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi—*Industries Minister*—Industries and Information.
- (8) Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli—*Local Administration Minister*—Local Administration and Co-operation.
- (9) Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar—*Education Minister*—Education.
- (10) Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon—*Agriculture Minister*—Agriculture, Forests, Veterinary and Prisons.

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(11) Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao—*Land Revenue Minister*—Land Revenue.(12) Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty—*Public Health Minister*—Public Health and Medicine.(13) Hon. V. Kurmayya—*Rural Development Minister*—Harijan, Uplift, Fisheries, Cinchona and Rural Development."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. Is there going to be any further addition to the Ministry?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"This is a question that I cannot answer off-hand at the present time."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I bring to the notice of the Leader of the House, who is the spokesman of our Premier, that number thirteen has always been an unlucky number for the Ministry. In the first place the thirteenth Minister has always been sick; and when the new thirteenth Minister came in, the Ministry went out of office. In the light of this, will the Premier and the Ministers consider it seriously either to reduce the number to twelve or increase it to fourteen. I hear there is a proposal to increase it to fourteen, because reduction may make things more difficult. If I may make a suggestion, they might increase it to fifteen, so that they can have one more Harijan Minister and thus do Harijans justice or perhaps more than justice."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not quite so superstitious about number thirteen. But I shall take the hon. member's advice for what it is worth."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Considering the constant representation by Harijan M.L.A.s, and also by Vanniar M.L.A.s, in favour of having two members from each of the communities, will it not be advisable to increase the number by at least two, so that we can satisfy both of them?"

(No answer.)

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As a permanent solution to the ministerial crisis, may I suggest all the Congress M.L.A.s, be made Ministers?" (Laughter.)

IV—VOTING: OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1947-48—cont.

(1) DEMAND XV—EDUCATION—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. P. Natesan will continue his speech."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, in the first place, I offer my congratulations to all the Ministers, and particularly to the Hon. Education Minister, who has taken back his old portfolio, and who has been taking notes this morning, as he was quite sure of his portfolio even then, that he will have to reply to this debate."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should finish in five minutes."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Yes, Sir. Sir, I am afraid there is a wrong impression among hon. Members at least on this side of the House, when I spoke this morning, I was absolutely against college education. I am not against college education. My point was that there was no good in having more and more colleges turning out more and more graduates. I want Government to absorb them. As long as Government is able to absorb the number of graduates that are produced in the University, I personally would have no objection to increase collegiate education. I know some experiments are going on. I know a questionnaire has gone out to all kinds of people inviting views on educational matters. That questionnaire has been ridiculed by eminent educationists like Sir C. R. Reddi. The South Indian Teachers' Guild has not taken kindly to the educational experiments of this Government. My point is: 'why don't you have something like a "Brains Trust" to advise you on Education?' In our Province, we have got great experts in education and I would suggest a 'Brains Trust' of three experts, a committee consisting of Sir C. R. Reddi, Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar and Prof. M. Ruthnasami, all of them Vice-Chancellors of Universities, to assist the Government. So far as technical education is concerned, Government should consult Principals of Engineering Colleges, as well as the Chief Engineer for Electricity. What I mean is the Education Minister should consult heads of departments, who have practical experience in particular departments and eminent educationists."

"Sir, you want to have prohibition; you want to have economic progress and industrial development in this Province. Without education, I do not think Government can take credit for improving the conditions of the masses. My whole idea in talking on this subject is this: On the last occasion when members on this side spoke on education, nothing tangible resulted. So, year after year, it will be our endeavour to say anything to our Education Minister and get some answer. If only we make him understand us, members on this side, we would be more delighted. Sir, I did not speak by way of criticism. I wanted very humbly to suggest to him that so far as education is concerned, facilities for rural education should be given to the masses. Without education, the masses cannot understand the Government of the country and, as I said this morning, all the trouble in the Congress Government is due to the illiteracy of the masses. When the masses are educated, then only they can understand to whom they should vote and what they should expect out of their voting. So, as long as you don't give sufficient education to the masses, we should be a very backward country, and self-government will practically be of no use."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"As there are a number of members who want to take part in the debate, I fine a time-limit of ten minutes for each member."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me first of all thank the new Minister for Education on assuming office and for the trouble he took even from this morning in taking down notes of speeches on education to equip himself for answering the debate. I feel the present Government has no definite policy on education. A questionnaire was sent some time back, and nobody knows what happened to it. I feel the system of education we are having now is that which was introduced in 1848 by Lord Hardinge designed simply to produce clerks. It is they who sabotaged our industrial education. Still that policy is being continued. In spite of the fact that three new colleges have been started for imparting technical education, they have not been provided with adequate funds. Sir Arthur Hope College, Coimbatore, this year has been given 8.97 lakhs, while the engineering colleges both in Vizagapatam and Anantapur have been given only 3.72 lakhs. I do not know with this amount what they can do. We know in Anantapur and Vizagapatam, those engineering colleges have not been provided with suitable accommodation. All the while, due to ministerial crisis this subject has been entirely neglected, and even while giving grants, I do not know why the grants should be put together for the two colleges in Andhradesa. (Interruption.) My friend Mr. Kallur Subba Rao, who belongs to the Congress Party, complains that the Engineering College, Anantapur, is situated in Madras and not in Anantapur. I hope steps will be taken early to find accommodation for that college at Anantapur itself. I take it that 3.92 lakhs is not at all sufficient for that college; I hope additional sums will be granted. The Hon. Minister for Public Works complained the other day, that he wanted more and more engineers. But what do we find? No attention is being paid to this aspect of the matter. Sir, education and industrialization should go hand in hand. It is because in the past, industry was in the hands of private individuals that Madras Government was not able to achieve anything substantial in this regard. Of basic education, much was talked of. Though it is now eleven months since the Ministry assumed power nothing to their credit can be said. Another difficulty with regard to education is that so many bodies are running it. There are private colleges, Missionary colleges and Government colleges. There must be a definite policy in this.

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p.m.

"The educational institutions must give such an education as to make the students able to carry on with the policy of the State. The educational institutions cannot and should not be allowed to go their own way and give instructions in whatever manner they like. The Government must have full control over the educational institutions.

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"In this connexion it may not be out of place if I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister how these private-managed institutions are being run. In Masulipatam the Principal Mr. K. Sivaramakrishna Rao, who is considered to be one of the best educationists to-day, has detained about 250 students out of 600 students in the college from appearing for the Intermediate examination because they once went on strike. This strike was even supported by one of the Congress members, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, as the representative of that constituency. In spite of this the Principal has detained about 250 students. Not only that, the Principal of the Nellore College just at the moment of the examination withheld hall tickets to four students because previously they went on a strike. That strike was settled by some impartial gentlemen, namely, the District Magistrate, the District Judge and one Mr. Dasaratha Rama Reddi and others. None of them are Communists. Even when so many influential gentlemen supported the students the Principal has been most adamant. But they intervened and effected a settlement. An undertaking was also given that there would be no victimization. But on a flimsy pretext the Principal has refused hall tickets for four students. I bring these instances to the notice of the Hon. Minister to show how these private-managed institutions are carrying on in their own way and how they are not helpful to the students.

"Another factor which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is about the hoisting of the Union Jack over the college buildings. Sir, this is very disgraceful. We find ourselves still to-day sitting in this House over which a Union Jack is still flying. The Congress Party has not taken steps to state their attitude towards the flying of the Union Jack over this building. If the Muslim League objects to the hoisting of any other flag, it is better that there is no flag at all. The Union Jack must not be there. In the Engineering College on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the Governor when the Union Jack was hoisted they protested and staged a strike. Action was threatened against some of them, which was dropped afterwards. Even now there is a provision for the hoisting of the Union Jack over the college buildings whenever His Excellency visits that place. If His Excellency cannot visit that place without the hoisting of the Union Jack, I do not mind. The Union Jack cannot be hoisted over the building.

"Then regarding the grants made to the Universities, Sir. Sir, generally the grants to the Universities have been reduced. I do not know why. For the Madras University it has been reduced from 6.01 lakhs to 5.19 lakhs; for the Andhra University, the grant is miserable, it has been reduced from 5.35 lakhs to 3.61 lakhs; and for the Annamalai University, there has been a nominal reduction, from 10.99 lakhs to 9.59 lakhs. I do not know why this thing should continue like this. Everybody knows that education in the Andhra is very backward. There are very few

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colleges there. Most of our kisan and labour class people cannot be educated. In spite of this the grant has been reduced for the Andhra University. I request the Hon. Minister even to-day to raise the grant for all the Universities at least to the level of the Annamalai University.

"Not only that. I request the Hon. Minister for Education to see how these grants are properly expended in the Universities. So many complaints are there against the Universities. However I do not like to mention names. I submit to the Education Minister to go and see how these grants are being expended. I do not like to mention the name of the University, because everybody can think for himself as to what it is."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your time is up."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"How many minutes more, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your time is already up. But as a matter of grace I allow you one more minute."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, there is no provision for geological survey. Everybody knows that it is an essential thing for industrial development. But there is no provision for geological survey in the budget. I do not know without any survey and without any research what results this wonderful Education Minister is going to produce.

"Then with regard to the Nagarjunakonda Museum which was promised to be developed there is no provision in the budget. Sir, there is no public library in the Andhra. I would request the Hon. Minister to make a special provision for this also.

"Lastly, regarding the Law College, the Law College boys are suffering a lot for lack of a hostel. Of course, the Law College has become a commercial institution. This system must go.

"Just one minute more, Sir. Lastly, there is the big question regarding the raising of the fees of students. Sir, this is the most important point. I say and I want the Hon. Minister for Education to take this as a warning, that if the fees of the boys are to be raised, he will have to face a students' strike and more (Gong)."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கல்வி மந்திரி மான்யத்தில் எதிர்க்கட்சி கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் வெட்டுப்பிரேரணையைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சுருக்கமாகவும் சொல்லிவிடுகிறேன். சிதம்பரம் அண்ணாமலை பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் மாணவர்கள் மெய்ந்காக நடப்பது இல்லை. அவர்களுடைய நாய்தந்தையர்கள் உயிர் கொடுக்காது சம்பாதித்து மாதம் ரூபாய் 50, 60 அனுப்புகிறார்கள். இந்த மாணவர்கள் வாங்கி சாப்பிட்டுக்கொண்டு பக்கத்திலுள்ள ஊர் போகிறார்கள். அங்கே போன இடத்தில் மாணவனை விரட்டுவதும் கலகம் களக்க கஷ்டப்படுகிற உண்டுபண்ணுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் சினிமாவுக்கு செய்வதுமாக இருக்கின்றார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி நடக்கும்போது ஒருதரம் மாணவர்கள் தாண்டுகலால் அடிபட்டார்கள். மறுநாள் இந்த மாணவர்கள் சலக்கக் கட்டைகளை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு 500, 600 மாணவர்கள் சேர்ந்து சினிமா கொட்டகையைச் சுற்றி நின்று கலகம் செய்து கல்லால் அடித்து விடுகிறார்கள். மெஷினையும் உடைத்து நாசம் செய்துவிட்டார்கள்.

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அதனால் போலீசால் தடியடி பிரயோகம் நடந்தது. சில மாணவர்களை கைது செய்து சிலரை ஜாமீனில் விட்டு சிலரை Remand ல் வைத்து விட்டார்கள். இந்த விதமாக மாணவர்கள் ஒழுங்கற்ற முறையில் நடப்பதற்கு காரணமும் ஜவாப்தாரியும் அந்த பல்கலைக் கழகத்திலிருக்கும் உபாத்தியாயர்கள்தான். இவைகளை கவனிப்பது அந்த பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் வைஸ் சான்ஸலருடைய கடமை அல்லவா? அவரும் இதை கவனிப்பது இல்லை. ஒரு தடவை அங்கு கட்டிடத்தில் ஒரு காங்கிரஸ் கொடி பறந்து கொண்டிருந்தது. அதைச் சுற்றிலும் கருப்புக் கொடிகள் பல பறக்கின்றன. அதற்குக் காரணம் அங்கு இருக்கும் வைஸ் சான்ஸலரும் உபாத்தியாயர்களும் அங்கிருக்கும் மாணவர்களுக்கு அவ்விதம் நடக்க இடம் கொடுப்பதுதான். இன்னும் உதவி கூட செய்துவருகிறார்கள். இதனால் கடவுள் இல்லை யென்பதும் பிராமண துவேஷமும் வளர்கின்றன. இவைகளெல்லாம் சுயமரியாதைக் கொள்கையை வளர்க்க வேண்டியிருந்தால் அண்ணாமலை பல்கலைக்கழகத்திற்கு கொடுக்கிற மான்யத்தை நிறுத்திவிடுவது நல்லது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். முன்பு கூட யத்தை இந்த சட்ட சபையில் இருக்கும்போது அந்த பல்கலைக்கழகம் ஆரம் நாள் இந்த சட்ட சபையில் இருக்கும்போது அந்த பல்கலைக்கழகம் ஆரம் பித்த காலத்தில் டாக்டர் சுப்பராயன் ரூபாய் 3½ லட்சம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னபோது கூட நான் ரூபாய் 5 லட்சம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னேன். அவ்விதம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூட சிபார்சு செய்தேன். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அங்கு ஒழுங்கினைமாக நடந்துகொள்வதைப்பார்க்க ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டப்படவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது.

"நான் சிதம்பரத்தில் நந்தூர் பள்ளிக்கூடம் நடத்திக்கொண்டுவருகிறேன். அந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் கூட இந்த சுயமரியாதை கொள்கையை யுடைய இந்த பல்கலைக்கழக மாணவர்கள் வந்து தொந்திரவு செய்கிறார்கள்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Gentleman is referring to a matter which is *sub judice* because there is a case against those boys. Whatever the Government might do, I think there should be no reference to the prosecutions pending before courts in this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"கோர்ட்டில் இருக்கும் சமாசாரங்களைத்தவிர பாக்கி விஷயங்களைப்பற்றிப் பேசுங்கள்."

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"சுயமரியாதைக் கொள்கையுள்ளவர்கள் இப்பொழுது தமிழ் பண்டிதர்களாயுள்ளவர்கள். அவர்கள் தெய்வம் இல்லை, சாஸ்திரம் இல்லை என்று சொல்ல ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டார்கள். என்னுடைய பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் சாஸ்திர போதனையும் கடவுள் ஞானத்தையும் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்துவருகிறோம். ஆனால் சிதம்பரம் இராமசாமி செட்டியார் ஹைஸ்கூலிலும், டவுன் ஹைஸ்கூலிலும் நாஸ்திகத்தைப் பரப்ப பண்டிதர்கள் பாடங்களைச் சொல்லிவருகிறார்கள். கல்வியினால் முக்ய பயன் கடவுளைத் தொழுது வழிபடுவதுதான்.

'கற்றதனால் ஆய பயன் என் கொல்வாளறிவன் நற்றாள் தொழா அரெ எனின்.'

(திருக்குறள்)

என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இன்றையதினம் கூட நம் அசெம்பிளியில் இரண்டு மணி நேரம் ஒய்வு விட்டார்கள். ஆண்டவனை தொழுவதற்குதான் இங்கு பக்கத்தில் பெரிய சர்ச்ச இருக்கிறது. இப்படியிருக்கையில் தெய்வத்தைத் தொழக்கூடாது, வேதாகமசாஸ்திரம் இல்லை என்று பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் பண்டிதர்கள் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்தால் எப்படி அது கல்வியின் பயனாகும். நாஸ்திகத்தை போதிப்பது எப்படித் தமிழ் பண்டிதர்கள் செய்யும் வேலையாக இருக்க முடியும்? ஆகவே தமிழ் பண்டிதர்களைப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கு நியமிக்கும்போது அவர்கள் தெய்வக்கொள்கையுள்ளவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்களா என்று பரீட்சை செய்து பார்த்துதான் பண்டிதர்களை நியமிக்கவேண்டும். இலக்கணம் இலக்கியங்கள் படித்து தெரிவ

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தற்காலவே அவர்களுக்கு பண்டிதர்கள் வேலை கொடுக்கக்கூடாது. தவிரவும் அவர்கள் நெற்றியில் வைஷ்ணவமோ சைவமோ அல்லது வேறு எந்தமதக் குறிகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களோ அவர்களை நியமிக்கவேண்டும்.

“இன்னொரு விஷயம், காலையில் நண்பர் பரமானந்தராயர் Overseer, Engineer களுக்கு training கொடுக்கும் விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். கிண்டி Engineering College ல் இருப்பது போலவே அண்ணாமலை Engineering College லும் Overseer training ம் Engineer training ம் மூன்று வருஷகாலமாக Degree ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இன்னொரு முக்கிய விஷயம் இப்பொழுது கல்வி டைரெக்டர் ஆபீஸ் ஒரு போஸ்டர்பஸ் போலவே இருக்கிறது. இன்ஸ்பெக்டரிடமிருந்தும் மற்ற டைரெக்டர்களிடமிருந்தும் உதவியாகலதர்களிடமிருந்தும் வருகிற பேர்களைல்லாம் இல்லை என்று சொல்வதற்குத்தான் அந்த ஆபீஸ் இருக்கிறது. என்னுடைய எல்மென்டரி ஸ்கூல் ஒரு மிஷில் ஸ்கூலாக்கவேண்டுமென்று டைரெக்டரிடமும் கவர்னரிடமும் அடவைசரிடமும் போய்ப்பார்த்தும் முடியாது என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மென்ட் வந்தவுடன் டைரெக்டர்களுடைய மறுபயையும் கவனிக்காமல் எங்களுடைய பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்கு வேண்டிய அனுமதியை கொடுத்துவிட்டார்கள் ஆகவே டைரெக்டர் ஆபீஸில் தற்போது ஒரு விதமான உபயோகமும் இல்லை. ஆகவே அதை உடனே ஒழிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். இன்னொரு கண்முடித்தனமான கொள்கை இந்தக் கல்வி இலாகாவில் இருக்கிறது. பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை இன்ஸ்பெக்ட் செய்யும் அதிகாரிகள் கல்வி இலாகா ரூல்படி இத்தனை ஹரி ஜனங்கள் இருக்கிறார்களா என்று பாராக்கிறார்களையொழிய அங்கு அவர்களுக்கு கல்வி நன்றாக போதிக்கப்பட்டுவருகிறதா என்று கவனிப்பது இல்லை. ஆகவே இவ்வளவு பணம் செலவழித்து டைரெக்டர் ஆபீஸ் வைத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதற்கு காரணமே இல்லை. ஆகவே உடனே அந்தக் கல்வி டைரெக்டர் ஆபீஸ் ரத்து செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

3-30
p.m.

* MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I should like to bring to the notice of the Government the immediate requirements of the people of South Kanara in the matter of education. It is well known that the people of the villages of Kasaragod taluk especially the Mappillas are mostly backward in education. The only remedy to improve their education is to introduce compulsory education there, especially in the coastal villages of the taluk. Therefore, I ask the Hon. Minister to pay immediate attention to this matter and introduce compulsory education in those villages.

“Sir, for some of the villages in the Kasaragod taluk education up to the lower standard alone will not suffice. There are some villages like Chemmanad, Kalanad and others where people require education of a higher standard. In these villages, there are many educated men—school finals and graduates—unlike in other villages. Therefore some arrangement must be made to provide a higher standard of education to children there by starting higher elementary schools. I trust the Government will take prompt action to open higher elementary schools in those important villages at least.

“Sir, I must mention here that separate schools are absolutely necessary for Muslims, because parents do not send their children to school before they complete their Koran education and by the

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time they complete their Koran education the school-going age is passed. Therefore, if separate schools for Muslims are opened and arrangements are made to impart religious instruction in those schools, Muslims will not hesitate to send their children to these schools. Besides, there is also an idea in the minds of the illiterate Muslims in the villages, that the Vānde Mataram prayer is recited in the general schools. They have religious objection to this song, because they think that it is worship of several gods while Muslims worship only one God, the true God. Under these circumstances separate schools for Muslims are necessary in order to encourage the parents to send their children to school. It has also been found that if separate schools are opened, more boys will go to school. When a Muslim high school was first opened at Kasaragod, there were only 8 or 10 students in the high school classes, but now we find that there are more than 40 students. Before the high school was opened at Malappuram, only a few students went up to the school final from Malabar, but now we find a good number of students. Similarly in Tirur, when a Muslim high school for girls has been opened, we found that there is a large number of Muslim girls going to school. When we were young, we could not find a single Muslim girl going to school. This is the result of opening separate schools for Muslim boys and girls.

“Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the Government the real difficulties of the Muslim students. There is a Board high school at Kasaragod, a Muslim high school and there are many high schools in Mangalore. The Muslim students take Arabic or Urdu as their second language. After completing their studies in the high schools, they are unable to continue their studies in the college classes, because there is no Arabic or Urdu teacher in any of the colleges at Mangalore. Rich students can go to Madras and other places, but poor students are compelled to discontinue their studies as they cannot afford to go elsewhere for want of money. Therefore, I urge on the Government to take immediate steps to appoint Arabic and Urdu teachers in the colleges at Mangalore.

“Sir, the main reason for the backwardness of education of the Muslims in Mangalore is the want of a Muslim hostel. There are hostels in Mangalore for all communities: there are hostels for Harijans, for the other Brahmans, for the Bunts, for the Billavas, for the Gowd Saraswath Brahmans, for the Jains, for the Christians and for all communities, but there is no hostel for the Muslims. Of course, the Muslims in the district are mainly responsible for this. The Muslim students who want to continue their studies at colleges in Mangalore suffer for want of hostel accommodation. The parents, even if they are rich, are unwilling to send their children for higher studies in Mangalore, because there is no place for them to reside in. It is difficult to rent a house. The students have to reside in hotels where several people come and go and the parents fear the boys may go astray and be

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spoiled. Therefore, they hesitate to send their children to the schools and colleges in Mangalore. We have brought all these difficulties to the notice of the Government, but they have not taken any action. If we express our grievances in the Assembly here and if no action at all is taken, I am afraid there would be no use of wasting our breath." If the Government are really interested in the improvement of Muslim education, I request them to open a Muslim hostel at Mangalore. I am glad that we have again got a Minister from South Kanara district and I hope he will do everything necessary for the needs of the Muslims at Mangalore."

STATEMENT *RE* STRIKE PROPOSED TO TAKE PLACE ON
29TH MARCH.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Mr. Moideen Kutty asked for some information regarding the proposed strike. The Hon. Minister for Labour will now make a statement on the subject."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I am in a position to inform the House that the proposed hartal is not likely to take place tomorrow. A number of associations which have given notice of a strike tomorrow have informed us that in view of the efforts we have been making, they did not want to make the position worse. Therefore, it is just possible that there may not be a strike. Hon. Members need not therefore be so very apprehensive as they were this morning. While I do not want to commit myself to a statement that there will not be a strike tomorrow, there is every chance that it may not happen. This is the only statement I want to make for the information of the hon. Members of the House regarding the strike situation."

IV.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1947-48—*cont.*

(1) DEMAND XV—EDUCATION—*cont.*

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given notice of this cut motion with a threefold object, first, to raise the question of the medium of instruction in schools, second to stress the importance of religious instruction in schools and third to plead for the continuance of English in the curriculum of studies in schools and colleges.

"Sir, coming to the vexed question of instruction through the medium of the regional language, memories are still fresh of the storm of opposition that was raised against the order promulgated overnight without consulting the leading and experienced educationists in the city or in this House and without due regard to its repercussions on the school-going population in this Province. Incidentally the Government wittingly or unwittingly provoked a heated controversy on the question whether Urdu or Telugu is the mother tongue of the Muslims of the Andhra districts and bitterly antagonized an important section of the Members of this

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House, who still harp for very good reasons on the same theme that Urdu is the mother-tongue of the Muslims of the Province irrespective of whatever vernacular languages they may speak. Now it must be obvious to the Government on a little reflection that there must be some genuine reason why all that opposition was marshalled against the Government. Surely, thirty odd educated and influential and important people of this Province did not on that occasion take leave of their senses and cry themselves hoarse against a step which they considered essentially wrong, merely for the sake of opposition! The order bristles with difficulties in its actual working and has caused considerable inconvenience to the managements of institutions and has dislocated at least for some time the work of the school-going population. So those hon. Gentlemen who are here for the purpose of serving the interests of the constituency they represent rightly tried to point out to the Government the drawbacks of such an order and bring the Government to see the futility of its insistence. But in vain. All this could have been avoided by merely saying that instruction should be given through the medium of one's mother-tongue. I hope that Government will not continue to be adamant in the matter, that they would be more realistic and practical and that they will not consider it beneath their dignity to go back on an order obviously wrong but direct instead that instruction be given through the medium of the mother-tongue which will set at rest once and for all the heated controversy which will never otherwise end.

"I come now to the second point, the importance of religious instruction. I should imagine that the importance of religious instruction in schools need not be stressed before a Government composed of Members who are essentially religious-minded and who are aware of the distinct advantages of religious education and will not therefore be opposed to the imparting of religious instruction in schools. Fears have however been expressed in some quarters that under the Wardha scheme there will be no scope for religious instruction. I am not conversant with the details of the scheme. But if the fears are well-founded, then I must certainly stress with all the emphasis I can command that the State should not interfere with, or hamper, the right of Muslim or Christian institutions to impart religious instruction to the pupils outside the regular school hours. Religious instruction is very necessary if we are to have God-fearing men, men with a sense of respect for duly constituted authority, as future citizens."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is unusual on the part of the hon. Member to read from manuscript. Hitherto it was not his practice."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Yes, Sir.

"Labour troubles are mainly attributable to this lack of religious instruction. Capitalists should realize that they must

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give a fair deal to the labourers through whose sweat and toil they reap huge profits. Labourers, on the other hand, should realize that given a fair deal, it is very wrong on their part to point the dagger of a strike at the forehead of their employers for this or that flimsy reason. If religious instruction is given to pupils in the schools, you will have better citizens and less trouble in this country.

"I now come to my last point, and that is the retention of English in the curricula of studies in our schools and colleges. English is a language of international importance; it is the key to the world's store-house of knowledge. For cultural purposes, it should be studied by all of us. I hope that the Government will not be so narrow-minded as to eradicate the English language entirely from our schools and colleges. That would be narrow-nationalism indeed!"

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting this Demand on Education for Rs. 7,00,09,000, I would like to place before the Government a few points for their consideration.

"The new scheme of compulsory elementary education that has been adumbrated by the former Government has been expanded to a great extent during the last two years. As I go round the Rayalaseema districts, I find that there are nearly fifty or sixty centres in each district where this scheme of compulsory education is being worked. But I would like to point out that this scheme has not been properly thought out by the former Government. If you go into any one of these centres, you find that a number of children, ranging from two hundred to three hundred, are put into a small dungeon in a village outhouse or a house vacated by a ryot. There is no ventilation or proper accommodation. I found that in certain places eighty children were accommodated in a small room managed by two teachers. Therefore, I request the Government to draw up a comprehensive scheme to provide proper school buildings in certain areas. If the scheme is to be properly worked, it is better that the Government concentrate their attention on certain areas in each district, instead of having compulsory schools in every nook and corner which the Deputy Inspector of Schools cannot inspect. Secondly, attendance in the compulsory schools seems to be very unsatisfactory. Therefore, I suggest that the Government appoint certain officers, not lower than a Deputy Inspector of Schools in rank, to go round and see that children attend the schools regularly.

"Coming to aided elementary schools, I would like to point out that the Grant-in-Aid system, which has been in vogue for several years, has not been improved to any considerable extent by the present Government. A higher elementary school teacher hardly gets Rs. 25. A trained teacher with S.S.L.C. qualification, after spending two years in a training school, is started on Rs. 35 in an aided institution, whereas a student who passes the S.S.L.C. Examination and enters Government service, gets Rs. 45. The

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education imparted by the school teachers is real and genuine, and I request the Government to consider further enhancement of their scales of pay and also the grant-in-aid.

"I would like to say a few words on adult education. I think the Government are contemplating to have a very comprehensive scheme of adult education. We find that the adult education scheme has not been worked properly in previous years, because it is unpsychological and could not induce an agriculturist or labourer to learn the three R's after his evening work. Therefore I request that the Government should formulate a scheme of adult education not only for teaching the three R's but also for giving instruction in agriculture, sanitation, cottage industries and allied subjects.

"Education and Public Health are under one Secretary and Deputy Secretary in the Secretariat. I would like to make a suggestion to the Government. Education is a special subject and an officer of the Indian Civil Service or the Madras Provincial Service may not be the most suitable person to be the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of the Education Department. I request the Government to consider whether it will not be possible to appoint educationists as Secretary and Deputy Secretary in the Education Secretariat, because they may know the ins and outs of education and make suitable recommendations to Government.

"As regards revision of scales, other Members have made many suggestions. I would like to make one suggestion. A Deputy Inspector of Schools, who has to be a Double Graduate, B.A. and L.T., is started on Rs. 100, whereas a Sub-Registrar, who may be a S.S.L.C. holder or a simple graduate, is also started on the same one hundred rupees. An Assistant Panchayat Officer, who may or may not have qualifications, is also started on Rs. 100. Therefore I request the Government to suitably revise the scale of pay for the Deputy Inspectors of Schools, who have to possess both B.A. and L.T. qualifications, so that elementary education may be properly looked after."

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU:—"சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் கல்வி மான்யத்தை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரித்துப்பேசுகிறேன். இப்பொழுது நம் தேச முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு முதலில் அவசியமானது எதுவென்றால் கல்விதான். ஆனால் கல்வியைப்பற்றி கூறுமிடத்து பெரிய காலேஜில் படிப்பதுதான் கல்வி என்று எண்ணக்கூடாது. நம் நாட்டு ஜனங்கள் தொழில் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அவ்வளவாக உயரவில்லை. அதற்குவேண்டிய விஷயங்கள் எல்லாம் ஆங்கிலத்தில்தான் இருக்கிறது. அந்தத் தொழில் கல்வி சம்பந்தமான விஷயங்கள் தமிழிலும் மற்ற பாஷைகளிலும் எழுதப்பட்டிருந்தால் நன்றாக நம் நாட்டு ஜனங்களுக்கு பயன்பட்டிருக்கும்."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information Sir. Is the hon. Member sitting or standing?"

SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU:—"அவர் சரியாக பார்க்கவில்லை என்று நினைக்கிறேன். நான் நின்றுகொண்டு தானிருக்கிறேன்."

"இப்பொழுது வேலைக்கு வேண்டியவரும் நம் நாட்டிலுள்ள தொழில் களுக்கு வேண்டிய கல்வியும் நம் தேசத்தில் இல்லை. நாட்டுப்புரங்களிலுள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டிய கல்வி எல்லாம் ஆங்கிலத்தில்

[Sri N. Govindaswami Nayudu] [28th March 1947]

எழுதப்பட்டு இருப்பதாலும் நம் சிாமத்திலுள்ள விவசாயிகளுக்கு அந்த விஷயங்கள் தெரியாமலிருப்பதாலும் உற்பத்தியை பெருக்குவதற்கு வேண்டிய படிப்பு வசதி இல்லாமலிருக்கிறது. அதனால் நம் நாட்டிற்கு வேண்டிய அரிசி போன்ற உணவு இல்லாமல் சென்ற இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளாக கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தோம், இருக்கிறோம். ஆகவே அத்தொழில் விஷயங்கள் எல்லாம் நாம் பேசும் பாஷையில் எழுதி வேண்டிய வசதிகள் விவசாயிகளுக்கு அமைத்துக்கொடுத்தால் ஒவ்வொரு தாலுகாவிலும் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் உற்பத்தியை அதிகப்படுத்த முடியும். அதுவும் தவிர தொழில்கள் விஷயமாக பிரசாரக்களைவைத்து கிராமம் கிராமங்களாகப்போய் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கும் பிரசாரம் செய்யவேண்டும். இது மாதிரிதான் பழங்காலத்தில் நம்முன் னோர்கள் எல்லாத் தொழில்களிலும் பிரசாரம் செய்து ஜனங்களை கல்வி விஷயத்தில் போதித்து வந்திருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆனால் நாம் தொழில் அபிவிருத்தி வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டே நம் பாஷையில் அவை களையெல்லாம் ஏற்படுத்திக்கொள்ளாததால்தான் நமக்கு வேண்டியதை செய்துகொள்ளமுடியவில்லை. நமது தாலுகாவில் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு வாசகசாலை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொடுத்தி அதன் மூலம் தெரிவித்தால் சீக்கிரத்தில் தெரிந்துகொள்ளமுடியும்.

“இப்பொழுது பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் படிக்கும் மாணவர்கள் தேச பகம் இல்லாமல் தொழிலுக்கு வர முடியாமல் உத்தியோகத்தில் புகுந்து குமாஸ்தாக்களாக வருவதால் நம் தேசத்திற்கு வேண்டியதை செய்ய முடியாமலிருக்கிறோம். அக்காலேஜ் கல்வி இல்லாமல் விவசாயம் Labour Department காலேஜ்கள் ஏற்படுத்தினால் அவைகள் நம் முடைய வாழ்வுக்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது தேசத்திலுள்ள வாலிபர்கள் அதுவும் மாணவர்களாக இருக்கின்றவர்கள் நாங்கள் தேசத்தை பாதுகாத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாத ஒழுங்கினாலான முறையில் நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். காலேஜில் படிப்பவர்கள் சிகரெட், பிடி, முதலிய லாகிரி வஸ்துக்களை உபயோகித்து தேசத்தைக் கெடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய ஒழுக்கமும் சரியாக இல்லை. அதாவது மேக நோயால் பீடித்து அவர்கள் தேச முன்னேற்றத்திற்கு தடையாயிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்கள் சீர்பட்டுவர நல்ல பிரசாரங்கள் வேண்டும். அப்பிரசாரர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய சம்பளம் கொடுத்து பிரசாரம் செய்துவந்தால் வாலிபர்கள் சீர்திருத்தமடைவார்கள். மாணவர்கள் சீர்திருத்தமானால் தேசத்திற்கு மிகவும் உதவியாக இருக்கும். தேசமும் முன்னேற்றமடையும். இந்த மாணவர்கள் ஒன்றும் தெரியாமல் தேசத்தில் கஷ்டப்படவும் தங்களுடைய தேசத்தைக் கெடுத்துக்கொள்வதற்கும் காரணம் இந்த காலேஜ் படிப்பு தான். அவர்களுக்கு இக்காலேஜ் கல்வி சரியான வழிகாட்டுவதில்லை. ஆகவே நம் தேசத்தில் அடிப்படை கல்வி திட்டத்தை முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். உபாத்தியாயர்கள் தப்பு செய்யாதவர்களாக இருக்க வேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் நம் தேசம் முன்னேற்றம் அடையமுடியும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். இப்படி பெல்லாம் ஏற்படுத்தி நம் தேசம் முன்னேற்றமடையச் செய்யவேண்டும். எதிர்காலத்தில் நம்மகாண பொருளாதார நிலமையை நிலை நிறுத்த அதற்கு வழி செய்யவேண்டும். அநேகம் ஆரம்பப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் அமைக்கவேண்டும்.

“சபாநாயகர் அவரசாப்படுவதாலும் எனக்கு கொடுத்திருக்கும் அவகாசம் கொஞ்சமாக இருப்பதாலும் இப்பொழுது இத்துடன் முடித்துக் கொண்டு பின்னாடி சந்தர்ப்பம் வரும்போது இன்னும் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகையால் இந்த கல்வி மான்யத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

4 p.m.

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion. I am glad the Hon. Minister has come back; I congratulate him; I hope he has returned a wiser man after a period of suspense. I know that he is not so bad as he appears to be during question hour; I hope also that he will be more conciliatory hereafter. When hon. Members of this House were speaking at length on the educational policy

[28th March 1947] [P. K. Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur]

of this Government, I was wondering whether the Government had evolved any educational policy at all. I am not sure whether the Government have really formed their opinion in the matter of education. As far as I know, they have been simply following a system that had been here for a long time. I know there is the threat of a new departure in the policy regarding education. In that connexion I only want to remind the Government that it is no use forcing things down unwilling throats. If they are going to do that, things will get stuck up in the throat. I warn them and I advise them not to do anything by way of changing the system of education that affects the Mussalmans of this Province without consulting the real representatives of that community. I would request the Government to see that a Special Officer is appointed to look after the education of Muslims in this Province. I would urge upon the Government to appoint a Special Officer to look after the education of the Scheduled Classes also. If that is not possible, I would venture to say that at least a Deputy Director of Public Instruction should be appointed to be in charge of education of the Muslims of this Province.

“With regard to education in the villages, I have not the least doubt that it is going to be a failure if the present system continues. If they want to improve literacy in this Province, I would urge upon them to have one high school for a radius of three miles. There is no use having the present elementary schools. When a boy goes out of the elementary school, he does not know anything; the moment he goes out of the school, he forgets everything he learned in the school.

“I wish to say a few words about the noble band of teachers who are finding it difficult to maintain themselves with the niggardly salary they are being paid especially in these hard days; I only pity them; I wonder why these friends of ours are not resorting to strike; I think they are threatening to strike; I do not really understand why they do not resort to strike. It may be because their position is so bad in the villages that even what little they get by way of salaries, they cannot afford to lose for the present.

“Another matter I wish to urge upon the Government is with regard to the condition of the poor managers of aided-schools. I would like to remind the House that when the Hon. Minister paid a visit to Malabar he was surprised to hear from me that the thatched roofs of schools had to be renewed every year. His impression was that it was done once in three years. Managers are finding it very difficult to manage their schools because in Malabar we have to thatch these schools often; the prices of the materials are exorbitant. If the Government is not able to do something in that direction, I would request it to take over all the schools, to try to make retrenchments if possible and to see that a very good standard is set up.

“Another matter I would like to bring to the attention of the Government is the question of the raising of the Brennen College, Tellicherry, to a first-grade college. Both the representatives

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of the Congress and of the Muslim League made representations to the Government and it was thought until very recently—even yesterday I must say—that we were going to have a first grade college in that locality. But I am told that there is some technical difficulty because of the recent change in the Ministry owing to the fact that the Finance Sub-Committee could not meet in time. I must tell you, Sir, that as far as the West Coast is concerned, there is no first grade college between Palghat and Mangalore which are more than 200 miles apart. For all matters of administration North Malabar is having its headquarters in Tellicherry; even in the matter of Education, Judiciary, etc., the headquarters is in Tellicherry. If you have one first grade college there, you will be having two colleges to meet the needs of both North Malabar and South Malabar. I request the Government to look into the matter, expedite it and see that we get a College next June.

Coming to Mappilla education, I had the fortune of taking round the then Premier and the Ex-Minister for Education as well as the New Minister round the institutions like the Tirur Muslim Girls' School and the Mallapuram Muslim High School. They must have been convinced of the utter lack of facilities in those institutions. When the idea of starting a high school was mooted, I had the opportunity of accompanying the then Minister, Mr. Varkey to Tirur; he saw a site and it was fixed up temporarily. I pointed out to them the utter lack of facilities in the present school. The present site is very unhealthy and the atmosphere is very uncongenial. I want the Government to see that a separate site is provided and that adequate facilities are given to the education of Mappilla girls. As far as the Mallapuram School is concerned, I want to see that it is raised to the status of a residential University. We cannot be satisfied with anything less. In this connexion I wish to remind the Hon. Minister for Education of the shabby and hopeless condition of the hostel there where pupils are huddled together like cattle. I request him to see that provision is made for an efficient and decent hostel for those young men."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat as he has taken up the allotted time."

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministerial muddle may have many appointments and disappointments for hon. Members of the other side; but surely and certainly it has denied hon. Members on this side opportunities for full-dress debates on many Demands for Grants. I was however relieved that the Education Demand has been saved from the guillotine. We deem this Education Demand as the central theme of our Budget. Let me tell you that it is on the Education Department that we depend so much for all our nation-building activity, particularly the backward communities which had not taken to Education kindly to begin with. It is in that respect that I feel that the return of the Hon. Minister Mr. Avanashilingam Chetti to this portfolio has not given us

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that satisfaction which we really looked forward to; but let us hope as my hon. Friend, Mr. Moideen Kutty, said that he would have returned to this portfolio a wiser man. The Muslims of this Province are far behind in matters of education and therefore they deserve utmost priority for uplift in any scheme of Educational Expansion. It is but fair that I should ask of this Government, when it claims to do so much from out of public funds for Harijan Uplift, that it should come forward, if it has got an iota of regard and respect for the Muslims, and provide for similar schemes of expansion for Muslims. Otherwise, I tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the Government have no right to claim and they are not entitled to any respect by Muslims of this Province. To realize our Educational expansion and to see that Muslims come up in level with other communities of this Province, we want that there should be a separate Board of Education. We want a separate Directorate which would look after the interests of Muslims in matters of Education. For, it is only the wearer who knows where the shoe pinches. Muslims alone can understand problems of Muslim uplift. Particularly we have known that ever since this Hon. Minister (Hon. Mr. Avanashilingam Chetti) had come to this portfolio, he had been constituting Board after Board and at every opportunity he had taken pains to see that inadequate representation and ineffective representation is given for Muslims on these Boards. During question hour it was brought to the notice of the Government that a Muslim (Mr. Beyabani) who does not command any influence, respect or regard with his community, has been taken in on the Reorganization Board for Andhra University; an untenable and ridiculous effort was made here by the Hon. Minister (Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi) when he said that that Muslim member represents culture; even a vulture has got culture. That is not the criterion. If the Government really want to meet the aspirations of Muslims and if they really seek the co-operation of Muslims, we want that our spokesmen, our elected representatives should find places on such Boards. That is the case with the Board for Secondary Education. With reference to the Provincial Advisory Board for Education it has been our misfortune that the Hon. Minister has never taken the counsels and advice of every one of the hon. Members on our side and of the Leader of the Opposition; he has not provided for effective representation of Muslims.

"Mr. Speaker, I would at the same time agitate that where we have got so many diversities, it is no mockery of expression to claim that Muslims must have a University of their own, in order that they should safeguard their educational advancement, must have a University of their own. When I agitate for a Muslim Board of Education, I do not simply mean that we must be content with one Director or one Deputy Director of Education chosen from among the Muslims. But what I would suggest is that there should be a parallel hierarchy from top to bottom of an inspectorate to attend to the needs of Muslims in all branches of educational activities. Mr. Speaker, recently we had the unfortunate experience of tabling in vain, amendments to the Andhra

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University Act and the Annamalai University Act providing for effective representation in the Senate and Syndicate of these Universities. We know, Sir, that such is the treatment which this Minister and the Ministry are meting out to our Muslim aspirations. But unless the Government provide for effective and energetic co-operation of Muslims on these University bodies they have no right or claim for our co-operation.

“ And, Sir, when I speak of adequate and effective representation of Muslims, let me bring to the notice of the Government that we have got in South India our educational association which is known as the Muhammadan Educational Association of Southern India which has been doing much pioneer work in the field of education and for the uplift of the Muslims, and we want that its spokesmen should find a place in the different bodies, if really we must contribute towards the deliberations of these bodies.

“ Mr. Speaker, in matters of religious instructions, let me tell you that we feel with all our hearts that this is a thing which we should like to see provided for in every scheme of education to the utmost possible extent. If you want that education should serve the needs of the people and particularly Muslims, then you must first and foremost provide us with religious instruction. Without that, it is a farce to enforce compulsory education among the Muslims.

“ As for regional language, I am rather amused at the questionnaire which was set out in motion by this Hon. Minister for Education. In fact that has turned out to be a curtain raiser, an eye-opener to the issues that are engaging the minds of the Government. But we would like to say that whatever regional language is employed, so far as Muslim education is concerned, their mother-tongue Urdu should be accepted by the Government as the medium of instruction.

“ We would, at the same time, like to say that this Government, which has not inside its ranks a single representative from the Muslim community, which has not a single Muslim representative in any of its benches, which has not been able to secure a single Muslim voter in all its elections, this Government, if it really wants to get the co-operation of the Muslims, if it really wants to seek the goodwill of the Muslims, then it must come to the rescue of the ever-so-many Muslim institutions, be they under Government or under aided management.

“ Now, Mr. Speaker, I have in mind the urgent need for providing a hostel for the Government Muslims Girls' College with regard to which my hon. Friend Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin has been repeatedly bringing to the notice of the Government on the floor of this House. Equally we want that special encouragement should be given to the Government Muhammadan College for the advancement of its scientific studies.

“ With regard to the Islamia College at Vaniambadi, which, I should say here, lies in the constituency which I represent, namely North Arcot, there, Mr. Speaker, private philanthropy has come

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forward and has, from its own coffers, provided for ever-so-many schools and colleges and not one of these institutions, has to my knowledge come up to the Government for any initial grants, either towards buildings or towards equipment. But now, since they are feeling that they cannot cope with the problems of these institutions, they have come forward from various centres, for subsidies from the Government with regard to buildings, equipment, laboratory, hostel, etc., and I would only urge the Government to see that they give adequate and even more than adequate consideration to all the proposals which are before them now. The Islamia College, Vaniambadi, has asked for an equipment grant of Rs. 37,000 and I see no reason why the Government should not consider its case, when they are prepared to consider proposals for several lakhs of rupees for strengthening the College at Rajahmundry. This Islamia College has been running for several decades without any building grant and now for the first time it has come forward with a request for Government grant towards building and equipment with its estimates therefor and I do not see why it should be denied of the estimates being approved and the grant made.

“ Mr. Speaker, with regard to the Arabic College at Vellore, Bakhiyathus Salihath, let me tell you that I am rather surprised to see that this Government should, or the Department of Education should threaten this college with withdrawal of its recognition and aid. In particular, Sir, I cannot reconcile myself with that department's view point in this respect, when it has seen fit to allow the Pachayappa's College to continue to receive grant and aid, although its portals are closed to the Muslims.”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ Let me tell the hon. Member that it is not the Government that gives recognition to colleges, but it is the University that does.”

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ If the Hon. Minister is really interested in the promotion of Muslim education, he should take the matter up with the University and see that such anomalies and inequities which exist are set right.

“ Mr. Speaker, I have got here a list of Islamia High Schools not only in the North Arcot district, but also elsewhere which have sought facilities from Government and I only wish that the Government should come forward to encourage and help them in all their expansionist schemes. I must thank the Hon. Minister for Education for having included a budgetary provision in this year's estimate for a Muslim High School at Ambur. But I want that he should equally give his consideration to the provision of playground facilities for this institution. We have made certain proposals and we have been agitating with the Government in the matter and we would very much like to see that the Government makes a generous allotment for buildings for the Islamia High School at Pernampet and equally for the Muslim Orphanage at Visharam which has also come forward with proposals for a

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building grant and I should like the Government to decide this matter and give a grant to both these institutions at the earliest possible moment.

"Now, Sir, the acute scarcity and paucity of teachers, particularly among Muslims, in all secondary and elementary schools is common all over the Presidency. It is because of the poor emoluments that are given to these teachers that do not attract members to this profession. I want this Government to be more liberal in this matter, particularly when the cost of living has gone terribly high and to provide for increased pay and stipends and even continue for a good length of time. Emergency course of training, so that, until the deficiency is made good, we shall have facilities for expansion in the teaching profession.

"Mr. Speaker, I have been repeatedly asking this Government to relax the Government Order which prohibits the giving of grants and other facilities to such institutions as are providing for secondary and collegiate education. I want this Government, particularly in the case of backward communities, to see that aid is extended to all institutions irrespective of the fact whether they serve secondary or elementary education. Sir, even in the matter of elementary education, I feel that we have got, if I may say so, a terrible scarcity of the profession. There also there is the same dearth of teachers and we want that special measures should be taken at least for another five years to see that the present untrained teachers are allowed to continue under exemption.

"Mr. Speaker, the most pitiable lot among the members of the teaching profession is that of the munshis and pandits. Reference has been made to their lot by several speakers on the floor of this House. I want that these munshis and pandits should be given the status and salaries of trained graduates, particularly because they have to teach from the infant standard right up to the sixth form and also many of them possess the diplomas in the oriental languages and so they should not be denied the status and salaries which are admitted for trained graduates in high schools.

"Mr. Speaker, we have got here a most urgent problem, particularly with regard to compulsory education. I have been asking the Government to see that in the choice of centres for the spread of compulsory education, Muslim members of the Legislature should be taken into consultation, because it has been borne out by experience that most of the Muslim centres in the districts have been neglected in the matter of compulsory education.

"Mr. Speaker, in the Firka Development scheme which the Government are now pursuing, I would like the Government to undertake, as an experimental measure, the introduction of both adult and compulsory education and see that it is extended to the entire firkas which they have selected for development.

"Mr. Speaker, even with regard to the Deputy Inspectors of Schools, my hon. Friend Dr. Samuel has rightly said that they are being given ridiculously niggardly emoluments in spite of the high academic qualifications possessed by them, and I want that

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their status must be raised and kept on par with that of Tahsildars, if the Government really want that Education Department should become one of the important nation building departments commanding the respect and esteem of people in the countryside.

"Now, Mr. Speaker, as for basic education, the less said the better. I do not know what exactly the Hon. Minister means by basic education, although we come across with that expression ever so many times both from the Hon. Minister and from the Congress quarters. No doubt on the last occasion when replying to the debate on Education Demand he explained, mostly quoting extracts from Mr. Gandhi and ever so many other authorities as to what basic education meant; but I would only say that Muslims do not have any faith in such basic education which only attempts to train the limbs, but which neglects the advancement of the intellect and culture of the child.

"Mr. Speaker, as for the English language, I am drawing my inspiration from my hon. Friend Mr. Fernandez, that we want the English language not only to be retained, but even adequately provided for in every stage of education, both secondary and collegiate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister will now make his reply."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the many Members of this Honourable House who have taken part in this debate for their showing the considerable interest they have in education. Many pleaded for higher allotments of money for education. I am entirely with them in that matter. Before taking up certain problems connected with the general policy, I would like, Sir, to reply to certain particular matters which friends have raised in this House.

"Firstly, Sir, let me take the points which have been raised by the last speaker; certain references have been made about certain institutions specially serving the needs of Muslims in this province, and it was suggested that provision should be made in the budget for their progress and growth. My hon. friend Mr. Moideen Kutty referred to the Brennen College being raised to the status of a first-grade college. That proposal was sympathetically considered by the Government and the matter was really put up. The Director of Public Instruction said that though the money allotment could come later, at least application to the University must be made earlier and the Government even authorized the Director of Public Instruction to make that application. But in the meantime, in the last three weeks and odd, many things have been held up and this matter seems not to have had that attention which it required. I understand, Sir, that it has had some attention, but I am not able to say anything more in the matter just at present.

"About the Moplah girls' and boys' high schools, it is true that I had the pleasure and the privilege of not only visiting those schools, but of visiting them in the company of my hon.

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friend Mr. Moideen Kutty for whom I have great respect. It is true, Sir, the girls' school requires greater acreage and better buildings. Government have gone into the matter; but things are not done as fast as we wish, Sir.

"In the matter of the Malappuram high school, in the year 1946, the Director submitted proposals for the construction of buildings for the hostel and plans and estimates amounting to about Rs. 2.25 lakhs; but in view of the high cost of materials prevailing at present, and in view also of the general policy that building construction should be deferred as much as possible, the Government decided and hoped that they might be able to take up this matter sooner rather than later. As regards the construction of buildings for the Government Girls' High School at Tirur, the honorary secretary of the Tirur Municipal Girls' High School Committee wrote to the Government about it. The Director of Public Instruction who was consulted, reported that revised plans and estimates had to be called for and that they would be submitted to the Government on receipt. They have not yet received those plans and it will be for the Government to take further action when they receive those plans.

"As regards the Muslims Girls' College in this place, there have been many questions put about its hostel. Orders have been issued even four weeks back, even before we went out of office temporarily, that Mr. Hari Rao should be asked to shift to another quarters which might be provided for him; and I now understand orders have been issued, and God willing, we hope that before the new year begins, that building will be available for the hostel of the Muslim Girls' College.

"Then, Sir, representations have been made about not putting representative Muslims on the Education Boards that the Government have set up. I do not know if the hon. Mr. Anwar regards himself as a proper representative; I think he does regard himself as representing Muslims. Even alone, Sir, I have always believed that he is a redoubtable fighter and that he is not afraid of being lonely. He is a member of the Secondary Education Board. He referred to the Muslim Educational Association which I understand has done a great deal of work, and which has the confidence of the Muslims of this province and of the members of this House in particular. In the general Advisory Board of Education, we have nominated none else than the very Secretary of that Muslim Education Board, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"All these are not adequate; that is our complaint."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"If Justice Yahya Ali is not a good enough representative for the Muslim community . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Inadequate representation is given on these bodies."

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* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"On this matter, Sir, I would like only to say that making wild statements is not good for anybody. The Government will always consider giving adequate representation on advisory boards."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know whether it is a wild statement to say that adequate representation is not given. Take the total number on the board and the number of Muslims; and is it to be called wild, Sir?"

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Now, Sir, I am coming to the recognition of the Vaniyambadi College."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question has not been answered, Sir."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am referring to the complaint that the hon. Member Mr. Anwar made about the recognition of the Vaniyambadi College. He at least should know that recognition for colleges is not given by the Government; it is entirely a matter for the University. My friend said that the Government should use their influence with the University. I am afraid and I am quite sure that Mr. Hameed Khan will come down with a heavy hand if we really tried to interfere with the University's affairs. So, Sir, I always wish that a little more understanding and a better posting with facts would remove many of these misunderstandings."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am referring to the Arabic College, Vellore, which comes under the Education department and it is there that the threat of withdrawal of recognition has come. I am speaking with facts and figures."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I hope he does, Sir. Now, Sir, we have discussed on the floor of this House on many occasions the Government policy on Muslim education in particular. To-day I would not like to traverse the same ground again. I have promised the Leader of the Opposition that I will summon a few members from his party whom he considers representative, so that we can have a talk with them over these matters. I hope and I have no doubt that the members of his party and others are actuated by motives of general interest and welfare in this great country; and I hope, Sir, with a heart-to-heart talk we shall be able to have greater understanding. Only one appeal I would like to make, and it is this: For God's sake, let us think in terms of this country; and while everybody shall be at liberty to think about his own interests while everybody may try to safeguard his own cultural interests, I want every one of them to have the background of a great and glorious country in which we have to live as brothers, in which the members of both the majority communities as well as others will have to live as brothers and sisters. Given that

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understanding and given that background, if you accept these, then God willing, I have no doubt that we will be able to arrive at proper conclusions in the matter.

"Sir, I am glad that the hon. Member representing Commerce is here. I am sorry that he had to take upon himself the task of referring to the questionnaire in rather disparaging terms. When that questionnaire was published, it was sent to many associations; in fact many newspapers even from other provinces wrote in their editorials that it was an exhaustive and instructive questionnaire and some friends wrote to me from outside the province also for copies of it. If certain gentlemen did not understand the implication of that questionnaire, I am sorry to say that is not a matter which I can help. Sir, there are certain points which he and other friends have raised. Replies to the questionnaire have been received from about a thousand people, many of whom are teachers, many of them belonging to the staff of colleges, many of them distinguished professors and educationists in this Province. This questionnaire has been considered by a committee presided over—and I hope it will carry conviction to my hon. Friend—by Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar whose recommendations have been sent, I think, but which we have not yet seen. The recommendations made by that very learned committee will receive the earnest consideration of the Government and they will be able to come to a conclusion very soon.

"Some of my friends raised the question of Government policy on technical education. I should like to state in short what the Government have done in the matter of technical education. Many members of this House know some three years ago, there was only one engineering college in this Province, i.e., the Guindy Engineering College. In the last three years, the number of colleges has been growing very fast indeed. It is my opinion, and that is what I have felt in the course of administration, that we have been starting engineering colleges rather too fast. The two engineering colleges in Anantapur and Cocanada and the two medical colleges in Guntur and Bezwada were started by us. I have been thinking that the number of technical institutions in this Province is growing too fast, with the result that we are not able to get qualified men for these colleges and also we are not able to cope up with their progress as rapidly as we wish. (Sri P. Natesan: 'Absurd.'). Sir, I do not yield; people may keep their absurdities to themselves."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I cannot understand, Sir, a responsible Minister saying that he is not able to provide for the number of graduates that . . ."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Those who are connected with the management of institutions know that; people who only talk, may not know it. Let the hon. Member ask his friend to the right and satisfy himself as to how many . . ."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, either he must yield and allow me to have my say or . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is a point of order, you can speak: I think he will then yield."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am now coming to the polytechnic schools. Six polytechnic schools have been started this year. It is not as if the Government have been sitting quiet and have not been doing anything for the spread of technical education. In fact, much has been done in the last year.

"My hon. Friend referred to advisory committees for colleges and high schools. This matter has been engaging the attention of Government and in fact at present the matter is under active consideration, and I hope orders will be issued on the subject very soon.

"Certain friends have chosen to complain in this House against the Universities. My hon. friend from Chidambaram had a great deal to say about the behaviour of certain students in the Annamalai University. Others also had certain complaints to make. I must make the position clear that it is not possible for the Government to interfere in matters relating to the University. One friend opposite, I think Mr. Venkateswarlu, said something about detention in colleges. Well, Sir, I sympathize with the students; but I must make it clear that the Government cannot interfere in these matters, because these are spheres entirely for the Universities.

"One hon. Friend, I think the hon. Member representing Commerce, asked what has been done by the Government for research."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I did not raise the question."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am sorry; but I think the hon. Kumararaja Muthiah Chettiyar raised this point. It is the Universities that are doing the work in connection with research. As far as the Madras University is concerned, it is in their power; I think Rs. 1,66,480 and odd is the amount spent on research last year, and the details of expenditure are given in their report. The Andhra University also is, I understand, spending a good amount of money on research. In the Annamalai University—I think the hon. Member himself ought to know better than myself—the work of research is being attended to.

"Sir, I would like to say, in passing, a few words about religious instruction in schools. I entirely agree that real religious instruction must create a religious feeling; I mean by religious feeling, the faith in the fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man—that is the real religious feeling, under whatever name it may go; there must be a feeling of devotion and service, a feeling of brotherliness and neighbourliness; and that is the essence of all religious feeling; and that is absolutely necessary to be inculcated in our schools. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: 'That is Islam.'). If that is Islam, well, we want to have that spirit; but if in the name of any particular religion, anybody should be

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interested in creating schisms and quarrels, that is a matter which we cannot agree to. Looking at it from that point of view, the Government will consider the question of giving this essentially religious background in schools, in whatever way possible. In fact, the matter has been considered. This House will remember that the hon. Ex-Prime Minister mentioned some time back that he would be glad to have books in which the lives of the saints and the great ones of all religions are written up so that can be taught in the schools. If this sort of thing—which will give the best and the essence of religion to all our children—without creating any feeling of bitterness and indifference, will satisfy the Members of the House, as I understand it will, I think when we sit up in the conference I have referred to, we shall be able to evolve a way in regard to this matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I want to know if that is the way the Hon. Minister has understood our demand which has been explained to him and to other members of the House all these days. In that case, Sir, he is very sadly mistaken. By attempting to provide a universal religion, I want him to understand clearly here and now, he will be only creating another schism and he can take it from me that he is not at all going to achieve the object in that way."

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"That is a matter which can be well-considered at a meeting of the members of the Opposition and the Government."

"Sir, certain hon. Friends have raised a very important issue. The Advisers' Government issued a Government Order that for men's colleges and high schools, capital grants would not be made. A large number of high schools have applied for grants. Among them also were many Muslim institutions. Government had thought it fit to give exemptions in the case of Muslim institutions so that they can be given the benefit of these grants. Actually many of the Muslim institutions including that mentioned by my hon. Friend, Mr. Anwar, have been given these grants. Sir, a suggestion has been made that this Government Order should be reconsidered and that the grants should be given to all the aided schools and colleges so that the new schools and colleges that have come into existence will also be benefited. That is a matter, Sir, which this Government would take up immediately. While on this matter, I would like to point out one other matter which has been a surprise to me. I have been, Sir, for the last ten months going throughout the country to various places. I had always imagined that this Government with its prohibition policy was very poor and could not find sufficient money to give a lot of grants for these institutions, hospitals and schools. But what did we find before this Government came to power? I know, Sir, that the Advisers' Government though they had saved a lot of money by their policy and accumulated the money in the Revenue Reserve Fund did not give enough grants to colleges and schools which have been existing for a long time. For instance, Sir, the Islamiah High

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School, Trichinopoly, which has been in existence for more than ten years did not get enough grant. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan also referred to it. Again, Sir, the Tirur school has also been in existence for more than five years. Though the Advisers' Government had plenty of money, they did not give grants to deserving institutions and had thrown the money away on unnecessary schemes. In fact, many schools required buildings and in some other cases, school-buildings had to be reconstructed for providing more accommodation. Having our hands full, Sir, we feel that we will not be able to make it possible to take these works at this stage and to spend from our general revenues, because this House knows very well that in our general revenue position, there is already a deficit of eight crores of rupees and that amount is being drawn from the Revenue Reserve Fund.

"And so, it is necessary that we should finance through capital expenditure. Because schools and colleges are things which will have to last for 30 or 40 years and even more, Government will also consider whether it will be feasible and proper if these are financed out of loans. Government are unable to do anything more in the matter and the scheme of financing out of loans is receiving the attention of the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are you going to follow only the Advisers' method?"

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"Now, Sir, the subject of education has been emphasized by many of the speakers on the other side of the House and there cannot be any two opinions on this matter. There cannot also be two opinions on the type of education that we should give to our children. They must be given education, Sir, which will make them bold, healthy, independent and self-confident. Sir, one hon. Member on the other side said that the type of education which our boys and girls are receiving is such that they are not able to sustain themselves by means of it. He said that labourers were able to get nowadays hundred rupees or so per month whereas trained graduates are not able to get. We have to learn things only from experience. That is why, Sir, the basic education system is being adopted. This system has been planned not by the Congressmen but by a Government of India Committee presided over by Sir John Sargeant. The Government of India had made it clear that their grants to the provinces in the matter of elementary education would depend entirely upon the implementation of this basic education system. Let there be no mistake about it. This system is not a fad; it has been tried by experts, and it has been gone into details and proved by the recognized authority on Education in India to be the most suitable. This system has been devised not by the Congress Government which is in office in the Centre to-day but it was evolved by a Government which put down the Congress. So, Sir, it is not for any other reason except to place our educational system on sound lines that this system of education is sought to be introduced in this Province. God willing, we hope

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that, with the introduction of this system of education, our boys and girls will grow up to be happy, independent and self-confident.

“Sir, I do not like to take much of the time of the House but before I close I would like to sound this note. We are, if I may say so, in glorious times and God willing, we shall have complete independence before long and I hope, Sir, we shall make for this great country a great and glorious future and it is up to us to come together and to plan such a future which we and our children shall be proud of. So, Sir, I would make this earnest appeal to be united on this matter whatever may be our politics. There are political parties in every country; there are political parties in every democracy and the existence of these political parties is made possible because in the scheme of things, each party has its own ideas and ideals. There are many things in which the parties may differ, for example, the Conservatives and Liberals differ upon certain principles; but on basic ideals, they are always agreed. That agreement makes it possible for them to have a glorious future for their country. So, Sir, I would close with this note. We, who fought for the freedom of this country, we, who have been dreaming about the great future of this country, and we, who have always fought for that future, let us put our shoulders to the wheel and not think of our own little selves and, consistent with our own selves, let us think of the welfare of the vast millions of this great country to whatever community they may belong. When I talk of India, I am reminded of a beautiful Telugu song which I heard a few days ago. It says, by India, we do not mean the land, the rivers or the buildings, but by India, we mean the people of this country, the children of this country and the teeming millions of this great country. We must evolve a plan by which we can make those teeming millions come together and live a good life, a healthy life and a life of unity in a spirit of brotherliness. If we evolve such an educational system, which will help the country to have this brotherliness, it will be to our lasting credit. There is an English proverb, and ever since I have heard it, I have always treasured it and have thought of it many times. It is an Englishman who said ‘Who dies if England lives and who lives if England dies.’ If England lies out of ignominy, no Englishman, however great or rich will be respected; but if England lives, even the poor Englishman is respected throughout the world. Likewise, Sir, I wish to say to this House ‘Who lives if India dies and who dies if India lives’.”

SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—“நாஸ்திக ஆசிரியரைப்பற்றி சொன்னதைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் சொல்லவில்லையே.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களை பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அந்தமாதிரி நாஸ்திக மதத்தை படிப்புக்கு விரோதமாக போதனை செய்தால் அவர்கள் மேல் action எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்படும் என்று உத்திரவு போடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் வெளியில் கூட்டத்தில் போய் பேசினால் அவர்களை ஒன்றும் பண்ணமுடியாது. வெளியில் பேசினால் நடவடிக்கை எதுவும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாது என்று உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.”

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MR. SPEAKER :—“For the benefit of the House, the Hon. the Minister is requested to say in English what he has told in Tamil.”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“The hon. Member from Chidambaram made a statement that in certain schools, Tamil Pandits were preaching Atheism, and using strong derogatory words against certain religions, and that they had been brought to the notice of the Government. Let there not be any misunderstanding in this matter. Though there is no general order, Government have issued orders in specific cases that no Tamil Pandit should do any such propaganda within the schools and incite students. Government have actively considered the matter and are finding out the reason why this sort of thing should go on inside schools and are also considering how the curricula of these courses should be remodelled so that this sort of complaint may not come in future.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—“What about teachers' pay?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“I am sorry, I did not refer to that point.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—“Am I to understand, Sir, that Government are passing orders against preaching of Atheism or against persons practising Atheism and may I know whether the Government have any policy in regard to that matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—“Sir, the position is that teachers should not take advantage of their position in schools and preach against any religion. Sir, I now request the hon. Member who moved the cut motion to withdraw it.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Education who had some recess from his ministership, has come back to a certain extent a chastened man. There is a certain amount of change visible in all the verbiage he indulged in. Sir, in his reply, there were just a few germs of hope and after the homily he tried to preach to us on this side of the House—I think it was unnecessary—I hope that my Hon. Friend will see his way to recognize the legitimate demands made by the Muslims and the Christians. For, they have not indulged in mere platitudes or made suggestions simply to harass the Minister but they have made really legitimate demands which are absolutely essential and necessary. Now, Sir, as I said before, in all the verbiage that the Hon. the Minister has indulged in, there are some germs of hope and therefore, I am impelled to withdraw the cut motion.”

The cut motion was by leave of the House withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER :—“Now the motion before the House is, that under Demand XV—Education, Government be granted a sum of Rs. 7,00,90,000.”

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

[28th March 1947]

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now it is 5 o'clock. Before I bring the other Demands under 'Guillotine', I wish to give to the House a programme of our business for to-morrow and afterwards. We will meet here to-morrow at 2-30 p.m. to vote on Supplementary Grants. In the morning the Council will meet. On the 31st March and on the 1st April, some of the non-controversial Bills will be taken up here."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, I realize that the programme of the Budget session is till to-day. But, Sir, I was thinking that in view of the interrupted Budget session, at least two more days, i.e., to-morrow and Monday next, would be taken up for Budget Demands. Of course, the necessity to apply the guillotine comes only on the 31st evening."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The programme has been chalked out by His Excellency the Governor."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"The programme can be there, but guillotine becomes an absolute necessity only on the 31st instant. Till then, it will be within the discretion of the Governor to allow the debate to go on till the 31st."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As I have stated, the programme has already been chalked out by His Excellency the Governor and it has also been circulated. On the 31st March the schedule of authorized expenditure will be laid on the table of the House and to-morrow we are taking up Supplementary Demands."

"Under rule 127 (3) of the Rules for the Madras Legislative Assembly 'on a day allotted under sub-rule (1) for the voting of Demands for Grants, no other business shall be taken up before 5 p.m. except with the consent of the Speaker,' and rule 127 (4) says:

'On the last day of the days so allotted, at 5 p.m., the Speaker shall forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of all the outstanding matters in connexion with the demands for grants; and the consideration thereof shall not be anticipated by any motion for adjournment or be interrupted in any manner whatsoever, nor shall any dilatory motion be moved in regard thereto.'

"On the last occasion the House was given an opportunity to discuss at least 30 Demands, but this time we have discussed only six demands."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, I am not so thorough with the rules as you are, but may I ask you to help the House by devising some means by which we can discuss some more Demands till Monday next. I am only asking you to help us."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no other possibility. To-day at 5 o'clock the guillotine has to be applied to the rest of the Demands. To-morrow we are sitting from 2-30 to 5 p.m. and at 5 the rest of the Supplementary Demands have to be guillotined."

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KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"If the Hon. the Leader of the House and the Hon. the Prime Minister were here, I wanted to make a suggestion. Now that both of them are absent I would ask the Ministry to consider my suggestion. The public are aware of the fact that on account of the internal differences in the Congress party, it has not been possible to go through the normal Budget procedure. I would, therefore, ask the Government to state on the floor of this House on this occasion, before you apply the guillotine, whether in future they will take the House and the public into their confidence and bring forward debates on various matters of policy concerned with other departments about which discussion has not taken place and it is certainly humanly possible for the Ministry to devise ways and means of bringing about a discussion on the most important portfolios which they are handling and about which no opportunity was given to us to discuss. I would only give by way of an instance that if they bring forward a discussion of the textile policy, then the whole of the industrial policy could also be discussed; similarly, it will be for the Government to come forward with a plan in regard to other matters also. I do hope that Government will give serious consideration to this matter. I shall be glad, Sir . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"As regards the calendar of the Budget, we are helpless in the matter. So, you will have to guillotine all the rest of the Demands just now. But, with regard to textile policy and other things, Government can certainly arrange some day during April for the discussion of certain important matters."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I rise to a point of order, Sir. It is for your considered ruling. I beg to submit that the time allotted by His Excellency the Governor for the consideration of the Budget ceased at 5 o'clock to-day and any motion that is put to the vote after 5 o'clock, is, in my opinion, out of order. May I request you to give your considered ruling, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"On what matter; I do not understand the hon. Member's point of order."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is now 5 minutes past 5, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is not a point of order. As a matter of fact, I stood up exactly at 5 o'clock and was about to put Demand III to vote. Meanwhile points of order were raised."

"I shall now put Demand III—Stamps, viz., that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,12,700 under Demand III—Stamps."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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(2) VOTING OF ALL DEMANDS NOT REACHED UNDER RULE 127 (4)
OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

The following Demands were also put to the House one by one from the Chair:—

DEMAND IV—FOREST.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 71,50,800 under Demand IV—Forest.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 45,41,100 under Demand V—Registration.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—MOTOR VEHICLES ACTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 4,31,500 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Act.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VII—OTHER TAXES AND DUTIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 69,00,200 under Demand VII—Other Taxes and
Duties.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—IRRIGATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 1,25,92,200 under Demand VIII—Irrigation.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 1,17,13,800 under Demand XII—Administration of
Justice.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 66,07,000 under Demand XIII—Jails.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(2) VOTING OF ALL DEMANDS NOT REACHED UNDER RULE 127 (4) 293
OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

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DEMAND XIV—POLICE.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 3,87,50,300 under Demand XIV—Police.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—MEDICAL.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 2,13,59,900 under Demand XVI—Medical.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 90,61,500 under Demand XVII—Public Health.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—AGRICULTURE.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 1,16,62,800 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—VETERINARY.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 30,65,100 under Demand XIX—Veterinary.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—CO-OPERATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 61,30,700 under Demand XX—Co-operation.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXI—INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 74,06,600 under Demand XXI—Industries.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CINCHONA AND FISHERIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—
‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding
Rs. 40,53,900 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and
Fisheries.’ ”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

[28th March 1947]

DEMAND XXIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 95,97,300 under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,67,64,400 under Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS
AND PLANT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,64,13,200 under Demand XXV—Establishment and Tools and Plant.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 40,67,200 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—ELECTRICITY.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 66,79,300 under Demand XXVII—Electricity.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVIII—FAMINE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,63,600 under Demand XXVIII—Famine.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,39,44,700 under Demand XXIX—Pensions.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

28th March 1947]

DEMAND XXX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 41,94,100 under Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXI—MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,39,96,800 under Demand XXXI—Miscellaneous.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—CIVIL DEFENCE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,49,600 under Demand XXXII—Civil Defence.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

B. Other Expenditure.

DEMAND XXXIII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON IRRIGATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,84,07,200 under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,38,46,200 under Demand XXXIV—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—CIVIL WORKS OUTSIDE THE REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 86,42,500 under Demand XXXV—Civil Works Outside the Revenue Account.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ELECTRICITY SCHEMES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,72,60,900 under Demand XXXVI—Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

[28th March 1947]

DEMAND XXXVII—OTHER PROVINCIAL WORKS OUTSIDE THE
REVENUE ACCOUNT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVII—Other Provincial Works Outside the Revenue Account.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVIII—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVIII—Commuted Value of Pensions.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIX—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PROVINCIAL SCHEMES
OF STATE TRADING.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXIX—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XL—INTEREST-FREE ADVANCES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,56,300 under Demand XL—Interest-free Advances.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLI—LOANS AND ADVANCES BEARING INTEREST.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,88,51,000 under Demand XLI—Loans and Advances bearing interest.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. In view of the terrible speed with which these Demands have been put, can we not call this by a new expression, namely, 'machine-gunning' and not 'guillotining'." (Laughter).

MR. SPEAKER:—"There will be no morning session tomorrow and we will sit only in the afternoon from 2-30 p.m."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m. on 29th March 1947.

28th March 1947]

APPENDIX A.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 462 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 28th March 1947, page 229 supra.]

Nature of administration report.

Whether
circulated to
M.L.As.

1. Development Department.

1	Administration Report	of Labour Department	Yes.
2	Do.	on the working of Payment and Wages Act.	"
3	Do.	of the Workmen's Compensation Act	"
4	Do.	of the Factories Act	"
5	Do.	of the Trade Unions Act	"
6	Do.	of the Agricultural Department	"
7	Do.	of the Co-operative Department	"
8	Do.	of the Fisheries Department	"
9	Do.	of the Veterinary Department	"
10	Do.	of the Forest Department	"
11	Do.	of the Cinchona Department	"
12	Do.	of the Industries and Commerce Department	"

2. Public Works Department.

1	Administration Report	Public Works Department, Part I, Buildings and Defence Branch.	Yes.
2	Do.	Indian Boilers Act V of 1923	"
3	Do.	Public Works Department, Part II, Irrigation.	No.
4	Do.	Electricity Department	Yes.
5	Do.	Highways Department	"
6	Do.	Broadcasting Department	No.
7	Do.	Port Department	Yes.

3. Revenue Department.

1	Administration Report	relating to Cattle Pounds	Yes.
2	Do.	on Survey, Settlement, Maintenance of Revenue Records and Registration.	"
3	Do.	relating to Land Revenue	"
4	Do.	relating to Excise Revenue	"
5	Do.	relating to Stamps	"
6	Do.	relating to Court of Wards	"
7	Do.	relating to the working of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908.	"
8	Do.	relating to Registration Department	"
9	Do.	relating to Taxation Act	"

4. Home Department.

1	Administration Report	on the Administration of Police of Madras Presidency.	Yes.
2	Do.	on Village Courts	"
3	Do.	on Statistics of Civil and Criminal Courts.	"
4	Do.	on Kallar Reclamation, Korava Reclamation and C.T. Settlement.	"
5	Do.	on Jails and Borstal Schools	"
6	Do.	of Motor Vehicles	"
7	Do.	of Certified Schools	"

5. Local Administration Department.

1	General Review	on the working of Municipal Councils in the Presidency.	Yes.
2	General Review	on the working of Local Boards in the Presidency.	"

[28th March 1947]

Nature of administration report.		Whether circulated to M.L.As.
6. Education and Public Health Department.		
1	Administration Report on Public Instruction	Yes.
2	Do. of the Sanitary Engineer	"
3	Do. of the Public Health	"
4	Do. of the Government Press	"
5	Do. of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.	"
6	Do. of Town Planning Department	"
7	Do. of Commissioner for Government Examinations.	"
8	Do. of Mental Hospitals	"
9	Do. of Stationery Department	"
10	Do. on the Chemical Examiners Department.	"
11	Do. of Schools and Hospitals of Indian Medicine and Dispensaries of Indian Medicine.	No.
12	Do. of King Institute, Guindy	"
13	Do. of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries of Modern Medicine.	"
14	Do. of the Medical Colleges	"
15	Do. of Madras Record Office	"
16	Do. of the Government Museum and Connemara Public Library.	"
17	Do. of the Births, Deaths, Marriages Registration Act (Act VI of 1886) and allied Acts.	"

7. Public Department.

1	Administration Report of East Godavari, West Godavari and Vizagapatam Agency Areas.	No.
2	Presidency Administration Report	Yes.

NOTE.—Legal, Finance and Food Departments are not publishing any Administration Reports.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 29th March 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Alleged charging of higher rates in buses.

* 477 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) Whether a first-class bus service were charging higher rates for journeys made in their buses as referred to in a letter in the *Indian Express*, dated 1st December 1946, under the heading "Profiteering";

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action to stop such unauthorized collection not contemplated in any rules; and

(c) whether the Government propose collecting from such owners enhanced tax for the periods they plied those buses and collected higher tariff than the one fixed by Government for buses in the Province?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The Government have no information.

“(b) The Government have under consideration the question of fixing maximum fares for buses under the Motor Vehicles Act. They have also directed the transport authorities that they should make it a condition of permits granted to all buses that copies of the fare-table shall be exhibited on the buses. Passengers can then refuse to pay in excess of the rates so notified.

“(c) The answer is in the negative.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Arising out of the answer to clause (c), may I suggest that when the bus service charges higher rates, sometimes as high as two to three times the ordinary fare, is not the Government entitled to a share of the excess charged inasmuch as the taxation provided is based on the ordinary fares collected by the transport?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“When the fares are printed and exhibited in the bus, it is the passengers who would like to take care to see that more than what is mentioned in the table of rates is not demanded by the bus service. So, the question of excess collections does not arise.”

[29th March 1947]

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government then decide that no more than the fare fixed for a journey, either to or fro, will be collected from the passengers, whether it is called a first-class bus service or an ordinary one? ”

THE HON DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether the Government is aware that it has become the practice for the bus-owners to charge the full fare fixed for journeys from one terminus to another even for a part of the journey; and, if so, what action Government propose to take to prevent it? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The Government are not aware of the fact, but if it is brought to their notice they will take necessary action.”

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not an offence on the part of the bus-owners to collect more charges than those prescribed by the Government? If it is so, will the Government take necessary action against the bus-owners? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ That is just what I said, Sir. If the facts relating to the collection of higher fares are brought to our notice, we shall take necessary action with regard to them.”

[Q. 478 was answered on 28th March 1947.]

Representations of Harijans in co-operative institutions.

* 479 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri S. Guruvulu): Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Harijans are not represented in co-operative banks, unions, stores, building societies, marketing societies and village credit societies to the same extent as other communities; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in order to secure adequate representation of Harijans?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“ (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (b) Membership in co-operative institutions is not restricted to any particular community or class. Admission of members and election of directors to these institutions are matters left to the discretion of the Board of Management and of the general body of members respectively. Such of the Harijans as wish to become members of these societies may do so and also secure effective representation in the management of these societies. The poor representation of Harijans in the co-operative societies is attributable to their economic backwardness. Steps are being taken to ameliorate their economic conditions.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Arising out of the answer given to clause (a), may I request the Government to come forward and given some financial aid or rather subsidies to those Scheduled

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Caste members to pay share capital so that they can become members of societies and to request the managements to co-opt one or two Harijans to the directorates? ”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“ Some steps have been taken already and the hon. Member's suggestion will be considered favourably.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Can I expect that the steps that will be taken will fall in line with the suggestions I have thrown out, Sir? ”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“ It will be considered.”

Yarn rations to handloom factories.

* 480 Q.—P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of yarn ration allowed to the handloom factories in the district of Malabar;

(b) whether any supplies in excess of the district ration are made to any handloom factory in the district; and

(c) if so, the names of the factories so supplied?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ (a) The scale of ration allowed to handlooms in Malabar is the same as the quota given to other districts, under the district quota scheme.

“ (b) & (c) In Malabar, the handloom factories shown below are supplied yarn not from the district quota scheme, but direct from the mills under clause 18 (A) of the Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order in proportion to the direct purchases made by them from those mills during the basic period. The quantities of yarn that they can utilize for their handlooms have been fixed in each of these cases by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. The yarn supplied keeps the looms busy for 25 days in a month, each shift being of eight hours:—

- (1) The Commonwealth Trust, Limited, Calicut.
- (2) The Aarons Spinning and Weaving Mills, Limited, Pappinisseri, North Malabar.
- (3) The Standard Cotton and Silk Weaving Company, Calicut.
- (4) The Kerala Textiles, Limited, Calicut.
- (5) The Umayal Weaving Establishments, Limited, Cannanore.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister considers that there is distinction between some big factories in Malabar as compared with small factories in the matter of distribution of yarn and why the big

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ones should be given much in excess of their requirements of yarn, for a month while the small factories do not have yarn to work even for seven days in a month? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ The Government do not accept the position taken up by my hon. friend that the mills that are now mentioned get yarn more than sufficient for a month. The yarn supplied keeps the mills engaged for 25 days in a month, each shift being eight hours. The reason why these mills are getting yarn, not from the district quota but direct from the mills, has already been given.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that some factories have increased their looms during the last two years? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ I have no information, Sir.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that small factories do not get yarn to occupy them for more than seven or eight days in the month? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Sir, the Government have stated repeatedly already that the present yarn position in the Madras Province is such that generally hand-looms get enough of yarn for ten days in a month.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ When do the Government propose to establish yarn ration shops in order to enable the weavers to get their quota of yarn directly from these ration shops? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ Notice, Sir.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the fact that large factories are getting yarn to occupy the whole period of a month, while the small factories are getting yarn to occupy them for only a small number of days a month, will the Government be pleased to take necessary steps to see that justice is done to small factories also? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“ The factories that I have mentioned just now get their yarn quota under the All-India Scheme which I have already referred to, because they were getting that much of yarn during the basic period. If any yarn dealer was getting yarn from the mills direct during the basic period he will continue to get it even now. So, the Government of Madras is not responsible for any discrimination.

First aid equipment in buses.

* 481 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether the Government have instructed the concerned officers to make it a condition

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precedent to the issue of ‘ G ’ permits to buses plying for hire in the city as well as in the mufassal that they should carry first-aid equipment? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The answer is in the negative.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ In view of the fact that there are a large number of accidents that are taking place, will not the Government consider the desirability of compelling these bus-owners to carry first-aid equipment in the buses, so that if any accidents should take place, the bus people can give first-aid before such people are admitted into hospitals? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ The Government are prepared to consider the question, Sir, but the trouble is, who is to render first-aid in such cases. The equipment may be in the car, but there must be somebody who must render first-aid and unless and until the drivers are trained to render first-aid in all the bus transport services, the possibility of first-aid being utilized will be nil and so this question will have to be considered in all its aspects.”

Control of price of groundnut.

* 482 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have controlled the price of groundnut;

(b) if so, what is the maximum price per imperial maund;

(c) what are the grounds on which the Government have arrived at that figure;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation in this respect;

(e) if so, what is the representation and what action the Government have taken on it; and

(f) whether the Government propose to take any action either to increase the price of groundnut or reduce the control price of oil?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ (a) The price of groundnut was controlled till 5th March 1947 when the control was removed by the Government of India.

“ (b) The price of groundnut (unshelled) was fixed at Rupees 8-8-0 per imperial maund.

“ (c) The price of groundnut kernel was fixed at Rs. 12-8-0 per imperial maund on an all-India basis. The price of unshelled groundnut was fixed by the Madras Government at Rs. 8-8-0 per imperial maund adopting the usual ratio between the price of kernel and that of unshelled groundnuts taking into account the percentage of outturn and the cost of shelling and also the normal parity between the prices of kernel and pods.

“(d) Yes.

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"(e) & (f) It was represented by the ryots that the price fixed for unshelled groundnut was too low and by the millers that it was too high. The matter was under consideration. But as the Government of India have since decontrolled the price and movement of groundnut kernel and oil the question of revision of the prices already fixed has not been pursued."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that a low price was fixed for groundnut, will the Government consider the desirability of granting them any compensation for the loss they have incurred already?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know what prompts the Hon. Minister to say, 'No'?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The impossibility of carrying out the suggestion."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government is aware that since the removal of control, the prices of groundnut, groundnut kernel and groundnut oil have shot up from 60 to 100 per cent?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is the general reaction after the removal of control, but in a few days I think these commodities will find their own level and normal prices restored."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"In view of the fact that groundnuts are exported after the decontrol, to other provinces, will the Government put a control on the movement of groundnut in order to retain it in this province?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"After due consideration the control was removed. In these matters we have got to operate on the control of prices in consultation with the Government of India and whenever the Government of India suggested controls we approved of them and we have released the control of movement of goods from one province to another. With regard to movement of goods inside the province, there is no control because the control has been removed."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of increasing the price of groundnut cake in consequence of the high price of groundnuts?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir. Groundnut cake price is controlled and Government have a responsibility to distribute the same to the ryots on an equitable basis."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware of the acute shortage of edible oils in this Presidency and the prohibitive cost at which they are available, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are watching the situation, Sir."

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P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know Sir whether this Government recommended to the Government of India to de-control the groundnut oil price and whether this Government agrees with the action that the Government of India have taken in de-controlling groundnut oil?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not a question of agreement. The question is if the Government of India suggests a certain thing we will have to accept it in the interests of movement of foodstuffs and foodgrains, particularly from one province to the other."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that groundnut and groundnut oil have now been decontrolled will the Government consider the question of decontrolling copra and coconut oil also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That does not arise."

[*470 Q.—Put and answered on 28th March 1947.]

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the statement placed on the table of the House I see very few demands of the employees have been met. Will the Government consider also the other demands that have been made?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"We shall consider the matter when the financial position of the Boards is enhanced."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As recommended by the Salaries Sub-Committee will the Government at least consider the desirability of instructing the municipalities to give one month's bonus?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"We cannot directly instruct the municipalities. They are autonomous bodies but any way the hon. Member's suggestion will be taken into consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the consideration would be in favour of my question."

(No answer.)

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the advisability of raising these salaries on the same scales as they have raised the salaries of the constables?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"As I have stated already the matter will be considered."

[Q. 483 was answered on 28th March 1947.]

Prohibitory orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

* 484 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of prohibitory orders issued under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the various Magistrates in this Province under the present Ministry against communist, trade union, labour and kisan activities;

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(b) the total number of communists and workers involved in various labour strikes and the peasants involved in agrarian disputes who were convicted or fined from the time the present Government assumed power till now, including the men involved in pending cases in the courts;

(c) the total number of orders issued prohibiting communists from entering specific areas;

(d) the total number of deaths caused by police shooting in labour strikes and agitations and in kisan agitations in the Province; and

(e) the total number of black-marketeers committed to prison or otherwise punished under the present Ministry?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) to (c) The information required is not readily available and the Government consider that the labour involved in collecting the information is not justified by any useful purpose that may be served thereby.

“(d) 23 after the present Ministry assumed office.

“(e) 2,131.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“I want the information demanded in the question, Sir. I feel it is essential in the interests of the public that it should be given.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“The Government says that no useful purpose will be served by giving an answer.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“I request your ruling, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“The ruling is that the Government thinks that no useful purpose will be served by giving an answer. If you want you can put a short notice question and raise this on a debate under Rule 14.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Arising from the answer given to sub-clause (d) may I know, Sir, the number of deaths caused by the Police shooting during the same period when the Advisers' Government was in power?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“I am sorry that I will not be able to give this information because that was not put down in this question. If the hon. Member desires and wants this information he can conveniently put a separate question.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—“Arising out of the answer given to clause (d) may I enquire, Sir, how many Harijans were killed?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“If the hon. Member wants that information, let him put another question seeking information community-war when I am prepared to answer.”

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Transfer of Polavaram taluk from Agency to Civil Administration.

* 485 Q.—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any representation regarding the transfer of Polavaram taluk in West Godavari district from Agency to Civil Administration;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the transfer;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to do so;

(d) whether it is a fact that the schools in Polavaram taluk are still under Assistant Agent while the roads and other branches are transferred to the respective District Officers;

(e) if so, whether it is proposed to transfer the administration of education from the Agent to the District Educational Officer;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Registrar office of Polavaram taluk is still under the jurisdiction of the District Registrar of East Godavari; and

(g) if so, whether it is proposed to transfer it from East Godavari jurisdiction to West Godavari?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) & (c) The question is under consideration.

“(d) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(e) No such proposal is now under consideration.

“(f) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(g) The proposal to transfer the registration sub-district of Polavaram from the registration district of East Godavari to the registration district of West Godavari is under consideration.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU :—“Arising out of the answer to (a) is it not desirable to transfer the administration of education to the District Educational Officer?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“I think the hon. Gentleman might refer this matter when the Minister in charge of Registration takes charge.”

Status of the Legislature Secretariat.

* 486 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government

(i) to raise the status of the Legislature Secretariat to that of the other Departments of the Secretariat; and

(ii) to include the non-gazetted staff of the Legislature Secretariat in the Madras Secretariat Service; and

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(b) if there is no such proposal whether the Government propose to take up this question now and give effect to the above proposals;

(c) whether the Legislature Secretariat had any vacation in the years 1940 to 1946;

(d) whether it is proposed to make this Secretariat a non-vacation department; and

(e) if so, whether the proposal will be given effect to from the date of the last vacation enjoyed by the staff of that department?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) (i) Yes.

(ii) No.

“(b) The matter will be considered.

“(c) Yes, up to 1945; vacation was not availed of in 1946.

“(d) & (e) The matter is under consideration.”

Tour programmes of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

* 487 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state, if copies of tour programmes of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries are communicated to the authorities of the District and Town Congress Committees, and whether such copies are addressed to the authorities of the District and Town League Committees as well?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Hon. Ministers and some of the Parliamentary Secretaries communicate their tour programmes to the District and Town Congress Committees. One of the Hon. Ministers sends copies of his tour programmes to the District and Town League Committees if the latter so desire and if any engagement suggested by them are accepted by him. Another Hon. Minister sends copies of his tour programmes to those Committees on a representation made to him some months back. One of the Parliamentary Secretaries communicates his programmes to the League Committees occasionally.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister why discrimination is made in matters of this kind between the Congress Committees and League Committees?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Well, Sir, if the hon. Member so desires, so far as I am concerned, I cannot answer for the others, I shall communicate my programme if ever I go on tour, to the League Committees as well, provided they are going to treat me as properly as the Congress Committees would do.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask an assurance from the Hon. the Leader of the House that the

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Hon. Ministers and their Parliamentary Secretaries will make it their duty to communicate their tour programme to the Town League Committees as well?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“If the hon. Gentleman will get into touch with me and give me the addresses of these gentlemen I am certainly prepared to communicate to them every time I go on tour.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I would suggest to the Leader of the House that this may be found out from the Postal Authorities.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“If I cannot find it out, then it won't be my fault.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Leader of the House why he has assumed that he will not get proper treatment from the League and whether it is a fact that it is on account of that assumption, wrong as it is, that he has not been giving information to the League Committees?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“We have not yet made up our minds whether the information should be given to the League Committees also or not. So far as I am concerned, I am prepared to communicate my programme to these Committees.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know from the Leader of the House whether he will communicate the tour programme of the Hon. Ministers and their Parliamentary Secretaries to the Communist Party authorities also?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Hon. Minister will be available to any party who desire to see him while he is on tour.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether he will be kind enough to instruct all the Ministers and their Parliamentary Secretaries to see that they send their tour programmes to the Depressed Class Leagues also?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I do not propose to issue instructions to the other Ministers. It is their own responsibility and they will act according to their discretion.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“Is it not enough and reasonable that the Congress Committees alone should be given this information, the Congress being a general institution serving all castes, creeds and communities, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I quite agree with the hon. Member but there are distinctions and differences in this.”

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the Ministers who

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went to South Kanara gave no programme of theirs to the Muslim League Committees and that they went there as Leaders of the Congress? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already answered this question that I am prepared to meet any gentleman who desires to meet me while I am on tour."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I suggest to the Leader of the House to remove from his mind the suspicion that he will not be treated properly by the League Committees? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am very glad to be assured of this. It is very welcome."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries cease to be members of the Congress as soon as they take up office like the Speaker who rises above parties, and therefore it is not their duty to send their programmes to their own party organizations? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am sure that it will be sent to the party organization and I can give this answer on behalf of all the Ministers in this connection and Parliamentary Secretaries, if any, that we do belong to the Congress organization and we are proud of that fact."

Industrial development of Kurnool district.

* 488 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a section of the Industrial department in Kurnool district;

(b) if so, what they have done so far to promote the industrial development of the Kurnool district; and

(c) how many private and public concerns were encouraged by giving subsidies or other State aid so far?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) There is a District Industries Officer stationed at Kurnool with jurisdiction over Cuddapah and Kurnool districts.

" (b) The District Industries Officer, Kurnool, has done useful work in connection with the various controls, the collection and dissemination of information useful to commercial and industrial concerns and the carrying out of general surveys of the industrial potentialities of his area. He has helped in the establishment and revival of several cottage and other industries.

" (c) No applications have been received so far for the grant of subsidies or loans to industries in Kurnool district. If any applications are received, they will be duly considered after obtaining the recommendations of the Board of Industries. Other assistance given to industries is indicated in the answer to (b)."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of constituting a committee consisting of non-officials and officials to explore the possibility of exploiting the natural wealth of the Rayalaseema, especially Kurnool."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The suggestion will be very seriously considered."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to tell us which are the industries in Kurnool which have been encouraged by giving subsidies by the Industrial Officer concerned? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have already said that no applications have been received so far and so naturally no subsidy could be given."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any industrial survey carried on by the District Industrial Officers? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have just now said what the District Industrial Officer, Kurnool, has done and I take it that other Industrial Officers in other districts do similar duties."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" As one District Industrial Officer is in charge of two or three districts, is there any proposal before the Government to increase their number by putting one officer to be in charge of every district? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" That suggestion will be considered if the work is so great that one man cannot hold charge of two districts."

Prohibition.

* 489 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of A. K. Kaderkutti Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that a large number of people go from Tellicherry to French Mahe for drinking liquor and return by the night train causing great trouble and nuisance to passengers; and

(b) whether the Government have contacted the French authorities to see that this practice is stopped by their co-operation?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) No.

" (b) The Government have decided to introduce Prohibition in Malabar district from 1st October 1947, and the question whether the French authorities should be requested to adopt any measures in order to make Prohibition a success in that district will be considered in due course."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of making it an offence to be found drunk in Prohibition areas? "

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Similar suggestions have already been made by various hon. Members in this House and the lady Member's suggestion will be considered by Government."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"Sir, திருச்சி மாவட்டம் ஜில்லா எஸ். லைக்குள் குடித்துவிட்டு சேலம் ஜில்லா எஸ். லைக்குள் ஈரோடு மாவட்டமாக ரயில் வசூலிப்பார்கள் என்பது தங்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"தாங்கள் சொல்லி நான் தெரிந்து கொண்டேன்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"அவர்கள் பிரயாணிகளோடு ரயிலில் பிரயாணம் செய்யும்போது படுத்துக்கொண்டும் பிரயாணிகளுக்கு கஷ்டத்தை உண்டு பண்ணிக்கொண்டும் வாந்தி எடுத்துக்கொண்டும் வருகிறார்கள் என்பது கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"அக்டோபர் மாதம் முதல் தேதி முதற்கொண்டு அப்படிப்பட்ட காரியங்களெல்லாம் நின்று விடும் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன்."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"A responsible member of the House has stated by way of question that people go from Tellicherry to French Mahe for drinking and return back drunk causing inconvenience to passengers and the Government reply there is 'No'. May I ask, which information is correct, the one furnished by the hon. Member or the reply of the Government?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The question is 'whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact' and the reply is that no representation has been received to that effect."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government will please make enquiries about the matter and get the information."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Under the Rural Development Scheme, the application of Prohibition Act is not extended to those areas and therefore, the Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by making an enquiry."

* 490 Q.—Withdrawn.

* 491 Q.—

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, Sir, that the answer to * Q. 491 may be typed and circulated on Monday."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member wants that the reply may be typed and placed on the table of the House as the answer is long and he is not able to follow it."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I believe the Assembly office may circularise it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is the Government that should do it."

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Bande Mataram sung in schools.

* 492 Q.—MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the Muslim students have got religious and sentimental objection in going to the school where *Bande Mataram* is sung; and

(b) whether the Government propose to stop singing *Bande Mataram* in schools where Muslim boys have religious objection for it?

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

"(a) Some may have objection.

"(b) No."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"May I know what is the meaning of '*Bande Mataram*' song?"

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

"It is a salutation to the Mother."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Then why is it objected by the Muslim students?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is cross-examination of the Minister."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether this was sung in some of the elementary schools of Malabar and South Kanara and the students objected to it and refused to go to school?"

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

"In that regard, I would only like them to have a little more of toleration."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister what kind of toleration it is that he requires?"

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

"When things which are sacred to Muslims are sung, I want the Hindus not to object and if anything which has a religious significance to the Hindus is done, I want the other communities to be tolerant."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the singing of *Bande Mataram* is enjoined upon the Hindus as their sacred duty?"

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

"It is not only religious duty that comes in but there are also other things, sentimental, to which the people are deeply devoted."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that a very important community cannot go to a school where they are compelled to hear a thing to which they have

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strong objection, when they are there—it is a political song and not a religious song, is it not forcing it upon that community by another political party?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The Government does not view it from that point of view.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know if the Hon. Minister is aware that the expressions in the ‘Bande Mataram’ song have a political and historical significance, which are very offensive and obnoxious to Muslims?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The offence is a thing which has been created for political reasons; there is nothing ‘obnoxious or offensive’ in the term in the song.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I know from whom the protests came, whether the students protested or the parents of the students?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am sorry that question should not have been addressed to me. I have not received any representation from anybody in this matter.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that there is a controversy between Muslims and Hindus on the singing of this song not only in this Province, but throughout the whole of India, or for that matter, even last time in 1937, there was trouble over its singing even in the Legislative Assembly and therefore I can say with all the emphasis I can command that Muslims have got strong objection and their objections are quite correct and in view of that fact, is it right on the part of Government to force Muslims to attend the school where such a song is being sung?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I must first of all make two things clear that (1) that lakhs and lakhs of Muslims before have heard it sung before the objection which was raised by a political party and (2) I do not anywhere see force being used upon any person to partake in it; if he did not like it, it is perfectly open to him to keep away.”

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact that the song forms the frontispiece of a book named ‘Ananda Madam’ written by Bunkim Chundra Chatterji, which contained nothing but abuses and vilification of Islam and Muslims?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am not aware of it.”

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“Is any hon. Member entitled to make any statement in the question hour?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“He is not permitted to do so.”

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SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“If so, Sir, how is it that a member of the Muslim League party has commented on a question put by another hon. Member?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“He should not have made it.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Apart from the fact that the Hon. Minister for Education belongs to one political party is it not a fact that as long as he is the Minister for Education, he is the Minister for Education for the whole province including all communities and all parties and so may I ask whether it is not his duty to avoid things which are objected to, for political reasons or on other grounds, by an important community in the province?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“There are colleges in which a number of Non-Muslims are reading and when religious prayers are done only in Arabic, they have tolerated it and that is the proper spirit which I wish others should copy and not make a row over small matters like this.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask if the Hon. the Minister is right in all the time thinking that he is a Congressman and that he must force his creed upon others; whether it is not just and proper for him to recognize the feelings and objectives of members of other communities when he is the Minister for Education for the entire Province?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I entirely agree; I want to respect the feelings of everybody when it is right. But it is a different matter to ask one to yield in regard to a thing which one holds sacred simply because a few people object to it and naturally in such a case the Government must issue orders saying that such a demand is unreasonable.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know if in any place Muslim boys are compelled to attend when the song is sung?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“No such case has come to my knowledge.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In institutions where Muslim boys attend and when they go in time and when this song which is admittedly obnoxious to them and wounds their sentiment, is sung, is it not forcing them to listen to the song?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister has already said that at that time they could go out.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Government have not issued any instruction that they must attend at such times.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If the song is sung during school hours, is it proper on the part of the Hon. Minister in charge of Education to suggest in this House in answer to a question that a particular section should leave the school?”

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “It is for that particular section to do whatever it pleases. The question is whether a ban will be placed upon it and the answer is clear and that is that the Government cannot do anything in the matter.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does the Hon. Minister realize what he is doing by forcing upon the Muslims, who belong to a different political party, the song of another political party is not a policy of conciliation desirable on the part of the Minister and must he not see that such an objectionable thing is not persisted in?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “It is quite correct to say that I want to be conciliatory. But where the deep feelings of 95 per cent of the people are concerned and the five per cent of the people object on various grounds, that is where I say I want a little more toleration.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the song *Bande Mataram* is obnoxious?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “Certainly not to me, Sir.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether *Bande Mataram* is only a patriotic song and is not in any way a Hindu or Muslim or Christian song?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “I only know that this has been sung by 90 per cent of the population. I also know that as far as the Muslims are concerned, some years back, thousands of Muslims took part in the singing of this song. (Mr. Anwar: ‘Question.’) Many Muslims did it. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ‘No, no.’) It is only after a certain political party has brought in this political implication, this opposition has come. There was a time when many hon. Members sitting opposite have sung this song. Then it was not thought that it was against their religion. It is merely a political cry. If there had been anything real in regard to this matter, the Government would be really glad to go into this matter.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“While denying the allegations made by the Hon. Minister, even assuming what he said is true, namely, that it is a political cry on the part of the Muslims, are they not entitled to have the political cry of their own, and in view of that admitted fact will the Hon. Minister take it from me that Muslims will take it as an insult when he says that ‘if you do not want to hear you can go out’?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “I think all these implications are quite wrong. In trying to meet the political cry of 5 per cent of the population, the Government cannot alienate the feelings of the 95 per cent of the population.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will concede now at least that the demand of Muslims for separate schools for them is justified?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Please repeat your question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that he has no other alternative but to force this song on 10 per cent . . .”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “I must correct the hon. Member, Sir. He is imputing things to me which I never said. I have not said that I force this song upon anybody. I only say that Government cannot put a ban on anybody with regard to this song. I do not want anybody to misrepresent what I have said.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If my hon. Friend understands me aright—English is foreign to him as it is to me—I have no reason to be aggrieved. But from what the Hon. Minister said that in a school where there are 90 per cent or 95 per cent of students belonging to the Hindu community, and only 5 or 10 or 25 per cent belonging to Muslim community, it is obligatory on his part to see that the song is sung, does it not mean, Sir, that he is forcing that song on 5 per cent or 10 per cent or for that matter on a minority section of the students in that school?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “This again is a misstatement. Government have not given any directions to any school that this song should be sung. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that this song is being sung, and that it must be banned. The Government only say that they cannot stop or ban the singing of this song. That is the position. Government do not want any song to be forced upon anybody. But Government will not ban the song. That is all the position taken up by Government.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“Has the Government received any complaint or information from a Muslim boy or Muslim girl that he or she has been penalized or otherwise punished for not participating in the singing of this song?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—“Sir, is it to mean that we shall not rule to-day though we are in a majority simply because a minority community oppose it and also they differ politically from us?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I rule this question out of order.”

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact that the hon. Member wants to rule us as tyrants?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member will please repeat his question.”

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(The question was not repeated.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I once again appeal to the Hon. Minister, Sir, whether it is not advisable to avoid things which certainly will create controversy and disturbance in the present atmosphere of the country, or rather create things which will bring about harmony, unity and tolerance for which he has made an appeal? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Exactly; knowing the situation in the country, I am appealing to my friends on the other side. I need not refer to places outside this Province. The putting of these very questions leads to an atmosphere which is not good for the community. I shall be very glad if hon. Members on the other side will cease to put such questions, which, while they may try to placate one community, do deeply offend the susceptibilities of other communities. Therefore, may I, Sir, request hon. Members on the other side, and appeal to them to consider this matter before they put questions like this which deeply affect the sentiments of the other communities."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not the policy of the Government, and particularly of the Hon. Education Minister, to see that Government should avoid such things as would create bitterness between the two communities in this Province? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Certainly, Sir. Government will do all that lies in their power consistent with their responsibilities to the feelings of other communities that nothing is done which will create bitterness between the different communities."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I tell the Hon. Minister for Education that a gentleman is one who does not hurt the feelings of others, so much so, does he not take it that it is tantamount to tyranny of a brute majority if Bande Mataram is allowed to hurt the susceptibilities of Muslims who take very strong objection to it? "

(The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar and the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan rose in their seats.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" Two Ministers cannot stand at one and the same time."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" On a point of information, Sir. The hon. Member's question is more a statement than a question. It is for you to give a ruling."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether there is any actual necessity for allowing this song to be sung in view of the fact that it is not a religious song and also it is not compulsory that it should be sung. In view of that will the Hon. Minister be pleased to see that it is not sung in these institutions."

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" It is not that the Government are asking anybody to sing. If somebody sings this song, Government are not prepared to ban it."

(Several hon. Members from Muslim Benches rose in their seats to put questions.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have allowed enough time for this question."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Quite right, Sir."

Rations to producers in Dharmapuri division.

* 493 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether producers are allowed rations only for a period till the next crop is harvested; and

(b) the month-war crop-harvests in Dharmapuri Revenue division (Dharmapuri and Harur taluks) in Salem district?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Month war crop harvests in Dharmapuri division are as shown below:—

Name of month.	Names of crops harvested.	
	Dharmapuri taluk.	Harur Taluk.
January ..	Paddy, ragi, cumbu, groundnut, varagu, korra.	Avarai.
February ..	Paddy, cholam, ragi, cumbu, varagu.	Paddy, cholam, avarai.
March ..	Paddy, cholam, ragi .. ..	.. ..
April ..	Paddy, cholam, ragi	Paddy, cholam.
May ..	Paddy .. ..	.. ..
June ..	Paddy, ragi .. ..	.. ..
July ..	Ragi	Gingelly.
August ..	Ragi, cumbu	Korra, gingelly, samai.
September ..	Cholam, cumbu, samai	Cumbu, korra.
October ..	Cholam, cumbu, groundnut, samai, korra.	Samai, groundnut.
November ..	Cholam, ragi, groundnut	Ragi, varagu, groundnut.
December ..	Paddy, groundnut, ragi, cumbu, varagu.	Paddy, cholam, ragi, varagu, groundnut."

Appointments in Information department.

* 494 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number of appointments made since the Information department was formed;

(b) whether all the posts filled up were advertized in the press; and

(c) how many Muslims were appointed?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—" (a) (1) Director of Information and Publicity, (2) One Assistant Information Officer, (3) One Assistant Publicity Officer, (4) Two Publicity Assistants, (5) One Journalist (English), (6)

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Four Journalists (Regional languages), (7) Eleven Translators, (8) One staff photographer, (9) One Artist, (10) Two Superintendents, (11) One Accountant, (12) Two upper division clerks, (13) Four lower division clerks, (14) Three steno-typists, (15) Three typists, (16) Two attenders and (17) Eight peons.

“(b) Posts referred to in items (2) and (8) in the answer to clause (a) were advertised in the Press.

“(c) Two.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“How is it in only two cases the posts were advertised in the press while this rule was not followed in other cases?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“I am afraid no answer can be given as the question has not been specifically raised. The question that was put was what posts were filled up after advertisement in the press. If he puts a separate question, the answer will be given.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what the posts held by these two Muslims are; whether they are not only peons' posts?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“One is a Urdu translator. I do not think any one of them is a peon as my learned Friend put it.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether Government intend to appoint district publicity officers in each of the districts?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“Yes, Sir. I have already said that there is a proposal to appoint district publicity officers, but they have not yet been appointed.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are these appointments going to be made after advertisement in the press?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“Notice.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“In view of the fact that this department carries on propaganda on behalf of the opinions of the Government, can those who do not agree with the policies of Government be taken into this important service, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“It is the capacity of the person to fill the post that is taken into account. I do not think, Sir, Government take the personal views of the person who applies for a job into consideration.”

Prices of infant food products.

* 495 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of M. S. Abdul Majid Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that after the removal of the price control and drugs control, the prices of essential

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articles like Horlicks, Glaxo, and similar infant food products are being sold by merchants for prices beyond the reach of the middle and poor class people; and

(b) if so whether the Government propose to re-introduce the control of the price of these articles in view of the experience of the Government as a result of their observation of the prices of the articles whose price control have been removed?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The question is under consideration.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether the public can expect a speedy action in the matter of regulating the prices of such articles as Glucose, Dexterosol and Horlicks?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Yes, Sir.”

Control of the prices of foodstuffs.

* 496 Q.—M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of foodstuffs in the restaurants of the city and mufassal have increased and the quantity and quality of eatables have considerably fallen;

(b) whether the Government propose to take steps to control the prices of the different foodstuffs sold in restaurants and also, the minimum quantity and quality that should be supplied; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that the prices of vegetables and mutton have increased considerably and if so, what steps they propose to take to control them? •

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Some complaints were received regarding the increase in prices of meals and deterioration in the quality and quantity of meals served in hotels in Madras City.

There has also been similar complaints about the prices of preparations supplied in hotels in Madras City.

Conditions are presumed to be similar in the mufassal also. But there have been no specific complaints in this regard.

“(b) The Government have informally controlled the prices of meals served in the hotels in Madras City. All the hotels in the City excluding high class hotels have been grouped into three categories A, B and C. The maximum prices of meals in the three categories of hotels have been fixed at 12 annas, 8 annas and 6 annas respectively. The menu for a meal in each hotel and the comforts to be provided have also been prescribed. The prices will be enforced by withholding supplies to hotels which do not adhere to them. The question of adopting a similar procedure for controlling the prices of preparations other than

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meals in the hotels in Madras City is also under consideration. The Collector of South Kanara has reported that he has fixed the fair prices of certain eatables and drinks served in hotels in his district.

“(c) The general increase in prices has affected mutton and vegetables also in varying degrees.

“The feasibility of fixing the prices of vegetables was considered sometime ago and the matter was dropped in view of the various practical difficulties involved in enforcing price controls in respect of them.

“Collectors have ample power to regulate the prices of meat sold in their respective districts.”

Re-employment of retired persons in the Police department.

* 497 Q.—SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) how many police officers are re-employed after their retirement; what are their ranks, and how many of them had extensions, before their re-employment;

(b) whether the communal Government Order is followed in this re-employment of retired persons; and

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the possibility of replacing the retired persons by those already in service, and if necessary by recruitment, at an early date?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Five retired Deputy Superintendents of Police have been re-employed. None of them had any extension before re-employment.

“(b) The answer is in the negative.

“(c) The matter will be considered.”

Labour department in Cuddapah and Kurnool.

* 498 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any section of the Labour department in Cuddapah and Kurnool; and

(b) if not, why not?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) & (b) There is at present no special labour staff in these districts. The Collector is, however, responsible for the amelioration of the conditions of the eligible communities in each district. The question of employing special labour staff in these as well as in some other districts is under consideration.”

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Alleged shadowing by the police of two political workers in Coimbatore.

* 499 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhavani Rajagopal and P. S. Veluswamy, two political workers of Coimbatore district, are being shadowed and watched by the Police; and

(b) if so, why so?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No.

“(b) Does not arise.”

Anti-corruption Committee.

* 500 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how long has the Anti-Corruption Committee been functioning;

(b) how many cases of official corruption have they so far detected or investigated; and

(c) how many officers of Government have been prosecuted so far for corruption and bribery charges?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No anti-corruption committee has yet been appointed. But there is a special staff sanctioned to investigate suspected cases of corruption on the part of public servants. This staff has been working now for about six months.

“(b) One hundred and thirty-nine cases of official corruption have been taken up by the special staff for enquiry so far; of which, it is reported that 56 cases were enquired into and sent up to Government for orders; 53 cases are still under enquiry; 10 were reported after enquiry to departmental heads for necessary action and 20 cases were indexed for possible future action as there was insufficient evidence to prove the allegations.

“(c) So far only one officer has been ordered to be prosecuted.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the importance of this question, will Government consider the desirability of constituting a committee for each and every district to go into this matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“When we have the experience of the work done by officers who have been appointed, I shall consider the desirability of appointing a committee. At present I do not think that need has arisen.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact, Sir, some of the members appointed for this work have got a very bad record? May I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister at least privately one or two names?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I will certainly consider the suggestion of the hon. Gentleman if he brings home to me what he has said now.”

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the Government has satisfied itself as regards the staff, whether it is above corruption? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ That has already been put by the hon. Member over there.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether all these gentlemen belong only to one community? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I have not got it on record all the communities to which these people belong. If the hon. Members wants that information he may put down a separate question.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ May I know whether there is any communalism in corruption? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I think corruption is prevalent in all communities, and I hope it will stop.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Government is aware that the United Provinces Government have appointed a committee to go into the question of corruption, and whether the Government will find out how that committee has worked, and if found satisfactory, whether a similar procedure will be adopted here too? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I am prepared to write to the United Provinces Government on the suggestion of the hon. Member.”

Kadayanallur Village Committee, Tenkasi taluk.

* 501 Q.—K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether in Kadayanallur village, Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevely district, a village committee was formed by the authorities in a gathering of the people of the village consisting of four Muslims and four Hindus as members;

(b) whether it is a fact that in a meeting duly convened, a Muslim was elected President of the Committee;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Hindu member who voted for the Muslim President was subsequently removed from the committee and another appointed in his place; and

(d) whether it is a fact that two more Muslims in that committee have also been removed from the committee and one Congress Hindu and a Congress Muslim appointed in their places?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ (a) Yes. A village committee was formed consisting of the following four Muslims and four Hindus for Kadayanallur village, on 3rd July 1946. They are—

- 1 Janab S. M. Abdul Karim Sahib (President).
- 2 .. S. K. Gulam Mohideen Sahib.

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3 Janab K. P. M. Uduman Mohideen Sahib.

4 .. K. S. K. Sheik Muhammad Rowther.

5 Sri K. V. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.

6 .. Chinna Subba Naicker.

7 .. K. Nagalingam Pillai.

8 .. Subramaniam, son of Kuttalam (Adi-Dravida).

“ (b) Yes. A meeting of the village committee was duly convened on 11th September 1946 and Janab S. M. Abdul Karim Sahib was duly elected President of the Village Committee.

“ (c) Yes. The Hindu member Sri K. Nagalingam Pillai was removed in the best interests of the committee on the recommendation of the Parliamentary Secretary after reviewing the position in the village personally by him. His removal has nothing to do with Party affiliation, and he was not removed because he voted for the Muslim President.

“ (d) Yes. It is a fact that two Muslims from the committee originally constituted were removed. It is not correct to say that a Congress-Hindu and a Congress-Muslim were appointed in their places. The substitution has absolutely nothing to do with Party affiliation and was made entirely on the representative character of the members. As the population of Kadayanallur village is roughly about 30,000 of whom 20,000 are Hindus and 10,000 are Muslims, it was considered necessary to redress the complaints made by the villagers in regard to the ill-balanced representation of communities and to reconstitute the committee with five Hindus and three Muslims. They are—

1 Janab S. M. Abdul Karim Sahib.

2 .. K. P. Umar Sahib.

3 .. K. S. K. Sheik Muhammad Rowther.

4 Sri A. V. Chithraputhran Chettiyan.

5 .. K. V. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.

6 .. Chinna Subba Naicker.

7 .. A. Ramiah Mooppanar.

8 .. Subramaniam, son of Kuttalam (Adi-Dravida).”

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it a fact that these changes were effected with a view to create a majority for the defeated candidate in the presidential election? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Sir, may I bring to the notice of the House, yesterday, one of my important questions, viz., question No. 474, was passed over? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ It will be taken up on Monday.”

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

I.—DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR FURTHER EXPENDITURE IN THE YEAR 1946-47.

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. Will the Hon. Leader of the House let us know the main difference between the Budget estimate and the Supplementary Budget estimate?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is found in the introduction to the memorandum placed in the hands of all hon. Members."

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to have an elucidation from the Minister."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If the hon. Member reads paragraph 2 of the introduction of the statement placed on the table of the House, he will see, that when an amount voted for the year was found to be insufficient, or, when a need arose for expenditure on some new services not contemplated in the main Budget a supplementary demand is brought forward."

A.—EXPENDITURE ON REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Demand II—Provincial Excise.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,74,500 under Provincial Excise.'

"The details of expenditure under this head as well as the reasons for incurring such expenditure are set forth at page 4 of the printed memorandum. I move that the Grant be made."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand III—Stamps.

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,42,400 under Demand III, Stamps.'

"As can be seen from the budget, Sir, it was estimated that we would get an income of 332.64 lakhs; but under the revised budget we actually realized 427.01 lakhs. This being so, we have gained 95 lakhs. To earn this we had to incur an expenditure on staff and also on discount for sale of these stamps—and all this covered an amount of about 3.5 lakhs. Therefore, Sir, I beg to move that the demand be granted."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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Demand IV—Forest.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon):—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that Government be granted under Demand IV—Forest, a further sum not exceeding Rs. 5,23,700.'

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, it is not my intention to oppose this demand. I support it. I would like to draw the attention of Government to two items appearing at page 6 of the detailed note. First it is said, that they have created some temporary posts as Assistant Conservator of Forests. In 1938, the whole matter of the personnel of the Forest department was gone into, and it was found that there were 21 officers in excess of the requirements for this province, and as a matter of fact, a despatch to the Secretary of State was sent with a view to abolish certain posts in the Forest department. It was agreed to, and the question of compensation was not completed when, unfortunately the then Ministry resigned for causes well-known. Now I find they have created four more posts. I wish Government will again examine whether they require all the personnel in the Forest department as contemplated in this note.

"Secondly, in 1938 the forest circles of the entire province were taken up and definite ranges were fixed with the requisite personnel. Now, Sir, I find they have created four new forest circles, one of which is at Waltair; and later on, having found, they have made a mistake, they cancelled it and removed all the records to Bellary. This is the way in which they work. Government should have been careful in planning. I do not know whether it was done in the present regime or during the Advisers' regime. However, by making a mistake in creating a range at Waltair and then cancelling it, it has brought a loss to Government of Rs. 4,500. The personnel for the better administration of forests and also the distribution of ranges were fixed in 1938 after due consideration of all circumstances. So it should be adhered to. With these findings I support the Demand."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand V—Registration.

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,04,800 under Demand No. V—Registration.'

"The details of the actual expenditure and the explanatory note are found in page 6 of the printed memorandum. I move, Sir, that the grant be made."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Acts.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Which Minister is going to move this?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am here, the Minister concerned, Sir. I move—

'that on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 72,200 under Demand VI—Motor Vehicles Acts.'

"The details of the expenditure are found on page 7 of the printed memorandum, Sir. As stated in the explanatory note on page 7, the additional appropriation is required as a result of payment of arrears of dearness and cost of living allowances, due to the grant of interim relief and bonus, and the employment of additional establishment, purchase of furniture and grant of travelling allowance to the non-official member of the Central Road Traffic Board and on account of additional expenditure on service postage and on travelling allowance."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, after what has happened with regard to the way in which the various demands had to be guillotined, it is no doubt refreshing to find that some opportunity is found for Members to speak . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But the hon. Member should only speak on the items comprised in this demand since this is not a general discussion of the Budget."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"You will presently know, Sir, how appropriate I am. If I am not appropriate I shall be glad to be pulled up by you, Sir."

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we are on the question of the Motor Vehicles Acts, I only want to remind the Ministry of the feeling in certain sections of the House who do not fully agree with the removal of the control on motor vehicles. I would only request the Minister to watch carefully the situation that arises after the removal of the motor car control. I am one of those who felt, Sir, that the control should be administered properly and the reply was given that it was difficult to administer and that was why the control was removed. If it is difficult to administer a department it is no argument to say that we cannot run the Government. I think it is the duty of the Government to see that a control order or any order is carried out properly and I wish that the Hon. Minister watches carefully the situation that arises now on account of the feeling that the cost of the cars have gone up unduly. Therefore, I would like the Government to make an enquiry into the matter and see whether the cars have been duly and justifiably priced and whether profits that are allowed to motor dealers are reasonable or excessive and if so to cut down the prices. I hope the Government will be in a position to demand from the motor dealers the exact invoice prices and find

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out the difference between the purchase and sale prices. On such an enquiry if the Government finds that it will be useful to re-introduce controls and check this, I only wish, the Government do not hesitate to re-introduce control, whenever they think it is necessary."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I am glad, Sir, that the Government has removed the control of these motor cars. After all they are a luxury and they are used only by the rich people. They have nothing to do with the man in the street or with the masses. And control means patronage and partiality and that won't help the Government in any way. That only makes the Government unpopular in choosing one man in preference to another. Therefore, I am very glad, Sir, that in the interests of the good name of the Government all controls have been removed with regard to these motor cars."

* SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I entirely agree with the opinion expressed by the Leader of the Independent Group in regard to the restoration of controls. Sir, when there was control a car was ordinarily available for Rs. 9,000 but now the company man says it is Rs. 15,000. Whether it is intended for the poor or the rich the vehicle is wanted by all men. Whoever wants to go to the office, whoever wants to do business, he requires the motor car. There is no question of the poor or the rich man. Any poor man wants the car of the rich man for his purposes when occasion arises. Therefore, Sir, the cars should be available at moderate prices and the Government must see that unnecessary profits are not made out of these. It is the duty of the Government to see that it is controlled."

"Further when the control was removed it was stated that for Government's purposes 10 per cent of the cars were reserved. It is quite insufficient, I am told. Suppose 10 cars come only one car will be available for the purposes of the Government. A number of cars are required by the Government when things should be done quickly. Therefore when they control at least 25 to 50 per cent of the cars should be reserved for Government's purposes. Therefore, from all points of view, I say that the control should be maintained at least for the 25 per cent of the cars which may be required for urgent purposes by the Government. With these observations, I support the motion before the House, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to know, Sir, what the hon. the previous speaker meant when he said that he was in agreement with the Hon. Leader of the Independent Group who opposed the motion and also when he concluded his speech by saying that he was supporting the motion."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I did not oppose the motion, Sir. I only spoke on the motion."

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N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have two main reasons to oppose this motion. (Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad: This is real opposition coming out.) One is that in the mufassal we suffer very terribly from the scarcity of bus services. I have time and again brought to the notice of this House how it is that police officials are taking a monopoly of the bus services. I want that there should be no such reservation whether it be for the officers of the Police Department or for the officers of the other departments. Often we have felt that it has been a terrible ordeal for people to journey by the bus because they have to suffer the utmost discourtesy."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may please resume his seat. The hon. Member must bear in mind that the Government want this sum for a particular purpose. He can criticise that purpose only or support the purpose. He is now speaking as if on a general Demand. I think he follows me."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is not my suggestion covered by the purpose, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I would . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. These are only supplementary demands . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told him that before the Leader of the House raised the point of order. The Hon. Leader of the House knows that. The hon. Member also has already resumed his seat. Now I shall put the demand to the vote of the House."

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Should we not speak on a supplementary demand, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"These demands are for particular purposes. You can go through the memorandum and oppose or support the demands for the purpose for which they are required. The motion before the House is . . ."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I think, Sir, that the Minister would care to say a few words . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have no objection."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is after a series of transactions that happened during the control time the Government came to the conclusion that the working of the control was absolutely not possible. But I would remind the House here of the fact that the prices are continued to be controlled even now but it so happens that people who are rich in money and have a

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rich bag offer higher prices than the controlled prices. Therefore we are not in a position to control the prices. It is said that the price fixed by the Government is always followed. It is followed only on paper. In fact a car priced at Rs. 10,000 by the Government is sold by the dealer for Rs. 15,000. He does not show Rs. 15,000 in his books. He only shows Rs. 10,000. That is how these people can abuse the business in spite of the controls. As far as the Government is concerned the responsibility is not laid on them to control the gentleman with long purses. It is their duty to see that the abuses are controlled also. It is just in that view the Government have removed the control and after the control has been removed, I do not believe . . ."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I did not suggest that the motor dealers were charging more than the controlled prices. I have no information about that, Sir, personally, to which the Hon. Minister has been referring to. I said that even the price fixed under the control by the Government is much higher than what it was a few months ago. So, I want the Government to enquire and see whether the official price which they have fixed is justifiable or not. I was not referring to any price more than the controlled price to which the Hon. Minister is now referring."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, this matter of fixation of prices is with the Government of India and we have simply to follow it. Therefore we are not in a position to accept the advice of the hon. Member."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand VII—Other taxes and duties.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 11,17,100 under Demand No. VII—Other taxes and duties. Out of this Rs. 8,69,700 is paid to local bodies being the amount realized by the Entertainment Tax.'

"The other details are given on page 7 of the Estimates."

There was no cut motion moved.

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I just want to say a few words on this demand, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is he opposing or supporting the motion, Sir. If he is supporting he can make no speech."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He can make any suggestions."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Of course it must be presumed that I support the motion. I support it with all my heart."

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Sir, I wish to point out one or two things which I consider are important. The Sales Tax establishment is under expansion. I wish to make two suggestions with regard to this expansion. This is an important source of revenue and many taxable items under this head still remain untapped. I do not know, Sir, if the sales of films are taxed at all by the Commercial Taxes Department. It is a matter that requires investigation and I trust the Hon. Minister for Finance will make a note of it. I do not know whether this is covered by the Sales Tax Act. If necessary, an amendment of the Act may be made so as to bring film sales also under taxation.

"Another suggestion, I wish to make is that the establishment should command the best commercial intelligence not only in the City but throughout the Presidency. We should have a certain number of officials in this department with experience in auditing and accounts and not merely remain Deputy Collectors or Members of the Revenue Department.

4 p.m. "In view of the fact that this revenue is going to expand very considerably and perhaps also with a view to facilitate the collection of other taxes which may be entrusted to this department, may I suggest to the Hon. Minister that this question of the recruitment of staff to the Commercial Taxes Department must be gone into afresh."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, I shall certainly bear in mind all the suggestions made by the hon. Member."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand VIII—Irrigation.

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I beg to move, Sir,—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 800 under Demand VIII—Irrigation.'

"The particulars are given in pages 8 and 9 of the detailed estimates."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does any hon. Member wish to speak on the subject? (After a pause) None. Then I shall put the demand to the vote of the House."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand IX—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 7,87,300 under Demand IX—Heads of Provinces, Ministers and Headquarters Staff.'

"The details are given on pages 10 and 11 of the Explanatory Memorandum."

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SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"Sir, இப்பொழுது நான் இந்த Demand-ஐ ஆதரித்து ஒரு சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது பக்கிங்ஹாம் அண்டு கர்னாடிக் மில்லில் strike நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கிறது. 14,000 தொழிலாளர்கள் இன்று வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்திருக்கின்றார்கள். . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"அதற்கும் இந்த Demand-க்கும் என்ன சம்பந்தம் இருக்கிறது."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் செய்யவேண்டியது என்னென்ன என்று சொல்வதற்குத்தான்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"இதைப்பற்றி நீங்கள் Labour Demand வரும்போது சொல்லலாம். உட்காருங்கள்."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I find that it is stated in the Memorandum that this demand has been necessitated on account of the extensive tours of the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. I do believe that such tours are necessary both on the part of the Ministers and the Parliamentary Secretaries. But I dare say, Sir, when the Budget was prepared by the Government on the last occasion, they could have Budgeted sufficient amounts for the tours of the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries. If a certain amount was provided for the tours of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, how does it happen that this amount has been exceeded? Is it a fact that tours were made to an extent beyond that Budgeted for? What was the work that was done in these tours? Was it work in connexion with the Government or in connexion with the party? Sir, there is always a tendency for the party which comes into office to utilize its position for the advancement of the party politics and for that purpose Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries go about the country and organize their party."

"The other thing I want to know is whether in the appointment of Ministers and allocation of portfolios which has been recently done, any principle is followed, especially in the allocation of portfolios."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this demand relates to an expenditure already incurred by the Government. I do not think any new policy of the Government can be raised at this stage."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On this point of order, I wish to submit that Ministers may go and Ministers may come, but the Ministry continues although X, Y or Z may not be there. I wish to know, Sir, whether any policy is followed in the matter, and whether for instance, it would not have been better if some important portfolios like Land Revenue were given to Ministers belonging to minority communities. I also want to ask whether the Public Services are included in the portfolio of the Hon. Minister for Revenue."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is in the portfolio of the Premier."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With these remarks, I oppose the demand which has been moved."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, the hon. Gentleman is very wrong in thinking that Ministers go about on tour for political propaganda. It is usual in all democratic countries, when Ministers do travel on official business, they have got to think of the political organization as well. It is usual in all countries to do this. If the hon. Gentleman occupy seats on this side of the House and they do this, I will have no cause to complain."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When is it likely?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Gentleman asks me when is it likely. That is a matter which he should gather for himself."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Decide for himself."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government will see that this expenditure on tours is minimised as far as possible consistent with the administrative machine running properly."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand X—Legislative bodies.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,26,700 under Demand X—Legislative Bodies.'"

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not going really to oppose the appropriation asked for, but I wish only to point out that no facilities are provided for hon. Members to come and work here. I have raised this point several times and the Hon. the Leader of the House who is a veteran Parliamentarian and perhaps the oldest member of this House knows fully well the amenities that are provided to Members in the British Houses of Parliament. I hope he will come forward with a supplementary demand for providing more amenities to hon. Members here to enable them to work in a congenial atmosphere. They would not then object to extra hours of sitting whenever you suggest it. You know, Mr. Speaker, whenever you wanted the House to sit longer hours, with all the goodwill you can command from us, and however willing we may be to accede to your suggestion, we have not been able to agree to the suggestion, because we have no comfortable lounge room here, we don't get good tea and it has been represented that we can't get even a clean glass of water to drink. These facilities are necessary if more legislative work is to be done by hon. Members. The Government will be anxious that the House should sit for 10 hours a day if necessary in future to

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push through their legislative work. Therefore, Sir, I do hope that the Hon. Leader of the House should take the earliest opportunity to make these necessary improvements. The Deputy Speaker is here and she is the President of the House Committee. (Interruption from Sri T. Viswanatham.) I apologise through you to the Hon. Deputy Speaker. She has been very anxious to see that the Committee functions usefully, but she has told me several times that money is not being allotted for the Committee. You, Mr. Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, and the Leader of the House should all together be able to make the Government put by a large amount of money to provide these amenities. It is clear that we cannot expect new buildings immediately and so we have got to improvise in the same place here. It will not be difficult if some money is put by and I do hope that Government will pay immediate attention to this matter.

"In this connection, Mr. Speaker, I may be permitted to say a few words with reference to to-day's sittings. We have complained to you that we do not like half-day sittings of the Assembly. It curtails the work of the Assembly and incidentally involves the Assembly sitting for more number of days. We have been trying to amend the rules so that the timings of the Council and the Assembly may not clash. As it is, we have to do a day's work in half a day. I think, Sir, we should have had a whole day for the discussion of the important subjects before us to-day, but we have only half a day. During the last time when the Congress was in office, the Upper House sat between 5 and 7-30 p.m. or later in the night, if I remember aright. On some days the Council sat in the mornings when the Assembly was not sitting. Of course I have no right to suggest any timing for the other House, but I may suggest to you, Sir, to see that the timings of both the Houses do not clash. I am also told, Sir, that if both the Houses met at the same time, the report staff is not enough and that the reporting staff is already over-worked."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What about Ministers?"

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Am I to understand that the Ministers also are over-worked?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Suppose the two Houses sit simultaneously and a question arises in this House and a similar question arises in the other House also?"

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Then, Sir, I suggest, it will solve many of the problems if the number of Ministers is increased to 21. Both the Houses can sit at the same time and many of the problems in this province will be solved, and there will not be any difficulty for Ministers in answering questions and taking part in debates. However that is not my look-out; I only mentioned it with reference to the point raised by the Speaker."

"Coming to the point of the reporting staff, I wish that that the staff is increased if necessary and made more efficient also. I

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am sorry that Sir Stuart Town, the leader of the European Group, is not here now. He raised the question of the publication of the printed proceedings of the Assembly. These proceedings do not reach the Members till after a long time. I hope, Sir, that steps will be taken to put up a special printing press adjacent to the office here. I have heard that there is a special printing press for the House of Commons in England. I do not think it will be a waste of money. I imagine it would save a lot of money if a small press is attached to the Assembly Secretariat which will be able to do the work of the Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House will reply to the points raised by the hon. Member. But before he does so, I wish to point out to the Leader of the Independent Group that to-day was allotted for this work not by me but by His Excellency."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Even the time?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Even the time, yes."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, the hon. Gentleman, the Leader of the Independent Group, was evidently absent when the demand for Legislative Bodies was discussed. Most of the points raised in this connection were also raised in that debate and I have referred to them exhaustively during my reply then. Now that the hon. Gentleman has brought these points to the notice of the House, I am sure the House Committee will consider them and do what they can. At the same time, I would like to point out to the hon. Gentleman that everything depends on the capacity of the Secretariat. At present we have got all to meet in the surroundings of the Secretariat and in this House. Till a new House is constructed for the Assembly, it may be difficult to find all the necessary accommodation suggested by the hon. Gentleman. But within our limitations, I am sure everything will be done for the convenience of Members of the Assembly and I hope the House Committee will go into it in all its details."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous.

4-15 p.m. * THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that under Demand XI—District Administration and Miscellaneous, the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,83,91,600'.

"It will be curious for many to learn why this demand for a huge sum has come before the House as a supplementary grant. I would like to inform the House that this huge sum goes to finance a number of ameliorative measures undertaken by the Government. It includes a sum given as extra allowances to all

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the village staff throughout the Presidency, and a sum of rupees 1,39,27,700 representing half the contribution for the wells scheme. Other important items covered by this grant are the extra expenditure incurred due to the appointment of more Provincial Civil Service Officers as Collectors, the grant of interim relief and payment of bonus to staff, appointment of additional radio engineering staff, and ameliorative work in prohibition districts. The Demand also includes the appointment of the Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Committee and a Special Officer and the necessary staff to investigate the conditions of the tenancy system. Considering all these things, the sum asked for is not very big. In view of what I have said, I request the House to make this grant."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I wish to say a few words on this occasion. First of all, I will refer to the well-subsidy scheme. Sir, at the time of the last Budget I complained that no provision was made for this purpose in that Budget. This cannot come up as a supplementary grant, because there is no original grant which this is intended to supplement. Taking it as a new service, I am readily willing to grant it. But let me draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the suggestion made by several members of this House that whatever money is spent in this connection should be spent properly and that for the purpose of raising additional food crops. That is the only purpose for which these subsidies should be given considering that a large part of the subsidy comes not merely from our revenues but from those of the Government of India.

"Let me also make another suggestion to the Hon. Minister for Finance. Since there is a general tendency for expenditure to outrun revenue, may I suggest that he should forthwith appoint a committee of this House for the purpose of keeping a check on expenditure? What I mean to suggest is that all possibilities should be explored for keeping down expenditure consistent, of course, with the demands both for the old and new services. We have far too many new services in these supplementary grants, as you will see from a perusal of the later grants. Generally looking at it, I should say that while our Departments have shown considerable initiative and great energy, it would be good for us to concentrate on a few schemes and work them and proceed to assess their results before setting our foot here and there and take up so many new services all at once that we do not know exactly where we stand at the end of the year. This is a suggestion which I would press on the Hon. Minister for Finance."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"From the Explanatory Note to the Grant, I find that the Government have appointed a Special Officer of the grade of a Collector to investigate the conditions of the land tenure system with a view to introducing legislation to regulate the relationship between the tenants and landlords in ryotwari areas. I am very

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glad the Government have appointed this officer. Several members of this House have brought to the notice of the Government the appalling conditions in ryotwari areas which are, in some cases, worse than in zamindari areas. The object in bringing this to the notice of the Government is to impress on the Government that their object will not be achieved by legislation for zamindari areas alone. It is a fact known to many in this House and outside that the ryot of 150 years ago in a ryotwari or zamindari area is no longer a ryot. His attachment to land is not any the different from that of an investor. Only in a few cases has the ryot anything to do with tilling the soil. It is the tiller of the soil who has sent 29 representatives to this House from the Scheduled Castes. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 30.) I was asked by the Hon. Speaker to omit one name whenever I spoke of the Scheduled Caste members of this House. I say that it is the duty of the 29 Scheduled Caste members to raise their voice and plead for justice being done to the tiller of the soil. I am prepared to say that so far the Government have not devoted their attention to the condition of the tiller of the soil. It will be an incomplete legislation which deals with tenants alone. There are four sets of people connected with land whether in a zamindari or ryotwari area including the tenant, the tiller of the soil and the intermediaries. There should be an enquiry whether by one officer or a commission of three or five members. I do not suggest the latter as a dilatory measure. Let the enquiry be completed in three or six months' time, and let it cover the whole Presidency—zamindari as well as ryotwari areas. In some cases, it may not be necessary to conduct a very elaborate enquiry, as the previous report would be of great help to the enquiry officer or commission. I entreat the Government to come forward with comprehensive legislation both for the zamindari and ryotwari areas together. They will be doing a grave injustice if they do not bring forward legislation for both simultaneously. To-day the zamindars have no objection to the abolishing of zamindaris. What prevents the Government from abolishing zamindaris and bringing in a common measure for both? If the Government are not going to face the situation boldly, we have necessarily to think that they do not really want to abolish zamindaris, but that they want only piecemeal legislation for ryotwari and zamindari areas. I would suggest that the enquiry which they have set in motion should be expedited as much as possible. There should be no delay. I am not satisfied with one officer conducting the enquiry. I think it is better to have a commission of three or five people who have vast knowledge of land tenures, to go round the country, study, and recommend legislation for both areas. If the Government are not going to bring forward a common legislation, but only pass the Estates Land Revenue Bill which they have already published, I would say that the Congress Party is really afraid of the votes in ryotwari areas. I only want to remind the Hon. Revenue Minister who has great experience of land revenue problems of what has happened in Burma. It will surprise the House

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if I say that there is not a single acre of zamindari land in Burma. The whole of Burma consists of ryotwari areas. It will be very pleasant for you to know that the Indian community and other people there have agreed to the occupancy right being given to any tiller of the soil if he has tilled the soil for six years continuously. While that is the case in Burma, what objection is there to consider the position of the tiller of the soil in both zamindari and ryotwari areas and bring forward a common legislation? If you think of zamindari areas only, I would accuse you of avoiding a situation which should be faced boldly. I would entreat the Government not to hurry the Estates Land Revenue Bill immediately and to appoint a commission to enquire into all the areas of the Presidency and to bring forward legislation in about six months' time."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have heard carefully the explanation given by the Hon. Minister for Revenue as to how this demand for a large sum of Rs. 1,83,91,600 has been made by way of a supplementary grant. For very important Demands like the Irrigation Demand, the Education Demand, etc., the amount asked for represents a very trifling sum of Rs. 800! Even for such cases where administrative sanction has been granted in previous years, like the re-building for the Chemistry Department Block and hostels for the students of the Medical College of the Andhra University, no provision of funds has been made either by way of a grant in the usual course or by way of a supplementary grant, on the ground that the Government have not got sufficient funds. As I have already submitted the supplemental demand for irrigation, which is one of the most important items in our Province, represents the trifling sum of Rs. 800 only. When such is the case, I fail to understand the justification for coming before this House with such a big demand for nearly two crores of rupees by way of a supplementary grant. No doubt, the Hon. Minister for Revenue has explained some of the major items covered by this Demand like the grant of increased salaries and so forth. But I want the Hon. Minister for Finance to explain how these demands are consistent with the commitments already made by this Government for Education and Irrigation. This is the most important point I wish to urge on this occasions, because I failed to get an opportunity yesterday."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the administration of the districts, one sees that the Congress Government are more a capitalist Government than a Government intended for the amelioration of the conditions of the poor. In this matter, we find that from the beginning to the end the Government are not so much afraid of the zamindars, about whom they have been talking all the time to satisfy certain sentiments, as of the mirasdars, who are small zamindars. The Government have not done anything to help the actual cultivator, and they have not brought forward any legislation to safeguard his interest and improve his lot. The Agriculturists' Debt Relief

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Act, brought forward by the Premier in the last Government, has to a very large extent ameliorated the financial condition of the poor, small landholder. I do not see any tendency on the part of the present Government to improve the lot of the actual cultivator and the poor landowner who have become indebted even after the passing of the Debt Relief Act. There are absentee landlords who own lands in villages, but live in the City of Madras. They are very rich practising lawyers or owners of houses in the City, and they have absolutely nothing to do whatsoever with the land. Nothing has been done to improve the lot of the people working on these lands.

"The next point I want to refer to on this Demand is the very small increase of Rs. 3 per mensem given to village officers. That indicates the policy of the Government. The Government do not realize the difficult position in which these poor village officers and the other village servants are placed, and they are satisfied with giving a small increase of Rs. 3 per mensem, as they have done in the case of the teachers.

4-30
p.m.

"Sir, what I wish to refer to is the fact that even under this Head, the Government has made very many appointments, Firka Development Officers, peons, etc., under four categories. On these four categories large sums of money have been spent. The present Congress Government and the last Congress Government are doing their best to circumvent the communal Government Order. It is true they have not got the courage, if I may say so, of scraping the communal Government Order which they cannot do and will not do. They are going behind the back of this communal Government Order and circumventing it in their own way. All these appointments that have been made are regarded as temporary appointments. In this connexion may I ask whether the policy of the Government for Village Reconstruction, for production of khadi and starting of cottage industries is a temporary policy. All these appointments have been made. I ask why the communal Government Order has not been applied to these appointments. We are told that these are temporary appointments and therefore the communal Government Order has not been applied. These are the various ways in which this Government has been seeking to circumvent the communal Government Order. These appointments are called temporary appointments for one year or two years without any reference to the injustice that is done to some communities. The officers in most cases have been chosen from amongst one class of people and from amongst people belonging to one political party. Both these objects are sought to be achieved by one measure—to see that the offices go to one particular community and to the members of one and the same political party. Two objects are achieved by these appointments. In the making of these appointments, justice is not done to other communities, because they are said to be temporary appointments; secondly, the political party is strengthened.

"Only khadi producers, those who are engaged in cottage industries and people belonging to one political party—all of them

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Congressmen—have been appointed. This is certainly not the right thing to do. The Government should take care to see that, in making these appointments, they do not outweigh the representation of one community to the detriment of other communities. It is a very short-sighted policy, a wrong policy and not an honest policy for the Government to go beyond the communal Government Order of the Government itself and to say that these are temporary appointments. I think it will be better for the Government to follow an honest and straightforward policy."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, while I rise to support the Demand on the floor of the House, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the question regarding the uplift of the aboriginal tribes. Under item (xii) a provision has been made for a sum of Rs. 23,900 for a Committee to go about and give a report as to the conditions and about the material uplift of the aboriginal tribes. I am bringing to the notice of the Government the condition of aborigines not only in the Nilgiris, and Malabar but also in Attapadi which both the Prime Minister and Hon. Mr. Avanasilingam Chetti saw some days back. Conditions are getting worse; unless the Committee that has been constituted gives its report at a very early date, it will be waste of money that is provided in this Supplementary Budget. Moreover we are in the month of March and the South-West Monsoon will be setting in by the end of May and no useful purpose will be served by the Committee reaching the abode of the aborigines late. Most of hon. Members know that aborigines are living on the hill-slopes fully exposed to the South-West Monsoon. It will be impossible for any Committee to reach these unfortunate people during the months of June to December. While supporting the grant of Rs. 23,900 for the really useful work of enquiring into the material condition of the aboriginal tribes, I would like to say that some sort of report should be given to this House as early as possible and the work of improving the unfortunate condition of the aborigines, should be finished."

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not expect such a long debate on this Demand nor do I like a discussion of policy over this matter. With reference to the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Varadachari, regarding allocation of finances and the framing of the Budget, I would like to state that the Hon. Minister for Finance would look into it at the proper time. His statement that this is a new item, is wrong. I would refer him to page 15 of the Memorandum; it would be seen under item (x). What is intended to ask under this head is only additional appropriation.

"Coming now to what the hon. Member, the Leader of the Independent Group and which was supported in part by the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib, I shall state the broad case. The Government are aware of the position of the ryot throughout the Presidency whether one is the zamindary or the ryotwari ryot. The Government are prepared to do what all they can to immediately improve the position of both the zamindari as well

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as the ryotwari ryot. Even last year when I was speaking on the Land Revenue Demand I demanded of the Government simultaneous legislation for taxes, tenure and tenancy put together. I still believe in what I thought then was essential and it will be my constant endeavour to see that all these items are brought together and a wholesale legislation is brought before this House. I do not believe in piecemeal legislation or in tinkering with this problem. I am prepared to face, my Government is prepared to face and the House is prepared to face these problems. We are not afraid of anybody here or outside if they are going to attack us on the principle of helping the ryot in a way which will go to contribute to his amelioration.

"The hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan, has spoken about the Firka Development Officers, their appointments, the communal Government Order and the rest. As a matter of fact though under technical arrangement this point has come under this Demand, I am not administering that portion of the subject. I can tell him however that the Government will bear in mind all the criticisms that have been made and the Hon. Premier who is in charge of the matter will see that the policy laid down under this head by our predecessors will be carried out with greater vigour and greater efficiency.

"The hon. Member, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, has suggested that the work with reference to the Aboriginal Tribes Committee be expedited. I am glad for his suggestion. I will try to see that the work is finished as early as possible.

"No other points have been raised. As I have originally explained how and under various heads this amount is to be appropriated and that for really good measures, I would request the House to accept this Demand."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XII—Administration of Justice.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,59,400 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice.'"

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, one of the items under this Demand is the increased allowance to the establishments, including the menials, process-servers, copyists and so on. I submit, Sir, that, as regards the revision of the salaries, there has been a great deal of complaints, that the increase of salaries of the peons is very unsatisfactory; it has been raised from Rs. 12 to Rs. 16; the maximum also is very low. I do not want to enter into the details at present. I would only like to invite the attention of the Hon. Leader of the House to the great dissatisfaction that prevails with regard to the revised scales of salary which have been sanctioned for these menial peons, process-servers and so on. It

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is absolutely inadequate; it is absolutely necessary to give them a living wage. Therefore I would request the Hon. Leader of the House to go into this aspect of the question carefully and see that the grievances of these poor employees are redressed. I do not think I should say anything more."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank my hon. Friend for the suggestions he has made. It is a very difficult matter, but I shall certainly consider what he has said, because everybody demands increase of pay and if this demand goes on, we do not know where we shall find ourselves. But still in deserving cases, the matter will be considered."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XIII—Jails.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,44,000.'

"Details for this estimate will be seen on pages 16-17 of the Memorandum and no further explanation is necessary."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in opposing the demand, I should like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister in charge of Jails about the treatment that is given to one of our M.L.As. in the Trichinopoly Central Jail. He is placed in the 'C' class in spite of the fact that you call him here as an hon. Member. He is not at all being treated honourably, and even the respect which an ordinary man is entitled to is not being shown to him. As far as my knowledge goes, previously one of the Congress M.L.As. was arrested and sent to jail in 1940; he was first placed in the 'C' class, but the Advisers' Government immediately changed his classification into 'A' class. That was my hon. colleague, Mr. Kalluri Subba Rao. Even the Advisers' Government showed more favour and greater consideration to the M.L.As. than you are showing to the Communist M.L.A. who is sentenced and placed under 'C' class in the Trichinopoly Central Jail. How are you better than the Advisers' Government? I may also bring to the notice of the House about the treatment that is given to under-trial prisoners, particularly those who are convicted for political reasons or rather those who are convicted with political motives as criminals. They are the Coimbatore Conspiracy Case prisoners and those who were arrested in connexion with the kisans and workers strike. They are not given any of the facilities they are entitled to under the jail rules. Even that facility with regard to books and periodicals which they are entitled to and which is allowed in the Jail Manual is not given to them; and to-day they are locked up even during daytime. Of course, the reason given is that there are not enough guards in the jails to watch them and hence they had to be locked up in the sub-jails and central

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jails. My point is that they must be given at least the facilities that are allowed to under-trial prisoners according to the Jail Manual. Because you could not provide for proper police guards in jails, you want the prisoners to be locked up. I do not know with what justification you can come here and ask for this additional demand.

"As regards detenus, they too are being locked up in jails. One hon. Member of the Congress Party,—I think it was the hon. Member representing Bezawada—stated that one of the detenus made a hole in a jail and escaped. If that is the case, and if the Government apprehend that such things would occur in the case of all prisoners, then I would make a humble suggestion to the hon. Leader of the House and to the Hon. Premier that they should appoint another Minister, particularly to be in charge of the portfolio of guarding jails, so that prisoners could not escape. Sir, it is on this plea that these detenus are being locked up.

"Lastly, Sir, let me say a word about the treatment of detenus. They are given rations at the rate of 12½ annas for a meal, whereas in the former days when Congressmen were detained, they were given at the rate of Rs. 1-12-0, when the cost of living index in those days was 120 to 140. While such was the case with those detenus, now what do the present Government pay to these detenus? Now the cost of living index has risen to 290 and yet these detenus are paid only 12½ annas. I say it is not at all sufficient. It must be raised to at least what it was under the Advisers' regime.

"With these words, I oppose the Demand."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"సభాద్యక్ష, నేను xత సంతకర్తలందరూ ఈ జైల్లో విధానం గురించి కొన్ని ముఖ్యమైన సూచనలను మనవిచేసేను. అందులో ముఖ్యంగా జైల్లో ప్రస్తుతం వైదీల విషయం చెప్తున్నాను. వారి నేరం ఏమిటో, రుజువుకాకుండా, క్షేపడకుండా జైల్లో ప్రస్తుతం వారి కష్టాలు మనందరకు తెలిసిన విషయమే. వారికి అక్కడక్కడ యిచ్చే treatment చాలా ఫేరంగా ఉంటున్నదన్న విషయం తమలో చాలా మందికి తెలుసును. ఈ విషయం తమకు కూడా తెలిసే ఉంటుంది. అక్కడ వారికి స్నానముచేయుటకు వసతులుగాని, చదువుకొనుటకు పత్రకల సప్లయ (supply) గాని లేదు."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Speaker can follow the hon. Member who is speaking; and, if not, how do you expect to find out what he is speaking is in order?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am not able to follow him, but hon. Members will have to bring to my notice anything that is not in order."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is able to understand Telugu because he happens to be a Malayalee?"

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not know Telugu, Sir."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"అందుకే నేను తప్పకుండా ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రం కావాలని, ఎవరి భాషలో వారు మాట్లాడుకొనే, వ్యవహరించుకొనే హక్కు కావాలని ఘోషపెడుతున్నాను. తమిళులు తమిళంలోను, తెలుగువారు తెలుగులోను, కన్నడులు వారి భాషలోను శాసన సభలో వర్చులు జరుపుకోడానికి అప్పుడే వీలగుతుందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. అటువంటి అవకాశాలు లేనప్పుడు ప్రత్యేకంగా ఇటువంటి సందర్భాలలో మహాత్మా గాంధీగారు చెప్పినట్లు మనవారు ఆంగ్లభాషలోపాటు పాండిత్యాన్ని కూడా నేర్చుకొంటే చాలా బాగుంటుంది. ఈ సందర్భంలో నా ముస్లిం లీగు (Muslim League) సోదరులు పాండిత్యానిలో మాట్లాడితే బాగుంటుందని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, he is talking Ada, Puda and so on for Muslims. He speaks something that looks like unparliamentary." (Laughter.)

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, of course, we are not very particular about his speech, but he is often saying Muslim League and Muslim League. I want to know what he is saying about the Muslim League."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not possible for me to say what he is speaking. I myself do not know anything about it."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"మన ముస్లిం లీగు (Muslim League) సోదరులకు తెలుగు తెలియకపోతే అది నా భవ్యకాదు."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, may I know from the Government whether it is not advisable now to release all prisoners, as the harvest season is over . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is not the time for you to put that question."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"మన సభాద్యక్షులకు తెలుగు తెలిసే ఉండాలి."

"మనము ఇప్పుడు జైల్లో విషయం గురించి మాట్లాడుతున్నాము. జైల్లో అనుభవము మనలో చాలా మందికి ఉన్నది. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు వైదీల సౌకర్యముల గురించి విచారించడానికి ఒక కమిటీని (committee) నియమించి జైలు పరిపాలనలో ఒక రివల్యూషన్ (revolution) తీసుకురావాలి. దానికి అనుగుణముగా ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఒక రిజిస్ట్రేషన్ (legislation) తీసుకొనివచ్చి కారాగారములను కారాగారములుగా కాకుండా నేరస్తులకు విద్యనేర్పి వారిని బాగుచేసేటటువంటి సంస్థలుగా చేయాలని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఇటువంటి విధానము అమలులోనికి తీసుకు రావలసిన చాధ్యత ముఖ్యంగా కాంగ్రెస్ గవర్నమెంటు (Congress Government) వారిమీద ఉన్నదని మరొకసారి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. కాని యీనాటికికూడా జైల్లో వైదీలకు అవసరమైన సౌకర్యములు లేవు. ఈ జైల్లో వైదీలను విడిధంగా అమానుషంగా కొడతారో మన జైల్లో మంత్రిగారికి తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఇటువంటి పనులకు

[Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju] [29th March 1947]

కాలన జైళ్లలో లేకుండా చేయడానికి మనము వెంటనే చర్య తీసుకోవాలి. విద్య లేని వాళ్లను జైళ్లకు పంపివేయడం జైలు అధికారులు వారివల్ల ఆదాయము కోసమే కాకుండా వారికి విద్య నేర్పించి వారు జైళ్లనుంచి విడుదలై వెళ్లినతరువాత వారికి జీవనాధారమును కలుగ చేసుకొనే శక్తిని గలిగించాలి. తిండికోసము మళ్ళీ జైళ్లకు పోవాలి అనే విధంగా వారు ఉండకూడదు. జైళ్లనుండి బైటకు వచ్చేసరికి వారికి జీవనాధారము కలిగేటట్లు చేసే వాడ్యత ప్రభుత్వ వారిమీద ఉన్నదని జైళ్ల మంత్రి గారికి మరల మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“అంతేకాకుండా అనేకమంది డిటెన్యూలను (detenue) జైళ్లలో ఉంచారు. మొన్న ఒక సందర్భములో ఉత్తప్రశ్నగా వేసి మంత్రిగారికి ఈ విషయం చెప్పి ఉన్నాను. విచారణ చేయకుండా, శిక్ష విధించకుండా కొంతమందిని జైళ్లలో ఉంచినపుడు వారి కుటుంబములకు allowanceలు ఇచ్చి వారు తిండిలేక మాడిపోకుండా చూడవలసిన వాడ్యత ప్రభుత్వమీద ఉన్నది. వారి భర్తలూ, తండ్రులూ, తల్లిలూ నేరము ఏమిటో తెలియకుండా జైళ్లలో ఉన్నపుడు వారిమీద ఆధారపడినవారి కుటుంబములకు జీవన భృతి ఏ నాగరిక ప్రభుత్వమైనా విప్పాటులు చేయవలయును.

“అంతేకాకుండా ఇప్పుడు జైళ్లలో ఉన్నవారికి భోజన ఖర్చులకు రూ. 0-12-6 ఇస్తున్నారు. ఇది ఎంతమాత్రం చాలదని మనము అనుభవముమీద తెలుసుకో వలెను. మనము జైళ్లలో కష్టాలు పడినవారము కాబట్టి వైదీల కష్టాలను గుర్తించాలి అని జైళ్ల కోఖా మంత్రిగారిని కోరుచున్నాను. ఈ సందర్భంలో ప్రత్యేకంగా సబ్ జైల్స్ (sub-jail) విషయం జ్ఞాపకం చేస్తూ యంతటితో నేను విరమించుచున్నాను.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister will now make his reply.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Mr. Speaker, this supplementary demand is due to the appointment of an Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons in the place of the Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Prisons and therefore I did not anticipate the discussion to centre round the administration of jails, the treatment of detenues and things like that. This demand relates only to the one particular item and that is the creation of the post of an Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons and it is for that purpose that it was moved and for nothing else.

“Sir, I did not understand the Telugu speech. My hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu was speaking about the classification of prisoners and particularly about the classification of Mr. Anandan Nambiyar and other things. I do not know all the facts relating to his case, but, as far as I understand, there is no classification for detenues at all. All detenues belong to one class and if he has been convicted, the recommendation about the classification is to be made by the Magistrate concerned. It is only then that the Government will receive information regarding the class in which the prisoner is placed and then only could the Government consider whether the classification of the prisoner requires to be changed, having regard to his status and other things. Sometimes in the past even without the receipt of such a report, Government have considered certain cases, but in the present case, I do not know whether Mr. Nambiyar has been convicted at all.

29th March 1947] [Sri K. Madhava Menon]

“Regarding the lock-up in jails during nights, I cannot say anything offhand now. When I was in jail, there were a number of detenues along with us and some of them have been there sufficiently long, and I remember that some of them escaped from the jail among the crowd, although I did not so escape. Even after his escape, it has not been our experience that there was any lock-up for some time. Anyhow, if some such arrangements could be made, I shall certainly try, in consultation with the Inspector-General of Prisons, to do what is possible in the matter.

“About rations, recently, my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhashyam, after his visit to the jails, has increased the rations, as desired by the prisoners and if any further increase is necessary under the present conditions, I am prepared to consider it.”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

MR. SPEAKER:—“As it is now 5 p.m., I shall put all the remaining Demands to the vote of the House.”

Demand XIV—Police.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 22,69,700 under Demand XIV—Police.’”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XV—Education.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 860 under Demand XV—Education.’”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XVI—Medical.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 17,50,100 under Demand XVI—Medical.’”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XVII—Public Health.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,05,900 under Demand XVII—Public Health.’”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XVIII—Agriculture.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 under Demand XVIII—Agriculture.’”

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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Demand XIX—Veterinary.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Demand XIX—Veterinary.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XX—Co-operation.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 under Demand XX—Co-operation.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXI—Industries.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,100 under Demand XXI—Industries.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under Demand XXII—Cinchona and Fisheries.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 200 under Demand XXIII—Miscellaneous Departments.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,700 under Demand XXIV—Civil Works—Works.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXV—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 300 under Demand XXV—Civil Works.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 500 under Demand XXVI—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXVII—Electricity.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 8,29,800 under Demand XXVII—Electricity.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 8,21,000 under Demand XXX—Stationery and Printing.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXXI—Miscellaneous.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 6,69,21,600 under Demand XXXI—Miscellaneous.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

B.—OTHER EXPENDITURE.*Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 700 under Demand XXXIII—Capital Outlay on Irrigation.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXXV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXV—Civil Works outside the Revenue Account.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXXVI—Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 700 under Demand XXXVI—Capital outlay on Electricity Schemes.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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Demand XXXVI-A—Other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,95,700 under Demand XXXVI-A—Other Provincial Works outside the Revenue Account.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXXVIII—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXVIII—Capital outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XXXIX—Interest-free Advances.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Demand XXXIX—Interest-free Advances.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

Demand XL—Loans and Advances bearing Interest.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 10,34,900 under Demand XL—Loans and Advances bearing Interest.'"

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 31st March 1947.

III.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. *Legislative Assembly starred question No. 470 put by Sri S. Nagappa with answer laid on the table of the House. (The question and answer printed in the proceedings, dated 28th March 1947.)*

2. *Note on the New Well Subsidy Scheme.*

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 31st March 1947.

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

I.—STRIKE SITUATION IN THE CITY OF MADRAS.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know that in spite of the fervent hope expressed by the Hon. Dr. Rajan the other day, the strike has occurred in the City and it has come into being. You may know that in certain periodical events of importance are now happening in the City. For example, we are having our meetings here, and there are University examinations and people concerned are put to a great deal of trouble. We want to know what steps the Government are taking to liquidate the situation as early as possible and at what stage they are at present?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Sri P. Venkateswarlu has given notice of an adjournment motion on this subject. In case I find that it is in order I shall allow it and the House may discuss it. Even now if the Hon. Minister can make a statement he can do so."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In view of what you have said, may I go on answering questions or shall we wait till the adjournment motion is moved?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his seat."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"His hat is here, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In England if a member keeps his hat on a seat in the House it means that the seat is reserved for him because in the House of Commons there are about 615 members and the House will accommodate only about 350 members and so members keep their hats in order to reserve their seats."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then do you count the hat for quorum, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, nothing of the sort."

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Question left over from the list, dated 28th March 1947.

Government scholarships for studies abroad.

* 474 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students the Government are going to send next year to foreign countries on Government scholarships and for what courses; and

(b) how many of them have been set apart for the Harijans?

[31st March 1947]

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

“(a) It is proposed to award 35 scholarships in all to students in 1947-48 for undergoing advanced courses of studies in the subject mentioned below:—

Subject.	Number of scholarships.
A. Civil Engineering:—	
(i) Dam design	1
(ii) Surveying	1
B. Electrical Engineering—Generation, transmission and utilization of Electric power	2
C. Mechanical Engineering—Heat and Hydraulics Engineering	1
D. Nursery Education	1
E. Physical Education	1
F. Teacher's Training—Educational Psychology	1
G. Vocational Education—Manual Training subjects with special emphasis on weaving.	1
A. Cinematography—Sound Recordist	1
B. Applied Physics (Electronics)	1
C. Chemical Engineering	1
D. Educational administration, with specialization in various aspects, e.g., recreation and social activities and juvenile employment.. .. .	1
E. Fertilizers—Chemical Plant maintenance.. .. .	1
F. Fisheries	1
G. Food Technology with special reference to bakery and biscuit making	1
H. Forestry	2
J. Geophysics	1
K. Industrial and Applied Chemistry—	
(i) Industrial and Applied Chemistry	1
(ii) Printing and Reproduction	1
(iii) Tanning, Currying and Leather Technology	1
L. Mercantile Marine Engineering—Engineering side	1
M. Meteorology	1
N. Navigational research	1
P. Textile Technology	1
A. Civil Engineering—General—	
(i) Sanitary Engineering—Modern Sewage treatment and sewage disposal	1
(ii) Architecture	1
B. Civil Engineering—Highways—Construction:—	
(i) Bridging	1
(ii) Low cost roads	1

31st March 1947]

Subject.	Number of scholarships.
C. Civil Engineering—Irrigation—	
(i) Constructional methods with special reference to irrigation structures	1
(ii) Structures with special reference to irrigation and flood control works and testing of materials	1
(iii) Soil mechanics with its application of design of irrigation works	1
D. Electrical Engineering—	
(i) Electrical switches and accessories manufacture	1
(ii) Electric traction	1
Total	35

“(b) No scholarship has been set apart for Harijans, but instructions have been given that adequate representation should be given to minority communities provided suitable candidates are forthcoming.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the fact that last year not even a single Harijan was selected, will the Government consider the desirability of setting apart not less than ten seats this year for Harijans?”

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

“The matter is not entirely in the hands of this Government and in the selection of candidates, rigorous qualifications are expected from those candidates and the Government of India is particular about these qualifications, but still orders have been issued by this Government that in the selection of candidates by the Selection Committee, as far as possible representation should be given to minority communities.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, especially in regard to Civil Engineering in view of the fact that there are a good number of Harijans holding degrees and diplomas, will the Government at least see that the maximum number of candidates belonging to the Harijan community are recommended by this Government to the Government of India?”

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

“Consistent with qualifications, an earnest attempt will be made in that direction.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, can I expect an assurance from the Government that an adequate number, say at least a minimum of 10 or 12 Harijan candidates from out of the 35, will be sent?”

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

“It is not in the power of this Government to give such an assurance because the final selection is made by the Government of India.”

[31st March 1947]

SRI P. NATESAN :—“ May I know on what basis the Government of Madras recommend students to the Government of India? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ Qualifications for each subject are prescribed and the Selection Committee goes into the matter and makes recommendations and this Government while making the final selection keeps in view the idea of distribution among the various communities so that all the communities may have the required number, but cases have arisen where even though this Government recommended particular candidates with the intention of providing for minority communities, the Government of India rejected those recommendations in the previous years.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government has got a fairly exhaustive list of the description of the qualifications required of the candidates whom they are going to send abroad for such training, or whether it is under consideration now and if the qualifications are rather stiff, will the Government consider the desirability of relaxing them so as to enable some of the backward communities also to be included among the selectees? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ Sir, the qualifications are very clear, but in the matter of relaxing them, the Government of India are not agreeable, because in sending men for foreign studies, they want that the best men must be sent.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—“ May I know, Sir, from the Government whether they know the personnel of the Selection Committee and if there is no Harijan on it, will the Government convey to the Government of India the desirability of including a Harijan member either from this Province or from elsewhere? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ I understand that in the committee set up by the Central Government there is a Harijan.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY :—“ May I know, Sir, whether this Government will make a recommendation to the Central Government that at least one Harijan be included every year from this Province? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ I understand that that Harijan gentleman representing the Harijans in the Central Government Committee is from this Province.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I ask, Sir, provided the candidates possess the required qualifications, will this Government consider the question of directing the Committee to select candidates on the basis of the communal Government Order? ”

[31st March 1947]

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ That cannot be done for the reason that the qualification also is an important aspect.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I said, provided the qualifications are otherwise satisfied.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ Yes, Sir.”

SRI P. NATESAN :—“ May I know how many applications were there on the whole from this Province? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY :—“ May I know how many Harijan candidates applied from this Presidency for foreign scholarships and whether they have got statistics relating to the number of applications sent to the Madras Government? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ This Government will not have statistics of the applications to the Central Committee, but in regard to the applications which have come to this Government they have got statistics, but notice may be given.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ From the list furnished by the Hon. Minister for Education I find that one boy has been sent for higher studies in textile technology. May I know how this is in accordance with the present textile policy of the Government? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ One boy has not been sent, but the proposal is to send one.”

SRI P. NATESAN :—“ May I know if the Selection Committee visited Madras and interviewed the applicants? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ The Selection Committee which goes into this matter is in Madras.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY :—“ My question has not been answered, Sir. My question was whether this Government will make a recommendation to the Central Government so that from this Presidency at least one Harijan student in each of the courses is taken? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—
“ That will be a very impractical proposition, because the allotment for this Province is very few and if for each course a Harijan is to be selected, it means that only Harijans will have to be selected for every one of the courses.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY :—“ In view of the paucity of Harijans among those selected for foreign scholarships will the Government make a recommendation to the Government of India for Harijans being sent for such foreign studies? ”

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

“Evidently the hon. Member has not understood the situation. If only one student has to be selected for a particular course and that one should be from the Harijan community, it will be impossible for this Government or any Government to comply with.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know the total number of students that have already been sent abroad so far and the number of Muslims out of them, Sir?”

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

“The hon. Member may put a separate question and I will give an answer to it.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“If the Selection Committee is in Madras, may I know who are the members constituting that Committee, Sir?”

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

“The Selection Committee consists of a Member of the Board of Revenue, a Member of the Public Service Commission and the Director of Public Instruction.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know if the Hon. Minister is aware of the complaint of the Government of India that the Madras Government are not sending Harijan candidates for these courses?”

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

“The Government of India has not made any such complaint.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is there any proposal, quite apart from the Government of India scheme, that this Government should send candidates for overseas studies at their own cost?”

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

“No, Sir.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, the Hon. Minister replying to one of my questions said that no boy was sent. I want to know how he would reconcile this proposal of this Government to send a candidate for textile technology with the present textile policy of the Government?”

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

“The question does not arise.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the previous answer given by the Hon. Minister, I want to know definitely whether the Government are issuing definite instructions to select these candidates community-war, provided the qualifications are up to the mark?”

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

“Instructions have been issued that consistent with qualifications proper representation should be given to communities.”

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Alleged Police firing on labourers.

* 501-A Q.—MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Mohamad Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law and Order be pleased to state—

(a) whether the police had to resort to firing seven rounds on labourers of “National Tobacco Company” at Chilakalurpet, Guntur district, on 23rd March 1947; and

(b) if so, how many were killed and how many injured?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The Police fired 12 rounds on the mob. The incident took place on 24th March 1947.

“(b) Dead—nil; injured—four.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware of the fact that it is the Sub-Inspector of that place who resorted to firing first and that too from the room of the company?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I will take the hon. Member's information and try to find out whether it is correct and action will be taken, if it is so.”

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—“Have the Government received a representation from the public, Sir, about the high-handed action of the Sub-Inspector of Police?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Except representations made by the members of the Assembly and by persons whom they brought to me, the Government have received no other representation, but I am trying to find out facts and will take action, if necessary.”

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—“Is it a fact that the Circle Inspector of Police was present and he did not issue orders for firing but in spite of that the Sub-Inspector fired 12 rounds?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am taking up the information that has been given to me.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Leader of the House satisfied that the returns for 12 rounds is adequate when only four have been injured and none killed?”

(No answer).

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister, whether he is prepared to depute a non-official to go into the matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Well, I am not prepared to do that.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government will seriously consider any method or methods by which these troubles may be put an end to without resort to firing and all that sort of thing?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"This is a very difficult question which I am afraid I cannot answer because it requires serious consideration and serious thinking."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Sir, I would point out that my question No. 475 has been omitted though the previous and subsequent questions have been answered."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall look into the matter."

Harijans in the Police department.

* 502 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law and Order be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Sub-Inspectors, Circle Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents and District Superintendents of Police belonging to the Harijan, Brahman, Non-Brahman, Christian and Muslim communities in the Province;

(b) the number of Harijan Sub-Inspectors of Police with their services from the date of appointments; and

(c) the number of Sub-Inspectors with 6 years' service who are promoted to the Circle Inspectors' rank?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The Hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 198 answered on 3rd March 1947 as regards the number of Harijan Sub-Inspectors and Circle Inspectors. The Government have no information as regards the number of Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors belonging to the other communities. The hon. Member is referred to the quarterly list of Gazetted Officers in the Madras Police Department corrected up to 1st January 1947 for information as regards Deputy Superintendents and District Superintendents of Police.

" (b) & (c) The Government have no information."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—"In view of the paucity of the Harijan Sub-Inspectors of Police in the Government services, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to promote Harijan Sub-Inspectors with six years' service to the rank of Circle Inspectors and Circle Inspectors to the Deputy Superintendents of Police?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid I cannot give this undertaking."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. the Leader of the House refer to the answers given to another question sometime back. As it is not readily available may I request him to take up the question to-morrow?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will give the information which the hon. Member seeks. The number of Sub-Inspectors and Circle Inspectors belonging to the Scheduled Castes is 49 Sub-Inspectors and one Inspector of Police."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. the Leader of the House collect all the information required, Sir, and place it on the table of the House as early as possible?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, if the hon. Gentleman will put a separate question it will be much easier to deal with that."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, in view of the fact that there is only one Circle Inspector will the Government consider the desirability of promoting from the existing 49 Sub-Inspectors and some of them this year?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I have already answered the question that there can be no undertaking given. It will depend upon the exigencies of service and that is the only consideration."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, with regard to information required by me as all the items of that information are included in this question and as the question has already been put, will the Hon. the Leader of the House act up on my question and place that information on the table of the House?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I shall try to do it as far as possible, but it will take a fairly long time."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Since there is one Deputy Superintendent of Police, may I know, Sir, when others are going to be selected from Harijans?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If people with requisite qualifications are available, the Government will consider this suggestion favourably."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the answer of the Leader of the House is not correct. He said two Deputy Superintendents of Police."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I only said one Circle Inspector of Police. If the Gentleman presumes in a different way and you also, Sir, think likewise, I am not in a position to correct the information."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, arising out of the answer given by the Leader of the House that there are two Harijan Deputy Superintendents, what prevents the Government from promoting some of them to be District Superintendents or from promoting some of the Circle Inspectors to the Deputy Superintendent's rank?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already answered this question."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Leader of the House that there are 49 Sub-Inspectors and one Inspector of Police, may I request, Sir, that at least a few of the Sub-Inspectors may be promoted to the cadre of Inspectors since there is a feeling not only in this House but outside also that the Harijan community is not being properly represented in the Police Department?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already answered this question and I have nothing further to add."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I request the Leader of the House, Sir, that in view of the strong feeling among the Harijan Members here as well outside, could not the Government make any recommendation to the authorities concerned to see that some of these Sub-Inspectors are promoted to the cadre of Inspectors of Police and Inspectors to the cadre of the Deputy Superintendents of Police?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already said that I shall consider what could be done though I cannot give any undertaking."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that there are only 49 Sub-Inspectors in this Province will the Government see that it recruits more Sub-Inspectors from this community, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already stated that no undertaking of any kind can be given."

Communal troubles in Nellore.

* 503 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Mohamed Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law and Order be pleased to state—

(a) whether any complaints have been received from the Muslims of Nellore about the conduct of the Subordinate Police Officials during the communal trouble at Nellore in the months of November and December 1946;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action against such officials; and

(c) whether the Government propose to follow the policy under which a Christian is always posted as the Subdivisional Magistrate at Nellore, in the matter of posting Christian police officers as well?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) A petition, dated 14th December 1946, has been received from certain Muslims of Nellore in which allegations have been made against the Deputy Superintendent of Police and the Inspector of Police.

" (b) The Government do not accept any of the allegations made in the petition and do not propose to take any action against the officers.

" (c) The suggestion will be considered."

Arrests under the Public Safety Ordinance.

* 504 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) when the arrests and searches under the ordinance began;

(b) how many offices were searched;

(c) how many persons were arrested; and

(d) how many warrants are still pending?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) On 23rd January 1947 on the promulgation of the Ordinance;

" (b) About 36 offices were searched;

" (c) One hundred and forty-five persons were arrested; of these five have since been released;

" (d) The Government must decline to give this information in the public interest."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the arrests took place even twelve hours before the promulgation of the Ordinance?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, I am sorry this question should be put in another form but I am prepared to say that the Ordinance was ready and only under the Bill arrests were effected."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know Sir, why the Government refuses to say how many persons were arrested without warrant?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The question has been answered already."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, how the public peace is going to be endangered if it is announced how many warrants are still pending?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, I have already replied the question once before. If people are in the habit of going underground and if they know beforehand that there are warrants against them it makes it much easier for them to go underground than otherwise."

Mannargudi disturbances.

* 505 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases of looting, rioting and murder of which reports were received in connexion with the Kisan trouble in Mannargudi division (Tanjore district);

(b) the quantity of paddy looted during these disturbances;

(c) the action taken to recover the paddy so looted;

(d) the action taken by the Government to prevent lawlessness;

(e) whether any representations were made that the district officials were encouraging the disturbing elements;

(f) if so, against whom and by whom were these representations made;

(g) whether the Government have investigated into the matter; and

(h) if so, what the findings are and what action was taken on the findings?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Reports were received of 50 cases of looting, theft of paddy, etc., 5 cases of rioting and 1 case of murder.

“(b) 1,177 kalams.

“(c) 253 kalams of paddy were recovered. In some cases paddy was destroyed, in others the grain could not be identified as the paddy that was stolen.

“(d) Armed reserve has been stationed at Mannargudii and Tiruthuraipundi towns, two temporary police out-posts have been opened at Kalappal and Vikrapandiam. Mobile armed reserve patrols have also been arranged as occasion arises. Orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, were promulgated by the Subdivisional Magistrate, Mannargudi, prohibiting the kisan meetings, processions, etc., throughout the division for a period of two months. These orders have been extended by the Government up to 31st March 1947, Police protection is being rendered wherever necessary to maintain law and order. Action under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, was taken in some instances.

“(e) No.

“(f), (g) & (h) Do not arise.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I request that the answer be placed on the table of the House as it is very long.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It cannot be done as it has been read out clearly.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know how much of the looted paddy has been recovered so far?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have said that it is 253 kalams. If he had listened to my answer he would have known it.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Mirasdars of Tanjore have been harassing the agricultural labourers and if so what arrangements have been made to prevent these Mirasdars from troubling the labourers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government will take notice of what the hon. Gentleman says though I do not grant what he says because he is far away from Tanjore at the present time, as far away as the Government are.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, who engineered these troubles, whether it is the Congress Kisan organization or the Communist Kisan organization?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I cannot make any distinction between Congress Kisans and Communist Kisans because their interests are the same.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government has got any idea of the total quantity of the looted paddy?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I have already stated it as 1,177 kalams. I will repeat it for the gentleman's information.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, why only such a small portion of the looted paddy has been recovered?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is a very difficult question to answer.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, who is responsible for these acts and whether they are the Communist?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Well, Sir, I am not prepared to say who is responsible because that is a very difficult thing to determine at the present moment.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Landowners' Association of Tanjore district has sent a resolution requesting the Government to ban the Kisan Sabha organization?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Well, Sir, whatever may be the resolution of the Landowners' Association, Government will come to their own conclusions in the matter.”

Supply of rice to ration shops in Tinnevely.

* 506 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and if so which ration shops in Thiruchendur taluk and elsewhere in the Tinnevely district had no supply of rice for some weeks in December 1946;

(b) whether there was only partial supply for some weeks and if so, how much;

(c) whether the basic reserve of a week's requirement was not maintained in Thiruchendur taluk and elsewhere in the district and if so, why; and

(d) whether the Government have received any representation that the ration rice requirement in the district up to 31st March 1947 is nearly 24,000 tons and what orders, if any, have been passed on the same?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) There was no ration shop in Thiruchendur taluk and elsewhere which had no supply of rice for some weeks in December 1946.

“(b) There was partial supply only in nine villages of Thiruchendur taluk, viz., Megnanapuram, Semmirikulam, Nangerimoli, Vellanvilai, Paramankurichi, Lakshimpuram, Periatalai, Arasur and Padukkapathu. This was due to the stocks in the district not permitting buffer stocks to be kept and also due to the difficulty in moving stocks allotted, owing

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to the breaches caused by the heavy rains. But this was compensated by supplies of wheat, cholam, etc., of which there were sufficient stocks in these ration shops.

“(c) The stock position does not permit continual reserve being kept, but efforts are made to see that the stocks do not fall below three weeks’ requirements to the extent practicable.

“(d) The Collector of Tinnevely applied to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies for 18,400 tons of rice for the requirements from January 1947 to the end of March 1947. In the District Food Committee meeting held on 23rd December 1946 Sri A. S. Kuppuswami Ayyar expressed that 24,000 tons of rice were the requirements of the district from January to the end of March 1947, with one month’s reserve stock. A copy of the resolution passed by the District Food Committee on this subject was communicated to the Board by the Collector. On the representations sent from the district the Commissioner of Civil Supplies has made an allotment of 16,668 tons up to the end of March 1947 in the light of the stock position and procurement prospects of the district.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“Will the Government consider the question of equal distribution of ration in all districts with a view to avoid starvation in certain taluks on certain occasions?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“That is what is being attempted and done. If circumstances beyond the control of the Government supervene, it is not possible to maintain everything. In this particular instance, there were floods due to heavy rains and it could not be transported. Barring this exceptional case, usually, normal ration is maintained in all the taluks and villages.”

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that reserve for not even a single day’s requirement was maintained in most of the villages of Madura district?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The Government have no information on that subject.”

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—சர்க்கார் இவ்வருஷம் நெல் கொடுத்தவர்களுக்கு எப்படியாவது போனஸ் கொடுக்க உத்தேசித்திருப்பார்களானால் சென்னை ஜனவரியிலிருந்து நெல் கொடுத்தவர்களுக்கு போனஸ் கொடுப்பார்களா?

MR. SPEAKER:—“இந்தக் கேள்விக்கும் இப்பொழுது நடக்கும் கேள்விக்கும் சம்பந்தம் இல்லை. தனியாக ஒரு கேள்வி போட்டால் நாங்கள் அதைக் கொண்டுவருகிறோம்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member enquired whether the Government are prepared to give bonus as was done last year and it has been suggested to him that it does not arise from the question under reply.”

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Paddy procurement in Malabar.

* 507 Q.—P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the total quantity of paddy procurement under the New Food Scheme in the district of Malabar for the six months ending with December 1946; and

(b) the total procurement for the corresponding period in the previous year?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Thirty-seven thousand seven hundred and ninety-one tons of rice were procured during the half-year ending December 1946.

“(b) During the corresponding period in the year 1945, 39,568 tons of rice were procured.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know by whom paddy is procured; is it by village committees or by the Taluk Supply Officer; if the latter is procuring, is it with the co-operation of these village committees?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The officer responsible for procurement in taluks is the Taluk Supply Officer and in the districts, it is the District Supply Officer. Wherever possible the village food committees are being taken into consultation and quotas fixed for those areas.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“As most of the members of village committees are themselves producers, are Government aware that they are not coming forward with the produce?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The Government have no such information.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government take the information from me and see that the maximum is procured?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As far as Government are aware the target fixed for each area is being procured.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“It is seen from the answer that there has been a drop of 2,000 tons in the matter of procurement. May I know whether, but for the introduction of the co-operative system, the procurement would have been higher than what it is now?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is a problematical proposition for which no definite answer could be given.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact that the ryots who sold paddy to these co-operative societies were not paid the price immediately but were given only cash vouchers payable a month hence?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As far as the Government are aware they are being paid only on a cash system; the arrangement of delayed payment is a matter between the producers and the co-operative societies.”

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SRI NIVARTHI VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"Are the Government aware that there is a serious shortage of millets in Kurnool district?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is about Malabar and the hon. Member is putting a question concerning Kurnool, which does not arise."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that certain concessions for dryage and shortage allowed to the ryots before the introduction of the co-operative scheme are not allowed now and, therefore, the producers are suffering under the new scheme, especially in Palghat taluk?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"We have no information on that subject. But we shall call for it if it is necessary."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government will enquire into this matter as to whether the non-payment of prices immediately by these co-operative societies is not the main reason for the slack procurement of food-grains?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the period that the Government put to find out that these co-operative societies are really useful or not?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As far as the Government are aware they are certainly very useful."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Before question No. 508 is taken up, I wish to submit that I am not in possession of all the necessary papers and I would request that it is taken to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"All right."

[* 508—Postponed.]

Alleged congestion of work in the Rent Control Office.

* 509 Q.—M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is heavy congestion of work in the Rent Control Office and several thousands of applications pending before the Rent Controller remain in arrears without being disposed of;

(b) whether it is a fact that this delay in the disposal of the petitions cause a lot of inconvenience, annoyance and trouble to the petitioners;

(c) whether the Government contemplate taking any steps to appoint more officers to quickly dispose of such petitions; and

(d) the actual number of applications pending disposal till this date and how old they are?

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) The Government are aware of the congestion of work in the office of the Rent Controller, Madras.

" (b) I agree that certain inconvenience is bound to be caused by the delay in the disposal of petitions.

" (c) They propose to appoint one whole-time Rent Controller in the place of the existing part-time Rent Controller and to appoint another Rent Controller temporarily for a period of three months to dispose of the arrears.

" (d) About 3,300 applications are stated to be pending disposal. Information regarding the dates from which they are pending is not available."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The general feeling is that only applications received from Government servants are being attended to and not those received from the general public. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether priority will be given to the applications sent by the general public?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am not aware of any such practice. But if it is existing, I would try, if possible, to see that both applications from Government servants and non-officials are put on the same footing."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire whether the Government are aware that the long pendency of the applications before the Rent Controller is productive of ill-feeling between the landlord and the tenant and that the landlords are refusing to carry out even ordinary repairs until the petitions are disposed of and whether the Government will be pleased to expedite the matter of appointing the necessary staff for the disposal of the petitions—I wonder whether the additional officers proposed to be appointed will be able to cope with the pending petitions. Hence, may I request the Government to see that a sufficient number of officers is appointed to deal with the problem?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am not aware of the existence of bad-feeling between the landlords and tenants; on the other hand I should have thought the respondent will have the solatium of having notice in point of time to vacate the building. So far as these arrears are concerned they will be cleared by appointing the staff proposed by Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer concerning the proposed staff, may I know how the Government are going to recruit to the proposed post of additional Rent Controller?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Notice."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Would the Government consider the advisability of getting on with the speedy disposal of these matters by appointing honorary courts in each one of the divisions, so that the matter may be speeded up?"

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"In view of the acute housing problem, will the Government consider the desirability of putting up some buildings at least for the Government offices and officials so that to that extent buildings may be released for others?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The question of improving housing accommodation for the people of this Province including Government officials is under the active consideration of Government."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Do Government not consider whether it will be adequate to have the machinery I have suggested in view of the fact that the Act is to last only for two years and more and more applications may pour into the Rent Controller's Office?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It is not a question of adequacy but it is a question of desirability."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that such congestion is also prevailing in the mufassal districts and whether he would consider the question of special staff for those areas also?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I suggest that supplementary questions of this nature can arise on the question which will be answered to-morrow."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether all pending cases will be disposed of according to the provisions of the new Rent Control Act?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Petitions disposed of before the 30th September 1946 will be disposed under the old order. The new Act came into force on the 1st October 1946 and subsequent cases will be dealt with under the new Act."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government is collecting any court-fees from the petitioners; if so, how much for each petition; if not, why not collect something from them?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I suggest to the hon. Member to put this by means of a separate question."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know whether there are any old cases of appeal to Government which were not dealt with according to the provisions of the new Act even after it came into force?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think you might put this question to-morrow when the other question is to be answered."

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Police searches of Communist Party offices.

* 510 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the police searches made in the Communist Party offices, Madras, Provincial Trade Union Congress, Madras, Press Workers' Union, Madras, Communist Party office, Dindigul, and the South Indian Railway Labour Union, Madura, on 8th January 1947 were in connexion with the alleged labour clash in Madura on 24th December 1946;

(b) whether the police had any warrant while making the above searches;

(c) whether all the arrests made in Madras on that day in this connexion were made under any warrant issued by any Magistrate;

(d) whether a list of articles seized by the police after the above search will be placed before the House;

(e) whether there is any likelihood of the seized articles being returned to the organizations; and

(f) whether the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the conduct and behaviour of the police while searching the above offices as it is reported that they have unlawfully prevented the inmates of the offices from going in or out of the buildings for a period of five to nine hours?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) In the course of investigation of the crimes of violence which occurred in the City of Madura from 17th December 1946, the existence of a criminal conspiracy was brought to light and a case under section 120-B read with sections 302, 307, 326, 324, 147, 435 and 427, I.P.C., was registered in Madura Town Central Station on 8th January 1947. It was in connexion with the investigation of this case that searches were conducted by the police on 8th January 1947 in the offices mentioned.

" (b) No; the searches were made under section 165, Cr.P.C.

" (c) No; the arrests were made during the course of investigation into cognizable offences.

" (d) A list^a is placed on the table of the House.

" (e) This will depend on the result of the case.

" (f) No; the police did not prevent the inmates of the offices as alleged."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"From the list placed on the table does it not go to prove that they are all not in any way connected with the criminal conspiracy case that has been launched—for instance students note-books, letters of the All-India Trade Union Congress, etc.?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the hon. Member will give me this information and I see that these are not wanted for the case, I shall consider the desirability of returning them to the proper persons."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The information is already placed on the table, and the information is there. I do not find there is any circular or paper in any way connected with the conspiracy case. That is why I want to know if the Government are prepared to return all the articles seized . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please do not argue your case. Put it in the form of a question."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is it not a fact that the articles seized are in no way connected with the Madura Criminal Conspiracy case?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will examine the desirability of returning the articles as I have already said."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that in almost all the Communist offices in the Kistna district, screw knives and spears and sticks are collected, and in spite of our telling the police about this, they are not taking any action in seizing them?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I request the hon. Gentleman to put a different question. This case concerns Malabar."

Tiffin arrangements for the Secretariat staff.

* 511 Q.—M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have asked the Secretariat Staff Co-operative Restaurant to wind up its business;

(b) if so, why; and how long was it functioning;

(c) what were the conditions upon which the premises in which it is now located were handed over to them and whether any of these conditions have been violated; and

(d) what alternative arrangements have been proposed for providing tiffin to the members of the Secretariat staff, and in what respects the proposed arrangements would be better and what provision has been made for continued good service?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) & (b) The restaurant has been functioning since 1929, but complaints were being received recently that it was not being run well. Hence it was asked to wind up its business but on further representations the Government reconsidered their decision and allowed it to continue subject to other arrangements for supply of tiffin in Secretariat being also made.

" (c) & (d) Do not arise."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, how this particular co-operative restaurant has failed when every other co-operative society in the Province has succeeded?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The question is only about this co-operative restaurant. The hon. Gentleman might put a separate question to the proper quarters concerned."

* 512 Q.—THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Finance Minister, is not here. This question may therefore, be taken up to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This question will be taken up to-morrow."

Police searches in Madura.

* 513 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madura Police Force searched the South Indian Railway Labour Union, Madura Branch office, on 8th January 1947; and if so, under what authority and for what purpose;

(b) whether any Union documents or materials were seized by the police; and if so, what were they;

(c) whether the police forced open the almirahs and tables with bayonets;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to pay compensation for damages caused to the Labour Union;

(e) whether the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the excesses committed by the police in doing so;

(f) whether the police had any warrant for searching the Union office; and if so, whether they showed it to any one; and

(g) whether any Labour Union office-bearer was present at the time of search?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes, in connexion with the Madura Communist Conspiracy Case Crime No. 26 of 1947 of Madura City Central Police station under section 120-B read with sections 302, 307, 326, 324, 147, 435 and 427, Indian Penal Code. The purpose was to search for documents implicating the local railway Communists in the conspiracy as one Sivanandam, railway guard and President of the Madura Branch of the South Indian Railway Labour Union and railway keyman Andy, an important member of this branch were among the accused in the conspiracy case.

" (b) Yes; several documents were seized. A list^a is appended.

" (c) Bayonets were not used. The lock of an almirah was forced open by pulling the door.

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“(d) No.

“(e) No.

“(f) No search-warrant was obtained but the search was conducted strictly according to law.

“(g) No known Labour Union office bearer was present at the search, but the watchman, one Natarajan by name, was present.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ May I know, Sir, how the Railway Union is connected with the Madura Criminal Conspiracy case? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ I have already explained in the course of the answer that two of the Communists belong to the Railway Union. Naturally, they (the Police) wanted to know whether they could find anything in the records of the Railway Union office.”

514 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Sir, this question has been ruled out.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Gentleman has withdrawn the question.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I have had a similar question some time back which was not put.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ You put a separate question. I will allow it.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is possible for an hon. Member to withdraw his question without leave of the House? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ He can withdraw.”

Price of paddy in Malabar.

* 515 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the price of paddy per edangazhi charged on the consumer at the retail ration-shops before the new scheme was introduced in Malabar; and

(b) the price at present?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ (a) 2 annas 10 pies.

“(b) 2 annas 7 pies.

“ The rates quoted are those prevailing in Calicut taluk. The rates are liable to variation from place to place in accordance with the actual transport and handling charges incurred.”

Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies in Malabar.

* 516 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be

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pleased to state whether it is a fact that many of the newly formed Producers-cum-Consumers (Co-operative Societies in Malabar asked for time to take over retail ration-shops?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ No. Only two societies, viz., the Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies in Calicut (town) and British Cochin* had formally applied for time to take over the ration-shops.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that some co-operative societies in Circars are not at all functioning properly, and therefore, many thousands of ryots are suffering being unable to sell their produce and so will the Government. . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member will please sit down. The question is about Malabar co-operative societies. He may put a separate question.”

Representation from the Secretary, Tamil Nad Kisan Sabha.

* 517 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation regarding the grievances of the Kisans of Tanjore has been received from the Secretary, Tamil Nad Kisan Sabha, dated 3rd January 1947, and if so, whether it would be laid before the House; and

(b) what action has been taken in the matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ (a) Yes. The Government do not consider it necessary to place on the table of the House, a copy of the representation.

“(b) Government were unable to grant the request for the cancellation of the prohibitory order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that members of the Kisan Sabha are being harassed by mirasdars and their agents, and these mirasdars and their agents have many times disturbed the meetings of Kisans, and in spite of representation being made, no action was taken by Government against these mirasdars? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ If the hon. Gentleman will have sufficient patience these questions may be settled to the satisfaction of everybody concerned.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The Hon. Minister for Education will please answer question No. 491.”

Scale of pay of L.T. Assistants, Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Registrars.

* 491 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the scales of pay of the L.T. Assistants and Deputy Inspectors in the Education Department just before revision;

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- (b) their scales of pay before the year 1938;
 (c) the present revised scales;
 (d) the percentage of increase in the maximum over the scales before 1939;
 (e) the scales of pay of the Sub-Registrars before the revision and after the revision;
 (f) the percentage of increase in basic pay; and
 (g) the reason why the L.T. Assistants and Deputy Inspectors have been discriminated against in the matter of the revision of their salary especially in the face of the difference between the minimum qualifications required of the Sub-Registrars and those expected of L.T. Assistants and Deputy Inspectors?

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

“(a) The information asked for is to be found in G.O. No. 78, Finance, dated 6th February 1947—

Rs. 140—15/2—200—First Grade; 20 per cent of the cadre. Rs. 70—10/2—130—Second Grade; 80 per cent of the cadre.

“(b) Same as (a).

“(c) Rs. 160—5—200—10—240 plus Rs. 5 for craft training—First Grade; 33-1/3 per cent of the cadre.

Rs. 80—5—120—10—170 plus Rs. 5 craft training—Second Grade; 66-2/3 per cent of the cadre.

“(d) & (f) It is not clear what exactly the hon. Member means by ‘percentage of increase in the maximum’ and ‘percentage of increase in the basic pay’. It is also not clear why he desires a comparison of the ‘maximum of the scale’ in one case and the ‘basic pay’ in the other, if he wants to know the difference between the average of the new scale of pay and the average of the old scale of pay. The answer to clause (d) is—

19.77 per cent—I Grade

31.8 per cent—II Grade.

The answer to clause (f) is—

5.7 per cent—I Grade.

34.2 per cent—II Grade.

“(e) Before the revision—

Rs. 140—10/2—180—I Grade—20 per cent of the cadre.

Rs. 60—7½/2—90—10—2—130—II Grade—80 per cent of the cadre.

After revision—

Rs. 160—5—200—I Grade—20 per cent of the cadre.

Rs. 100—5—150—II Grade—80 per cent of the cadre.

“(g) The Cabinet Salaries Committee thought that a Sub-Registrar in the early stages of his career had rather heavier responsibilities than a Junior L.T. Assistant or Deputy Inspector. Financial responsibility in particular was a consideration.

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“The printed answer has already been circulated, Sir. It is laid^a on the table of the House.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does the Hon. Minister seriously think that the responsibilities of a Deputy Inspector of Schools are not quite so heavy as those of Registrars?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
 “It is difficult for me, Sir, to judge the responsibilities, but the reason that actuated the Cabinet Salaries Committee in the matter is given in clause (g).”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask what is the reason that the pay of L.T. Assistants has been fixed lower than that of upper division clerks in the Secretariat despite the fact that the former have to put in an additional year of training?”

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

“This question has been answered previously many times. I do not think I can add anything more to what I have already said.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“This question has never been asked and has never been answered. I ask why the pay of an L.T. Assistant has been fixed lower than that of an upper division clerk in the Secretariat despite the fact that the L.T. Assistant has to put in an additional year of training and why the salary of an L.T. Assistant has been increased only by 14 per cent whereas that of an upper division clerk has been increased by 46 per cent?”

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

“The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister for Education does not think it his duty to see that the staff in his portfolio got better justice done at least in comparison with those staff that are under other Ministers?”

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

“I have taken it as my duty, and I have done what all I can. If there is anything that has not been done, it is in spite of my best efforts.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether he is satisfied and contented, and therefore he will stop from putting in more effort in this matter?”

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

“Personally, Sir, I cannot say that I am satisfied. But I hope, God willing, we will be able to do something. I may add that the Government of India has promised a grant for education. When that grant fructifies, that will be utilized for this purpose.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to closely examine and compare the

^a Please see “Papers laid on the table of the House” at page 440 infra.

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two scales of pay, that is the old and the revised scales of pay, and see whether actually the revised scale of pay is not detrimental, at some stage, to the present employees?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"It is not, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Applications for electric supply in Udamalpet taluk.

25 Q.—SRI S. KRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications for electric supply for agricultural purposes received for the last six months from Udamalpet taluk;

(b) how many connexions were given and how many are pending sanction;

(c) the reasons for the delay in the disposal of applications; and

(d) what steps the Government propose to take to make electrical materials easily available?

A.—(a) 514.

(b) (i) Number of services provided	13
(ii) Lines ready but parties not yet taken supply	14
(iii) Cases for which sanctions have been obtained and agreements, etc., drawn up.	28
(iv) Cases in which supply is not feasible for the present and parties informed accordingly	15
(v) Number of cases investigated and sanction awaited from Government or Chief Engineer (Electricity) or General Superintendent, Operating Systems, or Superintending Engineer, as the case may be	253
(vi) Number of cases under investigation.	191
	514

(c) There is no avoidable delay in the disposal of the applications. The feasibility of supply has to be examined in the first instance, and while investigating the schemes, much difficulty is being experienced in some cases to contact the parties and to obtain permit applications and written concurrence from them for the required special guarantees, if any, to ensure that the scheme is remunerative. Necessary sanctions have also to be obtained from the competent authorities under the restriction and control orders for giving electric supply.

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(d) Arrangements are being made by the Electricity Department in consultation with the Director of Agriculture for supply of materials required by intending consumers of electricity for agricultural purposes. The Agricultural Department is doing all that is possible to supply pump-sets, pipes, pipe fittings, etc., required by the agriculturists.

Weigh-bridges in sugar factories.

26 Q.—SRI GONA SITARAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from the cane-growers of factory areas, regarding under-weighment of sugarcane by factory managers;

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take for remedying the defect; and

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce legislation for providing automatic weigh-bridges in every factory in the interest of the ryots?

A.—(a) Yes. Complaints from cane-growers of Bobbili taluk have been received.

(b) The Member is referred to the answer to part (b) of the next unstarred question 27.

(c) There is no such proposal. If the need is established for such bridges the Government will consider and take suitable steps.

Weighment of sugarcane in factories.

27 Q.—SRI GONA SITARAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether weighment of sugarcane is supervised by any Government official in any factory at present;

(b) if not, the arrangements that are being made for correct recording of weighments of cane and timely payment of money to ryots; and

(c) whether the Government propose to consider the question of appointment of Special Liaison Officer for supervising the recording of weighment and payment of money to ryots during the coming season?

A.—(a) It is presumed that the Member only wants to know whether weighment of sugarcane at any factory is at present being supervised by a Government official. If so, the answer is no.

(b) The Government have issued orders for the appointment of an officer of the grade of Deputy Tahsildar to look after the general interests of the ryots for each of the factories at Bobbili and Seethanagaram.

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They have also issued a notification making it obligatory on the part of the authorities of these factories to allow an agent of the cane-growers to be present at the time of weighment. As for payment of money, the Government have already ordered that it should be paid normally within 48 hours of the delivery of the cane. Immediate release of locked-up sugar in the factories' godowns is also being arranged with a view to enable the factories to get ready cash to pay immediately the arrears due to the suppliers of cane.

- (c) There is no such proposal. If such requests are received during the next season from ryots they will be duly considered.

Study of Hindustani in schools.

28 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for the decision of the Government to restrict the study of Hindustani to Forms II to IV only; and

(b) whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision and propose to extend the study of Hindustani in High schools up to VI Form?

A.—(a) In view of the fact that the study of English would commence from Form I, it was considered desirable to postpone the study of Hindustani to Form II so as to avoid the study of two new languages in the same year. A three years' course of study from Form II was considered sufficient to acquire a working knowledge of the language.

(b) Under the S.S.L.C. Scheme Hindustani can be taken as an optional subject in Forms V to VI and there is, therefore, no need to alter the decision.

Floods in Paravanar river in South Arcot.

29 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to order an enquiry into the havoc caused by the floods of Paravanar to the agricultural lands under the Shatiatope Anicut System in South Arcot; and

(b) whether the Government propose to carry out the improvements to the Paravanar drainage irrespective of the requirements of the Cuddalore port?

A.—(a) No. The flood damages under the Shatiatope Anicut System are not so heavy as to justify special enquiry being held in the matter.

(b) No improvements are proposed to be carried out to the Paravanar drainage.

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Improvements to Velangipattu channel in Chidambaram taluk.

30 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Revenue authorities of Chidambaram taluk have issued notices in a number of villages, Khizha Manakkudi and Thatchakkadu, etc., for levy of heavy penalties for irregular irrigation from the Velangipattu channel without any specific evidence; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the ayacut under this channel has long been suffering from inadequacy of supply and that the remodelling of the channel for the improvement of the supply long contemplated has not yet been carried out?

A.—(a) No. Officers of the Public Works Department and the Deputy Tahsildar, Porto Novo, inspected the irrigation channels in the villages referred to. They noticed the presence of unauthorized pipes, cuts in bunds, and mud dams across the channel which have to be treated as objectionable. A nominal penalty of half the water-cess was levied. No heavy penalty was levied in any case.

(b) Yes. But the Public Works Department could not carry out their investigation for executing repairs to the channel, as the ryots interfered with the pipes inserted in earth at open cuts for purposes of observation. Proposals for remodelling the channel are now under consideration by the Superintending Engineer and the work is likely to be taken up this summer or in the next.

Water-supply and drainage schemes to Vriddhachalam town.

31 Q.—SRI S. A. DEVANAYAGA IYAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the "Protected water-supply and " Drainage Scheme " sanctioned to Vriddhachalam, South Arcot, is now;

(b) whether any special tax was levied for the said purpose in the panchayat area;

(c) whether the special tax has been collected from 1938 to date;

(d) whether the panchayat board is conserving those taxes so collected or spending it for other purposes; and

(e) whether it is proposed to expedite the scheme?

A.—(a) The schemes that were in contemplation in the past were not pursued on account of want of funds with the panchayat board and the intervention of the war. Schemes have yet to be investigated in detail. The water-supply scheme will have to be dealt with

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under the Rural Water-supply Scheme, and not as an urban scheme, as the population of Vriddhachalam is under 10,000.

- (b) & (c) A special tax is being levied from 1st October 1939.
- (d) The Board is conserving the collections for water-supply and drainage purposes. Temporary diversions were made of the collections, but have been made good since.
- (e) The collections from the special tax amount to only Rs. 20,774 up to 31st March 1947. More funds should be accumulated before the schemes can be taken up.

Floods in South Arcot.

32 Q.—SRI S. A. DEVANAYAGA IYAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area of wet cultivation has been damaged considerably by the recent floods in South Arcot district and that in some places crops have been washed away and the lands are still under water and sand-beds and silts have been deposited on the wet lands;

(b) whether the Government propose to remit the tax in the case of lands thus damaged which do not yield any crop this year;

(c) whether the Government propose to grant loans to agriculturists whose lands have been silted up and damaged to clear the silt and repair bunds, etc., in the recent floods; and

(d) whether the Government propose to supply them with short-term paddy and other seeds and enable them to grow more foodgrains in the affected area?

A.—(a) Crops on an extent of about 3,100 acres of wet lands were damaged. Crops were washed away on an extent of about 16 acres of wet land. It is reported that an extent of 15 acres of wet lands in Kallakurichi taluk were under water till recently. Sand-beds and silt have been deposited on an extent of about 300 acres of wet lands.

(b) Remission of assessment on sand-cast lands in Panamalai and other villages of Villupuram taluk, South Arcot district, has been granted. The question of granting remission on wet lands on which crops have either perished or the outturn is very poor is being examined by the Collector.

(c) Proposals for granting loans are being considered by the Collector.

(d) The District Agricultural Officer has arranged to obtain short-term paddy from outside districts to meet the local demands.

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Lockouts in mills in Coimbatore district.

33 Q.—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many lockouts have there been in the mills in the Coimbatore district during 1946; and

(b) what steps have been taken to stop these lockouts and to remove the causes therefor?

A.—(a) There were 23 lockouts during 1946 in textile mills in Coimbatore district.

(b) All the lockouts except one in the Kamala Mills, Singanallur, on 22nd August 1946, followed lighting strikes by workers. The lockout in Kamala Mills was due to the workers claiming extra wages for the weekly cleaning of the machines. The Labour Officer intervenes whenever there is trouble to prevent illegal lockouts.

As lockouts arise out of different causes, no general preventive action is possible. Each case is dealt with on merits.

Alleged employment of rowdies by some mills in Coimbatore district.

34 Q.—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the managements of Radhakrishna, Ranga Vilas, Pioneer Mills at Peelamedu, Sri Palamalai Ranganathar Mills, Perianaickenpalayam and the Thirumurthi Mills, Udumalpet, are keeping rowdies and goondas to terrorise peaceful workers in order to induce them to give up their membership of the Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union and also keep the police within the mill premises and use them against the workers in all manner possible; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to remedy the evils referred to in (a) above?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged eviction of tenants from houses.

35 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that house-owners are taking advantage of the present House Rent Control Order to evict their tenants as they like?

A.—No. Apparently the hon. Member refers to the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, which replaced the Madras House Rent Control Order with effect from 1st October 1946. The Act gives protection to tenants from eviction from their houses and

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under section 7 of the Act no landlord can evict a tenant except for one of the reasons specified there and in accordance with the procedure prescribed.

Alleged beating of a Congress worker by a Police Inspector in Madura.

36 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Police Inspector in charge of B-1 Madura, beat one Congress worker by name Aiyavu in the station for an hour; and

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

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Re-employment of workers in Buckingham and Carnatic Mills.

37 Q.—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed for re-employing the workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills who have been sent away under the Defence of India Rules; and

(b) if they have been re-employed, from what date; and if not, when they will be re-employed?

A.—(a) No worker in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills was sent away under the Defence of India Rules.

(b) The question does not arise.

Alleged seizure of clothes intended to be smuggled to Ceylon.

38 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether clothes worth many lakhs of rupees were seized from smugglers to Ceylon some time back and kept in the Tiruturaipundi Taluk Office;

(b) how long they have been in Government custody and what they propose to do with them; and

(c) whether the Government propose to auction them to meet the cloth scarcity?

A.—(a) On receipt of information that a number of consignments containing controlled articles were received at Sundarapuram railway station for being smuggled to Ceylon, the Inspector of Police, Tiruturaipundi, kept a watch on the arrival of the parcels at the station. As many as 113 consignments were received between the 27th and 30th October 1945.

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Out of the 113 bales received at the Sundarapuram railway station, 101 were of textiles and 12 were of dry batteries, safety pins, etc. All the seized articles are in the custody of the Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Tiruturaipundi.

(b) & (c) The goods are under the control of the Government from 5th November 1945. Out of the 101 textile bales, the Collector of Tanjore has been addressed by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police (Railways and C.I.D.) to confiscate 51 bales as the consignees in respect of them are not known and 19 other bales as they were despatched by some Jaffnites from Ceylon, who could not be prosecuted as the offence is not extraditable. Of the remaining 31 bales the accused in respect of 16 bales is absconding, and efforts are being made to trace him. In respect of the remaining 15 bales, 6 persons have been arrested and prosecution against them has been sanctioned by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. Orders about the disposal of these bales will be passed by competent courts of law.

Prevention of smuggling of opium and ganja to Ceylon.

39 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any action to prevent the smuggling of opium and ganja by land and sea to Ceylon ports?

A.—Yes. The Excise Intelligence Bureau was strengthened in 1945 by the addition of one Inspector of Excise, 4 petty officers and 2 peons for the prevention of smuggling of opium and ganja from and through this Province. The Board of Revenue has issued necessary instructions to the Excise Intelligence Bureau for the collection, collation and dissemination of all information relating to smuggling of excisable articles and the movement of smugglers and for action on such information. The Excise department has no facilities for detection of smuggling on the high seas but the Excise Intelligence Bureau staff is making all possible efforts to prevent smuggling of opium and ganja to Ceylon ports.

Oil technological institutes in the Province.

40 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether they propose to start institutes of oil technology in the Presidency; and

(b) if so, whether one such institute will be opened at Calicut?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have under consideration a proposal to start two oil technological institutes, one at Calicut and the other at Anantapur.

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Alleged misbehaviour of the Inspector of Motor Vehicles, Vellore, at the Madras Race Course.

41 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Inspector of Motor Vehicles attached to Vellore, under the influence of liquor grossly misbehaved and threatened to stab one of the Race Club employees for refusing to admit him free inside the Race Course on 11th January 1947;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Inspector actually entered the Race Course where he created a serious disturbance gathering a big crowd;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the stewards of the Race Club who is also a Police Officer had this Inspector removed out of the Race Course;

(d) whether it is a fact that this Inspector came without permission from Vellore;

(e) whether any action was taken by the Police who actually caught this Inspector; and

(f) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) & (b) According to the reports received by Government in the matter, the Motor Vehicles Inspector at Vellore with two others, came to the members' gate at the race course and wanted admission. The gate clerk directed him to enter by the gate intended for the public. When the Inspector insisted on entering by the members' gate and walked into the enclosure, the gate clerk came out of the counter and took him out. Thereupon some hot words passed between them and the gate clerk alleges that the Inspector threatened to stab and deal with him and that he appeared to him to be not sober at the time. Subsequently, the Inspector entered the Race Course by the public gate.

(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

(d) The answer is in the negative. He was on casual leave on 11th January 1947 and had obtained permission to leave headquarters.

(e) The answer is in the negative. The Stewards did not consider it necessary to take any further action.

(f) The matter is being looked into departmentally.

Elementary education in Hindupur taluk.

42 Q.—SRI D. KADIRAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that higher standards in the first-grade elementary schools of Chowlur and Kodikonda of Hindupur taluk have been closed; and if so, for what reasons; and

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(b) if it is not possible to re-open the classes, what other remedial measures are going to be adopted by the Government to impart Elementary Education in those localities?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government sanctioned in 1943 special subsidies to certain District Boards (seven in number), Anantapur being one of them, for a scheme of expansion of elementary education. The amount of subsidy for the District Board, Anantapur, was Rs. 44,000 in the first instance and it was raised to Rs. 73,400 from 1945-46. The expenditure on the expansion scheme including the cost of dearness allowance to teachers should have been met from within the special subsidy but some of the District Boards including the Anantapur District Board formulated schemes of expansion, the cost of which was far in excess of the subsidy. They made a request to the Government for increase of subsidy to meet the extra cost but as the Government had bound themselves to pay only the amount mentioned above, they could not comply with the request but asked the District Board to retrench the expenditure so as to bring the cost to the level of their capacity. If they were not able to meet the expenditure otherwise, they were advised to find economies to avoid the recurring expenditure. The Government understand that the closure of the standards referred to in this question is a result of the measures taken by the District Board to avoid recurring deficits and to reduce the expenditure under the expansion scheme. The Government regret this action and if private agencies open schools in these localities, they will be eligible for a grant.

Temporary lease of railway land in Bobbili taluk.

43 Q.—SRI GONA SITARAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received regarding the assignment of a railway land in Bobbili taluk on temporary lease under "Grow More Food" Scheme; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken by the Government on that representation?

A.—An extent of 8 acres of vacant site of railway land on either side of the railway line between Bobbili and Donkivalasa railway station was handed over to the Revenue Department for temporary assignment under the "Grow More Food" Scheme. One T. S. S. R. Sarma of Badangi village put in a petition stating that it was at his suggestion that the Railway authorities handed over the land

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to the Revenue Department and that, therefore, the land should be assigned to him after fixing a reasonable rent. He also stated that he had spent some amount on seedlings for purposes of transplantation. The statements of the petitioner were on enquiry found to be incorrect. Besides the petitioner, there were several other applicants for the land. Under the orders governing the temporary grant of railway land, the land should be sold in public auction if there are more than one applicant. Accordingly the land was divided into two convenient plots of 4 acres each and sold in public auction for fasli 1356 for a rental of Rs. 235. The petitioner was also informed that he had no preferential rights over the land.

Supply of sugarcane to sugar factories.

44 Q.—SRI GONA SITARAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from sugarcane growers regarding difficulties in obtaining permits (passes) for supply of cane from factory authorities;

(b) if so, what action was taken by Government in the matter; and

(c) whether the Government propose to appoint special officers in every factory for inspection of cane and to regulate supply to the factory in the interest of both factories and cane-growers?

A.—(a) Yes, only from the ryots who supply cane to Sitanagar and Bobbili.

(b) In regard to these factories, the Government have ordered the appointment of an Officer of the grade of a Deputy Tahsildar to look after the interests of the ryots. Factories have been asked to allow a representative of the cane-growers in these areas to be present at the time when the cane is weighed at each of these factories.

(c) This is not under consideration with regard to other factories except the two mentioned in answer to clause (b) above as there have been no complaints from other areas.

Supply of cloth and yarn in the Province.

45 Q.—M. EBRAHIM COONHEE SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of mill cloth produced in this Presidency in a year;

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(b) the quantity of mill cloth imported from outside of this Presidency in a year;

(c) the quantity of mill cloth exported from this Presidency to places outside in a year;

(d) the total quantity of mill yarn produced in this Presidency in a year;

(e) the total quantity of mill yarn imported from outside this Presidency in a year; and

(f) the total quantity of mill yarn exported from this Presidency to places outside in a year?

A.—(a) 65,120 bales.

(b) 118,121 bales.

(c) 22,596 bales.

(d) 491,093 bales.

(e) 14,359 bales.

(f) 198,610 bales.

The figures for mill cloth relate to the calendar year 1946 while those for mill yarn relate to the period from November 1945 to October 1946. Each bale of mill cloth contains 1,500 yards while each bale of mill yarn weighs 400 lb.

As regards the exports of mill cloth outside the Province [item (c) above], the varieties exported are mostly of short widths (shirtings, suitings, etc.), produced by the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Madras. The exports are replenished by imports from Bombay surplus area of varieties which are mostly of wider width like dhoties, sarees, etc., which are in greater demand in this Province.

The mill yarn imported into this Province [item (e) above] is of lower counts in which this Province is deficit.

Bridge over the Coleroon near Chidambaram.

46 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for constructing a new bridge over the river Coleroon near Chidambaram;

(b) if so, when;

(c) if not, why not;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation from the mirasdars of Shatiatope Anicut System for the improvement of drainage of the floods in Paravanar either by straightening the loops of the river up to Cuddalore Port or by straight cut from Alappakkam to the sea;

(e) if so, what the Government propose to do in the matter; and

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(f) why the reclassification of the source of irrigation to Shatiatope System in pursuance of the orders of the Government in Ms. No. 3084, Public Works, dated 7th November 1944, to give extra supplies from the Cauvery, is still pending and when it is to be effected?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The construction of causeway at the place was contemplated in the original post-war road programme. That programme has had to be curtailed since and a revised programme is being drawn up. Also a bridge is being considered preferable to a causeway, the question of including provision for a bridge at the locality in the revised post-war road programme and assigning suitable priority to the work in that programme is under examination. It is not possible to state when the work may be taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) The representation has been referred to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) for remarks which are awaited.

(f) The question whether the sources under the Shatiatope Anicut System are receiving the guaranteed supply is being watched. The reclassification of the sources will be given effect to after it is definitely known that the guaranteed supply to the sources under the system will be kept up.

Improvements to Cannanore port.

47 Q.—M. IBRAHIM COONHEE SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to make improvements to the port of Cannanore by constructing a pier and jetties, etc., to provide more facilities for landing and shipping?

A.—There are no such proposals at present.

Superintendent, Serum Institute (Veterinary), Coimbatore.

48 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the post of Superintendent, Serum Institute (Veterinary) at Coimbatore, is a promotion post and whether it continues to be such now; or whether it has been declared a selection-grade post; and if so, from what time;

(b) the name of the present incumbent and his qualifications with the date of his appointment to the said post;

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(c) the qualifications prescribed for the old promotion post and the new selection-grade post, if any;

(d) whether the present incumbent possesses the qualifications prescribed for both;

(e) whether there is anybody in the Madras Civil Veterinary Department possessing the qualifications prescribed for the selection-grade post and if not, why such high qualifications are prescribed for the post;

(f) whether there are men in the Veterinary Department of this Province possessing better qualifications with seniority in service and drawing higher pay than the present incumbent; and if so, why should one of them be not appointed; and

(g) whether the post has been advertised and if not, why not?

A.—(a) The post of Superintendent, Serum Institute, carries the same scale of pay as that attached to a District Veterinary Officer, viz., Rs. 200—700. As however a special pay of Rs. 75 per mensem is attached to the post it may be regarded as a promotion post. It has not yet been declared as a selection-grade post, though the scale of pay attached to it has been raised to Rs. 800—100/2—1,000. This scale will be applicable only to those who possess certain prescribed higher qualifications. The post will be declared as a selection-grade post when the amendments to service rules are issued.

(b) The present incumbent of the post is Sri L. A. Sarma. He is a G.M.V.C. and has undergone the Refresher Course at the Madras Veterinary College. Prior to his appointment as Superintendent, he was working as a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon in the Serum Institute, for about nine years. He had also visited in 1938 the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar, and Izatnagar and the Mysore Serum Institute at Bangalore, with a view to acquaint himself with the methods of manufacture there. He was appointed to the post of Superintendent, Serum Institute, on 22nd December 1941.

(c) The qualifications prescribed for the old promotion post for direct recruitment are—

(i) A degree in Veterinary Science of the University of London or Edinburgh or the diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London; or;

(ii) (a) the diploma of the Madras Veterinary College, or the B.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras; and

(b) a post-graduate course outside India and Ceylon or practical training for not less than twenty months at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar; or

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- (iii) if the candidate belongs to any community other than the Brahman or Non-Brahman (Hindu) community, the diploma of the Madras Veterinary College or the D.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras.

No special qualifications have been prescribed for appointment to the post by transfer.

The qualifications prescribed for the new selection-grade post are—

Either a F.R.C.V.S. with eight years' experience in the manufacture of biological products or a M.R.C.V.S. with a Doctorate and eight years' experience in the manufacture of biological products or a B.V.Sc. with a Doctorate in Medicine, Pathology or Bacteriology and eight years' experience in the manufacture of biological products. Age not less than 35 years at the time of appointment.

- (d) The present incumbent does not possess the qualifications prescribed for the higher scale. He was posted as Superintendent, Serum Institute, from the post of District Veterinary Officer. No special qualifications are prescribed for appointment to the post by transfer.
- (e) There is nobody in the department at present possessing the qualifications prescribed for selection-grade post. The high qualifications were prescribed with a view to secure a better and more suitable type of officer for the post if possible.
- (f) There are men in the Veterinary Department possessing higher or additional qualifications but they have not been appointed to the post as an officer experienced in the manufacture of biological products is necessary to carry on the duties of the post.
- (g) The post has not yet been advertised as the amendments to service rules have not yet been issued.

Discrepancies in the answer given on the Floor of the House.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before the next item in the agenda is taken up, I wish to inform the Leader of the House that in reply to a question he gave the answer that there was only one Deputy Superintendent of Police from the Scheduled Castes. In answer to a question 'How many Harijan Deputy Superintendents of Police were selected for the last . . .', he said it was one. It is on this, the hon. Member, Mr. Nagappa to-day put a supplementary question. There are two Deputy Superintendents of Police and not one. I wish hereafter Government give correct answers to questions."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"At the same time, I should like to point out that by direct recruitment only one person was appointed and the other might have been by promotion. Therefore, this question does not arise."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Both of them were recruited direct during Rajagopalachari's regime. One of them is called Singaram and the other is Sadanandam."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I hope the Hon. Speaker has better information."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a question of better information. Hereafter, I hope, Government will give correct and proper answers."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we want the same guarantee for the Opposition also." (Laughter.)

III.—MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT *RE THE STRIKE IN B. & C. MILLS, MADRAS, AND IN TWO OTHER PLACES.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu has given notice of an adjournment motion under rule 36 of the Assembly Rules. The adjournment motion reads as follows:—

"I hereby give notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the worsening of the present strike situation as the Government has failed to handle the labour disputes of B. & C. Mill workers in Madras, Chilakaluripeta tobacco labour dispute (in Guntur district) and Standard Furniture Company dispute, Calicut, and thus created a grave situation in which the police resorted to firing in Chilakaluripeta and arrested thirty workers in that connexion."

"Before I give my ruling, I wish to know from the Hon. the Leader of the House whether he has got anything to say."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Hon. Minister in charge of Labour will reply to this."

MR. SPEAKER:—(Turning to the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan) "If you want to say anything to enlighten me on this subject, you can speak. Otherwise, I will give my ruling now. (After a pause) I will read the motion for adjournment again if you want."

(The motion for adjournment was read for a second time.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, the adjournment motion refers to a number of things which have taken place in more than one place outside Madras. Unless we are in full possession of all the facts of the three issues raised I don't think any purpose will be served. I can give a statement about the incident in Madras of what Government have done so far. But I may also point out, Sir, that when negotiations of a very delicate nature are going on between the mills and Government, I do not think it will be in the interests of the public to disclose them."

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12 noon. SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we saw in the papers the statements made by the Minister for Labour and also the Prime Minister. Both of them put the case perhaps most strongly for the management of the B. & C. Mills. That statement reads as though the labour is entirely in the fault, so far as the B. & C. Mills are concerned. As a matter of fact, in the statement given by the Premier, it is said, that the labour leader has refused to co-operate in the inquiry, and that is why they are forced to detain him. My contention is that labour has got disgusted with these inquiries and adjudications. They take a long time, six months, nine months and even eleven months, and in spite of their report, not a single award has been implemented by any of the employers. On the question of payment of dearness allowance, I understand, other mills are at present paying Rs. 25. Further, the management previously once paid at the rate of four annas per point; afterwards it has been reduced to three annas, and so the request of the labour leader to raise it to four annas is in no way wrong."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You are discussing the subject."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"On a point of order, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I object to the motion, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The rule regarding adjournment motion says:

'36. A motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the Speaker.

'37. The right to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall be subject to the following restrictions, namely:—

(i) not more than one such motion shall be discussed at the same sitting;

(ii) not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion and the motion must be restricted to a specific matter of recent occurrence;

(iii) the motion must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed on an adjournment or otherwise, in the same session;

(iv) the motion must not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed for consideration, or with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given, regard being had to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time; and

(v) the motion must not deal with a matter on which a resolution could not be moved."

May I know from the Minister in charge of Labour whether in all these three cases, which the mover has jumbled together in the resolution, the strike broke out for different reasons, or for a single reason?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, the only recent strike is that relating to B. & C. Mills. The others are older by a week or so. Whatever it may be, Government are not in possession of those facts. So we may confine ourselves to the B. & C.

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Mills. With regard to that I may think of taking it up for consideration; but as I have said, in the interests of settlement of the dispute it will be prejudicial to take it up now as it may hamper further negotiations."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do you object to this motion?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I certainly object to its admission on two grounds. First, the resolution refers to a number of events that have taken place in different places outside Madras. Secondly, the consideration of the subject now will be prejudicial to public interest as it will hamper further negotiations."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"All these incidents relate to one matter of importance, namely, labour disputes. All of them are latest incidents; the incident in Guntur district took place on the 24th March, on which date there was a police shooting; and even to-day the strike is going on there. In the Standard Furniture Company, Kallai, 35 workers have been arrested, and there is still a strike to-day. All these things relate to the failure of Government policy relating to labour. Appointment of inquiry committees have had no tangible results so far. So I feel my resolution is in order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The rule says, an adjournment motion should refer to a definite matter of urgent public importance. Here three things are jumbled together, which is not possible for the Minister to answer. One incident is in Madras, another in Guntur, and the third in Calicut. I have already advised the mover on another occasion that the matter should refer to a single incident, as otherwise the Minister may not find it convenient to answer. So, as the resolution does not refer to one definite matter, I rule it out of order. (The Leader of the Opposition rose in his seat.) Having done so, you cannot have a discussion on it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. You have ruled the adjournment motion out of order. I submit to it. May I know whether your ruling is based on the inconvenience which the resolution gives to the Minister concerned, or on the definite rule that there shall not be more than one subject?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I said, three things have been jumbled together."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I remember you spoke of the inconvenience to the Minister."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, I said, it does not deal with a single matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is why I brought it to your notice."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"It is only a side remark. The main point is whether it is a definite matter of urgent public importance."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Supposing it is a definite matter of public importance, would you have admitted it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, he has jumbled together three things."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know whether . . ."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Is the Speaker going to be cross-examined?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not cross-examination. All are new members (Laughter) here; so I want to give them some information."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, I want to submit the admirable way in which the Speaker has been conducting business has not led so far and has not led us even now to cross-examine the Chair. Our anxiety is to follow the ruling of the Chair very scrupulously. Therefore we want to understand the ruling of the Chair. It is that anxiety that makes us put this question. Now, Sir, supposing, the hon. Member who has tabled this motion amends his motion and confines it to one subject, I want to know whether he will be allowed to move his motion?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"When he brings it, I will answer that point. I cannot anticipate it." (Laughter.)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I will amend it now and move it." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already ruled it out of order."

IV.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following message dated Fort St. George, the 29th March 1947, has been received by me from the Hon. the President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

"In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me."

V.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

MOTION UNDER RULE 77 (2) OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I move—

"that in view of sub-rule (1) of rule 77 of the Madras Assembly Rules requiring the Member of the Government in charge of the Department to which the Bill relates to be a member of the Select Committee, leave of the House be granted under sub-rule (2) of rule 77 of the Madras

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Assembly Rules to increase the strength of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, to 17 and to appoint Hon. Sri K. Chandramouli, the Minister in charge of the Department, to be a member of the Select Committee."

The motion was put and carried. •

VI.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS REMOVAL OF CIVIL DISABILITIES (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1947 (L.C. BILL NO. 1 OF 1947).

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, the Minister in charge of Harijan Uplift will move the motion, though in the notice paper, the motion stands in my name."

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Sir, I move—
'that the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1947) as passed by the Council, be taken into consideration at once.'

"Sir, before I speak of the provisions of the Bill it is my bounden duty to narrate to the House the history of this great community, which has been down-trodden for ages. In the old days, if you look into the Vedas, there was no caste system. Only in the last book of Rigveda is there any mention of caste system.

"Sir, from this we could understand that the caste system was not originally created by anybody but it has been laterly created on account of some usages, customs and traditions of this great country of India. You know, Sir, that this community now forms one-fifth of the total population of this country. This down-trodden community were once the rulers of this country. Subsequently the Aryans invaded this country and this community was defeated and the Aryans began to rule this country. We can find out all this clearly from the books on ancient Indian history, and therefore I do not want to deal with this any further in order to save the precious time of this House. Sir, this community which was defeated by the Aryans were driven into the forests and other remote places in order to eke out their livelihood. Against this community whose population is about one-fifth of the total population of this country has been committed so many atrocities by the advanced communities because they were in an advantageous position. Sir, this is the time for India to see that this community is placed on the same level as any other communities. This Bill definitely aims at getting equality for the members of this community with the other members of the religion to which this community belongs. You know, Sir, according to the Veda, according to the Bhagavad Gita and according to the Puranas, the Hindu religion stands for the highest principle. You know that the great Hindu Religion preaches to every one 'Dharma'. Dharma is placed even before the King. Of course, according to the Hindu Sastras, the King

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is the God on earth. Even the King who is supposed to rule over the population of this country has to obey and strictly follow the Dharma which has been enunciated by the Rishis and Sages of this great country. I want to question the House and the Indians as a whole, 'where is that "Dharma" now?' Instead of "Dharma," "Adharma" is prevalent in this country. It is on account of "Adharma" only that the Britishers came to India and have been ruling this country for the last 180 years. Sir, Mr. Murthy asks me 'what about the Muslims?' Of course; Muslims came one thousand years back and they have lived in India as Indians. The Muslim culture and Hindu culture have been combined and a better culture has been established in India. On account of their conquering India the Muslims have not taken the money that had been plundered or looted to other countries. They have spent all the money, they have spent their energy in India and they have brought the civilization from Persia and Arabia and they have established themselves in India. But the Britishers who came to India have deprived us of the very living. They came here to trade and they have taken away all the property accumulated and collected by the people to spend in England. So the Muslim rule which was there before the British rule was quite good. And we consider the Muslims as our brethren to-day. They do not now belong to Arabia or Persia. They are living here in India as Indians. So I need not say anything about that now, Sir.

"Sir, the Vedas taught us one religion and one caste and equality. From that we have come to this degraded position. How are the so-called Harijans to-day? The position of the Scheduled classes is worse than even a domestic animal. This is practised every day in India in every village. Now, Sir . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. The Hon. Minister was speaking of Islam, Sir. I wanted to know whether he has finished. Now I find he is going on to some other subject. I should like to know the implications of his statement clearly. I want to know from him whether it is not due to the presence of Islam in this country that this question of liquidation of untouchability has come up and is it not on account of the rule of the Muslims that at least so much of liberty is seen in this country at present?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, of course the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has raised the question that on account of their rule and on account of their contact in India the position of the untouchables is bettered. Of course, Hindu religion is a great religion and it stands for the highest principles. But as time went on some bad customs and some bad traditions crept into the society. We know, Sir, that even as the untouchables are treated, the Muslims are also treated by the Hindus. The Hindus say that the people of other religions may or may not be equal to the Hindus. Even the Hindu Sastras say that a man who goes to foreign countries by sea is to be excommunicated. I have to admit, Sir, that on account of their association

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in India and on account of the political development in this country, the position of the Harijans has been bettered to-day. I know the Muslim community is not at all treating the Harijans as untouchables. I also know personally that in towns and villages it is they who allow these Harijans to live side by side and it is only in their houses that the Harijans are allowed. I do not hide any fact, as regards this thing.

"So, I may proceed to say, Sir, that this community which has been oppressed and suppressed on account of customs and on account of traditions and on account of malpractices in India, should be elevated to-day. You know, Sir, that in India the reformation of the Hindu religion and the changing of the Hindu customs have gone on for long. You know, Sir, that the Buddha Avatar was made to remove the inequalities in the Hindu community. His mission was to start Dharma again in this country, to preach Dharma and to preach about Ahimsa. Buddhism, which has been responsible for the equality of all communities, has left Indian shores and it has gone to other countries like Japan and Ceylon. Even before Muslims came to India, Buddha had come. All Buddha's principles of Dharma of equality of castes, communities and religions have gone.

"After Buddha, came Ramanujachariyar and Sankarachariyar, the great Gurus of Hinduism, and they tried their level best to see that the blot of untouchability was removed. Sir, temple entry was begun by the great Ramanuja, the great Vaishnavite leader . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister can speak about temple entry when the Temple Entry Bill is taken up."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I am relating the change in the Hindu religion, Sir, because this relates to Hindu religion and the people of the Harijan community belong to the Hindu religion. It is my duty to state, Sir, on behalf of the Government and on behalf of the people of this Province, what has taken place towards the betterment of this community.

"Sir, it was Ramanujacharya who started this reform first. He attempted the highest reform, that is, temple entry. He even got one of his disciples from the Harijan community. When he was forced by the caste people not to utter the Thirumanthram to this community, he preached the Thirumanthram from the top of the Srirangam temple. (An hon. Member: 'Thirukoshtiyur temple.') I am told, Sir, it was the Thirukoshtiyur temple. He was told that his head would burst if he taught the manthram to any lower community. He said boldly that he was prepared to go to hell if the people of the other communities would go to heaven on account of his teaching the manthram to them. That was a real sacrifice. Sir, that temple entry reform which was begun by Ramanuja is now fulfilled by Mahatma Gandhi . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You can speak on temple entry when we come to the Temple Entry Bill."

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HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I shall not speak about entry now, Sir, as the Temple Entry Bill is going to be by the Hon. the Premier.

Sir, after Ramanuja, came Sankara. Sankara is the head of the Saivites. When he was going to worship in the Viswanath temple after bathing in the Ganges, a Pariah came across his way. When he saw him, the great Sankara asked him: 'Who are you?' He replied: 'I belong to the Chandala community'. Sankara said: 'Oh! You must go away because you are a Chandala'. The Chandala asked him: 'Sir, you are a learned man. You are a great Guru. You are a learned pandit. You are one of the Gurus of the great section of the Hindu community. Whom do you ask to go away? Are you asking my soul or my body?' The great Sankara at once bowed to him and begged his pardon for asking him to go away and putting such foolish question.

"Here I may say, Sir, that if I want to narrate stories I can bring from history a number of stories which will show the greatness of this great community which has been oppressed and suppressed. After Sankara, Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda and Ram Mohan Roy tried to reform Indian customs, their traditions and other things. They failed to some extent. Sir, now we say that we are following the principles enunciated by the great Ramanuja, Ram Mohan Roy, Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Vivekananda. Sir, Vivekananda we know, went to America. There he was questioned by the Americans. They said: 'You have come to America to attend the Great World Religious Meeting to preach about India. What about your India? You know that there are seven crores of people who are treated as untouchables.' Vivekananda said in the open conference in Chicago that if one Hindu in India took six Harijans into his community, he would go to Heaven. Sir, that was the preaching made by the great Vivekananda. I have read his books as a boy. If every Hindu and every great leader of the Hindu community makes it a point to bring up a Harijan boy or girl to the level of a caste man, then Hinduism will become the greatest of religions. Sir, Hinduism contains the highest principles of Dharma. But on account of the tyrant rule, on account of the degraded position, on account of selfishness and on account of the unholy ideas of the Brahmans, on account of the material advance of this great community which has been a cultured one and on account of this community being a State community having entered the service of the British Government, Hinduism has now descended to this level to-day.

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"Sir, men who were supposed to lead an intensely religious life always worshipping God for the benefit of themselves and the nation as a whole accepted employment under the British Government and that was why India became degraded. The Bhagavad Gita is an ideal book and it stands for the ideal of equality. It says that he is a pandit who does not care for himself and who looks upon gold and mere earth with an equal eye. He is above all worldly things. The Bhagavad Gita preaches about

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four Varnas created by God. Lord Sri Krishna says to Arjuna that he has created four castes on the basis of profession and character (guna) and not on the basis of birth. I want to ask hon. Members whether in practice the four Varnas that are in existence to-day are based on guna and karma. You can to-day find a Harijan who is pious and holy and you can find a Brahman who is supposed to be a Brahman according to his birth but not pious and holy. Even the Bhagavad Gita said that he is the greatest man who looks upon a scholar, an elephant and one who eats the flesh of a dog with an equal eye. These are the principles enunciated in the Hindu religion, the great religion and where are those principles to-day? And why should so many atrocities be committed on members of my community?

"I request hon. Members of this House to support this Bill which has been introduced by the Congress Government with the support of all the parties. As soon as civil rights are given to the lowest man, that will be the first step for the abolition of the caste system."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Who is the lowest man?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"According to the present practice, according to the supposed ideals and ideas of some people, I am the lowest man to-day. (Laughter.) A stone which is neglected to-day may tomorrow be useful to be placed on the top of the tower of a church."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister in his enthusiasm need not forget that there is a mike and that he should speak before the mike."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I am proud to say, Sir, that to-day under this Congress Government, as a result of Gandhiji's work and the policy of the Indian National Congress for the last 25 years, a Harijan who is supposed to be an untouchable and not fit to be a legislator, a Shashtra Kartha, is introducing a Bill to give full civil rights to the members of his community."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"What about the head of the Shashtra Kartha?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The head of Shashtra Karthas also belongs to our community, I am proud to say, Sir. Manu, who was supposed to be a Non-Brahman, made some shastras for bringing some order in society. To-day we here are 215 Manus and the Speaker of the House is the Manu of all the 215 Manus here, as he is here to guide our deliberations.

"Now, Sir, I must come to the provisions of this Act. I do not want to give a religious lecture, though, of course, I like to be a religious leader and go on preaching Hinduism to save Hinduism. That has been my ideal from the beginning. But here I am a legislator and I am not entitled to do so. Sir, the Bill for the Removal of Civil Disabilities was passed in 1938.

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The Bill was introduced by the late Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah who belonged to my community. That was accepted by the last Congress Government under the leadership of Rajaji.

"Sir, as regards temple entry, our ex-Premier, Mr. Prakasam, was once threatened with ex-communication for he took up the case of a Harijan who knowingly or unknowingly entered a temple. Mr. Prakasam took up the case and defeated the parties who brought it forward. We are all proud to-day that instead of having one leader we are having so many leaders in the country who have taken up the cause of the removal of untouchability.

"Now, Sir, the late Mr. M. C. Rajah wanted to introduce this Bill in the Central Legislature, but he was not allowed to do so there. But he was able to convince the Congress Government here, introduced a Bill and had it passed into an Act in 1938. Section 2 of that Act provided *inter alia* that no Harijan shall be prevented or disabled from enjoying or having access to any secular institution which the general Hindu public have a right to enjoy or to which they have a right of access. The Act only said that a Harijan shall not be prevented, but it did not provide any penalty for a man who refuses admission to a Harijan to a coffee hotel, a shaving saloon, or a refreshment room or prevents him from making use of a public well. Even in those days, we the members representing the Harijan community who were on the Select Committee said that there must be some provision prescribing a penalty for those who contravene the rules. But it was not accepted. We are proud to-day that this Government has introduced a provision to the effect that any person who molests or obstructs any Harijan in the exercise of his rights on account of his caste or creed, shall be penalized. Provision for that has been made in the amending Bill which has been passed by the Legislative Council. In the old Bill, the words 'secular institutions' were not defined. Questions have been asked on the floor of the House by Harijan Members as to the meaning of 'secular institutions'. Cases also have been reported from the district courts involving the definition of secular institutions. On the floor of the House, the then Minister, Mr. Giri, and the Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. B. S. Murthy, stated that secular institutions included coffee hotels and meals hotels. But to our utter disappointment and the disappointment of the Harijan public of this Presidency, the courts openly said that under this Act we could not force on any shop-keeper or any man who is in charge of public refreshment room the right to enter. The Bill gives the Harijans the right to enter, but there is no penalty for a man who denies that right. My friend, Mr. Guruvalu, wanted to get a meal to his room. He did not want to go to the hotel himself. It was a Brahman hotel. But the hotel proprietor refused to send food in the tiffin-carrier sent by him. That is the position of a legislator. We are here to make laws but our position here even as legislators is worse than that of ordinary men in other countries. My friend, Mr. Kannan, from Malabar wrote to me a long letter saying that he was not allowed to enter a hotel.

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In Masulipatam, I myself was taking my food in a Non-Brahman hotel. Once I was not allowed to enter the hotel because I took four Christians with me. The proprietor, Mr. Jagannatham, said: 'Mr. Kurmayya, you are all right, but as for the others, the Christians, it is not possible to admit them.' I wrote immediately to the Government to take action and got a reply. It was stated that Harijans had no legal right and as regards entry of Harijans into coffee hotels and meals hotels, it was pointed out that licences were issued to these people to run their business only, and if it is stipulated that Harijans should be allowed into the hotels, it might be against the interests of their business. Immediately I issued a statement and I addressed a letter to the Chief Secretary to the Government in July 1939, saying that the intention of the Act was to give full right of access to the Harijans to these places. Then the Government issued a Press Communiqué. I challenged it saying that as soon as possible we would have the position changed. As soon as I assumed office, correspondents rushed into my room and asked me what I proposed to do. I said that my purpose would be served if I brought in legislation giving full civil rights to the people of my community. Then, Sir, on account of the co-operation and the good-will of the hon. Members of the House and the action taken by the Madras Government, this Bill has been passed by the Legislative Council and has come to this House for approval. I do not want to deal at length with the provisions of this small Bill. They are clear and definite and there is no vagueness. The vagueness about secular institutions has been removed. There are only seven clauses in the Bill."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. A very serious Bill is now under the consideration of the House, but the Treasury Bench is practically empty except for the presence of the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. May I ask, Sir, whether this is the respect and regard which the Ministry is showing for this legislation which is supposed to revolutionize Hindu society?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House is busy in another place and he cannot possibly stay here at present."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about other Ministers? Not even one is here."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Very few Muslim Leaguers also are present now, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Leader is here."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"No doubt this is a very serious Bill affecting seven crores of Harijans and 26 crores of Hindus. Every one is anxious that the Bill should become law. It is the duty of the Hindus especially to see that Hinduism is protected and consolidated. I am firmly of the opinion that only

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the Harijan community is going to strengthen the Hindu community. The missionaries who came to India 300 years back failed to convert the Harijans to Christianity in spite of the attractions of money, scholarships, free boarding homes, etc., that they offered. The Harijans as a class have stuck to Hinduism. If to-day the great principles of Hindu Dharma are practised anywhere, it is only in the huts in the cheries of the Harijan community. To-day the Harijans are honest, straightforward and religious-minded. The material civilization has not penetrated into Harijan quarters, and that is why Harijans are religious, orthodox and are strictly following Hindu principles.

“ Though many Members of the Treasury Benches are absent, I am competent to speak on behalf of all of them, Sir. As a born Harijan, as a Harijan Member of the Government, and as the sponsor of this Bill, I am proud to see that this Bill will become law. Till yesterday, Harijans have been depending upon the patronage of Caste Hindus, and upon the patronage of the great Congress and other parties. I must say that to-day they are claiming a share in power. Certain difficulties stand in their way like illiteracy, disunity and want of proper knowledge of politics. At least the leaders of the community are united in their demand. The Members of the Constituent Assembly are united. The great national leader, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, sits in conference with Harijan brethren. A few educated Harijans are enough to fight for equality. One man in each village is enough to fight for civil rights. If you go to villages, you will know the feeling of enthusiasm among Harijans. ‘What are you going to do for the Harijan community? Is it not the duty of this popular Congress Government to attend to the lowest and the poorest man?’ These questions are put in every village. I have toured even the remotest villages to study the conditions of the Harijans and other backward communities. I am glad the Government have constituted a committee to enquire into the conditions of aboriginal tribes living in this Province including the Agency Tracts. I think this Government will certainly attend to the difficulties of the Harijan community. The Act provides that any person who molests or obstructs a person of any community from exercising his civic right in respect of any public entertainment, hair cutting saloon, hotel, hostel, etc., shall be punishable with a fine of fifty rupees.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ When the Bill is considered clause by clause, the Hon. Minister can go into details.”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ I request the hon. Members of this House to support this Bill as passed by the Legislative Council, and to give civic rights to Harijans who have been oppressed and suppressed all these centuries by the tyranny of the Hindu caste system.

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

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MR. SPEAKER:—“ The motion is that the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947, as passed by the Council be taken into consideration at once.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I congratulate the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill on his having taken a bold step and brought forward this legislation within the short time that was allowed to him. Fortunately or unfortunately, I was also a member of the Select Committee appointed by the last Congress Ministry. I believed that the term ‘secular institutions’ would cover all public institutions and I did not anticipate any difficulty. Unfortunately when the Act was put into effect, a good number of legislators even were turned out of hotels. I am glad this Ministry has come forward with an amendment of this nature. I would like to impress upon this Government that it would have been better if my amendment had been accepted, which provides that a person who observes untouchability in any form should be deprived of his civic and civil rights. You may ask how this will be possible in practice. If X, Y or Z is convicted for such a thing, you can make a Gazette publication, as it is done in the case of insolvents, that so and so has been convicted under such and such an Act. The municipality will cut off electric and water-supply connexion to such persons. If anybody loots or thieves in his house and if he goes to the Magistrate’s Court, the Court will not entertain any application from him. If that is done, the motive of the Government will be fulfilled in an even greater measure. I am afraid my Sanatanist friends will join and say: ‘After all there is only six months’ imprisonment. Let us go to jail, for we are fighting for the rights of Hindu Dharma.’ Sanatanists may start a campaign like that, and you may say that any person who takes part in the movement will be deprived of civil and civic rights. You may ask: What are civil and civic rights? His name should not be found in the voters’ list, he will be debarred from standing for election, electric and water supply connexion will be disconnected if he were to have them. No court should entertain a petition from him. If he is belaboured or his house robbed, nobody should take care of him. If this is done, the Bill will be more effective than at present.

“ After this Bill becomes law, I request the Government to see that all the existing hotels are converted into civil and military hotels. There should not be this Brahman hotel, Muhammadan hotel, Christian hotel, Veerasaiva hotel, Kamma hotel or Kapu hotel. Soon after the Bill is passed, the Minister must take care to see that all the boards bearing communal names before the hotels are removed. That will be a kind of advertisement throughout the Province. If you publish in the Gazette, no villager will be able to read it. We know how many literates there are in our Province. After all, there are only 8 or 10 per cent who can read and understand that such a Bill has been passed. But every villager must understand that the Government had taken such a step. As a measure of advertisement.

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I would request the Minister to see that the boards bearing communal names are cleaned and that the name of civil or military hotel alone is displayed.

"As regards the penalty clause, I have given notice of an amendment, which I think will be taken up as early as possible. A fine of Rs. 50, provided for in the Bill, will not do. Almost all Hindus are rich enough and they can afford to pay not Rs. 50 but Rs. 50,000. They have exploited us enough. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that the fine is raised to not less than Rs. 100, and the period of imprisonment from six months to one year. Even one year, in my opinion, is not enough, but I would like to be moderate.

"In moving that the Bill be taken into consideration at once, the Hon. Minister talked of disunity. I am afraid whether that has anything to do with this Bill. Anyhow, the Hon. Minister said that his community was disunited and that was why they were lacking in enforcing these laws and customs. I would beg of him to say whether as a leader of this community who occupies a responsible position to-day it is not his duty to see that the community is united. He is the person who is trying to break that unity. What is the good of my friend complaining that there is disunity in his community? When it was suggested that no one should accept a Minister's post if it is less than two, my hon. Friend himself goes and accepts. Does it not mean that he is responsible for disunity? I am only referring to the point raised by the Hon. Minister on the floor of this House regarding disunity."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Irrelevant matters should not be brought in."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Because the point was raised by the Hon. Minister, I am compelled to refer to it.

"I once again congratulate the Minister on having taken this bold step. Having passed the Bill in the Legislative Council, it may not be possible for you to accept my amendment. You may come forward with your excuses, but I would say that without that amendment the purpose of the Bill will not be served. So I request you to see that this Bill is passed not as it is, but with the amendments given notice of by me to secure the desired effect. With these words, I congratulate the Minister and support the Bill before the House."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, being a Muslim, I extend my whole-hearted support to this Bill, which aims at ameliorating the position of those who have been suppressed and oppressed for a very long time, for equality between man and man is the quintessence of Islam and the very notion of discrimination based on any caste system is repugnant to its principles. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry I could not follow the reference that was made to the Muslims by the Hon. Minister. But in this connexion I should like to point out that the impact

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of Islamic civilization, in this country has been mainly responsible for the awakening that we find to-day among the Hindus in regard to the removal of caste disabilities. I am mentioning this not because I am a Muslim but because this is an actual fact acknowledged by Hindu writers. I should like to refer hon. Members of this House to the book of that well-known writer, Dr. Tarachand, entitled "Influence of Islam on Indian Culture." In this book he has pointed out that the progressive elements of Islam have, both perceptibly and imperceptibly, been gradually permeating the culture of this land. The gravamen that history records against Caste Hindus of this country is that they have been meting out an inhuman treatment towards millions of fellow human beings who are classed as the Scheduled Castes. It is indeed astounding that even in the modern era of civilization, we find that the Caste Hindus have not shed their exclusive attitude towards the Harijans. Hence legislation is resorted to by political reformers, but, Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that the situation will not improve merely by legislative measures. The basic need is the change of heart and the change of outlook on the part of the privileged classes. Unless there is a sincere and radical transformation in the attitude of the caste Hindus towards those who are classed as untouchables, unless the former indulge in a sort of expiation for their past record of ill-treatment towards the latter and unless a feeling of genuine brotherhood and genuine sympathy is inculcated in the former for those who have been down-trodden hitherto, I think, the problems of the members of the Scheduled Classes will not be solved. This is evident from the fact that despite the passing of the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities Act of 1938, where it has been stated that no Harijan should be prohibited from enjoying any social or public amenity to which other Hindus have access or which is maintained by public funds, we find Harijans being prevented even from drawing water from wells, which have been constructed by the Government or at the expense of the local bodies. We also learnt that they are still being subjected to other disabilities and indignities. Mr. Speaker, such discriminatory treatment is derogatory to the dignity of man; it is repugnant to the ideal of democracy; it is a bar to social progress and wholly out of place in present-day society. Hence it is high time that radical measures are taken to remove these discriminations and differentiations to which even General Smuts points his finger of scorn.

"Now coming to the Bill, I have already pointed out that as a Muslim I extend my whole-hearted support to the measure. But I am afraid neither the provisions of the original Bill nor of this Bill are by themselves sufficient to solve the problems of the Harijans, for there are many loopholes therein. For instance, we find that in the original Act of 1938 it has been stated that no Harijan should be prohibited from any secular institution merely on the ground that he is a Harijan, when that institution is open to all classes and communities of Hindus. The effect of this is that even now it is possible to prohibit Harijans from

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entering an institution on the ground that it is reserved for particular classes. Hence, in spite of the Act of 1938, Harijans are not given admittance into hotels designated as Brahman hotels, Kamma hotels and the like, despite the existing Act, it is possible even now to prevent Harijans from enjoying social and civil amenities to which they are entitled for as human beings. It is very difficult to prove that an institution is intended for all classes and communities. That was the position under the Act of 1938 and the present amending Bill makes no alteration in this regard. As far as I have read through this Bill, I find that that loophole has not been closed. As Mr. Nagappa pointed out, the defect would have been rectified if it had been laid down that no hotels for any particular class or classes should exist in this Province

“ Now coming to clause 3 of the Bill, I find that it is stated therein that no person should be prevented from having access to any place merely on the ground that he belongs to the Harijan community. The words are ‘ merely on the ground that he belongs to such community or class.’ The effect of this provision is that on some other pretext or ground, a Harijan can be excluded. A person excluding a Harijan from an institution hereafter will not acknowledge that he was actuated by caste prejudice to take that step but will give some other excuse for his action. What is contained in clause 3 is repeated in clause 5. In pursuance of that clause, it is open to the dealer to sell his articles to any customer he likes; he can make a choice of his customers, and is not prevented from doing so. All that he is prevented from doing is that he should not say that he refuses to sell his wares to a person because he is a Harijan but surely the dealer can take shelter under some other plea. It is quite possible for him to say ‘ I do not wish to sell this article to that Harijan, because he is not prepared to pay the price I want.’ He can make out that another purchaser is prepared to pay a higher price; and that is the reason for his refusal to sell to the Harijan. Thus there are a number of loopholes in the Bill. There is, however, one saving clause and, that is clause 7, wherein it is stated that all offences punishable under this Act shall be cognizable. There is a great deal of controversy as regards making such offences cognizable, but I feel that it is this clause alone that will prevent people from meting out inhuman treatment to the Harijans hereafter. It is this clause that will enable the police officer to take action by himself instead of it being necessary for the Harijans to set the law in motion. Since Harijans are usually poor and find it difficult to go through all the formalities and do not have the means to incur the expenditure involved for setting the law in motion this clause is quite necessary. As a matter of fact without this clause, the rest of the clauses will prove to be of no avail. Hence it is my opinion that this clause should stand.

“ Mr. Speaker, as I have already mentioned, I am afraid that the position of the Harijans in this country will not improve merely as a result of such enactments. Legislation may help to

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a certain extent, but the social disabilities of depressed classes will not be removed in entirety merely through legislative measures. What is necessary is a radical change in the entire fabric of Hindu society, a complete transformation in the outlook of the members of the privileged classes. Then and then alone will the Harijans be completely extricated from the state of sub-human bondage in which they are found to-day. In this connexion I may mention, Mr. Speaker, what happened in an Indian State. The State of Baroda has for long been solicitous of improving the position of those who are suppressed and depressed. The reformers of that State discovered that there were two such sections in their society, one being womanhood and the other the depressed classes. Hence legislation was set in motion for the improvement of the status of both these neglected sections of society. The case of womanhood, Mr. Speaker, is in line with that of the Harijans for we also constitute one of the depressed, suppressed and oppressed sections of humanity.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Is it the contention of the hon. Member that women also are untouchables? ”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ We are not branded as untouchables but we are likewise suppressed. This is the case not only in this country but even in that land of freedom, America. In this connexion I may mention that when the other day Professor Merle Curtie of America, delivered a lecture under the auspices of the University of Madras and I questioned him about the position of women in America he replied that he was sorry to state that even to-day in America a woman had to be twice as clever as a man in order to be given any recognition. When that is the position of women in that land of freedom, and equality, namely, America, it is no wonder that in this country which is far behind Western nations in regard to female emancipation, women are still suppressed and repressed. This is just by the way.

“ In the State of Baroda, laws were enacted for improving the position of the two sections of society that were kept down and suppressed, namely, women and the Harijans, and with reference to the latter legislation was resorted to for the removal of untouchability. But, Mr. Speaker, though it was 30 years ago that such legislation was passed in that State, I am sorry to state that even till to-day untouchability is prevalent there. That is the reason why I am of the opinion that mere legislation by itself will not suffice to solve the problems of the depressed classes. Sir, in this country, I find that some resolutions are passed with acclamation, and some enactments are enthusiastically included in the statute book, but very soon these are relegated to the limbo of forgetfulness and become a dead letter. This tendency will continue to prevail until the social conscience of the people is roused to their essential human duties. My suggestion, therefore, to the Government is that they should not congratulate themselves upon merely passing this measure by way of political propaganda, but that

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they should in addition launch upon an educative propaganda among the members of the privileged class as regards the treatment to be meted out to the Scheduled castes. They should educate the privileged classes through the medium of the firka and village communities about their duties towards those who are less fortunately circumstanced, namely, the Harijans and should inculcate in them a spirit of equality and human sympathy. Then and then alone will the problems of the Harijans in this country be solved and then and then alone will untouchability cease to be a blot on Hindu society. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion."

(Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur rose to speak.)

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I know Sir, what the Muslims have got to do with this Bill?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Why, they can speak on this Bill, if they want."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"The other day when we rose to speak on the Bill connected with Muslim wakfs, they objected to our speaking."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I participate in this debate and I do so with great pleasure. This is an opportunity for me, Sir, to express my great satisfaction and gratification that a measure of this character has come at least in the year of grace 1947."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As there are many more speakers, please finish your speech within 5 minutes."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I think, hon. Members of the depressed class community are not the community that need be congratulated, but if any community deserves to be congratulated, it is the caste Hindus, Sir, for rising to the heights, in the year 1947, in emancipating that class of people who have all along been down-trodden, oppressed and depressed for many many centuries. Sir, it may be regarded as a Magna Charta patronizingly given by one section of the Hindu community to another. A measure like this should have been passed long, long ago. My friend, the Hon. Minister belonging to that community thought that this is the first time that such a step has been taken by any Government. Sir, if the Muslims had not come into this country, and if they had not lived as they did, like brothers with the people of this country and particularly with the members of the depressed classes, if they had not developed that mentality of brotherhood, among men, which they alone can do according to the teachings of Islam, a Bill like this would not have seen the light of day. It was Islam that has taught us that there is no difference between man and man and it was 1,400 years ago that the Prophet of Islam came into this world and removed the difference that existed between man and man and created a brotherhood

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of men, eradicating all the distinction between man and man. Belonging as we do to that religion and following the teachings of our great Prophet, it is impossible for us to think how one man could regard another as lower than himself. I am glad, Sir, that to some extent, these disabilities under which members of the depressed classes have been suffering are now being removed one after another.

"Sir, the Hon. Minister in the course of his speech mentioned that other parties in the country in the past did not do anything for the depressed classes. I don't think that it will be proper to say so, because I know that all other parties have, for good reasons, done their best to remove the disabilities under which the Scheduled classes were labouring under. The Justice Party did its best and the British Government also did its best, and the Muslim rule in this country, even before all these parties came into this country, did its best, not by legislation, but by living together with them as brothers without distinction and living with them on the basis of equality, showing no difference between man and man—all these did their best to elevate the depressed classes. Sir, the feeling and realisation that there is no difference between man and man, has come on all our friends only now, but with us, Muslims, it has been our creed ever since the birth of Islam. But, Sir, as my esteemed friend and colleague the hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin has said, legislation alone will not do. There must be a change of heart. After all my friends may believe that they have done a great thing by removing this disability of the Scheduled classes by admitting them to restaurants run by members of other communities. I do not think that the Scheduled classes want that. If they want that, I may say, they are mistaken. After all what they want is that they should enrich themselves and raise themselves in their social status, and improve their economic conditions themselves. They will do that by running their own restaurants and enriching the owners of those restaurants and not by enriching others. It is true that socially speaking or even from the religious point of view, this legislation may be regarded as having brought about that so-called uplift of the Scheduled classes. On the other hand, they will stand to lose. The Scheduled classes will stand to lose if they think that it is a great thing that has been done to them and that it is a great thing that they have been allowed to go to restaurants run by caste Hindus and that thereby they are going to achieve emancipation. On the other hand, Sir, I think it will be better for them if they run their own restaurants, run their own institutions and enrich their own community, so that the members of other communities can go to their restaurants and then alone can real emancipation take place, and not by their going to Hindu restaurants and taking coffee in a cup which will be specially washed. Sir, it is the economic uplift of the community that has to be attempted more than giving them the opportunity to go to a restaurant or a temple. I do not think it will be proper for me to speak on that aspect of the question, because I regard temple entry as a religious question, but so far as social disabilities are

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concerned, as a human being I feel it is my duty to point out that it is too late in the day for any man in this world to treat another as being lower than himself.

"Then, Sir, merely allowing these gentlemen to enter these public institutions will not suffice. I wait for the day when the caste Hindu friends in this country will allow the Scheduled class people to dine with them. Sir, there should be common dining and also it should be possible for my friends of the caste Hindu community to allow freely the Scheduled class friends to enter their houses, to sit with them and eat with them."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Do you want to move an amendment for that purpose?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know whether such an amendment can be moved at this stage, but, Sir, the greatest amendment is the change of heart. The amendment of the heart is the change of the heart; not only the amendment of the heart, but the upliftment of the heart and not merely the upliftment of any particular section of humanity."

"I am glad, Sir, that this legislation has been brought before this House at least in the year 1947, that is 1,400 years after the same lesson had been taught to this world by the great Prophet of Islam."

*** SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:**—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion on the floor of this House, moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya. Sir, this Bill seeks to remedy some of the omissions in the previous Bill that was brought up in this House in 1938. The reasons for bringing this Bill before the House has been thoroughly dealt with by the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill. He also explained to us, Sir, its origin and history and also the reasons for bringing such an enactment at this juncture. For my part, Sir, I feel that I must say that the resentment of untouchability was felt in entirety in this Province and it was in the year 1889 when one of our revered leaders, the late Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan, wrote an open letter to the honourable British House of Commons explaining the treatment meted out to my community in this Province and elsewhere and it is the beginning of the awakening of the depressed classes now known as Harijans. Sir, that revered leader was the editor of a paper known as 'the Paraya' and he organized in this Province a great movement and a society known as the Paraya Mahajana Sabha and carried on a propaganda not only in this Province, not only in India, but even on the other side of the seas and brought home to the Americans and Englishmen and to the people of the several nations that were inhabiting the Western Hemisphere, the audacity and the inhuman treatment meted out to one section of the Hindu community."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch. The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30."

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

*** SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:**—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we rose for lunch, I was telling this House, Sir, through you, the origin of bringing to the notice of the public not only in this Province, not only in India, but in the other countries, the inhuman treatment that has been meted out to a section of the Hindus who come under the classification of 'untouchables,' Sir, treating a certain section of the people as untouchables has been considered by all reasonable people all over the world as a great blot on the culture of this country. It was given, as I told you previously, Sir, to a revered leader of our community to take up this matter and to write and send open letters to the then Members of the House of Commons who also took great trouble to find out what was lacking in this country. But they were not in a position to do anything at that time. Later on, there were reformers who tried to do something to ameliorate the condition of the Depressed classes known as untouchables. Now and then there were people who were able to do something, but not to the extent to which it was needed."

"Sir, this Bill seeks to remedy certain defects in the Civil Disabilities Act of 1938. In the definition clause and in the other clauses, this Act provides for allowing the untouchable classes into all eating-houses. This thing is very seriously observed more in the villages than in the towns. The District Municipalities Act and the Local Boards Act do not give any power to the local bodies to impose conditions on the eating houses to allow all classes of people. I may instance to you, Sir, that in my own town of Ootacamund where the Harijans, according to the old Act, entered into an eating-house, the people—I mean the owners of the hotel—took a case against the municipality. The Municipal Act did not provide for it and even the Council's resolution could not allow to them free access. It was appealed against, but even then the Harijans were not able to get redress. I am sure the provisions of this Bill will go a long way to remedy matters. I am really glad that this Bill also includes a provision that there should be no obstruction to our people using the burial and cremation grounds. It may be within the knowledge of this House that when a Harijan's corpse was burnt in the Madura cremation ground, the authorities there, when the body was half burning, forced the Harijans to remove it. Not only that, the authorities in the cremation ground brought to book some of the Harijans who were responsible. As a matter of fact, two of the men were convicted, but it was given to the previous Ministry to go into the matter and release the men. Sir, such is the inhuman treatment meted to these unfortunate people. So, in welcoming this Bill, I am sure the Government will make strict rules, so that the people who really wish to enjoy these facilities that are afforded by this Bill, may not be harassed any further. A man may be a very poor man; and according to this Bill, when it becomes an Act, he may try to enter an eating house but may not be in a position to go to a court of law and thus claim access according to the law."

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It is up to the Government to make the necessary rules, so that anybody objecting may be brought to book by the police or the village officers that are responsible in the towns and in the villages.

“ Another thing I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is this: The word ‘ Depressed classes ’ are being used in this Bill. Recently, the Government issued a Press Communiqué, No. 7, whereby they classified the communities eligible for help; the Communiqué clearly said ‘ Harijan converts and backward communities ’; Sir, converts and backward communities do not come under the ‘ untouchable ’ category at all. It is the Harijans who are the real untouchables, and I am sure if the Government are to take note of this and bring in an amendment taking away the expression ‘ Depressed classes ’ and introducing instead ‘ Harijans, ’ it will be better.

“ With these few observations, Sir, I support the motion on the floor of the House; I also wish to congratulate the Hon. Minister and all those who were responsible for bringing in this legislation before the House.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with particular pride and great joy that I rise to support this Bill. I deliberately said ‘ particular pride ’ for this reason: it is very suggestive and significant that such radical Bills revolutionizing the Hindu religious structure are being brought up only during the Congress regime. May I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that during the last regime we had the unique privilege of electing you as the first Harijan Mayor of this great city? Even now, in this Ministry, you have been elected as the first Harijan Speaker of an August Assembly like this. Madras, especially our Congress Legislature Party, deserves special congratulations.

“ Again, Sir, joy for this reason: I have to congratulate my Friend, the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya, on bringing forward this Bill. I take very great pride that the Hon. Minister is moving this Bill, for this reason that Mrs. Kurmayya comes from my village. In my village, Sir, we have been having this anti-untouchability drive for the past twenty or thirty years and we have been allowing the so-called Harijans even into our houses, and our schools have been thrown open to them long long ago. All glory to our Andhra leaders, the late Sri Viresalingam Pantulu, Sir R. Venkataratnam and the present Maharaja of Pithapuram who have been endeavouring their best to ameliorate the condition of the so-called Harijans. I have also to mention, Sir, the name of our late Mr. Nageswara Rao who contributed not a little to the education of our Hon. Minister Mr. Kurmayya. If he were alive now, he would have been very much pleased and overjoyed to learn from the papers and on the radio that this student had the unique pleasure and privilege of moving this Bill. I will be failing in my duty, Sir, if I do not mention the name of my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao who has always been and is still the guide, friend and philosopher of the Harijan cause, especially of

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Mr. Kurmayya. All of us have to feel gratified over this, especially the caste Hindus. No caste Hindu could claim to be a caste Hindu so long as there is this untouchability in the Hindu religion. I am a greater Hindu, I am a stronger Hindu and I am a rational Hindu, because I do not want untouchability in my religion. I support this Bill because I want the religion to which I belong, to be purified. I support this Bill because the religion that gave me birth must be purified, elevated and strengthened. So, no Hindu should feel sorry for this. Of course there are orthodox people everywhere. Long ago, when Raja Ram Mohan Roy, that fighter of modern India, opposed that great inhuman act or custom called ‘ Sati, ’ our orthodox Hindus raised a cry saying it was anti-Hindu, anti-religious; when small babies were being thrown into the Ganges, and when Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar wanted to bring about a reform, the orthodox Hindus raised a hue and cry saying it was against religion. Sir, orthodox Hindus are the real enemies of our Hinduism; they stand against the progress of the religion of my country. This India has given birth to an eminent man, the greatest of all living beings, our great Mahatmaji. All these years, in all conferences of Hindus held after his advent into Indian politics and Indian public life, he has been able to revolutionize society. Even the so-called untouchables get admission during the time of the marriages, in hotels and in the Congress committees as a matter of course. This great reform of a Harijan being allowed into my house and my taking him to a coffee hotel is due to that great leader, Mahatma Gandhi; and so, all glory to the Mahatma.

“ This social revolution has been brought about only after the advent of Mahatma Gandhi in our politics and in our social reform activities. 2-45 p.m.

“ Now, Sir, compare the lot of the Harijans here with people outside in other parts of the world. Sir, reference has been made to them by some hon. Members. I am sure that Harijans here and the Christians here are treated much better than the Negroes in the United States. (Interruption.) I say with experience; I say with facts and figures; I could collect and I could gather this information from my own experience. This does not mean, Sir, that I am in any way minimising the problem of the Harijans. I wish to say this much only. It is given to India to make mistakes and also to correct mistakes. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, as well as the Hon. Minister, made references to Buddha and also said that whenever there was Adharma, whenever there was Akrama, a great man always came into our midst to protect our people. That is how there were Avatars of the Buddhas and the Ramas and it is also the same case with our Mahatma Gandhi. Sir, in America, there is the colour problem. Even to-day, in the twentieth century, in the year 1947, I know in the Southern States of America, the Negroes are not allowed to vote, they are not allowed to travel in the same compartment, they are not allowed to enter the same cinema and during the years 1920-23, when I was there, they even never dared to go to the

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South. The Negroes were even refused admission into the colleges and schools and they were ill-treated. In our own country, Sir, conditions are much better. Sir, in Christian countries, change of religion does not solve the problem. Even in India, conversion to Christianity never changed the problem. It never helped the Harijans except for education and such other matters. Even in Guntur district, there are the Caste Christians, there are the Mala Christians, there are the Madiga Christians and there are the Reddi Christians and these people observe all these castes although they worship Christ. So, change of religion never brought in a change in the treatment meted out to them.

“Sir, a Bill like this is long overdue. So, I welcome this Bill. We must also see that this Bill will not become a dead letter like the Sarada Act. We must all see that in the villages and in the far-off corners of our districts, this Bill is carried into practice. So, on this occasion, I wish to congratulate my hon. Friends, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai and also the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya who belong to that community for bringing in this Bill. They must see that this Bill applies not only to the caste Hindus and Harijans but also applies to the sub-castes in the Harijan community itself. Speaking from practical experience as Secretary of Harijan Sevak Sangh, I may say, Sir, that I was responsible to a certain extent in helping these Harijans. Government also have been spending large amounts of money in sinking wells for drinking water purposes. But what has happened? I know from experience that members of a particular community are not allowed to drink water from the same wells. So, this measure is meant for all people, be he a Hindu, be he a Brahman or a Kamma or a Reddi or a Mala or anyone else. We cannot tolerate any inhuman treatment. In this connexion, I entirely agree with my hon. Friend who suggested the other day that we must abolish the system of separate hostels. Recently a suggestion was made the other day that the Kodambakkam Harijan Industrial School should no longer be called as the Harijan Industrial School but it should be equally open to the other castes also. I give that suggestion on this occasion also. We must admit students from all religions, from all communities and classes and give them scholarships. This will help to bring into being a new United India and thus we must prepare for the coming free India. We must admit all castes to these scholarships and we must have a united hostel. Not only Harijans but Christians and Muhammadans also should be admitted into these hostels. This system will remove our disabilities. Sir, I may say this for the information of this House, that in our district, there is a Harijan Uplift School in which we allow all other castes also. Similarly, we must have model colonies where we should allow all castes to live side by side. For starting such model colonies, Government must help with large subsidies and building materials and this method will go a long way in removing the civil disabilities.

“Again, Sir, Government must insist on the coffee-hotels that they should allow Harijans also to eat there. In many coffee hostels, there are boards hung in front indicating that they are

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for this particular community and for that particular community. We must remove all those boards and you must penalize all those coffee hotels which do not admit other castes. That is also very essential, Sir. This act of ours is only a sign of our ‘Pachathapa’, or repentance for the injustice we have done all these days. It is in that spirit also that we have to pass this legislation, as our Leader, Mahatma Gandhi has pointed out more than once. We give all co-operation to those who wish to see that this Act is carried out to its effect in every place. Of course, we must see that recognition is refused to any school refusing admission to any Harijan boys. Though the Government order is there, in spite of the Government Order, there are still many schools in many villages where Harijan boys are not being admitted. Sir, the general public and the Members of this House will, I am sure co-operate and contribute all they could to see that this unholy and in human custom of ours is wiped out from the clear name of our society. I once again congratulate the Hon. Minister bringing in this legislation and I feel very happy now because we are passing two of the best Bills. One is this Civil Disabilities Removal Bill and the other is the Temple Entry Bill. These two Bills we are passing during our regime, and it is very significant that it is given only to the Congress Ministry to pass such legislations, I once more take a great pride in supporting this Bill.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“As there are still many hon. Members who want to take part in this debate, I fix ten minutes for each speaker.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What about Mr. N. S. Varadachari speaking on this subject?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“He will speak on the Temple Entry Bill.”

* SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—“சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்களே, இன்றையதினம் உங்களுடைய முன்னே இருக்கும் இந்த **Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities** என்ற மசோதாவை ஆதரித்து சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். அநேக நாளைகளாக நமது சமூகத்தில், நமது தேசத்திற்கே ஒரு மாசாக, களங்கமாக, அழக்காக இருந்த ஒரு பெரிய துரதிர்ஷ்டம் பிடித்த ஒரு குறையை இப்போது நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்காக இந்த சட்டம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த சட்டத்தினால், ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கும் மற்றும் ஒடுக்கப்பட்ட ஜாதியார் களுக்கும் ஒரு பெரிய அநுகூலமிருக்கிறது. இந்த சட்டத்தைகொண்டு வருவதற்கு அநேகம் பேர்கள் பயந்தார்கள். ஆனால் இப்போது பயமென்பதே யில்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. நமது தலைவர் ஸ்ரீமான் ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் முன்னம், பிரதம மந்திரியாக இருந்த காலத்தில், இந்த Bill ஐ கொண்டுவந்து அமுல் நடத்துவதற்கு, அவர்கூட மனதில் அச்சம்கொண்டிருந்தார். மதுரையில் ஸ்ரீமான் வைத்தியநாத அய்யர், ஆலயப் பிரவேசம் ஆரம்ப தினத்தன்று, அங்கு என்ன அபாயம் நேர்ந்ததோ என்றும், என்ன கொலை நடந்ததோ வென்றும், பயப்படும்படியான நிலைமை இருந்தது. ஆனால் ‘பதராத காரியம் சிதறாமல் முடியும்’ என்ற பழமொழிக்கிணங்க இப்போது நிலைமை சீர்பட்டுவிட்டது. எப்படி என்றால், நமது தென்னாட்டிலே, எல்லா ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களும், வைதீகர்களும், இப்போது மனமுயர்ந்து, ‘எழை என்றும் அடிமையென்றும் எவனுமில்லை’ ஜாதி யில், என்ற உணர்ச்சிகொண்டு, ஒடுக்கப்பட்ட சமூகத்தினரிடத்தில் சிறீநேக பாவம், சகோதரபாவம் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதனால்தான், இப்

[Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

[31st March 1947]

போது தென்னிந்தியாவின் பல பாகங்களிலும், பல இடங்களிலுமுள்ள எல்லா கோவில்களிலும் ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் கிடைத்தது. அவர்கள் எல்லோரும், இப்போது, ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களுடன், தோளோடு தோள் நின்று, சகோதரர்களாக விளங்கும்படியான காக்கியைக் கண்டு ஆனந்திக்கிறோம். என்னைப்போல உள்ளவர்கள் சென்ற 28 வருஷ காலமாக, இந்த காரியத்தை பூர்த்தி செய்வதற்கு எடுத்துக்கொண்டு முயற்சி செய்ததின் பலனை எனது தலைவர் ஸ்ரீமான் சத்தியமூர்த்தி அவர்கள், இதைக்கண்டு களித்து ஆனந்திக்காமல் இன்றைக்கு நம்மை விட்டு பிரிந்து போய்விட்டார். அதுபோல் நானும், இந்தக் காக்கியை காணமுடியாமல் போய்விடுவேனோ என்று பயந்துகூட உண்டு. ஆனால் ஆண்டவனுடைய உதவியினால் இன்றைக்கு, மனித சமூகத்தில், உயர்வு தாழ்வு இல்லையென்பதை நேரில் பார்த்து ஆனந்திக்கும்படியான சந்தர்ப்பம் எனக்கு கிடைத்து, இது எனக்கு ஒரு சொர்க்க வாழ்வு என்றே கருதுகிறேன்.

“இனி சமூகத்திலே இருக்கிற சில தடைகளை கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாகத் தான் போக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இன்னமும், சனாதனிகளில் சில பேருக்கு மனம் திருந்தவில்லை. அவர்கள், இன்னும், இந்த தெய்வங்களை ஹரிஜனங்கள் வணங்குவதால், அபாயமிருக்கிறது. இந்த சாமிகள் நம்மை விட்டு போய்விடும் என்றுகூட சந்தேகிக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதமாக, பல இடங்களிலிருந்து பல விதங்களில், பல மகஜர்கள் தூதுகொண்டுகள் சர்க்காருக்கு வந்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் இப்போது இருக்கும் நிலைமையில், பெரும்பான்மையான ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களும், எல்லா மதத்தினரும், ஒன்று என்றுதான் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அதேபோல் ஹிந்து மதத்திலுள்ளவர்கள் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் வித்தியாசம் பாராட்டலாகாது என்ற உணர்வு ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டது. இதனால் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும், மற்றும் ஒடுக்கப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் பெரிய பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்படப் போகிறது. பொருளாதார அபிவிருத்தி இதுவரையில் எப்படி ஏற்படாமல் இருந்தது என்றால், முதலியார் அய்யங்கார் வீடு கட்டுவாரானால், அந்த வீடு கட்டுவதில் வேலை செய்வதற்கு தீண்டாமைமையின் காரணமாக, தீண்டப்படாதவர்கள் ஒடுக்கப்பட்டவர்கள் முதலியவர்களை விடமாட்டார்கள். இவ்விதமாக ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு பல இடங்களில், தீண்டாமைமையின் காரணமாக வேலை செய்ய வேலை கொடுக்கப்படாமல், அவர்கள் பொருள் திரட்டி அவர்களுடைய பொருளாதாரத்தை உயர்த்திக்கொள்வது என்பது எல்லாம் பறிக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டது. இந்த குணதோஷமெல்லாம் இப்போது தொலைந்து விட்டது. இன்னும் கொஞ்சநேரம்சுமிருப்பது கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் கட்டாயம் தொலைந்துபோய்விடும் என்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை.

“ஹரிஜனங்கள், இதுவரை இருந்தது போல் இல்லாமல், இப்போது அவர்கள் விழித்துக்கொண்டு, பல அபூர்வமான காரியங்களைச் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். அப்படி செய்வதற்கு சாட்சியம் என்னவென்றால், இப்போது சபையில் சபாநாயகராக வீற்றிருக்கும் ஸ்ரீ சிவசுண்டமுகம் அவர்கள், மெம்பர் நாகப்பா அவர்கள், கனம் முனுசாமி பிள்ளை, சாமி சகஜானந்தம் போன்றவர்கள் எல்லாம் தங்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் இழக்கை தொலைப்பதற்காக எவ்வளவு கஷ்டப்பட்டு சேவை செய்கிறார்கள் என்பதேயாகும். இச்சேவையைப் பார்க்கும்போது இன்னும் அவர்கள் இப்போது இருப்பதைவிட உயர்ந்த ஸ்தானங்கள் அடைந்து, இந்த தேசத்தின் எல்லா பொறுப்புகளையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள சக்திவாய்ந்தவர்கள் என்பதை நாம் அறிகிறோம். ஆகையினாலே, இந்த ஹரிஜனப் பெரியார்கள் மாத்திரம் இந்த ஸ்தானங்களில் இருந்தால் போதாது ஹரிஜனங்கள் அவ்வளவு பேரும், உயர்ந்த நிலை அடைவதற்கு முயற்சி எடுத்துக்கொள்ள, இந்த சட்டம் எல்லாவிதத்திலும் உபயோகப்படுமென்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“அன்று கிருஷ்ணன் பிறந்த காலத்தில் நான் ஏன் பிறக்கவில்லை என்று பல கவிவாணர்கள் வருந்தி பாடினார்கள். ஆனால் மகாத்மா காந்தியின் வாழ்நாளிலே, அவருடைய தலைமையிலே இந்த தீண்டாமை எனும் அவக்கேடு தலைதாக்காமல் போகும் காலத்திலே நாம் அவதரித்தோம் என்ற சந்தோஷத்தை அனுபவிக்கிறவர்களாக இருக்கிறோம். அத்

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னால் நாம் எல்லோரும், புண்ணிய புருஷர்கள் என்றும் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு அநியாயத்தை, ஆயிரம் வருஷங்களாக தோய்ந்து கிடந்த அனாசாரத்தைத் தொலைக்க நீங்கள் காரியங்களைச் செய்வதால் நீங்கள் எல்லாம் புண்ணியவான்கள். இங்கு கிருஸ்தவர்களும், மகம்மதியர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள். எல்லோரும் ஒரு முகமாக இந்த சட்டத்தை நிறைவேற்றும் விஷயத்தில் ஒன்றுபட்டு இருப்பது மிகச் சந்தோஷமான காரியமாகும். இந்த ஒன்றுபட்ட முறையினால் இந்த தீண்டப்படாத ஒடுக்கப்பட்ட ஹரிஜன சமூகம் முன்னேற்றம் அடைவதோடல்லாமல், பொருளாதாரத் துறையிலும் சிறந்து விளங்குமென்று நம்புகிறேன். ஆகையினால் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நான் இந்த சட்டம் வருவதைக்கண்டு சந்தோஷப்படுவதுடன், இந்த மசோதாவை, ஆதரிக்கிறேன் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு, என் பேச்சை இத்துடன் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ Mr. Speaker : Sir, let me congratulate the Hon. Minister for bringing forward this measure. (Sri R. V. Swaminathan : ‘ The Communist Member is congratulating.’) Sir, I am especially glad that this Congress Ministry has brought forward this as the first measure of social legislation. Though belated in having brought this forward, I offer them my most hearty congratulations. This is not enough and I request them to bring forward along with this measure another measure so that academically also they may be elevated, because we find to-day most of the Scheduled caste members—of course, ‘I do not mean here in this House—outside have been suffering from this inequality. We find that if a member of the Scheduled castes is promoted to a high position, say in Government service, even the most orthodox of the Hindus, give him all respect and take them into their houses but when other members of the community go to the houses of Caste Hindus they are ill-treated and they are suffering from this inequality and this is because they are academically backward and that is why they are being looked down by the Caste Hindus. It is therefore the duty of the Congress Ministry in this Province to see that this community is raised academically, they are given better status and put on an equal footing with the other communities. Of course, this caste system must go sooner or later and sooner than later it must be put an end to. Sir, not only this caste distinction must disappear, but also religious distinction and it should not be allowed to stand in their way in our country. If we want a united India these distinctions must go and the sooner they disappear, the better will it be for the interests of all concerned in this country.

“ In this connection, Sir, I do not think it will be out of place if I mention that the Harijans to-day, either in business or in other social positions, are not having much facilities. Most of them are to-day either agricultural workers or municipal workers and they are not being treated properly. Every one knows that they have to be elevated, but they are not lifted up. Even wages are not paid to them properly . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ The hon. Member need not refer to the question of wages here. When the Bill relating to wages is brought up he can speak on that.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ So, Sir, this social equality must be followed immediately with raising their academic status also, so that their equality of position and other concessions in all channels may be opened up to them. We know, Sir, that even though so many scholarships are awarded, they are not given freely to these people. That is the reason why my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, has been raising questions in this House that this job has not been given to his community or that job is not given. Here also it is the duty of the Congress Government, as I pointed out during the question hour, to liberalise these grants, particularly in the case of the Scheduled Castes. I say, up till now, it is the Caste Hindus that are responsible for keeping them in such a position. In spite of the fact that most of the Members of the Treasury Bench belong to Caste Hindus, it is their duty to see that the Harijans are brought to a footing of equality according to their numerical strength in the matter of their representation in the services. To this end, the Congress Ministry should immediately see that the service rules are liberalized at least in the case of the Harijans and other backward communities. Sir, with these words, I support the Bill before the House.”

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Sir, I support this Bill. Before we resigned office, the question as to who should move this measure cropped up on one occasion. The then Law Minister Mr. Bhashyam wanted to move it and it was put against his name. The Hon. Mr. Kurmayya happened to be present at that time in my room when Mr. Bhashyam also was present and it was suggested that it would be more appropriate if the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya himself should move this Bill. Of course, Mr. Bhashyam readily agreed and later when the Bill was introduced in the Upper House, the Hon. Dr. Rajan who was not then a Minister, got up and said or rather wished that this Bill had not been moved by Mr. Kurmayya, but by himself. I can see the appropriateness of that statement of Dr. Rajan. According to the Hindu religion, the one God, who is known to be pervading all over the Universe, is described in the Hindu Shastras as *Sri Mahavishnu*, whose direct descendant Dr. Rajan claims to be (loud laughter)—so also did Mr. Bhashyam. Really, if this religion of *Sri Mahavishnu*, as conceived and as understood by the best men of the world, had remained intact without all the complications that supervened, there would have been no caste distinctions in this country of ours. (The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan: ‘Hear, hear.’) There would have been possibly no distinction of Christianity, Islamism, Hinduism, Sikhism and so forth. *Sri Mahavishnu*’s religion prevailed in what is known as *Krita Yuga*, during which period there was only one religion, one nation and no difference between man and man and woman and woman. That was the religion of the Universe and it was out of that religion, Sir—and after that religion that prevailed in that *Yuga*—that Man had fallen and the King had fallen, because the *Satva guna* of that *Krita Yuga* deteriorated. *Satva guna* is the highest of the *gunas* that would qualify a man

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to attain Godhood and merge himself in God and it is from the highest of the *gunas* that character would be developed. That character had been abandoned and men had taken to lust and to wealth, competition and greed. It was in that way that kings had fallen and with the kings, human beings also had fallen. Although the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya did not read *Yajur Veda* or any *Veda*, he got it from the literature that there was no caste distinction during that period. There was no caste distinction until a very recent period when these four castes were carved out, not for the sake of religion but for the sake of allotting different works amongst the different classes. The warrior classes were called the *Kshatriyas* and the agriculturists in those days were called *Vaisyas*—not the *Komatties* of the modern days, but they were called *Vaisyas*. Like that the four castes were carved out for a different purpose altogether and it was never meant that these caste distinctions should become a religion and that the whole country should be bound down by this caste system.

“ That is how this caste system had continued until now and it is still persisting there and this measure had been long overdue but I am able to tell from my own experience, Sir, it is not a legislation that can solve the problem, the social problem or any problem for the matter of that, including the political problem. Legislation there has been for a very long time. The names quoted by the hon. Mr. Bapineedu are those of great men who started this social reform movement long ago. It has been handed down from generation to generation during the last 100 years, I may say, or during the last 75 years. So far as I can imagine for myself this social reform movement has come down into South India and in Andhra Desa. One of the earliest social reformers, Mr. Veeresalingam Pantulu, had gone through all the persecutions which would follow by undertaking such social reforms. He died a martyr. For a full generation he worked almost alone and single-handed. He prepared the soul of men and women who had come under that influence and had been endeavouring to carry on this reform. This legislation, Sir, cannot solve the problem easily and readily because legislation, unless it is followed up by every worker with a change of heart, may sometimes become a dead letter. There was legislation in the past when our great leaders of the Congress introduced such measures and passed them into law. Such legislation could not be successful because it was not followed up by the people with their hearts. Unless there is real change in the heart of all those who advocate this, there is no use. I say, Sir, in this House every one is a social reformer, every one has been responsible to promote the reform in every possible way but still the evil is there and it has not become a complete success because every one of us has failed to carry this message in practice to the people in the villages, and to the orthodox section also. Orthodox sections are very few now and they are also realizing that they cannot stem this tide. As a matter of fact, Sir, somebody wrote with a prophetic mind long ago and which we will find in the *Mahabharatha* somewhere stated that in *Kaliyuga*, that is the period

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during which we are staying there would be what is called *Varnasankara* when all castes will disappear and all people will be moulded into one. The word "Sankara" no doubt contemplates that meaning and the principle is there recorded long ago. That word is used more prominently even now. Sir, I say that unless there is a real change of heart nothing can happen. Every one of us has seen how in practice the rules we have been preaching have not been observed. That is why it has been delayed. Harijan members sometimes lose their ground and their points also when they say that it is only the caste, the high caste people, that are responsible for this deterioration in the progress. It is not so, Sir. The caste people are the people to-day who are prepared to allow themselves to be declared outcastes when they enter into this reform. Such men and women you will find even in the City of Madras. But the difficulty has been it has permeated into the bone and into the body of every so-called Harijans or scheduled caste people also. The other day hon. Members must have observed how a Harijan constable was not allowed to draw water from a well which should be used by all people. The difficulty is in that way. Even the hon. Members of Harijan persuasion when they go into their own areas find difficulty to get through the barriers that have been erected for ages and the distinction that has been maintained. It will cost the nerve and energy of every one of us to make this measure that is before this Assembly to be passed into law, a real success. It is only when such a broad measure of social reform is introduced there can be success and not by mere passing of laws. The laws must be there in order to make the people understand that the time is past when they would be allowed to go on in their own way. Therefore, I say that every one of us here should have a change of heart in ourselves and should make it a point to make a real success of this measure by doing all that is possible to bring it into practice in this country of ours. It has been a long cherished desire of mine while at the same time I had been feeling that a measure of law that is passed would not help. I have been one of those few people, Sir, who had gone through the mill of this social persecution on account of the attempts made with regard to this social reform. I went through the social tyranny of ex-communication under this so-called caste system. We have to break through all these things by following rules, laws, and law courts also and by making the people change their heart and execute what is prescribed under the law. Although there was no such law throughout the ages such a thing is required now and I am delighted that this measure has come out now and I hope it will be the beginning of *Krithayugam* when all religion, caste and all these distinctions will disappear. With these words I support this motion, Sir."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—Sir, one of the hon. Members of the opposite bench, in requesting the members here to heartily support this Bill, was saying that all the members who support this Bill

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should be Hindus, as if Muslims are not interested in supporting this Bill. There are persons among us who will wholeheartedly support this Bill because it is in conformity with the tenets of Islam. Apart from that, Sir, this important Bill, I say, ought to have been placed before this House long before. Still, it is not too late. Now by introducing this Bill we will not be completely achieving our object. The object of introducing this Bill is to bring equality among the different communities of the Hindu religion. This equally can be natural at times and at times it can be artificial. It will not be a surprise to you if I say that this equality was introduced by Mohammad about 1,400 years ago, which has been natural and it has been very successful as you will also agree. Now, Sir, after all, it would not be a difficult matter to have a similar result. The only thing and the most important factor to bring in such a unity or equality, Sir, is to have a common religion, common principle and common social custom for all the Hindus. It was also said that Lord Buddha tried, and of course in a way he failed and Ramanuja also tried and his attempt also was not a success. Of course Lord Buddha had his own difficulties. He was even driven out of India. For national equality and unity you must have a cementing force which is very essential for this purpose. Unless you have a common God and a common spiritual leader and a common code, it is practically impossible, Sir. No doubt so much was said about the old civilization and culture of Hindus. I also admit that Hinduism happens to be the oldest religion of this world but still it seems to have made no progress in this world. Beyond the four walls of India, Hinduism has not gone out. Why, Sir, you may ask? The religion was flourishing in the days when the equality feeling of Hindus also was at its zenith. Why it should deteriorate now? The reason is obvious. It is said that in this Universe from the beginning till to-day there has been only one religion. It is said in Koran:

الَّذِينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ إِسْلَامٌ

Islam is not a religion which is being observed by Sinna Kaziar and other Muslim Leaguers alone. Islam is a religion with a certain fundamental principle. Islam is a religion, the liberal meaning being that it is a religion of peace. I am going to offer my advice to my friends and brothers to adopt a practical method so that they may succeed in their attempt. That is the point I am driving at. As a good friend I must say what is in my mind. The Vedic religion was certainly a pure Islamic religion because it was a monotheistic religion with some unrevealed books. As I told you on a previous occasion, Sage Vyasa in his 'Bayishath Purana' has said that Arya Dharma will have no effect upon humanity, your Vedas will have no effect upon them and that later on 'Mlecha Dharma' will be prevalent in the world, Sir, Mlecha Dharma is Islam. In conformity with the words of Sage

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Vyasa and in conformity with my arguments, our veteran politicians like the hon. Mr. Prakasam has told us that in Kaliyuga, there can be but one religion. Maharishi Vyasa says that it will be Islam."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether this is a class for carrying on propaganda to make us all Muslims." (Laughter.)

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The nature of the discussion is such. More or less from this morning till now, we have been hearing the deliberations which have become more or less a theological subject. You cannot draw a clear line of demarcation between theology, social reform and the uplift of the Harijan; all these subjects are allied to each other and some latitude must, therefore, be allowed and I request the hon. Members not to stand in my way. So long as Christianity and Hinduism were monotheistic religions they had a hold upon humanity. But now we see what is happening in the western countries; they have become godless; they are killing and butchering each other. Hinduism was a monotheistic religion and as such it attained high culture and civilization and had its own reputation. Now, you may say that Hinduism also is a monotheistic religion but you must understand that there is difference between monotheism, polytheism and pantheism."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is better that the hon. Member returns to the Bill instead of preaching on religion, about monotheism, and pantheism and other things."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I though hon. Members would feel proud and it would be a credit to this House when they heard a Muslim Member touch upon Hindu theology and the sayings of the sages of old so vividly.

"I shall make my speech as brief as possible. My appeal to my friends will be not to make this measure a mere *nam ke vaste* business as was said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. It must be accompanied by a change of heart. I was told that even during the tours of His Excellency the Governor in Tirumangalam, he was taken to a certain place by the member who represents Tirumangalam taluk, where the Harijans were not allowed to take water from the well, for which they had also contributed. It is one of the most sacred Bill that have been introduced in this House; my only earnest appeal to hon. Members is that it should be translated into action. Take the case of the Sarda Bill; it is on the statute book, but has it prevented the marriage

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of young Hindu children? No. My appeal is: let this not be another Sarda Bill. Let it be a Bill which will have life and effect and let all hon. Members who have taken part in passing the measure, take necessary steps to see that this Bill is properly given effect to and see that not only is there inter-dining but also inter-marriage among all the communities."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this Bill that has been moved so ably by my Friend, Mr. Kurmayya. (An hon. Member: 'Why not Hon. Kurmayya.') He has always been an Hon. Friend of mine and we shall continue to be so and I need not give expression to that here if I really hold him in that way.

"Before I proceed further, let me express to this House my feeling of depression on this occasion because when my Hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya, rose to move the Bill for the consideration of this House, I counted the member of the Congress members in this House and there were only fifty-five out of which Harijans numbered twenty-five. So only 30 other members were present when a Bill of this nature being discussed, a Bill which will revolutionize the very basis of Hinduism, a Bill which will remove the rigours of the caste system, a Bill which will make the Harijan articulate and a Bill which will proclaim to the whole world that Hinduism also is now living and is not dead. It is regrettable because that amount of enthusiasm and that amount of solicitude which I expected from the members of the Congress Legislature Party, has been denied to us. We are told that when questions concerning India were discussed in the British Parliament, many members would be away and would be spending their time either in the lobbies or in the restaurants. To-day the same fate has overtaken the problem of Harijan emancipation. I do not mean that most of the members are indifferent; I do not mean to attribute motives but I should be given permission to give expression to the feelings that are uppermost in my mind. Hindus have been very kind; but Harijans also have been tolerant in spite of all the atrocities of the caste Hindus, to which they are still subject to though the Harijans are still in the Hindu fold. To-day if the Harijans are still in the Hindu community, if they are still in the Hindu fold, not only the caste Hindu reformers but also the Harijan leaders have to be congratulated on their forwardness in trying to cement the feelings between those two communities.

"Before I turn to the provisions of the Bill, I should like to say a word or two in reply to my Friend, Mr. Bapineedu. He is a good friend of the Harijans and is the Secretary of the Andhra Harijan Sevak Sankh of which I have the honour to be the President. Unfortunately, he has said certain things which would go a very long way to create bitterness amongst Harijans. No doubt Harijans are illiterate; Harijans are ignorant; but they

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have a heart. It is their heart that is responsible for their not wreaking vengeance for all the inhumanities that are being perpetrated even to-day under the Congress regime in which I am a member. Mr. Bapineedu said it was very easy for these Harijan leaders and Harijan young men to point their fingers at the caste Hindus and asked "Why do not you give even amongst yourselves the same equality which you expect from others." Mr. Bapineedu suggested that there was caste system amongst Harijans and he said that that should be removed forthwith so that the Harijans should be able to put the question to the caste Hindus asking for immediate redressal of all their grievances. Let me make this humble submission. The disease that is now to be seen amongst the Harijans is a disease that has been passed to them by the caste Hindus. My leader, the Hon. Mr. Prakasam, smiles at this utterance; I may be pardoned, Sir, if I am wrong. I stand corrected. This disease has been passed to these unfortunate people, the unfortunate untouchables, by the caste Hindus. The caste Hindu discards home-spun and hand-woven cloth and the Harijan imitates him; he goes for longcloth from Lancashire and the Harijan does not hesitate to go in for it and incur debts. If to-day everybody wears khadi, he also wears it. If everybody sings national songs, he also sings it. He is simply following the caste Hindus. If the correct lead is not given to him, if the caste Hindu is not able to make the Harijan go along the right royal road of emancipation, it is the mistake of the caste Hindu and, therefore, I appeal to men like Mr. Bapineedu never to give expression to any word which will wound the feelings of all sections of Harijans.

"He also said that the position of Harijans in India was much better than the position of the Negro in America. I protest, Sir. To-day in my own village, the Harijan is not able to enjoy the civic rights, the rights of an ordinary human being.

"One hon. Friend here asks me which is my village. If he wants to know, I have no objection but I wish members will try to respect the feelings with which I am speaking. I am not here to deliver a philippic against anybody—I am a member of the Hindu community but I am ashamed of all these enormities that are being perpetrated against the Harijans. If I have not been a member of the Hindu community or if I refuse any affinity with them, then I can understand any caste Hindu finding fault with me. When I admit that I am a Hindu and that I am as religious and as sanataniist as a caste Hindu can be, I do not understand how any member of this House belonging to the caste Hindu community should raise unnecessary objections concerning my utterances and wound my feelings.

"My Friend, Mr. Bapineedu, said that Negroes in America were not allowed to vote. Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the

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House that several Harijans in villages are not allowed even to become voters. Because the list of voters prepared by the caste Hindus and when the lists are prepared every caste Hindu is very careful to see that only a certain percentage of them is enrolled as voters who are amenable to the lead given by caste Hindus; it is only they who are given votes. The people whom the caste Hindus of the villages think will not go along with the caste Hindus are denied votes. It is not fair on the part of Mr. Bapineedu or any other member to compare the Harijans with the Negroes.

"The Harijan to-day is a social leper and unfortunately his difficulties are increasing as Governments are coming and Governments are going. The Harijans are to-day considered as step-children who are not treated with the same consideration, kindness and affection that is their due. I think, Sir, that some of the Muslim members of this House who have taken part in this debate have made that clear. I know Islam stands for equality of men and brotherhood of men. I also know that in several villages Muslims have helped Harijans to obtain their civic rights. But let me bring to the notice of the hon. Members of this Assembly, especially the Muslim Members, that there are many places where the Muslims have unjustly joined the Hindus and harassed the unfortunate Harijans. I know in caste Hindu quarters, no Harijan is given a house, but a Mussalman is given. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Kurmayya, has said, when a Harijan is denied a quarters in a caste Hindu house, the Mussalman comes to his rescue. But in many places I know Muslims and Hindus have jointly worked in driving away the unfortunate Harijans from their habitations. If anybody doubts my statement, let me quote the statement of Mr. Rajbhoj, General Secretary of the All-India Scheduled Caste Federation, an association which is more friendly to the Muslim League than to the Hindus. Mr. Rajbhoj says that the majority of the people who suffered in the East Bengal and Naokhali riots are the Harijans. Sir, if this is the treatment meted out to the helpless, inarticulate and depressed Harijans, even by the disciples of Mohammad and the devotees of Islam, where are poor Harijans to go and seek shelter. (Interruption.) I congratulate the members for their support. But I also appeal to them that Harijans require support not only from one section but from all sections, not only from one party but from all the parties. In saying this, I am not saying anything against the members of the Congress Party because Mahatma Gandhi, the undisputed leader of the Congress Party, said that Harijans should not be brought into party politics.

"Now, I would like to speak one or two words about the so-called disabilities. Why are these disabilities, and why are the Harijans subjected to suffer these disabilities for centuries together? As some of the members have given expression to, merely passing this legislation is of no use. We have so many Acts passed, but they are only dead letters in the statute book.

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To-day if you pass this legislation, and then keep quiet, even with this penal provision, this Act, I am afraid, will also be found in the statute book for those students of constitutional law to read and comment upon. But if we really mean to . . . (the bell was sounded). One more minute, Sir. If the Congress party which has enabled the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya to bring about this legislation, a legislation which is long overdue, they should be prepared to carry out a tearing propaganda in the mufassal places so as to make every Hindu realize that hereafter he cannot insult, he cannot injure Harijan without being punished. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the Members of the present Ministry that it is their bounden duty to see that this Act is translated into deeds. Not only mere propaganda, but they should also see that all available Harijan young men are appointed in all positions and in all offices so that they will be there to support the claims of Harijans. Now, Sir, this morning when we were asking some questions, the Leader of the House was not pleased . . . (the bell was sounded).

“ With these words, Sir, I support the Bill.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a little strange . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I want to finish this Bill to-day. So you must be brief.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ It is a little strange that my hon. Friend, Mr. Bapineedu, should have thought that members of other communities need not take part in the discussion. But I should think that this is a matter of absorbing interest nay, of compelling interest to on and all whether we belong to this community or that community. I should think, Sir, that this problem is co-extensive with humanity. When the rights of Indians were brought before the United Nations, it is Mr. Smutts that that pointed his finger of scorn at this question and said ‘ there is the blot; it is the blot on Indian civilization; and it is these Indians that want equality of treatment.’ So, Sir, this problem is co-extensive with humanity itself. It is a matter which should be given serious consideration by all alike. Asiatics are complaining against Europeans. The Negroes are complaining against the Americans. The Indians in South Africa are complaining against the White powers of the South African bureaucracy. In India something is happening and has been happening. So, it must be a matter of compelling interest to everybody. I do not propose to traverse into the hazy past when Upanishads and Vedas were written or descended from the Heavens as they say. Suffice it to say that this blot on the Indian civilization has been in existence at least as somebody has said from the beginning of this Kali Yuga. Whatever may be the circumstances in which this caste system has come into existence, whether

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for the sake of division of labour or the cleverest among human beings then wanted service from men of lower grade in intellect or some portion of society who exercised authority wanted some persons to be their servants, this blot on the civilization of India has been there for several centuries, if not, for several thousands of years. The net result is that a certain portion of humanity in India has been brought up in seclusion for centuries together, and in the minds of these people this inferiority complex became ingrained. If to-day the hon. Mr. Prakasam said ‘ you yourself are responsible for this,’ he only referred to that inferiority complex. But I ask, Sir, who is responsible for inculcating this inferiority complex? What is the use of saying ‘ you are suffering from this inferiority complex and you must rise above these things.’ They have fallen so low that it has become a second habit with them. There may be cases where even if caste Hindus invite them, their womenfolk and old men would not come and mix up with others. That is the position they are occupying to-day. In the past attempts were made purely from the point of view of preserving society. But one Veeresalingam from Rajahmundry had done it on purely social and religious basis. He was a social reformer. Now, Sir, I sound a note of warning both to the persons whom we want to emancipate and the emancipators. Please do not view this matter from a political point of view. If the Harijans want these disabilities removed, if they want temple entry, if they want the Hindus to consolidate the Hindu community, on political grounds alone, they will be doing a great wrong to themselves in the same way if caste Hindus now become alive to the danger of losing these seven crores of people from their Hindu fold and thereby weakening their political position, and bring about this reform. If this be the reason, I say it is wrong on principle, and that it would not serve you or the other people. Therefore, Sir, please do not view this from that political point of view. When this removal of untouchability was started in 1920, and when this was one of the planks of the Congress Party, I wish there was no bias surrounding the atmosphere. From 1920, this was viewed from that political point of view by the reformers. There may have been good exceptions, but every one who came after 1920 and has been preaching this removal of untouchability was having this political point of view whether these seven crores of people would get away from the Hindu fold and break up the Hindu society. Fortunately, now, it has taken this turn, and I do not think that the reformers are not genuine in their view that the wrongs that have been heaped upon the Harijans should be removed. As I said, already, I sound this note of warning to my Harijan friends and also non-Harijan friends in the community ‘ do not adjust; do not view it from a political point of view; it is for the sake of humanity and humanity alone that you should uplift these down-trodden people, because some of my friends on this side said, it was an

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insult to say that one man should be deemed to be inferior to another'. You cannot object to a Muslim however poor he may be, however ill-clad and ill-dressed and belonging to any profession he may be, from coming in and attending side by side with the most well-dressed man, be he a Moulvi or Kaffir. He has got the right to be there. A peon can stand shoulder to shoulder with a King and perform his Namaz. It is only a question of humanity. If you are having this . . . (the bell was sounded). Sir, I say that we should view this from that point of view."

4 p.m. SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important Bill. I am not going to analyse with what motives Congressmen have undertaken this piece of necessary reform. Motives of reform will vary from time to time and from place to place. But the reforms need not be attacked on that ground. All evolution of society and of humanity is based upon certain factors and certain environment which give the motive power to effect progress and take a progressive stride. It is therefore not necessary for any person belonging to a particular religion or community to come and say 'this is the motive, and this shall not be the motive.' Whatever be the motives, it is a fact that in India we want to consolidate all those who are Indians, not merely Harijans and caste-Hindus, but also Hindus and Muslims, Muslims and Kaffirs, caste-Hindus and Mlechas all that are born in this sacred land, in this ancient land, which spread civilization far and wide from ancient times. We want to consolidate India into one strong united nation. You may analyse the motives, you may give names, but you shall not detract from the main aim of the work which we have undertaken.

"And then again I want to appeal to the orthodox Brahmans, belonging as I do to one part of the population which is considered to be highest, excluding of course, the Muslims. (Laughter.) I want to appeal to everyone that is orthodox in this country, and tell him that the so-called untouchability has not got the sanction of religion. I claim to have understood something of religion; I claim to have gone through some of the important orthodox original books, apart from the religious books of others, and I would say, and I put it clearly, with all the emphasis I can command, that the basic Hinduism of our Vedas never gave sanction to the so-called untouchability. Untouchability was only a recent social development, a social encrustment, which we are now considering to remove. If, possibly, this country had not gone under the political domination of other countries, our country would have developed along proper lines, and we would not have had this social encrustment that has formed upon our society. We have been conquered or invaded or we have gone into a sort of chaos, and so we could not make sufficient progress. Thank God, things have changed now, and India is progressing along progres-

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sive lines, and now we are trying to remove all these encrustments which have retarded the growth of this nation. Therefore I appeal to everyone in this country, particularly to that community which is known as Brahmans, and say to them that religion does not sanction untouchability and I appeal to every Brahman, whether he is in a village or in the city that according to the Vedas, this untouchability has no sanction of religion, and that he must make it a part of his daily duty and daily prayer that this untouchability should be removed, not merely in form, not merely in name, and that with all his heart and soul, he should make his best attempts to remove untouchability from this Hindu society. It is only as a step forward in that direction that I am here to support the principles of this Bill. I therefore once more say that motives need not be searched into, that motives need not be attributed, that motives need not be answered; but the one motive, the noblest motive that should animate one and all is to make India one strong and progressive nation. And that is enough for our purpose."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to support the Bill. In doing so, I wish to say a few words regarding the origin of this untouchability. In religion, so far as I know,—and this is a fact that is borne out by all learned people and great religionists—untouchability has no religious sanction. There is a stanza in Tirukural where it is laid down that life by birth is one; difference comes by intellectual superiority. So it is clear, that there is no superiority or inferiority by birth. By their profession, by their conduct, by their daily life, some people become better, while some people do not progress intellectually. Now the question before us is not abolition of caste, or abolition of religion, or anything of the kind. Curiously enough some people allowed that talk to go on, and others continued it. Our aim here is to remove civil disabilities; because of untouchability some people are put to difficulties; because of that, some of our own people are not in a position to enjoy civil liberties like their co-religionists in this country. To remove that this Bill has been brought in. Removal of untouchability was included in the Congress programme in 1927 by the great Leader, Mahatma Gandhi. When it was put as a part of Congress programme everyone took it into his mind that he should work to remove this untouchability from this country. Of course in no religion is there any definite code that a particular individual should be excluded from society. Just like what Mr. Baig quoted from Islam, where Fakirs and Nawabs can worship in the same place shoulder to shoulder in a mosque; even so, in Hindu society the poorest beggar and the richest king can worship in a temple side by side. In the Vedas it is stated that if any man worships that great Siva, whoever he might be, whatever be his conduct, whatever be his food, however he may live, he is near to God. From this, you can imagine the idea behind. So

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according to religion there is no sanction for untouchability. A thing when practised becomes a custom, and custom by usage becomes a religion. Apart from this, when the Congress took up this work, then all enlightened men in this country wanted to remove this blot from society. Formerly when we have tried to bring forward such a Bill there was opposition not only in this House but from outside. Even illiterate people, even the masses in the villages simply endorsed it. Sir, social progress is essential for political progress, and so even non-Congress people are taking part in this affair of removing untouchability."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to congratulate my friend, Hon. Mr. Kurmayya, for bringing forward this Bill. I remember years ago having met him as a young man. He was living then with a friend of mine. He was practically a member of his family. Since then my acquaintance ripened into friendship. I hope that the great cause under his auspices would soon be recognized and adopted all over the country. I little thought that within 20 or 25 years this great cause would gain momentum; and a Bill would be introduced with every opportunity and occasion for success. As Mr. Prakasam has told us, legislation is one thing and the appreciation and practice of it in social life is another thing. If there is no change in the heart of men and women, this legislation would be simply a scrap of paper, on which legislation is printed. But one must remember that it takes time for prejudices to be shed; it takes time for people to change their hearts; it takes time for a broad vision to dawn on human beings. Until that courage, that toleration and that determination to do what is right comes in, the great social experiment that Indian society has undertaken to-night will not be realized. Even in countries like America, which proclaimed and talked of civilization and preached of equality of men, many subterfuges have been concocted to escape the law of human brotherhood. In England it is class distinction that prevails. It obtains in eating, drinking and occasionally in marriages among classes. Even in a democratic country like America, the well-to-do persons avoid sharing in common with those who are less fortunately placed. Those who have observed the plight of the Negro in America would realize how difficult it is, in spite of protestations, to raise them to their level accepting the principle of human equality. So, Sir, in a country like India with enhanced prejudices that have been established through centuries, we must have patience and goodwill on both sides. There must be levelling up and levelling down. There should be what are known as "drawing-room manners" as well as "dining room manners." We should know to accommodate ourselves; we

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should know how to eat with one another, how to drink with one another and how to move with one another. These are social things which cannot be acquired by means of legislation. When certain number of individuals are insulted, or rather, treated in a way that human beings should not be treated, it is up to legislation to come up and protect them. This is only a first step. I trust this Bill would become a success and be carried out not only in letter but in spirit also. I support the Bill."

* SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"அன்பு மிக்க தலைவர் அவர்களே, நான் இந்த சட்டத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் முகத்தானவேண்டி, எழுந்து நின்றிருக்கிறேன் என்பதைச் சொல்லத் தேவையில்லை. இருந்தாலும் கூட நான் இந்த சட்டத்தை ஆதரிக்கும் முன் ஒரு சில வார்த்தைகள் கூற விரும்புகிறேன். உலகத்திலே, 'ஒடுக்கின்றவர்கள்', 'ஒடுக்கப்படுவோர்கள்' என்று இரு மனிதக் கூட்டங்கள் இருக்கின்றன என்பது உண்மைதான். இருந்தாலும், மனிதரில் பலர் அடிமைகளாகவும், ஒரு சிலர், அவர்களை அடக்கி ஆள கடவுளால் படைக்கப்பட்டவர்கள் என்ற அரிஸ்டாட்டிலிஸ்டைய மூட சித்தாந்தமானது, இந்த இருபதாவது நூற்றாண்டில் இருந்து வருவது, மிகவும் விசனிக்கத் தக்கதாகும். இந்த உலகத்தில், ஜெர்மன் தேசத்தில் யூதர்களையும், அமெரிக்கா தேசத்தில் நிக்ரோக்களையும், தென் ஆப்பிரிக்காவில் சுதேசிகளையும் எப்படி கீழ்தர வெறுக்கத்தக்க சமூகமாக பாராட்டுகிறார்களோ அதேபோல், இந்தியாவிலே ஒடுக்கப்பட்ட, தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட மக்களான, பலகோடி இந்தியர்களை, தீண்டப்படாத சமூகமாக நடத்துவதை நோக்கும்போது ரொம்ப வருந்தவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. என்றாலும், நான் முன்சொன்ன அந்நிய நாட்டிலுள்ள வெறுக்கப்பட்ட ஜாதியனருடைய கஷ்டங்களையும் இந்தியாவிலுள்ள தீண்டப்படாத ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களையும் ஒப்பிட்டுப்பார்த்தால், மற்ற நாட்டிலுள்ள அந்த ஜாதியனருக்கு இருக்கும் கஷ்டங்கள், நம் ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களின் ஒரு துளி என்றுதான் சொல்லவேண்டும். அமெரிக்காவிலுள்ள நிக்ரோக்களுடைய கஷ்டங்கள், இந்தியாவிலுள்ள தீண்டப்படாதவர்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களில் ஆயிரத்தில் ஒரு பங்குகூட இல்லை.

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p.m.

"இந்தியாவிலே இருக்கும் 40 கோடி மக்களுக்கும் வேண்டிய உணவுப் பொருள்களை எல்லாம் ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்கு கொண்ட சமார் ஏழு கோடி ஹரிஜனங்களே உற்பத்தி செய்கிறார்கள். அதற்காக அவர்கள் தீண்டாமை எனும் சாபத்தைத்தான் பிரதிபலனை அடைகிறார்கள். இந்தியாவில், உற்பத்தியாகும் உணவுப்பொருள்கள் பெரும்பாலும், இந்த ஏழை மக்களினத்தான் உற்பத்தி செய்யப்படுகிறது என்ற விஷயம் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்ததுதான். ஆனால் அப்படி பாடுபட்டு, நெற்றிவியர்வை நிலத்தில் விழ உழைத்த அவர்களுக்கு என்ன பிரதிபலனைக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள்? தீண்டாமை என்கிற பெரும் சாபத்திடைத்தான் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள், நாய்போல், பன்றிகள் போல் மிகக் கேவலமாக நடத்தப்படுகிறார்கள் என்பதைச் சொல்ல ரொம்பவும் வெட்கப்படுகிறேன். இந்தியாவில் இந்து மதம் மாதிரமல்ல, கிருஸ்துமதம், இஸ்லாம் மதமும் இருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் இந்தியாவிலுள்ள தீண்டாமைக்குக் காரணம், இந்து மதமும், இந்த சமூகமும்தான் என்று எனக்கு முன் பேசிய முஸ்லீம் நண்பர் சொன்னார்கள். இருந்தாலும், சேர்க்கை பழக்கத்தினாலோ, வேறு என்ன காரணத்தினாலோ, இந்து சமூகமாதிரமல்ல, கிருஸ்தவ சமூகமும், முஸ்லீம் சமூகமும் இன்றைக்கு, தீண்டாமையை எங்கள் சமூக விஷயத்தில் கையாண்டு வருகிறது என்பதைச் சொல்ல ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். இந்தியாவிலே சமார் ஏழு கோடி மக்கள் கொண்ட சமூகம், ஜனத்தொகையில் ஏழாக்குறைய ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்குள்ள சமூகமான எங்கள் மக்களை மிகக் கேவலமாக நடத்துகிறார்கள். ஆனால் மகாத்மா காந்தியின் வாழ்நாளிலேயே,

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நாங்கள் மனிதர்களுள் மனிதர்களாக பாவிக்கும் எண்ணத்தை பாவச் செய்ததற்காக காந்திஜிக்கு எங்கள் மனமார்ந்த நன்றியறிதலைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இன்று இந்தியாவிலுள்ள, தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களும், மற்றுமுள்ள ஒடுக்கப்பட்டவர்களும் தங்களுடைய சமூக சுதந்திரத்திற்காக உழைக்க, விழிப்படைந்துவிட்டார்கள். இனிமேல், மனிதன் மனிதனைத் தான் பாவிக் கப்படவேண்டும், மனிதனுக்கு மனிதன் தாழ்ந்தவனல்ல. இந்த நிலை மையில் காங்கிரஸ் கவான்மெண்ட் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட மக்களுக்காக வெகு சிரத்தையுடன், எங்களுடைய குறைகளை ஒழிக்க, இந்த சட்டத்தைக்கொண்டு வந்து நிறைவேற்றுவதை நான் வரவேற்பதுடன், இந்த சட்டத்தில் ஒரு சின்ன குறையிருக்கிறது, அதையும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஆனால் அந் தக் குறை நாளடைவில் நீங்கிவிடுமென்று நினைக்கிறேன். அதைப்பற்றி மந்திரியிடமும் பேசியிருக்கிறேன்.”

“குடியிருப்பு வீடுகளைப்பற்றி . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Time ஆகிவிட்டது உட்காருங்கள்.”

* SRI K. SHANMUGAM :—“ అధ్యక్ష మహాశయ !

‘ అత్తవత్సర్య భూతాని ’

‘ పరోశుకారార్ము ముదం శరీరం ’

‘ సర్వజనాన్ముఖినో భవంతు ’

అని ధర్మోపదేశములుచేయు ఈ ధర్మతత్వవిండములలో అస్పృశ్యులు అనే ఒక తెగ వారుండులు భారత దేశమునకేగాక ప్రతి భారతీయునికిని లజ్జాకరమగు విషయము. కొందఱు స్వార్థపరులైన స్వృతికర్తలు మాల మాదిగలు ఇతర హిందువులకన్న తక్కువ నియు-వారిని ముట్టుకొనుట పాపమనియు వ్రాసినందుట కేత సవర్ణులనవారు ఈ మాల మాదిగలను ఊరికి దూరముగానుంచి వెలివాడలలో ఉండునట్లు చేసి బహిష్కరించినారు. కాని కోట్లకొలదిమంది ఈ విధముగా బహిష్కరింపబడినట్లుంటే హిందు మత మే నశించి పోవునను ఉద్దేశముతో కొందఱు విద్యావంతులైన హిందువులు సంఘ సంస్కర్తలు ఉదాహరణముగా శ్రీతన్యుడు, రామానుజుడు, శంకరుడు, బుద్ధుడు, బసవేశ్వరుడు, రాజారామ మోహనరావు, రామకృష్ణ పరమహంస, వివేకానంద, శ్రద్ధానంద, ఆంధ్ర దేశములో కందుకూరు వీరేశలింగం మొదలగు మహానభావులు సంఘ సంస్కర్తలు ఈ విధమైన బహిష్కరణ అన్యాయమని, అమానుషమని నిరూపించి విశ్వమానవ సౌభ్రాతృత్వాన్ని బోధించినారు.

“అట్లే నేడు గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు మూల మూదిగలకు హరిజనులనే నామకరణంజేసి నాడు. ఈ హరిజనులు అనే మాటలో “హరి” యంటే సర్వపాపములను హరించు నది అని అర్థము. అందుచేతనే యీ మూల మూదిగలకు “హరిజనులు” అని నామ కరణముజేస్తే, ఇతర వర్ణములవారు “హరి” యనే పదవ్రయోగము చేతనైనా మూల మూదిగలకు అపకారం చేయుటకు భయపడుతారు అని మహాత్ముడు మూల మూదిగలకు “హరిజనులు” అనే నామకరణంజేసినాడు. ఇంకేకాకుండా వారి అభివృద్ధికి ఆ మహానుభావుడు ఎంతో పాటుపడుచున్నాడు. ఆయన సమస్త శాస్త్రములను స్మృతులను, ఇతిహాసములను, పురాణములను, వేదములను అన్నికూడా పరిశోధించి ఈ అస్పృశ్యత శాస్త్ర సమృద్ధిమైనది కాదని ఇది సాన్న్ధికులు కల్పించిన కుట్రయని చూపబ్రని పలి వేసినట్లయిన దేవుని పలి వేసినట్లేనని హిందూ మతములో అస్పృశ్యత నిలిచియుండుటకంటె ఆ మతము అంతరించుటకే నేనభిలషింతును అని ఆ మహానుభావుడు ప్రపంచమునకు వెల్లడించుచున్నాడు.

31st March 1947] [Sri K. Shanmugam]

“కాని ఇంకను కొందఱు సనాతనులు, పూర్వాచారులు, సనాతన ధర్మము పేరట, అచారముపేరట, కులము పేరట, మతము పేరట మాల మాదిగలకు జరిగించే అన్యాయములను ముచ్చకు మాత్రం కొన్ని మనవిజేయుచున్నాను.—

అంచులు కొంగులుఉండే బట్టలు కట్టరాదు.

అడవారు రవికెలు వేసికొన్నరాదు.

ఇండకు తలుపులు తెల్లుకొన కూడదు.

నేతిలో పిండి వంటలు చేసికొన కూడదు.

అరుగులపై కూర్చొన కూడదు.

చెప్పులు వేసికొని ఆ గజాతులవారి వీధులలో నడువకూడదు.

సైకిల్ వే ఎక్కరాదు.

సకాలలో, చావల్లలో, చలివేడలలో, భోజన కాలలో, కాఫీ
పెనాట్లలో, వివాద కాలలో, డ్రాఫ్ట్ కాలలో, బస్సులలో, జిల్లకట్టలలో,
జిట్టా-బండ్లలో, స్టీల్ ఫేబులలో, నూతులలో, వెలుపులలో, మాకు ప్రవేశమేలేదు.
ఐంటెండుకు 90 విండ్ల ముసలి హరిజనుడిని 9 విండ్ల కుర్రసవ్వుడు “బీరీ” అని తప్ప
గౌరవముగ పిలిచనే పిలిచడు. ఈ విధముగా మాల మాదిగలను జరిగే ఆన్యాయ
ములు పెప్పరానికే సాధ్యంకాదు. ముఖ్యముగ ఈ విషయములపై పల్లెటూర్లలో
జరిగే మోఠాలు వింటుంటే గుండెలదరి పోతాయి.

“ ఇటువంటి సాంఘిక అన్వయతలచేత మీరు శతాబ్దములనుండి కాల రాశబలమును
 న్నారిన కారణముతో అనుభవజ్ఞులగు మా శురిజన మర్రిగొర్రె మార్తయ్యగారు
 ప్రవేశ పెట్టినటువంటి ఈ సాంఘిక అన్వయతలను తొలగించేట్లును నేను బలపఱచుకూ
 అన్ని పద్ధతులవారు దీనిని వికగ్రీవముగ ఆమోదించవలసినదని ప్రార్థిస్తూ, విరమించు
 చున్నాను.”

* SRI G. VENKANNA :—“అభ్యుక్త మహాశయో గౌరవసీములైన మార్కయ్య ముల్లిగాడు మనకెట్టిక ఈ లిట్టును నేను మనస్ఫూర్తిగా విలకడుస్తున్నాను. మానవ వృత్తిలో అస్పృశ్యత అనేది ఉండకూడదు. శృష్టిలో ఎనుబది నాల్గు లక్షల జీవరా సులగులవు. కివీలకాది బ్రహ్మచర్యంతరం సమస్త జీవరాసులకు అంటులేదుగాని మానవుడనే జీవితో సమానమైన ఒక్క హరిజన కులమునే అంటిరాని వానిగా చూచుట సిగ్గు. మానవులందరు ఒక్కటే, గాని వృత్తులు అవరణలో కొన్ని ప్రత్యేక ఆచారముల వల్ల ఈ కులములు ఏర్పడినాయి. ఏ జాతివారినైనా ఊరివెలుపల ఉండాలి అని అనడం అమానుష్యమైన కార్యం. హరిజనులకన్న నీజముగానున్న కులాలవారిని ముట్టుకుం టుంన్నారే? ప్రత్యేకముగా ఈ నాగరిక ప్రపంచంలో మానవుని వెలివేగివట్టు ఊరి వెలుపల ఉండాలి అని అనడంలో అర్థంలేదు. మనకు స్వాతంత్ర్యం రావాలని కోరు చున్న ఈ రోజులలో అస్పృశ్యత ఎంతకాలము ఉంటుందో అంతవరకు మనకు స్వతంత్రరాడు అని మనవిలేస్తున్నాను. సమస్త జాతులకుమీదా స్వతంత్రతావలెన. పూర్వకాలంలో మా జాతిలో కవులు, ఋషులు, మహా పండితులు ఉండేవారు. వివాహ సమయంలో హిందువులందరు ఆరాధించు పతివ్రతాశ్రీమణి మా ఆడబడుడు, రాజ్యము వీరిన రాజులుమీదా ఉండేవారు. ప్రస్తుతము ఈ మద్రాసు అసెంబ్లీకి అభ్యుక్తులుగా ఉన్న టుండటి శివమయ్యగారు మా జాతివారే. పూర్వమే కాకుండా ఇప్పుడుమీదా రాజ్యం పిలుతున్నారని నిదర్శనములు చూపగలను. ఇతే ఇప్పుడు ఈ గాంధీ యుగంలో ఈ అస్పృశ్యత పోకపోతే మానవలోకములోనే ఇక అస్పృశ్యతపోదు అని మనవి

[Sri G. Venkanna]

[31st March 1947]

చేస్తున్నాను. ఇప్పుడు ఈ బిల్లును ప్రవేశపెట్టుట హిందూ సంఘానికి సిగ్గుచేటు అని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఈ దేశములో అస్పృశ్యత అనేది ఇంత కాలమువరకు ఉండుట చాలా సిగ్గుచేటు. మేము పూర్వమునుండియు హిందు ఆచారములను పాటించుచున్నాము. హిందూ మతము అవలంబించి వారు ఆరాధించే దేవునే మేమూ ఆరాధిస్తున్నాము. అటు వంటకప్పుడు ఈ విధముగ ఒక జాతిని అవమాన కరచడం హిందూసంఘానికి సిగ్గుచేటు అని ప్రతి మానవుడు హృదయము మీద చెయ్యి వేసుకుని ఆలోచిస్తే బాధ పడగలడు. తొటి మానవులను అవమాన పరచకూడదు అని తెలుసుకుని వారిని అభివృద్ధి లాభికి తీసుకు రావలెనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“అయితే ఏలూరు పట్టణములో గత నెలలో మేము కడ్డ అవమానము తమతో మనవిచేస్తాను. ఆక్కడ జిల్లా కలెక్టరు, జిల్లా జడ్జిగారు, తక్కిన జిల్లా ఆఫీసర్లు, జిల్లా కౌన్సిలు నాయకులు ఉన్న పట్టణం అది. ఆక్కడ ఉండే రైతులను తీసుకొని రెండవ పంట (Second crop) పంటను గురించి చెప్పడానికి రైతులతో నెను వెళ్లాను. నాతో మా హరిజన రైతులూడా వచ్చేరు. విలే ముఘులను హరిజనులు అనే కారణంచేత హెబుటకు రాకూడదు అని అధ్యంతర పరచేరు. అప్పుడు ఆకలి తప్పి అవమానము భరించి Local Administration సుప్రీమ్ కోర్టుగా తెలియపరచుకున్నాము. గాని ఇప్పుడు శాసన రూపకముగా మాకు తోటిహిందువులతో స్వతంత్రం ఉండవలెనని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.

“విద్యా విషయములో చూచినట్లే అది-ఆంధ్ర పాఠశాలలు అని, హిందూ పాఠశాలలు అని, పాకీవారి పాఠశాలలని చెప్పకుండా, ఒకే మాదిరిగా ఎలిమెంటరీ స్కూలు, హైస్కూలు, మిడిలు స్కూలు అనే పేర్లు ఉండవలెను. ఒక కులము గాని మతముగాని తెలియచేసే స్కూళ్లు ఉండకూడదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“ఇప్పుడు కాఫీ హెబుటల్లోను, భోజనం హెబుటల్లోను హరిజనులకు హక్కు ఉన్నది అని చెబుతున్నప్పుడు హెబుటల్లోను ప్రతి సంస్థలోను హరిజనులకు ప్రవేశము ఉన్నది అని చెప్పే బోర్డులు వెన్నేనేగాని హరిజనులను చేర్చుకొనరు. పంచాయితీలలోను, మునిసిపాలిటీలలోను కొంతమంది స్వార్థపరులు రానియక పోయినప్పుడు ఈ చట్టానికి వ్యతిరేకముగా ఎక్కువ కాలము ఉండకుండా అందోళన పరచి తగిన స్వాతంత్ర్యం ఇవ్వగలరని మనవిచేస్తూ ఈ బిల్లును బలపరుస్తున్నాను.”

4-30
p.m.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, some hon. Members questioned the propriety or the right of the Muslims to take part in this discussion. It is that, Sir, that has made me now to have my say in the matter. The Muslims took part in this discussion not because they had a right as Members of this Assembly but because of the fact that 60 or 70 millions of human beings who have been oppressed and depressed for ages have taken another step in the direction of coming into their own. When human beings make such progress in that direction no other section or no other people or nation in the world than the Muslims are delighted because they are born and bred up in the real spirit of equality.”

SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—“On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Bill before us is different from what the learned Leader of the Opposition is trying to say. There is no place for the Leader of the Opposition to say that the Muslim

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community is one and there is no difference at all and there is no need for him to praise the Muslim community on that account. My submission is this. When this Bill is being considered it is our duty . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may please resume his seat. Every Member of this House is entitled to speak on this Bill.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, I have been wondering what point of order my friend was raising.

“Now, Sir, I told you that it is the Muslims more than anybody else in the world who are delighted on such progress being made by such depressed sections of the community as the depressed classes. It is that fact, Sir, that made the Muslims participate in the discussion of this Bill.

“Islam, Sir, teaches absolute equality of man and man, because, it is the Holy Prophet, Sir, who taught to the world that every man who is born in this world is born on the right path with no sin. The Holy Prophet did not say that man was born in sin or that a human being was different from any other human being in the world. Sir, he not only taught it, but he has established a brotherhood the like of which the world has not seen until to-day. It is more than 1,300 years, Sir, since the brotherhood was established and that brotherhood is enduring until to-day. It is therefore that the Muslims praise that unique brotherhood. When they see that some elements of the principle on which their brotherhood has been built is being adopted by our brother communities they cannot but congratulate them and it is by way of congratulation that the Members of my Party took part in the deliberations over this Bill, Sir. Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam claimed: ‘Our Shastras too have known that.’ My hon. Friend took exception to my referring to religion, particularly to the religion of Islam in this connexion. Here, Sir, before me religion was discussed on this floor of this House at length and the Hon. Mr. Prakasam said that their religion, that is the Hindu religion, the religion of Vishnu or Krishna, also preached equality. (An hon. Member: ‘Maha Vishnu.’) What-ever it may be, as I said on a previous occasion, I think, Sir, that even Bhagavat Gita speaks approving of this caste system. On that occasion I was questioned, Sir. Then I straightway went through my copy of the Bhagavat Gita and I found that I was not wrong. I would have brought it here to the House if I had only thought that this point would be raised to-day. Still I shall find another occasion to refer you, Sir, to the exact Chapter and Verse in the Bhagavat Gita . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Some other time.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Yes, Sir, that I will do. Even to-day the greatest advocates of the removal

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of untouchability stand by Varnashrama Dharma. They say that Varnashrama Dharma is good and that it should be maintained. I do not know, Sir, how they can separate what they are having to-day in actual practice from the principle of Varnashrama Dharma. Whatever it may be, we are concerned with facts as they are. The facts, Sir, as they are, are not very encouraging to the people for whose betterment the Government has brought forward this Bill to-day. Even to-day there are people who consolidate the present practices of the Hindu society and give a religious colour to them. Sir, some years ago there was a conference of Pundits at Kumbakonam and a question was posted to them . . . (An hon. Member: 'Kumbakonam!') Yes, Sir, in Kumbakonam of all places a Conference of that nature was held. Our question was posted to the learned Pundits who were assembled at the Conference and that question was this. 'When a Shastra conflicts with Anushtana which should prevail? That was the question which was put to them. The Pundits deliberated over this question for days and days and at last they came to the conclusion that wherever such conflicts exist Anushtana must prevail over Shastra, because the cult of Anushtana has been instituted and preached by saints and rishis who come from time to time. Therefore whatever the Hindu society is practising to-day is according to their religion. Sir, that is their claim.

"Whatever it may be, if there are friends like Mr. Viswanatham or Mr. Prakasam who say that their religion does not encourage such things as this, I take it from them, Sir. I do not want to dispute it. If they are of that opinion I do not want to quarrel with them on the matter. I only pointed out the facts. What we want are only facts.

"Here, Sir, one of our hon. Friends cited the case of the negroes being treated worse than the depressed classes. I only want to put this question to him: 'Whatever may be the inequality that may be heaped upon the negroes, were they treated as untouchables?' It was the hon. Member who moved the motion for consideration of this Bill in another place who said the other day that these human beings who have divinity in them were being treated as equal to or even worse than the pigs and dogs. This state of affairs does not exist in any other country than this and that is a fact.

"Again I have to refer to another point stated by one of my Friends that even the Muslims who belong to the religion of equality, fraternity and liberty joined with the Hindus in oppressing some of the depressed classes in certain villages. I do not want to contradict him. If any Muslim does it, it is against his living brotherhood and if does it, Sir, it is a contagion which the Muslims of that village in their ignorance and backwardness have taken from the Hindus. It is a contagion from them and if there is any truth in it we are here to see that those difficulties

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are removed and we promise our heartiest and full support to our friends of the depressed classes to see that the Muslims do not join hands with the Hindus in oppressing them.

"Another point was raised, Sir, that whatever may be the motive, nobody need care about the motive. That goes against the very fundamental truth, the everlasting truth which we believe and upon which we stand, and that truth again depends upon its motive. Motive is necessary for making every action effective, efficient and meritorious. Without motive there is no action. Therefore it is that when my hon. Friend spoke, he insisted and emphasized that the motive for this Bill must be a proper motive, and that motive must be humanitarian. That motive must be that every one must consider himself equal to every other one in this world, Sir.

"Sir, these are the words which I wanted to say. I once again assure you that the Muslims are really delighted at this piece of legislation that our friends of the Congress Party have brought forward really following the tenets of Islam. ('Hear, hear.')

MR. SPEAKER:—"Every Member who has taken part in the discussion has supported the Bill. I hope the Hon. Minister will not take more than 10 minutes for his reply as there is nothing for him to answer."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I shall not take more than fifteen minutes, Sir.

"Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that this Bill was supported by every one and by all the groups in this House. It is true, Sir, that I need not take much of your precious time in replying to the points and very good suggestions made by all hon. Members.

"Now, Sir, as a Member belonging to the Government I should not go into those things that are considered religious. Of course our Muslim friends belonging to the Muslim League had emphasized that Islamic Religion has influenced much in the betterment of the social conditions of the Harijans in this land. I cannot but accept that. But at the same time, I must also request the Members of the Muslim League to remember that during the recent troubles many Harijans have been injured. Of course Muslims were once rulers in this country. Now on account of political differences, on account of the policy of Pakistan or Akhand Hindustan I think such atrocities were committed irrespective of caste, creed or religion. If such things had not happened in Assam I could have made an unqualified admission that but for the Muslim culture and influence in India the condition of the Harijans in these days would have been worse.

"Sir, I must also answer some of the points raised by hon. Members belonging to my group that Hinduism also has done

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greater things. Of course Hinduism is a great religion. The Hindu kings were there to obey Dharma. But now in India on account of this caste system on account of the differences this community has become the lowest. If the caste Hindus and the Scheduled Castes were united the British Government could not have come to India and ruled over India for the last 200 years.

4-45 p.m. "As regards Islamic influence and Hindu influence I do not want to enter into a controversy. But the emancipation of the Harijans is entirely in the hands of the whole nation. Of course now it is said that Islam is a separate nation. By saying the whole nation, I mean the Indian nation. We know that the seven crores of Harijans are not treated like human beings. That is a fact. Any amount of philosophy or speeches cannot disprove the fact. I do not care for the reasons and causes, how and why these people have come to this state. It is the duty of a civilised Government to redress all the grievances of this unfortunate community. As a member of the Congress Government and of the Congress organisation which is working, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, I must straightway answer the points raised by hon. Members on the opposite side. I should say, Sir, there is no motive at all in introducing this Bill. Gandhiji started this programme of removal of untouchability in 1921. Removal of untouchability and Hindu-Muslim unity formed two items of the constructive programme decided upon in the Congress session at Bezwada. From 1921 onwards, the Congress organization under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi has been propagating the cause of the removal of untouchability in the towns and the villages. It is only as a result of the efforts of the Congress organization that the question of the removal of untouchability has come to the forefront. Today, I am proud to say that my party and our Government has introduced this Bill. Even the Justice Party which was in power under Dyarchy and which was supposed to oppose the Brahmans could not introduce such a Bill. Today the Congress Government has been able to introduce such a Bill. It is not with a view to exploit the Harijans and induce them to remain in the Congress, but it is done purely as a humanitarian work to emancipate the Harijans. Mahatma Gandhi is not only a political leader, but he is also an emancipator of the Harijans. I have discussed this matter with him at the Sabarmathi Ashram several times. Dr. Ambedkar has said that Gandhiji has deceived the Harijans and exploited them. Sir, a man of his education, culture and calibre should not have said this. If Gandhiji had not been there, this removal of untouchability question could not have become an All India question. He started Harijan Sevak Sanghs and has spent lakhs of rupees for this purpose. This Bill is introduced in the Legislature not with any motive. It has been introduced in order to give full civil rights to the Harijans. As a member of the Harijan community, I am here, and there are also thirty other members like me here. We all feel that this Bill has not been introduced with any motive. We are here to see that the conditions of life of the Harijans are

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improved with the help of the biggest organization, the Indian National Congress. Not only in this Province but in all the other Provinces such Bills are going to be introduced. Even before the general elections, Sardar Patel, Chairman of the Congress Parliamentary Board, said that as soon as Congress came into power, it must introduce necessary legislation to remove untouchability and give full civil rights to Harijans.

"In this connexion, I should like to reply to the points raised by Mr. Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu. He said that the removal of the social disabilities should be followed by the removal of the economic disabilities also. I think, Sir, that the removal of the social disabilities will greatly facilitate the removal of the economic disabilities also. I may also assure the hon. Member that this Government is going to help the Harijans in all possible ways. No one in this House is opposed to this. Of course there may be some difficulties here and there on account of procedure, but they will be got over in no time. The Members of the Government are quite willing to help the Harijan community in all possible ways. I therefore request hon. Members on the other side, particularly my hon. Friend Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig, to disabuse their minds of the idea that this Bill has been introduced with any motive.

"I may assure this House that this Government is going to enforce all the provisions of this Act with all the power they could command. The Harijan Members of this House need not be afraid that this Bill may not be translated into action. This Government represents the people. This is a Congress Government and a popular Government. This is the Bill of the people. When we pass a legislation here, it means that it has got the sanction of the people. All the Congress and Kisan organizations are behind this legislation. This Bill will be enforced in toto. It will be tom-tomed in the villages." (Interruption from Mr. Nagappa.)

Mr. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister may finish his speech. He need not reply to the hon. Member."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is the duty of the local boards. Mr. Nagappa is a Member of this House and he should not have put this question. I can understand if it is put by an ordinary villager. With these remarks, I request hon. Members of this House to support this Bill and move that the consideration of this Bill be taken up at once."

The question that the Madras Removal of Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1947), as passed by the Council, be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Are there any amendments?"

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"No amendments, Sir."

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move that the Bill passed into law."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does any hon. Member want to speak on this motion. (After a pause.) No hon. Member wants to speak. I shall put the question to the vote of the House."

The motion was put and carried and the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947, as passed by the Council was passed into law.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, were we not promised this morning that Government would make a statement on the position of the strike in the City?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take it up tomorrow."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It will be much easier to make a statement tomorrow, because we will have better information on the subject than we possess now."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But how are we going to go home?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"You are quite safe."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Shall we take up the next Bill now?"

Several hon. Members:—"Tomorrow, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow."

Papers laid on the table of the House.

1. G.O. No. 218, Finance, dated 29th March 1947 relating to the Schedule of Authorised Expenditure for 1947-48 as authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.

2. G.O. No. 223, Finance, dated 30th March 1947 relating to the Schedule of Supplementary Statements of Authorised Expenditure for 1946-47 as authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 570 asked by Sri Pillamarri Venkateswarlu (on behalf of Sri K. Anandan Nambiyar) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 31st March 1947, page 369 supra.]

(1) List of articles seized in the Communist Party office, Madras.

1. Students note book containing Peoples' War account from 1st October 1944.
2. A note book containing accounts from 1st November 1946.
3. Express office file of Textiles M.P. T.N.C. containing printed leaflets and copies of correspondences, etc.
4. Press account, petty cash book.
5. Express office file—Textiles, Madura.
6. Office file—Information bureau—Party circulars and letters.
7. A file No. 38, Madura, containing correspondence, etc.
8. Two sheets of Tamil manuscripts—Madura City Conservancy Labour Victory Celebration meeting report, dated 2nd December 1946, by M. S. S. Mani.
9. Three sheets of Tamil manuscript—Gazette relating to Madura City Conservancy Labour, dated 2nd December 1946, by M. S. S. Mani.
10. Eight Tamil different leaflets.
11. Four hand note books taken from the hand bag of Mr. Jeevanandam.

(2) List of articles seized in the Provincial Trade Union Congress office, Madras.

1. Letter, dated 27th December 1946, from the Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union, Singanallur, Coimbatore, to the Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress, Madras.
2. Manuscript beginning with (1) Explain assets and ending (17) collections 2,000 for each district and 10,000 for Madura—Consisting of 3 pages.
3. Copy of Resolution passed at the Representatives Meeting of the Textile Workers' Union held on 4th January 1947 at Madras.
4. P.C. Circular, Madras, dated 20th December 1945.
5. Circular No. 48, the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress—Very important, dated 6th January 1947.
6. Letter, dated 14th September 1946 from Treasurer, Motor Labour Union, with receipt for Rs. 13 (to the Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress).
7. Circular No. /46, dated 7th November 1946 "hold strike ballot between 7th and 15th November."

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8. Circular No. 39/40—"Observe South Indian Railway Day," October 5th (5 copies).
9. Circular No. 48, to all affiliated and Associated Textile Workers' Union (2 copies).
10. Letter, dated 6th January 1947, from P. Balachandra Menon, to the Secretary, Textile Workers' Union.
11. Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress Working Committee's resolution, pages 1, 2 and 5.
12. Circular No. 1/47, dated 1st January 1947, on interim relief to Textile Workers' bonus and victimisation (2 copies).
13. G.O. Ms. No. 4637, Development Department, dated 18th December 1946.
14. Letter handed over to District Workers' Union, Coimbatore (3 copies).
15. P.C. Circular No. 52/46, Madras, dated 27th November 1946.
16. A list of the Unions beginning with "Textile Workers' Union, Ellore," and ending with "Calicut Hotel Workers' Union."
17. P. Ramamoorthy and R. Balachandra Menon—Statement to Press, dated 4th November 1946.
18. Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress circular to Textile Unions, dated 9th November 1946, by P. Balachandra Menon.
19. Important activities of the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress from 1st January 1946 to 1st April 1946.
20. Circular No. 37/46, dated 12th September 1946.
21. Circular No. 36/46, dated 8th September 1946 (2 copies).
22. Letter, dated 29th July 1946, to attend urgent meeting at Madura on 1st August 1946.
23. Resolution passed at the Working Committee meeting held on 20th and 21st July 1946.
24. Circular No. 28/46, dated 6th July 1946.
25. Circular Nos. 23 and 24/46, dated 25th June 1946.
26. Circular No. 17/46, dated 28th May 1946.
27. Circular, dated 3rd September 1945.
28. Letter, dated 1st July 1946, from the General Secretary, the Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Proprietor, Raja Mills, Madura.
29. Resolution passed by the Executive Committee of the Madura Textile Workers' Union, dated 24th June 1946.
30. Letter, dated 3rd June 1946, to the Hon. Minister K. Bhashyam, regarding withdrawal of pending prosecutions.
31. Letter, dated 5th June 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the proprietor, Raja Mills, Madura.

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32. Letter, dated 30th May 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Proprietor, Raja Mills, Madura.
33. Letter, dated 29th May 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the General Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress.
34. Letter, dated 29th May 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the General Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress. Copy to Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress (2 copies).
35. Letter, dated 25th May 1945 from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union to Balachandra Menon (2 pages with enclosures).
36. Letter, dated 23rd May 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union to Balachandra Menon, (2 pages with enclosures).
37. Letter, dated 23rd May 1946 from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to P. Ramamoorthy (with enclosures).
38. Result of discussion of the Commissioner of Labour with Proprietor, Raja Mills, etc., on 10th January 1946.
39. Letter, dated 29th December 1945 from the Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Proprietor, Raja Mills, Madura.
40. Letter, dated 3rd March 1946, from the Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Labour Conciliation Officer, Madura.
41. Letter, dated 3rd March 1946 from the Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Proprietor, Raja Mills, Madura.
42. Letter, dated 1st March 1946 from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Labour Commissioner, Madras.
43. Letter, dated 20th February 1946 from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Labour Commissioner, Madras.
44. Letter, dated 17th January 1946 from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Labour Commissioner, Madras.
45. Letter, dated 29th December 1945, from the General Secretary, Madras Textile Workers' Union, to the Proprietor, Raja Mills.
46. Letter, dated 10th December 1946 from the Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to the Manager, Madura Mills Company.
47. P.R.O.T.U. report, dated 10th May 1946 (3 pages).
48. News letter numbered 49 in the pencil.
49. Letter, dated 30th November 1946 from S. Muthuramalingam.

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50. Letter, dated 1st November 1946 from Tamilnad Students, Madura, to Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress.
51. Letter, dated 11th October 1946, from K. T. K. Thangamani, to the Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress, Bombay (copy).
52. P.C., dated 29th September 1946 from P. Jagannadham, to R. Ramanathan.
53. P.C., dated nil from K. A. Adinarayanan, to R. R. Sidha.
54. Notice, dated 25th October 1946, by M. N. Adinarayanan.
55. Letter, dated 15th June 1946, from the General Secretary, Madura Textile Workers' Union, to Manager, Madura Mills.
56. Letter, dated 28th July 1946 from the Secretary, Mechanic Employees' Association, to the Secretary, Provincial Trade Union Congress.
57. Letter, dated 5th October 1946 from K. T. K. Thangamani, to Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress.
58. P.C., dated 2nd October 1946, from N. Sarkariah, to M. R. Venkataraman.
59. Letter, dated 8th August 1946, in Tamil from Secretary, Cigar Workers' Association, Dindigul, to Provincial Trade Union Congress, Madras.
60. Letter, dated 3rd August 1946 in Tamil from P. Jagannadham, to the Secretary, Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress, Madras.
61. Copy of the memorandum of the Jutka Labourers' Union, to the Minister for Industries and Labour, on 24th February 1946.
62. P.C., dated 27th May 1946 from K. T. K. Thangamani, to Balachandra Menon.
63. P.C., dated 29th May 1946 from K. T. K. Thangamani, to Balachandra Menon.
64. Letter, dated 11th March 1946 from S. Muthuramalingam to P. Balachandran.
65. Letter, dated 30th January 1946 to P. Balachandra Menon from R. V. Sudha (illegible).

Articles seized in the Press Workers' Union office, Madras.—Nil.

(3) List of articles seized in the Madras Harbour Workers' Union office.

1. Madras Harbour Workers' Union Tamil leaflets, dated 20th July 1946—one; dated 20th July 1946—one; dated 13th August 1946—one; dated 19th September 1946—one; dated 25th September 1946—one; dated 30th October 1946—one booklet; dated 12th October 1946—one leaflet; dated 26th May 1946—one; dated 12th November 1946—one; dated 16th November 1946—one; dated 2nd December 1946—one; one Tamil leaflet printed in November

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- 1946; leaflet regarding the Port Trust worker gang printed on 12th December 1946; leaflet in Tamil regarding Madras Harbour Union published in December 1946; leaflets in Tamil regarding Madras Harbour Workers' Union published in October 1946—2 copies; one Tamil booklet regarding black market, dated 3rd September 1946—one; one Tamil book regarding South Indian Railway strike—82 pages, dated November 1946 (18 items).
 2. One Tamil Roneo regarding South Indian Railway issued by M. Kalyanasundaram.
 3. One Telugu Roneo regarding Madras Harbour Workers' Union, dated 23rd July 1946.
 4. Memorandum, dated 8th August 1946—one.
 5. Extract from A.B.P., dated 30th September 1946—one.
 6. Hand bill, dated 24th September 1946—one (H.H.W.).
 7. Handbill of Communist Party of India, Bombay, dated nil—one.
 8. M.H.W. handbill, dated 1st December 1946—one.
 9. M.H.W. pamphlet, dated 3rd October 1946—one.
 10. English leaflet C.H.W. strike—one.
- (4) Articles seized in the Communist Party office, Dindigul.—Nil.*
- (5) List of articles seized in the South Indian Railway Labour Union office, Madura, on 8th January 1947.*
1. A file containing pamphlets from 20th April 1944 to 1st September 1946 (176 pages).
 2. Resolution regarding Trichinopoly Police action during the strike (a file containing 11 sheets—22 pages).
 3. A Tamil circular regarding instruction to the Communist during the Railway strike No. 124/46, Madras, dated 1st October 1944.
 4. A cyclostyle notice regarding Railway strike at Trichinopoly (in Tamil).
 5. A printed copy regarding South Indian Railway strike and after memorandum to Mr. Asaf Ali.
 6. A file containing Secretary's circular from 26th March 1945 to 26th November 1946 (182 pages).
 7. A wire from Nambiar from Trichinopoly, dated 29th August 1946.
 8. A printed notice regarding Trichinopoly Railway strike, dated 22nd November 1946.
 9. A file of papers regarding Railway strike—32 pages.
 10. A typed cyclostyle copy regarding Kashmir day, dated 14th July 1946.
 11. Circular of South Indian Railway Labour Union, Golden Rock, dated 4th August 1946.

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12. Cash receipt of South Indian Railway Labour Union, S. Nos. 18401 to 18500 and 6201 to 6300—2.
13. Pamphlets (in Tamil)—(1) Don't beat on the belly; (2) Don't allow revenge; (3) Strike that shook South India; (4) Some truths regarding All-India Railway strike; and (5) Non-violence struggle of South Indian Railway and after.
14. A printed notice in Tamil—strike ballot.
15. A printed notice—strike fund.
16. A typed cyclostyle letter from Railway Golden Rock General Secretary, dated 2nd January 1947.
17. A typed cyclostyle circular regarding Press workers strike, dated 2nd January 1947.
18. A typed cyclostyle circular regarding 10th Annual Conference on 8th and 9th February 1947, dated 8th January 1947.
19. A typed cyclostyle Joeshi's appeal for sympathetic understanding all round, dated 14th June 1946.
20. A typed cyclostyle Tamil circular—Reply of Communists to Congress Working Committee, dated 10th May 1946.
21. A typed cyclostyle regarding Indian fight for freedom, dated 13th April 1944.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 513 by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 31st March 1947, page 371 supra.]

List of articles seized in the South Indian Railway Labour Union office, Madura, on 8th January 1947.

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APPENDIX III

(AS PASSED BY THE COUNCIL.)

L.C. BILL No. 1 OF 1947.

A Bill to amend the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938.

Madras Act XXI of 1938 WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Act, 1947.

Amendment of section 2, Madras Act XXI of 1938. 2. In section 2 of the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act, 1938 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the following substitutions shall be made, namely:—

(i) for the words "Depressed Class", the words "Depressed Classes";

(ii) for the words "enjoying or having access to", the words "having access to or using";

(iii) for the words "a right to enjoy or have access to", the words "a right of access to or a right to use";

(iv) for the words "carrying on the affairs", the words "conducting the affairs";

(v) for the word "prescription" the words "prescriptive right"; and

(vi) for the words "acts or omissions", the words "act or omission."

Addition of new sections 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 to Madras Act XXI of 1938.

3. After section 2 of the said Act, the following sections shall be added, namely:—

Discrimination against Harijans, etc., prohibited.

"3. No person owning, or being in charge of, any secular institution referred to in section 2, shall—

(i) impose, or cause or suffer to be imposed, any restriction on any person belonging to any community or class referred to in section 2, or

(ii) do or omit to do anything, or cause or suffer anything to be done or omitted to be done, so as to result in discrimination against any person belonging to any such class or community merely on the ground that he belongs to such community or class.

Secular institution explained. 4. For the purposes of this Act, the expression secular institution includes, among others—

(i) any refreshment room, restaurant, cafe, coffee house, eating house, boarding house, lodging house, hostel, hotel or any other place where persons are provided with food, drink, shelter or sleeping or other accommodation;

(ii) any place of public entertainment or amusement;

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(iii) any premises where goods are sold, any laundry, any shaving or hair dressing saloon or any other place where services are rendered to customers;

(iv) any place used for the burial, cremation, or disposal otherwise, of the dead.

5. No dealer shall refuse to sell, or withhold from sale, any article which is kept by him for sale, to any person belonging to any community on the ground that he belongs to such community.

Refusal of sale of articles to Harijans, etc., prohibited.

6. Whoever—

Penalties.

(i) prevents a person belonging to any community or class referred to in section 2 from exercising any civic right or privilege to which he is entitled under this Act, or

(ii) molests or obstructs any such person in the exercise of any such right or privilege, or

(iii) contravenes the provisions of sections 3 and 5, shall be punishable, in the case of a first offence, with fine which may extend to fifty rupees and in the case of a second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both.

Offences under Act to be cognizable.

7. All offences punishable under this Act shall be cognizable."

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 1st April 1947.

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

I.—SWEARING IN OF A NEW MEMBER.

Mr. H. B. Walford was sworn in.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Rent Control Officers in Madura.

* 508 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rent Controllers appointed under the old Rent Control Orders for the City of Madura have not been functioning at all for several months past under the pretext of waiting for the new Act to be passed by the Legislature, and have been adjourning all cases filed under the old Rent Control Orders;

(b) whether it is a fact that on account of this there is a large accumulation of over 1,000 cases now pending disposal, many of them more than six to nine months old;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Madura addressed the Government for the appointment of an additional P.A. to deal with these applications and applications made under the later Buildings (Lease and Rent) Control Act; if so, when was the request made and why there has been such inordinate delay in appointing a Rent Controller for Madura; and

(d) whether the Government propose to take any action; and if so, what action?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a) Information is not readily available. A report has been called for. It is awaited.

“(b) It is reported that there are 650 cases pending with the Rent Controller. Information as to how many of these pending cases are more than six months to nine months old has been called for.

“(c) The Collector of Madura did not submit any proposal to Government of his own accord. On receipt of a representation from the Honorary Secretary, Madura Bar Association, the Government called for proposals from the Collector of Madura and the Board of Revenue for the appointment of a temporary additional Rent Controller for Madura. The

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replies from the Collector and the remarks of the Board of Revenue thereon were received by Government on 14th February 1947, and the proposal is under consideration. There has been no long or unnecessary delay in dealing with the proposal.

“(d) It is proposed to appoint a temporary additional Rent Controller for Madura City shortly to clear the arrears.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“ May I know when will the temporary additional Rent Controller be appointed? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ Orders will be issued very shortly.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“ Will it take months or weeks? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ It is a question of days, I believe.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ Will the Government see that the occupants of the houses who have been allotted accommodation either under the present Act or the former Act are not evicted even though the houses are purchased by others? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The eviction of a tenant is provided for in the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946. I believe that the Act as it stands does not authorize the new purchaser of the house to evict the tenant without the orders of the Controller.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that there are many loopholes in the existing Act and that many landlords are evicting the tenants on the ground that they intend to put up a new construction and on many other flimsy grounds? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ I am thankful to the hon. Lady Member for the information. In fact, the Government are considering proposals to amend the Madras Buildings Act to prevent such evictions, and I would welcome suggestions from the hon. Lady Member in that direction.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the fact that there is a great deal of shortage of houses not only in Madras but also in most of the towns, will it not be advisable for the Government to have a housing scheme to meet the situation? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The Government have under consideration a housing scheme for the whole Province, but it is a question of ways and means and of times and methods.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know in whose interest the Rent Control Act is administered by the Government? ”

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ General welfare of the public of the Province.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ If that is so, may I know whether the Controllers have been allotting houses only to officials or to non-officials also? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The Government have a special duty to provide accommodation for their officers in order that Governmental business may be carried on. At the same time, the Government are not oblivious or indifferent to the interest of non-Governmental persons. The Controllers follow this procedure: When a person arranges with the landlord to enter into occupation of his building and reports the fact to the Controller concerned, the Controller readily allows that arrangement to be carried out.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Government will furnish statistics of applications pending before the Controllers and if there has been delay in disposing of applications, what the explanation for such delay is? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ If the hon. Member has followed my answer to the original question, he will see that the Government have called for a report from the Controller for Madura. Recently, information was called for from the Controller for Madras. If similar information from other places is wanted, it will be called for.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ My question was whether statistics were furnished to Government as a matter of routine and whether the Government scrutinized those statistics.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ I am not aware of the position, but I take note of the hon. Member's suggestion.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know how many more Rent Controllers are going to be appointed for the City of Madras.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ I am not a prophet of future events.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know the attitude of Government to requests made by landlords who want to get back their buildings for carrying on their business or for their own occupation? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The attitude of Government is defined by the provisions of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ When a house falls vacant, is it not incumbent that first information has got to be given to the Rent Controller? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ Certainly.”

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"How would it be possible for the Controller to allot houses to non-Government officers?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"As I said, the position is this. As notices of vacancy are received by the Controller, the houses are allotted to Government servants. If the Controller receives report of an arrangement by a non-Government officer with a landlord for the occupation of his house, that arrangement will be enforced."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I observe that there is no possibility of anybody knowing whether a house has been let to a government official or not?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Government are unable to help in the matter."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister how many Rent Controllers the Government propose to appoint at once to meet the present situation when there are thousands and thousands of applications pending? I do not want the Hon. Minister to play the role of a prophet."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"That question has already been answered yesterday on the floor of this House."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether it is not a fact that applications made by non-officials are returned on the ground that the Controller cannot entertain them?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"As I explained, the provisions of the present Act only provide for the original allotment of houses to Government servants. Any arrangement, more or less of a non-official fashion, entered into by a non-Government officer with a landlord will be taken note of and put into effect by the Controller."

* Questions Nos. 509 to 511 answered on the 31st March 1947.

Dearness allowance to women in Government service.

* 512 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether (i) war allowance or (ii) dearness allowance is not paid to a married woman officer of gazetted rank, whose husband is in Government service drawing dearness allowance;

(b) whether the same rule is applied to wives of different categories of Government servants, both in the gazetted and non-gazetted ranks, irrespective of the amount and the nature of the allowance their husbands draw;

(c) whether a woman whose husband is in Government service and draws war allowance is allowed to draw dearness allowance; and

(d) whether war allowance is still being paid to Government officials, both men and women, and the rates at which they are paid?

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) (i) War allowance is not paid to a married officer of Gazetted rank whose husband is in Government service drawing dearness allowance.

(ii) The question will not arise as Gazetted Officers are eligible for War allowance only.

"(b) No. But War allowance is not admissible even to a non-gazetted married woman if her husband is a Government servant drawing dearness allowance and if she draws a salary in excess of Rs. 260 per mensem.

"(c) Yes.

"(d) Yes. The rates are—

(1) *Gazetted Officers*:—Married Officers drawing pay up to Rs. 1,500 per mensem will receive a War allowance equal to $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 50 per mensem. Those on pay of more than Rs. 1,500 per mensem but not more than Rs. 2,000 per mensem will draw the allowance at the flat rate of Rs. 263 per mensem with marginal adjustments up to Rs. 2,263 per mensem.

(2) *Single Gazetted Officers* drawing pay up to Rs. 1,000 per mensem will receive a war allowance equal to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent subject to a minimum of 30 per mensem with marginal adjustments up to Rs. 1,075 per mensem.

(3) *Non-Gazetted officers* not entitled to Dearness allowance will receive a war allowance at $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of pay."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask why it is that a woman gazetted officer is precluded from drawing war allowance when her husband is in Government service and draws dearness allowance? Instead of making the same rule applicable to all gazetted officers irrespective of sex why is discrimination made between a man and a woman holding a gazetted rank?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The presumption is that the wife is not bound to maintain her husband, while the husband is bound to maintain his wife."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there are many cases in which the wife has to maintain her husband?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Not that I am aware of."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I inform the Hon. Minister that there are many such cases particularly in these days when women are receiving the benefits of higher education?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"If the hon. Lady Member furnishes particulars, I shall be glad to examine the question."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In view of the great help he received a military convoy, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will change his view in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Certainly not. This has nothing to do with military convoy."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the fact that it would be fair to treat the different categories of Government servants in the same manner, irrespective of the nature and amount of the allowance that the husband of a gazetted (woman) officer draws, will the Government be pleased to remove the anomalies in the existing rules?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The question shall be examined."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does not the Hon. Minister know that, thanks to Marmakattayam, things are topsy-turvy in Malabar and will he not, therefore, revise the rule *vice versa*?" (Loud laughter.)

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware that things are topsy-turvy in Malabar or South Kanara."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know the difference between War allowance and Dearness allowance?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Dearness allowance is the allowance paid to non-gazetted Government servants drawing Rs. 200 and less, and War allowance to those drawing above Rs. 200."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Now that the War is over, where is the necessity for giving War allowance?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is called War allowance because the cost of living has increased on account of War."

Questions Nos. 513 to 517 were answered on 31st March 1947.

* 518 Q.—THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not satisfied with the answer put up by the office. I would like that the question might be put later."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall take up the question on the 17th of this month."

Re-employment of superannuated officials.

* 519 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many superannuated officials are still employed in the various departments of Government; and

(b) whether the Government propose to terminate their re-employment, except in cases of those possessing exceptional technical qualifications?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Four hundred and thirty-two.

" (b) On the 10th June 1946 the Government issued orders that thereafter no person who had been retired from service should be re-employed unless there were exceptional circumstances justifying such a step. Instructions have also been issued to the effect that there is no obligation to retain retired persons in service to the end of the period for which they have been re-employed and that their services may be dispensed with on a month's notice."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Do not the Government think it proper to replace these superannuated people by younger people in order to solve the unemployment problem of our young men?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have answered this question quite a number of times during the last three days. I think the hon. Gentleman listened to what I said."

Replacement of superannuated men still in service.

* 520 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of superannuated men in—

(1) the gazetted ranks; and

(2) non-gazetted ranks that are employed at present in the various departments of Government service; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to replace these superannuated men by younger officers?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Forty-six in the gazetted ranks, and 386 in the non-gazetted ranks.

" (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (b) of the Legislative Assembly * Starred Question No. 519."

Refusal of leave preparatory to retirement.

* 521 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any cases and, if so, how many where leave preparatory to retirement was refused;

(b) whether the officers in such cases are entitled to their leave on full leave salary after retirement;

(c) whether their leave salary would not be much higher than their pension;

(d) what are the special reasons for committing Government to this unnecessary additional expenditure;

(e) if under (a) above, the answer is in the affirmative, whether it is not the intention of the Government to consider

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re-employment or extension of service of the concerned officers; and

(f) whether the Government propose to forthwith terminate service of all re-employed people?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) There are thirty-two cases.

“(b) The officers who are refused leave preparatory to retirement can avail themselves of the leave refused subject to a maximum of six months. During this period, they will draw leave salary equal to average pay or half average pay according as the leave at their credit is on average pay or on half average pay. In such cases the retirement will take place at the end of the leave.

“(c) The leave salary will be higher than pension if the leave is on average pay.

“(d) The special reasons for the refusal of leave are exigencies of service.

“(e) The answer is in the affirmative. It is done only in exceptional circumstances.

“(f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer of clause (b) of the Legislative Assembly Question No. 519.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask who are the officers in whose cases leave was refused in order to continue them in their offices?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I cannot give details at the present time. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I shall furnish the information.”

Conversion of School of Indian Medicine into a College.

* 522 Q.—**BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that she (the then Minister) stated in her Radio talk on 24th February 1947 that there is no proposal to convert the present School of Indian Medicine into a College; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the recommendation of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee wherein the Hon. Minister herself presided on 21st June 1946 was to convert the present School of Indian Medicine into a College?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The Government have sanctioned the opening of a College of Indian Medicine at Madras. ‘Fresh admissions to the existing School of Indian Medicine will be discontinued from July 1947. Arrangements will, however, be made for the continuance of the studies of the students who have already been admitted into

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the school. After these students complete their courses, the School will be abolished.’ The Radio talk was to this effect.

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask whether it is not a fact that the former Minister of Public Health stated in her Radio talk as follows:—‘There is no such proposal to convert the present School of Indian Medicine into a College. According to the scheme drawn up by the Ad Hoc Committee, a College will be started in Madras whereas as a matter of fact the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee referred to ran as follows: ‘The present School of Indian Medicine is to be raised to the status of a College on the same footing and status now enjoyed by the Medical Colleges teaching Modern Systems of Medicine.’ Is the proposal of the ex-Minister the same as the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The Ad Hoc Committee was presided over by the ex-Minister herself.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether it is not a fact that the former Premier of Madras, Sri T. Prakasam in his Budget speech stated that the existing School of Indian Medicine would be converted into a College, whereas the former Minister of Public Health passed a Government Order to the effect that the existing School would be abolished and a new College would be established in July next?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The proposal is to convert the present School into a College.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether it is the intention of the present Government to raise the existing School into a College or to abolish the School altogether and establish a new College?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The difference is only a matter of words. Students will be admitted to the College next year from July next onwards. There is no proposal to continue the Medical School after the present students complete their courses. The School will be continued for four years.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In that case, will all the students of the Medical School who will be there at the time of the abolition of that School, be admitted into the new College as a matter of course?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“It is not proposed to abolish the School straightway; the classes will be abolished one by one and the final year class will close when the present students complete their course.”

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether it will not lead to great deal of duplication of work and expenditure by running the College and School separately instead of converting the existing School into a College as was done in the case of the Stanley Medical College, Madras, Veterinary College and of the L.M.P. School at Vellore? Is the College to be located in a different building and will the students who have already joined the School pursue their studies in the existing building until they complete their courses? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" As the Hon. Minister took office only a few days ago, the hon. Member may put a separate question; it will be brought before the House on the 17th."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The Hon. Minister is an old Member of this House who knows all these things."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If he is prepared to answer the question, I have no objection. It is better in the interest of all concerned, if a separate question is put; I shall bring it up on the 17th. What has the Hon. Minister to say? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I do not understand what the difficulty of the hon. Lady Member is."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I shall allow her to put her supplementary question. The Hon. Minister is prepared to answer the question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether the same procedure will be adopted with reference to this College as was adopted in the case of the Stanley Medical School and the Madras Veterinary School which were raised to the status of Colleges? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I do not know what procedure was adopted with reference to the Stanley Medical College."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" The Hon. Minister can find that out and answer my question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" If a short-notice question is given, I shall bring it up before the House on the 17th. We have got a number of days before us. Supplementary questions may be put then."

Registrar of the Madras Medical Council.

523 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the Madras Medical Council, there have been several resignations of Registrars, within a period of two years?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" During the period from 1st July 1944 up to date there have been six changes of Registrars in the Madras Medical Council. The sixth person is now in charge."

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that even the sixth Registrar has resigned now and the seventh has come into his place? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" No official information, Sir."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Government enquire why there have been this series of resignation, whether it is due to maladministration or mismanagement by the President of the Council? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The appointment of Registrars is made by the Medical Council. The Government are not informed about this matter. Their removal also is done by them."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Government take it upon themselves under the general powers of superintendence which they have, and enquire into this matter and find out why, within such a short period of two years, Registrar after Registrar has been compelled to resign? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I will call for information."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it a fact that these Registrars were compelled to resign? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" No information."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the reply that there had been a number of resignations in the Madras Medical Council, may I enquire the Hon. Minister whether the hon. Member Mr. Varadachari had any hand in these resignations? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" What has the hon. Member, Mr. Varadachari, to do with the resignations? I disallow the question."

Floods in the river Vamsadhara.

* 524 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what steps the Government have taken to see that the big village of Nivagam on the banks of river Vamsadhara in Pathapatnam taluk is not washed away by further floods of the said river; and

(b) what the recommendations are of the Hon. Minister after he visited the said village in the month of October last?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) & (b) The Government have no information. A report has been called for from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation), and it is awaited."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMY:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister will see that the river Vamsadhara is harnessed at some suitable place to prevent some hundreds of villages in the taluks of Chitacole, Rathapatnam and Narasannapeta of Vizagapatam district from being damaged? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I agree with the hon. Member."

Publication of some manuscripts of the Tanjore Palace Library.

* 525 Q.—**SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:** Will the Hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government propose to publish some valuable manuscripts belonging to Tanjore Palace Saraswathi Mahal Library?

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

"(a) Government do not propose to publish or undertake the publication of any manuscript of the Tanjore Palace Library. The Secretary of the Library has recently applied to Government for financial aid for the publication of the old manuscripts which are decaying. The question whether a grant should be given, from which year and for what period is under consideration of the Government."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government is giving any grant at present?"

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

"I think no grant is being paid."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether it is a fact that many valuable manuscripts in the said Library have been taken away by foreigners under some guise or other and whether the Government propose to take steps to recover them?"

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

"The hon. Member may put a separate question. I shall answer it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Do the Government propose to see that this very valuable library is made available to the public as much as possible?"

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

"The real difficulty is many of the books are in manuscripts; they have to be published. There are many valuable manuscripts. It is under the consideration of the Government whether some money can be given to the library to publish the manuscripts."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"May I know in what language are the manuscripts?"

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

"I do not have a catalogue; it is in all languages, Urdu, Marathi and other languages."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Will the Government consider the proposal to appoint a Committee to go into the matter and find out whether the Government can take up the publication of the valuable books?"

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

"The Government will consider the matter."

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Malappuram Government High School hostel.

* 526 Q.—**B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR** (on behalf of P. K. Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that great inconvenience is caused to the students of the Government High School, Malappuram, for want of a good hostel?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government understand that the hostel is not very satisfactory."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact Sir, that before this Government came into power, provision was made for the construction of a new building for the hostel, that estimates were prepared and several other steps taken and that when this Government came into power, they dropped the idea of constructing the building causing great inconvenience to the students?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not that the proposal has been dropped, but it, along with other proposals for several building works, has been temporarily postponed in view of the scarcity of building materials and of the high cost of such materials."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact that the Hon. Minister visited Malappuram and satisfied himself that the pupils are put to very great inconvenience, particularly in view of the fact that even houses are not available for rent in that locality?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is true that the Minister had been there and it is also true that the building is not very satisfactory."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government will revise its policy and give priority particularly to hostel buildings, when there is such great need for hostels especially in a place like Malappuram?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is quite true that with the increase in facilities for education, hostel accommodation has not kept pace with schools, which have greatly increased. The Government will consider that matter also."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government realizes that special attention has to be paid to the education of Moplas, otherwise it will prove dangerous?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am not sure of the danger, Sir; but special efforts will be made in the direction of uplift of all communities which are depressed."

Thenkurissi Village Food Committee, Palghat taluk.

* 527 Q.—**B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR** (on behalf of P. K. Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. Minister for Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that three members of the Thenkurissi Village Food Committee in Palghat taluk were removed from office all on a sudden on the eve of the election to the Taluk Food Committee without any reason whatsoever?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes. The names of three members were deleted and three other names were substituted in the Thenkurissi Village Committee at the instance of Hon'ble Minister for Food who is also the M.L.A. of the taluk. This was done in the best interests of the village committee and not with a view to influence the election to the Taluk Food Committee."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what is the reason for deleting those names and substituting others instead?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The ex-Minister was in the village and enquired into the matter and his decision was that those three members should be deleted from the village committee and three others substituted."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Can the Hon. Minister tell us what was the reason which made him do this?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am not able to obtain the information from the file, Sir."

Formation of Village Committees.

* 528 Q.—SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the personnel of the village committees are to be selected or whether they may also be elected;

(b) whether, if the personnel are to be selected, the Revenue Divisional Officers are given discretionary powers to reject the opinion of a majority at the meetings convened for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government have issued any instructions or framed rules that dealers in foodgrains or other essential commodities who have been either fined or warned and persons who have been toddy and arrack contractors should be kept out of these committees; and

(d) whether and to what extent the opinion of the members of the Legislature given in pursuance of the word "consult" in paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 450, Food, dated 11th June 1946, is made binding on the Revenue Divisional Officers?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The members of the Village Committees are to be selected and not to be elected. The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected by the members.

" (b) As the Revenue Divisional Officer has to satisfy himself that the Committee formed is really representative, he may reject or modify the opinion of the majority if he considers it necessary.

" (c) The intention of Government is that the Committee should be representative of all interests including the interest of consumers and not be packed by a few rich persons or those with vested interests. The Government have accordingly issued general instructions to keep out vested interests

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such as grain dealers from these committees which should however be representative of all interests and not be packed bodies.

" (d) The Tahsildar will have to consult the resident M.L.A. or M.L.As. and M.L.C. or M.L.Cs. of the taluk in which the villages are situated in regard to the selection of committee members before finally announcing the names. The word "consult" in the Government Order is used to convey only the ordinary dictionary meaning of the word and that any opinion expressed by the members of the Legislature in regard to selection of members is to be taken only as highly advisory and not obligatory on the Revenue Divisional Officers."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether 'resident M.L.A. or M.L.C.' is interpreted to mean, M.L.A. or M.L.C. who is residing in that particular taluk, or town and not he who represents that constituency?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The idea is that the M.L.A. is resident in the village or in the taluk; but it so happens that the M.L.A. does not reside in that area but does represent that village, all the same. In either capacity, the M.L.A. comes there and advises the Revenue Divisional Officer."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the M.L.A. or M.L.C. to be consulted, is the communal, territorial or labour representative, of the constituency or that it is only the territorial M.L.A.?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As far as I know, Sir, it is either the M.L.As. or M.L.Cs. of the district; they will either represent a village committee, or taluk committee or the district committee."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, is the Government aware of cases where village committees which had already been formed by the Revenue Divisional Officer according to the Government Order have been changed subsequently?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have no information to that effect, but it is just possible."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether all the M.L.As. and M.L.C. will be called into a meeting and consulted, or whether the Revenue Divisional Officer consults whomsoever he likes, according to his convenience?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There are no separate regulations in the matter, Sir, but the intention is that the Revenue Divisional Officer if he thinks so, can do it by whatever means he likes."

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, who is the competent authority to dissolve the Village Food Committees?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is the Revenue Divisional Officer, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, if I understand the Government Order aright, I think it is the people who form the main body of recommenders in the matter of selecting the village committees. When once the meeting of all the people of the village has been convened and a selection has been made on the recommendation of those people, who were assembled there, is it reasonable, Sir, to make any changes in the personnel of the Committee without further reference to those people?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In these matters, the officer concerned is held responsible for the conduct of these committees, that is, the Revenue Divisional Officers. It is open to the Revenue Divisional Officers to interfere and to so reconstitute the committees where he thinks his interference is absolutely necessary and he is also empowered to make changes wherever necessary. It will not be possible for the Revenue Divisional Officers to consult the villagers every time there is a change in the constitution of the committee, because he is responsible for the conduct of the committee and in the interest of the proper working of the village committees, it is open to the Revenue Divisional Officer to make such changes as he thinks fit."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government is aware that in most cases the Tahsildar never calls for a meeting of the villagers and forms the committee according to his will and pleasure?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It may be so Sir, but as far as I am aware, I know that the Tahsildar of the taluk in which I live and where he formed a committee, did practically follow the procedure of calling the villagers and selecting the Committee; but it may be that some Tahsildars may not have followed that procedure."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not incumbent on the Tahsildar or other officers who form the committee to consult the people of the village before constituting that committee?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If that is made obligatory, then the work of the Tahsildar will be such that he will not be able to do anything at all. Besides, I would just point out to hon. Members that there is difficulty in calling the village people together in the formation of a Committee, and if for any and every change the village people are to be called in and consulted, then no work would be possible."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to make rules by which the defaulters in the surrender of paddy in time will be automatically removed from these Committees?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"First of all I do not know whether they could be members of the Committee; but how does that question arise out of this, I do not know."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the procedure now described by the Hon. Minister entitle these committees to be called democratic in nature?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government does not claim these committees to be democratic. They are really consultative bodies, so that as much of the popular advice and assistance prevailing in the village and in the neighbourhood as possible could be availed of in working of these committees."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the questions asked by the members of the Congress Party themselves, may I know whether the Government does not realise, even at this late hour, that these committees have failed and failed miserably?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Certainly not, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"Sir, I was not referring to procurers who certainly cannot be members of the Committee, but I want to know whether any ryots who fail to surrender paddy in time can be allowed to continue their membership?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I was saying that they ought not to be members of the committee at all."

M. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Wherever panchayat boards have been allowed under the Government Order to function as village committees, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether the President of the panchayat board should not be allowed to be ex-officio chairman of the village committee?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is a problematic situation, Sir, in which no definite answer could be given. I am not aware of many village panchayats that have been made village food committees, but if certain village panchayats have been converted into food committees, certainly the president has got all the responsibilities as chairman for the conduct of that particular body."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, will the Government consider and publish in vernaculars all the rules and regulations governing these Village, Town and District Committees?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government has published in all languages the rules relating to the conduct of these committees."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it not a fact that separate village committees have been subsequently formed in some places, where they have been functioning as village panchayats before, and that there exists no village panchayat doing the work of the village committee now?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As far as I am aware, it is the village committees that have been formed in almost all villages and I am not aware of any village committee and panchayat working together."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, will not such multiplication of committees in villages, formed on no democratic basis, and giving no satisfaction to the people, increase discontent among them?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As far as the Government are aware, there is no discontent worthy of note."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Will the Government make its position clear with regard to the formation of these food committees that other M.L.As. and other Parliamentary Secretaries and other officials should not interfere with the formation of these committees in the villages except those M.L.As. whose constituency covers those villages?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The rule is that the M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. representing that particular constituency have got the right to come and give their advice to the Revenue Divisional Officer with regard to the selection of the members. But if the Parliamentary Secretaries are deputed by the Government to do certain specific work with regard to these committees, they may do so."

11-45 a.m. M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that these village committees were constituted to encourage village autonomy, and if so, why these Revenue Divisional Officers dominate over their deliberations?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member's information is wrong; they are meant only to secure maximum procurement of paddy and foodgrains for the purpose of the Government."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government issue clear instructions that these committees will be only consultative bodies and not convert them into agents for distribution of patronage in such matters like the distribution of sugar, dhall and even foodgrains sometimes?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Government have more than once said that these committees are only consultative and they have no other powers beyond giving their own opinion and all decisions shall rest with the Revenue Divisional Officer of the place; but if in distributing all the necessities for consumption by the village, it so happens that some of the members get the influence and patronage consequent on it, the Government cannot help it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister stated that in this matter there was no dissatisfaction worthy of note. May I ask him whether the numerous questions put on the floor of this House do not indicate any dissatisfaction worthy of note?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Certainly not, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that it is the Revenue Divisional Officer that is really responsible to the Government and not these committees and that these committees are intended to be consulted by the Revenue Divisional Officer whenever and in whatever manner he likes, and in view of the great discontent that has arisen among the people on account of the existence of these committees, will the Government consider the advisability of scrapping these committees immediately?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, as a rule, many of these committees have worked very well; but if there are committees which have not done well and if the attention of Government is drawn to such inefficiency on the part of any of these committees, the Government will take note of it and interfere if it is found necessary."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know the life of these committees, how long they will continue for this purpose?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Perhaps as long as the food scarcity lasts."

SRI N. VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"As at present constituted, they are meant only for one year; do the Government propose to continue these committees further?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is nothing to prevent the Government from allowing these committees to continue if the need for their existence is proved and becomes almost imperative."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In answer to one of the questions, the Hon. Minister said that there were vested interests which are sought to be removed. May I know which those interests are? May I ask the Minister whom he regards as vested interests—is it the members representing the producers on the committees or the Divisional Officer or all those who are procuring foodgrains from the villagers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"‘Vested interests’ in this connexion means only the procuring agents, merchants, shop-keepers and ration-shop dealers who might get into the committees and make their function prejudicial to proper work."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"Village committee-ல் நெசவு தொழிலாளர்களை சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"அவர்களுக்கு கெல்லாம் நெசவு அட்வைசரி கமிட்டி என்றிருக்கிறது. அதில் சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள்."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"சில இடங்களில் சேர்க்கப்படவில்லை என்று புகார் வருகிறது என்று கனம் மத்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு தெரிவித்தால் அதை கவனிக்கப்படும்.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask whether the Government are aware that most of the village committees do not meet at all and soon after they receive the foodstuffs, they distribute them among themselves and see that the poor people go without these foodstuffs? Are the Government aware of this fact?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“That is a matter which should be enquired into by the Revenue Divisional Officer or the Tahsildar concerned; but if in spite of their interference, the evil continues, then it will be time for the Government to interfere and enquire.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know whether the Ministers who are elected from those particular constituencies will be members of the food committees in those constituencies and play the same havoc as they have played as M.L.As.?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I am afraid the rules of the Government with regard to the Ministers are such that they cannot continue in any committee in which they have been functioning previously.”

Free milk supply to nursing and expectant mothers.

* 529 Q.—**M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government contemplate re-introducing the free milk supply to nursing and expectant mothers and to infants in places where it was distributed till the end of December 1946;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to the report of the Director of Public Health the general infantile mortality and deaths by confinements have been greatly reduced during the period of the free milk supply scheme and that a chart to that effect was exhibited in the Government stall at the All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition;

(c) if so, the reasons why a good measure was withdrawn to the detriment of the poor masses who cannot otherwise afford the supply of milk; and

(d) whether it is proposed in the next budget to set apart the necessary funds for re-introducing and continuing this benevolent scheme?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) No.

“(b) No. The Director of Public Health did not make any report to the Government to the effect that the general infantile mortality and deaths by confinements had been greatly reduced during the period of the free milk supply

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scheme and no chart to that effect was exhibited in the recent All-India Khadi and Swadeshi Exhibition. He has, however, now reported that—

(1) according to the report of the Lady Superintendent, Child Welfare Scheme, Corporation of Madras, there has been an appreciable improvement in the weight and health of the infants and toddlers and that all priority consumers showed definite signs of improvement in their health;

(2) the results of the study of the weight of the children receiving free milk in one of the centres, made by the Nutrition Officer of the Public Health Department indicated that the children were thriving at rates comparable to normal children of the American standard; and

(3) the statistics available for the last ten years regarding general maternal and infantile mortality rates in the City of Madras reveal that there has been a marked decline in the maternal and infantile mortality rates during the period of the Government Milk Supply Scheme as shown below, although only a certain proportion of these population have alone received the benefit of the free milk supply scheme.

Year.	Maternal mortality rate.	Infantile mortality rate.
1936	9.74	218.22
1937	9.05	222.27
1938	8.79	222.11
1939	7.41	241.62
1940	7.62	205.70
1941	8.38	208.94
1942	7.17	196.80
1943	9.00	247.30
1944	6.56	284.30
1945	4.90	213.80
1946	3.10	185.10

“(c) The scheme was originally started in May 1945 when there was acute shortage of milk in Madras City. The scheme was extended up to 31st December 1946 owing to the continued short supply of milk. The question of supplying reconstituted milk out of the production of the newly opened Government Milk Factory, Madras, in lieu of fresh milk to the priority consumers after 31st December 1946 was, however, considered in consultation with the Corporation of Madras. The Corporation expressed its inability to meet even half the cost of the reconstituted milk and the question was dropped. The scheme was not continued during 1947 on Government account as the cost involved was enormous and as no similar scheme was in operation anywhere else in the Province.

“(d) No.”

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[After reading clauses (a) and (b) (1), (2) and (3), and before reading out the tabular statement]—

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is a list giving statistics for the past eleven years; if the House wants it, I shall read it."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"It is not necessary."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I shall just read out a summary for the information of the House. Maternity mortality during the past eleven years has come down from 9.74 in 1936 to 3.10 in 1946 and infantile mortality has come down from 218.22 in 1936 to 185.10 in the year 1946."

[Then he read out answers to clauses (c) and (d).]

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the present Government are interested in the welfare of women and children—I am not sure on this point because I do not see any woman member in the present Cabinet?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Generally, Sir, the term 'man' always includes 'woman' also. As far as this Government are concerned, I do not think they lag behind any other Government with regard to their interest in women's and children's welfare, simply because a lady member does not occupy the Treasury Bench."

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Minister for Food will be pleased to consider the reintroduction of the scheme and free milk supply at least in villages where there are no medical facilities of any kind?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Even in a city like Madras, where the supply of milk was made available by a new process, the whole scheme was so costly that Government were obliged to give it up; if the scheme were to be taken up in all the villages of the Province, it would be an impossibility and the scheme cannot be considered."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, after knowing the beneficial effect of the free supply of milk, will the Government merely drop schemes on account of cost, or are the Government prepared to consider the health of the people?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The statistics which I have read out would show that the average infantile mortality has dropped a good deal during the past eleven years in spite of the fact that the milk supply scheme did not extend to all the children and all the mothers in this Province. The general state of health in fact has improved so much. Knowledge of child welfare has been brought home to the mothers all over the country by a scheme of popularization of health and sanitation amongst the mothers in this Province. With regard to the supply of milk, we do understand the advantage of it; but the State cannot take up the

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whole thing because it involves very heavy expenditure. I may inform the House that even on the small scale on which it was done, a sum of Rs. 1½ lakhs had to be spent for the time the scheme was in operation; on a larger scale, milk supply would mean crores of rupees which will be a consideration with regard to the budget of the Province."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the assurance that the Hon. Minister has given with reference to the attitude of the Government towards the well-being of women and children, will the present Government reconsider the matter and see whether it is possible to re-introduce the scheme in some form or other; and if it is not possible to adopt the whole scheme, to re-introduce a portion of the scheme at least?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, in these matters, the Government are always prepared to go and meet the demand and pay such contribution as may be demanded of them. But when a local body like the Corporation of Madras refuses to give any contribution I think the Government cannot go into the question, it shows that the local bodies are not interested in the scheme themselves."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the continued sittings of the House and the exhaustion caused thereby to the hon. Members of this House, will the Government consider the advisability of giving free supply of milk to them?"
(Laughter.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I thought, Sir, the hon. Members of this House are neither expectant mothers nor children." (Loud laughter.)

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, for what period is this Rs. 1½ lakhs which the Hon. Minister mentioned?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is for every month."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"In view of the notorious malnutrition in the Agency areas where foodstuffs are a rarity, will the Government consider the question of maintaining this facility in these areas by way of exception at least?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not know to what particular area my hon. Friend refers; but if it is so very difficult in areas where milk supply is fairly available, to think of extending it to excluded areas where perhaps no governmental organization exists in any strength, is impossible for the Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Excluded areas are administered directly by His Excellency."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am glad for the information. These excluded areas are in the hands, control and administration of His Excellency the Governor."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the peculiar and particular difficulties of the City of Madras in obtaining sufficient and proper quality of milk and also in view of the financial difficulties of the Corporation of Madras, will the Government consider the advisability of continuing the scheme at least for the City of Madras, as a special case?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir. Unless the local body feels its responsibility in the matter of pregnant mothers and children in their charge, the Government cannot take up the entire responsibility on their shoulders."

12 noon. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the milk position in this Province has improved and, if so, whether the Government has removed the ban on sweet-meats being prepared out of milk?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question does not arise."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister and in view of the fact that after all this heavy and prohibitive cost is only one and a half lakhs of rupees per month, will the Hon. the Minister reconsider the question and reintroduce the scheme in a restricted form so as to give the benefit that is admittedly derived by the public on account of the scheme?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know, Sir, the rough number of expectant mothers in this Presidency every year?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member must allow me time to gather the information. Moreover, as the question relates to the Hon. the Minister for Health, the question may be put to him."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government consider the suggestion that they should appeal to the private benefactions for this purpose and if such private benefactions are forthcoming, will the Government be always ready to assist such benefactions?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I thank the hon. Member for the suggestion."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. the Minister that the incidence of mortality has decreased from 217 to 185, may I ask, whether the Government do not consider that there is still a large incidence and whether, in view of that fact, Government will consider reintroducing the scheme at least in such places where the Harijans and poor people are living?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have already outlined the whole scheme as to how far the Government can interfere in this matter but after satisfying the conditions necessary, if Government can help, certainly they will consider this question."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Question time is over. The answers for the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Classification of undertrials in Madura.

*530 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any of the undertrials in the case connected with the Madura Labour clash on 24th December 1946 have been kept in jail without granting special classification; and if so, what are their names and why they were so kept;

(b) whether they have been classed as political prisoners or not; and

(c) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the District Magistrate not to enlarge them on bail?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) There was no labour clash on 24th December 1946. In connexion with a labour clash that occurred on 23rd December 1946, the following persons were arrested on 24th December 1946 and 25th December 1946 under sections 131 and 107, Criminal Procedure Code:—

- (1) Sri K. T. K. Thangamani;
- (2) Sri S. Krishnaswami Reddi;
- (3) Sri M. S. S. Mani;
- (4) Sri I. V. Subbiah;
- (5) Sri Marudanayagam;
- (6) Sri Karuthanarayanan; and
- (7) Sri V. Karuppiah.

Nos. (1) to (3) have been classified as special class prisoners; the others were not treated as such as they are men of average status.

"(b) No.

"(c) No."

Disturbances in Madura Mills, Limited, Papanasam.

*531 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons dead and wounded by shooting and lathi charges made by the police inside the Madura Mills, Limited, Papanasam, on 11th January 1947;

(b) whether the mill gates and the doors were closed while lathi charges and firing were ordered;

(c) whether the police was called by the mill management, and if so, for what reasons;

(d) whether any previous order was obtained from any Magistrate to open fire;

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(e) whether the Government are proposing to give compensation to the bereaved families of the deceased and to hold an open enquiry into the conduct of the police;

(f) whether any arrests were made in this connexion, and if so, how many; and

(g) whether any prosecution is being launched against them?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Four rioters died of gun-shot wounds, 13 others received gun-shot wounds and seven sustained other injuries. On the side of the police 13 armed Reserve men and the Inspector of Police sustained simple injuries but one police constable was badly hurt in his groin by the impact of a steel top roller.

“(b) No.

“(c) On 11th January 1947, when the mills were working normally, a spinner died of heart failure. The workers did not allow the body to be moved and demanded an inquest by the police at the spot itself. All the workers got excited and refused to work. On information from the mill management, the Sub-Inspector of Police, Vikramasingapuram, proceeded to the mills to hold an inquest.

“(d) No.

“(e) No.

“(f) Yes; thirty-five persons were arrested and released on bail.

“(g) A charge-sheet has been laid against 55 accused.”

* 532 Q.—Withdrawn.

Propaganda for khadi.

* 533 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the programme of the Government with regard to the propagation of the charka and khadi in the areas selected for the intensive programme?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the revised khadi scheme approved by the Government, a printed copy of which has already been placed on the table of the House.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Sir. From the way in which numerous supplementary questions have been asked by the partymen themselves in regard to questions, may I know whether there is any opposition to the Government in the party itself and whether they are functioning in groups? So far, we have seen them functioning as a united party.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“I cannot answer that question.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is a matter entirely within the jurisdiction of the party and I am not prepared to give any information.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I suggest that questions Nos. 530 and 531 may be taken up on the floor of the House on the 17th April 1947.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may give it in writing.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“My question No. 470 has not also been answered.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may give it in writing to me about it.”

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

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *re* STRIKE IN BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS.

MR. SPEAKER:—“Mr. Venkateswarlu has given notice of an urgent motion for the adjournment of the House. This is the motion:

‘I hereby give notice for the adjournment of the House to discuss the following matter of public importance:

Fourteen thousand workers of Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Madras, are on strike since the 11th March for their most reasonable demands like six months’ bonus, increase in Dearness Allowance, reinstatement of victimised workers, etc. Many times they tried for the settlement with the management of the Mills but all their efforts ended in a failure because of the adamant attitude taken up by the management.

The Government in spite of the fact that they have attempted for a settlement, did not consider the demands of the workers on the basis of a minimum living wage but on the other hand, tried to appease the management and threatened the workers into submission and declared the strike illegal. The Government have gone to the extent of arresting the President of the Union, in spite of the fact the strike was most peaceful and effected many arrests on 31st March.

Because of the attitude taken up by the Government and the employers, the strike is being prolonged and the people are put to a great disadvantage in this period of scarcity of cloth. Hence I hereby give notice of an adjournment of the House to discuss the situation created by the adamant attitude taken up by the Buckingham and Carnatic Mill management and the failure of the Government to bring pressure upon the management which has resulted in the prolongation of the strike.’

“I wish to know from the Hon. the Minister whether he wants to say anything in the matter.”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I would like to make this statement, Sir. It was only yesterday that the City had passed through a very critical time on account of the sudden strike by all Unions, particularly the motor traffic and transport services. I should pay a compliment to the Police of the City for the way in which they managed the strike. They had managed it without creating a single loss in life in a City like Madras wherein all the traffic stopped except for about twenty buses that were running. Therefore, Sir, it is a creditable thing that the strike has gone on smoothly and there was no loss of life. Immediately after the events have happened and the feelings were running high and people had been put to such difficulties, it is not right and proper to have a discussion on that subject. Sir, another point is that these strikers themselves are not yet ready, as far as I know, to meet and come to a settlement. So, if a few days are allowed to lapse, Government will consider the question of reopening negotiations with the strikers, and I do not see any earthly use of raising a discussion on an adjournment motion at this stage. After the lapse of some days Government will try their best to find a way out to redress the grievances of the strikers and will endeavour to do their best in the matter. So, I do not think an adjournment motion of this kind will either help the Government or the strikers."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As far as the Chair is concerned, this motion is in perfect order. If the House can give leave to the hon. Member to move his motion, the motion may be discussed."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I want to know whether any critical situation is imminent arising out of the strike which began from March 11th. I want to know, apart from the strike which we had yesterday and which passed off satisfactorily as the Hon. the Minister has admitted, whether there is any possibility of any critical situation arising or is there already any critical situation so as to justify consideration of this adjournment motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You want some information. I suppose on the basis of that, you are going to give your vote."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I had sufficiently explained the position in my statement. In fact the settlement of the dispute depends on two parties, viz., the mill workers and the management and therefore, it is not for the Government to say whether they will or will not intervene and settle the matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If there is not any critical situation arising out of the strike and in view of the fact that it has already been there from March 11th, I want to know what is the particular reason for such an adjournment motion."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"You may ask the mover."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put it to the vote."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The hon. Member who had given notice of the motion may be asked to state briefly the situation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes. I will allow the hon. Member only three minutes."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"On a point of order. The hon. Member should not go into details."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, in all the statement that the Hon. the Minister for Labour has made just now, he did not enlighten the House about anything regarding the demands of the workers for basic wages, the attitude of the employers in the matter and also the time taken by the Government in settling the matter. That is why, Sir, if you allow this adjournment motion, we can clearly deal with the facts and the House will also be in a position to suggest a solution for the settlement of the dispute. It will also help the Ministry in settling the matter. Moreover the Hon. the Minister for Labour has not explained how this debate will jeopardise the efforts that are being made by Government in settling the dispute or how it will endanger the law and order. So, I think, that if the House will allow me leave to move the motion and to raise a debate on this issue, I am sure the Treasury Benches will be benefited in settling the dispute because upto now, no proper attempts were made. The House does not also know whether the employer is in a position to concede the demands of the strikers or not. Under these circumstances, I appeal to the members of the Congress Party themselves to grant me leave to move the motion, and to raise the debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Hon. the Minister makes a statement as to what efforts were made by the Government to bring about a settlement, are you going to withdraw the motion? Am I to understand like this?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"If the Government is going to effect a settlement favourable to the workers, I am prepared to withdraw." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the statement made by the Hon. the Minister for Labour, I advise you to withdraw."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My intention is not to displease all of you. But unfortunately, the Hon. the Minister and the hon. Members did not dispute even a single fact that I have mentioned. So, I say that a statement satisfactory to the Members was not at all given by the Hon. the Minister, and I am sorry to displease you all."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the Hon. the Minister has made a statement to satisfy the hon. Member, without creating further trouble to the

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Government and to the people in the City of Madras, I would appeal to the hon. Member to withdraw the motion. I also hope that Government will see that action is taken as early as possible to bring about a settlement."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Just now, we heard the Hon. the Minister for Labour say that some days should elapse before Government could take action. He has also made accusations on the Labour. I request the Members of the Muslim League to take that point also into consideration in advising me. It is evident that the strike is going to prolong and the Government is not going to interfere."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Those who wish to grant leave for Mr. Venkateswarlu to make his adjournment motion may stand up in their places. The rule is this:

"If the Speaker is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the House and ask whether the member has the leave of the House. If objection is taken, the Speaker shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places, and if 35 or more members rise accordingly, the Speaker shall intimate that the member has the leave of the House and that the motion will be taken up at 4 p.m. the same day. If less than 35 members rise, the Speaker shall inform the member he has not the leave of the House. A motion which fails to obtain the requisite support shall not during the same session be brought up again under rule 36."

So, I request those who give permission to Mr. Venkateswarlu to move his motion to stand up in their places."

[Only Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu stood up.]

"As the hon. Member has not got the leave to make the motion, it is rejected.

"Now, we pass on to the next item on the Agenda."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As a result of the strike, the public are put to a lot of inconvenience. One section of public that has been put to great inconvenience are the students, some of whom were not able to attend their examinations. Will Government consider the question of having a re-examination for such of those students who were not able to attend the examinations on account of the strike yesterday?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I cannot answer the question. I think it is in the hands of the University."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The whole examination is in the hands of the University."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be pleased to explain the position to the University and to prevail upon them so that these students who could not attend their examinations yesterday on account of the strike may have re-examinations in those subjects?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes, Sir. Something like that may be necessary but it is certainly left to the University authorities to come to a decision in the matter."

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SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know from the Hon. Minister how many students were absent yesterday on account of the strike?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No information has been collected."

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

- (1) A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO HINDU TEMPLES IN THE PROVINCE OF MADRAS AND THE OFFER OF WORSHIP THEREIN BY CERTAIN CLASSES OF HINDUS WHO BY CUSTOM OR USAGE ARE EXCLUDED FROM SUCH ENTRY AND WORSHIP.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister for Labour will now move the motion that stands in his name." 12-15 p.m.

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to introduce a Bill to remove the disabilities of Harijans and other Scheduled Castes from entering Hindu temples and other places of worship by custom or usage are excluded from such entry and worship.

"Sir, a copy of this Bill has been published on the authority of the Government on 28th January 1947 and it has been before the public since then. I would just like to give a brief account of what has been done in the previous years with regard to this particular disability of those who have been prevented entry into Hindu temples. I may state here that this question concerns mostly the Hindu members of this Assembly. In fact, it is a disability imposed by caste Hindus on the Scheduled Castes and which has continued for ages.

"In 1938 and 1939 two Bills were passed in the Assembly—one, the Malabar Temple Entry Act and another, a general temple entry Act in order to correct certain sections relating to the entry into various places where temple entry had taken place. It is the policy of the Provincial Government to remove disabilities imposed by custom or usage on certain sections of Hindus against entry into Hindu temples of this Province which are open to the general Hindu public. The Provincial Government are now satisfied, from the rapidity with which under pressure of Hindu public opinion a number of temples have been thrown open to these classes of Hindus in recent months, that public opinion is in favour of it. Sir, I may tell for the information of this House that some of the very big temples in South India have been thrown open to Harijans and South India is indeed a land of temples. The tradition of temples and culture from temples are the real life-springs of the Hindu public here in this Province. Places like Srivilliputtur, Srirangam, Tiruvarur, Conjeeveram and a number of other places which are considered as the most highly sacred shrines in India—not only by the Hindus in South India but by the Hindus from all over India—and such temples have now been opened to them. It is certainly a credit to the

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Hindu public who have so volunteered to correct this great injustice done to the Harijans through the ages past and that they should have done it even before the advent of a Bill of this sort. It stands to their credit; it shows that the social consciousness of the Hindus has been roused and it also shows that it had such an effect on them to have volunteered to throw the temples open to these people. I may also here mention that in all the big temples which have been thrown open, there was absolutely no trouble, no police interference and no criminal violence of any sort. In fact it was the other way; hundreds of caste Hindus come there on the day the Harijans entered them, welcomed the Harijans and Scheduled Castes, brought them into the shrines and worshipped the deity along with them. I may also here mention that amongst such persons who were present on those occasions were such illustrious men as the Hon. Speaker of this House, the ex-Minister for Forests, the hon. Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai and my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam and it will be a crime on our part to refuse persons of such repute, of that purity and of that sagacity from their darshan of the deity in the Hindu temples. Sir, I was myself a witness at Conjeeveram to see these illustrious gentlemen being taken into the *sanctum sanctorum* and the Holy of Holies and I saw the emotion that overcame them when they actually saw the deity—not stealthily, not secretly, but openly welcomed by all those who kept them out, the priests and the archakas and by those who till now considered that it was a pollution to allow them. It was indeed my heart's desire to see that these people of the whole Harijan community who had a right to be unreservedly assured entry, welcomed by the Hindus.

"Therefore, Sir, I am assured of a quick passage of this Bill in this House, for public opinion is there. It may then be asked, why has this Bill been brought forward? Sir, the Bill is there simply because some recalcitrant trustee, according to the old regulations, might take it into his head and flout Hindu public opinion to deny the privilege which the Hindu community as a whole has sanctioned to the Scheduled Castes and to correct the mistaken belief of a few handful of people who imagine that the sanctity of the temples will be lost. Now having been assured of the Hindu public opinion of the sacredness of their conduct, Government have taken up in their hands to make such a provision of law to give unrestricted entrance of these people into all Hindu temples. Mind you, Sir, a penalty has been imposed; and if any hindrance is placed by anybody of Hindus or by any individual in the performance of their task, they will be punished. That is one provision in the Bill which I would like to bring to the notice of this House. Penal provision has been made and the Hindu temples have been made the property of all Hindus and Harijans alike. So, legally the claim of the Harijans for a share in temple

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worship has been acknowledged, penalty has been imposed, public opinion has been secured, a law has been brought into force and thus their rights have been established thereto.

"Sir, coming on the wake of the Removal of Civil Disabilities Bill which was passed yesterday in this House, this is a most welcome measure. I am particularly glad, Sir, that it has been my privilege to move this Bill in this House. Yesterday my hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam dubbed me as a descendant of Sri Mahavishnu and whatever he meant thereby I do not know, Sir. I do not claim to be a very orthodox man either, but I lag behind none in proclaiming myself to be a Vaishnavite and a man who belongs to the glorious sect of Sri Ramanuja and a man who to-day is the follower of modern Ramanuja, Mahatma Gandhi. Therefore, Sir, I consider it a proud privilege given to me, a Brahman, to move this Bill, for I feel, I am in a way simply making amends for the age-long disability inflicted on the Harijan community by a most brutal opinion which has no sanction in law or in shastras, but by a convention which has been handed down from age to age. Nor is this, Sir, a mere idea which has been fostered only by a group of people. The Hindu community, a living organism as it is, has also always a set of people who were doing this obnoxious thing as a custom. Sri Ramanuja, whom we have been acclaiming as one of the great Vaishnavite reformers, had even in those days, centuries ago, volunteered to remove this custom. He has found it necessary, consistent with his purity, with his devotion, with his Vaishnavism, to come out and to declare from the top of the towers of the temple to say this, 'I shall declare the secret of Vaishnavism to the world and if in that process I am condemned to Hell, I shall gladly welcome the Hell and play my part, so that thousands of people may be enabled to feel purified. So, Sir, it is a Hindu gentleman that has done it three centuries ago and you can see it even to-day in Melkote in Mysore State where the temple is thrown open to Harijans for three days in a year and it is still being practised there. Then, Sir, if Sri Ramanuja has done it, why not I, a member of the Legislature, who stand and claim to be a follower of Sri Ramanuja, do in my own way, advocate this reform? There is something more than that, Sir. Sri Ramanuja was a revolutionary; he was in a sense, a rebel; he went against even all the accepted dogmas of Hindu philosophy. Hindu philosophy says that you should be born and born again as a result of your *karma*, till at last you come to a stage when you become a Brahmin and that then alone comes salvation. Ramanuja had the faith in him to declare to the world that this qualification of continuous birth after birth to realize salvation is not necessary. He simply said 'no, you are a Vaishnavite and all Vaishnavites are one and there is no need for different births and I will give you salvation even in this particular birth; you come with me to

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my God whom I worship and I will show the way to salvation.' He had that courage in him to do so. Sir, this temple worship is the fundamental creed of Vaishnavism in Southern India and therefore it is based on temple worship and Ramanuja is the authority for that. Now, these temples should not have been closed to these people. The fact that these people have got very strong faith and conviction in temple worship and who in spite of the age-long oppression have stuck to the Hindu fold, declares to the world the grit with which our Depressed Classes and Harijans have been sticking to Hinduism. Sir, they have a right to go into temples more than the religious people themselves. An orthodox man can find his God anywhere, but the God to the masses to-day, according to Hindu philosophy, is in the *archa-nataram* as it is called in temple worship. This temple worship elevates a man to a higher plane in life and because these people have been prevented from this they have fallen to this position. That form of worship has made men, has blamed injured people to think that it has brought solace to millions of people and has given that peace which humanity craves for, is a fact. When men like Ramakrishna Paramahansa, who is one of the highest types of men who have had faith in temple worship, worshipped Kali in the great Kali temple at Calcutta and the great Sri Ramanuja and men of his type like Sri Sankaracharya, practised temple worship, in spite of the philosophical contradictions, it stands true to the fact that temple worship on a mass scale is perhaps the only thing to which the masses can aspire and in which they can have the solace they require.

"Sir, all the world over symbolic worship is part and parcel of human nature. Whether he is a Christian, Muslim or anybody else, he has got a particular place to worship. If the Muslim does not go to the Mosque he has to pray by the side of Koran or turning westward and bending low. There is this symbolism which he cannot get over. There is the church, there is the temple. Whether the image is a stone, a spear or a knife he goes there full of devotion, full of spirit and his mind concentrated on the ideal for which he goes there and bends his head down before the deity. He has made his God in his own particular way. One man may give his God four hands, the other four more and some others 100 hands. Every man may worship God in his own way. If according to the Hindu pantheon we worship idols there is no force nor compulsion. Every man is allowed to worship in his own way and yet claim to be a Hindu."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a point of information and it is a very urgent one."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is not yielding."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am developing a subject, Sir, if there are any doubts, I am prepared to answer them in the end."

"That is what I understand it, Sir, according to the Hindu philosophy. We have received, Sir, a representation from orthodox temple-goers in the Madras City that the Government should have power to reserve some temples at least for the orthodox people and that they should hold the right in their own hands to reserve some temples for their own use. Well, Sir, I quite appreciate their mentality. I am very sorry for them also because they have to move with the times. They are living in an age some centuries ago and not in the year of grace, 1947. This weakening influence of Hinduism should disappear. The Hindus form one solid body and these six crores of untouchables shall not be taken away from the Hindu community. We are prepared to share that which we hold sacred in common with every one of them. There is nothing more sacred than temples and God to us, Sir, and that is the sacred treasure which we are prepared to share with our Harijan friends. There should not be any obstruction offered to the Harijans in offering their prayers in the Hindu temples. It is the spirit of the Hindus to-day and that is what is conveyed through all the various sections of this Bill. Therefore, Sir, in this process of elevation of the depressed classes we have struck the right note. The economic way may be difficult because it involves money, it involves the Government and it involves many other things. But in the case of temple entry, Sir, it involves the heart, the goodwill, the generosity to recognize that I can share with the Harijan what I have and what is most sacred to me. If you want other things like separate temples built for you it will be very difficult and I know that my friend the hon. Mr. Sahajanandam has a temple of his own and he has been struggling for years to find out funds for it. We cannot allow it when we have got temples on similar lines and it will be a crime if we do so. Instead of his wasting his funds on building such temples, I simply take him by the hand and take him to the Nataraja temple which is next door and make him my equal in the worship of God. By this way we have taken a load off his hands. By one stroke of the pen we have achieved the object that we desire. Therefore, Sir, this speech about this legislation. I speak rather vehemently because I am sorry and I suffer from the age-long injustice that has been done to these people. As one who has been connected with the Harijan Sevak Sangh for many years and one who has shared the misfortunes of entering the temples with the Harijans, I know how my heart bleeds to see that they have been kept out of these temples and therefore it is some

[Dr. T. S. S. Rajan]

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consolation to my own heart to be the sponsor of this Bill and I hope my Harijan friends, the hon. friends with whom I want to share this privilege will appreciate this measure. I will not give this privilege to the member of the Harijan community. I want the privilege for me because, as I said in the beginning that will be a *prayachityam* for what I and my ancestors have done so far. Let me mention the names of those great and illustrious figures, Sri Ramanuja and Mahatma Gandhi. Those are the guiding stars that lead the Hindu religion to-day and the Hindu society and this Province is doing a little human service indeed by adopting this measure. Let us not feel proud of this Bill. We are only doing what is just and a belated justice. To those who want a special privilege of their own, I say this that Government shall not recognize it. It is very regrettable to say that. I know how they would feel but for the sake of a handful of these few men it is not possible to keep all these hungry millions of Harijan brethren away from the temples. We cannot reserve a few temples. The State shall not be a party to it. I know they are a very orthodox set of people who have been nurtured in a particular way for so many years but they should see the changed times and see also the dangerous position to which the Hindu community has been reduced by their ignorance, by their fanaticism. I say they cannot be helped. If it comes to that, we would simply tell them that there is no need for having separate temples for their use. As they will find their God anywhere, let them have God in their own houses and prevent others from entering their houses and they may conduct their own worship. But no distinction can be made with regard to a public temple. Therefore, I may request them, Sir, to co-operate with us and act up with the times. Sir, the Srirangam temple, in the place where I was born and where I was brought up and wherefrom I come, is perhaps the most sacred shrine for Vaishnavites from Himalayas to Cape Comorin and the Vaishnavite Acharyas and saints have sung their praises of that God and to-day it stands as the pre-eminent Vaishnavite shrine that has been thrown open, Sir, and thrown open most gloriously. The Ministers of the Government have taken part in the worship along with members of this House and the depressed classes. Furthermore, what is the aftermath? Have the Hindu public resented this and deserted the temple by staying away from it? No, Sir, except for a certain section of the people, those who depend upon the temple for their service and those who visit that temple only on some fine evenings, the whole temple work is being carried on absolutely as it has been going on for all these years and you will be surprised to know that the temple is more popular now than it was before. So also in Madura, in Alagarkoil and in a number of other places it took place some years ago. The same threat was held out. No doubt some of the service conducted by the orthodox people were stopped for some time. But it lasted

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only for three months. To-day the income of the Madura temple has gone up. The income of the Alagarkoil temple has also gone up and with regard to the usual services and in all other directions the temple is in a much better position to-day financially and spiritually, and it has got all the strength it could have and even more. In the face of this if threats are held out by the orthodox people, I cannot accept the same. So I cannot oblige the gentlemen who want to have some temples reserved for them. Sir, that is really all that I have got to say with regard to the introduction of this Bill. There are only ten or eleven sections in this Bill and most of them are very simple. Because this Act is coming into force some of the Religious Endowment Acts will have to be altered giving legal rights to Harijans to enter the Hindu temples in this Province.

"I wish to say one thing more. Temple does not mean the mere shrine or the sanctum or the holy of holies. It means the tanks attached to it, it means the river or the channel which is the property of the temple and it also means the rock on which the temple is situated and the access or passage over which one will have to reach the shrine as in the case of Tirupati to-day, and all these shall also be open to the Harijans. All the other facilities which the Hindus enjoy in connexion with the worship shall be given to the Harijans also.

"Sir, untouchability is a big word. We have been at it for the last 25 years and more. We have had various schemes. We have opened hostels and given many privileges to so many of the people who are suffering and we have also given them their civil rights, but I am of the opinion that there is nothing compared with the Temple Entry Act in this process of removing untouchability. There are many castes and creeds amongst the Hindus and they worship their particular Gods but yet they have got the right to go into the Hindu temples. The stamp of untouchability has been made in the temples and in the worship. That is the most criminal part and this Bill seeks to remove it. If that is removed what will happen? People may consider themselves high or low, but it does not matter how they happen to be considered. There will be this outstanding fact that they will mix in the temples as brothers and there before God they will be removing untouchability at the most sacred spot. There the Harijan will say that his God and the caste-Hindu God are the same and they can touch each other. To-day in the year of grace, 1947, it has been given to us through this Legislature to enact a Legislation which is long, long overdue. In passing this Bill, Sir, I crave the indulgence of the Harijan brethren to excuse us for this age-long infliction. We have put them to all these difficulties for no fault of their own and we hope that by this Act we will be wiping away entirely the difficulties to which these people have been put

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so long. That will be an expiation, Sir, and I am not sorry I have undertaken this task of piloting this Bill before this House."

12-45 P.M. SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB
BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. When I was talking on this subject yesterday in this House, a question was raised whether this is the place to preach Islam. Now, let me know whether this is the place to preach Hinduism and Vaishnavism as the Hon. Minister has been doing till now?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has spoken on the Bill only."

* THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I said that it will concern the Hindus only. The hon. Member, if he had listened to what I said, would have found that what I said about Hindu philosophy was only so much as was in support of the Bill. It was not my idea to preach Hinduism on this platform."

* SRI A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்போது எங்கள் தலைவரும் மந்திரியுமான டாக்டர் ராஜன் அவர்கள் இச்சபையின்முன் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் ஆலயப்பிரவேச மசோதாவை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த மசோதாவை கொண்டு வந்திருப்பவர்கள், ஏற்கனவே ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக மிகவும் பாடுபட்ட மகான்கள். அதாவது, இவர்கள் எல்லாம் ஹரிஜன சேவா சங்கத்திற்கு தலைவர்களாகியிருந்து தமிழ் நாட்டு ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக கிணறுகள், பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் முதலிய பல வசதிகள் செய்து கொடுத்த பிரபுக்கள். இரண்டாவதாக, இப்போது நான் குறிப்பிட்ட தலைவர்களுள் மிகச் சிறந்தவரான ஒருவரின் கையாலேயே இந்த மசோதாவை சட்டமாக்க இந்தச் சபையில் introduce செய்ததற்காக நான் என் மனமார்ந்த வணக்கத்தை அவருக்குச் செலுத்துகிறேன். கண்ணுவர், காசிபர் கௌசிகர் அகத்தியர் முதலிய முனிவர்கள் ஆச்சார்யர்கள் சைவத்திலிருந்ததைப் போல், எண்பத்தி நான்கு ஆச்சாரியர்கள் சிம்மாசனாதிபதிகள் வைஷ்ணவத்திலுமுண்டு. அந்த பரம்பரையில் வந்த வேதாந்த தேசிகர் என்பவர் மிக முக்கியமானவர். வடகலை ஆசிரியர் அவரைப் பின்பற்றும் அகோபல் மடத்தைச் சேர்ந்த வராகிய நம் தலைவர் டாக்டர் ராஜன் அவர்கள் இந்த மசோதா, Bill-யை கொண்டு வந்திருப்பது முன் ராமானுஜர் கொண்டு வந்த சீர்த்திருத் தத்தைப் போலிருக்கிறது. முன்பு நான் தீட்சை பெற்றுக்கொள்ள முயற்சித்தபோது சில வைஷ்ணவர்களும் மறுத்தார்கள். அந்த சமயத்தில் ஸ்ரீரங்கத்திலுள்ள எனது ஆச்சாரியார், பிரதிவாதிபயங்கரம் ஸ்ரீநிவாசாச்சாரியார்தான் எனக்கு நாமம் போட்டுக்கொள்ளும்படி செய்து தீட்சை செய்வித்தார்கள். ஆகவே இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட ஆச்சாரியர்களின் வழியேவந்த எங்கள் தலைவர் இந்த மசோதாவை சட்டமாக்க இச்சபையில் கொண்டு வந்ததற்காக இந்த மகா சபைக்கு என் மனப்பூர்வமான வணக்கத்தை தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். நாங்கள் முன்பெல்லாம் நாய்களினும், பன்றிகளினும் சீழாக கருதப்பட்டோம். இப்பொழுது நாங்கள் மக்களாக வாழ்வதற்கு எங்களுக்கு வசதிகளை இந்த சட்டத்தின் மூலமாகக் கொண்டு வந்ததற்காக எங்கள் நன்றியறிதலை செலுத்துகிறோம். போன காங்கிரஸ் சர்க்காரில், நம் தலைவர் ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார் ஆலயப்பிரவேச விஷயமாக மசோதா கொண்டு வரும் காலத்தில் 'ஆலயங்களை ஹரி

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[Sri A. S. Sahajanandam]

ஜனங்களுக்கு திறந்து விடுவதற்குக் காரணம் அரசியலோ மதங் கெட்டுப்போவதென்பதோ இல்லை. ஆனால் திருடின சொத்தைத் தான் அவர்களுக்கு திருப்பிக் கொடுக்கிறோம், இதுவரையில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கென்று ஏற்பட்ட கோவில் நுழைவு நின்றும் அவர்களை விலக்கி வைத்திருந்தோம். அது தான் அவர்கள் சொத்தை அப்படித் திருடின அவர்களுடைய உரிமையைத் தான் அவர்களுக்கே திருப்பிக்கொடுக்கிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். மகாத்மா காந்தியவர்கள், ஹரிஜனங்களை ஆலயங்களில் விடாமல் அதிக பாவம் செய்து விட்டோம்; ஆகவே அதற்கு பிராயச்சித்தமாக உடனே அவர்களை ஆலயங்களில் பூசித்து வழிபட அழைத்துச் செல்வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். மகாத்மா காந்தியும், ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியாரும், டாக்டர் ராஜன் அவர்களும் சீர்த்திருத்தவாதியாகிய ராமானுஜாச்சாரியாரை பின்பற்றுவார்கள். ஆகவே, ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு எல்லா ஆலயங்களும் திறக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்தி வேண்டிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

"ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்போர் இந்நாட்டிலுள்ள பழங்குடி தமிழ் மக்கள். தொல்காப்பிய பாயிர விருத்தியுள் பதினெண்கோடி மக்களோடும் அகத்தியர் இந்நாட்டில் குடியேறினர் என்று கூறுகிறது. இப்படி குடியேறுவதற்கு முன் இந்நாட்டில் வசித்தவர்கள் 'பாணர், பறையர், துடியர், கடம்பர் இந்நான்கல்லாது குடியுமில்லை' என புற நானூறு கூறுகிறது. இவர்கள் இந்நாட்டின் பழந்தமிழ் மக்கள் என்பது புலனாகிறது. இந்த பழங்குடி மக்கள், இந்நாட்டில் பிறகு குடியேறியவர்களுடன் சிறித்து சமர் புரிந்து தோற்றனர். அதன் பின்னரே ஜெயித்த மக்களால் அஞ்சி ஒடிந்நி வாழ்ந்தும், பொது நல நிலையங்களில் நுழையக் கூடாதென்றும், மற்றும் பலவகையான அடக்குமுறை சட்டங்களுக்கு பழங்குடி மக்களாகிய ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஆளானார்கள். இவ்வித அரசியல் தோல்வி காரணமாகத்தான், கொடுமைகள் ஏற்பட்டு, ஹரி ஜனங்கள் இப்போதுள்ள தாழ்ந்த நிலைமைக்கு வந்துவிட்டார்கள். இவர்கள் இழி தொழில்களைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும், அவ்வித இழி தொழில்கள் செய்யத் தவிரியதற்கு தண்டிக்கப்பட்டு மிருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விஷயங்கள் ஞானவெட்டியான் எனும் நூலில்

"மாலப்பறையென்றே சேரனும் சோழனும்
மாடுகள் செத்ததை வாரறிந்து
ஓலமென்றே அதையும் உண்ணும்படிச் செய்தார்
ஓகோ பாவிகள் உற்பத்தி காண்கிலார் எனவும்"
"இராசாங்கம் செய்த நடத்தையின் குறி
வேதாமகத்தில் விதித்த வாறல்லகாண்"

என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருப்பதைப் பார்த்தால், இவ்வித இழி தொழில்கள் அரசியலின் காரணமாக அரசாங்கத்தாரால் பழங்குடி மக்கள் செய்யும் படி வற்புறுத்தப்பட்டார்கள் என்பது புலனாகும். மற்றும், குடியேறி யவர்களால், இந்த பழங்குடி மக்கள், நீசர், புலையர், சண்டாளர், தாழ்ந்த யர் என்று பெயர்களிடப்பட்டனர். ஆரியர் குழுவில் ஒழுக்கம் கெட்டவர் களுக்கும், நிலையற்றிருந்தவர்க்கும் இட்டழைக்கும் பெயர்களாகும் இவை. இதன் பின் ஜாதி நூல் எழுதிய "தாசன்" எனும் ஆங்கிலப் பேராசிரியர், நான்கு வருணத்திற்கும் அப்பால்பட்டவர்கள் தான் "பஞ்சமர்" என்று சொல்லியோந்தார். இவ்வுண்மையை உணராத சிலர் இவர்களை பஞ்சமா பாதகம் செய்பவர் எனக்கருதினர். இது சரியன்று. வைணவர்களின் பூர்வாச்சாரியர்கள், இவர்களை கர்மம், பக்தி, ஞானம், பிர பக்தி என நான்கிற்கும் மேம்பட்ட ஆச்சாரிய நிஷ்டையை, பஞ்சம உபாய நிஷ்டை என்றும், அதற்கு பழங்குடி மக்கள் அதிகாரிகள் எனும் காரணத்தால் பஞ்சமர் என்றும் அழைத்தனர். இக்காரணம் பற்றியே உடையவர் ஐந்து நம்பிகளாகிய ஆச்சாரியர்களிடத்தில் இச்சம்பிரதாயத் தைக் கற்றுக்கொண்டார். ஐந்தாவது சாதனமாகிய பஞ்சம உபாய ஆச்சாரிய நிஷ்டையை பழந் தமிழ் குடியில் பிறந்தவரும், ஸ்ரீ ஆள வந்தாரது அன்பிற்குரிய மாணவரும் உடையாரது திருமந்திர பிரதம

[Sri A. S. Sahajanandam] [1st April 1947]

ஆச்சாரியருமாகிய பெரிய நம்பிகளால் புத்திர சம்ஸ்காரம் செய்யப் பெற்ற வருமான ஸ்ரீ மாறனேரி நம்பியிடத்தில் (உடையாராகிய இராமானுசர்) உபதேசம் பெற்றார். ஆகவே பஞ்சம் உபாய நிஷ்டைக்கு அதிகாரிகளா வதாலும் பஞ்ச சம்ஸ்காரம் செய்துகொள்வதாலும், பஞ்ச அர்த்தம் தெரிந்து கொள்வதாலும் பழங்குடி தமிழர் பஞ்சமர் எனப்பட்டார். இந்த ஆதிக்குடிகள் பழமையான தமிழ் பேசும் குடிகள். ஆதலால் அவர்கள் ஆதித்திராவிடரென்றும்; ஆதித்திராவிட வேதமாகிய, தமிழ் மறையுமான, திருக்குறள், சைவ வைணவ வேதங்களுக்கு ஆதியாகிய நின்றிருப்பதாலும், அந்த ஆதி வேதத்தை ஹரிஜனங்கள் படிப்பதால் அவர்களுக்கு ஆதித்திராவிடர் என்ற பெயர் வரலாயிற்று. தவிரவும் அந்த ஆதி வேதமாகிய திருக்குறளை இயற்றிய திருவள்ளுவரும் ஆதித் திராவிட வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவரே. இக்காரணம் பற்றியே காலஞ் சென்ற தலைவர் எம். சி. ராஜா அவர்கள், ஹரி ஜனங்களை, ஆதித்திராவிட ரென்று அழைக்க வேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தாரை கேட்டுக்கொண்டார்.

“ஹரி ஜனங்கள், வேத ஆகமப்படி பார்த்தாலும், வைஷ்ணவ சம்பிரதாயப்படி பார்த்தாலும், அவர்கள் எல்லாம் விஷ்ணுவின்மீதுள்ளிருந்து பிறந்ததாகத் தெரிகிறது. அநுலோமர், பிரதி லோமர், சங்கர ஜாதி, மற்றும் நான்கு வருணங்கள், இவர்களுடைய பிறப்பைப்பற்றி வேத நூல்கள் கூறுகின்றன. ஆனால் பழந்தமிழ் மக்களாகிய ஆதித்திராவிடர் கள் தோன்றிய இடம் குறிப்பிடப்படவில்லை. ஹரியின்மீதுள்ளிருந்து சில சிருஷ்டிகள் தோன்றியதாக நூல்கள் கூறுகின்றன. வைணவ சமய ஸ்தாபன ஆச்சாரியரான ஸ்ரீ ராமானுஜர் அந்நூல்களைத் துறுவிப் பார்த்தும், யுக்தியால் ஆராய்ந்தும், பழந்தமிழரை திருக்குலத்தாரென்றழைத்து அவர்களுக்கு ஆலயப் பிரவேச உரிமை இருப்பதையறிந்து மேல் கோட்டை செல்லப்பிள்ளை ஆலயத்தை திறந்து வைத்தனர். அது தான் திருநாராயணபுரம். மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் இவர்களை ஹரிஜன் என்றழைத்தனர். அவருக்கும் இது விஷயமாக ஒரு பண்டிதர் தெரிவித்துள்ளார். திருக்குறள், சிருஷ்டிகள் ஆதிபகவன்மீதுள்ளிருந்து உண்டாயின என்கிறது. * ஆதி என்பது, திரு, பகவன் என்பது பகவான் என ஹரியைக்குறிக்கும். ஆதலால் ஸ்ரீமந்நாராயணன்மீதுள்ளிருந்து தோன்றின என்று ஹரியின் சிருஷ்டியைக் குறிக்கின்றது. பிறும்மாவின்மீதுள்ளிருந்து பழந்தமிழர் பிறந்தாரென்று சிருஷ்டி கூறாமையாலும், பாரிசேட அளவையாலும், யுக்தியாலும், திருக்குறள் உபநிஷத் முதலிய சருதிகளாலும் பழந்தமிழர் ஷரி ஜனங்களேயாவர். ஹரியின்மீது தோன்றியவர்கள் அகங்காரமாகிய பாவமற்றவர், ஹரியை வழிபாடு செய்பவர்கள் என்பது பொருளாகும்.

“தவிர ஆலயங்கள் ஹரிஜன வழிபாட்டிற்கே ஏற்பட்டவை என்று சொல்லுவதற்கு பல சான்றுகள் உள்ளன. வேதங்களில் ஆலயங்களை அமைத்தல், வழிபாட்டு முறை முதலியன கூறப்படவில்லை. சூத்திரருக்கு வேதத்தில் இடமேயில்லை. மேல் ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களான, பிரம்ம சூத்திரிய வைசியரெனும் வருணத்தாருக்கே, அந்த வேதங்களில், அவர்கள் செய்ய வேண்டிய யுக்தம், தானம், தபஸ் முதலியவற்றைப்பற்றி சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகமங்களில்தான், சூத்திரர்களுக்கு சில உரிமைகள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு, அதன் காரணமாக, சூத்திரர்கள் ஆச்சாரியன்மீதுள்ள தீட்சை பெற்றுக்கொண்டு, சில பூஜை செய்யலாமென்றிருக்கிறது.

“சில பூஜை இரண்டு வகைப்படும். ஒன்று சுவார்த்தம், மற்றொன்று பரார்த்தம். சுவார்த்தம் தனக்காகச் செய்வது, பரார்த்தம் பிறருக்காகச் செய்வது. சுவார்த்தத்தின் பிரகாரம் சில தீட்சை பெற்று ஆச்சாரியன் மனமுவந்து கொடுத்த இலங்கத்தை பூசிப்பது. இதை இட்டலிங்க பூஜை என்றும், திருவாராதனம் என்றும் சொல்லுவதுண்டு. சைவ சமயத்தில், வைணவர்கள், சக்கராங்கனம் முதலிய பஞ்ச சம்ஸ்காரம்

1st April 1947] [Sri A. S. Sahajanandam]

செய்துகொண்டு ஆச்சாரியன் கொடுத்த அர்ச்சாவதாரத்தை ஆராதிப்பது அல்லது ஆச்சாரியன் திருவடி நிலைகளை பூசிப்பது. இதுதான் சுவார்த்த பூஜை. இந்த பூஜைகள் செய்பவர் அந்தணர், அரசர், வணிகர், வேளாளர், அநுலோமரும் ஆவர். சில ஆகமங்களில் பிரதிலோமரும் தீட்சை பெற்றுக்கொண்டு, இந்த பூஜை செய்யலாமென்றிருக்கிறது. தவிர தீட்சை செய்து கொள்ள அதிகாரமற்ற, தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பினர், சுவார்த்த பூஜைக்கு அருகல்லர். பரார்த்த பூஜை என்பது, பிறர்க்காகச் செய்யப்படுவதாம். சுவார்த்த பூஜைக்கு அதிகாரமில்லாதவர்கள், தரிசிக்கவும் சேவிக்கவும் ஏற்பட்டவை கோவில்கள் அதுதான் பரார்த்த பூஜைக்கிடம்.

“அயன் முகத்தின்தோன்றிய அந்தணர் அரிசித்துப் பயனடைவதற்கு கிட்டலிங்கம் பாங்கு பாங்கில்லை நீண்டப் பரார்த்தம் அவர் தீண்டில் தீங்குலகுக்காமென்று தேறு.”

என்பவற்றால், மஹா சைவ பிராமணர் கோயிலில் பூசைசெய்ய அருகல்லர். ஆலயங்களில் பூசிப்பவர், ஆதி சைவ குருக்களும், தரிசித்து சேவித்து பயனடைபவர்கள் சங்கர ஜாதியும், ஹரி ஜனங்களுமேயாவர். இவர்கள் தவிர உயர்ந்த வகுப்பினரின் அங்கவீனர்கள் ஆலயங்களுக்கு வரலாம்.

“உயர்ந்த குலத் தோருட் பழுதிருப்பினோரும் உயர்ந்தோரும் அல்லாதாரும்”

என்னும் சைவ சமய நெறிச் செய்யுள் இதனை வலியுறுத்துகிறதை அறியவும். இதனால் அங்கவீனர்களும் அறிவில்லாதவர்களும், அமைதியில்லாதவர்களும், தீட்சைக்கு அதிகாரமற்ற தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பினரும்தான் ஆலய வழிபாடு செய்வதற்குரியவர்கள் ஆவர் என பெறப்படுகிறது. தவிரவும் வேதாந்த தேசிகர் இரகசியத்திரய சார சாங்கிரகம் என்னும் நூலில் ஞானம், சக்தி, பொறுமை இல்லாதவர்களும் பக்தி செய்ய அதிகார மற்றவர்களும் கோவில்களுக்கு சேவை செய்யவரவென்கிறார். ஆகவே உயர் குலத்தோர் அன்ன சத்திரங்கள் கட்டினாலும், அதில் தாங்கள் சாப்பிடாமல் அதன் காரியங்களை மாத்திரம் மேற் பார்வையிட்டு விட்டு, பிறகு தன் சொந்த வீட்டில் சாப்பிடுவதுபோல், ஆதி சைவப்பிராமணர்கள் ஆலயங்களில் தாம் பூஜை செய்தலால் வரும் பயனைத் தனக்காகக் கருதாது, தமது வீட்டில் தனக்காக ஏற்பட்ட சுவார்த்த பூஜையை செய்து கொள்ளல்வேண்டும். அவர்களுக்கு ஆலய வழிப்பாட்டால் பயன் கிடை யாது. அமைதி, அறிவு, ஆற்றல், இம்மூன்று மற்றவர்களான ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும், உயர்ந்தோருள் பழுதிருப்பினோரும், இவர்களுக்குத்தான் ஆலயங்கள் ஏற்பட்டவை.

“இனி கடவுள் வழிபாட்டை பக்தி, பிரபக்தி என்று இருவகையாகப் பிரிக்கலாம். பக்தி தான் சுவார்த்த பூஜை. இதற்கு கால நியமம், அதிகார நியமம், ஹட்டம் முதலியன வேண்டும். பிரபக்தி என்பது பக்தி செய்ய முடியாதவர்களால் செய்யப்படும் ஆலய வழிபாடு. இதற்கு கால நியமம் முதலியனவேண்டியதில்லை. இவைகளைப்பற்றி ஸ்ரீவசன் பூஷண வாக்கியங்களில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. முக்கியமாக அதில் தன்னை அனாதரிக்கிறவர்களைத்தான் ஆதரித்து நிற்கிற இடம் கோவிலுள்ள ஸ்ரீமர்த்தங்கள் என்று அந்த வாக்கியங்களில் சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. இவைகளை ஆலயங்களில் தரிசித்து வழிபட சைவநூல்களும், வேதாந்த தேசிகரும், ஹரி ஜனங்களுக்கு உரிமை கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தவிரவும் ஸ்ரீ பிள்ளை லோகாசாரியார், இறைவனைத் தவிர வேறுகதியில்லாதவர் என்றும் இறைவனுக்கு இஞ்சிக்காரம் செய்ய முடியாதவர்களும் ஆலய வழிபாடு செய்யலாமென்கின்றார். இவ்வகையைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் ஹரி

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[Sri A. S. Sahajanandam] [1st April 1947]

ஜனங்களையாவர். ஆகவே சைவ வைணவ நூல் முதலியன ஆலய வழிபாடு ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு உண்டென்று முடிவு கட்டுகிறது. பரார்த்த பூசையாகிய இவ்வாலய வழிபாட்டை செயல்பாடர்கள், ஆதி சைவப்பிராமணரும், சேலித்த பயனையடைவோர், ஹரிஜனங்கள் முதலியோரும் என் பது வெள்ளிடைமலை.

“இவர்கள் தீண்டாதார் என்பதற்கு ஏதாவது ஆதாரமிருக்கிறதா என்று பார்ப்போம். ஹரிஜனங்கள் தீண்டப்படாதவர்களாயிற்றே, அவர் களை எப்படி கோவிலுக்குள் அனுமதிப்பதென்று சிலர் சொல்லலாம். மனுஸ்மிருதி முதலிய நூல்களிலும் இத்தீண்டாதார் பற்றி கூறப்பட்டுள்ள தென்று உண்மை கருத்தறியாத சிலர் கூறலாம். மனுஸ்மிருதிகளில், தீண்டாதார் நான்கு வகுப்பினர் உண்டென்றும், அவர்கள் ஊருக்கு வெளியே தீவாகீர்த்தி, சுவபச, குட்டரோகி, சண்டாளர் என்ற நான்கு நாமங்களுடன் வசிப்பவர்களென்று குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளது. தீவாகீர்த்தினை என்போர் உச்சிப் போதில் பேசத்தகாத மாத்தியான்னிக தீண்டாதவரென் னும் யஜூர் வேதியர், இவர்கள் யாக்கு வல்கி முனிவராலும், திரு மானம் சோமாஜி, மாறநாயனார் யாகத்தில் இறைவனாலும் சாம மெய்தி யவர்கள். இவர்கள் மாயவரம் பக்கத்திலிருக்கும் பிராமண வகுப்பில் ஒரு சாரர். ஆகவே தீவாகீர்த்தி ஹரி ஜனங்கள் அல்லர். இரண்டாவ தாக சுவபச என்ற நாயைத்தின்னும் ஜாதியார்கள். நாயைத்தின் பவர்கள் நம் இந்தியாவிலேயேயில்லை. அவ்வித ஜாதியார் சீனாவில் தான் இருக்கின்றனர். ஆகவே சுவ பச, ஹரி ஜனங்கள் ஆகார். அடுத்த ஜாதியாகிய குட்டரோகிகள் ஹரிஜனங்களில் கிடையாது. நாலாவது ஜாதி சண்டாளர்களாகிய ஜாதியில் இருவகைப்படும். அதாவது கரும் சண் டாளர் என்றும், ஜன்ம சண்டாளர் என்றும் இருவராவர். ‘செய்தக்க வல்ல செய்க்கெடும், செய்தக்க செய்யாமையானும் கெடும்’ என் பதற்க்கிணங்க கர்ம சண்டாளர் தன்மை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இல்லை. அத்தன்மை யக்கும் விதி கர்மத்தை செய்யாது விட்ட பிராமணர்களுக்கே உண்டாகிறது. ஜன்ம சண்டாளர் என்று ஹரிஜனங்களை கூறவும் இட மில்லை. சூத்திர ஆணுக்கும் பிராமணபெண்ணுக்கும் பிறந்தவனே ஜன்ம சண்டாளனாகிறான் என்று மனுஸ்மிருதியில் கூறுகின்றது. இத்தகய சண்டாளரை சேரியில் கொண்டு வந்து விட்ட செய்திக்கு எவ்வித ஆதாரமில்லை. தவிரவும், மக்கள் சமூகத்தில் மூன்று சத விகிதம் கூட இராத அந்தணர் இருபது சதவிகிதமுள்ள ஹரிஜனங்களை இந்த கூடா ஒழுக்கத்தால் ஈன்றார்கள் என்பது பொருந்தாத காரியம். ஆகவே கர்ம சண்டாளத்தன்மையும் ஜன்ம சண்டாளத் தன்மையும், நெறி தவறிய பிராமண ரைத்தான் ஒட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறதே தவிர, பிராமண தொடர் பற்ற ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு எந்த விதத்திலும் பொருந்தாது. ஆகவே தீண்டப் படாதவர்கள் என்று சொல்லப்பட்ட தீவாகீர்த்தி, சுவபச, குட்டரோகி, சண் டாளர் இவர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களில் கிடையாது. ஆகவே இவர்கள் மனுஸ் மிருதிப்படி தீண்டப்படாதவர்கள் அல்ல. ‘தீண்டாத வெளியில்வளர் தீண்டாத தெய்வ’ மென்று ஆண்டவனை அழைப்பதாலும், யஜூர் வேதம் சது ருத்திரியத்தில் ‘தீண்டாதவனே உனக்கு வணக்கம். தீண்டாத வர்களின் தலைவனே உனக்கு வணக்க’ மென ஒரு மந்திரம் கூறுவ தாலும், உயர்ந்த பொருள்களும் தீண்டப்படாதவையே, ஆகவே ஹரி ஜனங்கள் உயர்ந்த வகையைச் சேர்ந்த தீண்டாதவர்கள் ஆவர். இவர் களை ஆலயங்களில் வரக்கூடாதென்று கூறுவது தவறு. ஹரிஜனங் களைத் தடுக்க சாத்திரம் இடந்தரவில்லை.

“ஹரிஜனங்கள் அசுத்தமாயிருப்பதால் ஆலயம் தீட்டாய் விடுமென சில சனானிகள் கூறுகின்றனர். சுத்திய சுத்தியெல்லாம், சுவார்த்த பூஜையாகிய பக்திக்கும் பரார்த்த பூஜை செய்யும் சிவ பிராமணருக்குத் தானன்றி, பூசையைக் கண்டு சேவிக்கும் பிரபக்தி வடிவ ஆலய வழி பாட்டிற்கு இன்றியமையாத அங்கமென்று. பாஞ்சாலி தீட்டாயிருந்த கால்

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO HINDU TEMPLES IN THE PROVINCE OF MADRAS AND THE OFFER OF WORSHIP THEREIN BY CERTAIN CLASSES OF HINDUS WHO BY CUSTOM OR USAGE ARE EXCLUDED FROM SUCH ENTRY AND WORSHIP

[1st April 1947] [Sri A. S. Sahajanandam]

த்தில் துர்ச்சாதனன் வந்து இழுத்துச் சென்று துஷிலாயலானான். அப் பொழுது பாஞ்சாலி, நாம் தீட்டாயிருக்கிறோம் ஆண்டவனிடத்தில் எப் படி சரணுகதி செய்வதென்று நினையாமல், கிருஷ்ண, துவாரகைவாசா, ஹிருதய கமலத்தில் இருப்பவனே, என பிரபக்தி செய்தான். வஸ் திரமும் வளர்ந்தது. ஆண்டவனும் தீட்டென்று நினையாமல் அருள் புரிந்தான். இதனால் பிரபக்திக்கு சுத்தம் இன்றியமையாத அங்கமல்ல என்பது பெறப்பட்டது. இக்ஷிலோருவம்ச ஸ்ரீராமசந்திரன் வருணனை நோக்கி பிரபக்தி செய்தபோது கடலில் மூழ்கி ஆசமனம் செய்து மரவூரி யுடுத்தின பிறகே சரணுகதி செய்தான். ஆனால் அந்த சரணுகதியை கற்றுக் கொடுத்த விபீஷணன், ராமனை சரணுகதி செய்தபோது, ஆகா யத்திலிருந்து கொண்டே இராகவா சரணமென்றான். அவனுடைய சர ணுகதிக்கு கடலில் மூழ்கி சுத்தி செய்து கொள்ளவில்லை. கால்களையும் கழுவிக்கொள்ளவில்லை. ஆகவே சுத்தமசுத்தமெல்லாம் குலாசாரமே யொழிய பிரபக்தி அங்கமன்று. இராகவன் இக்ஷிலோருவம்சம், ஆகவே வொழிய பிரபக்தி அங்கமன்று. இராகவன் இக்ஷிலோருவம்சம், ஆகவே அவன் குலாசாரப்படி தூய்மையாக பிரபக்தி செய்தான். விபீஷணன் அரக்கர் குலத்தில் பிறந்தவனாதலால், அவன் குலாசாரப்படி சரணு கதி செய்தான். ஆதலால் ஆலயமோ, ஆண்டவனின் திருவுருவோ, இந்த சுத்தாசுத்தங்களால் அசுத்த மடைவதில்லை. சுத்தாசுத்தம் கருதினால் கண்ணப்பர் பக்தி பொருந்தாது, பட்டினத்தார், மாணிக்க வாசகர், ஆதிசங்கரர் முதலானவர்கள் கண்ணப்பரை பரார்ட்டியிருக்கமாட் டார்கள். எனவே இதனாகும் கூறிய வாற்றால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் இந் நாட்டு பழங்குடி தமிழ் மக்கள் என்பதும், சண்டாளர் எனும் சொல் ஒழுக்கம் தவறிய பிராமணர், நிலையற்றிருந்தாரையும் மன்றி ஹரிஜனங் களைக் குறியாது என்பதும், கோவில்கள் ஹரிஜன வழிபாட்டிற்கே அமைக்கப் பட்டுள்ளது என்பதும், அவற்றில் ஹரிஜனங்கள் நுழைவதால், ஆலயமோ அல்லது ஆண்டவன் திருமேனியோ, தீட்டோ அசுத்தமோயடையாது என் பதும், ஹரிஜனங்கள் தீண்டாதவர்கள் என்று எந்த சாத்திரமும், கூறுமையாலும், இன்னும் மற்ற விஷயங்களை கூர்ந்து பார்த்தபோதிலும், ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஆலயப்பிரவேசத்திற்கு தகுதியுடையவர்களே என்பது இனிது புலனாகும்.

“இவ்வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லி இந்த மசோதாவை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Mr. Speaker, I am very much moved by the words of the last speaker. It is a privilege, Sir, that we, in this House, are doing an act which does what the mover of the Bill called belated justice to a community which has been kept back from our sacred temples. This Bill is all the more welcome coming as it does on the crest of a wave of popular enthusiasm which but has fulfilled the very purpose for which this Bill is moved. Temple entry in this Province has been a strenuous work. For years, propaganda has been carried on and at the end of it a noble and unselfish soul in Madura struggled to get the temple at that place thrown open. It was thrown open in a very proper and in a very religious manner and the then Government of the day brought in a Bill to help to ratify and permit other temples to be thrown open. Seven years have passed since then and the public has not sat idle on this aspect of social reform. It went on not with mere agitation but with direct appeal that went to the hearts of the masses asking them to redeem this act of injustice and throw open all the leading shrines in South India. This Bill

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aims at the ratification of what has already been achieved. Most of the temples in South India including Srirangam, Conjeeveram and Madura and other sacred places have already been thrown open and what remains still to be done will now be done under this measure. Twenty years ago, few people would have thought it possible that such a large social upheaval may take place amidst in our in most peaceful manner and without any trace of bitterness or ill-will on either side. It is the genius of the Hindu faith to effect changes almost imperceptibly. It is thus, Sir, that invests our religion with what is called eternal youth. I do not know whether many Members of this House know the true meaning of the word 'purana'. The meaning is 'though old ever new' and it is in that sense that the Hindu religion has grown from age to age and from century to century and though old, it continues to be ever young. To us, Sir, religion is no closed book and there is nothing like the last word in it or in social reform, even as in the matter of knowledge, it goes on expanding all the time venturing out on that eternal quest for truth which knows no end. It is in that pursuit that the Hindu religion engaged itself and if it changes from time to time and such changes make radical alterations, it always says to itself: 'The change is warranted already in the known and existing order of things.' That is how reformers came to work and I believe that Ramanuja, Sankara and other great teachers of the Hindu faith effected reforms, outstanding reforms, in the spirit in which, I have mentioned, our religion has grown.

"It is not enough to pass a measure of this kind; legislation and propaganda must go hand in hand. We must make it our effort, our ceaseless endeavour, to bring in millions of these people into our temples. It is the duty of people like us to see that temple worship does not suffer but that temples are filled with pious worshippers and with the same large congregations as on festive occasions which we are accustomed to see around our temples. Let us see that the strength of our faith grows from day to day attracting to itself the devotion of people who have been denied the privilege of sharing that faith. Now, Sir, they will be full sharers and let me assure you on behalf of the members like myself that there will be no stinting in the sharing of that pleasure that enjoyment and of that exaltation which is peculiar to this unique form of worship allowed in Hindu religion, namely, temple worship. There is not merely sacredness about it; there is something uniquely exalting about this worship and I would like every member of the Hindu faith sharing in that unique form of worship. I hope, Sir, that temples will grow brighter; their endowments will multiply and that festivities will go on with the same measure of enthusiasm that people usually witness in these festive occasions. These festivals are the only occasion left for all classes of people rich and poor to come together

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and worship the mass and yet worship each in his own peculiar way. I hope and trust that every member of this House will carry this message of free worship to every home and see that every sacred temple of ours welcomes the lowliest Harijan that remains in the precincts round about where we live in order that he may also realize that he has become one with the rest of the great Hindu community. Absorption without conflict and radical alterations without the proclamation of such alterations of the Hindu faith and the Hindu faith has enriched itself by the passing of this Bill which ratifies public opinion and will continue to strengthen the bonds that bring the entire fold together."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, I have the greatest pleasure in supporting this Bill and I, for one, am glad that I had some part in the shaping of this Bill. When the Congress Ministry came to power, there were some amongst us who doubted whether it is possible to throw all the temples open to the Harijans at a time. There was apprehension that it will lead to conflicts between various classes of people in the Hindu society at time when was such a wave of enthusiasm all over the country for throwing open all the temples to the Harijans. So far as the temple entry was concerned, there was already a measure on the statute book which really vested the initiative in the trustees of the temples. They had to ascertain public opinion and have to apply to the Government for purposes of sanction for opening the temple to Harijans and others who had been for long years excluded from the temples. The initiative was with the trustees. But it did not work very well. Therefore, it was necessary to take the initiative and that is why a Bill was drafted in the form in which it has appeared before the House. The coming into operation of this Act shall have to be notified by the Government and I am sure that the Government will not take hasty action in respect of publishing this notification.

"I do feel that it will be much better if all these temples are opened without any statutory sanction behind it. If they are all opened without the necessity of this Act being passed into law, it will go a long way to assure the Harijans that this reform comes from the heart of their Hindu brethren and not because of the positive sanction of the statute to throw open temples to the Harijans. By throwing open these temples we are only throwing them open to the greatest bhaktas or great devotees of the temples. You may know from history that Harijans have been subjected to a good deal of indignities. They were excluded from society; they were excluded from temples. In spite of this harsh treatment and indignities, all these Harijans have been sticking fast to Hindu religion, because they have greater faith in Hindu Gods than the caste Hindus themselves. After twenty-five years of propaganda, we see this reform fructifying to-day. I am glad

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that the temples have been thrown open to persons who are most devoted and who are the greatest bhaktas. It is very good that this has been brought about. I am glad also that I had a little part in trying to secure for the Harijans entry into temples. It is only by our unfolding the precious thing that we can show our sincerity of purpose. After all, temples are public property. The removal of untouchability should be carried out. Greatest opposition came to the entry of Harijans into temples at first. Now that it has been achieved, the question arises as to whether we should not welcome them into our own homes as our leaders and others. Sir, I support this bill wholeheartedly and sincerely, and I hope the purpose of Hinduism will be fulfilled by this measure of justice to the Harijans."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me when I say that this is more or less my maiden speech in the sense that I am speaking for the first time after the new Ministry came into office. (Laughter.) Therefore, I really feel rather embarrassing as I have to adjust—because we have to come across with a new set of persons whose manners, behaviour, mannerism, likes and dislikes, we have yet to know. With this initial difficulty, I participate in the discussion to-day. Yesterday a question was put and of course it was rightly replied by the Leader of the Opposition and some other members that we the members of the Muslim League, while supporting measures of this kind, had really some part to play, at least to the extent that we supported such measures. In fact, Sir, it is our good luck that for the last two days we are having only measures of a non-controversial nature, and in which members of the Congress party, the Harijans and the Muslim League Members are vying with one another in supporting them rather than one supporting the other or the other supporting a third. On the whole a very good atmosphere prevails on the floor of this House, and I am sure it will be continued at least for some more time if not for ever. The whole question is, as Dr. Rajan has said public opinion is asserting itself in the Hindu society. When he says that these temples should be opened to Harijans, I entirely agree with him, because it is really a blot on Hindu society and that it is only unfair on their part to refuse admission to their own brethren when they claim themselves as part of the same society—I mean the Hindu society. As far as that particular point is concerned, I quite agree. But there is one fundamental fact which the Congress party, or I can say my Harijan brethren, have ignored. That is, apart from the consciousness among the Hindus that these temples should be thrown open to Harijans, there is the consciousness among the Harijans also that it is their right to enter into temples. There is also a political factor, Sir, in this, which we cannot ignore. It is not

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my part to bring in controversies and mar the very good atmosphere which is prevalent here, but at the same time I cannot but say that there is also a political factor for passing this measure. If you fail to place such a measure on the statute book, whereby you are going to allow the entry of Harijans into temples, the whole thing would have taken a different turn, because for the last seven or eight years particularly, there have been reports, and there have been attempts, also, on the part of the members of the Harijan community, when they gave out the challenge to the members of the Caste Hindus, that they would get themselves converted to Islam or Christianity. They said 'we have only two things to do; either to get ourselves converted to Islam or Christianity or to make ourselves a separate entity in the political field of India.' These were the two inherent dangers facing the Hindu society. The one danger was that Harijans by force of circumstances might be converted to Christianity or Islam. As Muslims we do not agree to this compulsory conversion. It is only people who really believe in Islam that can be converted. That factor was always there. The other factor was that Harijans thought that Hindus were not treating them in the proper manner, and that they were not treating them as their own brethren. The Harijans now began to feel that the Hindus had begun to treat them as their brethren only for political reasons—to have more seats in the Assembly. This political factor was there right from 1937—even from as early as the Poona Pact which was entered into by Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar. How can you ignore this historical fact? You have to take cognizance of all this. We also, Sir, have contributed to all these in the sense that we were responsible for the feeling among the Hindus that the number of Hindus would be reduced if a portion of them were to be converted into Islam or Christianity. At least we were responsible for creating this feeling among the Hindus, so much so, the result is that we see justice being done to Harijans to-day. Sir, I really feel great pleasure in supporting this measure. I do not have much right to speak on this subject. But there is one important factor. The support to this measure has come mostly from persons who once were regarded as orthodox Hindus. I was really pleased to hear Mr. N. S. Varadachari speak in support of this measure. Yesterday he was an orthodox Brahman; but to-day he says no more I am an orthodox Brahman; I am equal to a Harijan. That is really a great change.

"I cannot finish my speech without a word of advice to my Harijans. Do not think for a minute that by mere temple entry you are going to attain what you want. It is only a beginning and not the end. Something more has to be done. You should attain everything. First of all leave off your inferiority complex. Do not feel in any way inferior either to your caste-Hindus or to the Christians or to the Muslims. You always feel that you are all equal to others. Mere temple entry is not going to solve

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the problem. There is the economic uplift of the Harijans. We see poverty when we go to the countryside. I have not toured the countryside as Mr. Anwar, but still the poverty is there. Therefore much more has to be done. My appeal to Harijan members of this Assembly is 'do not think that your job is done by temple entry alone, go to your constituencies and appeal to the masses that their job is not only in the temples, but something more has to be done, and, that is, their economic standard should be raised.' Unless and until this is done, I say you are not going to achieve much. Sir, I am now making a suggestion. Temples in Madras Presidency are very famous. I mean they are important not only to us but also to people who come from outside our Province. These temples contain a good deal of hidden wealth. I may say that our Hindu brethren are very generous in allowing entry of depressed classes into their temples. They may as well allow this hidden wealth in these temples to be used . . ."

"THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" On a point of order Sir. The question is with regard to the admission of Harijans into Hindu temples. It does not deal with the wealth in temples."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No doubt it is a question of admitting Harijans into Hindu temples. When they admit them, my friend advocates that they must also be admitted to all the benefits of the entry into the temple so that they may also partake of the benefits of the treasures."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, wealth in temples is never distributed even to Hindus or any orthodox people."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan has raised a point of order. It is not my point to give him any advice. It is merely a suggestion. If he likes he may consider it. It is not that I force it on him. I am a new member. I have yet to learn so many things from the Hon. Dr. Rajan. (Laughter.)"

"One thing more, Sir, and with that I will finish. I can say I was very much disappointed with the Speaker of the House, yesterday. When a very important measure was passed yesterday, I felt it was our good luck that we had assembled here to pass such a measure. To-day also it is your good luck and also our good luck to pass this Bill into law. We expected to hear something from the Chair yesterday. I am sure . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Chair should not take part in the debate."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With these words, Sir, I support the Bill."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I rise to support the Bill which is before the House. After hearing the elaborate speech of Swami Sahajanandam, I need not stress much upon the members of this House on the importance of worship in the

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temples and allowing the Harijans into temples. I am here to request my caste-Hindu friends to make elaborate propaganda to impress upon the minds of the village people that there is nothing wrong from the religious point of view or economic or political point of view in allowing our Harijan brethren entry into our temples. Whether it be ancient temples like Srirangam, Rameswaram or Chidambaram or even small Mariamman or Kali temples, wherever there is a temple there must be free access to all our Harijan brothers. That is the idea we have to create. Of course, we are making deliberate attempts from 1921—ever since that great leader Mahatma Gandhi included in the Congress programme this removal of untouchability. We are working for the admission of Harijans into every temple.

"Now regarding the provisions of the Bill, some of the members suggested that this Act will be merely just like the Sarada Act, and this Act will not be put into actual practice. This should not be the case, Sir. This Bill was proposed by a very eminently fitted gentleman like our Leader of the Legislative Council and very ably supported by very prominent workers in the cause of Harijan uplift like Mr. Varadachari and Mr. Sahajanandam. May I request my hon. leaders here, Swami Sahajanandam and Sriman Muniswami Pillai, and other members of the community, that they must have a tour throughout the Province just to impress on the minds of Harijans about the importance of attending the temples? In Salem, we have opened two important temples for Harijans without much advertisement. But when the Harijans came to these temples, they did not take their ladies also with them."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You can continue your speech after lunch."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. P. Kandaswami will resume his speech."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, the Harijan leaders of this Province, particularly those who are members of this House should go about the Province and impress in the minds of Harijans about the importance of worship in temples. For because of long non-usage they have forgotten worship in temples. To-day they have their own way of worship, their own way of celebrating festivals and their own way of having car festivals in their villages, and in doing so they spend what little money they have in all bad ways. Therefore my humble request to all Harijan members of this House is that they should travel through the Province and impress on Harijans about the importance of worship of God in temples."

"One important point I would like to mention here. Even one member of this House said that the wealth of temple should

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be given to the Harijans. Mr. Raza Khan suggested this. I submit that part of the work has been taken up by Mahatma Gandhi. As I was walking along the corridors of this House just a while ago one hon. Member was saying, what was the use of going to temples, when you are not given money. Whoever visits temple wants money. Mahatma Gandhi has taken upon himself that task, and that is why he has been collecting money from his visitors for uplift of Harijans. The spiritual aspect of the life of Harijans should be developed. That is the main object of worship of God in temples. Mere eating, sleeping and bringing forth children, that is physical work. Unless he is elevated mentally, unless he becomes a superior man intellectually, he will not be cared by any one. He may be a very strong sandow: he may have a good physique; he may be able to lift any amount of weight; all the same he cannot be a fully developed man. The development of man lies on the spiritual aspect of life, and it is with that object legislation has now been introduced. Therefore I once again appeal to not only Harijan leaders but also to caste Hindus even in towns to co-operate with the leaders of other communities in the work of Harijan uplift. In the villages people should be educated to take Harijan with them when they go to temples, just as we take friends when we go to a cinema. Harijans have forgotten worship of God in temples. So we should all make it a point of our daily programme to take Harijans to temples. Their spiritual life should be developed; they should be made to understand that imperishable wealth can be got only through God. This is ordained by all religions, be it Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Zoroastrianism. Each of it has its own way of approach of God; but the end is the same. It is the mental aspect of human life that should be developed; the physical aspect is known to most of us. In one sentence the great spiritual leader, Apparswamigal has said 'whatever you ask God, he will give.' The late patriot, Chidambaram Pillai in his book, Manam-pol Vazhvu', has also stated succinctly like this. In Tirukkural, it is clearly stated, 'when a man thinks of God, whatever he wants, he will get it; but he must be persistent about it; mere thinking once or twice won't do.' That is penance. That is what our great rishis were doing. Great things have been achieved by penance. It is because of our spiritual leaders in India, that India is still surviving to-day in spite of so many invasions. Mundane wealth is nothing. It is all petty things. Spiritual wealth alone will protect man from ruin; spiritual elevation alone will raise him to the highest level of society. So I request it should be the paramount duty of every members of this House to work for the elevation of Harijans and for their spiritual advancement."

1st April 1947] [Sri A. Subrahmanyam]

களாக மாசு படிந்திருந்ததை இன்றையதினம் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்து படித்திருக்கும் இந்த மசோதா மூலம் மாசு நீக்கப் படுவது கண்டு நான் மட்டுமல்ல இந்தியா முழுவதிலுமே சந்தோஷப்படும் படியான ஒரு விஷயமாகும். குறிப்பாக ஹரிஜனங்கள் விஷயத்தில் இந்த தேசத்திலேயே பல வருஷங்களாக நாம் ஒரு பெரிய இடையூர்களைச் செய்து வந்திருக்கிறோம். அவர்களுக்கு கஷ்டத்தையும் கொடுத்துவந்திருக்கிறோம். சொல்ல முடியாத துன்பத்தையும் உண்டு பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம் என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்கமுடியாது. ஆகையால்தான் இந்த தேசத்தில் முதலிலேயே நாம் இம்மாதிரியான ஒரு சட்டத்தை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குச் செய்ய வேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு ஆசை நீண்ட நாட்களாக இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறது. அது தற்காலத்தில் நிறைவேறும்படியான ஒரு நல்ல சந்தர்ப்பம் இப்பொழுது வந்திருப்பதைப்பற்றி நாம் பெருமையடையவேண்டும். பாரதியார் கூட ஜாதிகள் இல்லையடி பாப்பா, குலதாழ்ச்சி உயர்ச்சி சொல்ல பாபம் நீதி, உயர்ந்தமதி, அன்பு நிறைய உடையவர் மேலோர் என்று கூறியிருக்கிறார். அன்பும் நீதியும் யார் மனதில் உதித்து அந்தக் கார்யத்தைச் செய்து கொடுக்கிறார்களோ அவர்கள் உயர்ந்தவர்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. எனவே தாழ்ந்தவர்கள் இனிமேல் தாழ்ந்தவர்களாகவே இருக்கமுடியாது என்பதை நாம் முதலில் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். குறிப்பாக இப்பொழுது ஒரு சில கோடிக்கணக்கான ஹரிஜனங்களை நாம் அடிமைகளாக்கி அவர்களை தீண்டாதவர்கள் என்று சொல்லி அவர்களை அப்பிரப்படுத்தி வைத்திருப்பதால்தான் இப்பொழுது இந்தியாவில் இருக்கும் இந்த 40 கோடி மக்களாகிய நம்மையும் வெள்ளைக்காரர்கள் அடிமைப்படுத்தி வைத்திருக்கின்றார்கள் என்பதை இந்த சமயத்தில் ஞாபகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். இன்றைக்கு இந்த ஒரு சில கோடி ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு சுதந்திரம் அளிப்போமானால் இந்தக் காலத்தில் நம்மை அடிமைப்படுத்தி வைத்திருக்கும் இந்த வெள்ளைக்காரர்கள் இந்த நாட்டை விட்டு ஒடுகிறேன் என்று சொல்லும் படியான ஒரு காலம்வரும். அதுவும் வந்துவிட்டது. அந்தமாதிரியாக இப்பொழுது காலம் மாறி இருக்கிறது என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகையால் சாஸ்திரங்களில் தீண்டாதவர்கள் என்று குறிப்பிடும் எந்த விதமான வேற்றுமையும் கிடையாது. தீண்டாமை என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய வார்த்தை சாஸ்திரங்களிலும் பாட்டுகளிலும் கிடையாது. நான் இப்பொழுது சொல்லப்போகிற பாட்டிலிருந்தே தெரிகிறது என்பதை நன்கு தெரியும், ஆதலால் ஒரு பெரியார் பாடிய பாட்டை உங்களுக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன்.

குலந்தாங்கு ஜாதிகள் நாலிலும் கீழிருந்து எத்தனை
நலந்தானிலாத சண்டாள சண்டாளர்களாகிலும்
வலந்தாங்கு சக்கரத்தண்ணல் மணிவண்ணற் காளென்றுன்
கலந்தார் அடியார் தம்மடியா ரெம்படிகளே,
என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இதே மாதிரியாக சைவ சமயாச்சாரிகளும் பல
பாட்டுக்களைப்பாடி இருக்கின்றார்கள். அதில் ஒன்றை பாடுகிறேன்.
சங்கநிதி பதுமநிதி யிரண்டும் தந்து தரணி யொடு
வானுளத்தருவரேனு
மங்குவாரவர் செல்வமதிப்போ மல்லே மாதேவர்க்
கேகாந்த நல்லராகில்
அங்கமெலாங் குறைந்தமுதொழுநோயரயாவிரித்துத் தின்று
முலும் புலையரேனுங்
கங்கைவார் சடைக்கரத் தரக்கள் பாரகிலவர் கண்டீர் நாம்
வணங்குங் கடவுளாரே.

அதேபோல எப்பேர்ப்பட்ட இழிவான காரியத்தை செய்யக்கூடியவர்களாக இருந்தாலும் கூட அவர்கள் தெய்வ பக்தி செலுத்தினால் அவர்களை உள்ளன்போடு ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். என்றுதான் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆகையால் தீண்டாதவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் இப்பொழுது நாம் கருணையாகவே இருக்கவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது கோவில்களை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு திறந்துவிடப் படுவதில் சில கஷ்டங்கள் இருப்பதாக சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இந்த மாதிரி கஷ்

2-45 *SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAN:—“ கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே,
p.m. இந்த ஹரிஜன ஆஸய பிரவேச மசோதாவை ஆதரித்துப் பேசுவதற்கு எனக்கு ஓர் சந்தர்ப்பம் கிடைத்ததுபற்றி நான் பெருமை அடைகின்றேன். இந்தியா தேசத்தில் விரிந்து சமூகத்திற்கே பலலாண்டு

[Sri A. Subrahmanyam] [1st April 1947]

டங்கள் இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லாமல் இருக்கவே இப்பொழுது இந்தக் காலத்தில் கோவில்களில் 63 நாயன்மார்கள் என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய பல வகுப்பினர்களை சேர்த்து குறிப்பாக தீண்டாதவர்கள் என்று சொல்லக் கூடிய செக்கிலியர், பறையர், அதற்கு அப்புரம் வண்ணன், இன்னும் செட்டி மார்கள், முதலியார்கள் முதலிய சகல ஜாதியினர்களும் ஒவ்வொரு அடியார்களாகத் தோன்றி முன் சொல்லியபடி ஏற்பட்டு 63 நாயன்மார்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த 63 நாயன்மார்களையும் நம் கோவில்களில் வரிசையாக நிற்க வைத்து இருப்பதையும் நாம் கண்ணால் பார்க்கலாம். அங்கே போய் பார்த்தால் மேல் ஜாதி நாயன்மார்களோடு கீழ் ஜாதி நாயன் மார்களை தீண்டக் கூடாதவர்கள் என்று ஒதுக்கவைக்கப்படவில்லை. கோயிலிலிருக்கும் சுவாமியோடு கூட எல்லா ஜாதி நாயன்மார்களும் சேர்ந்திருப்பதற்கு உரிமை உண்டு என்றும் வித்யாசம் இல்லை என்றும் வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். எனவே, கடவுள்களிடம் கூட இந்த வித்யாசம் கிடையாது. இதே போல் நைவேத்யம் முதலியவைகள் நடத்துகிற காலத்தில் இந்த நாயன் மார்களில் முதலில் இருக்கும் செட்டியார் சுவாமிக்கு நைவேத்யம் செய்கிறார்கள். அடுத்தபடியாக முதலியார் சுவாமிக்கு நைவேத்யம் செய்து அது சாப்பிடுகிறது. பிறகு வண்ணன் நாயன்மார் சுவாமி சாப்பிடுகிறது. அடுத்தபடியாக அய்யர் நாயன்மார் சுவாமி சாப்பிடுகிறது. பறையன் சுவாமி, செக்கிலிய சுவாமி, குயவன் சுவாமி. வாணியன் சுவாமி, அய்யங்கார் சுவாமி இவ்விதம் 63 நாயன்மார் சுவாமிகளும் ஜாதி வித்தியாசம் இல்லாமல் ஒற்றுமையாக சாப்பிடுகிறது. இவ்விதம் இந்த 63 நாயன்மார்களும் ஒருவரின் ஒருவராக எச்சல் செய்து சாப்பிட்டபிறகு கடைசியில் கோவிலிலிருக்கும் பெரிய சுவாமிக்கு நைவேத்யம் நடக்கிறது. பெரிய சுவாமியும் சாப்பிடுகிறது. ஆகையால் இதை நான் எதற்கு சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் இம்மாதிரியாக கடவுள்கூட வேற்றுமை இல்லாமல் சாப்பிடுகிறது என்று சொல்வதற்குத்தான். ஆகையால் தெய்வங்கள்கூட ஒற்றுமையாக இருக்கின்றது என்பதையறித்தாவது நாம் ஒற்றுமையாக நடந்து கொள்ள வேண்டும். எதற்காக ஜாதிப் பிரிவினைகள் காட்டவேண்டும். கடவுள் எல்லோருக்கும் ஒன்று என்று நிரூபணம் செய்து கொண்டு எந்த முறையில் கோவிலில் நடக்கிறதோ அந்த முறையிலேயே ஏன் நாம் நடந்து கொள்ளக் கூடாது. கோவிலில் இந்த 63 நாயன்மார்களுக்கு நடப்பதையும் சுவாமிக்கு நடப்பதையும் நாம் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்களை தள்ளிவைத்து தொடக்கூடாது என்று சொல்வதற்கு ஒரு சட்டம் செய்ய வேண்டிய தவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அதை அறிகுறியாக வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். எனக்கு ஒரு கதை ஞாபகத்திற்கு வருகிறது.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ இப்பொழுது கதை சொல்வதற்கு முடியாது.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—“ இந்தக் கதையைச் சொன்னால் அதில் எல்லா கருத்தும் அடங்கிவிடும் என்பதற்குத்தான் சொல்லுகிறேன். துவாரபாலகர்கள் என்று சொல்லக்கூடிய Gate Keepersகள் இருவர் ஸ்ரீவைகுண்டத்தில் ஸ்ரீ அரங்கநாதர் சன்னிதானத்திலிருந்தார்கள். அப்பொழுது ஸ்ரீவைகுண்டத்தில் ஸ்ரீமான் அரங்கநாதர் பள்ளிகொண்டிருந்ததாக சரித்திரம் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. அந்தக் காலத்தில் ரிஷிகள் பல இடங்களில் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்துவிட்டு ஸ்ரீவைகுண்டத்திற்கு வந்தார்கள். அப்பொழுது ஸ்ரீவைகுண்டத்திலிருக்கும் ஸ்ரீநாராயணனை தரிசிக்க ரிஷிகள் துவாரபாலகர்களை அணுகினார்கள். ரிஷிகள் அங்கு போனவுடன் இந்த ரிஷிகளை உள்ளே போகவிடாமல் இந்த துவாரபாலகர்கள் தடுத்தார்கள். அதற்கு அந்த ரிஷிகள் ‘அய்யா நாங்கள் வெகு தூரத்திலிருந்து வந்திருக்கிறோம். ஸ்ரீமன் நாராயணனை தரிசிக்க வேண்டும். என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதற்கு அந்த துவாரபாலகர்கள் இப்பொழுது ஸ்ரீமன் நாராயணன் சயனித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார். இப்பொழுது பார்ப்பதற்கு உங்களுக்கு அனுமதி கிடையாது. போய்வாருங்கள் மறுமுறையும் என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். உங்களையும் நாங்கள் அனுமதிக்க மாட்டோம் என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். அதற்கு அவர் நீங்கள் எங்களை தடை-

1st April 1947] [Sri A. Subrahmanyam]

செய்வது நியாயம் இல்லை. நான் வந்திருப்பதாக போய் சொல்லுங்கள். அவரே எங்களை உள்ளே அழைத்து வரும்படி சொல்லுவார் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதற்கும் அந்த துவாரபாலகர்கள் முடியாது என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். உடனே இதை அறிந்த கடவுள் என்ன பேச்சு வார்த்தை என்றும் கூக்குரல் என்னவென்றும் அந்த துவாரபாலகர்களை கேட்டா. அதற்கு அவர்கள் உம்மை ரிஷிகள் தரிசிக்க வந்திருக்கிறார். தாங்கள் லெட்சுமி தேவியுடன் இங்கே சயனித்து இருக்கிறீர்கள். இப்பொழுது பார்க்க சந்தர்ப்பம் இல்லை என்று சொன்னோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். உடனே ஸ்ரீமன் நாராயணனுக்கு கோபம் வந்து விட்டது. என்னுடைய பக்தர்கள் என்னை நாடிவருகிறவர்களை நீங்கள் யார் தடை செய்வதற்கு. ஆகையால் நீங்கள் பூ உலகத்தில் போய் இருபது பிறப்பு நகர்களைப் பிறந்து மறு பிறவி எடுத்து இங்கே வந்து சேரவேண்டும் என்று சொன்னாராம். இவ்விதம் இருபது பிறப்பு எடுத்து கஷ்டப்படவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னாராம். அதன் பிறகு அவர்கள் வேண்டிக்கொண்டதன்பேரில் மூன்று முறை பிரவிகள் எடுத்து என்னோடு விரோதமாக இருந்து என்னிடம் வந்து சேருவதற்கு இஷ்டமா? அல்லது, என்னிடம் பிரியமா இருந்து இருபது பிறப்பு பிறந்து இறந்து இங்கு வருவதற்கு இஷ்டமா? என்று கேட்டாராம். அதற்கு ரிஷிகள் இருபது பிறப்பு எடுத்துக் கஷ்டப்பட்டு வதைவிட தங்களுக்கு விமோதமாக மூன்று பிறப்பு எடுத்து தங்களிடம் அதிசீக்கிரம் வரப்பிரியப்படுகிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அதற்குத்தான் க்ரேதாயுகம், துவாபிரயுகம், கலியுகம் இந்த மூன்று யுகங்களில் முறையே இரண்டாம் கசிபு; இரண்டாம் சதன், ராவணன், கும்பகர்ணன், சிசுபாலன், வக்தவக்ரன் என்பதாக பிறவி எடுத்தார்களாம். இந்தக் கதையைப்போல இந்த ஹரிஜனங்களையும் கோவிலுக்குள் விடமாட்டேன் என்று சொன்னால் நாம் எத்தனை பிறப்பு பிறக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை இந்தக் கதையினால் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம். ஆகையால்தான் இந்த மாதிரி இல்லாமல் இவர்களை நம்மோடு சேர்த்து கோவில்களுக்குள் விடவேண்டியதவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்காகத்தான் இந்த மசோதா வரவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறேன். வெகுசாலமாக ஒரு காரியத்தைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று இருந்ததை இப்பொழுது செய்வதற்கு சந்தர்ப்பம் வந்திருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் இந்த சட்டத்தை நம் நாட்டில் ஏன் நம் மாகாணத்திலேயே நல்ல காரியமாக கருதுகின்றார்கள். பொதுஜனங்கள் எல்லோரும் சுபிட்சமாக இருப்பதற்கும் இந்த சட்டம் அவசியமானது. இதை சட்டமாக்குவதற்கு ஒருவித நியாயமும் இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் காரியத்தை நம் சட்ட சபையிலும், நம் மாகாணத்திலேயே இதை நல்ல காரியமாக செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்றும் பொது ஜனங்கள் இதை வரவேற்கிறார்கள். இதனால் பொது ஜனங்களும் சுபிட்சமாகிவிடுவார்கள். எல்லோரும் சந்தோஷப்படுகூடிய சட்டம் இது தான். இதை நான் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir the 1st of April nineteen hundred and forty-seven is a historic day in this Province. The Act that we are going to pass to-day is the last stage of the great social revolution that is being achieved very peacefully without any hitch between community and community in this great land of ours. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: ‘It is only the beginning, not the end.’) Great evils have been remedied by great leaders and reformers in the history of mankind. It was given to Abraham Lincoln to abolish slavery, to Rajah Ram Mohan Roy to put down Sathi (the burning of widows), to Mustafa Kamal Pasha, the great Asiatic Leader, to remove purdah, to suppress polygamy and to emancipate women, and to Mahatma Gandhi to remove this great evil of untouchability. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ‘It is only history.’) Certainly it is history and I would remind my hon. Friend of the

[Sri A. Kaleswara Rao] [1st April 1947]

same thing. Religiously speaking there can be no untouchability in Hinduism. Hinduism is based on the Upanishads. The fundamental principle of Hinduism is that God is everywhere, He is in every part of the Universe and according to the Kata Upanishad He is in the heart of man. The body of every man is a temple of God. That is the primary and fundamental principle of Hinduism. Sir, I have investigated the Upanishads and I have found in the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad something about the origin of the caste system. It is stated that there were no Varnas at one time, and all were called Brahmins. God thought that Kshatriya was necessary and so He created the Kshatriya from Himself and then for increasing the national wealth He created Vysyas from Himself and He also created the Sudras from Himself. Sudras were called Pushans or the sustainers of the community. There was nothing degrading in that term. All were equal and all were entitled to study the Vedas and to undergo the training of Brahmacharya and get the highest possible education. That system of division of the labour of the community into four Varnas continued up to the end of Dwapara Yuga, that is, up to the time of the Bhagavat Gita, Bhagavata and Maha Bharata. Up to that time only the Chathur Varnams were mentioned. There was no fifth caste. There was no Panchama caste. There was no untouchability. This superstitious custom of untouchability came into existence only in the Kali Yuga. Kali Yuga according to the Dharma Sastras is the period of religious degradation, the age of corruption, of bad morals. So this untouchability itself, when we view it from the religious point of view, is an aspect of the degradation into which society has fallen in the Kali Yuga. In Kali Yuga the Great Ramanuja had tried to remove this evil and afterwards other reformers like Rajah Ram Mohan Roy and Swami Vivekananda and others wanted to remove this bad custom, this superstition, this curse which is degrading a large section of the community and depressing and suppressing them.

"Sir, when I was a student, I was one of those who read Rajah Ram Mohan Roy's works and Swami Vivekananda's works and I got my inspiration to do my humble services in those social reform causes and I had the honour also of being ex-communicated along with a batch of friends in 1908 on this and other social reform issues. Of course, the ex-communication was nothing, because times were with us and the subsequent generations were coming on our side. Therefore we did not really suffer as those reformers, Veeresalingam Pantulu and Unnavar Lakshminarayana had suffered. Where the great Ramanuja and the other social reformers did not succeed so much Gandhiji has succeeded. Gandhiji also started as great social reformer, and also a religious reformer, as one who believes in the Upanishads and the Bhagavat Gita. But I must frankly confess that Gandhiji has succeeded because he has made it a part of nationalism that is surging in the country. Sir, in the nationalism, by which we want to establish a democratic federal republic based on universal

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adult franchise, can there be inequality between man and man; can there be any community in this country, whether Hindus, Muslims or Christians or Harijans that will not be considered as equal partners in this great republic? When we are all to be partners, when we are all to be equal, how can there be low and high; how can there be a higher caste and a lower caste and touchability and untouchability? So these things must go. It is not a mere Harijan question. I view it as a fundamental right of the Indian people.

"In the Karachi resolution of the Congress it has been included as one of the fundamental rights to remove the curse of untouchability wherever it may exist. All institutions maintained by public funds by the Government or allied institutions should be thrown open to all. Everybody should have a vote, should be entitled to free and compulsory education and should be treated equally. This spirit must be shown by the Hindus, the major community of this great country, who will be the dominant partners in the enjoyment of the great democratic swaraj. They cannot say 'We will keep away the untouchables from temples, chatrams, schools and wells and yet we want swaraj.' It is the spirit of the age. It is the fundamental right embodied in the democratic structure that we are going to build. Therefore Gandhiji has made it a part of the Indian National Congress. The Indian National Congress should not be looked upon as a separate party. It claims to be the best of all democratic parties. It calls on all the people in the country to come and join it. Of course some friends do not like to join it, and it is a different matter. It invites the Hindus, the Muslims, the Christians, the Anglo-Indians and everybody else to join it. It is a national organization working for the independence to the country and for the equality of everybody. It was Lokamanya Tilak who said that in the wake of political revolution, social revolution was inevitable. We may think of introducing some social reform and somebody may say it is not right. If we quote one shastra, another man will quote another shastra. But when once we give the people independence, the whole thing will change. Therefore Gandhiji has made this question a part of the Indian National Congress. It is therefore natural that the Congress Government which represents the ideals and the principles of Gandhiji should have brought forward these two Bills, the Bill passed yesterday for the removal of civil disabilities and to-day's Bill for temple entry.

"I would like to say one word more, Sir. We are now throwing open the Hindu temples to Harijans. I would suggest, Sir, that the funds of temples like Tirupati should be used for training reformed priests. Those who conduct the worship of Gods must be reformed people, not ignorant people, must be people who do not believe in the caste system even, and who believe in casteless Hinduism, and who can teach the fundamental principles of Hinduism contained in the Bhagavat Gita and the Upanishads to all the people. I support the Bill."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"As many hon. Members want to take part in the debate, I have fixed a time-limit of five minutes for each Member."

* THE YUVARAJAH OF PITHAPURAM:—"Mr. Speaker Sir, as one whose Gotra has the name of a Harijan, as one who has been brought up in a family presided over by a man to whom it was not so much a question of Harijan Uplift as of Harijan reclamation and assimilation and as one who has decided to consider himself as one of the so-called untouchables—not out of any political necessity but out of sheer conviction—as long as untouchability exists either in action or in thought, I rise to support this Bill.

"Sir, while I am very thrilled to participate in this joyous debate, I am not without certain feelings of poignancy, for this age-long tradition which is dying to-day has had its toll. What beats me is this: How could have any section of society allowed itself to have been made a scape-goat and a target for oppression for such a long time without revolting against the rest of the society, law or no law? But that does not prevent me, Sir, from congratulating the present Government on coming forward with this Bill, for I feel that while justice delayed may be justice denied, yet justice delayed is better than justice denied.

"Now, Sir, after a number of years during which period the gates of the temple of God have not only been closed upon the Harijans but on God himself, we are throwing them open once again to admit not only the Harijans, the oppressed, his chosen people but also God himself. On this occasion, Sir, I have very little to say except to impress on everyone concerned the point that while we open the doors of the temples to admit those that are denied the admittance, we should throw open the gates of that little temple, that *sanctum sanctorum*, the temple of our hearts and admit there not only the Depressed Classes and the like sections of one particular religion—but peoples of all religions as well."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I consider this a red-letter day in the annals of Harijan Uplift. The question of throwing open all places of Hindu worship to Harijans has been engaging the attention of the true friends of this country for several decades. But it was given to Mahatma Gandhi to analyse the whole thing, to sit with the pandits and find out whether the several Vedas and the agamas of the Hindu religion gave room for equal access to temples for all people who profess the religion of Hinduism. It was only as a result of his efforts that it was shown that the excluded communities of Hinduism had that right. There is nothing in the religious books preventing these people from worshipping in the temples. Then there was started the great movement by the Congress Organization for the throwing open of temples to Harijans throughout the length and breadth of India. The Hindu religion which is pregnant with great philosophy and culture has lost its essence by preventing

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a certain section of the Hindus from common worship. There have been great avatars, seers and reformers in our land. There was Budha, Sankara and Ramanuja and a host of them and they all wanted that all the sons and daughters of Hinduism must have equal privileges. There were days when dogs and swine may roam in the sacred precincts of temples, but the shadow of an untouchable was considered abomination. But, Sir, thanks to the efforts of social reformers in the south, to-day the members of my community can enter the temples in most places and worship there as other devotees do. This is a great revolutionary achievement in the history of the Congress. One hon. Friend speaking from the Muslim League Benches said that there was some politics about this. I do not agree with him, Sir. This is one of the items of the constructive programme of the Congress and the life question of Mahatmaji. Mahatma Gandhi and those who live like him have not visited the temples, admission to which is denied to Harijans. It is therefore not at all a political question. It is more a question of social reform. I have read in history that Swami Rama Thirtha when in America pleaded for temple entry for Harijans. This temple entry movement was given a fillip during the time of my revered leader, Dr. C. Rajagopalachariar, when he was Prime Minister of this Presidency. When prohibition was introduced in Chittoor district, we happened to be at the foot of the Tirupathi hills. He then declared to the world that he would not rest content until, not only the Tirupathi temple, but all the temples in the south were thrown open to Harijans, the less fortunate brethren of Hindutism. Long before he brought a formal bill on the floor of this House, he was able to do something through the kindness of his friends. I must specially mention that great man Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, a Member of this House, who in spite of threats to his life, was able to secure entry of his Harijan friends into the great temple of Minakshi Amman at Madura. At that time there was great opposition to this throughout the length and breadth of the Province and it was feared that the income of the temples to which Harijans were admitted would be affected. But to-day we find that those temples to which Harijans have been allowed are the real places of worship and their incomes have been greatly improved.

"Sir, this Bill provides that all Harijans who belong to the Hindu community must be freely admitted to all places of worship. In the early stages of the movement, it was thought by a great many people that no Harijan should compulsorily be allowed to enter Hindu temples. As my hon. Friend who spoke before me said, the *sanctum sanctorum*, that is, the hearts of the Hindus, must be thrown open. Unless the people who are now going to the temples, throw their hearts open to the Harijans, it will not be in the right direction. During the recent tour of the Hon. Sri Jagjivan Ram in the south we went into several great temples in the south such as Tyagarajaswami temple, and the Nalliappaswami temple. Very many ancient temples were thrown open to us and

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there was a great enthusiasm among the millions of people. That shows the turn of events and the change of heart. But it is a great pity that there are still some executive officers and people concerned with management of the temples who have not risen to the occasion and shown to the world that their temples also can be thrown open without legislation. The Government cannot wait any longer. I think, Sir, those who have been responsible for framing this Bill and bringing it before the House must be warmly congratulated. I do not want to go into details as my hon. Friend Sri Sahajanandam has explained to the House the real meaning of temple entry and all the things connected with it. I am sincerely feeling proud that it has been given to my Hon. friend Dr. Rajan to move this Bill. I support the Bill."

3-15
pm.

SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMA:—"Sir, this Bill is a long awaited and very, very long overdue one. Many ancient historic temples of Tamil Nad have been thrown open to all Hindus. But that is not the case in Malabar. No important temple in our district has been opened. The majority of people in Malabar, I know, are very much in favour of giving temple entry to all Hindus. Untouchability as it exists in Malabar is different from what it is in other parts of the Province, as everyone knows. Trustees of the temples in Malabar are very old men and it is very difficult for them to move with the times. I am therefore sure that this Bill will enable the ancient temples in my district to be opened to all Hindus for worship. I personally feel that it is not only temple entry as such that is going to do away with caste distinctions. It is the way in which we open our hearts to the people of the so-called lower castes that will enable us to do away with this injustice. Let us honestly try our best to do that. We women have a special responsibility, as it is often said that it is the women of the house who object to inter-dining or mixing with the people of other castes. But I can proudly say that in South India, a great woman of Kerala has shown the way for temple entry, as it was during the regency of Lakshmi Bai of Travancore that the Temple Entry Proclamation was made. With these words, I support the Bill."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது சபையின் முன்னால் வந்திருக்கும் ஹரிஜன ஆலயப்பிரவேச மசோதாவை மனப்பூர்வமாகவும் சந்தோஷத்தோடும் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த மசோதா பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னாலேயே சட்டமாக வந்திருக்க வேண்டியது. ஆனால் துர்அதிர்ஷ்டவசமாக இவ்வளவு காலம் தாமதமாகிவிட்டது. எனாலும் இன்றையதினம் இந்த மசோதா சட்டமாகப் போவதற்கு நாம் அனைவரும் மிகுந்த மகிழ்ச்சியடையவேண்டும். இன்றைய தினத்தை நம் சரித்திரத்திலேயே ஒரு மகத்தான தினமாக நாம் கருத வேண்டும். ஹிந்து மதத்தில் பெரிய புரட்சியை உண்டாக்கக் கூடிய இந்த மசோதாவை எல்லோரும் வரவேற்று அளவில்லாத சந்தோஷத்தை அடைவார்கள். ஹிந்து மதம் உலகத்திலேயே மிகப் பழமையான மதம். இந்த மதம் உலகத்திலே எந்த மதமும் தோன்றுவதற்கு முன்னாலேயே ஏற்பட்ட மதம். இந்த மதம்தான் உலகத்திற்கு நாகரீகத்தையும் வெளிச் சத்தையும் அளித்தது.

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"வேதம், உபநிஷதம், குறள் இவைகளில் தீண்டாமையைப்பற்றியே சொல்லப்படவில்லை. என்றாலும் ஏதோ காரணத்தால் ஹிந்து சமூகத்தில் இந்த தீண்டாமை பழக்கம் வந்து புகுந்திருக்கிறது. அது நம்முடைய துர் அதிர்ஷ்டம்தான். ஆனால் இடை இடையில் சமூகத்தில் தோன்றிய ஆசிரியர்கள், தலைவர்கள் முயற்சியால் இது பரவாமல் கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக தடுக்கப்பட்டது. இருந்தாலும் மறுபடியும் மறுபடியும் இது நம் சமுதாயத்தில் புகுந்து நம் மதம் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த நிலைமையை நாம் அதிக நாள் விட்டுக்கொடுத்து வந்ததனால் நம் ஹிந்து சமூகம் சீர்கெட்டிருக்கிறது. அதனால் இன்றையதினம் நாம் எல்லோரும் தாம்வற்று அந்நிய தேசத்திற்கு அடிமையாக இருக்கிறோம். நம் அரசியல் அடிமைக்கு தீண்டாமையே காரணம் என்று சொல்லவேண்டும்.

"இந்த சீர்திருத்த மசோதாவை உண்மையாக நம்முடைய மதம் புனிதம் அடையவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்ததுதான் இதைக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதனால் அரசியல் துறையில் நன்மை ஏற்படும் என்று லும் சிலர் சந்தேகிக்கிற மாதிரி அரசியல் கட்சி பலத்திற்காக கொண்டுவரப் படவில்லை. இப்பொழுது ஹிந்து சமூகம் விழிப்பு அடைந்து, தீண்டாமையை விலக்க பூர்ண முயற்சி செய்துவருகிறது. அதன் காரணமாக இப்பொழுது சமூகத்திலுள்ள பல கோவில்களெல்லாம் திறக்கப்பட்டு புனிதமாகி வருகிறது. இந்த சட்டம் வருவதற்கு முன்னாலேயே தமிழ் நாட்டிலுள்ள முக்கிய கோவில்கள் திறந்துவிடப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. அரசாங்கத்தாருடைய நிர்ப்பந்தம் இல்லாமலேயே இப்பொழுது கோவில்களை எல்லாம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு திறந்துவிடுகின்றார்கள். அதனால் ஆலயப்பிரவேசத்திற்கு பொது ஜனங்களுடைய பூர்ண ஆதரவு இருக்கிறதென்று தெரியவருகிறது.

"பொது ஜனங்களாகவே கோவில்களை திறந்துவிடுகிறார்கள் என்றிருக்கும் போது, இந்த சட்டம் எதற்கு என்று கேட்கலாம். நூற்றுக்கு 90 பேர்கள் இந்த ஆலயப் பிரவேசத்தை ஆதரிக்கிறார்கள். இதற்கு 10 பேர் மட்டும் ஆட்சேபிக்கலாம். தொண்ணூறு பேர் ஆதரித்தாலும் சில இடங்களில் இந்த ஆலயப்பிரவேசத்தைக் கொண்டுவர முடியவில்லை. பத்து பேருக்காக சமூகம் பூராவும் கஷ்டமடையவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒரு சிலரின் ஆட்சேபிக்காக இந்தக் காரியம் தடைப்படக்கூடாது என்பதற்காகத்தான் இந்த மசோதா கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. மதத்தில் ஒட்டியுள்ள அழுக்கை அகற்றுவதற்குத்தான் இம்மசோதா வந்திருக்கிறது. ஹரிஜனங்களை ஆலயத்தில் விட்டால் தீட்டு ஏற்பட்டுவிடும் என்றும், சவாமி ஒடிப்போய் விடுமென்றும் சொல்லக்கூடிய காலம் இது அல்ல. நாம் அநுபவத்தில் பார்த்திருக்கிறோம். மதுரையில்தான் முதன்முதலாக ஆலயப் பிரவேசம் ஆரம்பித்து ரொம்பவும் திறமையாக நடந்தது. அதனால் முதலில் கொஞ்சநாள்க்கு ஒரு வகுப்பினரைச் சேர்ந்த சில பேர்கள் ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் ஆனபிறகு கோவிலுக்கு வராமலிருந்தார்கள். ஆனால் மற்ற ஜனங்கள் அதிகம் வர ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். இன்றைக்குப் பார்த்தால் அங்கே நாளுக்கு நாள் எண்ணிக்கை அதிகமாகிக்கொண்டே வருகிறது. ஆலயப் பிரவேசத்திற்கு முன், எவ்வளவு ஜனங்கள் வந்துகொண்டிருந்தார்களோ அதைவிட இப்பொழுது குறைந்தபட்சம் 4, 5 மடங்கு அதிகமாகவே வந்து தர்சனம் செய்துவருகிறார்கள். வரும்படியை எடுத்துக் கொண்டாலும் இப்பொழுது அதிகமாக வருகிறது. இப்பொழுது கோவிலில் ஒரு விதமான தேஜசும், அருளும், அழகும் அதிகமாகியிருக்கிறது. முன் மாதிரி ஆரம்பத்தில் இருந்ததுபோல் சவாமிக்கு ஏதாவது ஏற்படுமென்று சந்தேகப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு இருப்பதற்கு நியாயம் இல்லை. ஆலயப் பிரவேசத்தால் ஹிந்து மதத்திற்கே வெற்றி என்று சொல்ல வேண்டும்.

"ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஹிந்து மதத்தைவிட்டுப் போகாமல் இதற்குள்ளேயே இருந்துகொண்டு மகத்தான உரிமைகளை அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். எரான மானவர்கள் தங்களுடைய ஜாதியை விட்டும் மதத்தை விட்டும் போனால் நல்லது என்று போனார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஹிந்து மதத்திலேயே இருந்துக்

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman] [1st April 1947]

கொண்டு, சமூக உரிமைகளை பெற்றதனால் இவர்கள் உலகத்திற்கே வழிகாட்டியாக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆலயத்தை நாம் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு திறந்து விடுவதனால் உடனே நாம் திருப்தியடைந்துவிடக்கூடாது. கோவில்களில் சுத்தம் விஷயமாக அநேகம் குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. ஹரிஜனங்களிடத்திலும் இன்னும் அநேகம் குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளை நாம் விரைவில் அவசியம் அகற்றவேண்டும். தீண்டாமையை விலக்குவதற்கு இந்த அரசாங்கம் கங்கணம் கட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. நேற்று சமூக உரிமைத்தடை நீக்கு மசோதா ஒன்று கொண்டுவந்து நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டது. இன்றைய தினம் இந்த மசோதாவை நிறைவேற்றப்பேசுகிறோம். இவைகளால் நிச்சயம் தீண்டாமை ஒழிந்துவிடும். கோவிலிலிருந்து இந்த தீண்டாமையை விலக்க இன்னும் பல சௌகரியங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. கோவில்களுக்கு நிறைய பூமி இருக்கிறது. அந்தப் பூமிகளை ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குக் குத்தகைக்கு விட்டு, அல்லது வாரத்திற்கு உழக்கக்கொடுத்து உதவினால் தீண்டாமை ஒழிய அதிக வேகமாகும். அவர்களுக்கு பூமிகளை உழுவதற்குக் கொடுத்து பயிரிடச் செய்தால் அவர்கள் முன்னேற்றம் அடைவார்கள். நம்மோடு கலந்து பழகினால் இந்த தீண்டாமை விரைவில் ஒழிந்துவிடும். இந்த மாதிரி முன்னேற்றத்திற்கான திட்டங்களைக் கொண்டுவந்து செய்யவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லி என்னுடைய வார்த்தைகளை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In supporting this Bill, I have to say that there are some sections of Harijans who say: ‘ Why do you ask for temple entry? Why don’t you ask bread? Why don’t ask for more seats in the Services? ’ In this connection I would like to re-call to my mind a great saying of one of the greatest saints the world has ever seen: He said that Man does not live by bread alone. Harijans no doubt want bread, they no doubt want many outlets to absorb their educated young men, and they no doubt want lands to cultivate. But, Sir, Harijans want also religious, educational and cultural wellbeing. Therefore, this move on the part of the Government stands as a milestone in the history of Hindu religion, a reform doing away with the blackest sin ever perpetrated in human history. Why do we claim temple entry? Temple is the citadel of Hindu orthodoxy; it is the repository of all good things for which Hinduism stands. I know there may be some who may not agree with me, but as a real Hindu, I believe that a temple is the repository of all good things for which a real, sincere Caste Hindu stands. Therefore a section of the Hindu community—Harijans—claims an equal right to enter the temple without let or hindrance, prostrate at the feet of the Idol, pour forth their hearts and ask for the blessings of God.

“ In this connexion, I would like to remind the House that Harijans are not in any way inferior in spiritual wellbeing. They are equal, if not more, in their devotion to God and in spiritual elevation. If you go through the besmeared pages of Hindu mythology, you come across forgotten instances here and there where Harijans have improved upon Hindu culture. We are told that King Harischandra stood for *Satyam*. When he was fighting against odds to give *Satyam*, not a single caste Hindu came to his rescue. When he was being auctioned in the streets of the sacred Kasi, none came forward to give him money to keep his plighted word. It was a Chandala, a man from my community, who came

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forward and said: ‘ Here is my money. Take it and give it to Viswamitra, and give us truth, truth which is eternal, truth which is sacred and which will save the world.’ This has been forgotten and nobody speaks of this Chandala. We, Chandalas, are given a place away from Hindu quarters. Another incident in the same sacred City is connected with another Chandala who taught Advaita philosophy to the Great Sri Sankaracharya. A Chandala came in his way and asked Sri Sankaracharya: ‘ Why do you say I am an untouchable and that I should go away from this place? ’ Then only wisdom dawned on the great Sri Sankaracharya, one of the greatest intellects the world has ever seen. Of all the disciples of the great Sri Ramanujacharya, who belonged to higher communities who had culture and the benefit of higher education, it was only Tiruppanalwar who was pure in thought, word and deed.

“ In every Hindu marriage, all sections, both orthodox and heterodox, worship Arundhathi. This Arundhathi belongs to my community. I would like to know what the hon. Member (Mrs. Ammannaraja) is saying . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ She is not saying anything.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister Dr. Rajan is in a mood of reflection now? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ He is listening to the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Murthy.”

* SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Nandanar who is famous for his piety, Arundhathi who is famous for her chastity, Tiruppanalwar for devotion, the Chandala who helped Harischandra for charity, the Chandala who taught Sankaracharya for erudition and Kannama Neechi who hails from Andhradesa and who is famous for valour—all these great men who enriched Hinduism, who enriched India’s culture are my people. Our friends, our literate brothers—the Caste Hindus—have forgotten those people and their services and they have relegated us as dregs of the Hindu society. The Congress Government and Mahatma Gandhi have to-day taken up the cause of helpless Harijans and as a result this Bill has been brought forward.

“ One word more and I am done. It will be to the good of Hinduism when the caste system goes; it will be for the good of India. This is not what I say but it has been stated by Mahatma Gandhi. He has proclaimed to the world at the top of his voice that the ultimate goal of his constructive programme is the removal of the caste system. I hope the passing of this Bill will be beginning of a new India where no caste, no colour and no creed will exist and we will have the brotherhood of mankind established.”

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“ அன்பு, 1937 க் கொண்டுவந்த கதையை நான் நினைவுகூரவில்லை, அது ஒரு

హరిజన దేవాలయ ప్రవేశము గురించి చాల కృషి చేయుచున్నారు. కాని అప్పటిలో ఇది పూర్తిగా వారికి సానుకూలపడలేదు. ఈ కౌన్సిల్ గవర్నమెంటు వారు దానిని ఇప్పుడు శాసనపూర్వకముగా ఆచరణలో పెట్టదలంచి ఈ బిల్లును మన ఎదుట పెట్టినారు. ఈ బిల్లులో ముఖ్యమైనటువంటి విషయము ఏమిటంటే ప్రస్తుతమందు ఈ దేవాలయ ప్రవేశ హక్కును ఏ విధముగా హరిజనులకు కలిగించి వారి ప్రాథమిక (Fundamental) హక్కులను ఏ ప్రకారముగా (Implement) ఆచరణలో పెట్టుట ఆసనపడియే. ఇది చాలా ప్రధానమైనటువంటి, ముఖ్యమైనటువంటి విషయమని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. దీనిని ఆచరణలో పెట్టుటకు ముఖ్యంగా మన ఆగజాతి సవర్ణ హిందువులందరిలోను హృదయ పరివర్తన రావలెను. శారదా ఆక్టు (Sarada Act) విషయంలో లాగు ఈ హరిజన దేవాలయ ప్రవేశ (Temple entry) విషయంలో కూడ హృదయపరివర్తన కలుగకపోతే ఈ బిల్లులవల్ల ఎవరికి ఉపకారము జరుగదు. అట్టి పరిస్థితులలో మనకు ఆదర్శపాఠ్యమైన మన నాయకుడు గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు తనకు తిగి జన్మించు కలిగినచో హరిజనులలో పుట్టిగోరుచున్నానని పక్కిన గాంధీ మహాత్ముడు తన జీవిత కాలములో తన సహచరులలో హృదయ పరివర్తన కలిగించి ఇట్టి (Social reform) సాంఘిక సంస్కరణమును కలిగించలేకపోయినానుకదా అని విచారించును. ఇందుకు సవర్ణ హిందువులందరును వాద్యత వహించవలసియుండును. అందువల్ల ఇప్పుడు మనము ఏమి చేయవలయును. 'హరిజనులు' 'సవర్ణ హిందువులు' అనే తేడాలు లేకుండా ఏమిత్తు భారతజాతి ఒకే తల్లి బిడ్డలని చెప్పుటకు అవకాశము కలుగచేయవలయును. హిందువులైనను, హరిజనులైనను, ముసల్మానులైనను అందరూ హిందుదేశములోనే పుట్టినవారనియు అందరూ ఒకే జాతివారనియు అందరూ తలంచవలయును. సనదేశము మొత్తము జనాభాలో గుమారు నాలుగవంతయైన హరిజనులుకూడ తమయొక్క హిందూ తల్లి బిడ్డలవలెనే సామరస్యముగాను, సమాన హక్కులతోను మెలగుచున్నామని మనము ప్రపంచమునకు చాటిపెట్టడే ఈ హరిజన దేవాలయ ప్రవేశము సార్థకమయినదగునని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. ఈ కారణముచేతనే మనమందరము హిందు-మహమ్మదీయ దేశము లేకుండా ఈ బిల్లును బలపరుస్తూ అంగీకరించుచున్నామని తలంచుచున్నాను. ప్రపంచములో ఇతర దేశములవార, హిందువులలో అంటరానివారు ఉన్నారని చెప్పుకుండా, హిందువులందరు ఒకే తల్లిబిడ్డలు అని చాటుట మనయొక్క విధి అయినదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. ఈ సాంఘిక విప్లవము రోజులలో భారతీయులు పెనుకఠినియైనారని ఎవ్వరు తలంచకూడదు. తెదనగుణముగా మనము మన పల్లెటూళ్లలోను పట్టణములలోను ఈ అస్పృశ్యతా పితౌవము లేకుండా చేయవలయును మహాత్మా గాంధీగారి నిర్మాణ కార్యక్రమము (Constructive Programme) స్వక్రమముగా అమలు జరుపవలెనంటే నిజముగా మనము గాంధీగారి శిష్యులమై మనము ముఖ్యముగా ఈ హిందుమతముమీద ఉన్న ఈ అస్పృశ్యతా కళంకమును తుడిచి పారివేయవలయును. హిందువులలో అస్పృశ్యతలేదు అని మన హరిజనసోదరులు మనకు Certificate ఇవ్వవలయును. కాబట్టి అన్ని పద్ధతులవారు సహృదయులై ఈ బిల్లును ఆమోదించి ఇందలి ఆంశములను హృదయ పూర్వకముగా ఆచరణలో పెట్టదరని ఆశించుచున్నాను. "

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சாட்சி சொல்வதற்கும் அவர்களுக்கு ரயில் சார்ஜ், பாட்டா கொடுத்து சாட்சி சொல்லவரும்படி செய்கிறார்களோ அதே மாதிரியாக இந்த ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களை தடுத்தால் போலீசார் ஆக்ஷன் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்படி இருந்தால்தான் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு அனுசூலம் செய்யமுடியும். அவர்கள் கேஸ் கொடுத்தால் உடனே மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கோர்ட்டு, கலெக்டர் கோர்ட்டு, ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் கோர்ட்டு, செஷன்ஸ் கோர்ட்டு இவைகளுக்கு வந்துவிடுகிறது. ஆனால் ஹரிஜனங்களால் போடப்பட்ட கேஸ் ஜெயிக்கமுடியாது. ஆகையால் இந்த செளகரியங்கள் ஏற்படுவதற்கு எவ்வளவு செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு செய்யவேண்டும். ஹோட்டல்களிலும் சாப்பிட உரிமையும் ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் இருக்குமிடங்களில் வீடு கட்டிக்கொண்டு ஹரிஜனங்கள் வசிக்க வசதியும் சட்டத்தில் சேர்க்கவேண்டும். நேற்று இதைப்பற்றி பேசமுடியவில்லை. ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் என்றும் ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்றும் பாடுபாடு இல்லாமல் இருக்க இந்த பில் வந்திருக்கிறது. மேற்படி பில்லுக்கு ஒத்தாசை செய்து இந்த சட்டத்தை நடைமுறையில் நிறைவேற்றிக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஆகையால் நான் இந்த மசோதாவை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“ நேரமாயிற்று தயவு செய்து உட்காருங்கள்.”

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SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, how is it when Lord Rama, Lord Krishna, and Nandanar and Sree Meenakshi Amman of Madura and such other gods, happen to be Non-Brahmans, the Brahmans happen to be the custodians of these gods as Archakars and Pooaries, etc., and how is it that the children of these Non-Brahman gods are said to be Sudras and Harijans? ”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“ I rule it out of order. I cannot allow that question to be put.”

* SRI M. A. EASWARAN:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heartily support this Bill and in doing so, I want to say that this large section of the people numbering about 6 crores in all are called the untouchables. How did they become untouchables? These six crores of untouchables were the original inhabitants of this country. The invaders came, conquered them and deprived them of their property and made them their slaves. That is how they became untouchables. Certainly God might not have made them untouchables even when He created them. People who conquered them made them their slaves and treated them as their menials and made them untouchables. Now we want to restore them their liberty by this Bill. I therefore welcome this Bill. I can say that excepting the Brahmans, all other people are Harijans, so far as the provisions of this Bill are concerned, because in all temples Brahmans alone are allowed to go near the Gharbagraha, whereas all other communities cannot do so. I remember Sir, Erode Easwaran Koil Temple entry in 1929 when I was prosecuted and convicted for two months for having entered the temple along with Harijans for worship. So I say that this is a Bill which will be welcomed by all except the Brahmans.

“ Sir, in Malabar this untouchability is prevailing in its worst form. There is not only untouchability there; there is also the unapproachability and unseeability. Even in the year 1925, when

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the Vykam Satyagraha movement was in its full swing and when those other than Brahmans were not allowed to enter the temple, and walk in the street round the temple. Sadyagraha was started by Messrs George Joseph, E. V. Ramasami Naicker, S. Ramnathan, Velappan and certain others for the right to walk in the street round the temple. For that Messrs George Joseph, E. V. Ramasami Naicker and certain others were arrested and convicted. When the movement was settled they were set at liberty and all the people were allowed to walk in the street round the temple. It is because one section of the people were conquered by the other that there is this slavery and this untouchability.

“ Now what is happening in South Africa and elsewhere? There also one section of the people have conquered the other and that is why there is untouchability there among the Negroes. There is also untouchability prevailing in America, because America was a conquered nation.

“ Though in Sastras untouchability is forbidden, still people who are superstitious are afraid of Sastras and perpetuate this untouchability. Such a superstitious belief should be erased from the minds of the people. I appeal to my Harijan brothers that they should not think that they are in any way inferior to other communities and such superstitious beliefs as they have regarding Sastras, should be erased from out of their minds.

“ With these words I heartily support the Bill.”

SRI V. PONNUSWAMI GOUNDER:—“ சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இன்றைய தினத்திலே நம் ஜனப்பிரதிநிதி சபையில் மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளால் வளர்க்கப்பட்ட திட்டமானது இந்த தீண்டாமை விலக்கு என்பது பொதுவாய் என்று அழிந்துவிடுமோ என்றிருந்தது. தீண்டாமை என்னும் கொடுமை, அப்படி இல்லாமல் இப்பொழுது அதுவும் சட்டபூர்வமாக இந்த ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் நடக்கப்போகிறது என்பதை நம்மகாணம் பூராவும், என் உலகம்பூராவும் போற்றப்படுகிறது என்பதை மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு நான் இந்த மசோதாவை ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த ஆலயப்பிரவேச சட்டத்தை நமது சர்க்கார் கொண்டுவந்தது ஹரிஜனங்கள் மற்ற ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்களோடு சமமாக இரக்கச் செய்துள்ள உரிமைகளில் இது முதற்படியாகும். அதற்காக நம் சர்க்கார் கொஞ்சம்கூட பின்வாங்காமல் அவசியமான பொழுதுதெல்லாம் செய்யவேண்டிய வேலைகளைச் செய்து வேண்டிய மசோதாக்களையும் கொண்டுவந்து அவைகளையும் நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு கொஞ்சம் கூட பின்வாங்கக்கூடாது என்று நான் ரொம்பவும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். எப்படி என்றால் இந்த சட்டம் நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு முன்பு ஒரு இடத்தில் ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் நடந்தால் அங்கே கொஞ்சம் நாட்களுக்குப் பிறகு அந்த இடத்தில் இருக்கிற ஹரிஜனங்கள் மறுபடியும் அந்த கோவிலுக்குள் போக முடியாதபடி ஜாதிஹிந்துக்கள் தடுத்துவருகிறார்கள் என்ற புகார்களும், இன்னும் அநேகம் இடைஞ்சல்களும் செய்துவருகிறார்கள் என்றும் புகார்கள் வந்திருக்கின்றன. எந்த மாதிரி புகார்கள் வந்தாலும் இந்த ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஆலயத்திற்குள் செல்ல மற்ற ஜனங்கள் இடைஞ்சல்கள் செய்தால் கொஞ்சம் கூட தாமதம் இல்லாமல் அதை நீக்குவதற்காக சர்க்காரால் எவ்வளவு செய்யமுடியுமோ அவைகளைச் செய்து அவைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்யவேண்டும். அதுதான் ஜனப்பிரதிநிதி சர்க்காரின் கடைமையுமாகும். இன்னும் மகாத்மா காந்திஜி அவர்களின் திட்டத்தை நாம் நிறைவேற்றுவதாக கூட ஆகிவிடும்.

[Sri V. Ponnuswami Gounder]

[1st April 1947]

முக்கியமாக இப்பொழுது கோவில்களில் ஒரு குறை இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது கோவில்களில் நிர்வாகஸ்தர்களும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களும் இருக்கின்றார்கள். இப்பொழுது இருக்கிறவர்களில் அநேகருக்கு நல்ல விஷயங்கள் தெரிவதாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஆகையால் ஒரு நல்ல விஷயங்களைத் தெரிந்த ஒரு ஹரிஜன உத்தியோகஸ்தரையாவது ஒவ்வொரு கோவிலிலும் நியமிக்க முன்வரவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால் ரொம்பவும் உபகாரமாக இருக்கும். அதோடு மட்டும் அல்ல. இன்னும் அநேகம் ஆலயங்களில் தேர், திருவிழாக்கள் நடக்கின்றன. அநேகம் கோவில்களில் அநேகம் உத்சவங்கள் நடக்கின்றன. அந்தந்த உத்சவ காலங்களில் ஐக்கிய பாக்யம் ஏற்படும்பொருட்டும் இடைஞ்சல்கள் எதுவும் நேரிடாமல் இருக்கும்பொருட்டும் பிரசாரகர்களைக்கொண்டு பிரசாரம் செய்வதற்குக்கூட சர்க்கார் முன்வரவேண்டும் என்ற யோசனையை நான் கூறுகிறேன். கோவில்களில் மட்டும் அல்ல புண்ணிய தீர்த்தங்களில்கூட இந்த பாகுபாடுகள் இருக்கிறது என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். வாணியம் பாடிக்கு பக்கத்தில் கொடையாட்சி என்ற ஒரு கிராமத்தில், ஆடி மாதம் 18-ம் தேதியில் பிரதி வருஷம் பாலாற்றில் புண்ணிய ஸ்நானம் செய்வது என்று ஒரு புண்ணிய தீர்த்தம் வைத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த இடத்தில் ஜாதி ஹிந்துக்கள் முழுது அவர்கள் அசுத்தம் செய்து சாக்கடை போல்போகும் அந்த ஜலத்தைத் தான் ஹரிஜனங்கள் உபயோகிக்கவேண்டும். அதுவும் அவர்கள் சொன்னால்தான் அப்படி செய்வது என்ற ஒரு ஏற்பாடு இருக்கிறது. நான் எதற்காக சொல்லுகிறேன் என்றால் அந்த புண்ணிய நதிகளில் ஸ்நான காலங்களில், சர்க்கார் ஆலயங்களை திறந்து விடுவதுபோல், அந்த புண்ணிய நதிகளிலும் சர்க்காருடைய கண்காணிப்பு இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதற்காகத்தான் இன்னொன்றை நான் ரொம்பவும் வருத்தமாக தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் கிராமங்களில் ஹரி ஜனங்களை ரொம்பவும் வாழ்க்கைக்கு விரோதமாக நடந்துவருகிறார்கள் என்பதை நான் ரொம்பவும் விசனத்தோடு தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கொஞ்சம் நாளைக்கு முன் எங்கள் ஊரில் குடிப்பதற்குக் கூட தண்ணீர் கிடையாது. ஹரிஜனங்கள் குடிப்பதற்குக் கூட தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அந்த ஊருக்கு அருகாமையிலிருக்கும் எங்களுக்குச் சொந்தமான ஒரு கிணற்றிலிருந்து ஹரிஜனங்களைத் தண்ணீர் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும்படி சொன்னேன். ஹரிஜனங்களில் ஆதிதிராவிடச் செக்கிலியர்கள் என்று இருக்கின்றார்கள். 2, 3 வீட்டுக்காரர்களாகிய செக்கிலியர்கள் இந்த கிணற்றிலிருந்து தண்ணீர் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது என்று ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். அப்படியே தடைசெய்து விட்டார்கள். இதை நான் ரொம்பவும் வருத்தத்துடன் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். பிறகு இந்த 2, 3 வீட்டுக்காரர்களுக்கு வேறு கிணறு ஏற்பாடு செய்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டது. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குள்ளேயே யிருக்கும் தீண்டாமைப் பேய் இது எவ்வளவு அசம்பாவிதமாக இருக்கிறது என்று நினைக்கவேண்டும். இந்த மாதிரி எல்லாம் நடக்காமல் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்றுச் சர்க்காரைக் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் இந்த மசோதாவை முழுமனத்துடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—“தலைமைவாய்ந்த தலைவர் அவர்களே, சபையில் இப்பொழுது வந்திருக்கும் இந்த மசோதாவை நான் முழு மனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த முறையில் கனம் மந்திரியையும் மிகவும் பாராட்டுகிறேன். அது மாதிரமல்ல இங்கே இருக்கும் எல்லா அங்கத்தினர்களையும் நான் வரவேற்றி அவர்களும் இந்த மசோதாவை ஆதரித்துப்பேசுவதற்கு அவர்களுக்கும் அன்பு கூற ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். தலைவர் அவர்களே இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் மசோதா இன்று தினம் வருவதற்கு காரண பூதமாக இருந்தது கனம் இராஜாஜி என்று சொல்ல முற்பட்டுள்ளேன். அவர் மாதிரம் தான் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இந்த

1st April 1947]

[Sri P. M. Velayudhapani]

ஆலய பிரவேசத்திற்கு முதன் முதலாக கராணபூதமாக இருந்தது. அதுவும் முதன் முதலில் மதுரையில் அந்த மகோன்னத கோவிலில் நடந்தது என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால் ஆலயப் பிரவேச மசோதா வருவதற்கு முன்பே பல ஆலயங்களெல்லாம் திறந்து விடப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன. ஆனால் இந்த ஆலயங்களைத் திறந்து விடுவதற்கு முன்னால் இந்த கோவில் அதிகாரிகளும் கிராமவாசிகளும் அவர்களுடைய மனக் கோவிலை திறந்துவிட்டார்கள் என்று மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால் இவ்வளவுக்கும் காரணம் நமது மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள்தான் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, அந்தக்காலத்தில் பெரிய பக்த நந்தனை கோவிலுக்குள் சுட்டு அழைத்துப்போனார்கள். இப்பொழுது சுடாமல் அனுப்புகின்றார்கள், அழைத்தும் செல்லுகின்றார்கள். இரண்டு மூன்று வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் நானும் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களும் திருத்தணியில் ஒரு நாள் 12 மணிக்கு மலைமேல் ஏறினோம். பாதி தூரம் சென்றோம். அங்கே சில கூட்டங்கள் வந்தன. கூட்டத்தைப் பார்த்து அருகில் இருந்தவர்களைக் கேட்டோம். அவர்கள் செட்டிமார்கள் சவாமிக்கு பூஜை செய்துவிட்டு திரும்புகின்றார்கள் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அந்தக் கூட்டத்தைக் கண்டு நாங்கள் பயந்தோம். ஏன் நானே அந்த வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவன் தொந்திரவு படுத்துவார்கள் ஏன் அழைத்துவந்தோம் என்று சொன்னது ஞாபகம் இருக்கும். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அதே திருத்தணியில் 25-ம் தேதியன்று நாங்கள் கொட்டு முழக்கத்துடன் சதந்திரமாக ஏறிப்போனோம். இதற்கு எல்லாம் காரணபூதம் இந்த காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டுதான் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆனால் அரசாங்கம் போகிரபோக்கைப் பார்த்தாலும் தேசம்போகிர போக்கைப்பார்த்தாலும் நமது வகுப்பில் பாக்டர் அம்பேத்கார் அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபையில் சொன்னமாதிரி மதமும் ஜாதியும் ஒன்றாகப் போகப் போகிறது என்பதைப்பார்த்து நான் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். தலைவர் அவர்களே இப்பொழுது நாம் எண்ணிக்கையில் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறோம். ஐந்தில் ஒரு பங்காக இருக்கிறோம். இனிமேல் ஜாதி வித்யாசம் வேண்டியது இல்லை. நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒரே மதத்தினராக இருக்கவேண்டும். இனிமேல் நம்மை பிரிக்கவே முடியாது. நமது தண்பர் கண்பு N.M.R. சுப்பராமன் இந்த ஜாதிவித்யாசம் தீண்டாமை எப்படிவந்தது எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள். அந்த சரித்திரத்தைச் சொல்லுகிறேன்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“அந்த சரித்திரம் சொல்லவேண்டாம் ஒவ்வொரு வருக்கும் ஐந்து நிமிஷங்கள்தான் கொடுத்திருக்கிறது. நீங்களும் ஐந்து நிமிஷங்கள் ஏற்கனவே எடுத்துக்கொண்டுவிட்டீர்கள்.”

*SRI P. M. VELAYUDAPANI:—“ஆகவே பூர்வீகமாக குடியேறினவர்கள் உண்மையில் பழம் தமிழ் மக்கள் இந்த திராவிடர்கள்தான். அந்தக் காலத்தில் எல்லோரும் ஒன்றாகத்தானிருந்தார்கள். மற்றவர்கள் இங்கே குடிபுழுந்து தமிழ் இராஜாக்களை வசப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு இந்த வகுப்பு வாதமாகிய பிராமணர், கூத்திரியர், வைசியர், சூத்ரர், தீண்டாதவர்கள் என்று அழைத்து கட்டுப்பாடு செய்தார்கள் இந்தக் கட்டுப்பாட்டினால் இந்த தமிழ் மக்களை ஊருக்கு வெளியே அப்புரப்படுத்தி அவர்களை அந்நியர்களாக கிராமத்திற்கு வேளியே போகச்சொன்னார்கள். அது முதற்கொண்டு தான் இந்த தீண்டாமை வந்தது என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள நான் ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். அது முதற்கொண்டுதான் இந்த ஜாதி வித்யாசம் மதவித்யாசம், கிருஸ்தவர்கள் என்றும், முஸ்லீம்கள் என்றும் வந்தது. இவ்விதமான ஜாதி வித்யாசம் எல்லாம் அதற்குப் பின்தான் வந்தது. ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது வந்திருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் எல்லாரும் சமம், எல்லாருக்கும் சம உரிமை உண்டு என்று சொல்லும் மசோதா கொண்டுவருவதை நான் விரும்புகிறேன். நான் இந்த மசோதாவை ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

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4 p.m. * M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome this revolutionary piece of legislation."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" He will speak in Urdu, Sir."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Shall I speak in Urdu, Sir? "

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, on a point of information. Is it true that there is no Urdu reporter here? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" There is no one."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Then on a point of order, Sir. How is it that we are deprived of the right of speaking in Urdu? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" So far we have not had any Urdu speaker; In case there is an Urdu speaker, we can have an Urdu reporter. We can then see that an Urdu reporter is appointed."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" A friend of mine here wants to speak in Urdu."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No, he cannot speak in Urdu now. Mr. Majid will now speak in English."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, only a few minutes ago, you allowed an English-knowing gentleman to speak in his own language."

MR. SPEAKER:—" No please, he does not know English."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, I welcome this revolutionary piece of legislation. While going through the provisions of this Bill, I find one or two clauses which I think could have been easily omitted from the Bill. The first thing I want to refer to is this: in section 3 it says that the remaining provisions of this Act shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* appoint. I do not know why this mental reservation is made with regard to this Bill. Secondly, it is also stated that powers are given to the authorities, the trustees of the temple, to make regulations for the maintenance of order and decorum in the temple. I would like to know whether there is any provision in the existing temple management by which the trustees are to make regulations for maintaining decorum and order. If such a regulation exists at present, it may be allowed to continue, but when there is no such regulation, why, I ask the Ministry, should they introduce this novel provision. It is also, I take it, a sort of mental reservation. Therefore, when you say that you are going to give freedom and liberty of worship to a people who have

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been kept out of the house of God for the last so many centuries, why should such a sort of reservation be made in the provisions of the Bill?

" An outsider who does not know anything about the Hindu or Manu dharma and also its existence in this country for the last so many centuries will really wonder why such a piece of legislation is being initiated at the present time. This wonder is natural: because, to worship one's own God or Gods is an elementary and fundamental right of man; and in this country for centuries even this fundamental right has been denied to a people who are not few in numbers. They constitute almost the bulk of the population of this country, and yet unfortunately they have been kept out of the House of God. If to-day Nandanar were alive or if to-day the saints of Hinduism were alive, they would naturally welcome this Bill which by one stroke of the pen removes the blot on humanity, this blot on civilization. Therefore, Sir, we, as lovers of freedom, as lovers of liberty, welcome such a measure which is going to give to a vast mass of people who have been denied that liberty and freedom, and they are going to be allowed into temples, the entry to which is the right of every individual of the Hindu community. Sir, the other day a caste-Hindu friend of mine was talking to me and he said: ' now that these temples are being opened to the Harijans, we will not go to these temples '. ' Sir, I do not think that such a situation will arise; the caste Hindu, I hope, will accept the Harijans as part and parcel of their own society and welcome them as brothers, and not non-co-operate with them by not going to the temples where Harijans have been admitted.' Secondly, Sir, when once you admit these people, they must be admitted as brothers, as your own equals; they should not be simply treated as in the churches, where we find separate seats or standing space being allotted to converts from these people. Sir, I had the opportunity recently of visiting a firka development area along with a Congress member of this Honourable House. After inspecting the various duties which the village officers were doing in that place, the Congress member, asked: " Where are the people from the cheris? " When we came out, we found, far removed from us, some ten or fifteen people standing with their face downwards, with their hands folded; and the caste-Hindus of the village pointed them out to us and said: they are the people of the cheris. Sir, I ask: is this reformation taking place in Hindu society, if so, why should the Harijans stand downcast, with their hands folded, away from their own caste-Hindu brethren? No doubt you have opened the doors of your temples, but you have not opened the doors of your hearts. That is what our own ex-Premier, the hon. Mr. Prakasam has been appealing on the floor of this Honourable House. Sir, it is no use passing legislation; so long as you are not going to have reformation mentally, so long

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as you are not going to remove all mental reservations from your minds, all legislation is of no avail. Sir, with these few words, I welcome this revolutionary piece of legislation."

(Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur stood up in his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"A number of times you have stood up; what is the point of order, please?"

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to make a short speech."

MR. SPEAKER:—"All right, I shall allow you; you please wait. Mr. Bapineedu will now speak."

* SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a lover of liberty, as a soldier in the fight for freedom, be it social or political, and as a humble worker in the cause of the temple-entry agitation, I welcome this revolutionary measure, as it has been rightly called by the previous speaker. Sir, innumerable are the marks of untouchability. The worst of it is the prohibition of a man, a worshipper, by his co-religionists, from entering into the place of worship. Every religion has its house of worship going in the name of a church or a mosque or a temple. It is natural and necessary that the worshippers of that particular religion should be given a place there; but unfortunately, in the name of religion and in the name of God, man has always stood between the God and the co-worshipper. This is also true in the Christian countries; in the United States I know the coloured Christians have no place in the churches. But, I also know it is different in the Muslim countries. Regarding the mosque we all have to appreciate one factor. The ordinary fakir, and His Exalted Highness find equal place in the place of worship. And even at other places, we find there is no difference between co-religionists. Unfortunately however in our religion, we have this bar, but this is not religious. If Hinduism is to live, untouchability must cease to exist. A temple which refuses admission to a worshipper belonging to that religion ceases to have the name of a temple. If you ex-communicate a worshipper or a Harijan, in the words of Mahatmaji, you are ex-communicating God.

"The Bill we are now introducing to-day only tries to eradicate this evil. The history of this temple-entry Bill goes back even to the days of Ramanuja, as has been pointed out by more than one speaker. At Melakote in Mysore, the Harijans are allowed into the temple once in a year; in the district of Anantapur, in the Kadiri Narasimhaswami temple, even now, once in a year the Harijans are allowed to enter. In this very city, Sir, in Periamet I am told there is a temple called Ellamman temple where the trustees are Harijans. Both the caste-Hindus and

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Harijans side by side worship God. In my own district there is a temple where the priests are Harijans and thirtham and prasadam are being distributed to all caste-Hindus by those priests. These are some examples and offer a lesson."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yesterday you referred to this matter."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Yesterday I did not refer to it, Sir. Even otherwise, perhaps it bears repetition on this also. This goes in the name of custom. Sir, temple-entry agitation first began in the Travancore State.

"It was at Cocanada Congress in 1923 that the first resolution was passed in regard to the entry of Harijans to temples. The Keralas took up the Guruvayur Temple Entry question. Next, Sir, we had the historic pact referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. V. I. Munuswami Pillai after the epic fast of Gandhi on the 25th September 1932, when a new era in the history of temple entry movement began. In this connection, I just want to read one clause from a resolution passed by Hindu Leaders at Bombay:—

"No one shall be regarded as an untouchable by reason of his birth and that those who have been so regarded hitherto will have the same right as other Hindus in regard to the use of public wells, public schools, public roads and all other public institutions. This right shall have statutory recognition at the first opportunity and shall be one of the earliest Acts of Swaraj Parliament, if it shall not have received such recognition before that time.

"It is further agreed that it shall be the duty of all Hindu Leaders to secure, by every legitimate and peaceful means, an early removal of all social disabilities now imposed by custom upon the so-called untouchable classes, including the bar in respect of admission to temples."

"I also wish to bring to your notice the sustained efforts made by many leaders throughout the country to bring about the much desired change in the status of the Harijans. In 1932 in this very House, there was a Bill moved by our heterodox Leader of the House, Dr. Subbarayan, and there was also another Bill by Mr. Narayana Nambiyar. But the Governor-General disallowed these Bills. In another form the same Bill was moved in the Central Assembly by Mr. C. S. Ranga Ayyar but it was dropped later. Then, we had the Travancore Temple Entry Proclamation. This Proclamation was made on the 12th November 1936 and we must all remember that date. This Proclamation has been justly claimed as the greatest step taken to reform the Hinduism since the time of Sri Ramanuja. Centuries ago, he wanted to give full access to Harijans to all places of worship. So, Sir, this 12th November 1936 is a red-letter day in the History of Hinduism. Thus, not only this Province but also other Provinces had to deal with this Temple Entry problem. In the year 1938, I and other co-Harijan M.L.As. had an opportunity of visiting some of the temples in Travancore State. We found to our great joy Harijans worshipping in the temples along with caste-Hindus side by side.

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They have also given us a fine reception in the very temples. Then, Sir, we had the Malabar Temple Entry Act of 1938 and also the Temple Entry indemnity Bill of 1939 and now we have reached the final stage to pass this Bill. So far as this Province is concerned, many temples have already been thrown open to the Harijans as for example, in Malabar, Tanjore, Srirangam and the Tiruvarur temple, the Kurtallam and Palni temples. Outside this Province, we have the standing example of the Kasi Viswanath Temple where anyone can worship. There is no priest there and there is no obstruction there. In New Delhi, we have another standing example. There is a temple built by the Birlas which goes in the name of Sri Lakshminarayana Temple where everybody worships without any distinction of caste or colour and that is an ideal temple for the whole of India. So, with these instances which I have quoted, it is but right that we should pass this Bill. Again, I wish to point out one other point. My hon. Friend, Mr. Murti, also referred to it. A question was asked as to how this Temple Entry affected the upliftment of the Harijans. Sir, it is a question of self-respect. There may be a Harijan Minister here and there may be a Harijan member in the Interim Government but he is still denied the right of entry into a temple. Sir, it becomes a question of self-respect. I know an instance when once a Harijan Minister after due temple honours was denied entry into the temple. We can well imagine his feelings. It is but right that we should take up this temple entry question now, because when temples are opened, our hearts also will be simultaneously opened. With these words, Sir, I commend this Bill to the full and unanimous support of this House."

*SRI P. KAKKAN:—"சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே—பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்ட இந்த ஆலய பிரவேச மசோதாவை நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக வரவேற்கிறேன். இந்த மசோதாவை கனம் தொழிலாளர் மந்திரியாகிய டாக்டர் இராஜன் அவர்கள் இந்த சபையில் படித்தும் அதைப்பற்றி பேசினதற்கும் நான் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். இந்த ஹரிஜன் எம்.எல்.ஏ.-க்கள் இங்கு வந்திருப்பவர்கள் இவருக்கு நன்றி பாராட்ட வேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் 1938-ம் வருஷம் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஸ்ரீரங்கத்தில் போனபோழுது அங்கு மின்காயப்பொடியைபோட்ட சம்பவம் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். அன்று கஷ்டங்களுக்குள்ளான மேல் அதே கனம் மந்திரி இன்று இந்த மசோதாவைக் கொண்டு வந்ததற்காக நாம் பெருமையடைந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். அதற்காகவே நான் மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். முதன் முதலில் இந்த ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் நடந்தபோது, மதுரையில் மீனாக்ஷி கோவிலில் முதலில் ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் நடந்தபோது, ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஐந்துபேர்கள் கோவிலுக்குள் போனதில் நானும் ஒருவனென்பதை உங்களுக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன். அந்தக் காலத்தில், ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு எதிர்ப்பு இருந்த காலத்தில், மதுரையில் எப்படி கனியமாக நடந்துகொண்டார்கள் என்பது ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் தெரியும். அந்தக் காலத்தில் எதிர்ப்பு எவ்வளவு இருந்தது என்பதும் எல்லோருக்கும் தெரிந்திருக்கும். அந்த எதிர்ப்பில் கனம் வைத்யநாதய்யர் தைய்யமாகவும் ஜமுங்காவும் இந்த ஆலயப்பிரவேசத்தை நடத்திவைத்தார்கள். இருந்தா

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லும் பிறகு வந்த அந்த எதிர்ப்பானது கொஞ்சநாளில் தலிடுபொடியாகி விட்டது. அதன்மேல் Sessions Court, High Court, Federal Court முதலிய கோர்ட்டுகளில் கேஸ்கள் நடந்தன. அவர்கள் Federal Court வரைக்கும் போய்கூட பலன் இல்லை. அன்று ஆரம்பித்த ஆலயப்பிரவேசத்தை, பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் ஆரம்பித்ததை, 1938-ல் ஆரம்பித்ததை இன்று சட்டம் செய்கிறார்கள். இந்த சட்டம் எவ்வளவு முக்யமானது என்று உணரவேண்டும். திருவனந்தபுரத்தில் ஆலயப்பிரவேசம் நடந்ததைப் பார்க்க காந்திஜி அவர்கள் திருவனந்தபுரம் சென்றார்கள். அதன் பிறகு தமிழ் நாட்டிலிருந்து 50 பேர்கள் போனோம். திருவனந்தபுரத்தில் பார்த்தால் ஹரிஜனங்கள் கிட்டகூட போகக்கூடாது. பேசக்கூடாது. இன்னும் சில இடங்களில் பார்த்தால் பார்க்கக்கூடாது என்று வைத்திருந்தார்கள். இன்று அங்கு திருவனந்தபுரத்தில் எல்லாம் மாறிவிட்டது. இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் சொன்னபடி எழுநாட்களில் சட்டம் செய்தார்கள். இன்னும் ஹரிஜனங்களை நாயைப்போலும் பன்றியைப்போலும் கேவலமாக நடத்திவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்கள் யாரும் இனி சகித்துக்கொண்டிருக்க முடியாது. இனிமேல் எல்லோரும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து வாழவேண்டும். ஹிந்து மதம் வாழவேண்டுமானால் தீண்டாமை ஒழியவேண்டும். எல்லோரும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து தீண்டாமை ஒழிந்து ஹிந்துக்கள் ஒற்றுமையாக வாழ வேண்டும். இந்த சட்டம் வந்தால் தீண்டாமை நிச்சயம் ஒழிந்துவிடும். இன்னும் தீண்டாமையை ஒழிப்பதற்கு என்னென்ன சட்டங்கள் வேண்டுமென்று தோன்றுகிறதோ அவைகளை எல்லாம் இந்த அரசாங்கத்தார் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லி, இன்னும் இதனால் தொந்திரவு செய்கிறவர்கள்மேல் நிச்சயம் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லி, இந்த சட்டத்தை எல்லோரும் ஆதரித்து நிறைவற்ற வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

AN HON. MEMBER.—"Can we finish the Bill today?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall finish not only this Bill but also another Bill, the President's Salary Bill."

*SRI M. DORAikanNU:—"Sir, I welcome this measure as the greatest service done to Hinduism. Everyone knows that there is a volume of opinion expressed in favour of the removal of the disabilities of Harijans in respect of their entry into temples. Till now many social reforms have been carried out but the temple entry was excluded from all of them and the Harijans are excluded from these temples and are kept outside the walls of these temples. As a matter of fact, this caste system is doing much harm and it ought to be abolished. Untouchability is certainly going to quit just as the British are going to quit this country. (Laughter.) This Bill particularly seeks to remove untouchability and I dare say if this Bill comes into force, untouchability will at once vanish and this Bill will sound the death-knell to untouchability. With these few words, I heartily support the Bill for the acceptance of the House."

SINNA KAZIAR HAZI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I want to speak on this Bill in the Urdu language."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the hon. Member knows English and has been speaking in English, he can speak in English. Further, there is no Urdu reporter."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I have really to enter a protest for not making provision for taking down Urdu speeches. Sir, on this occasion one of our members who wanted to speak on this Bill in the Urdu language was not allowed to speak in Urdu on the ground that there is no provision for taking down Urdu speeches."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The gentleman knows English also."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, the reason given by you was that there is no Urdu reporter."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Because we have no speakers in Urdu, we have not got any Urdu reporter. Hon. Members are at liberty to speak in any language but they must always speak in that particular language, for example, an hon. Member cannot speak one day in Urdu, on another day in English and so on. It is merely a convention. In the Central Assembly Mr. Mavlankar has been observing and enforcing that convention, viz., that if an hon. Member wants to speak in his mother-tongue, he should continue to speak in that language alone."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Since there is no definite provision or rule or regulation to that effect, I do not think you will give a ruling to that effect."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Apart from that, the House should know that as soon as I became the Speaker, I wrote letters to the hon. Members asking them to inform me the language in which they wish to address the House and I have received their replies. I am following those replies when hon. Members speak."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I want to bring to your notice, Sir, that in the Government of India Act itself, there is a provision in regard to this. It is stated therein that those who are ordinarily conversant with English should speak in English and the Speaker is given the discretion to allow Members who do not understand any other language but their mother-tongue to speak in their mother-tongue."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I do not think the discretion of the hon. the Speaker is so fettered as that. Sir, you have got discretion to allow Members to speak in any other language if you think that Member can express himself better in that language than in English."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let me tell the Leader of the Opposition that I have no objection to allow if anybody wants to speak in Greek; but let him not speak one day in Greek and another day in another language and so on, but let him continue to speak in Greek alone."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" It is left to your discretion, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It must be quite clear to the hon. Leader of the Opposition that there is no use allowing a Member to speak in different languages on different occasions."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, 4.30 p.m. coming to the Bill before us, I am supporting it not because I believe or rather, I am supposed to believe that in entering temples and worshipping in it there is ennobling of the soul of man. It is to be left to the people themselves; if they want that privilege and if they think they should do it, no obstacle should be put in the way of their doing so. I support this Bill because, as a result of this, a certain section of the people, whose number is equal to the population of Germany, will be given the same status as those of all the other Hindus in this land. It is on account of that freedom which is supposed to be bestowed upon this section of the people that I am supporting this Bill."

" Sir, incidentally, the hon. the Mover of this Bill said that Islam has also symbolism. He made certain statements which are not true to facts. He said that Muslims worship Quran and that the Muslims have perforce to go to a certain place for performing worship. All these are not facts. A Muslim can perform his prayer anywhere he pleases and he does not really worship Quran which is his Holy Book, it is the code of his religion and he does not worship it even as the Sikhs are worshipping the Granth Sahib. Perhaps that analogy of the Sikhs has occurred to the hon. Mover of the Bill and he thought it fit to mention it here and at last he alighted upon one thing and that is what we turn our faces towards the west and that that is symbolism. Whatever it is, Sir, it is there evidently for bringing in harmony, for bringing in discipline and for bringing in universality amongst the people who want to worship God. I consider, Sir, there is a certain custom amongst a certain section of the Vaishnavite friends of mine—of course I do not think that all the Vaishnavites are like that—that when they have a joint dinner, where a number of people partake of the meals, they sit in such a manner as not to enable one person to see the face of another person. Anyway, Sir, we do not pray in that manner; we want to pray with uniformity and harmony and it is for that purpose we are facing towards the west and it is enjoined on us. It is not symbolism and even if it is considered as symbolism, there is no meaning in having thousands of symbols so as to divide people into thousands of warring groups as we find in this land."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" For the information of the hon. Member, the Shiyas are an instance in point, Sir."

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* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I am supporting this Bill and the provisions contained in it. Many of my hon. Friends said that while there is caste system in Hinduism this practice amongst the Hindus is not sanctioned by the caste system. I would have much preferred them to say, whether there is caste system or not, this is a blot on humanity, this is revolting to human conscience and therefore we are fighting it. Sir, one of the hon. Gentleman who supported the Bill, Swami Sahajananda, said that they were the original owners of this land. It is really a historical fact that they were the owners of the land, that those people who brought in the caste system were only interlopers who came into this country about 3,500 or 4,000 years ago and that after they came into this land and found that this land was a land flowing with milk and honey, they settled here and deprived the original owners of this land of many of their rights. That is really a historical fact and if the Swamiji had stopped there, it would have been well and good. He went on to describe what the castes were and he also gave us information about untouchability, the poor untouchables were and all that. Now, what I want to say is, Sir—it is my own opinion and if my Hindu friends do not want to take it, well and good and I do not wish to force my own opinion on them—if this evil has come out of the caste system and if you want to remove this disability which is attached to a large section of the people of this land, you must not think in terms of caste system. That is my view, Sir. Certain other friends argued that there is no caste system at all in Hinduism and that it is not according to their shastras. They said that the shastras do not sanction this and that therefore this is an innovation which you must get rid of as soon as possible. In that case, I don't think they are correct. However, I do not think this is the occasion for me to give you the promised quotation from the Bhagavad-Gita and I wish to reserve it for some other occasion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Give it now."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, as I said on more than one previous occasion, the Gita speaks approvingly of the caste system. For instance, take the first discourse, sloka No. 41. It says—

'Owing to predominance of lawlessness, O Krishna, the women of the family become corrupt; women corrupted, O Varshneya, there ariseth caste-confusion.'

This is said by Arjuna, Sir. Then again, 43rd sloka says—

'By these caste-confusing misdeed of the slayers of the family, the everlasting caste customs and family customs are abolished.'

Then, Sir, you may say that these are only the words of Arjuna and you may want to know whether his words are endorsed by Lord

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Krishna. I shall now quote the words of Krishna and you had better draw your own conclusions, Sir."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"The hon. Member is bent upon quoting certain slokas to confuse the issue, Sir."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is really unfortunate that I am not given at least two minutes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition continue his speech."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is sloka No. 24 of the third discourse where Lord Krishna says—

'These worlds would fall into ruin, if I did not perform action; I should be the author of confusion of castes and should destroy these creatures.'

"In another place in the fourth discourse in sloka 13, this is what Lord Krishna says:—

'The four castes were emanated by Me, by the different distribution of qualities and actions: know Me to be the author of them, though the actionless and inexhaustible.'

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I interrupt the hon. Member, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, interruptions will take a lot of time."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am coming to the fifth discourse, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition can quote the rest of the Bhagavad Gita on another occasion."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Even if you ask me to do so, I do not want to quote more, Sir, except this one, namely, sloka 18 of the fifth discourse, which says—

'Sages look equally on a Brahmana adorned with learning and humility, a cow, an elephant and even a dog and an outcaste.'

You see, Sir, mention is made of outcaste here. Now, our friends may try to confuse issues by saying that these castes and other things are the translation of the word 'Dharma.' But, I want to remind them, Sir, that the 'Dharma' of human relationship according to them is expressed in terms of caste. Some of the people who knew Sanskrit well and who knew the Hindu scriptures have put their heads together and have produced this translation. Therefore, Sir, Hindu scripture stands for caste system and now my point is this and it is my own opinion. As long as the caste system exists, there will be this difficulty, and this untouchability or these disabilities attached to different sections of the people will

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creep in in some form or other. Therefore, Sir, it is better for the people to remove them whether they are sanctioned or not. The only way of doing it is, as one hon. Member put it, effect a change of heart. This is only the beginning, not the end, as some other hon. Friend put it. This is only a beginning, of course, and if you only pursue it with a proper frame of mind, I think, you will succeed in bringing about the realization of equality and brotherhood.

"Evidently, Sir, you do not want me to say more. I shall only refer you to some provisions of the Bill before I close. I want to refer to a point which almost borders on principle. In defining a Hindu temple, it is said: 'temple' means a place, by whatever name known, which is dedicated to, or for the benefit of, or used as of right by, the Hindu community in general. . . . My fear is that it should not be a fertile source of litigation, and this fear is only confirmed when I find in another clause, namely clause 6, the Government is trying to take power to remove any such difficulty that may arise. Even though it is hedged in by certain clauses, I do not think it will enable the Government to remove the difficulties altogether. What is in my mind is this; there may be a Hindu temple which may be intended for the exclusive worship of the Vaishnavites or the Saivites. Then somebody may come forward and say it is not a place of worship intended for the Hindu Community in general. If it had been made clear that the Act applies even to a temple which is intended for a section of the Hindus in general, I think that difficulty would not have arisen. With these few words, I support the Bill."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow the hon. Member only two minutes."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You told me that you would give me only two minutes. Of course you may have peace of mind because I will not take much of your time and shall finish my speech as soon as possible, Sir. I should be thankful to hon. Members of this House because they gave us an opportunity to learn much about Hinduism, its culture and its philosophy, but still there is one thing which has been troubling me and disturbing me about which I want some enlightenment from the opposite benches. Now, if you go back into history you find that Lord Rama, Lord Krishna and Nandanar and our local deities like Minakshi and those other Hindu Gods happen to be non-Brahman Gods and it is really a wonder how my Brahman friends became the custodians and poojaris of these Gods. It is a pity that the children of these non-Brahman Gods who are said to be Sudras and Harijans have now come to such a position. So, there could never have been such a religion or system and if all these things have come about . . ."

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SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I wish to protest against such things, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister will now reply to the debate."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, it is not my intention to delay the passage of this Bill even by a few minutes by offering 4-45 p.m.
any remarks on the debate, that has taken place in this House the whole of to-day. It is unfortunate that we did not have an effective criticism by an opposition that could understand and go into the spirit of this Bill. Therefore, we have been deprived to that extent of a healthy criticism which might require proper explanation from me. In fact, no one differed from the principle of the Bill nor was there any criticism of the various sections of the Bill except one vague reference by the Leader of the Opposition."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. What does he mean by 'Healthy criticism,' Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister is not yielding."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I could not follow what the members of the Opposition were saying. I could not get into the meaning of all those things."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is what I protest against, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am very glad that this Bill had the wholehearted support of the House. As I said in the beginning, this discussion of the Bill refers entirely to the Hindu community. It is the support of the Hindu community and Hindu members of this House I solicited when I started discussion of this Bill. I do not say that the other Members should be denied the right of speaking on this Bill. I wanted the sympathy and support especially of the Hindu members of this House to this Bill and so I confined my appeal to those members. My intention is to get the wholehearted support of the Hindu members of this House. This Bill vitally affects only the Hindus in this Province and therefore it is in a way just and fair that I should have the opinion and support of the Hindu members of this House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. Is it right on the part of the Hon. the Minister to say that he wanted only the views of the Hindu members of this House?"

"He said that he wanted only the support of the Hindu members of this House. Is he in order when he says that, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He said that he wanted the support of the whole House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He said about the Hindu members more than once."

530 A BILL TO AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO HINDU TEMPLES IN THE
PROVINCE OF MADRAS AND THE OFFER OF WORSHIP
THEREIN BY CERTAIN CLASSES OF HINDUS WHO BY
CUSTOM OR USAGE ARE EXCLUDED FROM SUCH
ENTRY AND WORSHIP

[1st April 1947]

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If the criticism had been healthy all this reference to communities would have been avoided. The meaning of the Bill is clear. There are Hindu temples to which a certain class of Hindu people are denied entry. This legislation seeks to remove that restriction. It is quite clear and there is no question of Gods, religions and so on. There is no meaning in talking about Rama or Krishna or of any number of Gods, Brahman or non-Brahman. There is no necessity to bring in all these and the Muslim Gods. It is merely intended to ridicule us and it is not sincere criticism. I only wanted the discussion to be spared of such references which do not really help us to get through the work of this House. As far as I am concerned, I see that the whole House is prepared to support the Bill wholeheartedly. Therefore, I have no criticism to offer. I move—

'that the Bill may be taken into consideration at once.'"

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clause 6 was put and carried.

Clause 7 was put and carried.

Clause 8 was put and carried.

Clause 9 was put and carried.

Clause 10 was put and carried.

Clause 11 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I beg to move—
'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law (with loud acclamation).

(2) A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS PAYMENT OF
SALARIES AND REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATIONS ACT, 1937.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce this Bill which seeks to increase the salary of the President of the Madras Legislative Council to bring it into consonance with what is being paid to the Speaker of this House and I hope this will get passed without much objection. I move—

'that the Bill may be taken into consideration.'"

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS PAYMENT OF SALARIES 531
AND REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATIONS ACT, 1937.

1st April 1947]

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I beg to move—
'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Previously when the proposal was before this House for increasing the salaries of the Ministers and the Speaker, Sir, you will remember we opposed that measure. Anyhow, Sir, that Bill was passed into law. We are supporting this Bill for this reason. Now the salaries of the Ministers and the Speaker have been fixed in a certain way and it is only right and just that when such salaries are fixed on certain principle, the salary of the President of the Council should also be fixed in the same way and on the same principle giving the same status and position to one of the important officers of the Legislature. This is the reason which has prompted us to give our support to this measure and I support it."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In supporting the Bill that has been brought up, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government that there was another Bill published along with this Bill which deals with the increase of salaries of the Deputy Speaker and Deputy President and I would very much wish that that Bill was also introduced to-day but I understand from the Hon. the Leader of the House that for some reasons he was unable to bring it before the House. We do hope, therefore, that he would bring it before this House at the earliest opportunity."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock on 17th April 1947."

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 17th April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

(Starred question from the list of 1st April 1947.)

Revision of salaries of Government servants.

* 518 Q.—M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased—

(a) to furnish a comparative statement of the scales of pay of the non-gazetted staff introduced in the year 1920 and those proposed to be introduced with effect from 1st January 1947; and

(b) to state the cost of living in 1920 and also in 1947?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) The hon. Member will find particulars in the Annexure to the G.O. No. 311, Public (Services), under which the scales were revised in April 1933, and in Schedule II of the recent G.O. No. 78, Finance, which introduces the new rates. Two copies of each of these have been placed in the Legislature Secretariat Library for reference.

“(b) As compared with 1938 the cost of living index stood in 1926 at 170 and in January 1947 at 251.

“It should be noted that no specific arithmetical principle was followed in revising the salaries. The Cabinet Committee reviewed the scales of pay applicable to every post and fixed new scales of pay on the merits of each case. The scales were fixed with an eye to a cost of living 60 to 80 per cent over the pre-war level, at which it might be expected prices will eventually be stabilized, and to make up for the difference between this level and the present high cost, the cost of living allowances have been continued at present rates. It is true, therefore, that the new scales of pay have been fixed on the basis of a cost of living approximately equal to that of 1920. On a general review, it may be seen that the lower paid ranks have been treated more liberally than in 1920 (e.g.)—

				Scales sanctioned.	
				1920.	1947.
				RS.	RS.
Lower Division Clerks	..	..	..	35—60	45—90
S.S.L.C. Teachers	..	..	..	35—60	45—90
Peons	..	..	..	12—17	16—25

[17th April 1947]

"The new rates are about 40 per cent above that of 1920 rates. In the higher ranks the scales are more or less equal to those sanctioned in 1920 (e.g.), Deputy Tahsildars, Tahsildars, Assistant Lecturers and Inspectors of Police."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, this being an important question and the answer being a long one, won't you kindly allow this question to be taken up to-morrow so that the answer may be printed and placed on the Table?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not to-morrow, but day after to-morrow for supplementary questions. The Hon. Minister will have to give printed copies of the answer to the Members."

* 534 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the Proceedings."

Alleged communal tension at Ekkakudi village, Ramnad district.

* 534 Q.—M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware of the communal tension at Ekkakudi village, Ramnad district, and what action he has taken on that behalf?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"In spite of attempts made by the local authorities to settle amicably the differences between Hindus and Muslims of the locality, it is reported that the relations between the two communities continue to be strained. The situation is being carefully watched."

Alleged ban on the book "Alluri Sitaramaraju."

* 535 Q.—SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANARAJU: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there exists a ban on the book, under the title 'Alluri Sitaramaraju' or 'Maniyamlo Rytula Thirugubatu' written by Ponnaluri Radhakrishnamurthi of Kistna district; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to remove it?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The question of lifting the ban on the book will be considered by Government, if any representation is made."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to say what are the other books that are being banned by the Government?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can put a separate question on that subject."

List of Scheduled castes.

* 536 Q.—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI (on behalf of Sri S. C. Balakrishnan): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government intend to revise list of the Scheduled castes?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The answer is in the affirmative."

17th April 1947]

* 537 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place. The answer will be printed in the Proceedings."

Provident fund loans to municipal employees.

* 537 Q.—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have issued orders to executive authorities of municipal councils not to place before the municipal council applications of municipal employees for provident fund loans which the executive authority is not prepared to recommend?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"A copy of G.O. No. 77, L.A., dated 15th January 1944, containing the instructions issued to the executive authorities of municipal councils on the point is placed on the table."

Irrigation from Kolleru lake.

* 538 Q.—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the area covered by Kolleru lake;

(b) the total extent of lands cultivated in Kolleru lake area;

(c) the second-crop area in the Kolleru lake in Kistna and West Godavari districts;

(d) the extent of yearly submersion and the loss of the crop;

(e) the schemes that were proposed previously to solve the drainage problem in Kolleru lake, the final scheme sanctioned by the Government and its cost; and how long it will take to complete the scheme; and

(f) the area that can be recovered from submersion if this scheme comes into effect and Upputeru is widened?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to the question placed on the table of the House."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I know how long would it take to expedite the schemes?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We are certainly expediting the schemes, Sir, and we shall take the shortest possible time."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I once again request the Hon. Minister to take early steps to expedite the schemes?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, we do realize the importance of the schemes."

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 601 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix II on pages 602-603 infra.

[17th April 1947]

Housing accommodation in the Province.

* 539 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the scarcity of the housing accommodation in cities and towns in the Province; and

(b) what steps they have taken to remove the scarcity?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The question was raised and discussed in the Legislative Council. The Government have agreed to appoint a committee to examine the question and to suggest measures for solving the housing problem in the Province. Meanwhile, in view of the urgency of the situation, I have framed a scheme for constructing one-hundred house blocks on co-operative lines in the City of Madras and in the cities and towns of the mufassal. I shall endeavour to implement this scheme as early and as widely as possible.

“The Madras Corporation authorities are also actively engaged in tackling this problem. With the aid of a Government loan, they are constructing a number of houses in Amjikarai. They have also on hand a scheme costing about 5 lakhs for providing sites and plinths for the people rendered homeless in the recent floods. The Government have made a grant of rupees one lakh and sanctioned a loan of another lakh for this scheme.

“The Government have also constituted a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet to negotiate with the military authorities and to arrange to take over such of the military camps and sheds in this Province as can be adapted for use for Governmental purposes and for civilian accommodation.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of supplying necessary building materials such as iron, steel and cement to the existing co-operative societies?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“The Government cannot undertake to supply the materials, Sir, but if proper representations are made they will try to help the societies in getting the supplies as quickly and as early as possible.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Apart from the Cabinet Sub-Committee which the Government have appointed, do they not consider it desirable to have a non-official committee to go into the subject thoroughly?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Sir, in reply to the discussions in the Legislative Council, the Hon. Minister for Public Works has undertaken to form a committee and the Government will form such a committee.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“When will they form the committee?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“At as early a date as possible, Sir.”

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government call by advertisement for the best designs in respect of these 100-house blocks?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“An expert committee has been appointed by the Government to go into the plans and lay-out of these houses, Sir.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, whether the Hon. Minister has considered the advisability of building houses in the vast compound surrounding the Government House for the use of Government officials, many of whom are homeless and even for others?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“I think, the Hon. Minister for Public Works has got the matter under consideration in connexion with the Government House.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“As a part of the scheme just now propounded by the Hon. Minister, will the Government consider the desirability of providing houses to the thousands of nomads, like the Yenadhis who do not possess any houses at all and who leave from place to place, from year to year, according to the exigencies of time?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Sir, those are the people, I think, who are almost accustomed to a homeless life.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether the Government has got any schemes under consideration for sanctioning loans to such of the local bodies and municipalities which are prepared to undertake housing schemes?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Sir, if there are schemes for providing accommodation for industrial labour the Government of India have laid down the condition that for any such scheme, they would agree to give a 12½ per cent grant from Central Funds provided the Government of Madras would agree to an equivalent contribution. And as I said, these are confined only to the provision of housing accommodation for industrial labour.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, in view of the fact that so many co-operative building societies are in existence, will the Government come forward and assign all the porambores and village-sites to these societies so that they can construct houses on a co-operative basis, at an early date?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“That is exactly the scheme of the Government, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Are the Government aware of the difficulties of these societies in getting such assignments in their name by the Government?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“The Government realize the difficulty in the matter, but they will endeavour to overcome that difficulty.”

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SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know what progress has been made in the negotiations for acquiring the extensive house building sites which are available both in Waltair and Cocanada? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" If representations are made regarding that matter, the Government would get the actual details and the scheme will be taken on hand."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that there are a very large number of Government servants, many of them holding high positions, who have been ordered to vacate their houses by the Rent Controller and who are now in a homeless condition, and whether the Government have taken any steps to provide them with accommodation? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The point raised by the hon. Member is under consideration and it is only in view of that, that the Government have proposed to launch on a house building scheme in the City."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, what I asked the Government was whether they are prepared to lend money to local bodies and municipalities who want to embark on house building schemes? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I thought I had made myself clear in answering the point raised by the hon. Member. I said that if local bodies propose any schemes for housing the labouring classes, then the Government of India will be approached for a 12½ per cent grant and the Madras Government will be prepared to consider the question of making an equal contribution, towards financing the scheme."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether this scheme also includes giving loans to private persons who own sites but who want materials and loans for building houses on those sites? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" If the individuals concerned are prepared to join a co-operative society and provide house-site accommodation for other people also, then loans will be given by the Government."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know when these 100 blocks of houses will come into existence in the City of Madras? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I am consulting the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and in consultation with him, the scheme will be implemented as early as possible. This is what I have stated in my answer."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that a number of cinema people are occupying extensive bungalows within the City of Madras and would he consider the desirability of asking these people to shift to outside Madras limits? "

[17th April 1947]

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I believe the hon. Member would not expect the Government to pass an order of externment against the cinema management in the City."

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—" May I know what action the Government is going to take to relieve congestion in rural parts which are as bad as towns? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I do not think, Sir, that the Government will agree to the proposition that accommodation in rural parts is as bad as it is in cities and towns."

Irrigation projects in Ceded districts.

* 540 Q.—SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the estimated cost and percentage of return of the following projects:—

(i) Harvi-Basapuram;

(ii) Mallapuram-Hyderabad; and

(iii) Thimalapuram-Singtalur;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Nizam's Government objected to the removal of stones from the Tungabhadra river-bed;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Mallapuram project has not progressed according to plan; and

(d) how many years it will take to complete the Mallapuram project?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) Estimated cost:—

	PERCENTAGE OF RETURN.	
(i) 135.00 lakhs	...	2.38
(ii) 1,000.00 lakhs	...	2.28
(iii) 1,479.00 lakhs	...	1.55

" (b) No.

" (c) No.

" (d) Eight years according to the programme."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Considering the fact that the Ceded districts are famine-stricken and irrigation is undeveloped there, may I ask the Government for a definite enunciation of the policy, to see that the Ceded districts receive preferential treatment in regard to irrigation matters? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" Although the question put by my hon. Friend does not arise out of this question, I may say I have been assuring him and this House that the Ceded districts are receiving all the attention that is necessary."

[17th April 1947]

Labour scholarships in 1946.

* 541 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of the Harijan collegiate students that applied for labour scholarships in 1946; and

(b) how many were granted scholarships?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“(a) One hundred and ninety-one students applied for residential scholarships and 82 for non-residential scholarships.

“(b) One hundred and twelve students were granted residential scholarships and 56 non-residential scholarships.

“And recently the Government have also sanctioned scholarships to all the college students whose applications were rejected for want of funds, with retrospective effect.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister why the applications of some of the students were rejected in the year 1946?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“I have already answered that question that all the applications which were rejected for want of funds during 1946 and 1947 have been sanctioned this year with retrospective effect.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“In view of the difficulties suffered by the various students who were not granted scholarships earlier, will the Government consider the necessity of giving scholarships immediately this year?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“I have already stated that scholarships have been sanctioned this year with retrospective effect, that covers 1946 and 1947 also.”

SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—“May I know if the scholarships refused last year for the students that were undergoing co-operative training in the various institutions have been granted this year?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“May I refer the hon. Member to the answer I gave to the previous question on this matter by Mr. S. Nagappa?”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether at least in the future he will come forward with grant of scholarships in advance, and not afterwards, as the students will experience a lot of difficulties at the time of admission?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The hon. Member should know that it cannot be so; unless the students join the colleges and unless their applications are received by the Commissioner of Labour through the principals of the colleges concerned, the applications for scholarships cannot be considered.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will he grant the scholarships at least in time and not after it is very late?”

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“I do not think the hon. Member has rightly understood the question. I have already answered that; scholarships will generally be sanctioned during the month of August. Applications will be received by the Commissioner of Labour during the month of July every year. He will have to scrutinize all the applications received by him from the various institutions and that will take him at least one month's time and then the scholarships will have to be sanctioned.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that out of 191 applications for residential scholarships only 112 were sanctioned and out of 82 for non-residential scholarships, only 56 were sanctioned, may I request the Government to see that these scholarships are granted this year at least before September?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The hon. Member who puts this question has more experience than myself. Unless funds are provided under Part II schemes for the next year, all the applications received by the Commissioner of Labour cannot be sanctioned. When the Commissioner sends up proposals for supplementary grants, the Government may sanction them and may not raise any technical or other objections.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“May I know whether the Government will increase the number of scholarships this year?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The number of scholarships has already been increased this year, as I said, with retrospective effect. These will continue this year also, and if there are further applications received in the course of the year, the Government will consider them also.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister how many scholarships are given for students in technical colleges and how many for students in the arts colleges?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“I cannot give the definite number; but all the Harijan students studying in the engineering, medical and agricultural colleges, have been granted scholarships this year.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of adopting it as a policy at least for the future that all applications sent up by Harijans are sanctioned in time, so that they may not be disappointed?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“I think I have already answered that question.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government place enough funds at the disposal of the Hon. Minister to enable him to see that not a single application for scholarship is rejected?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The Government are more interested in the matter than the hon. Member himself. They will even give more scholarships, if it is found necessary.”

[17th April 1947]

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that some of the students studying in the Chengalvaroya Naick Technical and Industrial school have not been given scholarships and that as a matter of fact the authorities of the M. C. Raja Hostel have turned out students in the hostel who are eligible for the scholarships?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"As regards the M. C. Raja Hostel, I do not know; but the Government will take steps to get facts and figures from the Commissioner of Labour in regard to this matter."

Condition of Scheduled castes cherries in districts.

* 542 Q.—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that many Scheduled castes cherries in several districts are in a bad state both in the matter of sanitation and adequacy of living accommodation; and

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to enquire into the sanitation and living accommodation of Scheduled class cherries?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) Local authorities do not show any discrimination between cherries and other parts of the areas under their jurisdiction so far as their Public Health duties are concerned. The cleanliness of any village or hamlet depends more on the habits of the people themselves than on the environmental services rendered to them.

" (b) There is already a scheme for the relief of congestion in Harijan cherries and other places where eligible communities live together by providing them with house-sites either by free assignment of waste or poramboke lands at the disposal of Government or by the acquisition of private lands part of the cost of which is met by the Government. The Government, however, consider that the improvement of cherries should go hand in hand with other schemes for rural development such as village planning, housing, slum clearance, improvement of village sanitation, water-supply, drainage, etc. Post-war Reconstruction Scheme No. 95 provides for a comprehensive programme for the improvement of conservancy and sanitation in villages."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister to clause (a), may I point out that there are still many cherries which both in the matter of sanitation and housing are in a very bad state?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir; that fact is well-known."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Will the Government subsidise some of the Harijans who come forward to construct their own houses on a co-operative basis?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"What kind of help can be given will be considered, Sir."

[17th April 1947]

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government consider the necessity of transferring a certain portion of the amount set aside for Harijan uplift for improving the housing conditions in the cherries?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The original intention was to spend the amount for a colonization scheme; but the very good suggestion made by the hon. Member can well be considered."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that in most of the villages, there is no grama kantam or village-site nearby or is not available, will the Government acquire some sites from the landlords in order to house these poor people?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already said that under the scheme for relieving congestion, wherever Government lands are not available, private lands will have to be acquired."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether in solving the problem of sanitation and health, the Government will continue to allow the depressed classes or scheduled castes to have segregation as at present?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I do not think there is any necessity to keep them segregated, though they are at present living in several places a little away from the villages, in separate localities."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the question of cherries being a very big one, may I suggest—I do not know how the Government will take the suggestion—that a permanent committee be appointed mainly consisting of Harijans, to go into this question and make recommendations to Government from time to time?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Do I understand the hon. Member suggesting a committee?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will repeat his question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of this question being a very big one and being a chronic one, I ask whether the Government will consider the suggestion of appointing a committee, consisting mainly of Harijans, to go into this question and make recommendations from time to time how to improve the condition of the cherries from various points of view?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The suggestion will be examined, Sir."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"In view of the very insanitary conditions in which the Harijans are forced to live, will the Government consider the question of appointing a special officer to go into the conditions and suggest ways and means for relieving congestion in these insanitary areas?"

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already said that the fact that the sanitation in cheris is very bad and the living conditions are unsatisfactory is quite well-known; what is required is money to set matters right."

Budget provision for amelioration of Harijans.

* 543 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some amount provided in the Budget for the amelioration of Harijans for 1946-47 by the Advisory Government was ordered to wait till next year at the time of revision of the Budget by this Government?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Yes, Sir."

Strength of Secretariat staff.

* 544 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) (1) whether it is a fact that the pre-war strength in the category of lower division clerks, upper division clerks, and superintendents has been substantially increased in the Departments of the Secretariat during the war period;

(2) if so, whether the Government will furnish a statement showing the pre-war strength and the post-war strength in the above categories; and

(b) whether there is a similar increase in the Legislature Secretariat in the above categories?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) (1) Yes.

" (a) (2) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement^a placed on the table of the House."

Teaching staff in the Education Department.

* 545 Q.—SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dearth of L.T.s or B.T.s in the teaching staff of the Education Department; and

(b) if so, why the clerks possessing L.T. or B.T. Degree qualifications in the office of the Director of Public Instruction or other subordinate offices of the Education Department are not appointed to such posts?

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

" (a) There is a dearth of L.T.s. or B.T.s. only in regard to girls' schools and Muslim Boys' schools.

" (b) There are no clerks possessing L.T. or B.T. degrees qualified to be appointed in these vacancies."

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 603 infra.

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Revision of salaries of teachers.

* 546 Q.—SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the cost of the living index was kept in view, while fixing the scales of pay for elementary school teachers in general and the aided school teachers in particular;

(b) whether there is discontent caused in the teaching field in not providing a minimum living wage to them especially when the elementary education is gaining all importance;

(c) why are the distinctions such as Board, and Government, maintained even after the establishment of the popular Government and why should distinction be maintained among teachers only and not among other employees;

(d) whether the Government propose to revise their scales and place them on a par with those of the Government teachers;

(e) whether the Government propose to order all the local boards and municipalities to pay interim relief and bonus to all the employees including all teachers; and

(f) whether the Government propose to enable the teachers in the local boards to draw advance increment according to the formula suggested in the Committee's announcement for all acting and temporary hands in a cadre with breaks, irrespective of the fact whether they hold or not a substantive post in the lower cadre?

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

" (a) The cost of living was one of the factors taken into account by the Salaries Committee in the general revision of salaries and it was applied in the case of Government teachers; its application in the case of other teachers became modified by the other considerations referred to in the further answers below.

" (b) The Government have however received representation from teachers organizations that the enhancement is not adequate.

" (c) The Government had to make allowances for the differences in conditions of service between teachers in Government employment and those working under local bodies and in private aided institutions, and also the limit of the commitment they could undertake in this regard as determined by their general finances. In the case of other employees though the scales have been equalized as far as possible and consistent with qualifications and conditions of service and finance as between the employees of Government and of local bodies, the actual implementing of the scales by local bodies is made dependent on the finances of each local body, but in the case of teachers, it was decided that help should be given by the Government without making the increase in remuneration dependent on finances of each local body; hence a differentiation had to be made. The increment to teachers will come into effect from 1st January 1947.

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"The question of further improvement of salaries of teachers will be taken up after the Government of India agree to bear half the extra cost or pay a substantial grant as a separate contribution towards educational development in the provinces.

"(d) For the reasons given above the Government regret they are unable to do anything more in the matter just now.

"(e) The Government are unable to issue such an order as that proposed as the finances of the local bodies do not permit it.

"With regard to arrears of dearness allowance, orders are being issued by Local Administration Department to give advances to such of those municipalities or local boards who are unable to meet it out of their own funds.

"(f) The pay of local board employees in the revised scales will be fixed at the stage of the time scale next above their present pay."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the cost of living that has been the cause for the revision of salaries does not differentiate between a local board employed teacher and a Government employed teacher and therefore it is wrong on the part of the Government to have this differentiation in scales of pay between local board teachers and Government employed teachers?"

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

"I may submit to the House that there is a difference in the nature of the services and so, there will always be a difference in salaries."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that both these kinds of teachers do the same kind of work and that both the sets of teachers require the same amount of money for their living and is it proper on the part of Government to have this differentiation?"

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

"The answer to the first part of the question is, no. The answer to the second part is that the cost of living depends on the number of members in a family."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Is it not a fact that the private managed institutions are paying their teachers very low salaries and is it not advisable to stop the grants to such schools and close their doors because the teachers in those institutions are suffering a hell?" (Laughter.)

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

"I do not think the hon. Member is serious that he would like to have the schools closed."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether in fixing the salaries of these teachers he took only the number of members in the families of these persons into account or was there any other consideration?"

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

"The Government did not exactly take the number of members into account. They thought also about the persons' qualifications and other things."

Separate Schools and Colleges for Muslims.

* 546-A Q.—M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government will expedite the setting up of separate schools and colleges for Muslims wherever necessary?

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

"The matter will be considered as and when it is necessary."

* 546-B Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I should like this question to be taken up later because I have written about it and I am expecting a reply."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister for Education will not be here on the 19th. He will be here only to-day and to-morrow. So, if the hon. Member wants the question to be taken up to-morrow, we will take it up to-morrow. The other alternative is we will have to postpone it to the next session."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"If we cannot take it up on any other day in this session, the question may be taken up to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question will be taken up to-morrow."

* 546-C Q.—

SRI S. NAGAPPA: I want time. I request that my question may be answered to-morrow because I have not studied the question." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has not studied the question. It is the hon. Member who put the question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I received the printed copy of the question only to-day."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You will receive it to-day only. The position is the Hon. the Minister for Education will not be here day after to-morrow. So, I think it is better he answers it to-day. But if the hon. Member wants the question to be taken up to-morrow, I have no objection."

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

"There is no point in saying that the hon. Member has not studied the question because he himself has put the

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question. While the Hon. the Speaker is at liberty to postpone the question, I think he should not accept to postpone this particular question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Having given the privilege to a lady, I want to give the privilege to a gentleman also." (Laughter.)

Physical training in schools.

* 546-D Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are concentrating their attention on the encouragement of physical training in schools; and

(b) if so, what the nature of the training is and what the sort of encouragement they desire to give is?

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

"(a) & (b) (1) A committee has been appointed by Government to revise the syllabus of physical education work in secondary schools.

(2) The question of providing playgrounds for schools is being examined. Other alternatives are being explored, e.g., play streets, etc.

(3) The development of the foreshore along with the Marina Road for playground is being considered.

(4) Steps have been taken for training larger number of physical education teachers; the stipends to candidates have been raised to Rs. 18 per mensem.

(5) The question of Government conducting a Government College of Physical Education is being examined. The training class for women teacher in Physical Education has now been taken under Government control.

(6) Instructions have been issued to managements of aided schools to depute as many secondary grade assistants as possible to undergo physical training in the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Instruction, Saidapet, with a view to secure more qualified physical training instructors.

(7) Schools are visited by the Regional Inspectors of Physical Education and constructive suggestions are made to the managements for improving playgrounds and physical instruction.

(8) The Government are also considering a proposal to appoint District Inspectors and Circle Inspectresses of Physical Education to supervise and guide teachers in the field of Physical Education.

(9) The Government are also sanctioning grants towards recurring and non-recurring expenditure incurred by schools on physical education activities."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the answer is a long one, I would request the Hon. the Minister to supply a printed answer to this question, and then I would put supplementary questions."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The answer is not a long one and so printed answer cannot be given. I want the hon. Member to put supplementary questions."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I beg to submit that the answer is a long one and it is also a very important one and so I request you to allow supplementary questions on this to be put to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member has any doubts, he can put a separate question. I have already stated that the Hon. the Minister for Education will not be here day after to-morrow. That is why, I want supplementary questions to be put to-day."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, from the Hon. the Minister for Education whether the Government will encourage the starting and maintenance of 'Thalim Khanas' which are the best centres for the indigenous system of physical training?"

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

"If such centres are attached to schools, they will be entitled to a certain amount of grant."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that playgrounds are not available in the mufassal areas, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of abolishing the present system of playing hockey and football and introduce in their place, physical exercises such as 'chadugudu' and 'bali-chapplam' and 'upperpattu'?"

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

"The suggestion of the hon. Member is being examined. In addition, Government are also considering the question of providing at least three acres of land as playground for each school."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know what is the nature of physical training given in the schools and whether the Hon. Minister will consider the desirability of making these boys learn the use of arms?"

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

"There is a list prepared with regard to the nature of physical training given in each school and I am not going to read the whole list. It is not possible to answer such a general question by way of a supplementary."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"If such questions pertaining to 'bali-chapplam' and 'chadugudu' are discussed on the floor of the House, I cannot really understand why the Hon. the Minister is annoyed with me in answering my question regarding the nature of physical education given in the schools."

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

“I only said that the answer contains a long list and cannot be read on the floor of the House.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Do the Government think it necessary to suppress the various games such as cricket, hockey and football and encourage indigenous games? Can they not encourage indigenous games side by side with the existing games?”

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

“I do not know from where the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition caught the idea that the Government want to suppress all these games.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In answering a question put to him whether the Government will consider the question of suppressing these games and encourage indigenous games, the Hon. the Minister said that he would go into the question. I want to know whether the Government have got any proposals to suppress these games.”

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

“I would request the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition to follow the questions and answers more carefully. The question was whether, in view of the shortage of playgrounds for playing hockey, football, etc., Government will encourage indigenous games and the answer was that the matter will be considered.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. the Minister that secondary grade teachers are being recruited for physical training, may I request the Government to consider the question of the lower and higher elementary grade teachers also for recruitment to the physical training scheme?”

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

“That matter is also under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, from the Hon. the Minister for Education how much he has spent on physical education in this Province?”

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

“A separate question may be put.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the fact that the amount that is going to be spent is small, will the Government consider the desirability of abolishing such foreign games which are costly and introduce indigenous games which cost nothing?”

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

“I cannot understand what the hon. Member means by ‘foreign’ and what he means by ‘indigenous’. Hockey, football and such other games have come to stay in this country.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know whether the Government are prepared to help public organizations, such as the Youth League, etc., which are running physical training institutions, by subsidizing them?”

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

“Here, Sir, I am concerned with physical education connected with educational institutions.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I suggest that indigenous system of Yoga such as Yogasanas and Suryanamas-kars, may be introduced in these schools?”

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

“The suggestion will be considered.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I ask where is the need for the secondary grade teachers to teach physical training in schools? Are they supposed to be physically fit for giving such training?”

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

“The point is this. Those who have had secondary grade training have an advantage of having studied some psychology and that helps them to bring up the children and train them in various aspects. So if they take to physical education also, it is presumed that they will be able to serve better than those who do not have a knowledge of psychology.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“May I know from the Hon. the Minister for Education whether the Government will consider the desirability of introducing ‘scouting’ as a compulsory subject to create an improved sense of discipline among children?”

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

“That matter is also under the active consideration of the Government.”

Visitor's book in elementary schools.

* 546-E Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in every elementary school a visitor's book is maintained under the Educational Rules and if so, what is its purpose?

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

“Under the rules relating to grant of recognition and aid to elementary schools every school should maintain a visitor's book. The purpose of the book is to enable the management to improve the general condition of the school with reference to the remarks made by the visitor on matters such as attendance of pupils and staff, adequacy of equipment, accommodation and condition of building, etc.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Question time is over. We will now proceed to the next item.”

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

11-45 a.m. II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* POLICE FIRING IN GAZULALANKA VILLAGE IN CHALLAPALLI ESTATE ON 10TH APRIL 1947.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri P. Venkateswarlu, has given notice of a motion for the adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion is as follows:—

'I hereby give notice for the adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance.

'In Challapali Estate, Gazulalanka village, the police opened fire on 10th April 1947 at 11 p.m., which resulted in four deaths including one woman and four others admitted in Government hospital being seriously injured. This has happened when the Kisans were taking away a cartload of Rellu grass from their own seri lands. The zamindar's goondas aided by the armed police obstructed the Kisans and the Reserve Police to help the zamindar, bayonet-charged first and later resorted to indiscriminate firing resulting in four deaths. In spite of the fact the zamindar was trying to evict the tenants from land and thus turn the estate lands as *swanta kamatam* lands, the Government in spite of helping the Kisans indirectly supported the zamindar by sending the police to implement his policy of eviction.

'Due to the indifference and indirect support to the Zamindar, the District officials have turned the whole of Challapalli Estate into an armed police camp. Because of this attitude of the Provincial Government the property and even the existence of the Kisans is endangered.

'To discuss the situation which has arisen out of the police firing I hereby give notice of adjournment of the House.'

"I wish to know whether anybody wants to speak on this motion. I wish to know from the Hon. the Leader of the House what his views are. Any hon. Member can speak by raising a point of order."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"There is no point of order in this, Sir, but all that I wish to tell the hon. Member is this."

MR. SPEAKER:—"On a point of order, the Hon. Leader of the House can speak."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I submit that there is no point of order in this but all that I want to point out to the hon. Member is this. Various telegrams have been received both by the Hon. the Revenue Minister and myself with regard to this firing. We have called for information and we hope to have also a non-official enquiry, if possible. I am also getting into touch with the President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, who also happens to be a leader of the Kisans, to make an enquiry on the spot and report to me. If the hon. Member proposes this

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adjournment motion, it will be difficult to take this step, because it will be forcing the hands of the Government and the Government will also find great difficulty in ordering an enquiry into the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of what the Hon. the Leader of the House has stated, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his motion."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, the matter is already seven days old and I expected that by this time the Government would have tried to get reports. Moreover, one of the Assembly members also visited the place and made personal enquiries into the matter and some Congress members have also issued statements in the press condemning the attitude taken up by the zamindar and the police. If the Government can give me a definite assurance that the police officials concerned will be immediately suspended and a non-official enquiry will be instituted, then I can withdraw the motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I regret very much I cannot give any assurance about the suspension of police officials, because that is a matter for the executive authority to decide and I am not prepared to take orders from the hon. Member, however eminent he may be, on this subject, but I am prepared to make an enquiry. That is as far as I can say."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of what the Hon. the Leader of the House has stated, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw the motion."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know in how many days he will receive the report from the official authorities or non-officials?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid this matter will lead to putting supplementary questions on an adjournment motion, but still I am prepared to say . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is entitled to enquire from the Government."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is why I am not objecting to it and you need not be anxious over this. What I am stating is, it is impossible to give an undertaking as to in how many days the report will be coming. It is a matter for the person I choose to appoint for this purpose."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, will withdraw the motion in view of the answer given by the Hon. the Leader of the House."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I withdraw the adjournment motion, Sir."

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III.—MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House the following messages, dated Fort St. George, 3rd April 1947, received by me from the Hon. President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

'(1) In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Temple Entry Authorisation Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council, without any amendment, and signed by me.

'(2) In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council, without any amendment and signed by me.' "

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTION.

ELECTION OF A MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY TO THE
TEXTILE CONTROL BOARD.

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Sir, I move—

'that in accordance with the provisions of the revised constitution of the Textile Control Board, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker to elect one person to be the representative of the consumers in the Madras Province on the Textile Control Board.' "

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"With reference to the motion of the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Information regarding the election of one Member of this Assembly to the Textile Control Board passed by the Assembly just now, I am to state that the nominations should be handed over to the Secretary before 3 p.m. on Saturday, the 19th April 1947. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. In that event, the date of the election will be announced on Monday, the 21st April 1947. The election will be by the ordinary method and not by means of the single transferable vote."

V.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE BAR COUNCILS AND LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (MADRAS
AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill to further amend the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, and the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, in their application to the Province of Madras and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"It will be found from the Statement of Objects and Reasons why this has been found necessary. During the movement of 1942 several people were tried under the Act because they disobeyed the laws of the land. The High Courts in various Provinces have taken different views on this. The Bombay High

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Court, for instance, did not think it was such a serious offence as to get a member of the bar debarred for such a thing. But, in Madras a different view has been taken and the Government has thought it fit, as stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that when other people have been excused and even their fines have been returned, these members of the profession who took part in a genuinely patriotic movement should be placed on the same basis and the disqualification against them should be removed. The Government have also taken advantage of the amendment of this Bill to bring into the Bill those practitioners who are Advocates of other High Courts and who are entitled to practice in the various District Courts, under the jurisdiction of the High Court, but as the law stands to-day, no disciplinary action can be taken against them, even though an advocate of the High Court, practising in a District Court, can be proceeded against under the Bar Councils Act, by the High Court. Therefore, the High Court themselves have asked that such people should be brought under their disciplinary jurisdiction. This also is being effected in this Bill. It is really a short Bill and does not require any consideration in the sense of going to a Select Committee. That is why I have suggested that it may be passed into law immediately after the motion for consideration is accepted."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, this Bill refers to the 1942 movement. In supporting or even opposing this Bill, we do not subscribe to the movement that took place in 1942. Its methods and also its objects are not supported by us. We consider that the implication of this movement is that it wanted to by-pass the Muslims and the Muslim League established by the country and the Muslim League which is the only representative organization of the Muslims. So, Sir, we do not have any serious objection to this Bill and we support it and I really support it, but I only want to make it clear that in supporting it, we do not support in any way the movement of 1942, its implications, its methods and its objects. With these words I support the Bill."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Sir, while speaking in support of the Bill, which is long overdue, I want to point out that there is nothing mentioned in it about the 1942 movement. It is a general question. Simply because some lawyers took part in political activities and simply because they were convicted of political offences which do not involve any violence, or they were taken by the Government as detenus, they should not be debarred, as it is a serious matter for the lawyers. The High Court has been acting in a most oppressive way in this matter. Many lawyers were debarred when they took part in the 1921 movement and some others for taking part in the 1930 movement and again in the 1942 movement, several have been debarred. There used to be also a provision in the old 1919 Government of India Act, that any person who is debarred cannot stand for election to the Legislative Council. So, it is a very serious matter and it is very good that the present Government has brought forward this

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Bill even at this stage. It was during the Chief Ministership of the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan that all disqualifications of political convicts were removed from the Local Boards and Municipalities Acts and also from the Andhra University Act. As a matter of fact, in every Act the bureaucracy passed, there was a provision to the effect that anybody who is convicted of any political offence would be disqualified from standing for election. It was when the Congress was in the Legislature and when the Nationalist Party under the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan was in power, we were able to remove those disqualifications and this is only a continuation of that. I am glad that the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has also supported it, but I want only to tell him that it does not specifically mention or apply to the 1942 movement, about which he may have his own views. With these words, I support the Bill before the House."

12 noon B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to say anything on this subject because my leader has already indicated what the attitude of our party is, but I just want to reply to what has been said by the hon. Member on the other side just now stating that the Bill does not say anything about the 1942 movement. In the very Objects and Reasons of the Bill, it has been specifically stated that it refers to the people who participated in the 1942 movement and it is by way of condoning their action in particular directions that this Bill has been brought and when we support a measure like this, certainly the implication will be that we support the 1942 movement also. We want to make our position very clear even though we support it on principle that the Legal Practitioners who honestly believe in certain things and who have been debarred on that account from earning their livelihood by practising their profession, should not be made to suffer. Though we support the Bill on that ground, we must emphatically say that we are really opposed to the 1942 movement and that our support of this Bill should not in any way be taken to be that we support that movement and it has already been indicated that this movement was not entirely against the British Government but it was mainly against the Muslims themselves. Therefore, Sir, it is for that purpose we wish to make that position clear. I reiterate what my leader has said."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I never expected hon. Gentlemen opposite to agree with the 1942 movement but the results that were wanted by the 1942 resolution has been accepted by the Government in England. They have even fixed a date for quitting India. If it was not for the fact that this resolution was passed and this movement was carried on, I doubt very much whether we would have come so near the achievement of the object of independence of this country. But I am not quarrelling with them over this question. As was pointed out by the hon. Member belonging to the Bezvada and Masulipatam constituency there is no question about the 1942 movement

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in this Bill at all. Those who have been disqualified or debarred because of actions taken in 1942 will be restored back to practice in the Court where they practised before. That is all what this Bill proposes to do. It is also necessary that the High Court should have disciplinary control over advocates ordinarily practising in Courts subject to its jurisdiction."

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I move—
'that the Bill be passed into law'."

* MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not want to say much on the subject as the Bill had already been supported by the Leader and the Deputy Leader of my party. I wish to bring one thing to the notice of the House. It was good of the Leader of the House, Dr. Subbarayan, to move that this Bill be passed into law, because we were told that he was opposed to the 1942 movement but somehow in 1947 he has been made the Leader of the House and this opportunity was given to him to remove the difficulties of certain lawyers who were connected with the 1942 movement. I, therefore, congratulate the Leader of the House for having piloted this Bill and got it passed in so short a time."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE CRIMINAL TRIBES (MADRAS REPEAL) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill to exclude the Province of Madras from the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"In the Statement of Objects and Reasons the reasons for the introduction of this Bill have been given. This has been a long-felt want and there has been agitation and requests made to the Government on the part of those classed as 'Criminal tribes' that they should be treated as civilized human beings and the Government agreeing with this opinion decided to get rid of this blot on the legislation of this Province."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I move—

'that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee.'

"The names of the members of the Committee will be announced later on.

"We are at one with the principles and objects of this Bill in view of the same being of a humanitarian nature. But since

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we have been handed this morning an amendment to be moved by the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan, namely, an amendment to clause 2, I move that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee so that it may be considered at that Committee whether it is desirable to accept this amendment or otherwise. With this end in view, I move that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த ஆக்ஷன் ஒரு amendment வருவதால் சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த amendment வேண்டுமா என்பதில் எனக்கு சந்தேகம் தோன்றி யிருக்கிறது."

MR. SPEAKER:—"நீங்கள் பிரேரேபணியின்பேரிலும் amendment பேரிலும் பின்னாடி பேசலாம்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a short Bill and the amendment is only a consequential one because of the existence of the Habitual Offenders' Act which works under this Act. Therefore, it is only a consequential amendment. I cannot therefore agree to refer this to a Select Committee as it is a short Bill and can be easily dealt with by the House and if hon. Members have any objections to my clause let them state what objections they have to it."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, இந்த Select Committee விஷயமாக leader பேசப்போவதாலும் பேச ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருப்பதாலும் நான் பேசவேண்டியதில்லை. இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டு கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் பில்லில் கண்டுள்ள objects and reasons-ல், இந்த Criminal Tribes Act இல்லாமலேயே Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, (1898) இந்த இரண்டு சட்டங்களாலும் குற்றங்கள் ஏற்படுவதை சமாளிக்க முடியும் என்றும் இந்த ஆக்ட் அவசியம் இல்லை என்று சொல்லி யிருக்கிறது. இவ்விதம் objects and reasons-ல் குறிப்பிட்டுருக்கிறார்கள். அவ்விதமிருக்கும்போது இந்த amendment-ல் கோரும் அதிகாரத்தை இந்த இரண்டு ஆக்ட்களினாலும் சமாளிக்கக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன். Amendment-ஐ ஏன் press பண்ணவேண்டும். Amendment வேண்டுமென்று கவர்ன்மெண்டு இன்னும் கருதுமானால் இதை ஒரு Select Committee-க்கு விட்டு பரிசீலனை செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியம்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"தலைவர் அவர்கள் சொல்லுகிறது என்னவென்றால் amendment-ஐ ஒத்துக்கொள்ளப்போவது இல்லை என்று சொன்னார்கள்."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"அதனால்தான் இந்த amendment-ஐ அவர் move பண்ணக்கூடாது என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member has misunderstood the position of the Government. They are also considering the question of the Habitual Offenders' Act. That was an Act passed by the Governor acting under section 93. That will go out of action in April 1948 and the Government are considering the question of replacement of most of those Acts of the Governors. That has got to be done and a general Bill will be introduced to that effect but as long as this Act remains on the statute book it has to be safeguarded by the amendment I propose to make. So the hon. Member need not really be afraid that we are introducing some Draconian legislation."

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* SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, lest the members of this Assembly go away with the idea that this is a very small bill I may say that there are two or three very drastic provisions of this existing Act that will indicate that there is no absolute necessity for its being referred to a Select Committee. The provisions of this Act are very rigorous and thousands have been victims of this legislation. There is one section, section 23, of this Act which imposes a minimum sentence of transportation for life even for a trivial offence committed by any member of the criminal tribes if it is for the third time. Registering is purely an executive act of the District Magistrate and even for a minor offence the individual is liable for the sentence of transportation for life. There is no appeal allowed to these people. For stealing a pie from inside a house irrespective of the sum involved, he has to undergo transportation for life. Certainly this is very horrible and cannot be tolerated in any civilized country. For a second conviction the minimum sentence fixed under this Act is seven years. I am sure there is no other country in the world with an Act of such very drastic and monstrous provisions. No wonder that an ex-Chief Justice (acting) of this High Court Mr. Venkatasubba Rao has remarked that this is a slur on the statute book and the sooner it is removed, the better for us. 12-15 p.m."

"There is another section in the Act. I mean section 10 which tries to restrict the movements of millions of people that have been registered under the Act. If a man wants to cross the limits of his village of residence, he has to take out a pass either from the village munsif or a police official and he has to do it as many times as he crosses the limits of his village and the law imposes this restriction upon him. I know a village in Nellore district where a street intervenes and separates two villages and they are called by two different names and they are two different units of revenue administration. The ridiculousness of the position under the present Act will be quite plain when you see that a pass has to be taken as many times as the person crosses the particular street. It may be that he has to go there for very necessary purposes but under the Act he has to take out a pass. You are aware and most of the Members of the Assembly are aware that the borders of villages are only a few yards away from the main village, it may be a furlong or two. If a labourer who has been registered under this Act has to go and work in an adjacent village, he has to take out a pass from the village munsif. The Act was conceived in 1871, perhaps to suit the unsettled times when the British were feeling their way in this country. When many people have been trying to question their authority, they have thought it necessary and convenient for themselves to create this monstrous piece of legislation and to perpetuate it until the time came for them to quit this land. Now that that event also is coinciding with the repeal of this Act, all of us have to feel glad that our Government have at last come forward with this legislation. As one who has been working for the repeal of this Act for the last 20 years, though not with much success either in this or other provinces, I may tell you that the existence of such an Act as this is not known to many people. When the

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previous Congress Government was in power, I approached the Cabinet for the repeal of the Act. An honest attempt was made to understand it first and then a circular was issued to the District Magistrates to suggest amendments. Amendments were suggested by them but nothing came out of it and it went the way of many good ideas that were conceived by that glorious Government. It is a matter for joy that at last the legislation is before the House. The Criminal Tribes Act has been condemned by one and all, not only Judges, not only politicians but the great Indian National Congress condemned it in 1936 and every civilized man had nothing but contempt for this most horrible piece of legislation. How this has been allowed to remain on the statute book for so long is itself a wonder. It is horrible that a country like ours which has been fighting for the freedom of the people all these years, should have allowed millions of people to be reporting to the Police for no fault of theirs, the simple reason being that the individual had been suspected by the head constable or the village munsif, to whom probably he has declined to render forced labour. On account of their disadvantageous position, thousands of people have been compelled to go to the Police station and wait on to report to them between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. I wonder whether the illiterate man will have any knowledge of time and he misses it by a few minutes, if he goes at 12 or leave the place at 2 a.m. the man has to go to prison for two months, for the second similar offence he has to go to prison for six months and thereafter for two years. If a man fails to go and report to the village munsif who may not have noted it, being in slumber, and if he fails to report at the Police station which does not mind his presence except to harass him, he is sent to jail; then where is the safety for the ordinary man? Granting that he has gone to the Police station or to the village munsif at dead of night to report himself, suppose the police official or the village munsif has got a grudge against him because he has not rendered some free service to him and they say he did not report to them, how is he to prove that he had in fact reported to them? He has to walk to the station or the village munsif two or three miles from his lonely home and where is he to get evidence to prove his case? Many people have gone to prison because they have not proved their presence in the police station and that position obtains even to-day. After the present Congress Government came to power, I know several attempts were made to check the vagaries of the police officials and pending this legislation, several orders were passed asking the subordinate officialdom not to enforce the provisions of this Act and every effort was made not to give effect to it. At last a month back orders were issued that no section of this Act should be put into operation whether in respect of new persons or persons already registered. I urge upon the members of the Opposition that there is absolutely no necessity for sending it up to the Select Committee to consider the amendment. As the Hon. the Leader of the House has said it is only a consequential amendment. There is another Act on the statute book which says that a person who is declared to

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be a habitual offender by a District Magistrate is liable to be restricted in regard to his movements by any or all the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act. This refers to people who have committed certain offences and have been declared as habitual offenders. As the Leader of the House has rightly put it, even that is bad and even that restriction in respect of habitual offenders has to be removed. There are three to four thousand people at present confined in the settlements in the various parts of the Province. They are there not because they have got any crime to account for, not because they have committed any crimes but because they have been simply suspected. Having served their sentences long ago, they are still confined in most of our settlements. Government pays each individual a rupee or twelve annas and prevents him from leaving the settlement by barbed wire enclosures and there are restrictions on their movements. Then not only is the actual person who committed an offence is confined there but I know some families who have been confined for generations, father, son and grandchildren are confined in the settlements. They may not have committed any offence at all and there might not have been any conviction in a Court of law. The policeman takes it into his head, may be, because he has not received a fowl, may be he felt he has been insulted, may be he resisted forced labour that he wished to levy upon him, the policeman takes it into his head that he must be punished and we see him confined in the six or seven settlements in this Province. With tears in their eyes they have appealed to us and they have asked us whether this is the way you treat members of this hapless community? This Bill aims at the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act which is an All-India Act, the repeal of which is permitted by the India Government. The repeal of the Act will leave the Habitual Offenders' Act intact and that is the result of this amendment. That Act also deserves to be repealed and the Government may perhaps take a little more time and may take it up a little later. The amendment need not in any way force us to postpone consideration of this Bill. It is an urgent measure and it is a measure which is long overdue and it is very necessary. I, therefore, request that this Bill may be taken into consideration at once."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to take up much time with regard to the amendment which has been referred to. The Governor's Act was passed in 1943 more to restrict the movements of politicals and most of us here come under that Act and we are all habitual offenders. I am proud to be one of them which includes among them the Hon. the Premier. Seeing the strength of the movement, the Governor wanted that"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I might perhaps make it easier for the hon. Member to continue his speech by saying that this Bill was not intended against political offenders; it was really directed at habitual criminal offenders as my hon. Friend Mr. Raghaviah has understood it. I might stop his going into panegyric over this; it does not refer to political offenders at all."

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* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I am only saying that it was the Governor's intention when he passed the Act of 1943. I support the Leader of the House in asking this House to pass this Bill into law immediately. I also want to urge upon him to repeal the Habitual Offenders' Act of 1943 at as early a date as possible."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த பில் சட்ட மாவதை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இந்த பில் இந்த சட்ட சபையில் பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்னதாகவே கொண்டுவந்திருக்கவேண்டும். இருபது வருஷமாக இந்த சட்ட சபையிலும் வெளியிலும் நாங்கள் நிளர்ச்சி செய்து வந்தோம் இந்த சட்டம் வரவேண்டுமென்று. ஆனால் துர் அதிர்ஷ்டவசமாக இதுவரையில் வரர்மல் இப்பொழுதாவது வந்ததைப் பற்றி நாங்கள் சந்தோஷமடைகிறோம். ஏனென்று கேட்டால் இந்த சட்டத்தால் பாதிக்கப்பட்டுக் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்த சமூகங்களில் எனது சமூகமும் ஒன்று. ஆகையால்தான் இந்த பில்லை தயாரித்தவர்களையும் கொண்டுவந்தவர்களையும் பாராட்டவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. முக்யமாகவும் குறிப்பாகவும் ஒரு விஷயத்தைச் சொல்வதற்குத்தான் நான் பேசுகிறேன். இந்த சட்டத்தின் கீழ் வரக்கூடிய சில சமூகத்தினருக்கு reclamation work என்று ஏற்படுத்தி reclamation school மதுரை ஜில்லாவிலும் இன்னும் சில பாகங்களிலும் நடந்து வருகிறது. அங்கே கள்ளர் reclamation scheme இருக்கிறது. ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட சமூகத்தின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக அந்த reclamation work நடைபெற்றுவருகிறது. இந்த ஆக்ட் பாஸ் பண்ணுவதின் மூலம் அந்த reclamation வேலைகளை நிறுத்திவிடக் கூடாது என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இந்த பிரயோஜனகரமான வேலையை நிறுத்திவிட்டால் அங்குள்ள மக்களுக்கு ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டம் ஏற்படும். இந்த சட்டம் வந்தபிறகு ரெக்ளமேஷன் ஸ்கூல்கள் இருக்க வேண்டியது என்ன அவசியம் என்று கேட்கலாம். நல்ல ஜனங்களுக்கும் நல்ல பழக்க வழக்கமுள்ளவர்களுக்கும் இத்தகைய ஸ்கூல்கள் எதற்கு என்று கேட்கலாம். குற்ற பரம்பரைச் சட்டத்தின்கீழ் இச் சமூகத்தினர் பல வருஷங்களாக பாதிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதால் சமூகம் மிகவும் பிற்போக்கில் இன்னும் இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. இவ்விதம் பிற்போக்கில் இருப்பதற்கு இந்தக் கொடிய சட்டமும் அதை அமுல் நடத்துகிற போலீஸாரும் தான் ஜவாப்தாரி. எனவே, இந்த ஸ்கூல் இருப்பதால் அநேகம் ஜனங்கள் முன்னேற்றமடைகின்றார்கள். அந்த ஸ்கூலை எடுத்துவிடாமல் மக்கள் முன்னேற்றம் அடைவதற்கு வழி தேடவேண்டும். இப்பொழுது மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் அந்த ஸ்கூலை போலீஸ்காரர்களின் மேல் பார்வையில் நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். அதனால் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் அந்த ஜனங்களை தேவலமாகவும் மிருகத் தன்மையாகவும் நடத்திவருகின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு நல்ல பழக்க வழக்கம் இல்லாமலும் கல்வி இல்லாமலும் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்த குற்ற பரம்பரைச் சட்டத்தைப் பயன்படுத்திக் கொண்டு ஜனங்களை மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இந்த ஸ்கூல்களை அவர்களுடைய மேல்பார்வையிலிருந்து எடுத்துவிட்டு Education Department-ல் ஒப்புவிக்கவேண்டும். ஜனங்கள் முன்னேற்றம் அடைய இவ்வித ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இந்த ஸ்கூல்களை எடுத்துவிடாமல் இருப்பதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் உறுதி கொடுக்கவேண்டும்."

"அடுத்தபடியாக இன்னொரு விஷயம் reclamation work பெரும் பாலும் பள்ளிக்கூடம் மூலம் நடக்கிறது. பள்ளிக்கூடம் ஒன்று இருப்பது முக்கியம். ஆனால் இதை போலீஸ்காரர்கள் நடத்துகிறார்கள். போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களுக்கும் என்ன சம்பந்தம். ஒன்றுமில்லை. நன்கு படித்த போலீஸ்காரர்களும் தங்களுக்கு இருக்கும் படிப்பையும் மாற்றிவிட்டு கொடிய கல் மனதுடன் மாணவர்கள் அபிவிருத்தியடையாத வாறு இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களை நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். போலீஸ்காரர்களல்லாத சாதாரண ஜனங்களில் அ, ஆ, தெரிந்தவர்களாக உள்ளவர்கள் இந்த ஸ்கூல்களை நடத்தினால் மிகவும் நன்றாக நடைபெறும். போலீஸ்காரர்களில் வெறும் அ, ஆ படித்தவர்களுக்கும் அதிகம் படித்தவர்களுக்கும்

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[Sri R. V. Swaminathan]

கும் வித்யாசம் இல்லை. இந்த விதமாக தங்களுடைய படிப்பைக்கூட மாற்றது நடவடிக்கை செய்யக்கூடியவர்களின் கீழ் இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடம் நடப்பது சரியல்ல. இப்பள்ளிக்கூடங்களின் மூலம் மக்கள் கல்வி அபிவிருத்தி ஏற்படுவதற்கு வேண்டியன செய்யாமல் சமூகத்தினர்களை போலீஸார் இச் சட்டத்துடன் கீழ் கொண்டுவருவதற்கு உபயோகப்படுத்திக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் சமார் ஐந்து வருஷங்கள் இந்த reclamation work நடந்து வந்தால் ஜனங்கள் இன்னும் முன்னேற்றம் அடைய சனகர்யமாக இருக்கும். கல்வி வசதையும் அடையலாம். ஆதலால் இந்த ஸ்கூலை Education department டோடு சேர்த்து அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் ஒரு செக்ஷனாக கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். இதை போலீஸ்காரர்களிடமிருந்து எடுத்துவிடவேண்டும். இந்த இரண்டு விஷயங்களையும் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்த சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டு வந்ததற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களை நான் பாராட்டுகிறேன்."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. 12-30 p.m. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. It has been admitted even in the statement of objects and reasons that Government have examined these representations and find that the provisions of the Act are so rigorous that their application to members of tribes is more likely to make them 'hardened criminals than to reform them.' Where then is the necessity for even this Habitual Offenders' Act?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. I may point out to the hon. Member that it would be much better and in consonance with his position if he makes his speech when the amendment is moved."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not speaking on the amendment. He is speaking on the Bill."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I request the Hon. Minister to allow me to finish my sentence before a point of order is raised. Taking the Bill, as a whole, what I propose to say is that this Bill must be made applicable even to those habitual criminals. They should not be penalized. They should not be brought under the Act of 1924, and that Act should not be made applicable to habitual criminals. The way in which the criminals have been treated has been a big failure, and continuing the provisions of the Act has no meaning. Habitual criminals, according to the previous Advisers' regime, they are the politicals, and to-day under the Congress regime, they are the Communist party members. That is why I say and appeal to the Hon. Minister to include in this Bill habitual criminals also so that they may not be brought under the Criminal Tribes Act. Sir, with these words, I support the Bill."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I rise to support the Bill. In doing so, I welcome this Bill. Sir, many of the Adi-Dravida families in different circumstances have been classified as criminal tribes, and they have been put to a lot of inconvenience. It may be within your knowledge that in South Arcot district, in Azinagar, several Adi-Dravida families really intelligent people, for causes unknown, have been drafted to the criminal settlement. Some of the students, Sir, that have been drawn from the criminal tribes settlement have proved equal to other students of the Nandanar Higher Elementary School. But since they are coming from the settlement and are classified as

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criminal tribes, these people could not enjoy equal facilities with other members of other communities. So, I feel, Sir, that the repeal of this Act is most essential. I know, as a matter of fact, that many conferences held in South Arcot have been pressing for the repeal of this Act. I am glad it has been possible for this Ministry to make up its mind, and bring this Bill which will go a long way to improve the conditions of those unfortunate people from my community who have been classified as criminal tribes and have been put into these settlements.

"I welcome the suggestion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Swaminathan that these settlements should remain for some time so that the condition of the people there may be improved, and their children may be given education. I also welcome the suggestion made by my Hon. Friend that institutions like this should be manned by the Educational department and not by the Police department. The very management of these people by the Police shows that they are habitual offenders. Sir, this Bill will go a long way to improve the conditions of the different communities who have been declared criminal tribes though they are not actually so."

* MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is stated in the statement of objects and reasons that the present Bill is brought forward on the ground 'these special provisions were obviously made to suit unsettled times and their continuance can hardly be justified . . . ' in the existing circumstances. Sir, recently the Government brought forward a Bill, namely, the Public Safety Bill, and passed it into an Act, and the grounds which necessitated such an Act, the Government stated, were the abnormal conditions prevailing in several parts of the Province and the agitation throughout the Province in which violence also was resorted to. If the present situation is such as to necessitate the passing of the Public Safety Act, it is not necessary to consider how the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act will affect the public? In order to reconcile the circumstances which the Government mentioned when the Public Safety Bill was considered by this House, the Opposition wanted to refer this Bill to a select committee. I, therefore, support the amendment moved by the hon. Member Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin to refer this Bill to a select committee so that the select committee may consider the existing circumstances and the prevailing conditions in several parts of the Province, and see how far it will be useful and how far it will be necessary to abolish or repeal the whole Act or to make any necessary amendments in the Act. It is with that view the amendment was moved, and I appeal to Government to consider this amendment in its proper perspective. Sir, nothing will be lost if some time is spent in considering the necessity and utility of reconciling the present circumstances and also the total abolition or repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act. Sir, the whole country is interested in seeing that peace and tranquillity prevail throughout this land of ours. Therefore, Sir, when we try to do anything which may tend to disturb the peace and tranquillity, we must consider twice before

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we do anything. It is with that spirit and it is with that object the amendment was moved to refer this Bill to a select committee. I hope that Government will consider it sympathetically, and accept the amendment."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"அன்புமிக்க தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த மசோதா பல வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பாகவே சட்டமாக்கப்பட்டிருக்க வேண்டும். தமிழ்நாட்டு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி தலைவியாகவும் சமீபகாலம் வரையில் சுகாதார மந்திரியாகவும் இருந்து வந்த கனம் ருக்மணி லெட்சுமிபதி அம்மையார் அவர்கள் 1938-ம் வருஷத்தில் இந்த Criminal Tribes Act ஐ ரத்து செய்யவேண்டுமென்று ஒரு தீர்மானம் கொண்டுவந்திருந்தார்கள். என்ன காரணத்தினாலோ அது நிறைவேற்றப்படாமல் நின்றுபோய்விட்டது. அப்பொழுதிருந்து இந்த மந்திரி சபை காலம் வரை ஒன்றும் நடக்கவில்லை. இந்த சட்டம் வருவதில் காலதாமதமேற்படுவதைக்கண்டு மக்களிடையே ஒரு பெரிய ஏமாற்றம் உண்டாகி இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது கூட மூன்று மாதத்திற்கு முன்பு இந்த சட்ட சபை இந்த மசோதாவை சட்டமாக்கப்போகிறோம் என்று இதற்குமுன் இருந்த மந்திரி சபை பிரகடனப்படுத்தியது. ஆனால் காலதாமதமாவதைக்கண்டு மீண்டும் மக்கள் ஏமாற்றமடைந்தார்கள். சென்ற பத்து நாட்களாக நான் என்னுடைய தாலுகாவில் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்து வந்த காலத்தில் இந்தக் கேள்விகள் அங்கங்கே கேட்கப்பட்டு வந்தது. எதிர்க்கட்சி திருத்தத்தைக் கொண்டு வந்ததன்மூலம் இதை Select Committee க்கு அனுப்புவது அவசியமில்லை. அப்படி சொல்வதும் சரியில்லை. லட்சக் கணக்கான மக்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பல வருடங்களாகக் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். இதைச் சட்டமாக்குவதில் ஒரு நிமிஷம் கூட தாமதம் செய்வது தவறு. உடனே இதை சட்டமாக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மந்திரிசபை ஒப்புக்கொண்டுள்ள திருத்தத்துடன் அப்படியே சட்டமாக்கவேண்டுமென்று கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். ஆனால் எனது நண்பர் கனம் சுவாமிநாதன் அவர்கள் எனக்குமுன் கூறியபடி எனது தொகுதியான திருமங்கலம் தாலுகாவில் பெரும்பாலான மக்கள் சி. டி. ஆக்டினால் பாதிக்கப்படுபவர்கள். அங்கிருக்கும் மக்கள் reclamation department மூலமாக அனுபவித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கும் சலுகைகளை நிறுத்தி விடப்படக்கூடாது.

"ஆனால் இப்பொழுது reclamation department போலீஸ் மேற் பார்வையில் நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது. சென்ற ஜனவரி மாதம் 16-ம் தேதியன்று சென்னை மாகாண கவர்னர் அவர்கள் எனது தாலுகாவில் சுற்றுப்பிரயாணம் செய்ய வந்தார்கள். அவருடன் நானும் சில கிராமங்களுக்குச் சென்றிருந்தேன். கள்ளர் reclamation பாடசாலைகளுள் ஒன்றிற்கு விஜயம் செய்தார்கள். அதில் நுழைந்ததும் இதை யார் மேற் பார்வை பார்த்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்பார்கள். ஜில்லா போலீஸ் சூப்பரின்டெண்டெண்டு, போலீஸ் இலாக்காதான் மேற்பார்த்து வருகிறார்கள் என்று சொன்னார். அவருக்கு மிகவும் ஆச்சர்யம் ஏற்பட்டது. 'போலீஸ்காரர்கள் தங்கள் தடிகளை ஒங்கி பயமுறுத்தித்தான் இந்தப் பாடசாலைகளை நடத்தவேண்டுமோ' என்று கேட்டு ஆச்சர்யப்பட்டார். இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் அவர்கள் கையில் இருக்கக்கூடாது. ஆகையால் இந்த reclamation department ஐ போலீஸ் டிபார்ட்மென்டிலிருந்து பிரித்து Education Department உடன் சேர்த்து விடவேண்டும்.

"மேலும் அவர்களுடைய கோவாபரேடிவ் சொசைட்டியை போலீஸ்காரர்கள் மேற்பார்த்து வருகிறார்கள். இந்த கோவாபரேடிவ் சொசைட்டியை அவர்களிடம் இருந்து பிரித்து வேறு ஒரு நல்ல கோவாபரேடிவ் சொசைட்டியாகவோ, அல்லது மதுரை ஜில்லா சென்ட்ரல் கோவாபரேடிவ் பாங்குடன் இணைக்கவோ வேண்டும். வேறு கூட்டுறவு சங்கத்துடன் சேர்த்து விடவேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. இவ்விதம் reclamation வேலைகளை கல்வியிலாகாவின்மீடும் கூட்டுறவு இலாக்காவின்மீடும் பிரித்துக்கொடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென கனம் மந்திரி

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அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே பலலாண்டுகளாக கஷ்டப்பட்டுக் கொண்டிருக்கும் மக்களுக்கு இந்த மச்சாதா மூலம் பெரிய விடுமச்சனம் ஏற்படும் என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு அந்த மக்களின் சார்பாக மந்திரி சபையைப் பார்க்குகிறேன்.”

12-45 * DR. S. SUBRAEMANYA AYYAR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, p.m. my only excuse for participating in this debate is I represent a constituency which consists of a community in abundance, that comes under the denomination of ‘criminal tribes’. I have studied their life and I have moved with them and I know their difficulties, and I know the way in which police have been treating them. Ever since the time a child is born in that community the mother has to take that child, whether it be boy or girl, to the police station. This thing has to go on till death or till the name of the person is removed from the roll kept in the police station. The criminal tribes are asked to report themselves at police stations at odd hours, they are asked to take bed in the police station at night. I know of instances of persons affected by severe illness being asked to report themselves at police stations in spite of their illness. I know of one case of a man who was searched and searched for several days, and after long delay he was located in my own hospital. He was an in-patient there, having been operated for strangulated hernia. This one illustration gives you an idea of the difficulties of the criminal tribes. Sir, this reform is long overdue; and it is high time the Bill is passed into law as sponsored by the Hon. Minister.”

(Sri B. S. Murthi began his speech in Telugu.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member can speak in English; I want the hon. Member to address in English.”

* SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, in obeying your ruling to speak in English, to speak in a language which I detest as a self-respecting Indian, I have to say a few words about this Bill, which has been brought forward by the Leader of the House. Sir, in India, it is very unfortunate, we have a number of groupings of human communities. We are dubbed as Harijans, as untouchables, some as criminal tribes, some as backward communities, some as communities not eligible for military service, some as communities not eligible for hotel service, etc. Sir, this inequitable division of Indians should go forthwith. As regards the horrible lot of these criminal tribes, it is very indescribable. As a member of the Criminal Tribes Welfare Committee, I had an opportunity to tour in several settlements and come into closer contact with persons belonging to the so-called criminal tribes. Sir, some of the stories told us by the settlers are so horrible that we were forced to shed tears. So I support this Bill and request Government to bring it into force immediately and I also request Members of the Opposition not to press their amendment.”

“ As regards reclamation work, it should never be entrusted to the Police department. Sir, at the very sight, or, I should say, at the very mention of the word ‘Police’, members of the criminal tribes shudder, and they run away. Sir, it is something like

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the cat being given the authority or the right to protect the rights of the rats. So I request that Government should go into the matter and see that a suitable officer or a suitable department is established, so that reclamation work can be of some use to these criminal tribes. With these words I support the Bill.”

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I whole-heartedly support this Bill. In doing so, I wish to point out that in framing the statement of objects and reasons great care has been taken to justify the passing of the original Act and its provisions. This Act, I believe, was passed by the Imperialist Government to strengthen their own hands. It was used as a political weapon. When we began non-co-operation movement in those days, the police took advantage of this Act, and wherever possible they harassed the manly tribes by dubbing them as criminal tribes under this Act. This Act was used to break their manliness and to break their power and to introduce slavish mentality. As an illustration, I will say this: when the Simon Commission toured India, the police took care to bring a large number of these people and huddle them together in places visited by the Simon Commission, and thus the Simon Commission were made to believe that they welcomed them. I know till recently the police used to harass these people for their personal aggrandise. Whenever a man showed he was a little independent, he was immediately taken to task on some ground. Till last year the police prosecuted politically-minded people among the tribes.

“ As regards reclamation work, the name itself is very bad. It is not at all reclamation. The provisions of the Act are used by the police only to make these people criminals. In answer to a supplementary question the Education Minister said that he had no control over this work. In fact the Education Department has no control over this reclamation business. The Governor himself was surprised to see the police controlling these reclamation schools as was just pointed out.

“ I can give details of many instances of corruption, and many other things which are unspeakable in a House of this character. So I suggest these schools should be abolished and other schools started, and they should be run purely by the Education Department. For ameliorative work all funds should be set apart and given to the Education Department; the police should not have anything to do with that. I am not exaggerating things when I say, the police in the past had been making them commit crime. The Reclamation department should go lock, stock and barrel. With these words I support the Bill and oppose the amendment.”

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In doing so, I would like to bring to the notice of this House how the so-called criminal tribes have been suffering at the hands of the police. I had opportunities of visiting one of the Criminal Tribes Settlement at Siddhapuram. When I was there, I was told that it was managed by a Police Circle Inspector. We know whatever it may be the rank after all, police is a police; their mentality is such; they know how to harass the people; they know how to

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make use of the people placed at their disposal. If the police want to harm a respectable man, or a good man or a bad man, they know how to instigate one belonging to another party to bring him into trouble and then include him as a member of the criminal tribes. Now I want to request Government to overhaul the system by which they are now deciding whether a man is a criminal or not. Let a committee consisting of educational officers, non-official local men who know the mentality, character and conduct of the people of the locality be set up and let them decide whether so and so is fit to be classified as a criminal. I need not say how at present the Act is being worked; how people are harassed by the police under this Act; how several so-called criminals are being asked to sleep in the police station itself at night. If a police officer wants anything to be done, he simply sends for these people and asks them to do it, all for nothing, for no wages; he uses them as though they are his slaves. Again, in working the Act, power should be given to the people of the village. Suppose in a village there are ten per cent criminals. You organize the people of the village into an organization or society, and tell them that you would hold them responsible for the acts of the ten per cent criminals. That would be a better thing to wean them from their nefarious practice.

"As regards reclamation work, the police officers are not well-versed in it. Sometimes they themselves help them to commit crimes in order to have a share in the stolen property. I would request Government to come forward and see that these people are entrusted to the Education Department and Rural Development department and not to place them under the police who have been harassing and harassing these poor criminals.

p.m. "Moreover, Sir, in these criminal tribes settlements they have been wasting a lot of funds. Who is the man who actually spends the fund? In the name of the criminals a police officer does it. I studied the question at first-hand when I had been to a settlement. He has been misusing the fund, because most of the people cannot question him. If those people question them, immediately the officials will combine and harass them. Thus they have been doing a lot of injustice to the people. Therefore, my humble request to the Government is to see that these settlements are taken away from the management of the police officers, and entrusted to the Rural Development department, or the Medical department or the Education department. Or a committee may be formed consisting of these departments with non-official members also so that the criminals also may be taken into confidence by educating them and making them responsible for the maintenance of law. That would go a long way to reclaim these people. With these words, Sir, I once again support the Bill and oppose the amendment moved by the other side."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri D. V. Ramaswamy, should speak in English because he knows English."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Sir, in the list sent originally we had two columns . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member cannot speak one day in English and another day in Telugu. If he wants to speak let him speak in English because he knows English. He cannot speak in English as well as in Telugu."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"According to the rules, I am entitled to speak in Telugu. If the Hon. Speaker permits I shall speak in Telugu."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then the hon. Member should speak always in Telugu."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Thank you, Sir, I shall do so."

"అధ్యక్ష మహాశయా, తెనుగులో మాట్లాడుటకు నాకు శలవు ఇచ్చినందుకు మీకు నా కృతజ్ఞతను తెలియజేయుచున్నాను.

"ఈ బిల్లు (Bill) తెచ్చి విషయంలో ఇదివరకే చాలా అలస్యము అయినదని, ఇటువంటి అలస్యమువల్ల ఈ పేద Criminal Tribes వారికి చాలా అన్యాయము జరుగుచున్నదని చెప్పటకు సందేహములేదని మనవి చేయచున్నాను.

"ప్రస్తుతం ఈ Criminal Tribes వారు ఎటువంటి పరిస్థితులలో వాదపడుచున్నారో, వారి నేరములేమిటో, వారిని Police officer లు ఏ విధంగా చూచుచున్నారో చెప్పడానికి ముఖ్యంగా ఒక విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను.

"ఇదివరకు నేను ఒకసారి జైలులో ఉన్నప్పుడు సాధారణంగా పాకీ షని చేయుటకు ఈ Criminal Tribes వారిని ఉపయోగించుచుండే వారు. ఒకసారి ఆ జైలులో ఉన్న ఈ Criminal Tribes వారినందరిని వారి శిక్ష కాలము అయినదనో లేక మరే కారణంచేతనో పంపించివేసినారు. పాకీ షని చేయుటకు ఎవ్వరూ లేకపోయినారు. అప్పుడు సేమందరము ఆక్కడి Jail Superintendent ను, Jailer ను ఈ విషయం మీరు విమి చేయదలచినారని అడిగినాము. వారు మాకు ఈ విషయంలో యదార్థం ఈ విధంగా చెప్పినారు: 'ఇక్కడకు ఈ రోజుననే కొందరు Criminal Tribes నేరస్తులను తెప్పించెదము.' అప్పుడు 'మేము వారిని మీకు అడిగినప్పుడెల్లా మీరు ఎట్లు దొరికెదరని అడుగగా వారు 'మాకు అవసరమైనప్పుడుడెల్లా ఈ Criminal Tribes నేరస్తులు సిద్ధంగా దొరికెదరని చెప్పినారు.'

"అనగా వారికి ఎప్పుడు ఇటువంటి సీవమగు వనులు చేయుటకు మనుష్యులు అవసరమైన యెడల వారు వెంటనే ఏ Police Station కీ తెలియపరచెదరు. ఆ Police Station-house Officer వెంటనే కావలసినవారిని arrest చేసి ఆ జైలుకు పంపెదరటం! ఈ విధంగా వారు ఈ Criminal Tribes వారిని సీవమైయుంటే Menial services కు ఉపయోగించుకొనుచున్నారే గాని, వారికి తగిన విద్యనిచ్చి, చేరి వనులు నేర్పి, వారి జీవిత భృతిని వారు అర్జించుకొనునట్లు చేయుటలేదు. దీనివల్ల ఈ Criminal Tribes వారి దురుబ్ధులు పెచ్చు పెరిగిపోవునేగాని వారికి మంచి నడవడి ఆలకుట లేదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. Police వారు ఈ Criminal Tribes నేరస్తులను అనేక కారాగృహములలో సీవమగు వనులు చేయుటకు కావలసిన మనుష్యుల (reserve) నిధిగా చూచుచున్నారేగాని, వారు కూడా మనుష్యులేననిస్తే ఈ పరిత మానవులకు విద్యనిచ్చి, వారిని బాగుచేయుట వారి విధియని గమనించినట్లు కనబడదు.

[Sri D. V. Ramaswami]

[17th April 1947]

“అందుచేత మామూలుగా ఇట్టి చట్టములను చేయుటతోనే మన కర్తవ్యము పూర్తి కాలేదని గ్రహించవలెను. పతితులైనటువంటి, నిరక్షరకులైనటువంటి, ఇట్టి నేరస్థులను సరి అయిన మార్గములలో పెట్టుటకు వారికి తగిన విద్యనిచ్చుటకు స్కూళ్లను ఏర్పాటు చేయవలయును. వారికి చేతి పనులు నేర్పి ఇతర కర్మాగారము లలో పని చేయుటకు వారిని తగిన వారినిగా చేయవలయును. అప్పుడే వారు బాగు పడెదరని, వారికి అప్పుడే నిజముగా స్వాతంత్ర్యము కలుగునని అప్పుడే బిల్లియొక్క ఉద్దేశములు Implement చేయటంలో సాధికమగునని మన కాంగ్రెస్ గవర్న మెంటువారికి మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. సాంఘికంగాను, ఆర్థికంగాను అడుగున పడి పోయి ఉన్నటువంటి వారిని అభివృద్ధికి తీసుకొనివచ్చుట వి ప్రభుత్వమువారియొక్క ముఖ్యంగా మన కాంగ్రెస్ ప్రభుత్వంవారియొక్క విధి అని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను.

“ఈ బిల్లును Select Committee కి refer చెయ్యవలసినదిగా నా ముస్లిం సోదర సభ్యులు అంటున్నారు. ఇదివరకే, అనగా, 20 సంవత్సరముల క్రితమే ఈ అమానుషమైన Criminal Tribes Act ను రద్దు చేయవలసిన సంగతి అని ఆందరికీ తెలిసిన విషయమే. అట్టి పరిస్థితులలో ఈ బిల్లును ప్రవేశపెట్టుట వి మాత్రము ఆలస్యము కాకూడదని, ఎంత త్వరలో ఈ Criminal Tribes Act ను రద్దుచేసిన అంత మంచిదని, వారికి మనవి చేస్తూ ఈ బిల్లును Select Committee కి refer చేయుటను press చెయ్యవద్దని కోరుతూ, ఈ బిల్లును బలపరచుచున్నాను.”

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I speak on this Bill I should like to know this. There are certain subjects which could be properly expressed by me in Urdu and there are others which could be done so only in English. Whether my views could be properly explained in English or in Urdu depends upon the subject. So I would like to know what would be my position regarding this.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may please resume his seat. In the Speakers' Conference we came to the conclusion that if a Member wanted to speak in any language he should always follow that. It is not possible for us to hear a Member speaking one day in one language and another day in another language. It is, therefore, we have to follow this procedure.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what happens to a Member who puts his questions in English and wants to make his speeches in other languages?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It may be possible for Members to put questions in English because that does not require much knowledge of the English language. He can . . .”

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Hereafter shall I speak in Urdu?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If the hon. Member wants to speak in Urdu he should speak in Urdu alone always.”

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Even to-day?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Yes, from to-day. But he cannot speak in English at other times.”

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* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Oh! Then it will be a handicap. Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a few words on this subject, of course supporting the Bill, although I am in favour of referring the Bill to a select committee so that the matter may be gone through deeply and properly discussed. Sir, this happens to be a subject in which I am also interested as in the Madura district we have got a number of these criminal tribes. It is a pity that these people are said to belong to a tribe and they are called men of criminal tribe because they happen to be poor. Had they been rich, they would not have got this name. Again, to continue this Criminal Tribes Act will be a criminal offence, especially in these days. I should thank the Hon. Minister for bringing this Bill and thus abolishing this barbarous system of punishing a section of the people in our Province. Further, I should like to say, Sir, that from my point of view the so-called criminal tribes people are not really the people belonging to these tribes because, as I have already told you, we have got ever so many others also, but not as ‘Criminal tribes’ as they are rich. Do we not have worst criminals than these people? Every day we know,—but it cannot be proved,—there are people who are doing business in the blackmarket, there are corrupt officials who are taking bribes. Still they escape, because they are rich. After all these people commit thefts or do such things for their livelihood. Likewise so many merchants also do but their position in life is favourable. The poor people alone are called the criminal tribes and these black-marketers and corrupt officials are not, though they are doing so every day. For the same offence the poor are caught and the rich escape. Sir, it was said by a journalist: ‘When a revolution fails it is said to be a mutiny; when a mutiny succeeds it is said to be a revolution’. Whatever it may be, it is a good thing that we are going to abolish this Act; though it is very late, it is not too late.”

“Sir, I should like to say a word or two with regard to reclamation. It is very essential to continue this work, as it was pointed out, at least for five years. The educational institutions being managed by police officials is something like asking a vegetarian to sell mutton. That is how I take it, Sir. It is rather preposterous that the police people should run these institutions. All these institutions, the reclamation, educational and industrial institutions must be placed under the Education Department so that they may be properly managed. With these few words, Sir, I support the Bill.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact our idea was to support the Bill and we do really support the Bill. But when we came to the House we saw a notice of a motion given by the Hon. Leader of the House, proposing certain amendments. We did not know the implication of that amendment. Therefore, we thought that we should have an opportunity in the Select Committee to know the implications and the meaning of the amendment. Any way, with the amendment or without the amendment, we heartily give our support to this measure, which we have been thinking all along to be a welcome

[M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur] [17th April 1947]

one. We do not endorse or tolerate the members of a whole community, including the women and children, being dubbed as criminal. Therefore it is that we have been entertaining the thought and we have been expecting, that this Act will one of these days find an exit from the statute book. When we found the Bill was published we were supporting it wholeheartedly and we do still support it. The ground for the motion by one of the Members of our Party for referring the Bill to a Select Committee, I have already given you, that is, our fear that the amendment that is to be moved by the Hon. Leader of the House may detract from the benefits that are intended to be bestowed upon the tribes concerned. But since we are assured that it is merely a consequential amendment and that it is innocuous we propose to advise the hon. Member from our Party to withdraw the amendment. With these words, Sir, I give my heartiest support to the Bill."

1-15
p.m. * BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Mr. Speaker, it is a matter of regret to me to find that even a suggestion actuated by the best of motives, has been taken in a wrong light by the other side of the House simply because we happen to be in the Opposition. The reason why I moved the motion was not to defer, protract or shelve the matter, but to help the poor victims of oppression still further. As a matter of fact it was decided at our party meeting that this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee. But I pointed out that there was no necessity to do so in respect of a Bill of this nature. On my suggestion the decision in regard to the Bill was reversed and it was finally decided that we need not move to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. But when I came to the House this morning and I looked into the papers on the Table I found an amendment to be moved by the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan. I apprehended that this amendment would whittle down the effect of the original Bill and as I did not have the time to go into the implications of the amendment, I suggested that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. My idea in doing so, Mr. Speaker, was to help the criminal tribes and not in any way to delay the matter or obstruct it. I feel that though the criminal tribes may be free from the implications of the original Act, the Criminal Tribes Act, many members of this tribe will be brought to book hereafter under the Habitual Offenders Act. It is with a view to help these people still further that I moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. I am sorry to find that hon. Members on the opposite side have taken this in a wrong light simply because I happen to be in the Opposition. We, the members of the Muslim League, let me tell you, are actuated by absolutely humanitarian motives and the members on the opposite side may rest assured that as a woman I am bound to be actuated by humanitarian considerations. The Bill as such has our utmost support, because the Criminal Tribes Act which it seeks to repeal has been a stigma and blot on the statute book of a civilized nation. I myself have known, having been in the districts, how members of the criminal tribes have suffered in the past by reason of this Act. Their life is rendered intolerable in many places by the hardships imposed upon them by the Police and it is high time that the Act is repealed.

17th April 1947] [Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin]

Hence I congratulate the Government on the step they have taken. It is with the object of helping the criminal tribes still further that I brought forward my amendment. But in view of the explanation given by the Hon. Minister I wish to withdraw the same. Mr. Speaker, can I now speak further on the Bill?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member may speak in the third reading stage."

The amendment of Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin was by leave withdrawn.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, I have not got very much to say. As I said at the beginning, we have got so accustomed to criticising the police on all occasions that I should rather deprecate this. As the Minister in-charge of Police, if I am to get their loyalty as I would need it in difficult circumstances, it is my duty to see that they are not criticised unjustifiably. And whatever criticisms have to be made have to be laid on my head, because if the police go wrong, I go wrong. That is where, I take it, is the position of a public servant. Hon. Members must not forget that in a parliamentary system of Government, a member of the forces or any official who happens to be criticised is not here on the floor of the House to answer the criticism made against him. The only person who could defend him is the Minister in-charge of the Department. That is a well-understood parliamentary practice. I would therefore request hon. Members to desist from this kind of . . . "

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. We have not criticised any particular officer, we have only criticised the police. So it is parliamentary. We can criticise the police."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I was not referring to the hon. Member alone. There have been criticisms of particular officials which I would deprecate, because, as I said, I am prepared to take the burden on myself and see that any wrong done by any officer concerned is corrected in due course if it is brought to the notice of the authorities. General criticism of the police administration, the Members of the House are entitled to make and it is in their province to do so.

" There is one point which the hon. Member made to which I wish to give a reply. He wanted that the Kallar reclamation work should continue. I may assure him that it is not the intention of Government to give up reclamation work at present in spite of the repeal of the Act. This service which is being done to the community will be continued. I am also taking into consideration the suggestion of the hon. Member that this work should be handed over to the Education Department, which I think, would be the right department to manage this, because as a matter of fact, the teachers we have in these schools are obtained from the Education Department. They are lent to us and in the natural course of events, it will be better for the Education Department

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [17th April 1947]

themselves to manage these institutions which are for the uplift of the community. This suggestion will be considered by the Government.

"The hon. Member for Bezwada and Masulipatam has raised the point that the Habitual Offenders Act might be applied against political offenders. This Act will expire in 1948 when all Governor's Acts expire. So there need be no fear on this account. I have looked into the matter and found that the Habitual Offenders Act has not been applied in any political case all these days in spite of its having been on the Statute Book as a Governor's Act.

"Sir, I am glad that the hon. the Lady Member representing Madras Muslims has said that she herself did not at first want the Bill to go before a Select Committee, but as she thought the amendment would have the effect of whittling down the measure, she wanted the Bill to go before a Select Committee. I quite agree that it is the business of the Opposition to see that if any Bill could be improved it is so improved. I quite appreciate the motive with which the hon. Lady Member moved her amendment and I have no objection to such motions being moved and it is a right of the Opposition which cannot be restricted. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, the amendment that I am going to propose is a very minor one and that is the reason why a Select Committee has not been provided for. I hope hon. Members will accept this Bill being passed into law when the motion before the House has been approved."

The motion that the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947, be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clause 2.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I move, Sir—
"that in clause 2, before the words "cease to be in force",
the following shall be inserted:—

"except for the purposes of section 3 of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943""

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, I am afraid that the police will take advantage of the powers given under this amendment and create difficulties for the people who have suffered all these years. Again, Sir, with regard to 'habitual offenders', there are people who have been convicted three or four times not for any serious crimes of theft or such things but for simply not attending the police stations, and for being absent. The police may try and bring these people under the category of habitual offenders. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether these people who have not committed any serious crime but who have been convicted more than once merely for not attending the police stations or for being absent, will be brought in the category of habitual offenders. This trouble is there. Once again, I would request the Hon. Minister to reconsider his view and not press his amendment. If he insists on his amendment, may I request

[17th April 1947] [Sri R. V. Swaminathan]

him to make some provision exempting these people who have not committed any crime but who have been convicted many a time for such minor offences as I have mentioned."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, as a matter of fact, I can assure the hon. Member that the term 'habitual offender' as defined in the Act refers only to those who have committed grave crimes and not people who have been convicted for such minor offences as those mentioned by the hon. Member. Mr. Raghaviah who has worked for the criminal tribes assures me also that what I say is correct."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, I oppose the amendment. I am in full agreement with the view that this amendment will take away the effect of the Bill. It is accepted in the statement of objects and reasons of this Bill that the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act have not helped to reform the criminals. Under the circumstances, the Hon. Minister has not explained how by keeping the habitual offenders under this Act he is going to reform them. These habitual offenders are not going to be helped by this Act. I do not therefore see any reason why an exception should be made in the case of habitual offenders. Moreover, Sir, the Hon. Minister was telling us that this Act would not be in force after June 1948 (The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan: April 1948). I do not know why even for one year, these so-called habitual offenders who are made habitual offenders by the society itself and more so by the police officials, why they should be punished under this Act. That is why I oppose this amendment, because it will take away the benefits which the Bill will confer on habitual offenders. With these words, I oppose the amendment."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to heartily support this Bill."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are now on the amendment. If the hon. Member is not opposing the amendment, she may speak on the third reading stage."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already explained the point raised by the hon. Member. The Habitual Offenders Act does not really refer to criminal tribes. For all habitual offenders, this provision is necessary for the present till the Government have made up their minds what to do with the question of habitual offenders and find out other measures to tackle the problem. This amendment is therefore absolutely necessary."

The amendment was put and carried. Clause 2 as amended was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member Mr. Bhashyam has given notice of an amendment, but he is not in his place."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to move the amendment."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should have risen early in his place."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I did so, Sir, but I was not noticed by you."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"All that the amendment says is that the Act shall come into force on the day to be notified by the Provincial Government in the *Fort St. George Gazette*."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir I beg to move—

'that after clause 2, the following new clause be inserted:—

"3. The Act shall come into force on the day to be notified by the Provincial Government in the Fort St. George Gazette."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"I second the amendment."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the Government accept the amendment?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"We have come to lunch time. Before I accept the amendment, I should like to satisfy myself that it will go properly into the Bill. I should like to consult the Legal Secretary with regard to the language of the clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We cannot wait till the Hon. Minister consults the Legal Secretary. Shall we take up the clause after lunch?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir."

The House adjourned for lunch.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"With regard to the amendment moved by Mr. R. V. Swaminathan, I have no objection to accept it in the following form. His amendment proposes a separate clause. It is not necessary. Instead of it, it will be a sub-clause and may be in the following form:—

'It shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, appoint.'

This carries out the object of the amendment proposed by the hon. Member, but only it is put in the proper form."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Am I to understand that, instead of being a separate clause, the amendment will form a sub-clause?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In the place of the new clause proposed in the amendment of Mr. Swaminathan, the Hon. Leader of the House proposes, with only a change in wording, that it will form a sub-clause of clause 1.

"I suggest to Mr. Swaminathan that he withdraws his amendment. Then this will be a Government amendment. If this is done, the procedure will become simple."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I move that—

'Clause 1 be renumbered as clause 1 (1) and the following be added as clause 1 (2):—

"It shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, appoint."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 1 as amended was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I now move that the Bill be passed into law."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to congratulate the Government on the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, which has been long overdue. As a Muslim and as a woman, I was bound to support the Bill before the House. The Criminal Tribes Act is a blot on the Statute Book of a civilized nation, and I am glad that at long last this blot has been removed. The effect of the Act all these years has been not to reform the criminals as it was supposed to do, but on the other hand to render them still into hardened criminals. I am therefore glad that the Government have considered it proper to repeal this measure. But I am sorry that the effect of this repeal has to a certain extent been whittled down by the amendment that has been moved by the Hon. Minister. As I have already pointed out, it is my belief that many members of the Criminal Tribes will be subjected to great hardships under the provisions of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act. It is with the object of examining this matter that I moved an amendment that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The Habitual Offenders Act is in need of radical amendments and alterations and I hope the Government will not wait until 1948 when this Act will cease to be in operation, but will come forward long before that with the necessary amendments to it.

"I am glad to learn from the Hon. Minister that hereafter the Education Department will be entrusted with the work of reclamation of the Criminal Tribes and that the Police Department will be divested of their duties in this regard. I should like the Government to do more in the direction of the reform and education of these people than they have undertaken hitherto, particularly with regard to their economic uplift. It is ignorance, illiteracy and, above all, the abject poverty in which these unfortunate people are immersed, that generally leads them into crime and not so much their evil propensities. I hope the Government will give due thought to this question and do much more for the economic and educational uplift of the criminal Tribes than

[Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin]

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they are doing at present. I wish to point out that the efforts of the Government in this direction will not go in vain, because it is a mistaken notion to believe that it is not possible to wean away the Criminal Tribes from their evil propensities. It is a mistake to imagine that as we say in legal parlance that 'once a mortgage, always a mortgage,' the rule is that once a Criminal Tribe, always a Criminal Tribe. I knew a European missionary who devoted his lifetime to the cause of the Criminal Tribes and also wrote a book about them. This missionary told me that he had managed to turn out a number of young men belonging to these tribes into law-abiding and respectable citizens some of whom were holding responsible offices under the Government. Therefore it is possible to wean away these people from their evil habits. There may be cases where heredity may prevail, and it may not be possible to eradicate evil propensities, but such instances will be but few. In the generality of cases, it is possible to reclaim these people and render them into good law-abiding and respectable citizens. In this connection, I should like to urge upon the Government to remove the stigma of branding these people as criminal tribes and to give them some other name.

"Another suggestion that I should like to put before the Government is that they should constitute a committee to examine the entire question of crime and punishment as is prevalent in this Province and to suggest necessary reforms in the penal system in the light of modern, progressive penology. I hope the Government will direct their attention to this question also.

"With these words, I welcome the passing of this measure."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Government on behalf of my community which has suffered terribly for several years under this inhuman Criminal Tribes Act. I thank the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan for giving the assurance on the floor of this House that he will retain the reclamation work which is now going on in many districts of our Province. My thanks are also due to the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan for giving the assurance that he will consider the transfer of the reclamation work from the Police department to the Education Department. I cannot understand why the British Government or even the other Governments in the past wanted this Act for checking crime among Criminal Tribes. Criminals are there in all communities. Expert thieves are there even among Brahmans. Why should there be an Act to govern certain communities, especially martial communities which ruled this country long long ago? I can say that my community people are ruling even now. The Maharaja of Pudukottah belongs to my community, the Kallar community. Why should his community be brought under this Act, I cannot understand. The previous Governments might have used this Act to control some ferocious people who would overthrow them. Now the Congress is ruling many Provinces in this country and the British Government is going to quit in June 1948. Hence there is no fear of such things as we are going to rule this country. No community should be subject

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to such an inhuman Act. I congratulate the Congress Government on bringing forward this Bill. With these words, I support the Bill."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am much obliged to the hon. Lady Member representing the Muslims of the City of Madras for what she said about the Habitual Offenders Act. It is an Act now on the Statute Book and in due course it has to be supplanted. The Act will not be applied in the case of political offenders; that seems to be the fear of some hon. Members in the House. I hope the House will take my word. Even the Advisers' Government, when they were in power, never applied this Act* to any single case of political offenders. It was really used for reforming habitual offenders and it is for that use, I am sure, it will be put to by any Government that may be in power.

"As I said, the question of handing over the Kallar Reclamation work to the Education Department will be actively considered. I hope it will be possible for that department to do this work. I know that, even now, the officers who serve in the schools are borrowed from the Education Department. It may be easy for the District Educational Officer to manage the schools rather than the Superintendent of Police who is the Kallar Reclamation Officer at the present time. I am glad that the reform will be extended to the members of the community who are really and chiefly concerned in this matter. I am also glad that it has been possible now to get rid of the Act; as the hon. the Lady Member pointed out, it is an inhuman Act by which a whole community can be put down as following criminal professions. I hope this Bill will be accepted and passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

VI.—POINTS OF INFORMATION *RE* LANGUAGES IN WHICH MEMBERS CAN SPEAK IN THE HOUSE.

* SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Sir, in the morning when I was trying to speak in my mother tongue, the Chair took objection and commanded me to speak in English. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I advised the hon. Member not to speak in Telugu but in English; I did not command him."

* SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"I thank you for your advice; it was a command to me. I took it as a command as I was not allowed to speak in Telugu. Am I to understand, Sir, that simply because I happen to know another language in which I might well or ill-express my ideas, I am to be prohibited from speaking in my mother tongue?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already made my position very clear in this House several times. I do not want to repeat it again and again. Once again I repeat what I have urged and I will not repeat it again. In the Speakers' Conference at Delhi

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we came to the conclusion that 'any Member is at liberty to speak in any Provincial language he wants to; when he once speaks in one language, he should not change to another language when he speaks another time. If he once speaks in English, he should always speak in English.' "

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"I am bringing this fact to your notice; when you were elected the hon. Speaker of this august Assembly, you allowed me to speak in Telugu. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not remember it now."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"I have spoken both in Telugu as well as in English. I request that you may be pleased to give us the option of choosing the language in which we feel competent to express our ideas. After all, we are here to express our ideas, to express the ideas of our constituency. Therefore, the medium of speech—the language—is not the criterion. The expression of our ideas is the criterion. Therefore I once again solicit the advice as well as the guidance of the Chair that hon. Members of the House may be permitted to speak in their own mother tongue or in any other language."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member wants to speak in Telugu, let him always continue to speak in that language. Let him not change to another language now and then. He once asked me to permit him to speak in Telugu and I allowed him. Let him not take this as a precedent."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"An hon. Member may express his ideas better in his own language. In certain cases when I am not able to express my ideas in Telugu, I may be permitted to speak in English."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Chair stands, the hon. Member should resume his seat. I do not object to any hon. Member speaking in any language he likes. But, let not hon. Members change the language in which they wish to speak, again and again. I hope I have made my position clear. I do not want to repeat what I have stated."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"What I mean to say is I am able to express my ideas better in English on some occasions; on other occasions I can express my ideas better in Telugu. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can use some Telugu words in his English speech. I do not object to this being done."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, on a point of information. Recently it appeared in the papers that the Speaker asked hon. Members of the House to inform him in which languages they wished to speak in the House. Is it a fact?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is a fact."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, you have been more than once mentioning the authority of the Speakers' Conference in this matter. I only want to know whether this ruling is your own; I want to know whether it is on your authority that you have given this ruling or on the authority of the Speakers' Conference."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is on my own authority. I wish to say that I have the support of the Speakers' Conference also."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I bring to your notice that I can speak better in my own regional tongue? I can express my feelings in a foreign tongue also—English—which is the language used so far, in Assemblies of this kind. May I request you to give us option to speak in any one vernacular language or in English?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I remember I told the House that I am not going to follow the precedent set up by my predecessor."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You permitted the hon. Member, Mr. Swaminathan to speak in Tamil in the morning and in English in the evening."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not remember; hon. Members will kindly bring such facts to my notice then and there."

V.—GOVERNMENT BILLS—*cont.*

(3) THE TUNGABHADRA PROJECT (PREVENTION OF SPECULATION IN LAND) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce—

that the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Bill, 1947, and move that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee consisting of the undermentioned members:—

The Hon. Sri M. Bakthavatsalam,

Sri K. R. Karanth,

„ G. Venkata Reddi,

„ S. Nagappa,

„ N. S. Varadachari,

„ Kallur Subba Rao,

„ B. Ananthachari,

„ N. Venkatasubbayya,

Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib Bahadur,

Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur,

Sri P. Natesan, and

The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao (Mover)

with special instruction to the Select Committee to report on the 19th of April 1947.'

[Sri Kala Venkata Rao] [17th April 1947]

"With reference to the Bill I wish to state that the Bill was published on 24th January 1947 and no objection has been received by the Government till now. Therefore, I thought that the Bill could be straightaway proceeded with without being referred to a Select Committee. But now certain hon. Members of the Opposition and of my own party have asked me that the Bill might be examined by a Select Committee; I have therefore deemed it fit to alter my motion and ask for the leave of the House for the election of the Select Committee. The apparent object of the Bill is to prohibit large extent of land from being purchased at low prices in the expectation of a rise in prices when the project comes into operation and from being sold at huge profits. The list of villages attached to this Bill defines the area of land to which this Bill will apply. This project has too long been delayed; this Bill is also overdue, because speculation in this land began long ago—at least three or four years ago—though the Government have warned the public that they should not purchase land for speculation. The purchasers still persist and the Government are obliged to bring in this legislation. The people of the locality, as hon. Members know, are survivors of a series of famines, pestilence, diseases, and the like and unnutritional under-feeding also. At least now, a chance is given to them to have drinking water. Experience in famine-ridden areas clearly shows that people suffer from want of water even for drinking purposes, not to speak of lack of food to support their human frame. Non-famine years are few. There is a saying that these years coincide with the lodging of political prisoners in the Ali-puram Jail. The benefits of the new project is very clear but people should not be allowed to speculate on these lands, especially people living away from these areas; it will be encouraging absentee landlordism which we want to eradicate in the near future. The idea of restricting holdings in similar circumstances is not new to the present Bill.

"I would invite the attention of hon. Members to the work of reclamation of lands in the United States of America. There are certain basic laws involved in it. Family holdings in United States of America are restricted to about 80 acres; if a person owns more than this specified limit, he does not get water for the excess lands. He is free to sell the excess land to the State. These and many other points are covered particularly by the Columbia Valley Project Act of 1943. The present Bill does not go to that extent, because it does not fix the maximum area which each pattadar can irrigate. The idea at present is only to prevent speculation. When the question of the relationship between the cultivating tenant and the non-cultivating owner is taken up by this Government, it will be applied throughout the Province, instead of applying it first to this area. Speculation is due to buying low and selling high. The question may be put to me 'Is it in evidence?' I can straightaway say 'Yes'. As a matter of fact, I have with me a list of the recent purchasers in this area. It is a long list and I do not propose to read it to the House and take some more time. The purchasers include

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curiously enough, lawyers of Bezwada, Bapatla and other places and also well-known merchants. They have purchased lands in recent years. The purchasing price ranges from Rs. 5-15-0 per acre to about Rs. 50 an acre.

"For years people residing nearby have had the flow of 3 p.m. water, but they could not use the water. Now the Mallapuram Project Reservoir would obstruct the flow and bring this sparkling water to these black-cotton soil fields. But, if in the meanwhile, these fields are allowed to change hands, the people belonging to other places will be benefited. Therefore, Sir, this Bill is sought to be introduced now. Its main provisions are these. Under clause 3 acquisition by a single person of more than 50 acres without a permit is prohibited. Under clause 6, permits will be given only to eligible persons as defined therein. Clause 8 prevents the alienation of the land which was purchased under a permit within the expiry of a period of ten years from a date notified by the Government as the date on which water was made available for the irrigation of land from the project and such an alienation will be made null and void. Sir, these are the main provisions of the Bill and if still a little more scrutiny is needed, the Government are prepared to take the advice of the Members of the House and they are therefore referring this Bill to a Select Committee. Sir, I move that the Bill be now referred to a Select Committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The motion is—

'that the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Act, 1947, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao,

The Hon. Sri M. Bakthavatsalam,

Sri K. R. Karanth,

„ G. Venkata Reddi,

„ S. Nagappa,

„ N. S. Varadachari,

„ Kallur Subba Rao,

„ B. Ananthachari,

„ N. Venkatasubbayya,

Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur,

Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur, and

Sri P. Natesan.'"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I would like to move an amendment that the report of the Select Committee be made ready by the 19th, Saturday."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister who moved the motion has already made clear that the report should be ready to be presented to the House on the 19th."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, as is usual with the Government, they have come forward with a Bill and they want to finish in very soon, that is, by the 19th."

MR. SPEAKER:—" May I point out to the hon. Member that this Bill was published on the 24th January and no objection has been received up till now? "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the Select Committee has been asked to finish its work before the 19th. We know the implications involved in this Bill, but yet the Select Committee has been asked to submit its report in two days. I don't think that any tangible work will be done in these two days and I deplore the anxiety of the Government to finish the work in such a hasty manner.

" Again, Sir, the word ' Permit ' has been introduced. In the war time and since this Government came into existence, the word permit is having a very very important meaning. While the system of permits came into existence for special reasons and in special circumstances, I foresee that the power to issue permits to persons who are likely to buy more than 50 acres of land is likely to be reduced. The very idea of introducing such a permit system "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The hon. Member is entirely wrong. No permit will be issued for the purchase of land over 50 acres, and purchases will be permitted only to the extent of 50 acres."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Even then Sir, wherever it is possible to get a thing by a permit, and if powers are given to the Government to issue permits, it is not unlikely that they will be abused as we have seen similar instances in the past in this House. In the matter of motor vehicles, in the matter of ghee, in the matter of oil and in the matter of so many other things, permits have been issued in the past which have been matters of criticism in the House and unless the Government come forward "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Then what is the hon. Member's suggestion? "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I suggest, Sir, that instead of giving permits to any person or anybody in special circumstances, let the Government come forward with some concrete proposal, say, that if any gentleman or any institution or anybody wants to purchase such and such a land, he will be empowered to buy the land under certain circumstances and under certain conditions. Permits given to individuals by this Government in the past has been misunderstood and abused and it is better that such a thing is dropped altogether at least at this stage.

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" Again, Sir, during the budget discussions in this House, I have referred to the harm that has already been done in this matter. Thousands and thousands of acres of land have already been bought and I gave specific instances, furnishing the names of persons also holding very high offices in this Presidency who were able to buy lands and who were able to take advantage of the project, simply because they were in a privileged position. It was my suggestion that this Government should appoint a committee of enquiry into the things that have already happened and into the havoc that has already been done in this matter by persons holding high offices. Nothing has been done until now. The Government has not done anything to the challenge that has been made by the opposition. We on this side of the House say that things have already been done and undue advantage taken by some private persons also in this matter and we still suggest that the Government should appoint a committee to enquire into this matter and I also request the Government to reconsider the matter and give enough time for the Select Committee to go into the Bill in detail and not to ask them to hurry up the matter and submit their report in two days."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was rather amused to hear the speech of the hon. Member who has just spoken. He seemed to think that the Government exist on permits. I must cavil at such a statement. I do not think that the Government is worth its name if it existed on permits."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir " (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member will please sit down. He should not interrupt the Hon. Minister when he is speaking."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Sir, I am replying on behalf of the Government and on behalf of the Members who were sitting on the Treasury Benches and also members on this side of the House even before, because I do feel that it is wrong for Members of the Opposition to make statements on the floor of the House which they will not be prepared to do outside this House. Sir, reflections can be thrown on the Members of the Treasury Benches any time because of the privilege granted to members of the House, but if they dared to repeat such a proposition outside, then it is open to hon. Members who were attacked to take the process of law, which they are entitled to, for the allegations made against them."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, on a point of personal explanation "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Personal explanations can come after I have finished, Sir. Sir, I do feel, whatever might be the composition of the Government at any time, we should at least respect the Members of the Government and not to throw unnecessary reflections on them, unless one has made sure of the facts and could stand before a court of law if a necessity arises

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to prove them. I do feel that it is wrong on the part of the Members of the Opposition to cast reflections on the Members of the House as well as Members sitting on the Treasury Benches, to which they will not be able to reply or take the process of law, if it is necessary to do so. I would therefore deprecate statements of this kind, casting reflections on Members of this House, because permits would mean not only permits issued by the Hon. Ministers concerned, but also Members who have taken such permits. It may be that such Members were given permits because they were entitled to get them, not because they were Members of this House. That fact that they are Members of this House should not preclude them from getting permits, to which they are entitled. This is all that I want to point out, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Leader of the House has raised many questions in his short speech. The one thing he said was, that he deprecated the speech made by my hon. Friend Mr. Salam and also said certain things deprecating the contents of his speech and I want to know, Sir, whether the speech that he made was parliamentary or not. If it was unparliamentary, you have allowed it, Sir. That is one thing. Again and again such things happen and what you have allowed is being questioned. That is point No. 1.

"Then again, Sir, I want to know what is the meaning of privilege? If everything uttered here has to be taken to a court of law and everything said has to be strictly proved, then I want to know what is the meaning of privileges given to members of this House? For what purpose is that privilege meant and under what circumstances can Members use that privilege?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has apparently misunderstood the Hon. Leader of the House. He has not questioned the powers of the Chair. He simply wanted the hon. Mr. Salam not to make statements which he could not prove and not to suspect Members sitting on the Treasury Benches. That is all what the Hon. Leader of the House has said."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But he threw out a challenge, Sir, to repeat the statement made in this House outside and see the consequences. If that is the spirit in which the challenge is thrown, then the Members on this side of the House are not at all afraid of the challenge. However, Sir, is it in keeping with the privileges of the Members and the dignity of the House to make such statements again and again? That is what I want to be made clear, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I tell the Hon. Leader of the Opposition that I have been closely following the Hon. Leader of the House and what he said was that Members should not make wild and general statements. That is all what he said."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. The explanation of Dr. Subbarayan has also amused me, because of all persons, with his long experience of the Assembly, he should come forward with a threat of this character. (Mr. Speaker: 'He never threatened you.') However, Sir, it amused me all the more, because of all persons, Dr. Subbarayan should come forward and tell me that I should not make statements which I would not be prepared to make outside this House. It amused me because, without having heard the previous speeches, without knowing the previous history of this Government and of this House, and suddenly coming into this House, the Hon. Minister should have come forward to advise me. If he has any idea of the things that had happened before he came into this House, he would not have made such a challenge. I think, Sir, I have repeated it several times, that I am prepared to prove my entire charges if only a committee is appointed and I repeat it even now for the information and benefit of the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan that if his Government takes courage in both hands and appoints such a committee, I am prepared to prove the charges and he need not take cover on the plea that merely because this is not a court of law, of which he is very anxious to rush in, I am safe. Already we have had an experience of it in the case of Mr. Nambiar who is under prosecution. And even in the matter of the ministerial crisis, he is not prepared to face a court of law, and becomes of the Hon. Minister to come forward and threaten members with prosecution for asking questions and thus depriving them of the privileges of the House. (Interruption . .) I have not yet finished, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, when a prosecution has been launched, it is under the consideration of the court and it is very wrong of hon. Members to refer to it, because it is a question of prosecution in a court and the matter is *sub judice*."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I am only referring to my case. I am not referring to the case of Mr. Nambiar. In this case the question of privilege is involved. I ask the Government whether an official secret circular has been sent by them to prosecute me. Can there be anything worse? Then why talk of Members sitting under the protection of this House, privileges of the Members and so on. That is so far as regards the matter of personal explanation.

"Then with regard to these permits, you are going to have the very same thing under the Tungabhadra Project. There again, there is a big history about this Project. It is not so innocent as my hon. Friend thinks. The permits issued by the Government in the past have defeated the very purpose for which they are intended."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A matter of personal explanation should not take so long."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It all depends upon the nature of the explanation given, Sir. The country is very anxious to find out what these permits are. My personal explanation is that permits, to whatever department they may belong, should not be there, even though we have great respect for the Members on the Treasury Benches. No offence has been meant to the Treasury Benches in this respect. We, on this side of the House, have got a right to ask you why you do not use proper words or see that they are used properly. Then, there is the threat of courts of law. Sir, we know courts of law as much as you know them. You cannot talk of courts of law as if we have not seen courts of law; where were these courts of law when you were not all there in the Government?"

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on this Bill because I consider this is but a halting beginning in the matter of land reform. I am glad, Sir, it has begun somewhere. This Bill, as the title will show, has for its object the prevention of speculative purchases by non-farming classes or absentee proprietors. It takes into account the past history of land sales in the districts where the Tungabhadra Project is going to bring water to irrigate land. If you will examine the figures of sale, Sir, in one at least of the districts under this project, for instance in Bellary, you will find that even from the year 1941 a sudden boom started in respect of land prices. In 1944, it reached a particular height and the aggregate of the transactions grew up to 86.77 lakhs and in 1945 in rose to 123.26 lakhs. Many of the purchasers have come from other districts. I have got here a printed list of names with the acreages and the value paid for the acreages in respect of one taluk under the Tungabhadra Project, the Siruguppa taluk. I find, Sir, that there are several persons from Bapatla, Bezwada, Nidubrolu, Guntur and other places, who have gone there and bought land at fairly low prices in order either to cultivate the land because of the prospect of better yield or to keep on to the land and re-sell it at a higher price in future years. It is to prevent its free resale that this Bill is directed. It does it to a certain extent; and in respect of the very thorny point regarding permits, I must ask my friend in the Opposition not to be afraid of permits. In fact, the proper thing would be for us to have a whole land law and a land board which independently of the Ministry would grant permits for resale or for sale under certain definite conditions. But I am not pressing for all that in the present Bill. The present Bill is confined to one project, and even here let us make a good beginning, but a solid beginning, which will lay the foundations for sure land reform for the entire presidency.

"Now, Sir, I want a few points to be taken note of by the Minister in this connexion. I had already given notice of two amendments, one of them saying that the date 1st October 1944 should be advanced at least to 1½ years prior to that, and made the 1st January 1943, because I have evidence from a non-official

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committee which collected figures, that even from that year 1943 higher prices began to be paid for land under the Tungabhadra Project. It may be that prices began to rise a few years earlier; not due to speculative values, but to settling accounts with the creditors and the like. But I am sure, examining the figures as I have done carefully, one will find that from the 1st of January 1943 there has been a rapid rise in the price of dry land, and since the Tungabhadra Project for Bellary district is for a protected dry crop and for the other district for possibly a wet crop also—I mean the district of Kurnool—we must take into account the figures of land sales for the two districts and then decide the year with which we shall start the prohibition on resale.

"Now, Sir, my second amendment was that no alienation should be permitted for a period of twenty years instead of the ten as originally proposed in the Bill. Ten years, in my opinion, is far too short a period for proper colonization and land-farming to take place. I have my own opinions of cultivation under the Tungabhadra Project. The Government, I mean the State, which owns all lands—and I shall never give up the right of State ownership of land—has to help very considerably in the preparation of the soil. A lot of contour bunding may have to be done and also preparation of soils. The examination of the soil, the kind of crop which you can grow to advantage when the water supply becomes available, have also got to be taken into account. If all this is done, I think in the interests of proper economic holdings being built up and in the interests of a proper farming class being brought into existence at least on this Project, the period of twenty years within which no alienations could take place is not perhaps too long a period.

"Now, Sir, I come to the third point which is nowhere in the Bill. I want that if there is to be a sale permitted of all the land now purchased or of land not purchased at present but may be sold in the future, for a higher price, the unearned increment on that land which is solely due to Government expenditure on the Tungabhadra Project running into crores of rupees should flow back at least in part into the Government coffers. I propose, Sir, a re-sale tax. It may in the first instance be fixed at a certain amount per acre; but may go on decreasing from year to year and be spread over a period of 25 years. We must introduce this principle of taxation on unearned increment wherever people who, taking advantage of the Project, wish to push the prices of land on to their own advantage.

"In every civilized State, the idea remains that the transfer of a piece of land is no longer regarded as a simple transfer of property from the seller to the purchaser, but rather as an act which interests the community, and with regard to which the State may advance certain claims, so that the change of ownership may not adversely affect the growth of food-crops or the established order in agriculture. This is a very important point to note and those who are going to be in charge of the issue of

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these permits for sale or who are going to be in charge of what I may call the land board for regulating farming in the area, should so frame their rules as to give particular attention to the following points. Sales must be permitted only in cases where there is certainty of an improvement in the methods of farming. Sales must be permitted only in cases where it is possible to make an uneconomic holding an economic holding; and even when alienation of land is proposed for the payment of debts, care should be taken to see that it is sold to some real farming interest and not to absentee investors. We shall have to solve the problem of absentee landlordism only by means of a land law which will take into account the interests of the State in respect of food production for which the State holds responsibility and in the interests of preserving the better class of farmers who are fast leaving the land and taking to other occupations. This is so, Sir, in every country—in Germany, in Denmark, in the Netherlands, in America, where there are land laws; but let us not copy what is done in other countries simply because certain laws have been laid down in those other countries. It is hardly known, Sir, to many of us that agriculture in England means the breeding of livestock much more than the growing of wheat; because they want plenty of mutton, they want to see good heifers raised on their farms and more attention is paid to the growth of fodder crops than to other things. In India, however, conditions are different; we have to grow our rice, our millets, the two things that are important for our Presidency, and in order that our food production may be safeguarded, our land policy should take into account the traditions, the changes necessary for improving the traditional agriculture and the class which is interested at present in agriculture, and which alone can carry into effect improvements in agriculture, even for the future.

“With these words, Sir, while I support the Bill, I intend to press for certain amendments in the Select Committee on the lines indicated by me.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion on the floor of this House to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. While supporting, I have to say that the object with which this Bill has been brought before this House is really useful. I also appreciate the Government's view that they have taken enough precautions, so that the land that will become fertile by the Tungabhadra waters may not be exploited in a manner that the poor may again be exploited and the rich may become richer. It has been said, Sir, that our land has been exploited by the richer communities and the real tiller of the soil has been brought to a very low position. Even Mahatma Gandhi the other day said that the tiller of the soil is the real owner of the soil. It has been in our knowledge that the agrarian troubles which have been recently started are due to this exploitation. I am glad that the Government have foreseen this evil and have brought in a Bill to safeguard the real

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interests. Sir, on the floor of the House it has been agitated time and again that the Government must bring a socialist form of reform, so that people may have land in proportion to their own working. Now, Sir, what I would like to advance to the Government is that on no account those agriculturists who own small plots of land in this particular area should be disturbed. Even alienation of those lands should on no account be disturbed.

“I find, Sir, in the list of members of the Select Committee my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa. I am sure, Sir, while the Select Committee is deliberating, he will not forget the points and he will see that whatever lands are available and owned by the Government will, on no account, either by permit or otherwise, be given to outsiders. It is highly necessary that the agriculturists who are toiling day and night should be given such lands and their case should not be forgotten. So, Sir, some safeguards have to be made so that the agriculturists get a share in the land which is going to be fertilized by the Tungabhadra Project. With these observations, Sir, I support the motion on the floor of the House.”

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion. I must, however, express my regret that this very useful Bill has been brought at this very delayed moment. There is a proverb in Telugu, Sir, which says: “*ఊరికి పది 6 నెలలకు పక్కలు మొదలవు.*” This means that six months after the thieves had fallen on the people and carried off the booty and wealth, the sleeping dogs begin to bark. This Bill, Sir, is characteristic of what is meant by that saying. If really it was the desire of the Government to benefit the people who have come under the Project area, then this Bill should have been brought in long ago. Unfortunately, it has long been delayed; but better late than never. I therefore, submit that some of the clauses need modification and if this is done, the Bill, even though it is brought at this late hour, can be made effective.

“You know, Sir, that the Tungabhadra Project has been in the air for the last three quarters of a century. In the year 1876 when the terrible ‘Dhatu’ famine broke out, it is on record that one-third of the population of Rayalaseema died of hunger. This opened the eyes of the Rulers who thought that unless the Government considers the question of providing irrigation facilities as a protective measure for the unfortunate people of the Ceded Districts, there will be a great hardship for those people. Sir, it was due to the labours of the late Sir Arthur Cotton that it was possible to build anicuts and bring plenty and prosperity to the Kistna and the Godavari districts. It was he who conceived the Tungabhadra Project. His great idea was to make the Ceded Districts a big delta of the Tungabhadra. But the Project went through many changes and finally as it emerged, it was so curtailed as to benefit only a very limited area. Plans and estimates were changed from time to time. Even as the Project stands,

3-30
p.m.

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it is meant to benefit only a few taluks and what little benefit the Bill seeks to give is taken away by speculation, which has deprived poor people of their small holdings.

“ Sir, in 1937, when the Congress Ministry took up office, the first task they undertook was to revive the Project and to see that it was pushed through as speedily as possible. Then, the late lamented Mr. Yakub Hassan in charge of Irrigation speaking on the Tungabhadra Project on the 17th September 1937 in the Assembly said: ‘ Mr. Abdul Rawoof has spoken mostly of Tungabhadra Project. Sir, the Government is quite alive to the necessity of proceeding with this Project as soon as possible. I shall not allow grass to grow under my feet.’ What was then said on the floor of this Assembly was an indication for speculators from outside the area. People from the Northern Circars acted quickly in purchasing lands there. In 1938, the then Premier, Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, announced that the decision about the Tungabhadra Project would be published at a very early date. Subsequently, on the 17th March 1938, again, Mr. Yakub Hassan stated that the negotiations with Hyderabad and Mysore States, had reached a stage and that considerable progress had been made and a decision would be taken very early. On the 18th March 1939, he finally said in the Assembly that the decision had been reached between Madras and Hyderabad Governments regarding the Tungabhadra Project and the execution of the Project would be taken up immediately. Therefore, Sir, this final announcement by Mr. Yakub Hassan served as a clue for speculators and they began investing money on these lands. The people of the Rayalaseema are simple unsophisticated people; they did not know all these administrative announcements. People well-versed in administrative matters who were perhaps assisted by the officers of the Public Works Department, got access to the plans and estimates. They knew the proposed alignment of the channel and they began purchasing lands at a very low cost. The people from the Northern Circars in particular, began to buy lands in Bellary, Siruguppa, Adoni and Alur taluks at Rs. 30, Rs. 40 and Rs. 50. Such lands in Northern Circars would sell at Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000, but in the Ceded Districts which are perpetually famine-ridden, they could get the land for a song and the people of the Ceded Districts did not realize the position and the benefits that irrigation facilities would bring to that area, while people from other parts of the Province began to come there and speculate in land. My hon. Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, said just now that speculation actually began somewhere about January 1943. That is not so. I personally know that as soon as the announcement was made by Mr. Yakub Hassan that a decision between Madras and Hyderabad Governments had been reached, people knew that the only impediment in the way of the execution of the Project had been removed and so they felt that the Project would be taken up immediately and began to speculate in land there. I would therefore suggest that if the Bill is really intended to avoid speculation

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and to do away with speculation that has already taken place and if it is intended to benefit the people of the Rayalaseema, it must be made retrospective in effect. I would suggest that it may be made retrospective with effect from the year 1939 or 1940, because, unless this is done, the intended result of the Bill will be nullified. I would therefore ask the Hon. the Minister in charge of the Bill to take note of this fact. I find, however, that my name is mentioned as one of the members of the Select Committee. I would of course take that opportunity for expressing my point of view there. Meanwhile, I have made these remarks for the consideration of the hon. members of this House.

“ Sir, there is another point which I would like to place before the Government and before this House. I am very doubtful whether mere prohibition of resale of the land will result in counteracting speculation. I do not think it will, for the poor people who were not able to pay even land-tax and who sold away their lands to outsiders because they were overpowered by the heavy burden of debt, cannot now get back their lands. The mischief has already been done and if this Bill really seeks to undo the mischief done, it cannot be done by merely prohibiting a resale of the lands. The benefit of the Bill, as it stands, will really accrue only to the people who have already speculated in such lands and will not accrue to the ryots who have sold away their land. Therefore, I would suggest that the lands sold to outsiders must be re-acquired by the Government and given back to the original cultivators or Government must at least utilize those lands for forming colonies for the poor people of the Rayalaseema districts. Unless that is done, I am afraid the Bill, as it stands, will be a mere eye-wash. Yes, it will be nothing but an eye-wash and it will not result in much good to the people of those unfortunate districts. Having made these remarks, Sir, I reserve my detailed amendments for consideration at the Select Committee. These are the general remarks which I wanted to make for the consideration of the hon. Members of this House.”

* SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In doing so, I would like to bring to the notice of the House a few points specially. Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill, it has been stated that no single person should possess more than fifty acres of land in the project area without a permit. But, Sir, from my practical experience, I find that when the project is there, one person or one family cannot cultivate fifty acres of land. It is too much, Sir, I would say that one family can cultivate a maximum of twenty-five to thirty acres. So, I would request the Hon. the Minister to reduce the figure from 50 to 30. At the same time, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatasubbayya said, the Bill is too late. So many people from Northern Circars have already purchased lands in that area. Now, Sir, I suggest that Government should acquire all the land that has been purchased by those who were not residents of those districts and they must see that all these lands are set apart for the real agriculturists.

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“Sir, you know that the masses, the agricultural labour, are suffering a lot under the village feudal lords. So, even if you set apart fifty acres of land for a single person, still feudal landlordism will be there. Therefore, I would request the Government to acquire all the land either at the Government rate or at the pre-project rate from those who have already purchased large areas of land in that place and to set apart those lands for those who are not having any land. If you do this, you will be doing justice to the poor and preventing the rich from exploiting the poor and amassing more wealth. That is my humble submission, Sir. I hope the Government has come forward with this Bill to do justice to the poor agriculturists and the purpose of the Bill will not be achieved until and unless this is done. Especially, Sir, the Harijans of that place are very poor and so, if the Government move in this direction, they will be able to do justice to the landless.

“As regards the Tungabhadra Project, Sir, I would request the Government to see that they prevent the lands being purchased by these outside speculators, because the Tungabhadra Project is to be put into operation as early as possible. It is generally the poor people there that have been suffering from famine and pestilence all these days and you must try to help them as early as possible. If you cannot do it early, you will be creating a lot of trouble because, in the meanwhile, some more people by some back-door methods will try to acquire lands. Sir, why not Engineering College be shifted to the project area—the Tungabhadra Project—and why by providing the manual labour that is available from jails, the Project could not be finished earlier. It would be better if the students of the Engineering College were to be put on this task, because, instead of sitting in the City with their books in the college and dealing with theories, if they were asked to work on this project, they would not only gain practical knowledge, but they would also be able to finish the Project earlier.

3-45 p.m. “Now, Sir, I am also told that the question of the high level channel has to be dropped. I think, Sir, if that is dropped, the benefits that you have been trying to give to the Ceded districts will not be achieved as much as we all expect. So, I request you to see that the project is made in such a way that the utmost good is given to the people of the area, especially the poor and the landless. With these few words, I support the Bill and I hope that in the Select Committee the members will pay particular attention to this aspect of the question and see that justice is done to the poor.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Bill, I would like to make a few observations. It is stated in the Bill that permits will be given to eligible persons, but who those eligible persons are, it is not defined. Is it the agricultural labourer or as my hon. Friend, Kala Venkata Rao was telling us, a member of the Indian Chamber

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of Commerce or some other merchant from Guntur, who will be permitted to purchase lands in the area? Now that Government are going to allow the purchase of 50 acres of land, any merchant from Guntur or Bezwada or some other non-cultivating gentleman from any other part of the country may purchase lands in the area. That point must be made clear for the benefit of the Government officials to whom the power of issuing permits will be entrusted and also for the benefit of the members of this House. Unless a clear definition is made with regard to the eligible person, I am afraid much trouble will arise even on the floor of this House with regard to the issue of permits, because the issuing of permits itself will cause misapprehension. So, Sir, it has to be clearly defined to prevent any misuse of the provisions of the Bill.

“Moreover, Sir, I think persons from other parts of the Province must be banned from purchasing land under the project, because they will not be in a position to cultivate them. These people will, after purchasing the land, may sell them away. This will also lead to absentee, landlordism. Therefore, Sir, persons from other provinces must be prevented from purchasing any land in the area.

“Again, Sir, this limit of 50 acres is rather too high and, as my hon. friend, Mr. Nagappa, suggested, since it is difficult for any person to cultivate 50 acres, it will be convenient to reduce it to 25 acres. There may, of course, be people who can cultivate 2,000 or 3,000 acres, but they will be only depriving the poor agricultural labourer. This point has also to be taken into consideration in granting permits to purchase lands. Taking all these facts into consideration, the limit of 50 acres may be reduced to 25 acres, so that the greatest benefit may be given to the poor agricultural labourers who belong to all parts and communities.

“Then, again, Sir, under the Tungabhadra Project, there are persons belonging to the Rayalaseema owning 2,000 or 3,000 acres of land and that problem has also to be tackled. Unless this problem is also tackled, the trouble that arose in the case of the mirasdars of the Tanjore district will be re-enacted here also. In order to avoid such things, it is necessary to redistribute the lands on a proper basis, especially in view of the fact that the lands hereafter will become fertile. At present, because the lands are not fertile, nobody cares to cultivate them, but in future they will become fertile, and persons owning 2,000 or 3,000 acres will create all troubles particularly they will starve the people and turn the lands to their own advantage.

“Again, Sir, retrospective effect should be provided in the Bill. The Tungabhadra Project was in contemplation since 1938 and even earlier. If this is conceded, then most of the alienations made since then must be declared null and void. Again, what is it they are going to do in the case of persons who have purchased more than 50 acres of lands, because this Bill is not going to affect such persons. If persons owning 2,000 or 3,000 acres of land are not going to be eliminated, how is this

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Bill going to affect them? It is not made clear in the Bill and so this has to be made clear also. Whether the Government are going to allow persons to purchase large acreage and those owning 2,000 acres of land or are they going to take any steps to see that these lands are taken away from them, that lands over and above 25 acres of land in the possession of any person are taken away and distributed or sold to poor agricultural labourers at a proper and reasonable price in case the Government are not in a position to give them free.

“With these few words, Sir, I support the Bill.”

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad many points have been elucidated by the hon. gentlemen who have partaken in the debate to-day. I only wish these gentlemen had taken some interest in the matter far earlier. The Bill was gazetted three months ago and till to-day not even a single objection or suggestion for improvement has been received by the Government. Now that the Bill is introduced, a number of suggestions have been thrown here. Of course, Mr. Venkateswarlu's idea we all know and some other ideas thrown out by other hon. members will no doubt bring about an improvement in the Bill.

“I must state that the Bill is intended for a particular purpose. The purpose is only to prevent speculation in land and the other aspects of the subject raised by certain friends cannot come within the scope of the present Bill. So the question of redistribution of land cannot be undertaken in this Bill. Of course, as the House is aware, Government is already considering the need for bringing in a legislation in that matter and it is already well on the way. My hon. predecessor has appointed a Special Officer to go into the question and his report is expected by the end of this month. I have also already stated in the statement issued by me that Government is undertaking legislation on that subject also. Therefore, redistribution of such excess land as the House may deem fit should form the subject of special legislation because that should be almost universal for the whole Province and not restricted to the number of villages that come under the scope of this Bill. There cannot be an isolated legislation and the scope of the present Bill does not warrant redistribution of land.

“With reference to the other improvement suggested, namely, whether it should be 50 acres, 25 acres or 75 acres, it is open to the Select Committee to examine the matter and come to a decision.

“There are of course certain other points raised by my hon. Friend—he never makes a distinction between what he states and what he wants to say—of course they will all be discussed in the Select Committee.

“My hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, suddenly made a tangent attack on the Revenue system and the Hon. the Leader of the House has already made a statement about the general allegations. I would only request Mr. Salam to bring to my notice, either in the House or otherwise, specific instances which he has in mind. Even to-day

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he almost hinted that he knows of a case of a high personage in Government. I do hope that even if it be the case of a Government Officer having purchased land in that area, and I promise him the matter will be immediately gone into. Even according to this Bill or otherwise, if a person has abused his power which will go against the interests of the people in common it is but the duty of the Government to go into the question and give such relief as is possible. I hope my hon. Friend will enlighten us; instead of making allegations let him co-operate by bringing matters to our particular notice and I assure him again that such matters will be taken up immediately if particulars are given.

“Almost all the speakers, at least a great many of them, raised the question of disallowing outside people from acquiring land in this area. This is a just claim. There is no need for an outsider living hundreds of miles away running there for purchasing and cultivating the land for his benefit. Reference to permit in this Bill has been made. It has been put in there for a particular reason. Now that we are governed by the Government of India Act, no discrimination can be made even against Englishmen purchasing land. Unfortunately if we say no foreigner can purchase land in the Tungabhadra area, we will not come under the Government of India Act and it will become null and void and this Bill will not receive the assent of the Governor-General. On going through the file, I find that you cannot prevent even a man from the Bombay Presidency from purchasing land in this area, not to speak of persons of this Presidency who want to purchase land. Of course I am not interested in preventing people of the famine stricken area from taking advantage of this project and deriving the fruits therefrom. The permit idea is brought into this Bill simply to check this tendency under a possible statutory provision. That is the only reason for it. If members fear that this will be abused by anybody, even by the Government, I have no objection to accept any suggestions or ideas to prevent such an abuse. These practical suggestions will be considered in the Select Committee.

“Then my hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari spoke of a uniform land law for the province and this suggestion will be considered in proper time when the major legislation will be coming up before this House.

“Sri Muniswami Pillai and also Sri S. Nagappa mentioned 4 p.m. that waste lands not cultivated should be given over to the poor in the course of assignment. I am prepared to agree with that suggestion. The preference must be to the landless man. This question will be considered by the Government. Sri S. Nagappa is always obsessed with big ideas. He should reserve them for the major legislations that are going to come.

“Sri Venkatasubayya has rightly complained that lands were purchased for a song. Of course this Bill would have been in order if it had come much earlier. I do agree but it is not my fault that it has been delayed. I have already answered, Sir, on the two major points raised. They are major questions which will be considered at a later date.

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"With reference to the retrospective effect, already the Bill contains a clause giving it retrospective effect from a particular date. The suggestion that this should be taken back by one year will also be considered by the Select Committee.

"I only request hon. Members to take advance interest when the Bills are published and put the Government in possession of their suggestions so that they may not disturb the course of the Legislation.

"I request the House to agree for the consideration of the Bill and to its reference to a Select Committee consisting of the gentlemen I have already mentioned in my motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is—

that the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Act, 1947, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao,
Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam,
Sri K. R. Karanth,
Sri G. Venkata Reddi,
Sri S. Nagappa,
Sri N. S. Varadachari,
Sri Kallur Subbarao,
Sri B. Ananthachar,
Sri N. Venkata Subbayya,
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur,
Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur,
Sri P. Natesan,

and the Select Committee Report be presented on the 19th April 1947."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under rule 78, I appoint the Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao to be the Chairman of the Committee."

(4) THE MALABAR IRRIGATION WORKS (CONSTRUCTION AND LEVY OF CESS) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I beg to introduce—

the Bill to provide for the construction of irrigation works and the levy of water-cess by the Government in the district of Malabar and move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of—

(1) The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao,
(2) The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam,
(3) Srimathi A. V. Kuttimalu Amma,

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(4) Sri K. R. Karanth,
(5) Sri R. Raghava Menon,
(6) Sri M. P. Govinda Menon,
(7) Sri C. K. Govindan Nayar,
(8) Sri K. Raghavan,
(9) Sri W. J. Fernandez,
(10) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur,
(11) K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur,
(12) P. K. Moideen Katty Sahib Bahadur,

and that the Select Committee be requested to submit its report before the 21st April 1947."

"In moving this motion, Sir, I would bring to the attention of this House that Malabar is a single district and has an area of 5,790 square miles and a population according to the 1941 census of 3,929,425. Apart from this the annual average rainfall of the district amounts to about 117.9 inches. But it is a curious thing that this district is deficit in regard to its food requirements. There is only one irrigation work worth mentioning in the taluk of Palghat and this was acquired from a private individual in 1902 for the good sum of Rs. 3,152. It yields a revenue of about Rs. 240 per annum. Of course it is a good investment but unfortunately for an area of over 5,700 sq. miles and a population of nearly 40 lakhs and with an area where food production is in deficit and that this single irrigation alone should exist all these years with no attempt to bring irrigation facilities to that area is rather curious. Now, Sir, the present Bill wants to improve the position. In the Post-war Scheme there is provision for irrigational facilities, major and minor. To execute such works we have to take certain legal powers into our hands so that legal obstacles may not stand in our way of constructing dams and other irrigation facilities. The main problem is to find adequate storage for rainfall because it goes away into the sea very quickly. It must be stored and reserved at certain places. One of the difficulties is the law that one who owns the land on either side of the river has got legal right to the bed of the river also. Therefore, such rights have to be acquired and this bill makes provision for that also. Then there was a suggestion that the jenmies should be statutorily made responsible for the new water-cess that is to be levied, but that would bring a further difficulty because if the jenmies are made responsible all the surplus that will accrue on account of the new irrigational facilities given by these works will naturally be taken advantage of by them and they will increase the rent they have to collect from the people that are under them. Therefore, to avoid this possibility there is a charge upon the crop and upon the man who actually cultivates the land. The Act also makes provision for the acquisition of the rights of land-owners who own the rights really and also, Sir, for recompensing such people who will have to rest content with a denuded water-supply on account of the construction of these works. A special provision has been made

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to acquire the lands and the basis of this provision is the Land Acquisition Act now in vogue, but one of its important sections will be modified by clause 4 so that the acquisition may be at a swifter pace.

“ Clause 5 deals with provision for compensation for the deprivation of rights of persons who are affected by the Government's action.

“ The other important clauses are clauses 11 and 10 under which permits will be issued and it shall not confer any enforceable right against the Government. My hon. Friend Mr. Salam, need not be perturbed at the use of this word ‘ permit ’ again. Under clause 12 there is only provision for the payment of watercess and it is made obligatory.

“ The most important clause is clause 15 under which the landlord cannot claim enhanced rent because irrigation has improved the yield.

“ I will have to state again, Sir, that no objections have been received for this Bill which was gazetted long ago and as we are referring this Bill to a Select Committee, Sir, I need not go into the details and any suggestions made by hon. Members will be considered in the Select Committee and a report submitted to the House on Monday, the 21st April. I request the House, Sir, to give permission for my motion.”

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Under rule 78, I appoint the Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao to be the Chairman of the Committee.

“ The next motion stands in the name of the Hon. the Leader of the House.”

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“ Sir, I will move the resolution on behalf of the Leader of the House.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Why not the Leader of the House himself move the resolution to-morrow? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ If the sense of the House is like that, I have no objection to adjourn the House now.”

(There were cries of “ to-morrow, to-morrow.”)

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I adjourn the House to 11 a.m. to-morrow.

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

1. G.O. No. 4678, Development, dated 23rd December 1946, regarding the Khadi Scheme submitted by the Provincial Textile Commissioner.

2. A pamphlet on “ Thrift and Saving.”

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 537 asked by Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 17th April 1947, page 535 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 77, L.A., dated 15th January 1944.

[Rules—Provident Fund—Municipal Councils—Rule 18—
Grant of advance—Instructions—Issued.]

READ—the following paper :—

From the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards,
dated 3rd November 1943, Roe. No. 13615/43-B-4.

Order—No. 77, L.A., dated 15th January 1944.

The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has brought to the notice of the Government that in certain municipalities the provisions of rule 18 of the Provident Fund Rules have been grossly abused and excessive advances have been granted to subscribers against the recommendations of the executive authorities without regard to the pay of the subscribers and their commitments. He has also reported that the grant of excessive advances in some other cases is due to the improper recommendations of the executive authorities.

2. The executive authorities of municipal councils are informed that under rule 18 of the Provident Fund Rules, it is not incumbent on them to place before the council every application for grant of advance. In cases in which they are not satisfied either as to the necessity for the advances or as to the repaying capacity of the subscribers, they may themselves reject the applications without reference to the municipal council. Only such applications as merit the consideration of the council should be placed before it. Care should be taken to recommend to the council the grant of advance exceeding the prescribed limits only in exceptional cases. In making the recommendation, the executive authorities should see that the balance which will be left in the subscriber's pay, after meeting the monthly subscription and instalment for repayment of advance, will not be unduly low.

3. The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts is requested to bring to the notice of the Inspector of Municipal Councils cases of failure of the executive authorities of municipal councils to observe the instructions in paragraph 2 above. The Deputy Inspectors of Municipal Councils should also see during their inspections whether these instructions are followed.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

V. N. KUNYA,
Secretary to Government.

To the Executive Authorities of Municipal Councils (through the Chairmen of
Municipal Councils).
„ Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
„ Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

[17th April 1947]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 538 asked by Sri M. Bapineedu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 17th April 1947, page 535 supra.]

(a) One hundred and sixty square miles at the contour of four feet above mean sea level. This is generally taken to be the area covered by the lake.

(b) Forty-one thousand and two hundred acres (17,200 in Godavari Western Delta and 24,000 in Kistna Eastern Delta).

(c) There is no fixed or recognized extent of second crop area since they are raised by pumping from the bunded portions of the lake itself. The total extent of such cultivation may be taken to be 20,000 acres (12,500 acres in Kistna district and 7,500 acres in West Godavari district) representing the area below plus five contour which has at some time or other been irrigated under dalva crop. The average extent of cultivation every year can however be taken only as about 8,000 acres.

(d) The average extent of yearly submersion for the six years ending 1945 is 36,000 acres during the first crop period. Generally there is no total loss of crop, except during years of cyclone such as 1938 and 1939, but the yield is affected to the extent of five to six bags per acre on this account.

(e) The following schemes were proposed, but most of them have been considered and dropped as uneconomical and of doubtful utility :—

(1) Construction of a flood moderating reservoir across the Budameru at Vellatur ;

(2) Diversion of the Budameru into the Kistna—

(a) above Bezwada anicut ;

(b) below Bezwada anicut ;

(3) Construction of a reservoir across the Tamilleru above Ellore Town (near Vizairoy) ;

(4) Construction of a reservoir across the Yerrakalva ;

(5) Bunding the Kolleru for about 360 miles ;

(6) Reclaiming portions of the Kolleru bed by bunding and pumping floods out of the submerged areas ; and

(7) Widening the Upputeru—

(a) to carry 50 per cent extra discharge ;

(b) do. 100 do.

(c) do. 200 do.

(d) do. 300 do.

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No scheme has yet been sanctioned. The following schemes are now under consideration :—

(1) Construction of a smaller reservoir across the Budameru at Nandigama. This scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 37 lakhs and will take three years for execution ; and

(2) widening of Upputeru to carry 100 per cent discharge. This scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 56 lakhs and will take only three years for execution if some special tools and plant are obtained.

(f) At present widening the Upputeru to carry 100 per cent extra discharge appears to be the only scheme that can be executed with appreciable benefit. By this means 4,000 acres in Godavari Western Delta and 10,496 acres in Kistna Eastern Delta can be recovered from submersion.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 544 asked by Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 17th April 1947, page 544 supra].

Name of department.	Superintendents.		Upper division clerks.		Lower division clerks.	
	Pre-war strength.	Post-war strength.	Pre-war strength.	Post-war strength.	Pre-war strength.	Post-war strength.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Education and Public Health.	10	18	28	43	10	15
Revenue	6	12	18	30	3	5
Legal	3	5	3	6	3*	5
Public Works ..	5	17	18	52	4	12
Development ..	6	26	19	57	3	13
* Food	..	12	..	36	..	13
Public (Chief Secretariat).	9	34	18	64	33	60
Home	7	14	17	33	7	13
Finance	16	23	24	40	16	26
Local Administration.	8	13	19	27	21	10
Secretariat of the Madras Legislature.	4	4	8	8	13	14

* Food Department was formed on 12th June 1946.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 18th April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister for Education will not be here to-morrow. So, I will take up his questions first."

(Starred questions from the list of 17th April 1947.)

Language test for Deputy Inspectors.

* 546-B Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he has received any representations regarding the abolition of Deputy Inspectors' Test, Part II (Language) for Subordinate Officers?

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

"Yes. After carefully examining the matter, the Government have come to the decision that the rule regarding a pass in the Language Test for Deputy Inspectors of Schools, etc., should not be abrogated now."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know the reason for the differentiation that is made between the Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants in the matter of passing the test. As the Hon. Minister may be aware, Deputy Inspectors are allowed to pass the test at their convenience whereas the School Assistants are debarred from reaching a scale above Rs. 100 on their failure to pass the test within a prescribed time."

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

"This supplementary question does not arise from the main question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"It does arise out of the question. As a matter of fact . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please do not argue with the Hon. Minister. Would the hon. Member kindly repeat her question?"

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I want to know why differentiation is made between Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants in the matter of passing the Language Test. As I have already pointed out, Deputy Inspectors are allowed to pass the test at their convenience, whereas School Assistants are not allowed to reach a scale above Rs. 100 if they do not pass the test within a prescribed time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is requested to put a separate question."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ In view of the fact that this differentiation is causing considerable hardship to School Assistants, particularly to Muslim women teachers, who experience much hardship in passing the test—I shall explain to the Hon. Minister personally about it—may I request him to examine the whole matter and if the test cannot be abolished altogether, at least to shift the bar to further increment and higher appointment to the selection grade for the School Assistants in the event of their failure to pass the test? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ This question is about Deputy Inspectors, and the hon. Member has put a question regarding School Assistants. If she puts a separate question, we will consider the matter.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is not the Hon. Minister aware that there is a combined cadre of Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants and as such there can be no differentiation between them and it cannot be suggested that when a question is asked about Deputy Inspectors supplementaries cannot be raised regarding School Assistants? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ If there is a combined cadre, there is no necessity for the hon. Member to raise the question at all.”

Wardha scheme of education.

* 546-C Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the Wardha scheme of education in this Province; and

(b) if so, what the proposals are?

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

“ (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member means by the Wardha scheme of education the basic system of education. If that is so, the answer is yes.

“ (b) Two training schools have been opened, one in the Tamilnad and the other in Andhra, to train teachers in the basic system of education. Trained teachers have been sent to Wardha for training and when they come back, it is expected the Government will be able to start three more training schools in the coming school years.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I know what the salary, other conditions of service and privileges will be of these teachers when they come and take up this work.”

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

“ Their salary will be the same grade as the one the Government have fixed for other teachers.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I tell the Hon. Minister that the present teachers are dissatisfied with their present scales of pay and may I ask him whether these teachers also will not be dissatisfied when they are brought in? ”

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

“ Government are receiving representation from teachers in this behalf. But there is no reason to say that these teachers should be treated differently from others. When the question of raising the status and scales of pay of the others are considered, this question also will be considered.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask how you can expect to get teachers for this scheme when the present teachers are dissatisfied with their pay and when others are not coming forward? ”

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

“ I suggest to the hon. Member to wait for three months and see whether more teachers are not forthcoming.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know if the Hon. Minister will be able to say what he means by ‘ Wardha scheme ’? ”

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

“ It is too big a question to be answered by way of reply to a supplementary question. I suggest a separate question being put.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is not the Wardha scheme a part of the political propaganda carried out by the Congress in the past before they came into power? ”

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

“ That is the opinion of ignorant people. It is a scheme which has been accepted by the Basic Education Committee of the Government of India which does not consist of Congress men at all.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“ Are there any basic schools at present which are recognized by Government? ”

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

“ Yes, Sir. I understand orders have been issued by Government recognizing basic schools when they are conducted on certain lines. But I am not able to give information as to the number of such schools that exist to-day.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ May I know whether it is not a fact that the basic education scheme is a great improvement upon the present system of elementary and secondary education inasmuch as some arts and crafts are also taught to the students so that they may live a self-respecting life? ”

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

“ That is the considered opinion of prominent educationists.”

(Questions 546-D and 546-E were answered on 17th March 1947.)

Refusal of admissions into Medical and Engineering Colleges under new rule.

* 546-F Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many Muslim, Christian, Non-Brahman and Scheduled Caste students

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have been refused admission this year in the Medical College and Engineering Colleges by reason of the introduction of the new rule, that 20 per cent of the admissions should be based on merit instead of the old rule regarding communal representation?

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

“No communal proportion has been fixed for admission to the Engineering Colleges and so it cannot be said that the refusal of admissions to certain candidates was due to this rule. A statement of the number of applications from each community and the number selected on merit, and otherwise and the percentage of admissions to applications was furnished in the answer to question No. 112-A answered on 23rd August 1946.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“In view of the fact that the Hon. Minister stated on the floor of the House that this rule was intended only for one year, do the Government intend to rescind this new rule, so that admission to the Engineering Colleges in the next academic year might proceed in the manner prevalent before this rule was brought into force?”

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

“The Government promised that they would consider the working of the rule and the Government will consider it.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister will place this matter before the entire Cabinet before arriving at a decision on the question?”

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

“This is not a matter on which a Member may question a Member of Government.”

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—“Has not the Bhoré Committee recommended a higher percentage of admissions on the basis of merit?”

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

“Yes, Sir, so far as admissions to Medical Colleges are concerned.”

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—“In view of the fact that students coming from rural parts have to spend thousands of rupees for their scholastic career, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider the question of giving priority to those students for admission to Medical and Engineering Colleges?”

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

“It is difficult to find out the rural and the town students because there is no classification existing to-day as students coming from rural parts and town areas. The only distinction that we make is on the basis of community.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask Government what they mean by ‘merit’; how can you say that a person has no merit without giving him a chance to show his merit?”

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

“As far as it has been administered, ‘merit’ means marks.”

[18th April 1947]

Admissions to Medical and Engineering Colleges under new rule.

* 546-G Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how many of the students, who have been admitted this year in the Medical Colleges and the Engineering Colleges under the recent rule that 20 per cent of the admissions should be based on merit, are Brahman, Non-Brahman, Muslim, Christian and Scheduled Caste?

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

“The information was furnished in the answer to Short Notice Question No. 112-A answered on 23rd August 1946.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask whether the Government will take early steps to see that a decision in regard to this matter is arrived at before the commencement of the next academic year?”

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

“Certainly.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know if there is anything wrong in setting apart some places for merit?”

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

“The matter is under consideration and I have nothing more to say in the matter.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“From the statement made in the past, was it not clear to the Hon. Minister that much harm had been done to the Non-Brahman and backward communities?”

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

“The Government have said that the matter is under consideration and I have nothing more to add to what I have said.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether it is not a fact that the idea of judging merit by marks has considerably changed in recent times and that it is not merely the securing of high marks in examination through cramming but other factors also that go to constitute merit?”

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

“Quite right, Sir.”

Transfer of lecturers and change of text-books.

* 546-H Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are frequent transfers of lecturers in Government Colleges; and

(b) whether there are frequent changes of text-books prescribed for colleges and schools?

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

“(a) No, except to the extent that transfers are unavoidable for administrative reasons. Even then, the principle observed is that transfers of staff during the middle of an academic year should, as far as possible, be avoided.

“(b) Prescription of text-books for college classes is a matter for the Universities.

“As regards schools, generally the policy of the department has always been to discourage frequent change of text-books. If books do not get re-approved by the Text-Book Committee due to efflux of time or other considerations and if there is shortage of copies of the prescribed books due to paper shortage and if the books become unsuitable due to any modifications in the syllabuses, then, special permission is granted for changing the text-books.”

Money spent on college education in this Province.

* 546-I Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of money spent on college education in the Province;

(b) of this how much is contributed by Government, district boards, municipalities and aided agencies; and

(c) how much has been collected as fees in colleges?

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

“(a) According to the latest figures available, i.e., 1945-46, the expenditure is as follows:—

	Colleges for men.	Colleges for women.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
University ..	37,86,998	..	37,86,998
Arts and Inter Colleges.	47,66,593	5,24,055	52,90,648
Professional Colleges.	28,97,225	3,35,484	32,32,709
Total	1,14,50,816	8,59,539	1,23,10,355
“(b) Government ..	42,41,612	3,40,110	45,81,822
Municipal ..	17,300	12,267	29,567
Private agencies	25,46,416	3,18,596	28,65,112
Total	68,05,328	6,71,073	74,76,401
“(c) Fees ..	46,45,488	1,88,466	48,33,954

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of opening colleges in districts where there is no college at present?”

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

“This supplementary question does not arise from the main question, Sir.”

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know, Sir, why the grant to the Madras University from this year's budget has been so inadequate?”

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

“It is unfortunate that to whomsoever you make a grant, the complaint is always received that it is inadequate.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that the University of Madras is in dire need of more funds for its extra-mural department and other activities and will the Government see that at least some amount is granted for the extra-mural department of the Madras University if need be by coming before this House with a Supplementary demand?”

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

“It is open to the Madras University to make an application.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I inform the Hon. Minister that the University of Madras has already applied to the Government for a grant for its extra-mural department?”

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

“That will be considered.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that this Government has shown step-motherly treatment to the Andhra University by granting to it a paltry sum?”

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

“I am glad, Sir, that my hon. Friend associates himself with the Andhra area and Andhra University. The Government is not aware of any such step-motherly treatment.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“In view of the fact that contribution from fees covers nearly half the expenditure on college education, will the Government be pleased to liberalize the equipment grants to science colleges?”

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

“There is now a Government Order putting a ban on grants for equipments and buildings. Government are considering the matter.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Government what is their policy so far as Rayalaseema is concerned?”

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

“We wish them well, Sir.” (Laughter.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Government to take pains to see that more colleges are opened in Rayalaseema?”

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

“That has to be considered, Sir.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With regard to these equipment grants, am I to understand that the Government are going to make these grants this year to the Colleges which have already applied?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No such presumption is warranted, Sir."

Dearness allowances to teachers.

* 546-J Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have not directed the payment of arrears of dearness allowances to teachers in Aided Training schools, as they have done in the case of teachers in Aided Secondary schools, and, if so, why;

(b) whether it is a fact that dearness allowance at the rate fixed by Government for all Aided Elementary schools from 1st February 1946 is not being paid in some of the Model schools attached to the Training schools; and

(c) if so, what steps they have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (a) No.

" (b) The Model schools attached to Training schools have been taken along with the Training schools for payment of special grants for dearness allowance for 1945-46 and grants have already been sanctioned.

" (c) The question does not arise."

Arabic as second language.

* 546-K Q.—MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) how many Muslim students have taken up Arabic as their second language in Secondary schools in South Kanara district; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to appoint an Arabic lecturer or Munshi in the Government College at Mangalore to provide facilities for the collegiate education of the students who have taken up Arabic as second language in the S.S.L.C. course?

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

" (a) Thirty students (22 in the Government Muslim High School, Kasargod, and 8 in the Board High School, Kasargod).

" (b) No student in the Government College, Mangalore, has taken Arabic in his college course. The question of appointing an Arabic lecturer or Munshi will be considered when there is a necessity for such appointment."

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MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister for Education is aware that many students who completed their studies in the high schools taking Arabic as their second language could not continue in the colleges at Mangalore for want of Arabic teachers?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister, Sir, take my information now that there are many students who want to take Arabic in Intermediate class in the Mangalore College, and will he consider the advisability of appointing an Arabic teacher?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Such a matter, if it comes through the Principal of that college, will be considered. Apart from that, the Muhammadan College provides for Arabic, and if the number of students is small, I would advise that number of students to take advantage of the provision made for Arabic in the Muhammadan College."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that it will not be practicable for students in Mangalore to come and study in the Muhammadan College in Madras?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is not also practicable to have separate staff for this small number."

Permission to see detenus.

* 547 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. V. G. Rao, G. Ramachandran and S. Krishnamurthi, Advocates, were denied permission by the Chief Secretary to meet the detenus in the Central Jail at Vellore with a view to help them to present their cases;

(b) if so, why they were prevented from interviewing the detenus;

(c) whether the Public Safety Ordinance contemplates legal assistance under section 4;

(d) if so, why the detenus under the Ordinance were denied the right of legal aid; and

(e) whether the Government propose to issue orders permitting the advocates to meet the detenus?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Because the detenus concerned did not move in the matter.

" (c) Section 4 of the Ordinance says that every detenu should be informed of his right of making a representation against the order of detention and should be afforded the earliest practicable opportunity of doing so.

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"(d) No detenu was denied the right of legal aid.

"(e) The matter will be considered if and when any detenu applies for legal aid."

Police firing in North Malabar.

* 548 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons dead in the Police firing at Karivalloor and Ellaranhi in North Malabar recently with their names;

(b) whether the Government propose to give any compensation to the families of the dead persons;

(c) the number of persons injured in the Police attacks made on peasants in Karivalloor, Ellaranhi, Irikkur and Payyanoor of North Malabar recently with their names;

(d) the number of persons convicted and kept as under-trials in connexion with the recent peasant agitation and the subsequent disturbances in Karivalloor, Ellaranhi, Irikkur and Payyanoor of North Malabar;

(e) whether all those convicted are treated as political prisoners or not; and

(f) whether the cases brought against those convicted gave any proof of the political nature of their activities; and if so, why they are not treated as political prisoners?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Karivalloor—2.

Names—

- (1) Manakat Veettil Kannan.
- (2). Keeneri Kannan.

Ellaranhi—5.

Names—

- (1) Pulluvan Kumaran, Oorathur.
- (2) Thengil Appa, Eruvassi.
- (3) Manjeri Govindan, Ellaranhi.
- (4) Kolan Pulikool Raman, Payyanoor; and
- (5) Alorambankandy Krishnan, Blathur.—

“(b) No.

“(c) Karivalloor—9.

Names—

- (1) A. V. Kunhambu, Karivalloor.
- (2) Kizhake Veettil Krishnan Master, Karivalloor.
- (3) Puthiyedath Raman, Karivalloor.
- (4) Cherikallil Kunhambu, Karivalloor.
- (5) O. P. Karunakaran, Assistant Amsom Menon, Karivalloor.
- (6) Pazhaya Purayil Kannan, Karivalloor.
- (7) Manha Kunhappa, Karivalloor.
- (8) Raman Nair, son of Ambu, near Karivalloor; and
- (9) Thera Kunhiraman, Karivalloor.

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Ellaranhi—6.

Names—

- (1) Koyakadan Kunhambu, Eruvassi.
- (2) Kadangot Govindan Nair, Payyanur.
- (3) M. C. Kannan Nambiyar, Netiyanga.
- (4) B. Narayanan Nambiyar, Netiyanga.
- (5) T. P. Narayanan Nambiyar, Netiyanga; and
- (6) K. Raman, Netiyanga.

Irikkur—II.

Names—

- (1) Mattangotan Govindan Nambiar, Oorathoor.
- (2) Kuzhukumman Othenan Nambiar, Kuyilur.
- (3) Cherucheri Kunhappa Nambiar, Kuyilur.
- (4) Mavila Kunhappa Nambiar, Kuyilur.
- (5) Keerikoth Kunhappa Nambiar, Kuyilur.
- (6) Ryroth Govindan Nair, Kuyilur.
- (7) Palothil Krishnan, Kuyilur.
- (8) Narath Veetil Narayanan Nambiar, Kuyilur.
- (9) Karayan Azhicodan Kunhambu Nambiar, Patiyur.
- (10) Azhicodan Othenan Nambiar, Patiyur; and
- (11) Kunhampiduka Kunhappa Nambiar, Patiyur.

Payyanoor—Nil.

		Convicted.	Under-trials.
“(d) Karivalloor	--	Nil.	183
Ellaranhi ..	--	10	140
Irikkur ..	..	Nil.	104
Payyanoor ..	..	4	55

“(e) No.

“(f) The cases brought against those convicted showed that they had come under the influence of the Communist party. The Government have decided that the Communist prisoners convicted of criminal offences cannot be treated as political prisoners. They are, however, prepared to examine individual cases of Communists convicted of criminal offences and treat them leniently in the matter of classification after examining the nature and seriousness of the offence.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know what the policy of the Government is in regard to payment of compensation to the families of persons seriously injured or killed by the Police?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“If individual cases are brought to the notice of Government, the question of compensation will be considered.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I want to know in which cases the Government is prepared to pay compensation and in which cases the Government is not prepared to pay compensation?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already explained that it all depends on the circumstances of each case, the individuals concerned and the nature of the offence for which they have been punished."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why the Communist party prisoners are not treated as political prisoners?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The reason must be obvious to the hon. Member; because they have taken part in violent activities and disturbed the peace and tranquillity; they are more criminals than politicals." (Laughter.)

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Arising out of the answer to clause (b), namely, no compensation will be given, may I request the Minister, in view of the fact that the people who died are poor innocent persons misled by Communist people, to reconsider the question of giving compensation to the families of those who suffered on account of firing?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already replied that individual cases will be decided on their merits; where such compensation is found necessary it will be given."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer that the Communists are responsible for violent action, was it not a fact that the Congress people did the same thing in 1942 and yet got compensation?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I deny the statement. There was no question of violence among Congressmen at all, because they are bound by the doctrine of non-violence."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Are Government aware of the fact that in the 1942 disturbances Congressmen were convicted for violent activities and yet they were treated as political prisoners?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not aware of any such thing."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether by championing the cause of Communists poor innocent people have suffered?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am grateful for the information."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the late Bhagat Singh was considered a political prisoner in spite of his violence and that too of murder?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am grateful for the information."

549 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The answer is not ready; the question will be taken up to-morrow."

[18th April 1947]

Mill cloth for this Province.

* 550 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of mill cloth that will have to be imported to our province from other provinces to carry on cloth rationing effectively;

(b) what is the principle on which discrimination has been made between the rich and the poor in regard to rationing of fine and coarse cloth; and

(c) what are the names, communities to which they belong and qualifications of the officials and non-officials who have been appointed as Officers in the Textile department and the basic experience each one of them has had in this work?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) A total quantity of 12,241 bales is required per month for this Province to carry on cloth rationing effectively on the basis of 5 yards per adult and 2 yards per child. Out of this quantity, 8,307 bales have to be imported from other provinces.

" (b) There is at present, no distinction between the rich and the poor in regard to the supply of mill cloth.

" (c) The information required is furnished in the statement^a placed on the table of the House.

" All the posts in the Textile Control Department are administrative posts and experience of administration was thought more useful than any technical knowledge. All the officers except those appointed on contract are experienced in administrative work. The technical knowledge required to carry on their duties was acquired by them after they joined the department."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since the Government are not in favour of mill cloth, may I know why this Government try to import cloth from other provinces?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"Cloth is imported from other provinces to clothe the people." (Laughter).

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the present Ministry also continues the policy of the previous Ministry as regards cloth rationing or whether there is any modification in the policy?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"The present Ministry pursues the same policy of the previous Ministry in clothing the people of the province as far as it is possible for them to do so."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the statement furnished I find there is not a single Harijan appointed as officer in the Textile department. May I know the reasons?"

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Though it does not arise out of this question I shall answer the question. I think the hon. Member is making a mistake. I refer him to serial number 25. Sri M. Muthukrishnan belongs to the Harijan community."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether one Muthukrishnan will do to solve the Harijan problem, especially with a Congress Government in power? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It is not intended to solve the Harijan problem by making a few appointments."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that 60 per cent of these jobs have gone to one community, namely, the Brahmans? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, this is a question that has been raised several times and answers have been given."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think so."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—" In view of the paucity of Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners from Harijans will the Hon. Minister be pleased to reserve the remaining appointments for Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I do not follow the question of my hon. Friend. One I.A.T.C. is appointed for each district. There is no question of paucity of I.A.T.Cs."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—" My question is this, Sir. As there is only one Harijan among the 34 I.A.T.Cs. and the communal Government Order was not applied, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will see that hereafter adequate representation will be given to Harijans in making appointments to the I.A.T.C. cadre? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Yes, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the present Ministry also continues the same policy of the previous Ministry in the matter of prohibiting further mills being started in this Presidency and the increasing of spindles in this Presidency? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" It does not arise out of this question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Vannikula Kshatriyas, the most backward among the backward communities, will be given first preference in this department? "

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, the question of the Vannikula Kshatriyas being an important backward community has been brought to the notice of the Government and their claims will be considered in due course when necessity arises and if such provision is made under the communal Government Order that is usually adopted in the matter of appointments by the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Has the Hon. Minister observed the fact that out of the total number of these 34 important appointments only two are Muslims? Does he not know that there are many qualified Muslims to occupy such posts and will he consider the making of more appointments from amongst the Muslims? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" In future? "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Yes, Sir."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I have not questioned the availability of proper people, for these appointments. It is only a question of fact that I am stating about these appointments as they are. If there are suitable man and if they are to be appointed in the future their claims will be considered in proportion to the usual quota to the Muslims that is allowed under the communal Government Order."

*Reservation of posts for war service candidates in
Judicial Department.*

* 551 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Hajee K. M. Ahmed Kutty Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of vacancies reserved for war service candidates in the Judicial Department of this Presidency;

(b) of these vacancies how many places are reserved in the cadre of District Munsifs and District Judges;

(c) the number of qualified candidates selected for appointment to the cadre of District Munsifs out of the war service candidates;

(d) whether the communal Government Order is followed in the method of this selection, and if not, why not;

(e) if there are not sufficient number of war service candidates how the remaining vacancies are to be filled up;

(f) whether the Government propose to allow the present incumbents in the cadre to continue in the services; and

(g) whether the Government have any plan by which the present incumbents are to be retained in the services, and if so, on what lines?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) Twenty-nine posts of District Munsifs and 468 non-Gazetted posts in the Judicial Department have been reserved. No vacancy in the cadre of District Judges is now reserved but one vacancy has already been filled by a war service candidate.

“(c) The Madras Public Service Commission has not yet completed the selection of war service candidates for appointment to this cadre.

“(d) No. The decision not to apply the communal rule was taken in 1941. The Government consider that it will be a breach of faith with war service candidates to change this decision at the present time.

“(e) The remaining vacancies will be allotted to the present incumbents of the posts (i.e., persons appointed regularly) and when such persons are not available, by open competition.

“(f) & (g) Attention is invited to Government Press Note No. 210, Public (Services), dated 21st November 1946. In the case of temporary Government servants selected for appointment before 2nd June 1944 selection for retention against civilian vacancies will be regulated according to seniority. As regards those selected and appointed on or after 2nd June 1944, the most suitable will be retained irrespective of seniority but subject to the communal rule.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer to clause (d) may I know what is the difficulty of the Government in modifying the present rule and introducing the communal proportion rule as regards the recruitment of War Service candidates to the District Munsifs' cadre?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I thought, Sir, the answer was wide enough to know why this was done. This was done in 1941. As we do not know to what communities the war service candidates belong it is impossible to change the decision now as it will act unfairly on those who served in the war.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether it is not open to the Government to change their rule if they think that it is inconsistent with justice?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“They would have changed it, Sir, if they thought that it was inconsistent with justice. My answer is, because they felt that it was consistent with justice that the alteration has not been made.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer, Sir, that the Government consider that it will be a breach of faith to change the communal Government Order is the Leader of the House aware that the previous Government

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has committed breach of faith a thousand times in making appointments to various vacancies which have been reserved for war service personnel?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not responsible for the acts of the previous Government.”

Railway line between Tanjore and Pattukkottai.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not in his seat. The answer will be printed in the proceedings.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“I put the question on behalf of Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“As a special case, I allow you this time. I hope this will not be repeated again.”

* 552 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI (on behalf of Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Provincial Government have received any information as to the date when the railway line between Tanjore and Pattukkottai will be taken up for execution?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“No.”

Lower scales of pay for teachers.

* 553 Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) why teachers who are expected to possess higher qualifications than employees in other Departments are given lower scales of pay as compared with other Departments;

(b) the reason which prompted the Government to recommend different scales of pay for teachers of the same qualifications under different agencies: Government, Local Boards and private Agencies;

(c) why the Government have fixed lower scales of pay for language Pandits than the scales of pay for L.Ts. especially when the mother-tongue is made to occupy the place of the first language and therefore of first importance;

(d) what obstacles stand in the way of the Government making it obligatory on the part of the private managements, so far as Secondary and Training schools are concerned, to adopt the Government scales of pay and what the Government have done to remove those obstacles; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Government cannot interfere with the discretion of the managements as regards scales of pay, leave rules, tenure of service, etc.?

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

“(a) The general considerations that weighed with the Cabinet Salaries Committee in fixing the scales of pay for the various classes of subordinates are set out in paragraph 7 of the Press Note issued by Government on 12th January

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1947. A comparison of the revised scales of pay of the two main classes of teachers, viz., School Assistants and Secondary Grade teachers, with scales of pay for corresponding subordinates in other departments of Government will show that the scales of pay of School Assistants is better than that of Upper Division Clerks and that the scale of pay of Secondary Grade teachers with craft training is the same as that for lower division clerks. The minima of the scales of pay for Deputy Tahsildars and Sub-Registrars are, however, higher than the minimum of School Assistants' scales of pay. This is so for the reason that the duties and responsibilities of a Deputy Tahsildar or a Sub-Registrar in the initial stages are higher than those of a School Assistant.

“(b) The Government had to make allowances for the differences in conditions of service between teachers in Government employment and those working under local bodies and in private institutions, and also the limit of the commitment they could undertake in this regard as determined by their general finances.

“(c) The scale of pay of I Grade Pandits and Munshis in Government Colleges and in schools are the same as those of Assistant Professors and Assistant Lecturers and of L.T. Assistants, respectively. The II Grade Pandits in Colleges though they are expected to possess only S.S.L.C., plus the professional qualification, have been given the II Grade L.T. Assistants' scale of pay and II Grade Pandits in schools have been given a scale of pay definitely higher than that of Secondary Grade teachers. These remarks apply to Pandits and Munshis employed in local bodies also. It cannot therefore be said that distinctions have been made as between language teachers and others to the detriment of the former.

“(d) What mainly stands in the way of Government making it obligatory on the part of managements to adopt the Government scales of pay is finance—Provincial finance as well as the financial condition of the managements.

“(e) According to the Madras Educational Rules, the Government have the power of intervention, but the extent to which they can interfere is a matter of expediency; if high uniform standards are laid down it is likely that many of the managements will not be able to comply with them and will be put to the necessity of closing down their schools in which case the Government may have to take over the schools and the burden of running them will entirely fall on their shoulders.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—(As the Hon. Minister was reading the answer) “It is impossible to follow the Minister, Sir. The answer may as well be printed and circulated.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“This cannot be done now. The Hon. Minister will not be here for the rest of the meeting. That means that questions should either be answered to-day or tomorrow or if the session is prorogued they would lapse.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“It is unfortunate, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I will ask the Hon. Minister to read the answer slowly so that you can follow.”

(The rest of the answer was read out slowly.)

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—“Are the Government aware, Sir, that many of these private managements are spending most of their money on buildings and not on giving adequate pay to their teachers?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“No, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that the responsibilities of the Deputy Tahsildar are greater than that of the teacher, may I know the reasons how he has come to that conclusion?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“With reference to the duties that they are asked to discharge, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I want to know the reasons how the Hon. Minister came to that conclusion?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The reason is the nature of the duties they are asked to perform.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the fact that teachers are undergoing lot of troubles in different managements will Government consider the desirability of abolishing all the different management agencies and bring them under one agency, i.e., the Government agency, and entrust education to the village committee so that they can have direct supervision?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“No, Sir.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are the Government aware that it is the teachers that mould the character of these young men, and unless the pay is adequate and attractive, proper men of character cannot be expected to be recruited as teachers, and therefore the fixation of low scales of salary will be detrimental to the development of character for the future generation?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I would very much like to associate myself with the sentiments that the hon. Member expresses.”

(A voice from Muslim Benches: ‘Is that the reply.’)

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SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that in foreign countries, teachers and journalists are paid more than any other profession?"

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

"The hon. Member is absolutely mistaken. I have read American magazines. Accounts of teachers, just word for word as in this country, have appeared in them."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, wherein lies the difference between teachers employed in the Government schools and teachers serving to under local bodies? The Hon. Minister said in answer to clause (d) that there was a difference in regard to their duties. I want to know what those different duties are?"

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

"It is the policy of the Government to make their teachers Deputy Inspectors, cadre I. Deputy Inspectors have to be in charge of large funds, and they have much administrative duties. In view of the administrative duties they have to perform, the Government thought that they should be given more."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the undoubted fact that the Government are aware that the quality of education is the basis of every appreciable improvement in the Province and also in the country, and in view of the fact that the Hon. Minister appreciates the sentiments expressed by my hon. Friend Mr. Pocker, will he not consider the desirability of raising the status of the teachers, Sir?"

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

"I am making attempts every day. It is for hon. Members to co-operate with the Government and devise means of taxation by which we can get the money and pay the teachers."

SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of making a grant to such of those institutions managed by the local boards and municipalities as also the aided schools if they, for their part are willing to give enhanced pay to their teachers to bring them to the same scale as that of the Government?"

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

"Even now, Sir, the Government are paying half the net grant at the local boards rates."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister for Education give us an assurance that during his regime he will make his Department as attractive, as lucrative, and as prospective as the Revenue Department in order to entertain the best material which this department must have in its hierarchy?"

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

"It is not possible for a single Minister to make any promise, Sir. The Cabinet must make that promise."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the fact that there is an outcry the world over for the principle of equal pay for equal work being enforced everywhere, and in view of the fact that teachers serving in Government institutions and those who serve in local board schools are all doing the same work, will the Government see that the teachers in local board schools also receive the same pay?"

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

"The Government would not accept the presumption behind the question, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it too much, Sir, to expect that the Hon. the Education Minister will be an excellent fighter for the cause of teachers in the Cabinet?"

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

"These questions cannot be answered, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Because it becomes a Cabinet secret the Hon. Minister cannot give an answer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In answer to a previous question, the Hon. Minister for Education said that the matter was for the Cabinet. He could not say that members here could rely upon him to take up the matter with the Cabinet. Therefore, the question was put to him whether he would take up the fight with the Cabinet on behalf of better education in the Province?"

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

"I am afraid, Sir, these are all not matters for questions and answers. It must be left to the Ministry to do whatever they think right."

Money spent on Elementary Education and Secondary Education in this Province.

* 554 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of money spent on Elementary Education in this Province;

(b) of this how much is contributed by Government, District Boards, Municipalities and aided agencies;

(c) how much has been collected as fees in elementary schools;

(d) the total number of elementary schools in this Province;

(e) out of these how many are maintained by Government, local bodies, Municipalities and aided agencies;

(f) the total amount of money spent on Secondary Education in the Province and of this how much for boys' and how much for girls' schools;

(g) the amount contributed by Government and District Boards, Municipalities, and aided agencies; and

(h) how much is received as fees?

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“(a) to (h) A statement^a containing the figures for 1945-46 which are the latest available is placed on the table of the House.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the Post-War Reconstruction Committee recommended that 44 lakhs should be spent on compulsory elementary education during the first year of the introduction of the scheme and 88 lakhs in the second year, whereas the Government have this year budgeted only 13½ lakhs for elementary education?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“If the hon. Member is aware of it what is the answer that she expects from me.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“In view of the fact that the Hon. Minister is aware of the recommendations of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee, may I know whether the Government will do more hereafter for elementary education than what they have done hitherto and may I know how long the Government intend to complete the compulsory elementary education scheme in this Province?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“It is a matter of mere finance. The Government expect to reorganize their finance, and as soon as it is done they expect to make larger strides in the sphere of elementary education.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether the Government will take steps to see that in ten years' time the scheme of compulsory elementary education is brought into force throughout the whole Province as has been recommended by the Post-War Reconstruction Committee?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“It will receive our earliest consideration.”

Government servants from Scheduled class.

* 555 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many Government servants are at present in each department from different communities among the Scheduled class in each district;

(b) how many in gazetted ranks; and

(c) how many in non-gazetted ranks both in the Ministerial and Secretariat Services?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) to (c) For purpose of communal representation in the Public Services the population of the Province is divided into five main divisions,—viz., Non-Brahman (Hindu), Muslim, Anglo-Indian,

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Christian and Non-Asiatic, Brahman and Scheduled Castes. No subdivision has been recognized in any of the above five main divisions as it has been considered that such recognition will make the working of the communal rule unduly complex.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether the numbers allotted to the Harijans or the Scheduled castes are proportionate to their population?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“In view of the hon. Member's question I shall try to work out the proportion.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“I do not hear the answer, Sir.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am thankful to the hon. Member for raising this question. The Government will work out the proportion, though I cannot give any undertaking whether the present categories will remain or not.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask whether the Government will fix a particular percentage to be reached by the Harijan community as there is very little representation of the community in almost all the Government offices?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask why, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am afraid the answer is still ‘No’, Sir.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“In view of the fact that the communal Government Order was passed some 16 years ago, will the Government think of altering it so that adequate representation may be given to the Scheduled classes who are not represented in the services adequately?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“By June 1948 new conditions will prevail and it is too early to take up that matter under consideration.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the fact that there are a good number of graduates, no less than 43 graduates of the Harijan community, will the Government take steps to absorb them in service? I shall place a list of graduates on the table of the House.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Member must take into consideration the number of graduates in the other communities also who are all for Government service. The existence of 43 graduates in a population which I have to work out is really very little.”

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—“May I know if the Hon. Minister is satisfied that adequate representation is given to each community among the Depressed classes?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“As I have said in the course of the answer, it is impossible to divide the communities into further categories. I am sorry that division exists even among Harijans. I want every community to come together from Brahman to Harijan.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“Is it not a fact that due to the lack of a Harijan Member on the Services Commission, Harijans are not getting adequate representation in the services?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I do not grant the premises of the hon. Member.”

Green manure.

* 556 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the districts in which fees are charged for green manure; and

(b) the fees for a cart-load of green manure in a panchayat area of forests and in forests under the Government control?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) & (b) Statements ^a indicating the fees charged for the removal of a cart-load of green manure from the panchayat forests in the various districts and from departmental forests in various forest divisions are placed on the table of the House.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“From the statement laid on the table of the House, Sir, I find vast difference between Kurnool and Chingleput. May I know why it is so, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“The difference is due to the difference in availability of green manure in the local areas.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government will consider the desirability of abolishing the cart-load system and allow the head-load system?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“The Government will examine the matter. If it is found to be of more advantage to the ryot, it will be followed.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the fact that the Rayalaseema consists of backward districts, will the Government consider the desirability of reducing the fee per cart-load there to the level of the Chingleput district?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“It is the policy of the Government to discourage the taking of green manure from reserved forests as far as possible as expert advice is against it.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will the Government consider the question of substituting weights in the place of cart-loads or head-loads?”

^a Printed as Appendix IV on page 683-684 infra.

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“This has never been suggested, Sir. I do not know whether it is practicable. The Government will examine the question and if that is practicable and more advantageous, the Government will take it up.”

Construction of wells.

* 557 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state the total number of wells constructed by the Labour department for the use of the Depressed classes and the total cost incurred for that purpose for the last five years, districtwar in this Province?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“A statement ^b showing the particulars is placed on the table.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“From the statement I find that there are very few wells being sunk in the Kurnool district. May I know the reasons, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“Sir, the statement contains figures as regards the number of wells in all the 24 districts. There are some other districts where the number of wells are still fewer. I cannot give any reason for the difference in the number of wells in the different districts. Most probably the Labour Department have taken them up on the ground of availability of funds and the necessity.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Harijans of Rayalaseema are suffering from want of water and may I suggest that the Hon. Minister cannot compare Rayalaseema with other districts?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The hon. Member's contention may be right generally. In every district all the Harijan cheris have been suffering for want of water facilities. That is a general question. If he goes into the districts and studies the condition of the Harijans in each district he will find that the Harijans are badly in need of water. Therefore a differential treatment cannot be given to Kurnool under the present rules and with the money available from the previous year.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government kindly verify the figures for the Guntur district which is given as Rs. 4,93,191 as against 51 new wells and 22 old wells whereas in all the other cases the amount is under half a lakh and the number of wells sunk is on the same level with that of the Guntur district?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“This is a thing which was done in the past. Now it will be examined again.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Is the Government aware, Sir, that it is not only Kurnool, but there are Coimbatore, Salem and other districts also without any facility and that no money has been spent on these districts by the Labour Department?”

^b Printed as Appendix V on page 685 infra.

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"In these districts the Labour department is not working. That is why this Government have decided to introduce the Labour department in the districts mentioned by appointing District Labour officers."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of not spending any money at all on these wells hereafter in view of the fact that we have recently passed an Act giving full and equal rights to all people, including the depressed classes, in all places like wells, tanks, etc.?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I understand the view of the hon. Member, Mr. Swaminathan. Under the Act, only civil rights have been given but not any economic and other facilities. So the Government cannot give up undertaking ameliorative measures."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"If it is assumed that the figure given for Guntur is correct may I draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there is something very unconscionable in the amount spent in that district in view of the fact that the cost of each well runs to well over Rs. 10,000?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I have already answered, Sir, that the case will be examined thoroughly."

Alleged expulsion of a student from the Victoria Hostel.

* 558 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what action was taken on the representation made to the Education Minister by P. V. Thamby, a student of the Presidency College, who had to leave the Victoria Hostel by the order of the Warden for taking part in political demonstrations; and

(b) whether the Government propose to withdraw the Government Order which bans politically convicted students from entering colleges?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (a) The Government made enquiries of the Warden of the Victoria Hostel about the reasons for the sending away of Sri P. V. Thamby, student of Presidency College, from the hostel. The Warden has reported that the dismissal was not due to political reasons but due to reasons other than political. In these circumstances, the Government considered it unnecessary to pursue the matter further.

" (b) The Universities of the Province, at the instance of the Government have agreed to re-admit in colleges students expelled for political reasons."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the Government will pursue the matter further and find out the reason why the student was expelled and was not re-admitted?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I would not discuss cases of particular individuals or of particular instances on the floor of the House."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My question has not been answered. My question does not relate to an individual case. It is a general question of taking disciplinary action. In that connexion, may I know what the Hon. Minister has done to safeguard the interest of that boy?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The question has been put regarding the particular individual, P. V. Thamby, and the answer has been given. If the hon. Member does not want me to disclose more about the particular individual, what more does he want me to do?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As regards the definition of 'political convictions', will the Government tell us whether they have different definitions for different purposes?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Each definition must depend on its own case."

Allotment of Rs. 2 lakhs to the Loyola College.

* 559 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the reasons why Rs. 2 lakhs were allotted to the Loyola College?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The grant promised is towards one-half of the cost of construction of a new building for the Chemistry laboratory to accommodate all Chemistry classes of the college with facilities for advanced research in Chemistry. The new laboratory is essential for the B.Sc. (Hons.) course in Chemistry proposed to be introduced. The grant was promised as further expansion of facilities for honours courses in Chemistry is necessary for producing more highly qualified chemists and as their services would be required for carrying out many of the post-war schemes under 'Industries and Industrial Training.'"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know if the Hon. Minister can give the same promise as regards other colleges which are anxious to open such courses?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The one which wants to open courses will always have a priority."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Was it not the declared policy of the Government not to encourage missionary colleges; and was it not a fact that the Minister for Education has issued in a recent press statement that he has received reports against missionary colleges, that they are converting people?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ I deplore the statement of the hon. Member. The Government have never said that they would discourage missionary schools and colleges.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not the policy of the Government to discourage missionary institutions? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ In no place have the Government said they would discourage missionary institutions.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware of the statement of Gandhi that such colleges should not be encouraged? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ No, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ We have nothing to do with Gandhi's affair.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Will the Government prevent proselytisation by missionary schools and colleges? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ Orders are being issued that schools and colleges should not be used for proselytisation purposes.”

Separation of the Judiciary from the Executive.

* 560 Q.—K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) when effect will be given to the proposals for separation of Judiciary from the Executive;

(b) whether in recruiting to the judicial posts from the Bar, the Government propose to alter the present age-limit; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to raise it to 40 or 45?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ (a) to (c) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government and it is not possible to give any definite information until the Government have come to final decisions.”

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the present cabinet contemplates any change in the policy of the previous cabinet regarding separation of Judiciary from Executive? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. The Hon. Minister has answered that the matter is under consideration. In view of that no useful purpose will be served by putting supplementary questions.”

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it a fact that applications have been received and if so, will all those applications lapse in view of the reply given by the Hon. Minister? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Sir, the applications for appointments have nothing to do with the matter under consideration. All that the Government have said is that it is not possible to give any definite information as the matter is still under consideration.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has read the observation made by the hon. the former Premier that the ‘ present Ministry is not interested in the separation of the judiciary from the executive ’ and may I know what he has to say on that subject? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ As I said, Sir, the question is under consideration. Whatever statement may have been made then, the final decision of the Government will be duly announced.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister I pass on to the next question.”

Dredger to dig canal.

* 561 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to purchase a dredger to dig the Vedaranyam-Negapatam canal;

(b) if so, what is the amount allotted for the same;

(c) whether any progress has been made up till now in that direction; and

(d) whether the Government propose to take up this work immediately, as proposed in the Post-war Scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) Improvements to the Vedaranyam-Negapatam canal at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.10 lakhs is one of the schemes included in the post-war programme relating to inland waterways and it includes provision to purchase a dredger for maintaining a navigable depth in the canal.

“ (b) The amount allotted is Rs. 1 lakh.

“ (c) & (d) The Government are considering whether this scheme can now be pushed forward or not.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“ May I ask when the Government are going to purchase the dredger, Sir? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ The dredger will be purchased after the Government comes to a decision whether this scheme should be taken up now.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ There are three more questions and we shall finish them in five minutes more.”

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Harijan teachers in Malabar and South Kanara.

* 562 Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the district of South Kanara, a non-Harijan teacher was appointed for the Eleri Labour school when there were Harijan teachers in the waiting list;

(b) whether it is a fact that in Malabar a Harijan teacher was ousted from the Labour department in June 1943 while non-Harijan lady teachers junior to him in service were retained;

(c) if so, whether such irregular procedures of the Labour officers were later on set right; and

(d) whether the Government have received any representations regarding the anti-Harijan mentality of some of the Labour officers?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to question No. 219 answered on 3rd March 1947."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If the answer is in the affirmative, may I ask why such go-byes are given to Harijan teachers? When there are Harijan teachers to be appointed in the labour schools in the waiting list, may I ask why others have been appointed?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The reason for the appointment of non-Harijan teachers as against Harijan teachers in a particular school is that the Harijan teacher was not able to get accommodation and he had other difficulties and so he left the school and a non-Harijan teacher had to be appointed in his place."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"In view of the answer given by the Hon. Minister for Rural Development that the answer to this question is the same as the answer to question No. 219 and as the answer to the latter question is not now before us, may I request that this question may be taken up to-morrow and the answer given to us?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I point out to the hon. Member to get the proceedings of the Assembly which are printed. Besides, when answers to questions are given on the floor of the House, hon. Members all know about it and if the same question is repeated, the Government can do nothing but repeat the answers already given."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"With reference to clause (b), may I ask, if there are labour officers with anti-Harijan mentality, whether the Government will consider the desirability of dismissing them immediately?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"If the hon. Member brings it to the notice of the Government, the Government will consider the question."

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Chemical fertilizers.

* 563 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri V. I. Muni-swami Pillai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present prices of scientific fertilizers have increased by 300 to 400 per cent compared to pre-war prices;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal or scheme to supply the cultivator with cheap and good fertilizers; and

(c) the recommendations of the "Fertilizer Commission" that visited India some months back?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) The present prices of chemical fertilizers are higher than pre-war prices on account of the increase in manufacturing cost, shipping freight and other charges. The present prices of ammonium sulphate and ammonium phosphate and those in 1939 are compared below:—

	1939 price per ton.	Present price per ton.	Ratio of increase.
	RS.	RS.	
Ammonium sulphate ..	108	247.5	2.3
Ammonium phosphate..	151	258	1.7

" (b) The Government have made the following arrangements for the supply of chemical fertilizers to cultivators at controlled prices. These fertilizers are imported by the Government of India and a quota is allotted to this Province. A small portion of the allotment is given to manure firms for the preparation of manure mixtures for food crops. The rest is sold as straight manure to ryots by the Agricultural department and Imperial Chemical Industries (India), Ltd. The department sells these fertilizers at 'pool' prices fixed by the Government of India, adding only the incidental charges such as railway freight, but not adding the commission of Rs. 10 per ton which is allowed to private firms by the Government of India where distribution is done through such firms. The fertilizers are sold by the department at Agricultural Depots which have been set up, one each for two firkas in the districts.

" The Government have also made arrangements for the production and supply of chemical fertilizers by firms in India. The details of these arrangements were furnished on the floor of this House on 10th September 1946 in reply to the starred question No. 174 by M. A. Salam Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A.

" (c) The recommendations of the Fertilizer Mission which visited India in 1944 were as follows:—

(i) That the fertilizer to be manufactured in India, to begin with, should be Ammonium Sulphate;

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- (ii) That a factory for the manufacture of 330,000 tons of Ammonium Sulphate per annum should be established in India at an estimated cost of between Rs. 10 crores and Rs. 11 crores. The operation of the factory should be based on the use of Gypsum (Calcium Sulphate) and not on sulphur, as India has large reserves of gypsum and practically none of sulphur.
- (iii) That two factories may be started one at Mardwaganj in the United Provinces and another at Sindri in Bihar.
- (iv) That experiments should be initiated in the production and use of other types of fertilizers."

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* DETENTION OF SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri P. Venkateswarlu has given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. I will read the motion to the House:

"That the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the conduct of the Government in preventing Mr. K. Ananda Nambiyar, M.L.A., an elected member of this House from attending to his duties as a Member of this House and thereby seriously infringing the privileges of the House and depriving the constituency which elected him of representation in this House."

"Before I give my ruling, I want to know whether the hon. Member wants to say anything. He must confine himself to the question of privilege of the House."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, a similar issue was raised in the Central Assembly in 1935, when Mr. Sarat Chandra Bose, who was elected to represent a constituency in the Central Assembly was detained by the Bengal Government. The Congress members then raised an adjournment motion to discuss the issue, so that the member elected to represent a constituency may be able to attend the Central Assembly. Even the then bureaucratic Central Government did not raise any point of order. When there was a Division, the Congress members including some Muslim members supported the adjournment motion. Another point is that the South Indian Railway Labour Union Constituency and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Labour Union Constituency have no one here to represent their views and difficulties on the floor of the House. Moreover, on the one hand notices of meetings are being sent to the member who is detained in jail, on the other hand they are detaining him in jail and not giving him facilities to attend the session. We must not view the question from a technical point; we must view it from a different angle, namely whether we should allow a constituency to go unrepresented in this House. To-day this constituency is not represented in this House. The House is entitled to hear from that Member what are the grievances of his constituency and also why that Member is being detained. That is why I move the adjournment motion."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I am glad the hon. Member Mr. Venkateswarlu has brought to our notice the case of the detention of Sarat Chandra Bose. The circumstances under which Sarat Chandra Bose was detained were altogether different. Sarat Chandra Bose was detained under Regulation III of 1818. At that time an election took place and he filed his nomination. Nobody contested the election and he was elected. But long before he was elected, he had been detained. But here it is altogether different. The question now is whether we have got any privilege. Hon. Members are aware of the privileges enjoyed by the Members of the House of Commons, namely, freedom from arrest and freedom from detention. This is a very important question and I should like the House to be very clear about it. "Regarding the privileges claimed by both Houses of Parliament, I shall read a passage from Halsbury's Laws of England, Second Edition, Volume 24:—

Freedom from arrest.

"699. Whilst Parliament is sitting and during the time within which the privilege of Parliament extends, it is claimed by resolutions of both Houses that no peer or member of the House of Commons may be imprisoned or restrained without the order or sentence of the House of Lords or House of Commons, as the case may be, unless it be for treason or felony, or for refusing to give security for the peace. Neither House of Parliament claims, or has ever claimed, freedom from arrest of any of its members who is charged with a criminal offence."

This is the privilege enjoyed by the Members of Parliament, freedom from arrest or detention. The House may ask how the House of Commons came in possession of this privilege. The answer is given by Erskine May in page 43 of his Parliamentary Practice (14th Edition). He says—

"Some privileges rest solely upon the law and custom of 12-15 Parliament, while others have been defined by statute. Upon p.m. these grounds alone all privileges whatever are founded. The Lords have ever enjoyed them, simply because "they have place and voice in Parliament" but a practice has obtained with the Commons, that would appear to submit their privileges to the royal favour."

"Speaker's Petition.—At the commencement of every Parliament it has been the custom for the Speaker,

"In the name, and on behalf of the Commons, to lay claim by humble petition to their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges; particularly that their persons (their estates and servants) may be free from arrests and all molestations; that they may enjoy liberty of speech in all their debates; may have access to his Majesty's royal person whenever occasion shall require; and that all their proceedings may receive from his Majesty the most favourable construction"

The authority of the Crown in regard to the privileges of the

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Commons, is further acknowledged by the report of the Speaker to the House, that their privileges have been confirmed in as full and ample a manner as they have been heretofore granted or allowed by his Majesty or any of his royal predecessors.

"As far as this House is concerned, the members enjoy certain privileges, and they are given in section 71 of the Government of India Act, 1935—

'Subject to the provisions of this Act and to rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of the Legislature, there shall be freedom of speech in every Provincial Legislature, and no member of the Legislature shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Legislature or any committee thereof, and no person shall be liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of a Chamber of such a Legislature of any report, paper, votes or proceedings.

'In other respects the privileges of members of a Chamber of a Provincial Legislature shall be such as may from time to time be defined by an Act of the Provincial Legislature.'

So we are given power to enact a Privileges Act. Now the question is whether we inherit the privileges that are enjoyed by the House of Commons. For instance, some time ago a case was lodged by the Legislative Assembly of Australia. The Privy Council gave the decision that the Provincial Legislature did not inherit the privileges of the House of Commons simply because the Act under which the Legislature was constituted was passed by the House of Commons. Simply because the Government of India Act, 1935, also was passed by the House of Commons, we do not inherit the privileges of the Commons. Apart from these privileges, I wish to bring to the notice of the House that even in England members were detained under similar circumstances. Messrs. Parnell and Dillon were detained under the Protection of Persons and Property Act, 1881. The Act says—

'If any member of either House of Parliament be arrested under this Act the fact shall be immediately communicated to the House of which he is a member, if Parliament be sitting at the time, or if Parliament be not sitting, then immediately after Parliament reassemble, in like manner as if he were arrested on a criminal charge.'

I think I have already convinced the House that simply because the Government of India Act, 1935, was passed by the House of Commons, we do not inherit the privileges of the Commons. In this connexion, I wish to remind that I told the House that in the Speakers' Conference we came to the conclusion that we should enact a law regarding the privileges of the House. Recently Mr. Mavlankar wrote that India was passing through a transition period and advised that we should wait for some more time. I agree with him but however propose to bring before the House a

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consolidated bill giving the privileges of the members at a future time. But as we are not enjoying those privileges at present, I rule the motion out of order."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"In view of the possibility of great changes taking place by June 1948 and the status of this Assembly being raised considerably, is it necessary to go into the question of privileges so elaborately as you have done or to appoint a committee to go into the matter?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"In the end, I told the House that I received a letter from Mr. Mavlankar that India was passing through a transition period and that we should wait for some time. We do not know what powers will be assigned to the provinces. So we are going to take up this question not now, but only afterwards."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have agreed with your explanation, but how a similar motion had been allowed in the Central Assembly in 1935 has not been clarified. On that ground, I think your ruling may be modified."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Simply because hon. Mr. Patel or hon. Mr. Abdur Rahim allowed a certain motion, it does not mean that I should follow them. I have my own judgment."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *re* ACUTE FAMINE CONDITION IN GUNTUR DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is another adjournment motion given notice of by Mr. Salam to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the acute famine conditions in Guntur district."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to make a short statement."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member going to move the motion to-day?"

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will move the motion on Monday."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Just now, you brought it to my notice that the hon. Member Mr. Abdul Salam had given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss the acute famine conditions in Guntur district. I propose to make a statement on Monday after question time. If the statement does not satisfy the hon. Member, he can think of further action. But meanwhile I request the hon. Member to furnish such information as he possesses so that the Government may come to a conclusion in the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the statement of the Hon. Revenue Minister, I presume the hon. Member is not moving the motion to-day."

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IV.—CHANGE OF PORTFOLIO AMONG MINISTERS.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the Hon. Speaker has given such a learned ruling, is it necessary that we should depute him to England to study Parliamentary procedure? (Laughter.) On a point of order, Sir. We saw in this morning's papers that a portfolio had been transferred from one Minister to another. When the House is in session, it is better that the Leader of the House informs this House rather than give it to the Press simply because the Ministers are anxious to hold press conferences. This is a matter involving the privileges of the House."

[At this stage there were cries of 'S.C.C. அந்தோணி பிள்ளை எய்விடுதலை செய்யு' from the Visitors' Gallery on the eastern side. Under the orders of the Hon. Speaker, the interruptors were removed by the police.]

MR. SPEAKER:—"Whenever there is a change, it is better that the Hon. Leader of the House informs the Members in future."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am sorry that this information was not given. I could have given it. But, in future the Government will follow what you have suggested in the matter."

V.—APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Another point of order, Sir. For the past one month, Parliamentary Secretaries have not been appointed. We understand that the Ministers have been working efficiently even without them. Will the Government be able to tell us whether they will decide that no Parliamentary Secretaries are necessary in future?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is too early to answer that. The Hon. Leader of the House will inform the House if the Government want to appoint them and he will also inform the House if the Government do not want to appoint them."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not prepared to give any information on that point at the present time."

VI.—INFORMATION RE SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S RIGHT TO PROPERTY BILL.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. I wish to know what has happened to the Women's Right to Property Bill which was referred to a Select Committee. I am a member of that Select Committee, but I have not received as yet any intimation regarding the meeting of that Committee. I want to know whether this Bill will come up before this House during this session."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"As Chairman of the Select Committee, I have to arrange for its meeting. But according to rule 77 (1) of the Assembly Rules, the Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates has to be

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included in the Select Committee. For that, a motion has to be brought before the House. After this is done, a meeting of the Select Committee can be convened."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall make the position clear. When the hon. Member was Minister, he was the Chairman. Now, the Government Member in charge has to be included."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"He can continue to be the Chairman, but the Government Member also has to be there."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I want to know whether the matter will be expedited and whether the Bill will come up during this session. Because this Bill which affects women has long been delayed, it should not be delayed any further."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not possible for me to give an answer off-hand."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I rise to speak on a very important matter of public importance."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Chair stands, the hon. Member should resume his seat."

"The Hon. Leader of the House will now move the resolution regarding the redistribution of provinces on a linguistic basis."

VII.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

REDISTRIBUTION OF PROVINCES ON A LINGUISTIC BASIS.

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, 12-30 p.m.
I beg to move the following resolution:—

"That this Assembly recommends to Government to convey to the Constituent Assembly that this Assembly is of opinion that a re-distribution of Provinces on a linguistic basis is a necessary requisite in the framing of a constitution for India and that therefore this question be taken up for consideration by the Constituent Assembly at the next sitting of its preliminary plenary session and steps be taken for enumerating the Provinces of India on a linguistic basis and particularly Tamilnad, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra as forming separate provinces under the new constitution and provision be made for early appointment of a Boundary Commission or Commissions or other machinery suitable for the delimitation of the boundaries of the abovementioned Provinces."

"This question has been agitating the minds of people not only in this Province but in other Provinces as well. There is a general feeling among the people that it would be better if Provinces are carved out on linguistic as well as on cultural basis. As far as this Province is concerned, hon. Members know that this is a composite Province composed of various linguistic areas. But there is one connexion between these various areas; that is, the languages spoken are really allied, because Tamil, Telugu,

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Kanarese and Malayalam evidently come from the same mother in the past. At the same time they have their own culture; they have their own associations. They would like to be separate not in the sense of being independent entities but as Provinces in the future Federal Government of India. I would like to point out in this connexion that I am sure that, when the division does happen, the relations between the various linguistic groups will be even better than it is to-day, because our friendship will be better formed when we are separate.

"In this connexion, I wish to point out that there are nearly 15 to 16 per cent of Andhras in the Tamilnad area and they will be the connecting link between the Andhra Province of the future and the Tamilnad Province of the future, because there is no question of migration of population. My Andhra brethren like my Leader himself who have settled in the Tamil part of the Province, have become in their culture as Tamilian as myself, and would not like to leave their homes or their property in the Tamilnad and go to the Andhra area. I feel they will be a connecting link for the cultures of these two areas. This question is not a question of to-day; it was raised even in the days of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms in the old Legislative Council itself and resolutions were passed to that effect. But we have always received the same reply from the Secretary of State, saying that the time has not arisen for such a division. As late as the Congress Ministry in 1938, a resolution was passed at a full meeting of the Ministers; it was signed by all the Ministers of the Government of that day and was sent to the Secretary of State. The reply was the same as in the old days that the time has not arisen for such division. . . ."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Did the resolution reach the Secretary of State? It did not reach him."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is wrong to say so. It reached the Secretary of State. If it did not reach him, this Government would not have received the reply. I am in possession of the reply of the Secretary of State. The hon. Member may be sure that the letter did reach the Secretary of State. He should be certain of his facts before he makes allegations of this nature."

"I know there was a feeling in the Andhra part of our Province that the finances of our Province might be divided in such a manner that separate budgets might be prepared for the Andhra area and the Tamilnad. This was a resolution passed by the Andhra Mahasabha. It was considered by the Government of the day and after working out the figures, it was found difficult to make such an allocation and it was given up for the time being. I believe my hon. Friend and Leader, Mr. Prakasam, also considered this matter and came to no conclusion."

"As constitutional proposals are on the anvil, naturally the Government of the day feel that it will be possible to achieve this object through the Constituent Assembly. This matter has also been raised in the Constituent Assembly; but it was felt

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that the time has not come for such a resolution to be passed by the Constituent Assembly and that the matter might be taken up when the question of meeting in sections comes up. I do feel that it is only right and proper that a resolution of this nature should be passed by our Assembly and sent to the Constituent Assembly, because then it will be seen that the representatives of the people of this Province, elected by the various constituencies of the Province, are in favour of such a division. I am sure hon. Members on this side of the House as well as on the other side are in favour of this resolution being moved to-day. It is non-controversial in nature, because the question of boundaries is to be settled by a Boundary Commission. I know there is strong feeling in this matter among the various people in the Province, whether they belong to one linguistic area or to another linguistic area. I do not want to enter into a controversy over this matter because it is only just and proper that an impartial Boundary Commission should go into this matter and come to a decision. Those of us who have strong feelings in this matter will be entitled to represent our cases before such a Boundary Commission. Therefore I hope hon. Members both on my side of the House and on the opposite side will not try to bring in controversial questions on this matter, because as far as the Government are concerned, they do feel that this is a matter which should be amicably settled by the various linguistic people of the Province. It can easily be settled. The future of this part of the country and the Central Federation is to be of a nature as to bring about unity among the peoples of India and when division comes, I do feel that we ought to divide with feelings of friendship and affection for one another. We are all members of the same linguistic group, if I may say so, because, as I explained at the beginning, there is not much difference between the four languages; they come from the same mother. Therefore it is but right that they should, if I may use such an expression, hang together as long as possible. As I said at the beginning, I am sure if such a division is made in an amicable manner and by the decision of a Boundary Commission, we shall continue to be friends and contribute our own share to the New India which will take her place as a powerful single nation in the comity of the world. India has her own contribution to make in the future to world politics. Hon. Members know what has happened during the last half a century. One single hon. Member belonging to the West is present on this occasion and I hope he will not mind what I say. In spite of the boasted civilization of the West, I do feel that jungle law has prevailed in the West for generations because of the greed for enjoying power. Because of the different varieties of civilization in the world, each European nation wants to dominate over other nations who are not well-advanced; the nations have gone to war. If you read the History of Europe and go into the question of wars, you will find it has been a case of one nation or other of Europe wanting to get power over some other people who are not so advanced in its eyes as itself. As far as our own country or China is concerned, we are more advanced than any country of the West and we continue to be advanced even to-day. We have something to give to the civilization

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of the world. We have no belief in aggression of any kind at any time. India was powerful and there have been trade connexions with various countries. At the same time we must realise that when we went to foreign lands, it was not a question of annexation of any land; it was a question of giving to other lands what we ourselves considered to be our spiritual heritage.

"It is in this sense that I move this resolution and I am sure the House will accept it in that sense. It will help the Constituent Assembly to come to a conclusion on this question, because I do feel that it is necessary that the Provinces of India should be linguistically divided. For instance, the trouble that arises very often in this very House of various languages, will not arise because people can talk in the language of the Province and the common man who elects representatives to this House will be able to take more interest in the proceedings of the House. I therefore move this resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—"My suggestion to the House is this. The Hon. Leader of the House has moved the resolution. There are two amendments to the resolution. The amendments may be moved formally. Then the resolution as well as the amendments will be before the House for discussion. This is the best arrangement; otherwise it will be waste of time; each hon. Member will like to speak on the main resolution and the amendments. I call upon the hon. Members (Messrs. Venkateswarlu and Seethi Sahib) to move formally their amendments."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I formally move my amendment—

'Add the following at the end:—

"and that a Boundary Commission be set up at the outset to demarcate boundaries of existing Provinces on linguistic and cultural basis so that the future Constitution shall be based on reconstituted Provinces with natural linguistic and cultural boundaries" "

MR. JOHN MOSES WILSON:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

1. The words "That this Assembly recommends to Government to convey to the Constituent Assembly" shall be omitted.
2. The words "and that therefore this question be taken up for consideration by the Constituent Assembly at the next sitting of its preliminary plenary session" shall be omitted.
3. Before the word "steps" the word "that" shall be inserted.
- 4 After the word "Kerala" the words "with provisions for Mappillastan" shall be inserted."

M. MOHAMED ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I object to this amendment. The object of the main resolution is to convey it to the Constituent Assembly. The hon. Member's amendment goes against the main resolution. He can move an independent resolution if he likes. He cannot alter the main resolution in such a manner as to get it out of shape. This is my contention."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I uphold the point of order raised by the Hon. Leader of the House. The amendment is not in consonance with the main resolution. I rule the amendment out of order."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The object of the resolution is to express the opinion of this House that in any future constitutional arrangement, the Provinces should be divided on a linguistic basis. It is an expression of opinion by this House on that vital question. My amendment is not against the main object of the main resolution. With reference to the recommendation to the Constituent Assembly, I beg to state that it is a matter on which this House cannot be unanimous for obvious reasons. It is a highly controversial matter raised in a resolution to be passed by this House. We, Members of the Opposition, are fundamentally and seriously opposed to that portion of the resolution. We cannot accept the resolution as it stands now. The main purpose of the resolution—division of Provinces on a linguistic basis—is not affected by my amendment. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The main resolution is a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly. The hon. Member's amendment should fit in with the main resolution."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The resolution expresses the opinion of the House on this question of Linguistic Provinces more than making a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly which is a matter of detail."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The main idea and object of the resolution is to recommend the division of the Province according to linguistic areas. That is the main idea of the resolution. . . ."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of personal explanation, I may point out to the hon. Leader of the Opposition that the main idea is to bring this resolution before the Constituent Assembly, because they are now making a constitution for India." 12.45 p.m.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is clear, Sir, from the wording of the resolution and from the explanation given by the Hon. Leader of the House that the main object is to put forward the idea that the Province must be revised and re-divided according to languages."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I point out that it is a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is one of the many things, but the central idea is the division of the Province according to linguistic areas. I think that amendments

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can of course be moved for the deletion of one of the ideas contained in the resolution, and this amendment is for the deletion of one of the subordinate ideas contained in the resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not prevented from bringing a separate resolution for that purpose."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My submission is that even under this resolution, the amendment moved by my friend seems to be admissible, because it only proposes the deletion of one of the minor points contained in the resolution. The central idea is there, Sir, and this amendment does not affect the central idea, that is, the division of the Province according to the languages spoken in different areas."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, this resolution seeks to make a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly. In my view there is no Constituent Assembly at all, because the Constituent Assembly is an outcome of the Cabinet Mission's plan and when the All-India Congress Committee has gone beyond the Cabinet Delegation's plans, there cannot be any Constituent Assembly at all. For instance, the Congress has recommended the division of Bengal and the Punjab and is also opposed to the grouping in the Cabinet Mission's plan. This clearly shows that the Congress has not accepted the Cabinet Delegation's plans in their entirety. According to the original plan, it is not possible to accept one portion of the recommendation and reject another portion where it is not very convenient. The Constituent Assembly in the real sense can come into existence only when the full plan of the Cabinet Delegation has been accepted in its entirety, and so long as it has not been accepted by the Congress in its entirety, the Constituent Assembly now formed is not, in any real sense a Constituent Assembly under the Cabinet Mission's plan and there is therefore no use at all of a resolution of this sort, making a recommendation to it, being passed in this House."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The main purport of this resolution is to make some sort of recommendation to the Government. (A voice: 'Is it to the Government or the Constituent Assembly?') It is to the Government and not to the latter, Sir. That is the main object of the resolution. I say that the amendment proposed is also a recommendation to the Government and therefore it cannot in any way be out of order."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I only wish to point out that the hon. Muslim Member from Guntur was really going outside the point of order when he questioned the constitution of the Constituent Assembly. This resolution is only about the division of this Province into linguistic provinces and therefore the question of Mappillastan is completely out of order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already ruled the amendment out of order, but I wanted to hear what the hon. Members had to say

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in this matter. This amendment is completely out of order, as it seeks to nullify the effect of the main resolution. So, I rule it out of order."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support the resolution moved by the Hon. Leader of the House with reference to the formation of the linguistic provinces. To speak the same language . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"For this resolution, I have allotted two days; 15 minutes will be given to each speaker. If necessary time will be extended."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, are the two days to be counted from 1 o'clock from to-day?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No; by two days I meant, two calendar days, that is, to-day and to-morrow."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, 'To speak the same language constitutes a closer union than to have drunk the same milk'. This is a saying from a great western scholar, Maxmuller. From the history of Indian provinces, we find, Sir, that the provinces were formed by the East India Company according to the groups of territories that they acquired from time to time. No particular method was followed in those days for the carving out of the provinces in India and we have inherited that legacy and no thought was given all these days to the need for having homogenous provinces to have a good administration. Therefore, Sir, these Provinces were formed in a heterogeneous manner. The need for the re-distribution of provinces was recognized even as early as 1902. Lord Curzon who was then Viceroy of India in a famous despatch, dated 3rd December 1902, wrote to this effect:—

'The question of territorial and administrative re-distribution of India is indeed, in our judgment, one of the most urgent and vital of the many problems for which we are at present endeavouring to find a solution.'

"After that, the question came into prominence when Montagu and Chelmsford held an elaborate enquiry about the constitutional proposals for this country, and submitted a report. That report, on page 418, has an interesting paragraph about these linguistic provinces. It says—

'We are impressed with the artificial and often inconvenient character of the existing administrative units. We have seen how historical reasons have brought them about. We cannot doubt that the possibility of Government would be simplified if administrative units were both smaller and more homogenous and when we bear in mind the prospects of the immense burdens of the Government in India being transferred to comparatively inexperienced hands, such considerations acquire additional weight. It is also a strong argument in favour of linguistic and rational units of Government that by making it possible to conduct the business of legislation in vernacular they would contribute to draw into the arena of public affairs men who are not acquainted with English.'

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"That is a strong argument, Sir, in favour of the formation of linguistic provinces.

"In the existing provinces of India, the question of re-drawing of boundaries already exists, especially in the south, and these provinces are grouped under section A, in the Cabinet Delegation's plan. So far as the homogenous Provinces of Bombay, Madras and Central Provinces are concerned, we find the following languages prevailing therein:—

Bombay—Maharatti, Guzaratti and Kanarese.

Madras—Telugu, Tamil, Kanarese and Malayalam.

Central Provinces—Maharatti, Telugu and Hindi.

"Sir, I need not detail very much the advantages of having linguistic provinces. The evils arising from heterogeneity will be removed. The ideal of Provincial autonomy will become possible in provinces with homogeneity of language, sentiment and tradition. Indian languages will become media of education and also administration,—a very prominent aspect. Administration also will become simple, easy, efficient and natural. It is indispensable when far reaching reforms in the matter of economic improvement, health and agriculture are sought to be brought about. And more than anything else, the administration of justice, now done also in foreign language, will become natural, real and helpful. There will be openings for free communication of ideas between the Government and the people and also between people belonging to the same linguistic group. The absence of linguistic provinces will result in neglect of Indian languages. Undue emphasis on English as medium of instruction and administration will disappear. Widening chasms between classes and masses now existing will be reduced to the minimum. Unequal proportion of different language groups and communities in the same province will be eradicated and also the consequent prejudices and bitterness of feeling referred to by the Hon. Leader of the House as a result of the heterogeneous formation of the provinces, whether it is justified or unjustified, will be removed and inequality in influence and power will disappear.

"In the movement towards linguistic provinces, the Andhras were almost the earliest. Now, Sir, every one of the linguistic groups like the Tamilians, Karnataks, Malayalees and Mahrattas are all in the field asking for their own provinces just as much as the Andhras for the Andhra Province.

"According to the 1931 Census Report, Sir, where language-speaking groups were enumerated, the position was this:—

Language.	Population.
Hindi	79,400,000
Bengalee	53,400,000
Telugu	26,300,000
Maharatti	20,800,000
Tamil	20,400,000
Kanarese	11,200,000
Malayalam	9,100,000

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"Sir, I can speak with a little authority with reference to the Andhra Province. The Andhra Province to be will have an area of 67,500 square miles, and a population of 17,700,000 according to the 1931 census. The revenue estimated by the late Mr. Ramadas Pantulu in an excellent brochure which he published in 1938 was about 7.5 crores in 1939. Now that the income has very much increased, we can easily say on the same basis, that the present revenue can be estimated at more than Rs. 17 crores.

"Now, Sir, on the question of what procedure should be adopted for the formation of the new Andhra Province, I want to mention a little, in detail. In the Government of India Act, 1935, according to which three new provinces were carved, we have got sections 46 and 290 which deal with the procedure. Section 46 of the Government of India Act enumerates the units which constitute the Federation of India. Formerly there were eight provinces before that Act came into being. Section 46 says:

'Subject to the provisions of the next succeeding section with respect to Berar, the following shall be Governors' Provinces, that is to say, Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the United Provinces, the Punjab, Bihar, the Central Provinces and Berar, Assam, the North-West Frontier Province, Orissa and Sind and such other Governors' Provinces as may be created under this Act.'

"Section 290 of the Act speaks of the procedure through which the new provinces will have to be created. But unfortunately, Sir, though nine years have elapsed since the last resolution was passed regarding the formation of a separate Andhra Province, no steps were taken by the British Government in this matter or in the matter of increasing the number of provinces in spite of demands on the floors of the Bombay and Madras Legislative Assemblies and Councils and in spite of the fact that the linguistic groups concerned have been making big agitations in this direction."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know how much time will the Hon. Minister take to finish his speech. If he would finish his speech within a few minutes, he can continue. Otherwise, to-day being Friday, we will have to adjourn at 1 o'clock."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I want to speak for a little more time, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then the Hon. Minister can continue his speech after lunch."

The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 3 p.m.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was speaking about the provisions in the 1935 Act, sections 46 and 290 and was saying that the units of the federation to be under the 1935 Act were enumerated in section 46 and the procedure with reference to the creation of new provinces and the alteration of the boundaries was specified in section 290 of that Act. That is the present constitutional position.

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"Then, Sir, the Congress also, from the beginning, has been committed to this problem of linguistic provinces. When the new constitution was adopted in the year 1920, the Congress constitution provided for 21 linguistic provinces, and that has not been changed even to-day. Further, Sir, the Congress Working Committee in the year 1938, after the passing of the resolution in this House with reference to linguistic provinces, has also passed a resolution at Wardha. That resolution ran as follows:—

"Having heard the views of the deputations of Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, the Andhra Mahasabha, the Karnatak Unification Committee, the Karnatak Provincial Congress Committee and the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee on the question of the re-distribution of provinces in India on a linguistic basis for administrative purposes, this Committee declares that the resolution of the Madras Legislature on linguistic provinces and of the Bombay Legislature on the separation of the Karnatak Province were passed with the previous sanction of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee and the full approval of this Committee. This Committee desires to assure the people of the area concerned that the solution of this question would be undertaken as a part of the future scheme of the Government of India as soon as the Congress has the power so to do and calls upon the people of this area to desist from any further agitation in this behalf which may divert attention from the main issue now before the country."

On account of this resolution the agitation for the creation of a separate Andhra Province was stopped as a matter of fact; but subsequently, as soon as proposals for a new constitution began to be made, the agitation again started because it was considered to be the best time for achieving the object which these linguistic areas have been striving all along to achieve.

"Sir, the Cabinet Mission's statement marks the next stage. Under paragraph 15 of that statement, there is scope for the formation of new provinces. It was argued that the terms of this paragraph sub-clause (8) read with clause 5, would not be useful for the formation of any new province, though provision might be made for the future creation of provinces. This argument was met by counter-arguments throughout India, that the framing of a new constitution for a country would be meaningless if it was not open to the framers of the constitution to determine the units of the Union to be of the country. Let me quote the Canadian example. On the very first day of the Quebec conference which framed the basis of the Canadian constitution, it was proposed that Canada which was a single province, should be treated as two provinces, Quebec and Ontario. Therefore, Sir, there are constitutional precedents that when a Constituent Assembly or a similar body meets for the framing of a constitution for a country, the question of provinces which will form units of the federation proposed to be, will have to be settled and demarcated. In claiming before the Constituent Assembly that they should enumerate the provinces as was done in the 1935 Act under section 46 and making provision for the creation of new provinces along with the

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constitution itself, nothing unusual is being done. As a matter of fact, the Madras Legislature—this very House which was formerly called the Madras Legislative Council—discussed this question more than once, i.e., in 1927, 1928, 1933 and also in 1938 by both Houses of Legislature. It passed resolutions either by big majorities or unanimously seeking the re-distribution of this province on a linguistic basis. The Congress election manifesto of 1946 also reads:

"Reconstitution of Indian provinces as far as possible on linguistic or cultural lines."

So, this is advocated in the election manifesto, and on the basis of that manifesto, we have been returned to this House and there is therefore nothing unusual in reiterating our demand at this very proper moment, claiming the demarcation of linguistic areas in this province.

"I now want, Sir, to say just a few words about the work done in the Constituent Assembly in this connexion. Just before the Constituent Assembly met, there was a meeting called the Linguistic Provinces Convention, at which representative from all parts of India were present, and a resolution was adopted affirming its faith in the re-formation of the provinces on a linguistic basis, and a small body was appointed to draw up a resolution for the Constituent Assembly. After passing through a number of drafts, one draft was finally agreed to and that resolution was given notice of by the hon. Leader of this House and by some of us there. That resolution was to come up before the first plenary session of the Constituent Assembly; but as a matter of fact this resolution would have to be taken up only at a later stage because the duty of the plenary session of the Assembly is first to settle the procedure of that House. The Congress Party in the Constituent Assembly met and this question came up before them. They also passed a resolution that the matter should receive their first attention when they met again on the 28th or 29th of this month. The question stands there. Meanwhile, we have got on paper what is known as Sir B. N. Rao's scheme; it is only a compromise and a temporary scheme to meet a particular situation; and so far as the creation of linguistic provinces is concerned, it offers no solution at all. That solution can be achieved only by demarcating the boundaries and creating provinces. In tackling this problem, there are of course other things also to be decided; for instance, there is the Madras City about which some proposals have been made by some people; Sir B. N. Rao makes some other proposals and other people have made some other proposals too. Whether Madras should form part of one or the other of the future linguistic provinces is a matter that should be left for the decision of the future Boundary Commission to be appointed; we cannot settle that question by loud-speaking or by arguments in public or by controversies; we can settle it only by demarcating the Karnataka border, the Tamil border, the Kerala border and the Oriya border and if necessary by having recourse to arbitration by an impartial gentleman. That is why, Sir, this resolution asks

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for the appointment of a Boundary Commission or for the setting up of some other machinery for the delimitation of the boundaries of the provinces.

"The only point I would like to stress in this connexion, Sir, is this: the present Government of India Act speaks of the appointment of a Boundary Commission by Order in Council. In the future constitution, there would be no Order in Council, because Britain is quitting India, and we are not going to have a Secretary of State in future. Therefore, the new constitution, after making an enumeration of the provinces that are to be formed, which will form the units of the federation of the Indian constitution to be, should also define the machinery which will bring them into existence. That is not a difficult problem; some authority at the Centre, call it the Interim Government or any other Government, whatever it may be, to whom the Government is actually going to be handed over it will be their business to settle the machinery and do all the necessary things even as the Government of India Act of 1935 did at the time of the creation of the Orissa, Sind and the North-West Frontier Provinces. That can be done in this case also. Meanwhile, the Boundary Commission may be appointed and it can finish its work of demarcation of the boundaries as early as possible. If there is any dispute or claim made by any particular linguistic area, that will be the proper moment for making such a claim. Meanwhile, nobody need enter into a caveat with reference to the boundary. As a matter of fact I am glad to say that there is at present no such thing at all, and if at all there is any difference of opinion across the table, that can be easily settled either by arbitration or by conciliation or agreement amongst the leaders on all sides.

"Finally, Sir, I would like to appeal that the time has now come for giving a shape to the aspirations of the people who want a Government of their own; a Government of their own they want, not for the sake of a few more jobs, but they want a Government which can speak in the language of the people, a language which will have the authority of Government. That can only be done when we have a particular linguistic area as a province. The future provinces can dispense with the language through which we are discussing to-day and they can shape their administration in a manner and through a medium which will be understandable to the masses in the village in any corner within their jurisdiction. That is my main argument, Sir, for stressing the need for the immediate creation of linguistic provinces. I think in the new constitution, every man will have a vote and he would like to know how the province is to be administered, how work should be gone through, and the best medium for administration will naturally be the language which is predominant in that area. I therefore heartily support the resolution so ably moved by the Leader of the House and I would request the House to give its unanimous approval to this resolution and also give its mandate that such

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of the members as have been returned by this House to the Constituent Assembly will do their best to achieve the object which this resolution wants.

"Mr. Murthy wants to know whether I am still a member; I happened to be so; of course, I have already resigned, but I am told my resignation has not been accepted. I support the resolution, and through you, Sir, I once more appeal to the House to pass this resolution unanimously."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information. May I enquire from the Hon. Revenue Minister what he has to say to the report published in the Press very recently that Mr. Kripalani, the President of the Indian National Congress, is opposed to the division of provinces on a linguistic basis."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"My hon. friend would have read the press note and the speech of the Congress President when he opened the exhibition in Teynampet. He simply said that we cannot go on creating provinces which are not administratively feasible.' He never said he was opposed as such to the creation of linguistic provinces. As a matter of fact, he is presiding over an organization which is fundamentally based on many linguistic units."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. 3-15 p.m.
Speaker, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House said that this was a non-controversial resolution. The Hon. the Minister for Revenue echoed the same idea. I very much wish, Sir, that this resolution was of that nature but, as a matter of fact, this is one of the most controversial resolutions and a resolution which is based on unrealities."

[At this stage the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.]

Madam, in support of my contention, I would mention two or three points. The first is the resolution supposes the existence of a Constituent Assembly. I want to ask the Leader of the House as well as other hon. Members sitting opposite, where is the Constituent Assembly. The second point, Madam, is that this division or the re-division of the provinces of India is being sought to be made on the basis of language. I say it should be based on more fundamental factors than language so far as the question of the division is concerned. Then again, Sir, on the basis of more fundamental factors, the resolution has not taken note of other features which are obligatory on the part of the powers that be to take note of.

"Madam, Deputy Speaker, coming to the first point, regarding the Constituent Assembly, it was first thought of under the Cabinet Mission's Plan, that is to say, under the statement, dated the May 16th, issued by the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy. That was the very life principle of that plan and that plan was dependent on the agreement by the major parties. For one thing,

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the Congress did not accept that statement; they did not accept it in the sense that they did not accept the meaning and the intention of the orders contained in that statement. Therefore, Madam, though the Muslim League at first accepted that plan, they had to withdraw its acceptance on seeing that the Congress was not accepting the same. Then the dispute went on, Madam, as to its acceptance in the country for a long time. To cut short my argument, I would say that the statement of the British Cabinet, dated December 6th, confirmed the views expressed by the All-India Muslim League on this matter. They confirmed that the interpretation and the meaning of the plan given by the Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah and the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League were the proper interpretation and meaning and they also said that the participation of the major parties under the plan formed the fundamental and essential part of the plan itself. Without such participation, there can be no Cabinet Mission's Plan at all. That was their finding of the position. Then, the Congress was requested to accept this interpretation of the British Government. What did the Congress do? They convened a meeting of the Working Committee first on December 22nd, and they shoved the final decision on to the All-India Congress Committee which was convened on January 6th, 1947. Even there, that is on December 22nd, they indicated that they were not for accepting the statement of December 6th. Then that major question was taken up by the All-India Congress Committee. They said that they accepted the statement of the British Cabinet made on the 6th December, but they made many reservations and they gave their own interpretation. It is not even a question of interpretation. They nullified the Cabinet Mission's Plan and they did not agree, in the real sense, to the plan adumbrated by the British Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy on May 16th and interpreted and confirmed by the British Government's statement of December 6th."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I wish to know what the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition is driving at. I want to know why he is narrating all that history. We have nothing to recommend to the Constituent Assembly, because it does not exist according to you. Is that your point?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, Madam. That is as clear as daylight. This resolution is based on the assumption that there is a Constituent Assembly and wants to recommend to it the redistribution of provinces on a linguistic basis. (Hear, hear from Muslim League Benches.) We sensible people, who are sitting on this side of the House, are asked to refer that question to a body that does not exist. I am proving that if proof is necessary . . ."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"On a point of information, Madam. I am not able to understand my hon. friend saying that there is no Constituent Assembly . . ."

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THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"According to him, he says it does not exist. Let us hear him."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League, which was convened on the 31st January 1947 at Karachi, made this point clear. Its resolution, Madam, is the most cogent, convincing and precise argument possible. There is no argument that is clearer or more convincing than the resolution passed by the All-India Muslim League at Karachi. They have made the point crystal clear. With your permission, Madam, I will read a portion of that resolution. Everyone in this House ought to have read that resolution, and my hon. friend, Mr. Nagappa, who happens to be a member of the Constituent Assembly ought to have read that resolution with care. After giving the reasons, that resolution says: 'The Congress converting the Constituent Assembly into a body for producing a constitution has destroyed all fundamentals of the statement of May 16th and every possibility of a compromise on the basis of the Cabinet Mission's Plan.' That is the sentence, Madam. That makes it perfectly clear how the plan has been thrown overboard and how that plan does not exist and, therefore, how the Constituent Assembly does not exist. That is the position and here we are asked to refer to that Constituent Assembly which is really a truncated body. At best, it is a committee appointed by the Congress Party and it cannot be called a Constituent Assembly as envisaged by the Cabinet Mission's Plan. It is not a Constituent Assembly on which the parties here in the country—the major parties particularly—have come to an agreement and given their consent. Even the Congress has not agreed to that plan. Then, how can the League act upon that plan without bringing into being a real Constituent Assembly which would be acceptable to all major parties? You have got only a sort of thing which you may call a Constituent Assembly, but which we do not take as such. So, we strongly protest against any resolution being recommended to that Constituent Assembly."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"On a point of Order, Madam. I cannot understand the Leader of the Opposition saying that there is no Constituent Assembly. I may state that Muslim League members have been elected as members of that Constituent Assembly. The only question under dispute is whether the members elected to this body from among the members of the Muslim League will participate in the Constituent Assembly or not."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition says that according to him, there is no Constituent Assembly because the Muslim League are not participating in it and so, he does not want any recommendation to be sent to it. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim League benches.) The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition may continue his speech."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, objection is taken to my saying that there is no Constituent Assembly. If you want to call it a Constituent Assembly, you may call it. But, according to us, it is like one of bodies here which we call parliaments such as the Y.M.I.A. Parliament and things like that."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"If you want to say that you do not recognize it because you have decided not to participate in it, you may do so, but you need not compare it to these small bodies."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition must submit to the Chair."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am always submissive to the Chair, and I have never been a rebel as some others are. If you want to call it a Constituent Assembly, I have no objection to your doing it, but what I say is, it is not a Constituent Assembly according to the accepted meaning of the term. The Constituent Assembly was first thought of by the Cabinet Mission's Plan and that plan was not accepted by the Congress and has not been accepted by the Congress until to-day and they wanted to hoodwink us into thinking that they have accepted while they have given a changed meaning to the word 'acceptance.' We withdrew our unequivocal and unconditional acceptance of the Cabinet Mission's Plan though we had given a direct answer before the Congress gave its supposed acceptance to it. That is the position, Madam. Therefore, we say that the question of recommending to the Constituent Assembly, the re-division of the provinces has no meaning. That is why we are strongly opposed to this resolution."

"Then, Madam, another point, I would bring to your notice. I say there is no real Constituent Assembly, because there is no Cabinet Mission's Plan. If you read carefully the statement issued by the British Government on February 20th, you will find that it has a new conception altogether. They did not pay any consideration to the Constituent Assembly or any other feature of the original plan as adumbrated by them on May 16th. They have simply fixed a date for quitting India and they simply said: 'When the time comes we shall consider.' They did not say this thing and that thing, but they simply said: 'We shall consider as to whether we should transfer power to the Central Government or to certain provincial governments in certain areas or we shall consider other methods for transferring such power.' They did not refer at all to the Constituent Assembly which was really the original plan and the original idea of the Cabinet Mission and the Viceroy."

"Again, Madam, another important change has been made by the statement of February 20th. There was the Negotiating Committee of the native States."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Indian States."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I stand corrected by the Hon. the Leader of the House. There was the Negotiating Committee of the Indian States. According to the original plan of the Cabinet Mission, there was the Constituent Assembly. But now, the Statement of February 20th speaks of separate treaties between the British Government and the Indian States and so the States may not come into the Constituent Assembly. It is true that some of the Congressmen have gone into the Constituent Assembly, but it is not according to any plan, that they have gone there. As no plan now holds the field, it is at best a Committee set up by some Congress men. Now, coming to the other point, Madam . . ."

8-30
p.m.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The travelling and daily allowances of the members of the Constituent Assembly are being paid by the Government of India, Madam."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Of course, the Government of India may do so many things and such a sort of Government as we have now in Delhi . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It was the Hon. Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan that has moved for a grant of 48 lakhs in the Central Assembly."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, I know the position in which Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan is placed. All we want to tell you, Madam, is that the sort of Government which you have got in Delhi, you have not got in any other province. Many things can be done . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has been criticizing the Constituent Assembly and the Central Government. Instead of doing so, I would advise the hon. Member to speak on the main resolution. The hon. Member referred to the Constituent Assembly and said that he does not recognize it according to his interpretation. Is that not enough?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, I beg to submit that I am speaking on the resolution and confining myself strictly to the main resolution. The opening words of the resolution are 'that this Assembly recommends to the Constituent Assembly . . .'" and I am speaking on that, Madam, and I have not moved even by a hair's breadth outside the resolution. That is what I wish to point out to you, Madam, . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"But the hon. Member says it does not exist."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I beg to submit to you to advise this House to drop this resolution and not make us recommend such an important thing to it."

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THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"If we feel convinced later after listening to all the speeches of hon. Members we can advise them to do so. The hon. Member said that he does not recognize the Constituent Assembly as it exists, and about the linguistic provinces he has not said anything at all till now."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I merely wanted to say that the body which goes by the name Constituent Assembly in Delhi, is not a body which has got our support and we do not want to give our support to such an important resolution as this which is deciding the fate of the people of the whole province. Of course, we wanted a Constituent Assembly of the right type and that is why when it was proposed, though we had to compromise on fundamentals, we accepted that statement of May 16th. It did not give all that we wanted. We wanted a Constituent Assembly, we wanted freedom and prosperity of the country to begin at the earliest possible date. Therefore we accepted it and we said that we would act according to this plan. But then the Congress Party did not accept it and it torpedoed it in so many ways. They said they wanted some other body and therefore would refuse to go to that body. We only want to make that point clear, Madam."

"Regarding this question of re-dividing the province on the basis of language, I say there are more fundamental factors than language in dividing the province. The Hon. the Leader of the House said that they wanted to divide this province, so that the various sections of the people may live together in a more friendly manner. The essence of that statement is exactly the basis and foundation of Pakistan, Madam. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim Group). We want a division or a recognition of the division—of course the differences amongst the people is not division, but the division is historical—and so we want the recognition of the division so that we can all live in a most friendly manner, so that we can set an example to the whole world and so that we can have our freedom even to-day. It is on that basis we want a division. We do not object to any division at all, but we only say that that division must be based on more natural factors and on more fundamental factors and language is not such a factor as that. For example, take the question of culture which is more important and more fundamental."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I am sorry to disturb the hon. Member so often. That is a separate issue altogether. That is political. The resolution here is the division of the province into linguistic areas and I would request the hon. Member to confine himself to that. Pakistan is a different issue altogether and here we are on linguistic provinces."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have already stated, Madam, that we stoutly and strongly oppose this resolution, we are not for recommending it to the Constituent Assembly and we are not for dividing this province only on a linguistic basis. I have to give my reason for that. When I say I do not want the paddy which I am asked to eat, still I may

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say, I want rice of a particular sort. That is what I am saying. You simply say, you do not want paddy, and what is it you want us to eat? That is what I am attempting to tell you. So, Madam, what I say is, you should not go only on the basis of language. That is not the only criterion for dividing the province. What else should it be? Take for example, the question of culture. Culture divides one section of the people from another in such a way as language does not do. Take for example, Hindus and Muslims. They differ on account of their culture because of their religion. You may say religion does not come in here. Whatever you may say and the people of the world may say, not only in the history of this country but in the history of the east, religion is the sole factor which shapes the life, conduct and culture of the people. When there is fundamental difference between one religion and another, culture also differs and when culture differs, the mental outlook, manners, habits and so many other things also differ. Therefore, if you want to divide people you must take this also into consideration. You must divide and re-arrange people according to their culture. Take for example the Moplas. They are in a compact area in Malabar. Though they speak the same language, they differ from the other people in their dress, in their food, in their mental outlook, in their philosophy of life, manners, habits and in so many other respects. Therefore that must be the proper criterion for dividing the people. Language alone should not be taken as the sole criterion. Even in certain other parts of the world it has been done so. Take for example, the States in South America and though the people in those States speak the same language, yet they are different States. Again if you take Germany and Austria, they speak the same German language and yet they are constituted into different States. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim Group) and on account of the language they are not put together. Then again, simply because they speak a different language they are not separated. There are also countries like that. For instance, in Switzerland the people speak different languages and yet they form one state. I am mentioning this to you to show that language need not necessarily be the deciding factor at all in re-arranging territories or populations. In this matter we have to take some lessons from the west. We know that in this country it is culture that makes the greatest difference amongst the people. If therefore you want us to live in a happy and prosperous way, you must divide according to culture. That is why we have put forward the claim for Moplastan here in this province. Then you may say that Kerala should be divided into Moplastan and Keralastan and you are perfectly justified in doing so, because even the Congress has recently set an example by its last resolution to divide the Punjab into two. Our proposal therefore is not unnatural; it is not against nature; it is well-founded and quite reasonable. Therefore, what I say is, if the province has to be divided, it has to be divided on cultural lines. Of course, you may divide it into Andhradesa, Tamilnad, Kerala and so on, but you must also include Moplastan

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also into this division. Moplastan must come in because the Muslims cannot be satisfied otherwise. People are saying that those who speak different languages cannot live together and that this agitation began as early as 1902. It is all the more reason why we must have a separate province on the basis of our separate culture. The Congress, they say, has formulated a scheme for the division of provinces on the basis of the languages spoken by the people. Congress might do so many things. I would only say that this is one of the greatest blunders that the Congress has committed. Therefore that cannot be any authority for us to follow. We want you to see for yourself, what is that would contribute to the happiness of the people.

"So, Madam, in view of all these points, I say, there is no real Constituent Assembly in being now and the other point is, language cannot be the proper criterion for re-dividing the province but culture ought to be taken into consideration. Also Moplastan is a definite issue and we must also have Moplastan in the new order of things.

"On these points I strongly oppose this resolution which goes counter to every one of these points."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I must at the outset express my thanks to the present Ministry as they thought fit to move forward this resolution which was framed and passed by the previous Cabinet. I lay some stress on this fact because it has pained me deeply in the last few days when every Bill at which we of the last Ministry worked for months together, without the alteration of a single comma or a full-stop, was placed before this House and passed, not one of my hon. Friends on the other side had the grace to say that these were the Bills and measures over which our friends had worked, which we had approved in the party and now we are moving them. Yesterday, the Tungabhadra Bill was passed and there was not even an expression of a word of gratitude, but a hit, if possible was given. (Interruption by Sri N. S. Varadachari). I know my Friend, Mr. Varadachari, and what he is going to say. Yesterday, when a question was asked about that Bill, not only nothing was said, but a hit, if possible, was given, namely, "How am I responsible for the delay"—implying neglect on the part of his predecessor. Now, if the Hon. Minister goes through the file, he will find that from May last when we took up office, till the other day, there was no Bill for Malabar irrigation. For years together that district suffered for want of any such Bill, and we worked on it for months and months. Will he point out a single instance in which we were lethargic or indolent and what right had he to say, how am I responsible for all this? It is this that has pained me. They are certainly entitled to take credit for pushing forward these things over which we have worked for months and months in spite of two Budget sessions. The Tungabhadra Bill was another Bill which we had worked up and yesterday the House passed another measure, the Bar Councils Act. May I assure this House and everyone outside

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that all the Bills placed before this House, whether passed into law or referred to Select Committees, were worked up by the previous Ministry, though not a word was mentioned about it. Not merely that, even an experienced Legislator like my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, went even further and thanked the Hon. Minister who moved it by saying that it was during his Ministry that such a thing has come about and he had not even a kind word to say that the Bill was prepared by the previous Cabinet.

"The Hon. Minister who moved the Temple Entry Bill took credit as a descendant of a great Acharya for moving it and his omission to mention a word of recognition of this fact pains me greatly. 3-45 p.m.

"With great respect to the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke, it was very interesting logic to say 'there is no Constituent Assembly, therefore this resolution does not stand'. Such propositions are fit only to be put in books of logic. Now so far as I can understand him, so far as this Province is concerned, he was good enough to admit that except Moplasthan which he has proposed, he was agreeable to Andhra, Tamilnad, Kerala and Karnataka. I am thankful to him for this. He went only further to say that he wants an amendment to be made adding 'Moplasthan' with which we may or may not agree. I find it for instance very difficult to agree because in every district, which I know, in every village, in every street, in every town there are Muslims. The Moplahs in Malabar who are only 1/3 of the population. They belong to the same race as the other people speaking the same language and therefore when he says that because they are only 1/3, not even 1/2, they should be recognised as separate from the others."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I did not want all Malabar for Moplasthan. I wanted only a compact area where the Moplahs are in a majority to be constituted into Moplasthan. We do not want the whole of Malabar for ourselves."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I am very thankful for the correction which he has made but if he will only ponder over it, he will find that it will become, if I may use a word, 'very absurd'. If in every place there are to be such 'sthans' created it will be impossible and we do not know where it will end. It is rather curious that he should have said that because the Congress has recognised the principle of linguistic Provinces, his Pakistan claim is of the same nature. I suppose, Madam, he made this admission without recognising fully its consequences. The different linguistic Provinces that the Congress is going to chalk out are not going to constitute separate sovereign states but only Provinces with sovereignty in the Centre. Therefore, if the Muslims are agreeable to Pakistan in this sense in places where they are in a majority, certainly the Congress has already conceded to this claim. Wherever the Muslims are in a majority they can have those areas where their culture and customs can have full and free development.

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"After all, Madam, I am here to lay the case for the Province from which I hail, viz., Karnatak. Of the four Provinces into which this great Province is going to be split up, without much regret, I believe, one is Karnatak. I am here to give the past history, the sad state of affairs in this portion of the country which many of my friends here may not know. I am therefore here to place a few facts before you. We are the most unfortunate in the whole of India of the linguistic provinces. In population we are about 20 millions in all, with an area of 1,48,000 square miles and with an annual revenue of about 20 crores. Yet we are the most unfortunate because we are split up into 23 administrations. In Madras Province it has so many little areas as in Coimbatore, in Salem, in Nilgiris, in Coorg, in Bellary and in Anantapur."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are you in a majority in these small pockets."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"In those places we are in a majority."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"So it is just like Muslims in Triplicane. Then have transfer of population."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I do not wish for any exchange of population. I am only speaking of the hardships to which we have been put since the unfortunate conquest of this country by the British. It has been cut into so many divisions. We in the south have been ruled from Fort St. George for the last 150 years. Though the place is 500 miles away, another portion, North Kanara is tacked on to the Bombay Presidency, Bombay with which we have our commerce and other intercourse. Then there is the area of Coorg. Then there is a major state, the major Indian State of Mysore, and a portion of Hyderabad and there are 13 minor States some of which are being ruled by princes. Now that has been our misfortune and as a result of this, there has been difficulties, and there has been no progress of the people. I want to stress and stress this very strongly, because there is no progress, no progress is possible in this Province really unless you divide it into linguistic provinces. Take for instance the railways. The Hon. the mover of the resolution knows how in my district of South Kanara, the railway terminus stopped at Mangalore in the year 1908 or so. There is a distance of 500 miles to Bombay. No Government have thought of having a railway connexion, though there is surplus fund in the Central Government. During the Advisers' regime they were asked whether they wanted any extra railways in this Province but their reply was some fanciful schemes like doubling the lines from here to Bezwada and so on so that money could be spent on steel from Britain and its dominions or on similar foreign materials. So also in other things. Take for instance the distance from Mangalore to Karwar. It is about 300 miles. For six months the rivers are unfordable and yet there are no bridges over most of them. These hardships are being raised from the year 1926 when I was in the old Council but nothing has ever been done. Then with regard to

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the question of ports. Whereas we hear of the development of Vizagapatam port and Negapatam or similar places in the East Coast, the question of the Malpe and other Ports has been ignored. During the Advisers' regime also matters were allowed to drift.

"Take again the question of irrigation. For the last 150 years not a quarter-anna has been spent in my district for irrigation. We are paying plenty of revenues. The Government here is getting at least Rs. 30 or 40 lakhs surplus revenue from my district. While Rs. 10 or more per acre are extracted as land revenue from my district, not a pie is spent on irrigation works, either major or minor. The same thing is true to a large extent of the sister district of Malabar.

"Take again electricity. Whereas crores of rupees have been spent in other districts and whereas in my own district three villages were acquired by the previous Government to be handed over to the Mysore State for the electricity scheme, they did not have the goodness or foresight to claim even 5,000 KW to us though one of the biggest hydro-electric projects—Jog in this project—is being developed. That is how things have been going on.

"In every way it is the same. Take education for instance. Out of public funds we raised long ago a Second-grade College in Mangalore. We have been crying hoarse for the last 20 years to bring it to the status of a First-grade College. Yet that has not been done. Similar is our plight in the Province of Bombay where four districts out of 8 or 10 are Karnatak districts and in that Province we are in a minority. Therefore, these are our difficulties and unless a new Province of all these units is built up there is going to be really no real progress and what I have said about Karnatak is also true of Andhra or Tamilnad or Kerala. Though the Tamil people are in a majority in this Province, there are no adequate irrigation facilities in the districts of Ramnad, Madura and other places. Therefore it is much better we divide and look intensively into our own problems. A Province with a population of 55 millions is equal to half a dozen countries of Europe put together. Our only hope lies in this management. Otherwise there will be no true progress.

"There is one other matter which I may mention. Our language of Canarese is not taught in several places and we are forced to learn Tamil and the school teachers teach in Tamil. We are not given any facilities for our cultural development. In the western portion of Anantapur district, Telugu is thrust upon the children. Due to the misfortune of a foreign administration things have been allowed to continue like this for a long time. But to-day unless things are set right there can be no real progress. The so-called freedom that will come during the next year will mean little if we cannot put our houses in order and have proper provincial administrations. We hear that things will move

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quickly and we will have these Provinces soon. Prominent Congress Leaders were very anxious about this in the past. But when it comes to parting with power some of them are saying 'not now, but after five years or ten years.'

4 p.m. "It is only because of the agitation of the deputation which went to Delhi and placed facts before Pundit Nehru and others and they were reminded of past promises things seem to be moving a bit. Therefore, it is, Sir, that I am saying that things are not so easy. If it was so easy, we need not take the trouble of passing a resolution here. It was passed in 1938. Friends in Delhi know how things are actually going on here. In 1946 on the 19th January, while declaring open the 10th All Karnatak Unification Conference in Bombay the Hon. Sardar Vallabhai Patel said as follows:—

'Even the British Karnatak area in population and size, is larger than the Mysore State and in population twice the size of Sind and about three times the size of North-West Frontier Province. It would be about 20 times the size of Coorg and about 40 times its population..... If we take these areas the Kannada speaking unit would be a formidable linguistic unit in India.'

In spite of such pronouncements we learn that things are not so easy and that there is trouble and unless the baby cries, there will be no milk forthcoming. From 1917, we have been demanding a separate Province even as the Andhras have been asking for a separate Province for them. Thirty years have gone by and the Act of 1935 was passed but when it comes to a question of actual fact, people are not willing to do things. Even the Hon. the Minister for Revenue speaking on the floor of this House regarding the proposal of Sir B. N. Rao said that we might wait till the Boundary Commission is appointed and it finished its labours. I say Madam, it will take at least five years for the Boundaries Commission to complete its labours and these areas are definitely demarcated and the administrations set up."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I can inform the hon. Mr. Karanth that I was appointed as the Secretary and the Convenor of the Committee that was specially formed with reference to the linguistic provinces. At Delhi, I worked in close co-operation with Karnatak friends and we laboured together and brought about a situation there. As a result of all that, there was practically unanimous agreement that the question of linguistic provinces should be left to be incorporated in the constitution that is to come. All our trouble was as regards the getting up of the resolution and the introduction of the resolutions at particular stages. Even over that, the leaders of the Congress High Command have assured us that this problem will not be tinkered with and will be considered. I really felt as anxious about this question as my hon. friend in the early stages, but at the later stages I was assured that there is no cause for any kind of apprehension at Delhi."

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* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I am thankful for the admission made by my hon. friend. He said that a 'situation' had to be brought about and that is also what I said. People were not amenable in the first instance and a 'situation' had to be created. But my point was quite different and that was regarding Sir B. N. Rao's suggestion of having different Ministries one for Madras north and another for Madras south. But when my hon. friend referred to that he said: 'let us not think about that now; let us not "tinker" with the problem.' I may in this connexion ask him whether the demarcation of boundaries and formation of linguistic provinces will not take at least five years at the minimum, if it will not be longer."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Does the hon. Member not think that the Provinces will not come along with the new constitution whenever it comes."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The Boundary Commissions must finish their work. Otherwise how can we have linguistic provinces? Till then even with the best of intentions you cannot have linguistic provinces for less than five years at the minimum. Are you going to continue under the present situation? My hon. friend the mover of the resolution is perfectly right in saying that there are jealousies. I am very glad that he conceded that but how are you going to put a stop to them? During all these five years are you going to be engaged in continuous bickerings with one another? If you can have overnight the division of the Punjab and Bengal on account of certain serious troubles there and they have recognized the wisdom of having separate administrations and even the Congress is agreeable to such joint Ministries, why can you not have the same arrangement for the Province of Madras? It may be that as the Hon. the Home Minister said you cannot forthwith divide the revenues on the basis of rupees, annas and pies and say that so much is the exact amounts for the Andhra and so much for the Tamilnad. Such a division may not be possible. But it is quite possible to have separate administrations functioning. It is much better that we recognize facts and recognize provincial differences. It is enough to say that these differences seriously obstruct and hamper the development of the Province as a whole. It is therefore better that we recognize and face them. I wish the Ministry to think over these problems and not simply say 'Let us not tinker with the problem.' Without taking more time, I give my whole-hearted support to this resolution so that we may try to work out our destinies in the best way possible with mutual love and good will between the various linguistic people of the Province."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Madam, that information I want from you and that is so that I may not commit any mistake in future, when I was speaking on this resolution and was referring to the Constituent Assembly, there were frequent interruptions from hon. Members of the House and from the Chair also asking what was the relevancy though mention of the Constituent Assembly had

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been made in the resolution itself and one cannot speak on the resolution before the House without referring to the Constituent Assembly. But when my hon. friend Mr. Karanth spoke about so many Bills that were introduced and other things, nobody interrupted him and he was allowed to speak like that. I wish to know the difference between that and my remarks so that I may be better guided in the future."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"My interruption was with a view to understand your point whether you did not want to send a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly because you did not recognize the present Constituent Assembly. It was not with a view to disturb you."

"As for allowing the hon. Member to make the remarks he did, you would certainly wish to hear his point of view and also as an ex-Minister, you would not grudge him the lenience that was shown towards him."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Madam, Speaker, I would in the first place, appreciate the feelings of my respected friend Mr. Karanth when he said that when Bills prepared with much labour and diligence by the previous Ministers had been put forward by their successors and passed through this Assembly, no word of acknowledgment was made by any hon. Member of this House. I respect his feelings and I express my gratitude for the trouble they have taken. But why none has said anything upon that point is because the Congress party continues; Mr. Chamberlain might go and Mr. Churchill might come in but the Conservative party continues. So also to-day Lord Pethick Lawrence has resigned and Lord Listowell has come in but it is the same party that remains in power. So also here the Congress party lives and continues in spite of a change of personnel in the Ministry. The previous Ministers acted on Congress principles and worked for the country to the best of their lights and prepared Bills and the present Ministers, as much imbued with Congress principles and as much leaders of the people as the previous Ministers, have continued these Bills and got them passed. That is why there was no necessity for referring to that point."

"My hon. friend Mr. Karanth was not quite correct when he said that I referred to Dr. Subbarayan as having been responsible for this Bill seeking to remove disqualifications on lawyers. What I said was that it was during Dr. Subbarayan's Chief Ministership when my friend Mr. Karanth and I were both members of the Legislative Council as Congress party members that a similar thing had been done to remove disqualifications of political offenders for serving on local boards, municipalities and Universities. So I said that in the same way in yesterday's Bill disqualifications on lawyers for political offences was removed. It is only in that way that I referred to it."

"Now, coming to the resolution itself, my Friend, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has raised three points. He says that he does not recognize the Constituent Assembly. I appreciate his

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opinion because the Muslim League which was intended to take part in the Constituent Assembly has not taken part till now. I hope they will soon join the Constituent Assembly. To that extent, there is some defect and there is no question about that. But it does not mean that the Constituent Assembly does not exist simply because one of the major parties has not joined it. It was on the 9th of December that the Constituent Assembly commenced its work after the Congress accepted the interpretation given by the British Cabinet with regard to the grouping scheme, dated 6th December and it is there. The British Cabinet had also agreed that once the Constituent Assembly assembles and continues to do its work nobody would interfere with its work and it will go on. So in that way it is going on. Many States are negotiating with the Constituent Assembly; many of them have agreed to send their representatives to the Constituent Assembly, some are still hesitating. The new Viceroy also is doing his best to bring in the Muslim League into the Constituent Assembly. The Constituent Assembly cannot be wiped out simply because Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah has not condescended to send his followers into the Assembly. The Constituent Assembly is going on with its work in a constitutional manner. It is but right that we send our resolution and recommendation to the Constituent Assembly, what is the other thing that we can do? Under the Act of 1935 the Secretary of State is the final authority. When we passed such a resolution in this Assembly, and this Government sends it to the Secretary of State, it is he who ought to take action under that Act. This Assembly as well as the Legislative Council in 1938 unanimously passed a resolution in the same words as the present resolution, namely, that we should have four linguistic provinces, that is, Tamilnad, Kerala, Andhra 4.15 and Karnataka. As the Leader of the House said, it was signed p.m. by all the Ministers and forwarded to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then wrote back saying 'this is not the time; we have just begun the experiment of Provincial Autonomy; this attempt at further division will not be considered now.' Let us also remember that the war clouds were there on the horizon at that time. Therefore we could not get a favourable reply. Afterwards the war broke out. Congress members were all in jails. All the Congress members were released later, and then elections were held, and in the Provinces popular governments have come. Along with this the Interim Government and the Constituent Assembly were agreed upon by the Cabinet Mission. The Cabinet Mission came here. So, it was with a sort of compromising attitude that the British Cabinet came here. They knew that Round Table Conferences in England would be of no use as had taken place in 1930, 1931 and 1932. The real Round Table Conference or the real compromise must take place in India with the Leaders of India. They took so much of trouble to meet the Muslim League leaders and the Congress leaders. They came to the conclusion that both the Interim Government and the Constituent Assembly should be formed. The result is that it is the Constituent Assembly alone that will give us these Provinces. Whatever may be its character, it is the Constituent Assembly that will give us these Provinces. If we now write

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to the Secretary of State under the old Act, he would say 'no; we have asked Indians to frame their own constitution; you better bother yourselves; we cannot interfere at this stage.' That is what he is going to say. Therefore, if you are earnest about the formation of linguistic provinces you can only approach the Constituent Assembly. That is the only body fit to do this work, and we should only approach it.

"With regard to the necessity for linguistic provinces, I do not want to say anything because it is an accepted principle. Of course, as the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition said, in certain parts of the country, religion, culture and other things may have to be taken into consideration. I do not want to say anything about it. But so far as South India is concerned, we have only Tamilnad, Andhra, Kerala and Karnataka. (A voice from Muslim Benches: Moplasthan.) I am very glad that on this point there is no difference of opinion between us and the members of the Muslim League. They agree to this division. But what they say is they also want Moplasthan. Already we are suffering with Orissa, Sind and North-West Frontier Provinces. The Central Government is giving them contribution every year. So, for small places with 10 lakhs of population or even less, if a permanent state is given, who will contribute to their financial position? Therefore, I should say that when we form separate provinces not only there should be contiguous area, but they should also be able to stand on their own legs to be economically self-sufficient. There is no justification for a very small contiguous area to be separate from other areas only on culture and religion. So Moplasthan can have no existence. It cannot be brought into existence. Therefore, let us have only Tamilnad, Andhra, Kerala and Karnataka provinces. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: 'What about Albania?') Why should we go there? (Laughter.) It will be devoured by somebody. Moplasthan can be easily devoured by some people who will come by boats. I submit—you may differ from me—there is no use of forming small areas into separate provinces.

"We have been agitating for the Andhra Province from 1913. My hon. Friend Mr. Karanth said that they had been agitating for a separate Karnataka Province from 1917. These agitations have been going on. In the year 1920, as soon as Mahatma Gandhi assumed leadership of the Congress organization, in the very first Congress that was held under his leadership in December 1920, India was divided into linguistic provinces for Congress purposes for political purposes—with a view that these very provinces would be formed by a Government which would come into existence. What took place? Sind was recognized as a Province by Congress. North-West Frontier was recognized as a separate Province. Orissa was recognized as a separate Province. These very three Provinces were formed by the British Government under the Government of India Act, 1935. Sir, why do we want these Provinces? (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur rose in his seat.) I am not going to yield now. We want real Swaraj; democratic Swaraj; Government by the people in their own language. What

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is the use of sending representatives to British House of Commons who have passed only examinations in German? We want the real representatives of the people to come to the various Provinces. This is the first criterion for these linguistic Provinces. We want administration in the people's language. We want the highest education in the people's language. We want that the highest degrees should be conferred on the students in the people's language, in their mother tongue. That is the principle on which the agitation for these linguistic Provinces is being carried on.

"One more thing, I want to say. There were some differences of opinion expressed by some important persons in the Constituent Assembly debates. Recently, I happened to meet a distinguished person—ex-Advocate-General. He thinks that under the strict interpretation of the Cabinet Mission's statement of May 16th, we can only frame constitutions for the Provinces as they exist. In the statement of May 16th, only the existing Provinces are named. Section A, Hindu Provinces, Section B, Bengal and Assam, and Section C, Punjab, North-West Frontier and Sind. Therefore, his opinion still is, strictly speaking, i.e., if we want to strictly abide by the letter of the statement of the Cabinet Mission of May 16th, we must frame constitutions only for these existing eleven Provinces, but that we can make a provision, as was made in the previous Government of India Act, 1935, that if Andhra legislators want separation, immediately a Boundary Commission may be appointed and the Andhra Province got within two or three years. That was his opinion. But I do not agree. (The bell was sounded.) I am finishing in a minute, Madam. I do not agree with him. The statement of May 16th merely says Section A may frame constitutions for these Provinces and also if they like, may frame a group constitution. In Section A people do not want a group constitution. There is no question of opting out also. All that may apply to B and C Sections. Therefore it is easy for Section A when they frame provincial constitutions, they can first divide the Provinces on linguistic basis and then frame constitutions for the divided Provinces."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"I am sorry, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, you are taking a lot of time. I have already called Mr. Raza Khan to speak."

* MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, at the very outset, I have to express my sympathy for my Hon. Friend Mr. Kaleswara Rao who, in spite of some big injury to his chin, spoke at great length. I do not know how it has happened. We see many things happen in Bezwada these days."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"He was not in Bezwada."

* MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Well, my hon. Friend Mr. Karanth, ex-Revenue Minister, started very well. I quite appreciate it. But he took a wrong track when he tried to make a reference to the Leader of the Opposition. I can tell him he may be very good in matters of revenue administration, but in point of logic he has thoroughly disappointed us. (Laughter.)

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The whole question was this. When a very important reference was made with regard to the submission of this resolution to the Constituent Assembly, and when the Leader of the House said that the important part of the resolution was the reference to the Constituent Assembly, it was right on the part of the Leader of the Opposition to explain the attitude of the Muslim League and the members of our party that we would not be a party to this resolution being submitted to the Constituent Assembly. Therefore, he took good deal of pains to make our Congressmen understand the real and exact position regarding the present Constituent Assembly. Unfortunately, the trouble with our friends on that side is that they take some time to understand things. (Laughter.) Therefore, the Leader of the Opposition had to develop it at some length. I do not want to dilate on that particular point, because it was very ably done by the Leader of the Opposition. To-morrow also we will have a number of other speakers who will try to put forth certain things which have not been stated to-day.

"Coming to the main resolution, I refuse to believe that there is so much difference of opinion between the Hindus of Tamilnad and the Hindus of Andhra. For a minute, Madam, forget the Muslims either of Tamilnad or Andhra or Malabar. You take the general question as it is, and see how it affects the majority. I refuse to believe, except for the slight differences as was stated by the Leader of the House regarding language, there is any real difference culturally or otherwise between the Hindus of Andhra, Tamilnad and Karnataka. They have convinced us that really their differences are so acute that except by a division of the Province they cannot settle their affairs. It is quite wrong to say that simply because there is difference in language, we should have separate Provinces of our own. What I would like to submit is apart from the differences in language as far as Andhra is concerned there are political differences which you cannot ignore. I want hon. Members of the Congress Party to admit that fact. You say that by having linguistic provinces you give the people an opportunity to come to the Assembly and participate in its proceedings.

4-30 p.m. "May I put a question to the Leader of the House. You are claiming for a separate Province on linguistic basis on the assumption that there will be a Central Government under which all of you will have to work. As some said, there will be ultimately 24 to 28 states; and how are the representatives of these states to work in the centre and carry on the affairs of the Government unless they have a common medium of expression. Therefore on the mere basis of language you cannot have separation.

"I can quote here the real reason, and it is an important fact, and it is this; the real cause for this resolution is, the Hindus of Andhra do not have any confidence in the Hindus of Tamil Nad. This is a fact which my friends of Andhra districts have admitted, as borne out from their speeches. Unfortunately I have not with me at present those speeches. Utterances have been made by them saying that as long as Madras Province remains one single unit, the Tamilians will always be in power instead of the Telugus. Very recently, the Telugus have said, somehow the Tamilians are

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always in power, and all the money of the 24 districts have been going to the irrigation projects of the Tamil Nad with the result that Andhra districts have suffered. The whole question reduces itself to this: the Hindus of Andhra Desa have no confidence in the Hindus of the Tamil Nad. (Sri R. V. Swaminathan: What about Andhra Muslims?) Therefore my whole point in saying this is this: 'when Hindus of Andhra Desa cannot adjust themselves with the Hindus of the Tamil Nad, how do you expect Muslims of India to be under the hegemony of Hindus?' The whole question is a question of power politics.

"Again, in spite of the fact there is something common between the Hindus of Andhra and Tamil Nad, they do not have confidence in the other; and when it is so, how can you expect the Muslims to have confidence in the Hindus, when there is nothing in common between them? We are yet to know, what were the real causes for one Ministry going out and another Ministry to come in, unless it be the friends of Tamil Nad never wanted an Andhra to be at the helm of affairs."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"How is it relevant here?"

* MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When it is a question of distribution of power either in the Government or in the matter of administration, that is a very important point which I have to refer to by the way.

"My friend, Mr. Karanth said it is wrong on the part of some Muslim League members to demand Moplahstan for them. When you are going to divide the country without any limit, I do not think it is wrong on the part of Moplah brethren who are almost different entirely from the other residents of North Malabar district. So they say, 'If you want to divide the province, why not allow us to have a separate State, where we can work our affairs according to our religion, according to our language and according to our culture'. Therefore, there is nothing wrong on the part of some Muslim League members in moving an amendment to this resolution, which unfortunately was lost, because it was not in order.

"Then the other important factor to be borne in mind is this: when reference was made to the effect that this resolution should be forwarded to the Constituent Assembly, let not members of the Congress Party think it will be conceded at once; let them remember that this question cannot be settled unless the other All-India question is solved. First the Hindu-Muslim question should be settled. When that is settled this question will get itself settled in some way or other. The Leader of the House was once a staunch supporter of Pakistan, and it was on that point he came to trouble with the Congress Party. So this question is purely a political question. We want real division of India, which is the real way to solve Hindu-Muslim problem. I think the Leader of the House would come forward and say that. He was of that view from 1942 right up to 1945; and I don't know whether he has changed his views now.

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

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"Therefore, Sir, when we oppose this resolution we have very good grounds. We, as members of the Muslim League, can never recognize the Constituent Assembly as it stands, because the very basis on which the Constituent Assembly has been convened has lost its ground. And so any number of resolutions that might be sent to it will not cut the ice.

"Now, let me see what is the principle of divisions of the province? I see Mr. Subbarayan, Mr. Gopala Reddi and Mr. Madhava Menon before me. I put to them this question: 'What is the real difference between the three except that of language?' It is all nothing but moonshine to base division of province on that score. There is something behind the resolution; people feel if they get a separate province they will get some sort of power. This Assembly, as it is a representative body, should say in this resolution something about the real important political problem underlying this resolution. Unless that is done, the resolution, as it stands now, will be of no value. Apart from this, we oppose this resolution on fundamental grounds."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a resolution on which I thought I should say a few words having regard to the previous history of this separation of Andhra province. Long ago when Mr. Macdonald was the Prime Minister of Britain there was a Round Table Conference, to which some of our great men were invited. The Raja of Parlakimedi, a very wise man, was advised to move for separation of Orissa from Andhra. He simply mentioned some facts and read out some small statements. Mr. Macdonald was a very large-hearted man. He would not bother about details. So when separation of Orissa was moved, he simply directed that that matter be noted. It was noted, and separation came into being. And thus Orissa became a separate province. If at that time some of our representatives from Andhra had risen to demand for separation of Andhra also, perhaps the same would have also been directed to be noted, and separation of the province would have been effected. We lost that great opportunity. Certain things, if done in proper time, can be accomplished without any difficulty. What that opportunity is not availed of, but time is taken for further developing the claims or for further improving upon the old position, difficulties come up. Andhras were early in the field. I do not know whether Mr. Karanth is right in saying that Karnataka people were earlier in the field for demanding a separate province for them. (Interruption.) Yes, I know, that was why I was guarded in my statement. I know, for anything that may be asserted there will be a denial. This is an age of denials. (Laughter.) Things will be said, even of very categorical things and when a question is put about it, denials will come up straightway. There is no half-way house. Even so, here an assertion and a denial have come up. But let us not mind it. This is a very small matter. The present question has been delayed. Ten years ago the question came up, when the Congress Cabinet was functioning under the 1935 Act for the first time. We had a very good Governor in those days;

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and there were no groups in that Congress Cabinet at that time. Somehow we managed to run the administration without splitting into groups. Although the first election of the leadership was threatened with a contest, we avoided that also by one of us withdrawing in favour of the other, and since that day, Government had been carried on without allowing that party to be split up into groups and developing group tendency and group policy during that period. I may say, then, all the Ministers united in making a demand for the separation of Andhra from other areas. It was a united demand made, no one taking any exception, all signed the note.

"We all expected this separation to come within a few weeks 4-45 p.m. from Lord Zetland who was then the Secretary of State. But nothing came within four weeks, or within six weeks or six months and the whole thing receded to the background. I shall not trouble you, Madam, and the hon. Members of this House with regard to the details of the happenings of those days because a terrible controversy raged over a statement made by me at Vizagapatam about the happenings in the Cabinet. Assertions, contradictions, recriminations and denials went on for a very long time. I am therefore anxious not to refer to any of those things. I would like to confine myself to the barest facts which I hope will not be denied. All the Ministers agreed to a separate Andhra Province and a representation was sent to the Secretary of State. Then the ultimate refusal came. That is the second stage. I can conveniently refer to in this connexion. Since then efforts have been made for separation of the Andhra area into a separate province. Some of those who started an agitation for a separate province have become very old now and they are not in evidence in the Assemblies either here or elsewhere, but still they have been continuing this agitation. About the need for separation, I think, nobody would deny. But things have changed since 1939, since the Muslim League passed its resolution for Pakistan. All in a few years, how things change, how minds change, how the conditions change, one will not be able to remember and adjust. Because of our neglect for over 27 years things have been going wrong in every direction where they could have been avoided. But it was not possible to settle matters in that way as we desired. To-day my hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition and the other Members have raised the question whether there is a Constituent Assembly at all to which this resolution could be submitted. That is the position in which we stand. We cannot feel very proud of the difficulties or the difficult situations that have been enveloping us up in the north where the Central Government is, or in other parts of the Country. It is a very unfortunate situation, Sir. Just at this juncture, the Prime Minister of Great Britain with his Cabinet has declared: 'Here we are. We fix 30th June 1948 as the date for us to quit India, accepting the Congress's slogan of 'Quit India', on which the Congress went into the jails and close upon which a violent revolution was attempted in the country. Many had ridiculed the Congress leadership and the Congressmen who had gone into the jails in 1942. The results, after years of continued suffering, have shown that it was a very proper demand made

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of Great Britain. Now it is proved that the Labour Government of Great Britain accepted it as the proper thing and they have responded to that. They say, although they had kept silent so long, 'We accept your "Quit India" demand.' Although they have not said that in so many words, I take it as implied: 'You have been saying, our presence in India has been the cause of so many troubles, so many differences between the communities. we do accept that also, so we say: We shall leave India. We shall leave you free to decide for yourselves and to determine for yourselves a constitution by which you can be governed. We have set up a Constituent Assembly; whether that Assembly continues to function until the 30th June 1948 or whether it is prorogued, we do not care much. By that date we shall clear out of this country.' That is what is stated. Every Indian, Sir, whether he is a Hindu or a Musalman or a Christian or a Parsi or any other should feel glad that this demand of this country and of all the peoples of India has been accepted by Britain and they have fixed a date for their leaving India. Every one of us should be very glad and should do our best to see that all differences were closed. And a declaration should have been made by us. Whatever may have been our differences until now, in view of the solemn declaration made by Britain that they would leave this country to ourselves, to have our own full freedom, we should have thanked them, not merely thanked them, but taken the whole thing on hand and tried our best to solve this problem, Constituent Assembly or no Constituent Assembly. Sir, suppose for a moment that this Constituent Assembly has not been inaugurated by Britain, let us suppose that without this Constituent Assembly, the British Cabinet or the British Parliament declared: 'Well, we have tested the Indian people for nearly thirty years now. They have been fighting for it not from one point but from various points, not merely from a non-violent point of view but also from a violent point of view. We are now satisfied that these people have gained sufficient strength in both ways and they can manage their own affairs. We clear out.' All of us whether there was a Constituent Assembly or not should have combined, should have accepted that declaration and started our work to take that power from them into our own hands. What do we find to-day? Instead of doing any such thing, we are now at war at every point. Sir, I was never enamoured of this Constituent Assembly when it was first constituted by Britain. It was not a Constituent Assembly which Canada had constituted or which any other country had constituted to draft their own constitution and demand of Britain: 'Here we are, people of our country. We have decided to take power into our own hands. We have decided to draft our own constitution. We have decided not to submit ourselves to your rule any longer. Therefore we have drafted this constitution.' Such a constitution could have been drafted within a short time and we could have presented it. We have not adopted that course, but we have adopted the next best course which Great Britain has given to us, these legislative bodies sending their representatives to the Constituent Assembly and we have been wrangling over that question. Now, it is a very unfortunate

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position for this country of ours. I do not know when the light will dawn upon all those who are carrying on this controversy and struggle. The first duty of every Indian is to get the power from Great Britain into the hands of Indians. But we are throwing it away. It is a sad tragedy as it were which we have been going through for years to come over this controversy. I do not know when these controversies would come to an end. As the *Times of London* has remarked recently, there is a silver lining in the horizon, owing to the talks with Mahatma Gandhi and Mohamed Ali Jinnah. . . . (Some hon. Members from the Opposition benches: 'Say Quad-e-Azam. Say that please.')"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"We say Gandhiji."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They have issued a joint appeal. For what? A joint appeal, not for dropping all differences, a joint appeal not for taking the power which may come soon after the passage of the Bill in the Parliament, but a joint appeal not to go on murdering each other in the country. It is the fate of this land which nobody could avoid. Mahatma Gandhi might go and say in those forests and fast and other agencies might be working. For a time it may look as if we are having some peace. But all those things have disappeared. Now they have issued an appeal to stop murdering. Let us look at any province where things are now in conflict. It is a very difficult situation into which we have gone. What are we to-day in the Andhra Province. In the Andhra Province, Sir, there was a complaint when I was. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can continue his speech to-morrow. But if he can finish it now in two or three minutes he can do so."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"May I make a special request, Sir. To-morrow I may not be here. That is why I want to continue. I will not take long."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I know how many minutes are required?"

SOME HON. MEMBERS:—(Muslim League Benches) "Let him continue, Sir. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I must have an idea."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"A maximum of half an hour, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it the desire of the House to sit for half an hour?"

HON. MEMBERS:—"Let him continue."

MR. SPEAKER:—"All right. I have no objection."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"We have a Select Committee meeting at 5-15, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member says they will have to attend a Select Committee."

5 p.m. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I shall not trouble hon. Members who have got so much valuable work in the Select Committee. I will finish in 15 or 20 minutes so as to enable them to attend the Select Committee. Sir, the Andhra Province, how did it come? At one time I could not escape certain comments before I left office. I was asked in some places and questions were put in writing: 'It is said that you refused to sign a resolution that was proposed to be moved in the Meerut session of the Congress demanding an Andhra Province. Is there any truth in this?' Such a grave charge was levelled against me. Of course, I gave a suitable answer but I do not want to repeat it here."

"Sir, this Andhra Province question has been creating some trouble inside the Andhra Province itself by some people saying, 'We are going forward to create an Andhra Province, but there are some people who are holding back and who are not co-operating with us! We have descended to such depths.' There is nobody in the Andhra country who was ever against an Andhra Province. They have been baffled why they have not been able to have it in spite of their united wish. The Andhra country has been very unfortunate in not having been able to secure the necessary support in proper quarters for doing anything. Therefore it is not correct to say that anybody was holding back in regard to the demand for an Andhra Province. There is a way of demanding it, a way of agitating for it, a way of getting it and a way of establishing it, even though there should be so many others opposed to it and trying to thwart it. We have to adopt such methods in order to secure an Andhra Province if we are forced to have it. But it is not necessary."

"My hon. friend here was saying something about what happened in Delhi with regard to this question. It is much better not to refer to the happenings in Delhi and say that everything is right there and that the thing will be given for the mere demand of it. What was the agitation carried on in Delhi to have this matter of the linguistic provinces settled? Almost all the representatives of the Constituent Assembly, which is not an insignificant number, gathered together and resolved that this should be granted. The demand was presented again to the gentlemen of the Congress High Command. In that approach also there was some little mistake. The Congress High Command—it is a difficult thing for common people to understand who constitute the Congress High Command. Do all the members there constitute the Congress High Command or do the important members alone constitute the Congress High Command? After passing the resolution in that august assembly in Delhi, an approach was made to one gentleman of the Congress High Command believing that if he accepted it, the rest would go through. There also I was put to test whether I would join in a deputation to wait upon that great leader. I joined the deputation. We were all present there. Matters were represented and that kind friend was good enough to say, 'Yes, we can pass the

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resolution.' But it did not last even for a few hours because it was not approved by another hon. Member there. That was the fate of the resolution in Delhi. I do not know why the Hon. the Revenue Minister was referring to the Delhi matters. This is what happened there and the matter had to be shelved for the time being. It was said that this could be taken up when the question of sections came in and that that was the proper time. Whatever it is, I am not in the least disturbed by these happenings. We have to wait and carry it through. We have come here, because we have not been able to get it passed straightway in Delhi through the Constituent Assembly. To strengthen their hands further we have come here with this resolution. We have to pass it on to our friends."

"How do we get this Andhra Province? It is a big matter into which I do not want to go in the short time at my disposal. Within what time can we get it? People outside are really very impatient. Hon. Members who do not belong to that area cannot understand the depth of the feeling in the Andhra area and the other provinces also with regard to this separation. This is an elementary thing about which there should not have been any dispute."

"Twenty-seven years ago when the new constitution for the Congress was drafted, the leader Mahatma Gandhi with his long vision straightway put his finger on the right spot and divided the whole country into 21 linguistic provinces. That constitution we have been working all these years on a linguistic basis. If we had any sense left in us, we should have worked on those lines in the British India constitution also. We have been struggling hard yesterday to decide which of the hon. Members will speak in Telugu and which in English. You, Sir, wanted that they should decide once and for all in what language they were going to speak. This is not a House that is representative of the people in the land. Let me tell you that squarely and clearly. Those who are not able to express themselves in English, those who do not follow the discussions, they are not doing justice to the people and the people are not getting any benefit out of it. This House should have said straightway: 'Divide the whole Province into linguistic provinces. Make them real ones. Let each area have its own Assembly, its own Cabinet, its own Ministers, its own Government, and let the people be benefited by it.' It is a farce we have been going through here. It is because of the farce we have been having so many troubles and the people are confused. I go about the country and lakhs of people gather there notwithstanding the misunderstanding created by interested men and I tell them: 'Do not be disturbed. It is ultimately your business, whatever may happen to us who are supposed to be your representatives.' I tell these people so when I go there. I have been telling them not now, on account of any of our recent differences, but all the 27 years since I got into the movement. Linguistic basis should have been the basis of the Constituent Assembly. What is the Constituent Assembly and how is it to decide the constitution? With very great trouble, they are trying to muddle through somehow or other."

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We have not been thoroughly organized in planning ourself for the benefit of the people. So I am in difficulty now with regard to the time when we can achieve this Andhra Province. The Andhra Province can be achieved if we are not standing between the people and the Government. The people themselves can establish their own constitution, their own Government without having recourse to anybody if they will make up their minds. We would all be having the Andhra Province or Tamil Province or a Kerala Province or Kannada Province. It is for the people to take the whole thing, to have their own province, to have their own State and their own Government. But that is not so easy and it cannot be accomplished immediately. In the 1935 Act there is section 290 which lays down that Secretary of State if he likes can decide by writing one or two lines: 'Let this Province be formed and let there be a Commission for the demarcation of the boundaries' or some such thing. That can be done only by the Secretary of State. All along I have been feeling whether it is not worthwhile before the Secretary of State's office is abolished, to go to that Secretary of State and tell him our troubles and ask him: 'Please, as Mr. Macdonald has simply asked that the matter be noted, you simply direct these four provinces to be divided separately' and get that done by him. That is one way. But practically he has resigned everything into the hands of the Government which is called the Interim Government. The Interim Government can have taken up the whole thing. But it requires a bit of understanding either for the Interim Government or this Government or the Secretary of State, to see the condition of the people, how they are feeling, how they are suffering and in what way they could be given redress. The Interim Government could have taken up the whole thing, but that Government functioned perhaps for 4 or 5 weeks usefully so long as the Muslim League members did not enter. (Interruption.) Ever since they entered the Interim Government it ceased to be an Interim Government. It became a little hell. What do we see? They are struggling on both sides. They are all eminent men. I do not say anything about their ability, but it is not ability alone that can solve problems. It is heart that is required. Ability you may have, but what is more important is the heart to understand the situation at a psychological moment and take the necessary action. Sir, even with regard to the Budget, negotiations were going on within the same party and in the same Government. Sir, hon. Members said: 'This is a Congress Government; this is the Congress Party that is doing it.' I did not wish to question or interrupt him at that time, because, when the time comes, I will have to raise the question as to how the Congress Party is constituted to-day, into what parts the Party has been divided and, whatever might have been the position about the group system up to the elections, whether after the elections the Congress Party has been functioning as one party having got rid of that group mentality. It has not been able to get rid of that mentality. We have to face a situation very soon with regard to these matters. We are making serious mistakes over small things. For small benefits, we have gone wrong. We have created such a serious trouble in the

5-15
p.m.

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country. Whether you will have to deal with one party or with two, three or four groups, that may have to be decided later on when we go into the matter. That is our difficulty with regard to Andhra Province also. But I am anxious at every stage to get rid of this group mentality in which we are caught. It was not our own, but it was a creation from outside and we have not been able to get out of it. If we are to solve this problem, all the Members of the Assembly, whether Hindus or Muslims, will have to get rid of it. Therefore, provinces must be separated. I will appeal to the members of the League Party in the Opposition to revise their views with regard to this matter. You think about Pakistan; you may have your own plans for achieving your objectives. But so far as the division of the country into so many territorial areas, who governs, and how they should be governed are concerned . . . (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: 'Territorial—Yes.') I have always got a feeling that in our country, whatever may be the difficulties created by certain sections or by a few individuals, the bulk of the people and the leaders, who are the best men that we have in this country, have given proofs of their competence to settle any question. I am anxious that this question must be settled in a peaceful manner. The Hon. Leader of the House said that this would be settled in peace by agreement. To achieve that aim, to get a settlement by agreement, our mind must change, our conduct must change and every act that we do must come into line with the general end in view and the benefit of the public. In this way I hope the Andhra Province question will be accepted and will come into operation before long. With these words, I support the motion." (Some Members clapped hands.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Clapping is not allowed in Parliament. Instead of that, hon. Members can say: 'hear, hear.' That is allowed. That is also one way of giving cheers."

"The Select Committee on the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill will meet at 5-30 p.m. instead of at 5-15, as the hon. Member has taken twenty minutes after five."

"I adjourn the House to tomorrow till 11 o'clock."

The House then adjourned.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 550 asked by B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur (on behalf of Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th April, 1947, page 617 supra.]

Statement showing the names, communities and qualifications of the officials and non-officials appointed as officers in the Textile Control Department.

Serial number and name.	Post holding.	Community.	Qualifications.
1 Rao Bahadur Sri T. Srinivasa Ayyangar.	Assistant Textile Commissioner (Textile Control).	Hindu, Brahman ..	B.A., Retired Deputy Collector. Re-employed.
2 Sri S. Rajam Ayyar ..	Personal Assistant to Provincial Textile Commissioner (Khadi).	Do. ..	Do.
3 " T. R. Rangachatha Ayyangar.	Assistant Textile Commissioner (Dyes and Chemicals).	Do. ..	Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
4 " N. Kanakasundaram ..	Assistant Textile Commissioner (Distribution).	Do. ..	M.A., Deputy Collector.
5 " K. V. Sivasankaran ..	Assistant Textile Commissioner (Handlooms).	Do. ..	M.A., Sub-Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
6 " C. G. Venkataraman ..	Personal Assistant to Provincial Textile Commissioner.	Do. ..	Deputy Collector.
7 " M. Sundarasiva Rao ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Vizagapatam.	Do. ..	Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
8 Janab Muhammad Aman-uddin Sahib Bahadur.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Bezvada.	Muslim ..	Deputy Collector.
9 Janab M. A. Shariff Sahib.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Madras.	Do. ..	Do.
10 Sri D. Balasundaram Pillai.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Madras.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Do.
11 " J. A. Koli Pillai ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Salem.	Indian Christian ..	Do.
12 " R. Balakrishna Ayyar.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Cuddalore.	Hindu, Brahman.	Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
13 The post of Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Coimbatore, is vacant.			
14 Sri Nalam Ramachandra Rao.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Cuddapah.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Non-official, LL.B., practised as an Advocate of the Madras High Court at Bapatla, Guntur district, during 1942.
15 " V. L. Sastri ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Nellore.	Hindu, Brahman ..	Non-official, B.A.
16 " P. Srinivasan ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Ramnad.	Hindu, Kamava ..	Non-official, B.A.
17 " G. K. Somayajulu ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Chittoor.	Hindu, Brahman ..	Non-official, B.L.
18 " G. M. Khuraisy ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Tanjore.	Muslim ..	Non-official, M.A. (Economics).
19 " P. Seetharama Shetti ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, South Kanara.	Hindu, Non-Brahman, Bunt.	B.A.
20 " C. Prabhakara Menon ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Malabar.	Hindu, Nayar ..	S.S.L.C., Tahsildar.
21 " Kappagartula Subbarao.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Bellary.	Hindu, Brahman ..	Non-official, B.A., B.L., Advocate.
22 " T. Prakasa Rayudu ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Anantapur.	Do. ..	Non-official, B.A., B.L.
23 " K. L. Narasimha Rao ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Guntur.	Do. ..	Non-official, M.A.
24 " Y. Venkanna Dora ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, West Godavari.	Do. ..	Non-official, B.A.
25 " M. Muthukrishnan ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Trichinopoly.	Hindu, Adi-Dra-vida.	Non-official, B.A., B.L.
26 " N. Kesavan Chetti ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Chingleput.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Non-official, M.A.
27 " G. Narayanamurthi ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, East Godavari.	Hindu, Brahman ..	Non-official, L.M. & S.
28 " P. V. Avadhani ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Kurnool.	Do. ..	Non-official, M.A.
29 " S. R. Sampath, Thatham.	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, North Arcot.	Do. ..	Non-official, B.A., B.L.
30 " B. Kulandaivelu ..	Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner, Tinnevely.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Non-official, B.A.
31 " Solomon Joshua ..	Authorized Controller, Coimbatore, The Somasundaram Mills, Limited.	Indian Christian ..	(Hons.), Tahsildar, South Kanara district.
32 " K. M. Magudapathi ..	Authorized Controller, Sri Balasubramania Mills, Limited.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Non-official.
33 " N. Subramania Ayyar ..	Authorized Controller, Lotus Mills.	Hindu, Brahman ..	Non-official, B.A., B.L.
34 " P. A. Mahalingam ..	Authorized Controller, The Mahalaxmi Textile Mills, Limited, Madura district.	Hindu, Non-Brahman.	Non-official, B.A., L.T.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 551 asked by B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur (on behalf of Hajee K. M. Ahmed Kutty Sahib Bahadur) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th April 1947, page 620 supra.]

Copy of the Press Note No. 210, Public (Services), dated 21st November 1946.

With twofold object of stopping diversion to the civil service with its superior attractions, or men who would otherwise form the best material for the fighting services and encouraging offers to serve with the fighting force by offering the inducement of suitable civil appointment on demobilization, the Madras Government decided in 1941 to reserve for persons who had rendered war service a percentage of all substantive vacancies arising on or after 1st April 1941 which should be filled by direct recruitment. Later, all substantive direct recruitment vacancies with a few exceptions were similarly reserved and later still temporary vacancies of long duration were also reserved. Thus the position is that practically all appointments to be made by direct recruitment are reserved for candidates with war service. Those who have been appointed pending recruitment of war service candidates have no claim for permanent appointment as they are regarded as being only on a purely temporary basis.

2. The orders of reservation referred to above will cease with effect from 1st April 1947 unless there are still vacancies lost to war service men by the confirmation of non-war service men in vacancies which arose between 1st April 1941 and 31st March 1943 to be made good.

3. The Government while fully appreciating the claims of war service candidates for reserved vacancies in Government service feel that those who were recruited to civil posts on a temporary basis are also entitled to some recognition and they have for some time been considering how to reconcile these conflicting claims. They have now decided that two-thirds of all the vacancies reserved should be filled by candidates who have rendered service in the war 1939—1945, the actual appointments being suitably spaced out to enable those whose demobilization is delayed up to 1st April 1947 to apply for reserved posts for which they are qualified. The remaining vacancies, i.e., one-third of the total, will be filled by candidates who have not rendered war service, the selection being from amongst the most suitable of those who have been filling the civil posts temporarily. In this connection the Government have considered to what extent men who belonged to the Indian National Army should be eligible for reserved vacancies. They have decided that Indian National Army personnel should be treated in exactly the same way as ex-servicemen and have equal claims to be considered for reserved vacancies for which they are suitable but that they will not be considered for any vacancies in the Police Services.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 554 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th April 1947, page 626 supra.]

1. Particulars desired in clauses (a) to (c) of the question—

	Expenditure on elementary education.
	RS.
(1) From Provincial Funds	2,89,28,403
(2) From District Board Funds	1,01,04,880
(3) From Municipal Funds	36,64,699
(4) From private agencies	25,45,479
(5) From fees	7,50,319
Total ..	4,59,93,760

2. Particulars desired in clauses (d) and (e) of the question—

	Number of schools.
(1) Government	1,631
(2) Municipal	1,402
(3) District Board	15,794
(4) Aided	17,102
Total ..	35,929

3. Particulars desired in clauses (f) to (h) of the question—

	Expenditure on secondary education.	
	Boys' schools.	Girls' schools.
	RS.	RS.
(1) Government	27,51,232	14,68,149
(2) District Board	17,04,333	21,507
(3) Municipal	3,75,606	26,295
(4) Private agencies	28,65,916	7,87,946
(5) Fees	91,97,536	11,14,317
Total ..	1,68,94,623	34,18,214

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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 556 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th April 1947, page 628 supra.]

Statement showing the scale of fees charged by the forest panchayats for the green manure.

District.	Scale of fees for a cart-load.	Remarks.
	RS. A. P.	
Vizagapatam .. ..	....	No green manure in the panchayat forests.
East Godavari .. ..	....	Green manure is not sold by the panchayats. Hence no scale is prescribed.
West Godavari .. ..	....	No practice of selling green manures in this district.
Kistna .. ..	....	No green manure is available in Panchayat Forest.
Guntur	0 4 0 to 1 0 0	....
Nellore .. ..	....	No fee is prescribed for cart-load.
Cuddapah	1 0 0	No charge is fixed for head load. Green manure is not available in sufficient quantity.
Kurnool	1 0 0	....
Chingleput	0 4 0	As. 4 is charged by only one panchayat (Tambaram).
Trichinopoly	0 5 0 to 1 0 0	....
Ramnad .. ..	....	No cart-load fee is prescribed.
Coimbatore	0 8 0 to 1 4 0	....
Tinnevely	0 10 0	....
South Kanara	0 3 0 to 2 0 0	No uniform procedure is followed by the forest panchayats in this district in the issue of permits for green manure and the scales of fees also vary.

2. In the Udipi taluk, the Varamballi Forest Panchayat issues permits for cutting green manure leaves at the rate of 1 anna per head-load. No permits are issued for cart-loads. In the other seven panchayat forests permits for cutting green manure leaves are being issued for the whole year, the scale of fees being levied per knife as shown below:—

Name of panchayat forest,	Scale of fees per knife.
	RS. A. P.
1 Padubelle Panchayat Forest	0 4 0
2 Belpu Panchayat Forest	0 3 0
3 Bogatigujji do.	0 5 0
4 Ajjarkad do.	0 4 0
5 Volaikadu do.	0 3 0
6 Baikadi do.	2 0 0
7 Herur do.	0 12 0

3. In the Karkal taluk a fee of 3 pies only is being charged per head-load of green manure leaves. No permits are issued for cart-load.

4. In the Mangalore taluk, the Katipalla Panchayat Forest is levying a fee of As. 4 to As. 5 on a head-load and Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 on a cart-load of green manure leaves.

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Statement showing the existing rates for the removal of manure leaf from Departmental Reserves.

Forest divisions.	Existing rates per cart-load.
	RS. A. P.
1 Vizagapatam	No rate prescribed for want of demand.
2 Godavari, Upper	
3 Godavari, Lower	
4 Guntur	
5 Kurnool, East	1 0 0
6 Kurnool, West	
7 Anantapur	
8 Cuddapah, South	0 12 0
9 Cuddapah, North	0 12 0
10 Nellore (Chingleput portion)	0 12 0
11 Nellore portion	1 0 0
12 Chittoor	0 12 0
13 Vellore, East— Vellore and Ollagathur Ranges	0 12 0
Polur, Santhavasal and Thiruvannamalai Ranges	1 0 0
14 Vellore, West	0 12 0
15 Salem, North	1 0 0
16 Salem, South	1 0 0
17 Kollegal	No rates fixed. The practice does not exist. In Madura no removals have been allowed since 1912.
18 Coimbatore, North	
19 Coimbatore, South	
20 Madura	
21 Tinnevely	1 9 0
22 The Nilgiris	No demand.
23 Wynad	
24 Nilambur	
25 Palghat	No rate fixed as there was no demand from reserves.
26 South Kanara	Free from all reserves. Open to the concessions. In closed areas contractors sell at 3 pies a head.

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APPENDIX V. .

[Vide answer to starred question No. 557 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 18th April 1947, page 629 supra.]

Statement showing the number of wells constructed by the Labour Department and the total cost incurred therefor during the last five years—Districtwise

District.	Number of wells constructed during the past five years.	Cost.
(1)	(2)	(3)
		RS. A. P.
1 Tanjore	61	14,112 0 0
2 Anantapur	135* 103	44,007 8 10
3 Malabar	108	15,678 11 11
4 North Arcot	39	27,875 0 0
5 Kistna	41	13,306 7 6
6 Chingleput	170* 64	42,561 13 1
7 Trichinopoly	44	27,535 2 0
8 West Godavri	27	15,834 13 4
9 Ramnad	29	9,806 0 0
10 East Godavari	48	39,556 11 0
11 Bellary	82* 35	44,379 0 0
12 Nellore	43	57,493 12 0
13 South Arcot	47* 14	17,641 0 0
14 Nilgiris	Nil.	Nil.
15 Cuddapah	61	31,138 2 1
16 Chittoor	59	24,846 0 0
17 Guntur	51* 22	4,93,191 0 0
18 Tinnevely	43* 12	21,014 0 0
19 South Kanara	49	30,049 13 0
20 Vizagapatam	116	58,033 0 0
21 Salem	25	16,106 1 3
22 Kurnool	34	33,035 4 2
23 Coimbatore	13	8,299 11 0
24 Madura	49	27,466 11 0

* Includes the number of wells repaired.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, the 19th April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Communal representation in Government service.

* 549 Q.—SRI D. KADIRAPPA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that she (the then Minister for Public Health and Medicine) has stated that the Brahman community is backward of all communities and deplored that unfortunately the communal Government Order stands in their way to help them in connexion with the deputation by the Setti Balija Association that waited on her recently;

(b) what is the percentage of Brahmans represented in Government services in proportion to the population; and

(c) what is the percentage of population of Setti Balija (tappers) and Harijans and what is the percentage of their representation in Government services?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No.

“(b) & (c) Harijans (Scheduled Castes) constitute 16.5 per cent of the population. The Government have no information about the percentage of the population in regard to Brahmans and Setti Balijas (tappers). The Government are compiling a statement showing the number of persons belonging to each community employed in the various departments of the Government and it will be published as early as possible. The percentage of representation of Brahmans and Harijans in the services of this Province will be available in that list. No information is available in regard to the number of Setti Balijas employed in Government services.”

Supplementary Questions and Answers on question No. 518 answered by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi on the 17th March 1947.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know, Sir, why in the case of some class of officers, an increase of 133 per cent has been given whereas in the case of other officers, only an increase of 7½ per cent has been granted? What is the reason for this glaring disparity?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“May I know specific instances where the increase is 7½ per cent?”

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The Hon. Minister may find out the information. I know that in certain cases, an increase of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent has been given. Will the Hon. Minister examine the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I ask that a separate question may be put."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister what the points of similarity are that the Government find between Lower Division Clerks and S.S.L.C. Teachers, as they have put them both in the same grade and given them the same scale of salary?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The qualifications of Lower Division Clerks and S.S.L.C. Teachers are the same."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What are the points of similarity that the Government find between Lower Division Clerks and S.S.L.C. Teachers, as they are giving them the same scale of salary in the year 1920 and in 1947?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The qualifications, being the same, the grade fixed also is the same."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know why the case of Attenders has entirely escaped the attention of the Government? Are not the poor Attenders also entitled to some relief from the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The question is being considered by the Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What are the qualifications which are similar both in the case of Lower Division Clerks and S.S.L.C. Teachers?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"S.S.L.C. is the minimum qualification for both Lower Division Clerks and S.S.L.C. Teachers."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"What are the reasons for the Government expecting that the prices will be stabilized between 50 and 60 per cent increase, whereas the index of the cost of living as published shows increase from week to week even two years after the termination of the war?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That is the natural presumption."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that Lower Division Clerks are only S.S.L.C. holders, whereas S.S.L.C. Teachers have also undergone training for a certain period?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The work done by Lower Division Clerks is more responsible."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister says that the qualifications are the same in this

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case; he also says that, though the qualifications are the same in other cases, the responsibility is different and therefore the scales of salary are different. Will the Hon. Minister for Finance reconcile the two statements? Or, will he say that he has not considered the matter?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I shall reconcile them."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that while Lower Division Clerks can rise to be Deputy Collectors, if not Collectors, the Secondary Grade Teachers have got to rot as such all their lives?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The Teachers also can hope to become Headmasters and others."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister is thoroughly ignorant when he says that they can become Headmasters. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will withdraw the word 'ignorant'; it is unparliamentary. The word 'ignorant' applied with regard to a Minister is unparliamentary."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister applied that word yesterday with regard to an hon. Member (Mr. Salam). Is he at liberty to use that word?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is better that such instances are brought to my notice then and there. The hon. Member will withdraw the word now."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I withdraw it; but the word was used by an Hon. Minister yesterday."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'ignorant' applied to a Minister is unparliamentary. The hon. Member (Mr. Abdul Salam Sahib) must have brought to my notice then and there any such instance which occurred previously."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You have ruled out that 'ignorant' as applied to a Minister is unparliamentary. May I know whether it is unparliamentary when applied to an hon. Member of the House?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already answered the question."

Alleged inflammatory articles against Muslims in certain newspapers.

* 564 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations were made to the Government, that many vernacular newspapers of this Province such as the Dinamani, Dinasari, Bharata Devi, Thanthi, etc., have been frequently indulging in abusive language and inflammatory articles against the self-respect, sentiments and susceptibilities of the Muslims; and

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(b) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take on those representations?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Representations have been received from the Muslim League, Coonoor, Melapalaiyam and Tiruvannamalai regarding the newspapers entitled Dināsari, Thānthi and Bharata Devi. As regards Dinamāni, no representation has so far been received by Government.

“(b) The Government examined the representations and considered that no action is called for.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“As regards Dināsari, I have myself made representations to the Hon. Premier. Will the Hon. Leader of the House please note that there is a strong feeling of revulsion among the Muslims against these inflammatory articles?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is a matter of personal opinion. The Government have examined the matter; they do not think any action is necessary.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does it mean that the language used by these papers is not abusive or inflammatory?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Gentleman may take that to be the case.”

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether we are to understand that the Government are satisfied that there was no abusive language used in the articles in these papers, against Muslims and Muslim Leaders?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“All that the Government have said is they feel no action is necessary in the circumstances.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether this question was considered by the Press Advisory Committee and whether they came to the conclusion that there was nothing abusive in the language used by any one of these papers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“We go to the Press Advisory Board when the Government feel that any action is necessary; when we feel no action is necessary, there is no need to go to the Press Advisory Committee.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a great volume of feeling of resentment against the languages used in these papers persistently for several months past?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government are not aware of it.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Unless the matter is placed before the Press Advisory Committee, how are they to decide whether there is anything wrong about these articles? May I ask who is the authority or guide whom the Government consult on matters which pertain the Press? Are they taking the whole question into consideration *de novo* themselves? Are they advised by any Press authority apart from the Government themselves?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The question is full of conundrums; I find it difficult to follow; at the same time I am prepared to say that the Government consider any question that comes before them and if they find there is some need for action, then, before taking action, they consult the Press Advisory Committee; they do not consult the Committee when the Government feel no action is necessary; when no action is proposed to be taken, they drop the matter.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The question asked is whether there is any inflammatory matter used by the vernacular Press. May I know the Hon. Leader's conception of inflammatory matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Conception may differ from person to person. It is a relative term.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I draw the attention of the Government that several cuttings to my knowledge have been forwarded to the Government? Do the Government still say that no inflammatory language has been used in those cuttings? May we have some idea of their conception of inflammatory and abusive language, because this is an important question?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I understand the importance of the matter. I am as responsive about it as the hon. Member opposite; but at the same time, after going through the articles, the Government feel there is no need for action.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Government aware that these articles were written with the definite purpose of inciting Hindus against Muslims so that this Province may be full of communal troubles? If so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I do not accept what the hon. Member has said.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The previous Leader of the House had made some notes about inflammatory matter. Will the present Government compare those notes and see whether there is inflammatory matter in the articles?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not prepared to take the hon. Member's advice.”

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11-15 SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Have the Government P.m. received any such complaints against Muslim papers?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I think it will be better if the hon. Gentleman puts a different question on this matter."

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be prepared to appoint a committee consisting of members of all parties in the House to consider this matter and come to a decision?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Since this question has an important bearing in the equanimity and good relationship between the various communities in the Province, will not the Government reconsider the question and go through these cuttings and papers once more, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government have given every consideration to this matter and have come to a decision and they, therefore, do not see any reason to depart from the conclusions arrived at."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, since it is the Muslims who are injured and whose self-respect is at stake, will the Hon. Leader of the House take it as information given by the spokesmen of the community and take action thereon?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am prepared to take the information, but not take any action."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether in view of the joint appeal issued by the two great leaders of India, the Government will associate themselves with the sentiments expressed in the joint appeal and see that necessary advice is given to those papers not to persist in such abuses against Muslims?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Certainly I am prepared to associate myself with the joint appeal of the two great leaders of India, and I am happy that they have at least now come together on this occasion."

Muslims in the Local Administration Department of the Madras Secretariat.

* 565 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the reason why there are only two Muslims among more than 200 hands in the Local Administration section of the Madras Secretariat not below the rank of clerks?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The total strength of clerks and Superintendents (including temporary men) in the Local Administration Department is 50 and not 200 as stated

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by the hon. Member. Candidates are selected and allotted by the Madras Public Service Commission for appointment as clerks in the Madras Secretariat Service. The list of successful candidates is arranged according to communal proportion and linguistic rotation rules. According to communal proportion rules for every 12 posts there should be five Non-Brahman Hindus, two Brahmins, two Christians, two Muslims and one Scheduled Caste. Experience has shown that only very few suitable Muslim candidates appear for selection by the Madras Public Service Commission and even amongst those selected, only very few choose to join the appointments when offered to them. The posts of upper division clerks and Superintendents are selection posts, promotion to which is made from the categories of lower division clerks and upper division clerks respectively, on grounds of merit and ability, seniority being considered only where merit and ability are approximately equal."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether any appeals or complaints have been received from Muslims, who, according to them, were entitled to be among the 200 or more of the hands in the Local Administration section of the Secretariat in respect of such appointments?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will make an enquiry, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether they have so far maintained the proportion of appointments reserved for the Scheduled Classes?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, it is a question which does not arise out of the main question; but, however, I am prepared to say that as long as the present proportion stands, that will be the criterion under which appointments will have to be made."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I bring to the notice of the Hon. the Leader of the House that I have seen about two days ago an amendment to the communal Government Order."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"No, Sir, no amendment has been issued."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Just now the Hon. Minister stated that there are about 50 persons working in the Local Administration Department; if so, at least a minimum of four appointments should have been given to Harijans. May I know, Sir, whether this proportion has been maintained?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If candidates have been available, it should have been done. As I said just now, perhaps the number of Harijans selected by the Public Service Commission was not up to the number required."

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P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know the number of cases where appointments were offered to Muslims and refused by them? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I shall enquire into that, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I bring to the notice of the Government the injustice that is being done to the Harijans in the matter of these appointments, and may I know what steps the Government have taken to remedy this injustice? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I should like to submit for the consideration of the hon. Member that this does not arise out of this question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know when we can expect the report of the working of the Madras Public Service Commission for the last three years? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It will be ready in due course, Sir."

Recommendations of the Military Authorities for preferential treatment regarding promotions in Civil Departments.

* 566 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of members of the non-gazetted staff in each of the Secretariat Departments including the Legislature Secretariat, who have been on military duty in the Military department during the recent war period;

(b) if so, whether any such persons have been recommended by the military authorities for preferential treatment in regard to promotion to higher posts in their Civil Departments during the years 1945, 1946 and 1947;

(c) in how many cases the recommendations of the military authorities have been ignored; and

(d) whether the Government propose to review such cases and reconsider the claims of persons affected for promotion to higher posts?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—

" (a) Revenue	7
Education and Public Health	3
Development	2
Public Works Department	12
Chief	26
Local Administration	1
Home	5
Finance	4
Secretariat of Madras Legislature	4

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" (b) In one case, namely, that of an upper division clerk in the Legislature Secretariat, who was on military duty, the Military authorities while forwarding his application for a Superintendent's post in that Secretariat stated that he deserved promotion.

" (c) In the case mentioned in the answer to clause (b), the recommendation of the military authorities was not given effect to, not because the competent authority ignored the recommendation but because two clerks who were his seniors were considered to have a better claim when all relevant factors were taken into consideration.

" (d) No."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, among the various categories of officers who have returned from the military service, how many were Muslims? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I should like to have notice for this question, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government be pleased to place on the table of the House the number and names of Harijans that have been employed in each of these departments? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I shall attempt this feat, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Does the answer given to the main question imply that this Government accepts the principle that preference should be given to people who have participated in an imperialist war? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The question of imperialist war does not arise; but the Government have recognized the war and have decided to reserve certain number of appointments for those who have served in the war."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir. We find three questions standing in the name of the Hon. Premier. Of course, you have ruled that any other Minister can reply on behalf of the Hon. Premier. But I want to know whether our Premier has been given a permanent exemption from answering questions in the Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—" For the sake of convenience, any Minister can answer for any other Minister."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" But we want to know whether this is only a temporary arrangement or whether it is going to be a permanent arrangement or as long as this Assembly lasts. If the Hon. Premier cannot express himself in English well, at least he can reply in Tamil."

(No answer.)

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Rural dispensaries.

* 567 Q.—SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of rural dispensaries that have been closed down in the Province for want of doctors; and

(b) whether all the rural dispensaries will be substituted by regular Government dispensaries or hospitals?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) In this Province, 138 rural dispensaries of modern medicine and 47 dispensaries of Indian medicine remain closed at present for want of medical practitioners. In seven rural dispensaries of Indian medicine only midwives are working.

“(b) The Government do not propose to consider this question at present.”

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, in view of the fact that these rural dispensaries are neither beneficial to the general public nor remunerative to the medical practitioners, will the Hon. Minister for Public Health be pleased to consider the re-opening of these dispensaries immediately with a modified system to attract the public and the doctors?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“I don't grant that these rural dispensaries have not been found beneficial to the people, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask, what steps the Government have taken to relieve the rural public from famine, pestilence and sufferings and so on, especially in the Ceded districts?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This question has nothing to do with the main question; so I rule it out of order.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask what steps have the Government taken or are taking to re-open these rural dispensaries and also open more dispensaries in the Province?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The Government have recently raised the subsidy to be given to these medical practitioners. In the case of dispensaries of modern medicine, the subsidy for licentiates has been raised from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 per annum and the subsidy in the case of graduates has been raised to Rs. 720 per annum. In the case of dispensaries of Indian medicine, the subsidy has been raised to Rs. 600 per annum.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know to what extent the Government intend to implement the recommendations of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee in regard to rural medical relief?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“They will be implemented to the extent that funds permit.”

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SRI P. NATESAN:—“Does the Hon. Minister consider that by raising the subsidies more doctors could be produced? Is it not for want of doctors that many dispensaries have been closed down?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The Government are of opinion by raising subsidies more doctors will be induced to settle in towns and rural areas.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know, Sir, if there are such a number of doctors available in rural parts that it is only the want of increased remuneration that is responsible for these dispensaries not working?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“Doctors are, of course, available but because a number of doctors went out for war duty, these dispensaries had to be closed down for want of doctors. But on their return, they are not apparently willing to settle in rural places and accept low rates of remuneration.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know what is the result that has been achieved by this increased remuneration?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“It is only recently that this system of increased subsidies has been introduced and the result will be awaited.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I know whether in view of the recommendations of the Bhore Committee, doctors in charge of rural dispensaries will be taken to Government service directly and also the rural dispensaries provincialized?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The question of provincialization of rural dispensaries was considered and it had been, for the present, left over for future consideration on account of paucity of funds.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“Is the cost of medicine included in the subsidy amount?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of granting subsidy to the village quacks and hakims who have been doing some service to the village population?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The Government have also put forward a scheme for giving recognition to indigenous practitioners of medicine in rural areas with a population of a thousand and over and the panchayat boards and district boards who are in a position to do so, may give even an honorarium to the people.”

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister thinks that this amount of Rs. 260 or so that is given to doctors towards medicines, excluding contingencies is enough for a village for a full year?”

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is a matter of opinion, Sir. Rupees 360 was the amount that that was being given in the past. Rupees 720 for drugs and Rs. 140 for contingent expenditure is being given now."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI :—" May I know what happened to the doctors who went to war service? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Doctors who come back and seek appointment will be re-absorbed in the places that are available."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know the number of people served by each of these rural dispensaries? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Let the hon. Member put a separate question in regard to this matter."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I know whether the Government intend to provide each rural dispensary with at least four maternity wards? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is no such proposal, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I enquire whether the Hon. Minister is aware that this is one of the recommendations of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Maternity relief will be extended in the near future."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" May I enquire whether the Hon. Minister is not aware of the terrible tragedies women are suffering for want of maternity relief and the dire necessity of providing maternity wards in rural dispensaries? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This question does not arise, Sir."

11-30 a.m.

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR :—" Do the Government really believe that doctors who have got good qualifications can be expected to stay in the rural villages on the petty subsidy which the Government are now giving them, which is much less than the starting pay of an upper division clerk? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is an aid given to the doctors to settle down in the rural areas; they are also expected to get something out of their private practice."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, are not the Government aware of the terrible scarcity of maternity facilities in this Province, and if so, will they expedite their efforts to give increased facilities? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This matter is receiving attention."

* 568 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

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Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

* 568 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the proportion of allotment of Sub-Assistant Surgeons' vacancies between the ex-servicemen and others;

(b) whether the existing Sub-Assistant Surgeons will be selected according to the seniority of service and whether they will be absorbed within the proportion allotted to non-ex-servicemen;

(c) who is the authority for making the selection and whether there are any special instructions given by the Government for such selection; and

(d) how many posts are kept vacant and from when?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Two-thirds of the reserved vacancies is to be filled by candidates with war service and the remaining one-third by candidates without war service.

" (b) The vacancies allotted to candidates without war service will be filled by candidates who have held appointments during the period of war or are holding the posts after regular appointments or under the emergency provisions. Selection for retention will be made by the selecting authority from among the best and most suitable of them.

" (c) The Madras Public Service Commission is the authority to select candidates for appointment as Sub-Assistant Surgeons. No special instructions have been issued.

" (d) The number of vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Assistant Surgeons (men) is 140 (permanent and temporary) and in the cadre of Sub-Assistant Surgeons (women) is 43 (permanent and temporary).

" The earliest vacancy in the cadre of Sub-Assistant Surgeons (men) arose on 2nd August 1941 and that of Sub-Assistant Surgeons (women) on 28th July 1945."

* 569 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

Reservation of posts for ex-servicemen in civil judicial service.

* 569 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received hitherto for the Civil Judicial Service of District Munsifs, Subordinate Judges and Additional Judges in this presidency;

(b) what is the proportion of posts reserved for ex-servicemen and others;

(c) whether the temporary hands employed as District Munsifs will be absorbed in the proportion allotted to the civil population;

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(d) whether the selection will be made according to the seniority of service and communal rotation; and

(e) who is the authority who makes the selection in case of the non-ex-servicemen? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Applications were not invited for appointment to the posts of Sub-Judge, because such appointments are made by promotion from the cadre of District Munsif's and not by direct recruitment. Applications for appointment as District Munsifs and as Judge, City Civil Court, were invited only from war service men and the numbers of applications received from them is as shown below:—

For appointment as District Munsif .. 114 applications.

For appointment as Judge, City Civil Court, Madras. 27 applications.

It has since been decided that the vacancy in the post of Judge, City Civil Court, Madras, should be dereserved and made available to civilians.

“(b) Two-thirds of the vacancies are reserved for war service men; the remaining one-third goes to others who were appointed temporarily to these posts.

“(c) Yes, to the extent of the number of vacancies available to them.

“(d) In the case of those selected for appointment before 2nd June 1944 selection for retention against civilian vacancies will be regulated according to seniority. As regards those selected and appointed on or after 2nd June 1944 the most suitable will be retained irrespective of seniority but subject to the communal rule.

“(e) The Madras Public Service Commission.”

Workers arrested during South Indian Railway strike.

* 570 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many workers during the South Indian Railway strike were arrested; and under what sections; and

(b) how many of them were convicted and (against) how many, cases are going in the courts?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) 767 workers were arrested under various sections of the Law as shown in the statement* annexed.

“(b) Convicted—356 workers.

Cases pending against—323 workers.”

* Printed as Appendix I on page 735 infra.

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, as the strike situation is now over, whether the Government will consider the question of withdrawing the cases pending and releasing the persons convicted during the strike?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“No, Sir.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the previous Cabinet in the case of persons arrested and convicted in the municipal workers' strike sent a circular ordering the withdrawal of the cases?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not aware of any such thing; but in the present case, the Government are not prepared to withdraw the prosecutions.”

Age rule for Judges.

* 571 Q.—K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a rule fixing the age of sub-judges for promotion as District Judges at 53;

(b) if so, why the rule was introduced; and

(c) whether the then Hon. Minister for Law has expressed the view at the Lawyers' Conference, Madura, that the age rule of judges should be abrogated; and if so, what effect is going to be given to his views in this matter?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No.

“(b) The question does not arise.

“(c) No.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask, Sir, whether it is the intention of the present Government to increase or decrease the age of the retirement of High Court Judges?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That matter is not under consideration, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Since even in a country like England where formerly there was no age of retirement fixed for judges and when judges used to continue to serve even until 90 years and beyond, the age of 72 has now been fixed for their retirement, having regard to the fact that life in this country is very much shorter, may I request the Government to see that the present age of the retirement of High Court Judges fixed at 60 is not increased, as that would shut out many people, particularly District Judges?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“This is a matter, Sir, entirely for the Statute. The maximum age up to which a High Court Judge can serve is fixed under the Statute itself; when the new constitution comes into being, I am sure the matter will be considered; but at present, there is nothing more to be done.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is there any restriction as regards the age at which a Sub-Judge can be promoted as District Judge?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, Sir; we have got certain restrictions, so that they could serve at least a certain number of years after promotion."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what they are, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Notice."

SRI N. RANGASWAMI REDDI:—"May I know if the Government are aware that recently it was found that a retired judge was suitable and strong enough to be appointed as a member of the Public Service Commission?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Public Service Commission appointment does not come under such statutory limitations."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not only that; the appointment is made by His Excellency the Governor, and the Hon. Ministers are not responsible for it."

* 572 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not in his place; the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

Temples governed by Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

* 572 Q.—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many temples are notified under section 65 (a) of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act; and

(b) how many temples are governed by schemes framed by (1) the Board, and (2) the Courts?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" (a) 120 temples and 1 specific endowment attached to a temple have been notified.

" (b) (1) 1071 temples, 9 maths, and 9 specific endowments are governed by schemes framed by the Board; and

(2) 436 temples, 4 maths, and 8 specific endowments are governed by schemes framed by the Courts."

Restoration of the abandoned channel of Kothakalva in Anantapur district.

* 573 Q.—SRI A. RAYAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken on the petition for the restoration of the abandoned channel of Kothakalva submitted by the ryots of the Tadpatri village in the Anantapur district about 15 months back and recommended by the Collector of Anantapur as a famine relief measure;

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(b) if so, whether the Government propose to speed up Kothakalva channel scheme as prayed for by the ryots; and

(c) the number of tanks in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks that are unfit for irrigating lands under them on account of the dilapidated conditions of the tank-bunds or the diversion of water-supply?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) The Collector has submitted an estimate to the Board of Revenue. The Board is examining the estimate.

" (b) The Collector will take necessary steps to have the work carried out after the estimate is sanctioned.

" (c) There are no such tanks in Gooty taluk. There are 30 such tanks in the Tadpatri taluk."

SRI A. RAYAPPA:—"May I request the Government to make the tanks and channels which are in a dilapidated condition fit for irrigating lands under them, as early as possible?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The Government have already undertaken the examination of a scheme for the restoration of all dilapidated tanks which are useful for irrigation purposes."

SRI A. RAYAPPA:—"May I ask the Minister when we can expect the result of the undertaking of the examination?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"As quickly as I can do it, Sir."

Harijan Deputy Collectors.

* 574 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the number of Harijan Deputy Collectors and their names and services as Deputy Collectors?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Number of Deputy Collectors belonging to the Harijan and backward communities, 12.

Their names and services as Deputy Collectors are given below:—

Name.	Service as Deputy Collector.	
	Years.	Months.
1. Sri G. E. Muthirulandy	15	3
2. " A. Dorairaj	15	10
3. " J. Sivanandam	13	3
4. " R. S. Malayappan	12	..
5. " R. Subramanyam	10	9
6. " V. Balasundaram	10	4
7. " C. Ramachandran	8	4
8. " D. R. Sundaram	8	1
9. " N. Krishnaswami	6	..
10. " P. Sankara Rao	5	1
11. " P. Ethiraj	5	10
12. " M. Bootharaja Rao	4	..

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SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—" May I know whether it is not injustice for not promoting Mr. Dorairaj with more than 15 years' service, as District Collector? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The question of the recruitment of District Collectors is done under a special set of rules. Unless a person has got special and administrative qualifications he will not be put on the list; but as regards the particular gentleman, his case will be considered if he satisfies the requirements laid down."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Government, out of so many Deputy Collectors, how many were promoted as Collectors? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Recently one of them, I think Mr. J. Sivanandam, was promoted as Collector."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask this Congress Government, a Government that has been saying that it will do justice to the Harijans, whether it is satisfied with one Deputy Collector being promoted as District Collector? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I am not at all satisfied; we will see whether these gentlemen, a list of whom I have read just now, can be put on the list of Collectors in the near future."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—" May I know if there is even one Deputy Collector belonging to the so-called aboriginal tribes? If not, is it because they come under criminal tribes? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" When the criminality is gone, I think their claims also will be considered."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" The Hon. Minister mentioned 12 names; how many of them belong to the Harijan community actually? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" From the file, I understand, the Government have passed a Government Order last February saying that all those who come under the schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, and are deemed to be scheduled classes, are deemed to be Harijans."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" Then why, Sir, are the words 'Backward communities' included in this list? "

No reply.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know how many of these Harijan Deputy Collectors belong to the Tamilnad, how many to the Andhra and how many to Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I think the hon. Member, by a mere scrutiny of the twelve names given, could find it out himself."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" The list contains some names of persons who belong to the backward communities. I want to know whether 'backward communities' also come under 'schedule castes' or Harijans."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" If the Members want it, we will have to make a much clearer definition of Harijans as such."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I remind the Hon. Minister for Revenue that the paper which he wanted me to scrutinize is in his hands? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I have not understood the question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, I asked the Minister whether he could be reminded that the paper which he wanted me to scrutinize was in his hands and whether he would kindly scrutinize it for me and answer my question himself? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I thought the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition would lighten my work; if he wants more exact details, I shall furnish him if he puts another separate question."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" Sir, is it not a fact that the Government published a booklet containing the names of Deputy Collectors, which is available for sale and which the Hon. Leader of the Opposition can peruse or scrutinize and thus lighten the work of the Hon. the Revenue Minister? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" I thank the Hon. Mr. Viswanatham for bringing to the notice of the House that publication of the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Government since how long this recruitment has been stopped; if so, for what reasons, and when will the Government take up recruitment once again? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" We have now taken up the question of retrenchment. The ordinary sanctioned cadre of Deputy Collectors was 125; I understand we have now as many as 285."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister for Revenue be pleased to tell me why he answered this question put by my hon. Friend, Mr. Shanmugam, when such information was already contained in a certain Government publication? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" It is the duty of the Government whenever a question is asked, to try to furnish whatever information is available."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Is it not a fact that according to the Madras Educational Rules, the backward community people are quite different from the scheduled castes people? "

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THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I think so; but this list and the answer have been prepared by the office and there 'backward communities' also are mentioned. If there are any gentlemen in this list who are not eligible to be called Harijans, I have no objection to eliminate them from the list and prepare a fresh list, if hon. Members want it."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether at least in future the backward community people who have been neglected, will be given the same preference as is shown to the Harijans or Scheduled Castes people, because I find the name of one R. S. Malayappan, who belongs to 'Kallars' the backward community is included in this list?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Generally we will treat all people alike; and especially those who suffer under a disability with reference to recruitment to the public service and to promotion, will be considered specially."

DR. S. SUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"In view of the fact that there are not many Harijan Collectors, will the Government think of directly recruiting Harijan Collectors as a *prayaschitta* for all our neglect of these communities?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I have already said that when the next list is prepared, the claims of the gentlemen on the list will be considered for the recruitment of Harijan Collectors."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Is it the policy of the Government to give promotion to all the Deputy Collectors who belong to the backward classes and Harijans, on merit and service, or simply because they belong to a particular community?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"On merit and service of course; but we also try to do some justice to the backward communities and to Harijans."

11-45 a.m. SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I know, Sir, how many of these Deputy Collectors are directly recruited?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"My hon. Friend may put a separate question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the Government is not in a position to recruit Harijans to Deputy Collectors' cadre, will the Government at least promote all the Tahsildars who are Harijans to the Deputy Collectors' grade?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I have no objection to consider the hon. Member's request to promote deserving Harijans to Deputy Collectors' grade but the hon. Member should drop the word 'all'."

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Allegations against Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Ponneri.

* 575 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether allegations of corruption and bribery have been made against one Sri Swetharanyam, Stationary Sub-Magistrate of Ponneri;

(b) whether such petitions were received by the Collector of Chingleput and the anti-corruption officers;

(c) whether similar petitions were received against the said officer when he was Stationary Sub-Magistrate at Madurantakam; and

(d) whether police officers of the Intelligence Department made any investigation into the matter?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Petitions were received by the anti-corruption officers. Government have no information whether petitions were also received by the Collector, but have called for it.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) Yes."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I know from the Hon. the Minister for Revenue whether the matter is still under enquiry. If so, I will not allow supplementary questions to be put on this."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Yes. It is still under enquiry."

MR. SPEAKER:—"So, I request the hon. Member who put the question not to put any supplementary questions."

Applications for quarters in Government House Estate, Mount Road.

* 576 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many applications for allotment of quarters in Government House Estate, Mount Road, were received in the Public Works Secretariat in 1946 from non-gazetted Government officers;

(b) how many of them were from Muslims; and

(c) how many of such applicants were allotted quarters in Government House Estate?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) 67 (sixty-seven).

" (b) 4 (four).

" (c) None of the applicants were allotted residential quarters in the Government House Estate excepting the two personal clerks of the former Honourable Prime Minister who were allotted some rooms in the kitchen block of the main Government House for occupation."

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Reservoir across Thigaleru in Markapur taluk, Kurnool district.

* 577 Q.—SRI N. VENKATASUBBIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the proposal to create a storage reservoir across Thigaleru near Eguvacherlopalli village, Markapur taluk, has been fully investigated;

(b) if so, what is the amount of estimate and the area it is expected to irrigate;

(c) whether it is a fact that the final sanction of the Government is delayed and the execution of the work put off;

(d) if so, how the delay occurred; and

(e) whether considering the fact that the population of the area to be irrigated is poor and famine stricken, the Government propose to sanction the execution of the work immediately?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) the detailed investigation of the scheme has apparently been completed by the Chief Engineer, Irrigation.

“(b) The estimate has not yet been received by the Government but in the Grow More Food programme recently submitted by the Chief Engineer, the amount of the estimate and the area expected to be irrigated are given as Rs. 2.20 lakhs and 320 acres respectively.

“(c) No.

“(d) The question does not arise.

“(e) The scheme has been programmed to be taken up in 1947-48 under the Grow More Food Schemes and the Government will consider the question of sanctioning the scheme after the reports from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Board are received.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBIAH:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the final sanction of the Government has been delayed for the last two years?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“Whatever might have been the past delay, Sir, I have answered that this will be taken up this year under the ‘Grow More Food’ programme.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that the people in the Kurnool district are suffering a lot for want of foodstuffs, will the Government see that this matter is taken up as early as possible?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I can say this matter has already been taken up.”

Nationalization of industries.

* 578 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any intention of establishing industries of their own; and

(b) if so, what they are?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) & (b) The decision of the Government has been indicated in Press Communiqué No. 12 issued on 17th March 1947.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to read the communiqué for the benefit of the House?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is a long one. It has been printed and published in the Gazette, and it is the business of the hon. Member to read it. I wish to know from the hon. Member whether he is going to put any supplementary question on this.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Are the Government aware, Sir, that the Ceded districts are best suited for industrial development?”

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“If so, may I know what steps the Government have taken to develop the Ceded districts industrially?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I would like to have notice of this question.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Government have settled the details of the scheme published in the Press Communiqué and if not, when are they going to settle the details?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“The details have not yet been settled, but I may inform the hon. Member that no time-limit can be fixed for this.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBIAH:—“May I ask whether it is a fact that the Government have undertaken to conduct a geological survey in the Ceded districts and if so, when they would start that geological survey?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I would like to have notice of this question.”

* 579 Q.—S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I withdraw the question, Sir.”

Printing of forms for procurement of foodgrains.

* 580 Q.—SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER (on behalf of Sri M. G. Natesa Chettiyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether necessary forms are printed and supplied to the village officers for preparation of individual receipts, demands and balance of produce for procurement of foodgrains;

(b) whether statements regarding yield of ragi (irrigated) and paddy are printed and supplied to village officers;

(c) what is the basis on which the statements are compiled;

(d) whether it is a fact that the village officers are instructed to mention the yield according to the statements and not on actualities; and

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(e) whether it is a fact that the village officials are instructed to render statistics at a particular specified rate per acre and not on the actual standing crops?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) The question evidently refers to the yield and surplus determining registers in Forms A and B and demand list in Form D to be maintained by the village officers in connection with the intensive procurement scheme introduced by the Government. These forms are not printed. The village officers have been asked to maintain the A and B registers in manuscripts with printed heading slips supplied by the Collector of the district. D form notices are prepared in manuscript by the village officers.

“(b) No. The karnams enter in the adangal, as usual, the estimated crop yield in terms of annas in respect of each plot. As the estimate of yield to be entered in the procurement register should be in terms of local measures, instructions have been issued as to how the karnam's anna estimate should be converted into local measures, after correcting it to accord with actual conditions of harvest in the area. These instructions have not been made known to the village officers but for facility of their working out the correct outturns in local measures for all anna outturns entered in the adangal, the corrected outturn in local measures for a few anna estimates are worked out by the Revenue Inspector or Firka Supply Officer and supplied to village officers.

“(c) Does not arise in view of answer to question in item (b) above.

“(d) No. The instructions referred to under question (b) are intended to ensure that only actual outturns are entered.

“(e) No.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“I want to put a supplementary question.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member should have stood up.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“I am sorry I was not able to catch the eye of the Speaker.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I turned that side but the hon. Member has not stood up. Anyhow, I will allow him to put supplementary questions.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether, in fixing the demand on the crops like paddy, ragi and kambu, they are taken as a single crop grown by ryots once annually?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I do not quite follow the hon. Member. If the hon. Member refers to a single crop meaning that it is an annual crop, I think the estimate is quite easy. If there are more than one crop, two estimates will be made out one for each crop separately.”

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SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“My question is if rice is grown annually only once a year and likewise ragi and kambu, how the demand is fixed?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is on the basis of the crop that is grown, whether once or twice.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they are allowing ryots to have their food from this single crop for consumption for the whole year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“It is always cropwar the estimate is made.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the difficulties and complications brought about by the existence of very many local measures, will the Government expedite and take steps to standardize the measures and weights by probably reducing everything in terms of weight?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question does not arise for this reason that the Government have standardized all the crops in terms of anna ratio and that anna ratio is again worked out in terms of local measures. We cannot have a more scientific and correct method than what is in practice at present.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Is the Government aware that some ryots grow a single crop like paddy, ragi or kambu, which entitle them to draw their food supply only for four months in a year and not for the full year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“If there are more than one crop, the estimates will be according to the number of crops grown. If there is only one crop, the ryot is entitled to have his annual food from out of that crop.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Is the Government aware that their ruling is otherwise and that they are allowing only for four months in a year and not for the full year?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is requested to resume his seat after putting the supplementary question.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The practice is that procurement is always cropwar. It is open to the ryot to acquire as much grain for his use if he grows only one crop. That is the practice as I have stated. If the grower is not able to acquire it, it is for him to bring it to the notice of the Government.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“In the Coimbatore district, the authorities did not allow the ryot to have food-grains for the full year even though the crop grown was a four-month crop and that too grown only once a year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The ryot is certainly entitled to have his annual food requirements from that crop.”

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Muslims in the Food department in Malabar.

* 581 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of appointments made in the Food department in Malabar after the new scheme of procurement and distribution was introduced; and

(b) the number of Muslims in the same?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) & (b) The details are as follows:—

Category.	Number of posts under each category.	Number of Muslims appointed under each category.
1. Chief Accountant ..	1	—
2. Superintendents in Deputy Tahsildars grade.	2	—
3. Reception Deputy Tahsildars.	9	..
4. Head Accountants ..	3	..
5. Upper division clerks ..	17	2
6. Lower division clerks ..	84	9
7. Reception Revenue Inspectors.	17	1
8. Typists	2	1
9. Unloading clerk ..	1	—
10. Attender	1	..
11. Peons	45	4
Total ..	182	16 "

[At this stage, there was disturbance in the Ordinary Visitors' Gallery.]

12 noon. N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I request you, Sir, to institute an enquiry as to what accounts for this pandemonium here?”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“May I know who are the Members who have given tickets to these irresponsible persons here?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I shall make enquiries. There is already confusion upstairs. Let the hon. Member not lose his temper. If he makes a request to me, I shall certainly enquire into the matter.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I want to put a supplementary question on my main question, Sir. May I ask whether the Government can account for this deplorable lack of Muslim representation in this department?”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I want more information on this subject before I would be asked to go into the reasons for such a small number.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Food will personally enquire into the matter?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“There is no need to make any personal enquiry. If the hon. Member wants information, I shall certainly call for it.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Question time is over. Now the debate on the resolution moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House will continue.”

(At this moment, several hon. Members stood up.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“One at a time. Hon. Members have had sufficiently long experience in this House for nearly a year and should know that when a member stands up, the other members should resume their seats.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Anthoni Pillai has been under arrest. May I know whether this Government have asked the Central Government to give permission to expel him from this Presidency simply because he is a native of Ceylon?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“There is no special order necessary to expel him. If it is advisable, certainly he will be expelled.”

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

II.—DISTURBANCE IN THE VISITORS' GALLERY.

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“I request you to scrutinize the visitors' list and allow only two people for each member according to the rule in future.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It shall be done.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know how it is possible for any member to know whether they belong to any particular organization or not. Members take the *bona fides* of the applicants who apply for passes and they sign them and it is very difficult to know their antecedents.”

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“I would request the Speaker to take severe action against those who are responsible for this mischief and create grave disturbance which is a source of nuisance to this House. In order to guard against such things in future, I would also request the hon. Members to be more careful in recommending persons for the issue of tickets to the visitors' galleries.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That shall be considered in future.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There are also other people who are a source of similar nuisance and they are not only on the Treasury Benches but also in the House."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"The hon. Member is also one among them."

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE TUNGABHADRA PROJECT (PREVENTION OF SPECULATION IN LAND), 1947.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I promised to lay the Report of the Select Committee on the Tungabhadra Bill before the House to-day. It is now in print and I would therefore request you to extend the time till Monday morning."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Time is allowed."

IV.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

RE-DISTRIBUTION OF PROVINCES ON A LINGUISTIC BASIS—*cont.*

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad this House should have been given an opportunity of discussing the partition of this Province into linguistic areas. Sir, the question of the separation of this big Province into linguistic areas has been engaging the attention of the public of the Province for a very long time and there is no necessity to assess the length of time that the Andhra took to agitate or the Karnataks took to agitate for it. It is almost agreed by all parties that the separation must take place. It is wrongly stated that the people of the Tamilnad were not anxious for separation or rather they would like the whole Province to be together. Sir, permit me to mention on this occasion that the people in Tamilnad are not in any way less anxious for separation. I shall not say that the separation of the Tamilnad is going to be a great boon or a financial boon. I think the separation of the Province into Tamilnad, Andhradesa and the other two areas will probably ensure a more cultural development of the poor areas and, as has been demonstrated in recent months, it may probably ensure more political stability to each of the four provinces."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"In Orissa, there are many intrigues in spite of the fact it is more homogeneous."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I am glad to have this information from my hon. Friend, the Minister for Finance. I wonder whether he has got at the back of his mind the financial problems that will arise and confront the four provinces and also wonder whether he is thinking in the manner which some orthodox people are thinking that it will be better if there is no separation. I know the Hon. Minister is for separation. Therefore his information to the House that even in Orissa, which is a homogeneous area, there are a number of parties and groups, is inevitable in these days. What I meant was there will not be that cultural opposition which generally politicians would like to raise."

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[Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad]

"Sir, this resolution about the separation of the Province into linguistic groups has come before this House at a very opportune moment. The question of the constitution of India is engaging the attention of the Constituent Assembly to-day and there are many who sincerely feel that it would have been for the good of all if that great party, the Muslim League party, had also found it possible to co-operate in the effort to establish a free and good constitution for India. Sir, the Muslim League party, as we all know, consists of very able and distinguished servants and we live in the hope that it will not be long before they revise their opinion about the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly. I feel confident that by their joining the Constituent Assembly it will be only to the good of the whole of India and incidentally, it will do good to their great party and their community. To-day, more than ever, it is the anxiety of the others, who do not find the Muslim League in the Constituent Assembly, to see that no injustice is done to any group in the country. It is this that many of us are feeling strongly and we appeal to the Muslim League to come and join the Constituent Assembly if they find it a proper body and if on the other hand, they feel that it will not solve all their problems, it is then time for the Muslim League to tell the members of the Constituent Assembly in what manner the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly should be fashioned and to set up another body or institution to draw up a constitution. That will be the right step for them to follow. They should join the Constituent Assembly and tell them that they shall work it and change it into another constitution-making body. Probably this suggestion cannot be followed straightway, but it will be great thing if the Muslim League joins the Constituent Assembly. I hope that the two great communities can live together in peace and harmony. May we not take this opportunity, Sir, to endorse most cordially the joint appeal made by Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah."

"Sir, on the question of division of this Province into four linguistic areas, I may also be permitted to mention that once we form the Kerala and Karnataka Provinces, it will not be a vain hope to feel that the neighbouring States of Mysore near Kanara and the States of Cochin and Travancore along the borders of Kerala will find many points in common with these Provinces. It is good that the Province is separated, but there are some orthodox persons who do not feel that it would be for the good. Of course, I was also once holding the orthodox view because of the financial implications which might be involved if this separation is brought about. Though I held that view strongly, now as things have developed during the last few years, it has been demonstrated more than ever that in spite of the feeling of internationalism, and in spite of the feeling of nationalism, it is difficult to satisfy the feeling of the common man, that he must have a Government in which his own mother tongue is spoken. I shall not repeat the very good argument placed before this House, namely, a linguistic area where only one language is taught."

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will solve many problems, for instance, educational problems and the cultural development of the people. I would like to endorse that argument.

"On the financial aspect of the question, I do feel we will not be out of the wood on the separation of the four Provinces but it will be left to the wisdom of the four Finance Ministers of the four Provinces to come together and agree on common projects and how to finance them. For instance, there will be schemes, big reservoirs and other such projects, which may cost several crores of rupees, which cannot be transferred either to one Province or another, nor possibly financed by any one of the Provinces—they may result in doing good to one or two areas under the project where they will be located—and in such cases I am sure it will not be difficult for the various Governments concerned to come to an agreement over the financing of such schemes. Once such a thing is done, it will probably be the best answer to the orthodox men who hold such opinions against separation.

"We shall not now go into the question as to why such a big Province has been constituted. It was constituted in the wake of the British entry into the country and we need not now go into the history as to how they set up the Government and the progress they made in acquiring areas from time to time. It will not be out of place to mention on this occasion a good word about the way in which vast areas have been administered successfully by the British people and by the various Governments that have been administering the country for the last 20 years. They have done their best during all these years and if to-day the demand for separation has come about, it is not as a slur on the previous administrations, but on account of the fact that it is more in keeping with the cultural development of the four areas concerned. I have no doubt, Sir, that when these Provinces come into shape they will play a great part in the great Southern Federation, and though we are not to-day demanding a regular Southern Federation, we only hope that the units in the south will play a great part in making a constitution for India and making India very great in the eyes of the world.

"On this occasion, let me also mention that the case for the separation of the four Provinces was made more prominent by the foundation of the various Universities in this country and I am very happy to see new people sitting on the Treasury Bench to-day who have taken a great interest in the two Universities, one in the Tamilnad and the other in the Telugu area. I am referring here to the great work done by the Hon. the Leader of the House, Dr. Subbarayan, when he was Minister for Education and it was by his wise guidance that the Annamalai University came into existence as a result of which Tamilnad is having a University of its own. The fact that it was given to him to establish a University for the Tamil country probably gave an incentive to people

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to think in terms of Tamilnad administration. I now find my hon. Friend Mr. Gopala Reddi has been taking a very lively interest in the affairs of the Andhra University. Probably it is these two Universities that are greatly responsible for giving a great momentum for the people that they should have a separate Andhra and Tamilnad Provinces.

"Let us hope, Sir, that these two great cultural ties will also be developed to a great extent when the Kerala and the Karnataka Provinces come into being. Sir, let me join with the Leader of the House in the hope that he has expressed that we are expressing our desires in this direction at a psychological moment to the Constituent Assembly and that this will bear fruit."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Hameed Khan was not present here yesterday when I stated that I would allow only fifteen minutes to each speaker. So he will please finish his speech in that time."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will abide by your decision, Sir, as it is for you to specify the time to be taken up by each speaker. Without wasting any more time of the House I can state categorically, Sir, that I oppose the motion. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that my hon. Friend the Law Minister in his opening speech has referred to a very important factor which governs the redistribution of Provinces in this country. If I can state what he has stated in his very first sentence, he has very rightly said: "That there has been a general feeling among the people that it would be better if the Provinces were carved out on linguistic and cultural basis." But I am afraid, Sir, that he negatives that very correct statement by coming down to a very low level stating that so far as this Province is concerned the redistribution of Provinces will be made on the basis of language only. Sir, it is a very unscientific redistribution. I believe, Sir, that the Government will be well-advised if they pay sufficient attention to the demands of the people of the Province for separating this Province altogether and making it independent from the rest of India and constituting what is called 'Dravidasthan'. They want this only and not any other Province based on language, or any other consideration. Very many people in this Province, Sir, are anxious that this Province should be regarded as a separate entity, a separate and independent State known as "Dravidasthan". Sir, the people of this Province will not be satisfied with merely redistribution of this Province on the basis of language. In the Tamil Nad there are Telugu speaking people and in the Telugu places there are Tamil speaking people. There seems to be some family resemblance between this redistribution on the basis of language and the question of regional language on which my friend the Education Minister has been harping upon, in season and out of season. We, the Muslims, Sir, believe in two very important categories, both language as well as

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culture should be taken into consideration simultaneously. If it is the desire of the Government to redistribute the Provinces, it should be on the basis of language as well as culture. This Government wish to redistribute this Province on the basis of language and they are thereby making a grievous mistake and error and they have left out of consideration a very major consideration, Sir, the question of the creation of a Province in this Presidency on the basis of culture and language, viz., Urdu. There is no use of your redistributing the Provinces on the basis of Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam. By this act you will not be acting according to the wishes of the various people. Therefore, in the first instance you will have to create a Urdu Province."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Do you want a new Province to be created?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am sorry, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister for Finance, although he is very anxious to see that a separate Province for Tamil speaking and other people are carved out, fails to see the necessity for a separate Province for the Urdu speaking people. He wants to know how and where a separate Province can be created for us. I wish to ask him, Sir, in turn how it is practicable and possible for him to create a Tamil, Telugu, Karnataka and Kerala Province? Does he not know that these people are mixed up in the different places? It is not a question of language alone, culture alone, but it is the question of the demands, very great demands in the country for creating independent states for people speaking their own language and people who belong to a different culture and religion altogether. When you can create a Province on the basis of language alone, it is not a difficult thing to create a Province on the basis of language-cum-culture. Therefore, on that basis as the foundation by the creation of a Province for Urdu speaking people, Sir, the Government will be satisfying the demand from a very large section of the people of this Province. One would like to ask the author of this resolution, Sir, as to what is the motive behind this resolution. What are the reasons that have prompted him to table this resolution? Why is that the redistribution is made only on the basis of language? Is it because of religion that these separations are demanded? Is it power politics or the fear of monopoly by any particular section of the people in this Province of which they are afraid that they want to be relieved of that monopoly? I want to know the reply from the hon. Members of the opposite benches. Are not the Tamilians and the Tamilian Brahmans your brothers? Why should you be afraid of these people? Is it because of the fact that the whole power is monopolized by somebody and who are not willing to share it with others? My hon. Friend the Minister for Law and Home very carefully and cautiously said that they were asking for separate Provinces on the basis of language and not culture and at the same time there seems to be some connecting link and what is that connecting link? If the language are similar where

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is the need for separate provinces? I want to ask what is it that has exactly compelled them to ask for this separation. Sir, my hon. Friend, the Minister for Law and Home, also said that they were not asking for provinces separate from each other but with a central domination. They would remain independent with provincial autonomy. Does not the Minister for Law and the members on the other side want that the centre should not dominate over them? They would rather have financial independence, they would have freedom from interference from the so-called centre in season and out of season. They also want all the money that is collected in the name of income-tax to be given to them, money collected in various ways so that they could see that this Province which is now suffering for want of sufficient finance could prosper better and can find sufficient money to make the lives of the people better and they could also grow to greater heights according to their culture and language. They want all this for improving the lot of their own people.

"They agree with me but in the matter of coming to conclusions, they are afraid to come to like conclusion. They believe 12-30 p.m. that there is something like a united India. If we believe in a united India, why this separate India and why this divided India? My hon. Friends should believe in one thing or the other; they should believe in a united India or in a divided India but the pity is that they want to believe in both. After all why is it that you are asking for separation? The reason is that the Andhras are afraid that the Brahmans of the Tamilnad have been dominating over them and they have had all the plums of offices themselves. They felt that they must be freed from that domination and that is why they want separation. If they are dividing it for that reason, why not honestly say that they believe in dividing India?"

"The next point that I wish to observe is. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Probably the last point?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is a very important point as it is not merely a question of separation on the basis of language and I hope the Hon. Speaker will take a liberal and universal view of the implication of this resolution and give me full opportunity to explain my point. I wish to point out that this Government instead of expressing its opinion for the distribution of provinces and leaving it there wants to make an appeal in the end. And to whom have they made that appeal? (An hon. Member: To God.) I wish you believed in God and appealed to Him; but you did not. Instead, you want to make an appeal to a vacuum, to the one which does not exist. They are appealing to some name called the Constituent Assembly; I wonder whether it means anything—God alone knows. Anybody who has been a student of history and of revolutions in different parts of the world know what a Constituent Assembly is, they know how it is established and who they are who establish the Constituent Assembly and what the powers of

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the Assembly are and they know whether it is a sovereign body or not. We do not know whether we have a sovereign body in the so-called Constituent Assembly or not but we know that the so-called Constituent Assembly does not exist, because the very people who are sitting in that body called the Constituent Assembly have recognized that it is not a Constituent Assembly of all the peoples of this country. It is the Constituent Assembly of one party only and that is the Congress party and they are practically having a Congress session in Delhi at State expense and at the expense of the people of the country. By giving false publicity to the world and by constantly telling the world, they think there is such a thing as the Constituent Assembly sitting in New Delhi. The world should know that there is no Constituent Assembly of this country with the sanction of the people of this country and what is going on there is but a session of the Congress and confined only to Congress people."

(Sri Kallur Subba Rao rose from his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member does not give way. The hon. Member will resume his seat."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The world must know that there is no Constituent Assembly of all the people of the country functioning but what is happening is that it is a body dominated by a few people calling themselves Congress people. So far as that part of the resolution is concerned, I wish the author of the resolution had not referred to that body which does not exist. If it did exist, a large section of the people, the Muslim nation, would have been there and what is happening to-day is that it is a congregation of Scheduled Classes and others who are all congressmen. (An hon. Member: What about Anglo-Indians?) They are also Congressmen. So far as that portion of the resolution is concerned, I wish the Hon. the Minister for Home and Law had not referred to it.

"We have heard, we have received reports and we have read about what is happening in the various parts of the country, namely, in the Punjab and Bengal. They are seeking to divide those provinces also. On what basis they are thinking of dividing the country, whether it is on the basis of language or on the basis of culture or of any other basis, is only best known to themselves and is not known to my hon. Friends here. Let us take the case of Bengal. They believed in the unity of Bengal and the partition of Bengal which was regarded as an accomplished fact during the time of Lord Curzon, was undone and those very people are now asking for division. Why are they asking for it? Unless people are realistic and believe in intellectual honesty, these things would not cut ice. They should take into account the realities of the situation of this country and should be prepared to settle the important fundamental basis on which the present political situation rests. I believe that no distribution of the Province on the basis of language as the present Government seek to do or ask somebody to do, will have any effect so far as we, the Muslims, are concerned. We, the Muslims of this Province,

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take this opportunity to state that when we find that even here the Province is sought to be divided on the basis of language and that in Bengal people want to divide for a small number of people of eleven to twenty lakhs, we feel we, the Muslims, in this part of the Province should have our own province and we will create a province of our own and we can do that. When the Hindus of Bengal can create it for themselves and the Hindus and the handful of Sikhs can have a separate province, why not the Muslims in this Province create a province for themselves in this country?"

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, it does not need much from me to support the idea of linguistic provinces. This resolution has however a new significance to-day because we are on the eve of a new setting in the constitution of this country. It is more advantageous to have small provinces. These provinces are going to have larger revenues and greater powers and so there is need for the provinces to be run in such a fashion that people may keep touch with the affairs of the administration in as close and careful a manner as possible. This arrangement will bring peoples into closer touch with their Governments and administration. With the introduction of adult franchise, the formation of linguistic provinces would bring the administration of each province into more direct contact with the people. It would be a great convenience for members of the legislature to keep constantly in touch with their constituencies and to keep them informed about what is taking place in the government of the province. Mr. Karanth referred to the possibilities of intensive work in provinces and all that is very true. But may I also point out that with the carving out of small provinces there would be greater need for caution and circumspection in the choice of schemes since you would not be having a long purse to draw upon and enter into all sorts of services at the same time regardless of costs and results. Then it is that the bridges, the roads and the railways of which we talk here will appear in their true perspective. It is then that Members of Government will more closely examine these schemes and put their wisdom to the test and choose the best that is available and get the maximum benefit out of the resources that they can carve out for their provinces. There is one other great advantage and that is that these small provinces will be federated into one centre which may not have the same powers as it has to-day but which can bring together all those units into one cultural whole. That word culture has been used in this House by more than one hon. Member. It is not Urdu, Sanskrit, or Tamil or any other language that makes for culture. It represents the sum total of those qualities not easily measured, the fine toleration which makes you see the case for the other side, the character that you display in the conduct of your affairs, the thirst for knowledge which must always accompany those who are in charge of the administration and who support that administration. It is these that determine the culture of the

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people. It is not mere language but it is the cultural remedy that we seek for the troubles that afflict us in India to-day. We need not be afraid of the word separation whose meaning Mr. Hameed Khan so ably twisted to-day. We are not going to separate in the sense that each province will break off from its moorings and drift for itself. We are going to be divided into convenient and efficient administrative units but knit together by cultural bonds into a united India which will not be controlled from above but which will be mastered by the masses of the people from all parts whose culture will be the foundation on which that united India will rest. That is my answer to Mr. Hameed Khan. All provinces need not be separated again on the same day. Andhra province may easily be the first to emerge out of this. To wait for the separation of all the provinces would be perhaps to wait for a very long time. Kerala may separate later, when it is found that the native States are more easily amenable to the scheme now before them, and they of their own accord, join the Kerala Province. Karnataka Province may separate even earlier because I understand that even if British Karnataka were a province by itself, it will have sufficient resources to go on with the administration of that province. One thing must be said here, Sir. It would not be wise to pitch our demands too high in respect of these linguistic provinces. No irredentist claims, no unfair financial settlements should be the rule, Sir. But I do not want to dwell on these to-day.

“There is only one important aspect in this resolution on which I wish to say a few words. Now, people ask why are we recommending this resolution to the Constituent Assembly. The Constituent Assembly has been called a mirage. It seems to be so real to the Opposition that they are fighting it tooth and nail every minute of their existence in this House. People do not hug a mirage by electing members to that body. The very fact that they have elected members to the Constituent Assembly shows that some time or other their politics will tell them in what time, in what place and under what conditions, they will join the Constituent Assembly. Let me hope that the time will come soon when they will join the Assembly and help to frame the constitution of this country. I need not add any more words. Sir, I understand the Muslim League attitude. I understand everything in the game of politics. Where one keeps constant watch on the moves in the political chess board in order to wait to call for checks and counter-checks. Now, Sir, we have one bright feature appearing in this country's politics at the end of and orgy of violence which has been recently witnessed from end to end of this country. Perhaps, it is good for us to have passed through a blood-bath. At the end of all this has emerged the appeal from both the Quad-e-Azam (hear, hear) and Mahatma Gandhi. I want the Muslims League members to note the words; ‘for all time’ is the phrase used in it—a very Gandhian phrase. Let us (Interruption.) I am prepared to do it. Let us eschew violence. Let us seek cultural remedies. (Hear, hear.) So, the appeal has finally come to this. We should not resort to violence. Let us

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fight if necessary without exacerbation and the excitement caused by suppressed emotions. Let us play cricket all together observing the rules of the game and accepting the decision of the umpire in the game. Now, it is either the rule of the game itself that decides or the remedy of arbitration—sole cultural remedy—that can decide the issue. I trust, Sir, the Muslim League and the Congress and everybody will accept this. (Interruption.) Let him accept this sovereign remedy. It is the only cultural remedy which will solve the evils of this country. In the Constituent Assembly, let me tell him, there are now not merely Congress men. There are many of those who opposed the Congress, who have fought its policies, but who still have been elected by the majority of the Congress not only in this House but in every House in the other Provinces. The Congress believes in cultural solutions. The Congress believes in looking at the other side. The Congress believes that it rules not for the Congress but for the good of the entire country. (Hear, hear.) Now, Sir, the Constituent Assembly consists not only of Hindus but Sikhs, Parsees, Muslims and Anglo-Indians, in fact, every conceivable minority excepting the Muslims who have not taken part in it yet. There are Muslims in it, the League Muslims are still there though outside the House. Till you resign your membership, I will never believe that you are hugging the mirage. You are far too wise to do that. You are all not unwise people. I know the time will come when you will yourself shed this fear of the mirage and run out to find the real water that will quench your thirst. The thirst for freedom is in one and all of us—in the Muslim as well as in the Hindu, in the Anglo-Indian, as well as in the Parsee and the Sikh. That thirst, Sir, will not be quenched by a mere mirage, but by the concerted efforts of one and all of us which alone will enable us to reach the water and drink deep from that fountain of wisdom and culture, which will flow from the Constituent Assembly.”

* THE YUVARAJA OF PITHAPURAM:—“Sir, I advocate the acceptance of this resolution for the re-distribution, on linguistic basis, of this Province on the basis and principle that self-determination will have to ultimately prevail, even as on the same ground, I advocate the acceptance by my party, the Congress party, of the Muslim League demand for Pakistan. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I am further fortified in the stand I have taken in supporting this resolution by the excellent advocacy yesterday of my hon. Friend Mr. Karanth. No doubt, the re-distribution on linguistic basis of this Province is a much desired solution, but I may be pardoned, Sir, if I, in all humility, sound a note of caution. While, no doubt, the re-distribution of the Madras Presidency on linguistic basis is going to bring about a much needed relief to many people, I, for one, Sir, cannot feel that it is going to be an unmixed blessing. Our position will be weaker not only with reference to finance, but with reference to all-India spheres too. I have a feeling that small units of Provinces cannot carry the same conviction which the united voice of Madras can. I am also wondering whether apart from certain very beneficial things that will accrue to the people, the common man is really going

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to benefit greatly. I doubt whether he will even benefit to the extent to which it is made out he will benefit. Of course, when I make this observation, Sir, I only do so in the hope that these humble remarks of mine will be borne in mind by the future prime ministers of future provinces, by the future ministers of future cabinets, and by the future legislators of future legislatures. Again, reiterating the stand I have taken, that is, the stand of self-determination, I wish the new provinces that are going to be formed all luck. But I only hope that that day will not be far off when the Ministers and representatives from the future linguistic provinces will gather together here, perhaps in this very hall, to formulate a regional chamber of representatives. In that hope, and with these remarks, Sir, I support this resolution."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, has very ably and eloquently answered the very intriguing question posed by the Muslim League members who spoke here yesterday. I am not going to cover the same ground. (A voice from Muslim benches: Thank you.) I will only repeat the fact that the Constituent Assembly exists just as the Muslim League members exist on the floor of this House. (Laughter.) Hundred words cannot change a fact, and there it is. Another aspect of this Constituent Assembly was put forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao. He informed us that he had the pleasure of discussing the affairs of the Constituent Assembly with regard to the formation of linguistic provinces with an ex-Advocate-General. The word 'ex-Advocate-General' was somewhat vague. But I believe he (Mr. Kaleswara Rao) has referred to an eminent person hailing from our own Province. I am not as big a man as that ex-Advocate-General. But I here and now emphatically say that this view is wrong, if he (the Advocate-General) has expressed what Mr. Kaleswara Rao has represented here, I say I am entitled to have the interpretation of the statement of the Cabinet Delegation in my own way. I have referred to this statement of the Cabinet Delegation in view of what Mr. Kaleswara Rao has said. The point raised by the ex-Advocate-General is that the Provinces referred to in the Cabinet Delegation's statement are the existing Provinces. This, Sir, is a very wrong view. When the Cabinet Mission has stated that it is only creating a machinery whereby a constitution can be settled by Indians for Indians and that they do not limit you, but they have given you only the broad basis to proceed with the framing of your own constitution in your own settled way, there is no meaning in saying that the future constitution should be bound down by the limitations of the present provinces. They say that provinces should be free to form their own executive and their own government; 'these are the powers of the union and these are the powers of the provinces.' When it is said like that, it applies to whatever provinces the Constituent Assembly is going to carve out or to enumerate or delimit in this country. Therefore, I believe that the argument that the Andhra Province question could not be

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brought on the agenda of the Constituent Assembly because of this technical objection, seems to me to be wrong. But what are we to do? There are 45 or 49 to be more correct stalwarts in the Constituent Assembly who have been elected from this Province. I only hope, and I appeal to them to present the case of the re-distribution of this Province on a linguistic basis. It is true we are told by the Hon. the Revenue Minister that one of the important persons in charge of this affair had really conceded the question. But we were at once told by the Hon. ex-Premier that what was conceded by one was in fact denied by the other, at the top-level and the result now seems to be what the ex-Premier has described because it has not found a place in the agenda of the Steering Committee. That is why we thought that a resolution like this was necessary. That is why we are giving such a great importance to this resolution, here. 1 p.m. We want the unanimous voice of this House for the re-distribution of this Province on a linguistic basis. I am very sorry our hon. Friends of the Muslim League have not joined hands with us in this resolution. I am sorry that Mr. Hameed Khan, who was a member of the Assembly in 1937-38, was a party to a similar resolution and voted for that resolution should now speak against this resolution. But I do not blame him for changing his views. For he has changed his views several times, as several others have done."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, at that time there was no Constituent Assembly."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am talking of Mr. Hameed Khan. Perhaps at that time when the resolution was passed in the then Assembly, the hon. Member, Mr. Salam, was a child." (Laughter.)

M. MUHAMMAD ISAMIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, I want to know whether this House elected 45 members to the Constituent Assembly. Is it the House that elected?"

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am sorry for this interruption. The Muslim League did really elect representatives; for it is this House that elected and not a section of it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Muslim League did not elect; certain Muslims elected the members."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I think it is too technical. The Muslim League members as well as other Muslim members did elect members for the Constituent Assembly, and they are there to-day, and as Mr. N. S. Varadachariar has reminded us, the Muslim League members in the Constituent Assembly have not resigned."

"Sir, I was referring to Mr. Hameed Khan, and I think I can take liberty with him. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Yes, we have never crossed the limits.) Sir, the principle of the resolution has been accepted before. So any argument against it

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at this time of the day will not carry weight. If any argument against it had been advanced in 1920, people would have thought, it was a serious argument; but much water has flown down the bridge since that year. You may remember, Sir, Mr. Montague, when he was here, very much appreciated our contention against jumbling together areas speaking several languages into one artificial administrative area. Thereafter, the Indian Statutory Commission reported in their report thus: 'If those who speak the same language form a compact and self-contained area, so constituted and endowed as to be able to support its existence as a separate province, there is no doubt that the use of common speech is a strong and natural basis for provincial individuality. But it is not the only test—race, religion, economic interest, geographical contiguity, a due balance between country and town and between coastline and interior may all be relevant factors. Most important of all, perhaps for practical purposes is the largest possible measure of general agreement on the changes proposed both on the side of the area that is gaining and on the side of the area that is losing territory.' That is an answer, which will, I suppose, satisfy Mr. Hameed Khan. It is not my humble opinion; it is the opinion of the Indian Statutory Commission. It, in fact, recommended that the Government of India, as a matter of urgent importance, should set up a boundary commission with a neutral chairman, so long ago as 1930 to investigate the main cases in which provincial readjustment seemed called for and to endeavour to work out the scheme to see how far it was possible. But it so happened to the misfortune of this Province, Madras Government was always opposed to this. The Madras Government, till March 1938, was opposed to the principle of re-distribution of provinces. Not only this Government, but the Government of India as well was against the proposal; and so they in their despatch had said, 'this redistribution is impossible.' In this way, this question has remained unsolved all along.

"One of the main objections to this resolution is, 'how is it possible now to carve out Karnataka and Kerala Provinces?' No, it may not be possible, we may have to wait for some time. That is why Mr. Varadachari said, some provinces will be carved out first, some others will come up later. That is, provinces which do not interfere with the jurisdiction of other governments will be taken up first. Where jurisdiction of other governments is affected, the Governor is to bring into being immediately a machinery to go into the delimitation of boundaries and to look into the other details. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: What about the City of Madras?) It does not arise particularly in view of the wording of the resolution and the speech of the Hon. the Leader of the House. All questions on which there is any dispute can be settled by a boundary commission. So I will add to the wording of the resolution this much:

or an appropriate arbitration committee when it is called for."

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I will give you a lot of information later. I am not yielding."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, on a point of information, he is not yielding."

MR. SPEAKER:—"On a point of information, a member may not yield. On a point of order he should yield."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I am not raising here any controversial question. Redistribution of provinces is a principle which has been accepted by all: by Andhras, by Tamils, by Karnatakas and by Keralas including some of the Muslim members who were here. I think in 1933, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig moved a cut motion to discuss the neglect of the Government in not forming the Andhra Province. (Hear, hear.) But he has also since changed his opinion. As Mr. N. S. Varadachari said, they will all change once again their opinion and come again to our view. So I am not troubled when I see a particular section is now opposed to this natural and good principle of redistribution of provinces in India on linguistic basis. I am sorry to say, the opposition to this resolution is unreal. Because, tomorrow, possibly before the proceedings of this Assembly are printed and sent to the Constituent Assembly there is every chance and expectation that the Muslim League members here will take part in the Constituent Assembly proceedings in framing a complete independent constitution for an independent India.

"Sir, I only wish to remind the House of a similar resolution passed in 1930 and in 1933, in which all members of the House joined for the formation of Andhra and Karnataka Provinces. But as I said earlier, the thing was shelved as the Government of Madras and the Government of India were against it. In 1938 a similar resolution was passed in the Assembly and was sent up. The Government went to the extent of suggesting the formation of two provinces under one Governor and to have machinery set up for delimitation of boundaries. But somehow this did not go up to the Secretary of State for India. And the Secretary of State on hearing some report from somebody immediately brushed aside the entire recommendation of the Government, even though that memorandum was signed by all the Members of Government. It only shows our utter powerlessness and the bad luck of this Province. Nobody is to be blamed. To-day the position is different. Power is in our own hands to a very large extent. It is much better than what it was in 1938. Congressmen have pledged themselves to the division of India on linguistic basis. It is only mere chance that this topic was not taken up by the Constituent Assembly till now. Because of certain technical reasons or otherwise, of which the world is not aware, this question was not taken up. It is therefore to urge the necessity and to impress the urgency of this question we were forced to frame this resolution somewhere in the month of February last and bring it forward before the Legislature for its

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acceptance. Of course the first portion of the resolution was first framed, for this Government thought, a general reminder to the members of the Constituent Assembly would do. But after some time we were told by Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, after he had been to the meeting of the Constituent Assembly, it would be necessary to have the second portion of the resolution to strengthen the hands of the members there. So Government have added the second portion. I would therefore appeal, in view of the long history of this question and in view of its urgency this resolution should be passed unanimously. I know the resolution will be passed; I know the resolution will be passed by an overwhelming majority; but I am anxious it should be passed unanimously, as otherwise it might injure the cause; for the Opposition of the Muslim League Members is based on the principle that there is no Constituent Assembly, the existence of which they deny.

“The other points raised by Mr. Hameed Khan are antediluvian. The distinguished member from Bellary raised objections which certainly would detract the value of the resolution. So I am appealing to Muslim League friends to withdraw the points they have urged; I appeal to them to give this resolution a unanimous blessing so that the case of redistribution of Provinces may not suffer. Between the passing of this resolution and the formation of the Province on linguistic basis, there is something to be done in the Province. I believe, if this resolution is passed, and even if it goes unanimously before the Constituent Assembly, so many things will have to be done before actually the Province can be divided and boundaries delimited. Meanwhile I appeal to the present Government and to the members that we should concentrate our attention on certain matters. We need not wait till the Constituent Assembly carves out the Andhra Province as an integral part of the new constitution. Simultaneously with the passing of this resolution steps may be taken to work out the plan. While in status the Andhra Province may not exist, there can be Andhra Province in action, as it were. If there is agreement and unity of will there can be Andhra Province in action. In the twelve districts, the ideals of the Andhra Province can be worked out in practice without offending any constitution and without offending any rules. Instead of looking at questions merely from the point of view of provincial routine, if questions are looked at from the point of view of the needs of all the twenty-four districts and if expenditure is made, schemes are drawn, schools and hospitals established, and if every scheme of development is viewed from the needs of the district, if facilities are given throughout the Province for all the people to have their education in their own mother tongue, not merely in areas where there is one language, but in all bi-lingual and multi-lingual areas also, then, some of the advantages of the formation of a separate Province can be brought into action by administrative measures in advance. It will be a very good step forward. Indeed I believe there is no difficulty about this since every one in the Government and every one in the House is agreed on its principle. I only plead therefore . . .”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of order, Sir. Is a Member justified in passing incorrect information to the Members in the House? He says so many things. One statement he made was that the Muslim League are going to get into the Constituent Assembly. Another . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may please go to the make and speak.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the hon. Member justified in passing on incorrect information to the House and to the other Members of the House? That is the point of order I am rising. Several statements were made by the hon. Friend sitting opposite. One statement was that the Muslim League members are going to enter the so-called Constituent Assembly. He asserted that we were going to enter into it. Another statement he makes now is that all the members are agreed on certain things unanimously. Is he justified in passing on such information, such incorrect information—I put it rather mildly—Sir, to the other Members?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Leader of the Opposition thinks that he has given incorrect information. If the hon. Member is convinced he will stand corrected and he will himself acknowledge it.”

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“I am very sorry, Sir, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has not really raised a point of order but in a sombre debate like this he wanted to be humorous and I am very thankful to him. Really, I do not want to be long on this point. I only repeat my appeal to all the Members of this Assembly to pass the resolution unanimously. I appeal to the Muslim League Members again. I also appeal to the Government to be united in their will to see that all cultural developments, with regard to colleges, schools, hospitals, irrigation projects, and all other needs of the Andhra Province are carried out by administrative measures without waiting for the constitutional status to come in. Of course a certain amount of unity of will in the Government is necessary and I dare say it will be found and if it is found then, we will have done all that we can do for the growth of a strong India with strong Provinces so that India might become once more the beacon light of culture. With these words I appeal again to the Muslim League to withdraw their opposition. I need not appeal to the Hon. the Leader of the House for he will also agree with me being a Member of this Government. (Interruption.) I do not want to detract from the advantages. This is a proposition which has been accepted not only now, but for the last 27 years, not only in this Province but in every Province in India, not only by the Indian politicians but by impartial politicians from outside this country. Great journalists and politicians who have been writing books after travelling in India—they have impartial ideas about the formation of Provinces—have recommended the redivision of India on the basis of languages and they have said that it is the

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most convenient and the least objectionable form, so that there can be all round development and growth and India may be a fully developed country."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a word of personal explanation, Sir. My friend, the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham, said, perhaps in a very lighthearted manner that I have changed my views and that we on this side are liable to change our views more often than my hon. Friends on the other side. I think he has made a great mistake. He has not read history rightly and particularly the recent history of the Congress. If he had read the recent history of the Congress, I think, he would not have made that charge. So far as the remark of the hon. Member against me is concerned he said that some years ago when a resolution of this nature—of course far different from what it is to-day—came before the Legislature some of us supported that resolution. It is true. What was the resolution, Sir? It had nothing to do with the vacuum they are now harping on . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member is disturbed he may take a longer time for his personal explanation. He has already taken more than three minutes."

SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a speech or an explanation?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have told him that he has already taken more than three minutes. He is not going to take more than one minute now."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"So far as the redistribution of the Province on the basis of language was concerned we did support it, because my hon. Friends from the Andhra have been very anxious, much more anxious than before and they wanted a separate Province for themselves. That is why we supported it. To-day I am prepared to support the redistribution of the Province and the formation of one Andhra Province. But they are asking something and somebody which does not exist. That is according to my hon. Friends . . ."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting the resolution . . ."

M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur rose.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it on a point of information?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Other members of my party have raised points of information. It will be like . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it on a point of information on the speech of Mr. Viswanatham? I shall allow them afterwards, because the hon. Member has begun his speech."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It will be like the Scotchman's humour if I do not ask for it now, Sir."

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* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"While supporting the resolution I am surprised to find most of the tested politicians pinning their faith on the declaration of the British Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, which they themselves contradict. (Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur: You want a declaration from Moscow!) I am sure declarations from Moscow will never be worse than the declaration of Mr. Attlee from London. Moscow is not interested on any declaration on India, because internal politics must be decided by Indians themselves."

"As regards linguistic Provinces, however, some of my friends say that in the Constituent Assembly by June 1948 something definite is going to happen. What is going to happen, we are seeing in the Punjab and Bengal. In the Punjab and Bengal to-day we find civil war going on. In the Punjab so many lives are being lost while they say that in June 1948 they are going to get something. Are we really going to get complete independence or are we going to get independence for the whole of India? It has been definitely made clear by Lord Listowel, who is the present Secretary of State for India, that the declaration made is only political and that they are not going to evacuate their armies. They have made it definitely clear."

"Sir, this resolution itself does not say anything definite, about what exactly a linguistic Province means. Is it going to include the 90 lakhs of people who are living in the Nizam's State? Is it going to unify all the peoples of the Kanara. Is it going to unify all the Malayalam speaking people living in Travancore and Cochin States? What will be the attitude of the Congress Government regarding these people? These are not at all made plain by any of the speakers. My point is, if you want a separate Province, at least an independent Indian Union, then those living in the States must also be taken into consideration. That point has not been tackled to-day. Unless we see that the interests of the people living in the States are taken into consideration, we cannot have an independent and separate Province, at least an independent Indian Union. In spite of the fact that some of the Congress Members wanted unity of Kerala consisting of the people living in the Travancore and Cochin States and in the British-Kerala and the British-Cochin area, that point has not been brought forward on the floor of the House. I should like to know whether the Congress stands for the unification of all the people including the States, or not. I should also like to know definitely whether the Congress Government to-day here stands for a separate and independent Province of the people living in the Travancore and Cochin States and also British-Kerala; so also for the Andhra Province including the people in the Hyderabad State and other small States. Unless that is done, it cannot be a complete one. It is not only in the interests of the people of British India but it is also in the interests of the people in the States, because the States have become reactionary and the bulwarks of British Imperialism. Even according to the declarations of Mr. Attlee it has been made clear that these States will be

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independent. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar defined Travancore as an Independent State and he had stated that it would have treaties with foreign Governments and its status also will be independent. Sir Mirza Ismail, the Diwan of the Hyderabad State also says so. It is evident that British Armies will be placed in the States and that is why I say that the so-called independence will be subservient to the States. The national movement, the people's movement has developed to such an extent that it has made British Imperialism to declare that it is going to quit India in June 1948. If the States do not come in then there is the real danger that we have to face. Our demand for a separate Province must be a demand that the population of the States and the people . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I have not finished my sentence, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is a point of order. The hon. Member may resume his seat."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Can Members of this House discuss questions relating to the Indian States and criticise their actions?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, they should not. The hon. Member may continue his speech."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"What is the point of order, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not entitled to criticise the action of the States."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"On a point of order, Sir. Are not Members of this House entitled to say that the Princes ought to go without discussing any actions of the States?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not our duty. The hon. Member may continue his speech."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I am only driving the point that for a genuine Provincial Government, particularly in Madras, we must deal with the question of the people living in the States. I am not raising the point whether the States should be abolished or not. I am concerned more with the people living in the States who are my own brethren. Ninety lakhs of people are suffering under the Nizam. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member must be aware that we are discussing linguistic provinces. Let not the hon. Member bring in the Indian States."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"As for the resolution itself it is not at all clear. . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"It is clear as far as the linguistic provinces go."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, 90 lakhs of Telugu people are in Hyderabad to-day. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to inform the hon. Member that under the Act we are not entitled to criticise or to speak about the Indian States. Members are not entitled to speak on subjects away from the resolution. The hon. Member may continue his speech." (Some hon. Members: 'Lunch time, Sir.')

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch. The House is adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m. to-day."

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, this morning when Sri Venkateswarlu was speaking he referred to something about the Indian States, the population figures of Hyderabad State and you ruled him out of order saying that the hon. Member should not speak about. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I ruled him out of order on the ground that he should not speak about the administration of Indian States."

SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—"In that connexion I wish to bring to your notice that the relevant rule in this matter is sub-rule (iv) of rule 51 of the Assembly Rules. It says that a Member while speaking shall not

'reflect upon the conduct of His Majesty the King, the Ruler of any Foreign State or the Governor General or His Majesty's Representative for the exercise of the functions of the Crown in its relations with Indian States or any Governor or any Court of Justice or use the Governor's or Governor General's name for the purpose of influencing a debate.'

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have heard what the hon. Member wants to say. But my point was that if the hon. Member criticised the administration of an Indian State, there was nobody here to defend it and that was why I told the hon. Member not to criticise the administration of an Indian State. Mr. Venkateswarlu may now resume his speech."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, the mover of the resolution is not in his place."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There are other Ministers taking notes and they will inform the Leader of the House."

(At this stage the Leader of the House entered the House.)

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, in connexion with the formation of separate provinces, I was referring to people living outside the jurisdiction of the Government of India and said that there were about 90 million of people living in Indian States. In the formation of separate provinces those

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people also must be taken into consideration. Then only genuine provincial units can be formed. The new provinces should be formed not merely on linguistic basis but mainly on the basis of nationality. We are demanding separate provinces as national units. The Madras Presidency consists of four national units, the Andhras, the Tamils, the Malayalees and the Kanarese people. All these castes and communities and religious groups are included in the national units. After all, India is not a single nation or two nations. Both the theory of a single nation and the theory of two nations are wrong. India consists of 19 nationalities. These 19 nationalities must have the right of self-determination. The people living in these areas must have the right to decide whether they will live in a single united India or whether they will live in an India divided into Pakistan and Hindustan. People of all castes and religions must exercise their rights by means of a plebiscite and decide whether they will live in a United India or live independently. Then only we can solve our problems. The two great organizations, the League and the Congress instead of appealing to the people to unite put forward their own theories and their own solutions. The Congress up till yesterday stood for a United India, but it has gone to the extent of dividing the Punjab and Bengal also. That attitude we find reflected here when some hon. Members demand Moplahstan. This demand is, I think, only a counterblast. By itself Moplahstan cannot constitute a national unit. A national unit must have a separate and contiguous territory for the people to continue an independent existence. It must have an independent culture and independent language. We do not find them here. If religious divisions are to be encouraged, then there will be a stage when in every municipality and every locality there will be a demand for Salamistan and Venkateswarlustan! So many other things will be formed which will never be in the interests of the country. The only way to decide this issue is to make nationality the basis of the formation of new provinces. Then only we can solve the problems. Otherwise our leaders will be forced to look to Mr. Attlee and the British Government. Of course the Constituent Assembly has been formed and we cannot neglect it. It is there. But if we should achieve anything we should have unity. Even Sardar Vallabhai Patel said the other day that unless there is a unity there will not be possibility of getting power by June 1948. Unless all the parties, particularly the League and the Congress put forth a united demand, there is no possibility of getting freedom earlier. To-day the League is demanding Pakistan. But are they going to allow the people in the Punjab and Bengal to decide whether they will live in the Pakistan area or in a United India? By people I mean all—Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs.

“Regarding the formation of separate provinces in the Madras Presidency, it is long overdue. If anything, it has become very acute since 1937. In spite of that fact we have not been able to achieve anything up till now. We heard the hon. Member Kala Venkata Rao say that the Secretary of State does not exist. It is

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like the League Members saying that the Constituent Assembly does not exist. The Secretary of State is there and it is he that is stifling the freedom movement, that is standing in the way of the abolition of the zamindari system and the abolition of the Indian States. There is no use of thinking that all these will cease by June 1948. Of course we have got greater opportunities to see that the things that stand in our way are removed. That can be achieved by putting our demands in a more democratic way and by developing the people's movement and not by hampering the people's movement by a repressive policy.

“Sir, yesterday the hon. Member Mr. Karanth while speaking on the Kanarese Province said that the Kanarese people are living in Madras and Bombay Presidencies and also in Mysore and that a greater part of the people lived in Mysore. Therefore the question of a separate Kanarese Province must naturally be decided only after the fate of Mysore is decided. Regarding the Kerala Province, the majority of Malayalam population live in Travancore and unless the problem of this State is settled, unless this State is abolished, it will not be possible to form a United Kerala. The demand for a United Kerala has come from all groups of political opinion. I remember the Hon. Minister Mr. Madhava Menon once raised the demand for a United Kerala. I believe even to-day he stands for it. Yesterday, I heard our hon. Friend of the Muslim League, Mr. Raza Khan, saying that the demand for separate provinces has come from Andhra Hindus, Tamil Hindus and so on. It is not so. The people as a whole stand for separate provinces. It is myself and the hon. Member, Mr. Salam, that gave notice of a motion for the formation of a separate province long before the Government brought in this resolution. Of course that resolution was not brought forward on the floor of the House. The demand for a separate province has come from the people as a whole. Even the Andhra Muslim Leaguers once demanded a separate Provincial League for Andhra. All these indicate that the people as a whole are demanding a separate province to enable them to develop their own culture, their own traditions, language and Government. Because we have no separate Andhra Province, we have no industrial development. In spite of the fact that we have a long stretch of railway line, we have no railway workshop. We have not a single textile mill worth mentioning. Educationally also we are backward. All these are due to the fact that we are not allowed to develop independently and separately. Every nationality must be allowed to develop independently. To-day there is a dispute as to whom Madras belongs.”

2.45
p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member need not go into the details. Let us leave the details to the boundary demarcation committee.”

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“The demarcation committee will no doubt settle to whom Madras

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belongs. But why should we care for Madras? We can build one thousand and one cities like Madras if Andhra is separate and independent. We have got a big city in Secunderabad, which is our own. We must demand that city and not Madras. We can develop bigger and bigger cities provided linguistic provinces are allowed to grow. Instead of solving that problem, if we confine ourselves to British India alone, we cannot have complete linguistic provinces. Most of our people living outside British India will be left in the lurch and will be allowed to be preyed upon by autocrats. That is why I appeal to the Members of the House to see that national units are formed into separate provinces and allowed to grow. The Boundary Commission will decide which part will go to which province. The only solution for the problem is that, instead of ourselves deciding the question, the people of those places should be given the choice to have their own form of Government. In Madras Presidency, there is no question of Pakistan. The major nationalities are united in the demand for a United India. The question only arises in places where the Pakistan issue has been raised. The people of the areas concerned must be allowed to decide whether they want Pakistan or not. With these words, I support the resolution."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that in the year 1937 I moved a cut motion to bring to the notice of the Congress Government the urgent necessity for the formation of an Andhra Province. It is also true that when a resolution was moved in 1938 by the Grand Old Man of Andhra, Mr. Konda Venkatappayya, I supported the motion. I supported the motion in spite of the fact that a member of the Muslim League, Mr. K. Abdur Rahiman Khan, opposed it. I followed him and gave my reasons for supporting the motion. So I owe a duty to the public to state my point of view. I supported the motion then, and I believe the Muslim League Party is opposing this motion now. So it is necessary for me to explain the position and state clearly what the attitude of the Muslims in this Presidency is. If only my friends who supported this motion had read my speech then, they would understand the position I had taken. May I quote from the proceedings, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member need not read the whole thing. He can read extracts."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"This was what I said:

"I had no idea to participate in this debate but for some observation made by Mr. Abdur Rahiman Khan. My view of the matter is this. As far as the Muslims are concerned, the problem does not confine itself to one province. It transcends the limits of provinces. It is an All-India problem. Wherever the Muslims may be, be they in Andhra Desa, be they in Kerala Desa, be they in Kanara, be they in any province, their problem is not confined to that particular area alone. Their problem is an All-India problem. And I am sure our Andhra, Kanarese and Malabar friends will not deny us, the minority people living in India, our rights. And I would like to have the same assurance from our Rayalaseema friends here."

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I would like to state the position of the Muslims living in the different areas of this big Province. As far as we are concerned, the problem is an All-India problem. It is a minority problem. What I had in my mind when I delivered the speech on the floor of this House was that the Congress and the League would come together and enunciate the safeguards that were to be provided for the minorities wherever they were and whoever they were. Now the position is that instead of the two parties coming together voluntarily, a plan has been prepared by the Cabinet Mission who said that the Constituent Assembly set up under their plan would frame a constitution and that as soon as the Assembly met, it would set up a committee for determining minority rights. Now that plan has not been adhered to. One major party has not joined the Constituent Assembly, and therefore the authorities in England cannot base their decision on any constitution framed by the Constituent Assembly. There is nothing inconsistent in my having supported the resolution in 1938 and opposing a similar resolution now. This change in the position is the most important reason for my opposing the resolution now. When this matter was brought before the Congress High Command recently by the Minorities Convention, what did the High Command say? 'This is not the time. At a later stage Groups will be formed and the constitutions of the Sections will be gone into. There is time enough for us to go into the question.' We, the Muslims, in this Province are in a minority and unless binding safeguards are provided in the constitution, it is not possible for us to support this resolution. I am glad that hon. Mr. Prakasam has clearly said that the times have changed and that the League has not joined in the constitution. There is difficulty. I am not going to take this House through the several vicissitudes through which this movement has passed. I do not know whether many members in this House know that from the year 1920 when the Congress went into wilderness up till 1937, it was not the Congress that supported this movement. Only the Justice Party that was in power supported the movement. (Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur: 'Hear, hear'.) Not a word of acknowledgment has been said about it. Anyway, that is not my business. By practical methods, the Justice Party wanted to further the movement. Our Leader of the House was a responsible member of that Party for some time. After all what is the cause for this agitation? Let the people be honest. The seat of Government is in Madras surrounded by Tamil districts. The Tamilians predominate in all the departments and the money allotted for nation-building activities is expended on Tamil districts."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Question."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is what the Andhras have been thinking till now. The movement started when some Andhras wanted to get into seats of power but could not succeed. It redounds to the credit of that great statesman, the Raja of Panagal, when he said that seats should be allotted

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to Andhras for admission in the professional colleges. There are no Andhra engineers or doctors; there are no Andhras in the Agricultural department. In all professional colleges, there is no admission for Andhras. I remember it was in 1923 or 1924 that he made a rule for the first time that so many seats should be allotted for Andhras, so many for Tamilians, and so on. In the Secretariat, there is not a single Andhra Assistant Secretary or Secretary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In our Department, the Secretary and Deputy Secretary are Andhras." (Laughter.)

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"A good result followed the agitation which was encouraged by the Justice Party at that time. The real cry is for loaves and fishes, and those people who have them do not want to give them. That is the real reason why the Andhras want separation. They went so far as to ask: 'Well, you are collecting revenues from these eleven districts also. We want to manage our own affairs. Give us this money, and we will spend it ourselves. You have spent ten crores on Mettur Project, and is there any project in Andhra Desa?' The administration has been dominated by the people of one area. That is the real cause. Let our Andhra friends be honest. There is nothing wrong in it."

"There is another point. Andhras think that they have been dominated by people in Tamilnad. Andhras are sentimental people; they feel that they are being dominated by other sections that are in power. There is such an agitation. The present agitation started like that. If you go through the pages of the proceedings of the Legislatures all these years from 1920 to 1937 or 1939, you will find questions asked how many Andhras are in the Secretariat, how many Andhras in this department and in that department. That shows our point of view. As I said, we certainly do not object if, out of 24 districts, certain districts are separated for being administered as a separate province, as a geographical unit."

3 p.m. "The question of language is only an incidental thing. Where do we, the Mussalmans stand? Mussalmans and Hindus do not have the same language; they do not have the same culture. Our outlook on life is not the same. If you are going to have the Andhra Province for the mere purpose of reviving your Hindu culture in its pristine purity as you say, and for administrative purposes, we do not stand in your way. If you say that you want to utilize it to the detriment of other peoples living in this country, if you want to have a separate province for that purpose, on principle we are opposed to it. In my speech, I have clearly stated in 1938 that till now the Andhra Hindus and Tamil Hindus have not played false to us. That is what I have stated. Hon. Members will clearly note it."

"How do we, Mussalmans, stand? As I said, the machinery that is sought to be set up for chalking out the rights of minorities—by which our rights have to be safeguarded—has not come into being. Where do the Mussalmans stand? I want my Hindu

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friends to appreciate our point of view. Do not think that we are opposing this resolution, because we are Mussalmans and we belong to the Muslim League. Think over the matter clearly and with sympathy. I appeal to hon. Members of the House to think over the matter. What is going to be our position? You should not make this Andhra Province to rule to the detriment of the cultural rights of the Mussalmans."

"Much water has flown under the bridge and the hon. Member, Mr. Prakasam, has sounded a very useful note. Change is taking place. From the attention that is paid to several matters touching Mussalmans' religion, culture, etc., we are not very much encouraged that either now or in the future, the Hindus will stand by us. Take the case of language; take the case of worship before the mosque. Excuse me, the Fascist tendency is growing. Perhaps, at the beginning of a nation getting freedom, these tendencies prop up. I hope it will be so. The Fascist tendencies are making their appearance and raising their awkward heads, to scare us away. In the absence of a fully representative Constituent Assembly which do not have the approval of the Mussalmans and in the circumstances I have stated, the rising power of one nation—the Congress Hindus—is turning out to be Fascists brushing away every obstruction which it thinks is an obstruction. In these circumstances there are difficulties with regard to the Constituent Assembly . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already taken 20 minutes."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am one with my hon. Friends on the other side who are the promoters of this movement. In the past we committed many mistakes as the hon. Member, Mr. Prakasam, said. We would have got a separate Province long ago for its mere asking. Andhras are more sentimental and more patriotic than others. In their patriotism for All-India freedom, Andhras lost their opportunity of getting a separate Province some time ago. After a resolution was passed, the Congress High Command was approached. Andhras were told 'you discipline yourselves; we are now in a great struggle.' It is very good to be nationalistic, to be patriotic. That has cost the Andhras their separate Province. Even to-day what does the Congress High Command say? I know that the Congress for its own purposes has divided the entire India into several Provinces; for the purpose of administration, I can assure you, that the Congress High Command has not been favourable for division of Provinces. I am sure that the Congress does not encourage it. It is thought that there would be rivalries and fissiparous tendencies separate from the All-India programme. My submission is, if we are opposing this resolution, we do so on principles, first because there is no Constituent Assembly as far as we are concerned and secondly because you have not shown by your conduct since 1938 that you are going to safeguard the interests of Mussalmans who do not have the same culture as you have, who do not have the same religion as you have. It is up to you to show by your deeds

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and acts that the interests of minorities and Muslims who are 2, 3, 7 or 10 per cent in the various districts, are safe in your hands. I will see how you are going to plead the cause of Mussalmans in the Minorities Committee that has been constituted by the Congress Constituent Assembly."

Mr. JOHN MOSES WILSON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Government for bringing forward this resolution. I thought and expected it to be non-controversial. Unfortunately that is not to be. As will be seen from the discussion yesterday and to-day, the very fact of the existence of the Constituent Assembly has been denied. As has been very ably put by the ex-Premier, Mr. Prakasam, it is really unfortunate and it is not a proud thing to indulge in party politics. It is really a very unfortunate thing for us to say that the Constituent Assembly does not exist, that that party has not accepted the State paper and that another party has accepted it. When the freedom for which we have struggled, and for which we have been hungering is now within our grasp, when more fundamental problems are awaiting solution, when millions of hungry and starving people are looking up for food and cloth, we are engaged in party politics and in legal quibbling whether this Assembly exists or not or whether that party has accepted the State paper or not. It may be of some temporary value whether the State paper of His Majesty's Government was accepted by this party or by that party. But one thing I may point out, that nations and States are not made by State papers; more often than not, they are made by the will of the people, at the will of the people and by the passions that are surging in the hearts of people. Nobody can say what the will of the people of this country will be to-morrow. It is vain for any party or any group if it hopes and thinks that it can bind the people of this country of the Free India of to-morrow, of 10 or 20 years hence, by its shibboleths and slogans. It is really unfortunate that we should look at things from such a spirit. These are times when we have to rise above party disputes and above our ordinary selves. We must look at the problems from a national point of view—not only from a national point of view but also from an international point of view. When we have now a chance of achieving our object, we should think and act in a manner which is statesmanlike and which the world would think that we have functioned in the manner in which we should have functioned. 'We are on a conspicuous stage, and the world is watching us.' These were the words of Burke in the year 1783. We are now on a more conspicuous stage and a much wider world is looking at us. Shall we stand the test?"

"Coming to the resolution proper, one great organization has accepted the principle of this resolution and that Free India should be built on the basis of this principle. It has been re-stated in the election manifesto of the year 1946. In spite of the desire of many people in this country to have a strong Central Government, Provincial Autonomy has been accepted by all parties in India. The Congress has passed a resolution vesting residuary powers with the Provincial Governments.

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"In its momentous Lahore Resolution of 1940, the Muslim League has spoken of the organs of Pakistan State as 'Independent States'. I am not speaking of the resolution which says that the Pakistan State will be an independent State. I am saying that the resolution says in so many terms that the units of Pakistan are so many independent States. This principle has been embodied in the Government of India Act, 1935, and I can say without fear of contradiction in the latest declaration of His Majesty's Government also. And it is this principle that has been at the back of the Congress in its insistence upon the inherent right of the Provinces to opt in or opt out of the grouping enshrined in the Cabinet Mission's plan. It is not my intention to enter into any controversy over this question, but what I wish to emphasise is that when the Muslim League speaks of 'Independent States' not about the Pakistan State but about the Provincial Governments of the Pakistan State what it has in mind is not a medley of different various and varying cultured and linguistic groups of people, but what they have in mind was that each Province should consist of one distinguished linguistic group of people and not merely the convenience of administration. To attribute any such inherent rights or attach any such sanctity to a Provincial Government or an administrative unit which has no distinctness of its own, is wholly absurd and to seek to build a free India on such a basis is to build on shifting sands. Even the new setting given recently to the Indian constitutional problem by the demand for partition of Punjab and Bengal does not alter the position, for the underlying principle in that demand is this principle of separate linguistic and cultural provinces. It is true that there are practical difficulties in translating this unanimously accepted principle into action and it is said that there are vital and more important problems facing this country to-day than this. But as I have already stated, this is the very basis or foundation of any structure that we have to build and without laying the foundation, it is really impossible to build a superstructure of any constitution for the country.

"And secondly, when important and significant changes take place in a country, naturally there are bound to be difficulties and we have to look at them as the birth bangs of a new order of things and no nation or people fails or misses the opportunity simply because of the difficulties involved in them.

"There is just another point, Sir. The claim for Pakistan is equated with principle of distribution of provinces on a linguistic and cultural basis. This is the keynote of the speeches of my hon. Friends belonging to the Muslim League party. Sir, are all the Muslims—not only the Muslims of the Muslim-majority provinces, but also the Muslims of the whole country—living in contiguous territories, which is essential for a nation, which the linguistic cultural groups have? Is it religion alone that makes people a nation? If it is so, then there are Muslims not only in India but in other countries too. Can they all be fused into a nation? And what is more absurd is this. Now there are

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Christians in Europe; there are Christians in other countries and there are also Indian Christians, all scattered in the various parts of the globe. Though our religion is one, can anybody conceive of fusing all these people living in different countries into one nation? Is it possible? Sir, the truth is that Pan Islamism has almost disappeared with the fall of the Ottoman Empire and with the removal of the Ottoman Caliphate and also of the secularising of the leading Muslim State of Turkey and other Muslim countries, to the position which it to-day occupies in the western Christian democratic countries. Therefore, Sir, I submit that it is not religion alone that makes a nation; but may be that what makes a nation is the will of that people, and that is of course a sounder view. And whether the principle of self-determination which is the right of people in any given territory—and that is the accepted and recognized principle in all civilized countries—is the right of only a section of those people but the united right of the whole people. And whether the Pakistan State will have the necessary finance to maintain defence of the whole of India which solely falls on it—on the North-Eastern and North-Western Frontiers—are all different questions, with which we are not concerned here, but what I wish to refer to is what the Leader of the Opposition has said, namely, that while Germany and Austria, in spite of the same culture, language and traditions were able to live as separate independent States, and such a small country as Albania in spite of its small size formed a separate State, why not the Muslims in India too form into a separate State. I am not surprised at this argument, Sir, because I remember that the Qaid-e-Azam Jinnah even as long ago as 1938 or 1939 was referring to the Balkan States and also to the Sudeten Germans and comparing them with the Muslims of India. I need not remind you, Sir, of price which not only Europe but also the whole world has paid as a result of championing the cause of the Sudeten Germany by Hitler, and that price is written in letters of blood and fire. Apart from that, it is the creation and existence of so many independent States in Europe that has been the cause of so many bloody wars during all these years and Europe has, after so many bloodbaths at frequent intervals, at last learnt a lesson, which she had not learnt till now, and that is, that all her different independent States should get closer together and form into one common unit. Are we not to draw any lesson from history, from what Europe has learnt after so many years? And are we to repeat the same tragedy here in this great country of ours?

“ Apart from that, Sir, what I wish to bring home to the Members of this House is that the cultural and linguistic provinces that we envisage by this resolution and Pakistan according to the Muslim League Party are entirely different things. Pakistan is based not on the principle of self-determination, but on the principle of nationhood or State rule. Linguistic ambition and cultural contact do not come in there at all. Apart from that, how does it differ from the views of my friend Mr. Venkateswarlu

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or the views of the communist party of India regarding the future of this country? The demand for cultural provinces springs out of a desire for cultural groups to live their own cultural life, sharing their culture together and possessing the advantages of intensive local, social and national organisations and also possessing at the same time the advantages of an extensive and large-scale economic organizations like the Tennessee Valley Authority of the United States of America, thus enabling the whole nation to march forward as well-developed units with a new life and ever-increasing vitality. But the demand for partition of the country arises out of a desire completely to separate and to live as an isolated and independent entity, and there the people will have to live in a state of ever-increasing tension. On the other hand the distribution of provinces on a cultural basis is constructive and social method of progress, for it is not division or separation in the ordinary sense of the term. It is not a division or splitting up people and people, or Province and Province, but the laying down of a more stable foundation and the building up of a strong, undivided and united India; while partition is destructive because it divides what nature want men to be, namely, to be woven into one big country for a number of centuries.

“ It may be asked, in fact it was asked by members of the Muslim League whether there is any essential difference of separateness between this demand and the demand for Pakistan and whether these two are not analogous. But, Sir, no two things in the world are alike; no two men are alike and each man has a difference from every other man in the world. Therefore, are you going to argue that there should be as many states in this world as there are men? Will it not hold up to ridicule if such a demand were made? Even supposing that it is established that the Muslims have a right for separate states, even if it is established that there is a justification for a separate Pakistan State in this country for Muslims, is it not possible for both Muslims and Hindus to live together? Can they not make an attempt to live together and fall in line with other countries in their progressive onward march and try to note India into a single whole?

“ I may tell you, Sir, that on the basis of culture and language, there had come into being a strong nation, viz., the United States of America as long as a century and a half ago. Such a country was, before that, a battle-ground of warring races and nationalities. And now there had come into being in our own times another powerful and mighty nation, the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic, which was before now, the same battle-ground of varying races living a moribund life and oppressing and depressing people. There had also come into being another nation, to which all men and all nations look to find a political democracy and that is Switzerland where there were civil wars and ravages before. But what do we see on the other side of the picture in Europe itself? After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, partition had come into being in that great continent of Europe and we see to-day so many small independent sovereign states like Austria, Germany, etc., which are as many as 24 states.

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which had been a battle-ground for years and which had been scenes of blood-baths. Unfortunately to-day as a result of the Balkanisation of Western Europe, we see the tragic state in which those Balkan States are now living. Therefore, Sir, the differences between partition according to the principle of language and culture and according to the conception of Pakistan is obvious. And the choice is also obvious.

"Now, Sir, we have on the one hand the choice before us of two States in India, the Hindustan and Pakistan, just as the Sudatanland and Germany in Europe, where it has given rise to a Hitler. And we know only too well the price that the whole world had to pay recently for the chaos that was brought about by such a division. Are we to have a partition like that which will give rise to another Hitler in this country?"

"You have, Sir, on the other hand the choice of an independent India on the basis of linguistic and cultural group of provinces emerging out, resurging and gathering itself all the elements of its population together and developing itself into a powerful and dynamic state, which shall take a proud place in the comity of nations, not to seek to aggrandise for power or glory, but to lay and to contribute and throw its weight in favour of establishing peace and prosperity which humanity has been long struggling for and dreaming for. It is for that reason that I give my whole-hearted support to this resolution. I once more heartily congratulate the Government on bringing forward this resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—"While addressing the House to-day many members used the term 'Learned' when referring to members on the other side. Some members referred to some of the lawyers on this side and rightly used the word 'Learned' with respect to them. I have no objection to the use of the word learned in this House in respect of any member, but however, it will interest the House to know a ruling given on this point by the Speaker of the House of Commons. I will read to you a ruling given by the Speaker of the House of Commons regarding the use of the word 'learned' and it will interest the House to know exactly the circumstances under which the ruling was given. This took place during the debate on the Supreme Court (Procedure) in the House of Commons on the 15th April 1946. Mr. Pritt (Hammersmith, North) was addressing the House and in doing so, he used the term 'Unlearned gentleman' in referring to another member, viz., Mr. E. P. Smith. Mr. Smith at once rose up and remarked, 'I did not claim to be a lawyer. I am not a lawyer.' Immediately Mr. C. S. Taylor got up and asked, 'On a point of order. Is it in order for the hon. and learned Member for North Hammersmith (Mr. Pritt) to refer to another hon. and learned Gentleman as the hon. and unlearned Member?' The ruling given by the Speaker of the House of Commons in that connexion was this:—

'Hon. Members sometimes do not seem to know who is learned and who is not. Some hon. Members appear to think

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that everybody who has studied the law is learned. That is quite wrong. The term is used only on those hon. Members who are K.C.s.'

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I should like to know, Sir, when we can call our members . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sorry; I read this out just because I thought it would interest the Members of the House."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I have seen the Hon. Mr. Gopala Reddi wearing a bush-coat. May I call him a gallant Member?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Every member has got every right to call another member a gallant Member; there is no restriction, I think."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, may I give a piece of information? The word 'gallant' in the House of Commons is only used for Members of His Majesty's fighting forces."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Sometimes it is used like that—no doubt it is not always used, but sometimes it is used like that. I have gone through some of the proceedings myself in connexion with this, but let us not quarrel about it now."

"Before I call upon another member to speak on this subject, I just want to inform the House that the Hon. the Leader of the House requested me to adjourn the House to-day at 4 o'clock. I consulted the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and he had no objection to adjourn at 4 o'clock; I take it that the House has no objection. So, we will adjourn to-day at 4 o'clock. We lost about an hour yesterday being Friday; to-day we are going to lose one more hour. This debate will therefore continue on Monday also. On Monday we won't have the evening session, because the Upper House will be sitting on that day in the afternoon."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, with your permission, I may say this: this is a resolution which deals with an important matter, which is going to affect the life of not only our generation but also the generations to come. Therefore, we should not hurry through this resolution, and I request you to give an opportunity to every member here to express his views not only for the benefit of himself, but for the benefit of posterity. Therefore, I request you, Sir, to continue the debate on this resolution even on Tuesday."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall consider this question on Monday, whether we will continue this debate on Tuesday or not. I now call on the Hon. Member Mr. Madhava Menon to speak."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir . . ."

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know whether as a Minister he is speaking. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As a member he is entitled to speak in this House."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I remind Mr. Speaker that he is not a Member of this House. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon is not yielding; so please resume your seat."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon, I submit, is not a member of this House. He comes here only as a Minister and so I ask you whether he is entitled to address this House on this topic as a member. If he addresses the House as a Minister, I can understand that; that is why I ask whether he is addressing the House on his own behalf or on behalf of the Government. He is entitled to speak on this subject only in the Council of which he is a member."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Under the Government of India Act, as a Minister I am entitled to partake in the discussions of this House, although I may not be entitled to vote."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He is entitled to partake in the debate; there is no objection to that. He is now partaking in the debate."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wanted to know whether he is speaking as a Minister or as a member."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. The resolution which is being discussed now, is one moved by a Member who is not a Member of this House. Dr. Subbarayan is not a Member of this House and yet we are discussing this subject. We do not know whether he is going to be elected to this House or to the other House. Since we do not know whether he is going to be a Member of this or the other House, I submit the very discussion itself is out of order."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The only relevant thing is that the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan cannot vote in this House with us all."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I know, Sir, Mr. Pocker did not raise the point of order simply because he did not want to hear me. (B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: 'Not at all.') I do not want to take up much time of the House; I only support this resolution. Let there be no mistake in anybody's mind that we in Kerala are not very particular of having a separate province for ourselves. We do want a separate province, though not for the reasons which Mr. Baig suggested the Andhras were demanding a province for themselves. Mr. Baig suggested that for the sake of loaves and fishes of office and because of a feeling of frustration that the Andhras were not having their share in the administration, the Andhras were asking for a separate province of their own. Sir, I do not think it is quite charitable to say so; but even if it is so, that is not the reason for my supporting this resolution. It is not any feeling of frustration

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that makes me support this resolution. Mr. Venkateswarlu said that I advocated the formation of a united Kerala. Sir, I advocated it, I advocate it and I will continue to advocate hereafter also for a united Kerala. On the 26th and 27th of this month we are having a conference in Trichur to take steps to see whether it is possible to have a united Kerala soon. But there are difficulties, there are the Indian States of Cochin and Travancore. That is, of course, not a difficulty confined to Kerala alone, but that difficulty is for the whole of India, because there are 602 of these Indian States in the whole of India and the question of the Indian States is an all-India one.

Why I am anxious to have a separate province of Kerala even, is that, if necessary, without the Indian States, there is a feeling of jealousy in me in regard to the neighbouring State of Cochin. Sir, the State of Cochin is only as big as one taluk of the Malabar district. Mr. Varadachari said that the Andhra can have a province now, but that Kerala should wait till Cochin and Travancore come in and that it will take some time. I am afraid, Sir, Kerala does not want to wait for this reason, that we cannot afford to lose time in the progressive development of the future province, when every other province is forging ahead. Sir, I have also heard a whisper going round in Malabar that our Tamil friends are not very much in favour of our having a separate province. Sir, that is a slander on our Tamil friends; they have been very helpful to us in this matter; they have already helped us before. If any of my friends think like that, let me say definitely I do not think so. In the Nagpur Congress in the year 1920, when Kerala wanted to have a separate province of her own, so far as the Congress was concerned it was a Tamil leader who helped Kerala and supported its cause. Sir, I know I will have every encouragement from the Tamil friends to our having a separate Kerala Province if we want.

As I said before, the Cochin State is only as big as the Ponnani, i.e., the neighbouring taluk in Malabar. That Cochin State which is as big as one of the taluks in Malabar, has gone forward in every important matter; they have got 58 high schools in that small State and 7 first-grade colleges; and if you compare the position with the Ponnani taluk of Malabar, you find there are only 5 high schools and, for colleges, you have nothing to mention. Industrially also, the Cochin State is far better. Land revenue is only two-thirds of what obtains in Malabar; court-fees is only 6½ per cent in Cochin while it is 11½ per cent in Malabar. In addition to these things, if you compare Cochin with any other portion of British India, you find that the State has advanced in every respect, educationally, industrially and in every other way. If such a small place which is only as big as one taluk of Malabar can be such a prosperous State—it has got its own Legislative Council, its own High Court and other institutions which any province can now boast of—I do not see any reason why Mr. Varadachari should say that we should wait till Cochin and Travancore come in. Sir, it is this feeling that we can work out our own

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destiny ourselves much better that makes us ask for a separate Kerala Province; and example has shown that we can do it much better separately than we can do now. Sir, I am not at liberty to complain as I used to complain before; but I can quote to you a good instance. The Pykhara electric energy is generated in the Gudalur taluk of the Malabar district; it is entirely in a Malayalam-speaking area. The land in the whole of the Gudalur taluk belongs to the Raja of Nilambur. The Pykhara electric energy that is generated in the Gudalur taluk was taken to some 200 or 300 miles away, fifteen years before we could get it; it was only last year that Malabar got a little bit of the electric energy that is practically generated in Malabar itself. Sir, Calicut is only 45 miles away from the Singara Power Works, and yet it got energy fifteen years after electric energy began to be generated in Gudalur. Sir, I am not complaining, I am only showing the difficulties that we have had to suffer; and that is the reason why I plead for a separate Kerala Province, a united Kerala if possible, but if that is not possible, the existing Kerala that we have at present.

"Sir, the Leader of the Opposition wanted a Moplahstan; if any place is fit for it, it is certainly Kerala because one-third of its population consists of Moplahs. I am not at all nervous about a Moplahstan; if any part of Kerala is to be declared as Moplahstan, I for one won't at all feel worried. The relations between us and the Moplahs are so cordial and I do not think our friends the Moplahs will treat us in any bad way even if we have a Moplahstan for the whole of Kerala. As I said, that does not worry at all.

"Sir, I do not want to enter into other controversial topics, for instance, about the Constituent Assembly, etc. I simply want to point out to the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition one fact, viz., one day the Muslim League Party in this House staged a walk-out when legislation was being gone through. That legislation was passed in spite of a particular set of persons being absent. So it is not as if because of such absence of a particular party, the whole thing becomes illegal or cannot be worked out. I do not want to say more about it because much has been already said about it. I only wanted to contribute my share to this debate and to convey my feeling that we do want a separate province for ourselves. The proper place to which this resolution should be addressed is of course the Constituent Assembly, for it is that body that has to recognize the resolution.

"Sir, it was stated that reference to the Boundary Commission and all that will take time, and it is a mirage. It may be remembered that in 1935 when the Government of India Act was passed, there was no Orissa or Sindh Province . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir, I did not say, Mr. Speaker, that the Constituent Assembly is no Constituent Assembly simply because the Muslim Leaguers were not present there. None of us said that the so-called Constituent Assembly . . ."

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Mr. SPEAKER:—"Is it a personal explanation?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, personal explanation, and also I am giving information on the point. It may also be stated to be a point of order, Sir, because one hon. Member on the other side is making a wrong and incorrect statement. What we said was that the so-called Constituent Assembly is not a Constituent Assembly, because it was not constituted, as it was agreed to. The Constituent Assembly ought to have come into being as the result of an agreement between the two major political parties and that agreement has not been kept up by either party. Therefore, there is no Constituent Assembly. That was our point. Whether a party is there or not, that is not the main question. It was not formed according to the agreement to which both the major parties ought to have given their consent."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not want to say anything more. I simply wanted to say that the two Provinces mentioned by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, namely, Sind and Orissa, were not in existence before the 1935 Act came into force but still mention about their becoming separate Provinces was made even before. So, there is nothing wrong in mentioning about separate linguistic Provinces and about boundary commissions being appointed before the Act comes into force."

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have risen to oppose this Resolution in the form in which it is brought before this House. A number of speakers on this side belonging to the Opposition Group have already stated why they oppose this Resolution in the form in which it is brought. I do not want to cover the same ground but I wish to mention some other reasons which also necessitate opposing this Resolution in the form in which it is brought now. Sir, the party which has brought this Resolution into this House has elected their representatives and sent them to the Constituent Assembly and they still continue to be members of that Assembly. Those members can represent the views of that Party. It has already been mentioned that from 1928 onwards, a number of resolutions have been passed not only in the Legislative Assembly of 1937 but also in the Legislative Councils from the year 1928. Therefore, those representatives of theirs know the view of this Province at least so far as the party in power is concerned and so, they can put up an excellent fight in the Constituent Assembly that a division of this Province must be made. But this Party has brought this Resolution into this House now. What does this mean? It means they are passing this resolution in this House behind the back of those representatives and they are going to send it on to the Constituent Assembly over the heads of those representatives. Does this not amount to a no-confidence in those representatives by the very people who have sent them? I therefore maintain that this Resolution ought not to have been

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brought into this House by the very party which is responsible for sending their representatives to the Constituent Assembly and to which they want to make this appeal.

"Sir, it has been said now and then that there is a growing feeling in Andhradesa for the separation of the Andhra area from the Madras Province. The present Cabinet is considered to be dominated by Tamilnad and therefore the urgency has grown for bringing in this measure all at once. Sir, it is because of the agitation and the anxiety prevailing in Andhra Desa that the present Cabinet, as it is constituted at present, may perhaps shelve this question, they seem to have brought this Resolution now with a view to allay that fear. Sir, if they wanted to allay that fear and if they wanted to be consistent, then what they ought to have done is not to have brought in this Resolution in the form in which it is brought now but a mandate should have been given by the Party to the representatives in the Constituent Assembly and asking them to find out the real cause. That will be the proper thing to do. But, instead of that, they have brought in this Resolution which is inconsistent with the representation which those representatives are said to enjoy. It is because of this, Sir, that my hon. Friend, Mr. Seethi Sahib, has given notice of an amendment that the words 'Constituent Assembly' in the Resolution should be omitted, but unfortunately that was found to be not in order and therefore that was not put for discussion in this House.

"Sir, I wish to mention that in the interests of the Party in power, this Resolution ought not to contain an appeal to the Constituent Assembly and the reason is obvious. In the first place, our Leader, the Leader of the Opposition, said that there is no Constituent Assembly in existence. He also explained what he meant by the Constituent Assembly. Yet, there were some hon. Members on the other side who shut their eyes and refused to understand what he wanted to convey. Sir, it is a fact that there is a sort of Constituent Assembly now going on in Delhi but its existence is denied by us. It is not a Constituent Assembly of the conception of the Cabinet Delegation's Statement of May 16. Just before I rose to speak, the Leader of the Opposition had explained it, though briefly. Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, said that not only the Hindus but also Christians and members of other parties who do not belong to the Congress Party were represented in it, but still he was forced to admit that they were all nominees of the Congress Party. (Sri N. S. Varadachari: 'I did not say that.') So, this body is represented by members who are nominees of the Congress Party and therefore it is a creature of one party. What was contemplated by the Cabinet Delegation's proposal was that it should be a creature of all parties in India. Since what is now existing in Delhi is not a creature of all Parties in this country, we can safely ignore it. That is why, Sir, our Leader characterized it as being non-existent and so, we rightly ignore it. Therefore, it is that we refuse to have any appeal being made to

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that Constituent Assembly which is a body of one Party's creation. The second reason why the members on this side of the House oppose this Resolution is this. In the resolution, in some form or other, division is admitted to be necessary at least on cultural basis. Now, Sir, since the Constituent Assembly which is in existence at Delhi is a creature of one party, it is not necessary for you to bring this Resolution into this House wherein there are other Parties also including the Muslim League. Sir, if you pass this Resolution in the Congress Legislature Party meeting and send it on to that body which is a creature of your own party, then there will be no complaint but you have brought this resolution into this House and want it to be adopted by this House and sent to the Constituent Assembly. Since we are not a party to the Constituent Assembly which is now in existence, we cannot be a party to the Resolution which is sought to be conveyed to that Constituent Assembly. That is our position, Sir, with regard to this Resolution.

"Now, Sir, much heat seems to have been generated over the question of separation or division. Sir, there was much argument about the division being made on a language basis or on cultural basis. The party in power may oppose division on cultural basis at least so long as the separation or the division of the Punjab was demanded by a resolution of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress Committee. Now, the Working Committee of the All India Congress Committee has adopted a resolution recommending the division of the Punjab into Pakistan and Hindustan as two different Provinces. Does this not amount to a division on a cultural basis? The Muslims of the Punjab, the Hindus of the Punjab and the Sikhs of the Punjab, all speak one and the same language, namely, Punjabi, but still they want to divide the Punjab. Why? It is on the ground that there is cultural difference between the Muslims and the non-Muslims there."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the Sikhs in the Punjab do not speak Punjabi but that they are speaking a different language."

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Sikhs in the Punjab speak the same Punjabi language as the Hindus and the Muslims there speak. Therefore, the Muslim League insists that if there should be a division, it should be on a cultural basis. But there may arise a necessity for a division on the basis of language also, as for example, if there is an unwieldy area containing people belonging to the same culture, but speaking different languages, separate states can be constituted; if people speaking the same language form a compact area sufficient to run the administration, even though they belong to the same culture, if they are unwieldy to administer, they can be separated on the basis of language but the main, basic and broad basis for the division must be on culture. It is on this ground, Sir, that my hon. Friend, Mr. Seethi Sahib, has brought in an amendment for constituting 'Moplastan' also. Sir, even though the Moplahs are also speaking Malayalam, which is the same

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language as the one spoken by others in that area, but still, since they are in a compact area and form a majority sufficient to run an administration,—it is bigger than some of the smallest States which are found on the map of the world—they are certainly entitled to be constituted into a separate State on the same grounds on which Punjab is now sought to be divided.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is now 4 o'clock. The hon. Member must conclude his speech.”

MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I submit to you, Sir, I oppose the Resolution in the form in which it is brought forward.”

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 21st April 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 570 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswaru at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 19th April 1947, page 700 supra.]

Section of Law.

	Number of men arrested.
290 Indian Penal Code	1
64 Madras City Police Act, 1888	2
71 (15 and 16) Madras City Police Act, 1888	49
75 Madras City Police Act, 1888	3
32 Police Act, 1888	21
3 & 12 Towns Nuisances Act, 1889	33
44 Madras Road Traffic Code	151
143 Indian Penal Code & 32 Police Act, 1888	22
122 Indian Railways Act, 1890	14
107 Criminal Procedure Code	9
147, 148, 332, 307 & 325 Indian Penal Code	273
324 Indian Penal Code	3
151 Criminal Procedure Code	53
151 & 107 Criminal Procedure Code	12
120, 121 Indian Railways Act, 1890 & 447 Indian Penal Code	6
143, 506 & 121 Indian Railways Act, 1890	1
120-B & 122 Indian Railways Act, 1890	9
143 & 188 Indian Penal Code	20
3 (5) & 12 Towns Nuisances Act, 1889	16
341 & 506 Indian Penal Code	8
143, 447 & 506 Indian Penal Code	7
510 Indian Penal Code	2
448, 212 Indian Penal Code & 122 Indian Railways Act. 121 Indian Railways Act and 147 & 323 Indian Penal Code	1
121 Indian Railways Act	5
126 (a) & (b) Indian Railways Act	15
121 & 122 Indian Railways Act	4
3 (12) Town Nuisances Act and 121 Indian Railways Act. 379, 511 Indian Penal Code and 122 Indian Railways Act. 452 & 323 Indian Penal Code	1
147 & 323 Indian Penal Code	1
353 Indian Penal Code & 120 (b) Indian Railways Act. 147, 447, 448 & 506 (2) Indian Penal Code	14
448, 426 & 506 Indian Penal Code	1
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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 578 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 19th April 1947, page 709 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

Dated Fort St. George, the 17th March 1947.

The Government of Madras have had under consideration the question of formulating a planned economy in regard to industries. They have divided industries into three classes, namely, Defence Industries, Key Industries and Public Utilities.

In regard to the Defence Industries the Government have decided that they should be State-owned and controlled by the State. Some key industries requiring large capital like iron and steel, tractors and fertilizers will be State-owned. In other cases there would be only State-control. Public Utilities will be owned by some organ of the State.

Where State-control is to be exercised, the Government may take a major part of the shares or impose, before granting any assistance, such as mining leases, and assistance under the State Aid to Industries Act, all or any of the following conditions, which will bind the heirs, assigns and transferees of the concern:—

(1) The promoter of the Company must agree to hand over the industry to the Government either at the book value or at the replacement value at the time of transfer to the State, whichever is less. No separate value or compensation will be allowed for goodwill.

(2) No compensation shall be payable to the managing agents or management of the industry for the termination of their services. An undertaking to this effect will have to be provided in the agreement of the Company with the managing agents or other servants of the Company.

(3) The Company shall undertake to supply any of its products, if so required, for consumption on works belonging to or subsidized by Government at the market prices or the cost of production plus a profit of 5 per cent on the capital utilized for production whichever is lower.

(4) The Government will have the right to nominate one or more directors, if they consider it necessary.

(5) The working conditions of labour should conform to the standards recognized or to be laid down by the Government.

(6) The Company shall train free of cost apprentices nominated by the Government.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 21st April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 582 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not in his place and the answer will be printed in the proceedings.”

Executive Officers of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 582 Q.—SRI D. DORAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many Executive Officers appointed by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board are in service at present;

(b) under what rules their salaries and services are governed now;

(c) whether those rules have been approved by the Government; and

(d) if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) 338.”

“(b) The salaries and the other conditions of service of the Executive Officers are regulated by the rules framed by the Hindu Religious Endowment Board.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) Does not arise.”

Action against Village Industries Association, Udamalpet, during 1942 August movement.

* 583 Q.—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Secretary of the Indian Village Industries Association at Udamalpet was arrested by the police and convicted in connexion with the 1942 August movement;

(b) whether the building and other properties of the Association were left uncared for;

(c) when the said Secretary was released from jail;

(d) whether the said Secretary applied to Government in May 1946 for payment of compensation for repairing the office building of the Association; and if so, what was done on that petition;

(e) whether the Secretary reminded the Government subsequently; and if so, how many times; and

(f) whether any action is proposed to be taken on the request; and if so, what?

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THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) ஆம்.

“(b) தகவல் இல்லை.

“(c) 1946-ம் ஆண்டு ஏப்ரல் 15 தேதியன்று.

“(d) ஆம்.

“(e) ஆம். இரண்டுதடவை.

“(f) சர்க்கார் அந்த மனுவைப்பற்றி ஆலோசித்தனர். மனுதார்தான் அடைந்ததாகக் கூறிய நஷ்டத்திற்கு ஈடாக மனுமாகப் பணம் கொடுப்பதற்குப் பொது முகாந்தரமில்லையென்று சர்க்கார் கருதுவதாக மனுதாருக்கு அறிவிக்கப்பட்டது. தனது தொழிலை மறுபடி ஆரம்பிக்க அவர் கோரிய கடனைப்பற்றி கைத்தொழில் இலாகா டைரெக்டருக்கு கைத்தொழில்களுக்கு சர்க்கார் உதவியளிப்பதைப்பற்றி சட்டத்தில் குறிப்பிடப்பட்ட பாரத்தில் மனுச் செய்துகொள்ளும்படி அவருக்கு ஆலோசனை கூறப்பட்டது.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Sir. We are not able to follow the answer given in Tamil.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“For the information of the House I shall give the answer in English. (The answer was then read out by the Speaker in English.)

“(a) Yes.

“(b) There is no information.

“(c) On 15th April 1946.

“(d) Yes.

“(e) Yes. Two times.

“(f) The Government have considered the petition. The petitioner was informed that Government do not find sufficient justification for the sanction of a free grant as compensation for the losses alleged to have been suffered. In regard to his request for a loan to restart the industry he was advised to apply to the Director of Industries and Commerce in the form prescribed under the State Aid to Industries Act.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. Premier what is the general policy of the Government in the matter of giving compensation?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“இல்லை.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The answer is ‘No’.”

584 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is not in his place and the answer will be printed in the proceedings.”

Travelling allowance and daily allowance for the personal clerks of Parliamentary Secretaries.

* 584 Q.—SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the personal clerks attached to the Parliamentary Secretaries are given only third class and an extra three-fourths of the same, while the clerks attached to

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Presidency Touring Officers, i.e., those who have got jurisdiction all over the Presidency are given one and three-fourths Inter class;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are given a daily allowance of annas twelve in these very difficult days; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to give the personal clerks attached to Parliamentary Secretaries the same concessions as are now given to the clerks attached to Hon. Ministers and other Presidency Touring Officers?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) & (b) Yes.

“(c) Orders have since been issued declaring Parliamentary Secretaries as Presidency Touring Officers. Their clerks will hereafter draw travelling allowance admissible to clerks attached to Presidency Touring Officers.”

Additional police station to G-3 area, Madras.

* 585 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to have one more police station in G-3 area (Vyasarpadi-Choolai) in view of the incidence of crime, labour troubles, communal disorders and the vastness of the area?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is not now proposed to open an additional Police station in the area served by the present G-3, Vyasarpadi Police station. The question of reallocating station jurisdictions to make them less heavy and unwieldy will be considered after the City expansion is put into force and after some experience of its working has been gained.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the vastness of the area which is covered by this particular station and also in view of the constant friction between the labourers and others in that locality, will the Hon. the Home Minister consider the advisability of having a separate station for that area?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“As I said, when the area of the City is fully defined the Government will consider re-allocation as well as the stations that will be necessary for the work that will have to be undertaken.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the labour strike in that particular area by the mill workers, will the Government consider the advisability of having at least a temporary station in the area?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“My own advisers tell me that it may not be necessary at the present time. If I am advised by my technical advisers concerned that it will be necessary I am prepared to consider the suggestion.”

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Selection of Police Sub-Inspectors.

* 586 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of Police Sub-Inspectors selected this year according to communities; and
(b) whether all the candidates selected had war service?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Sixty persons were directly recruited as Sub-Inspectors of Police in 1946. Their distribution is as follows:—

(i) Non-Brahman Hindus including backward communities (2)	25
(ii) Brahmans	16
(iii) Muslims	8
(iv) Anglo-Indians	2
(v) Indian Christians	9

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Government why Harijans were not selected for these posts?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Evidently according to the authorities the members of the Hon. Member's community were not available.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government be pleased to call for information as to who were all the applicants?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That will be a very laborious process and I am not prepared to do it.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer that 16 Brahmans and 8 Muslims were appointed, may I know whether this is based on any principle?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is based on the exigencies of service.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“May I know how many Vanniyakula Kshatriyas belonging to the backward classes are in the department, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not aware of the information but if the hon. Gentleman puts down a separate question, the information may be supplied.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“Will the Government pay special attention to the case of applicants from this community, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I will not give any undertaking.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to entertain only war service candidates as Sub-Inspectors now or in the future?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It has been decided that we shall reserve for war service candidates 50 per cent; if they come along they will get it; and if we do not get the proper proportion we shall have perhaps to consider reducing the proportion now given to war service candidates.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister for Home, may I ask what he means by exigencies of service? May he explain what exactly it means?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is a very simple word. I thought the hon. Member understood it. Anyhow, for his delectation I am prepared to give it. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ‘Each one interprets it in his own way’). It is only a relative term and the hon. Member need not interrupt me. ‘Exigency’ means whether the person is fit to hold the job and that is really the exigency which the Police Department has got to take into consideration because it is very important in the matter of keeping law and order.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to recruit any members of the I.N.A. if they are qualified as Sub-Inspectors?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It has already been said that everyone is eligible for such appointment.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask from the Hon. Minister, how he has tested the ability of a particular community for efficient service in the Police department, or what is the test that has been resorted to for finding out which community serves best and whether he has any records in Government for the last 50 years to show that this has been the result?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Notice.”

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the communal Government Order is applied when selections are made for Sub-Inspectors' posts?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“That is so, Sir.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know why this Government is so solicitous to those candidates who have returned from war with which the Congress or this Government had nothing to do?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“There is no question of solicitousness on the part of the Government but we do feel that persons who had been to war and shown their mettle, are very well eligible for service in the Police department.”

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“May I know how many people among the selected candidates belong to the backward communities?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The answer was already given. I think it is two.”

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Post held by Mr. R. P. Kapur, I.C.S. at present.

* 587 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

- (a) what the present post of Mr. R. P. Kapur, I.C.S., is;
- (b) what his emoluments and jurisdiction are; and
- (c) where his headquarters are?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies (North).

“(b) Pay Rs. 1,150 per mensem plus a special pay of Rs. 200 per mensem. Has jurisdiction over Northern Circars districts and the Malabar district.

“(c) Cocanada, East Godavari district, up to 28th February 1947. From 1st March 1947 it has been shifted to Madras.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether this Government will consider the question of not posting this particular officer to any responsible or executive job in view of the fact that he has been creating trouble wherever he goes and quarrelling with Collectors?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“This is an insinuation against a public servant which the Government cannot consider by means of an interpellation.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister may I ask whether he considers that this officer can carry on his work satisfactorily in two areas, one the whole Andhra districts and another, Malabar, which is far away from Andhra area?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“That is why his headquarters has been fixed in a central place like Madras.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“May I know whether it is a fact that Mr. Kapur has given instructions to collect share capital for the producer-cum-consumer societies by compulsory methods from merchants and rice factory owners?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I think this supplementary question does not arise out of the answer I have given.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“May I know whether this particular officer is taking his orders directly from the Ministry, or is he a subordinate of the Revenue Board or subordinate to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“He takes orders, according to the rules, from the superiors placed above him.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that he had a quarrel with the Collector of Malabar and is not getting on well with the Collector of the district where he is now posted?”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Notice is required for answering this question.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“May I know from the Minister as to his special qualifications to post him for producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies organization?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“He is a member of the I.C.S. and he is a servant of the Government.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“May I point out, Sir, every one of these questions have already been put and answered by the previous Premier to the effect that the above officer has been doing satisfactory work and that all the allegations made were incorrect and in view of what has been stated already, are not questions like these unnecessary?”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, I may say, Sir, that because there is change of Government, I am asking these questions. For instance, the textile policy of the previous Ministry was reversed yesterday.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is not possible for the Ministers to know whether these questions had been already answered or not.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Sir. Even if the questions had already been answered by the previous Ministry, the very lapse of time would have produced the necessity of putting these questions, Sir.”

* 588 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“This question will be taken up on the 24th for answering.”

Areas under certain projects across Tungabhadra.

* 589 Q.—SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the areas served and submerged under different territories of classes (a) double wet, (b) single wet, (c) garden and (d) protected dry, irrigation area under the following projects across the Tungabhadra:

- (i) Harvi-Basapuram (Bellary West Canal Project),
- (ii) Mallapuram-Hyderabad,
- (iii) Thimmalapuram-Singtalur (Bombay).

(b) whether any negotiations were entered into with the Bombay Government in connection with the Thimmalapuram-Singtalur Project, and if so, with what result, and if not, why not; and

(c) what are the reasons for abandoning the Thimmalapuram-Singtalur Project?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSTLAM:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to the question placed on the table of the House."

Aboriginals Welfare Enquiry Committee.

* 590 Q.—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons why the Government have appointed the Aboriginals Welfare Enquiry Committee in view of the fact that the Constituent Assembly have already appointed a sub-committee to enquire into the positions and problems of minorities, tribes and the people of the partially excluded areas;

(b) the principles followed in selecting the members to this committee;

(c) who the members of the present committee are;

(d) the number of districts toured and the number of witnesses heard and the total expenditure so far incurred; and

(e) when the report will be available to the Legislature?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) The Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee set up by the Government of India is for the purpose of investigating the manner in which the people inhabiting the Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas should be fitted into the future constitution. The functions of the Committee appointed by this Government are to enquire into the material conditions of the aboriginal tribes living in the whole Presidency including Agency areas and to suggest ways and means for their uplift. The Committee has been asked to investigate and report on the economic and social conditions of the tribes. The functions of the two committees are thus quite different and independent of each other.

" (b) & (c) The members of the Committee are—

- (1) Sri V. Raghaviah, M.L.A. (Chairman).
- (2) Sri K. Kelappan, President, Kerala Provincial Congress Committee.
- (3) Sri T. K. T. N. R. Tatachari, M.L.A.
- (4) Sri B. S. Murthi, M.L.A.
- (5) Sri L. N. Gopalaswami.
- (6) Sri Kankipati Veeranna Padal, M.L.A.
- (7) Sri K. T. Kosalaram Nadar, M.L.A.
- (8) Dr. A. Aiyappan, Superintendent, Government Museum.

Sri L. N. Rao and Sri U. Muthuramalinga Thevar, M.L.A., were also in the Committee but they have now been replaced by Nos. 6 and 7 above.

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The above persons seem to have been selected because of their intimate knowledge of the problems connected with the subject.

" (d) Till the end of February 1947, the Committee has toured in 13 districts and heard 168 witnesses. The total expenditure incurred up to that date was roughly Rs. 9,300.

" (e) The Committee expected to finish its work by the end of June 1947."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that an All-India Association is working with headquarters at Polavaram and Sri P. Kodandaramiah is the Secretary? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" I think perhaps it is so."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" I want to know why the above gentleman has been omitted from the Committee? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" As far as I can see Mr. Kodandaramiah is the Secretary of the Agency tracts and this is a Committee for the Tribal Areas and communities."

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—" Are the Government aware that the statement recorded in many respects is besides the point of enquiry? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The report is not before the Government, Sir."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" May I know, Sir, why Mr. K. Veeranna Padal, M.L.A., representing the Agency tracts and Bokkai Gowder of the Nilgiris, were not taken up as representatives in the Committee? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Mr. Veeranna Padal was subsequently appointed. I do not think Mr. Bokkai Gowder represents the tribal areas."

Opening of a glass factory in Nellore district.

* 591 Q.—MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to have a glass factory in Nellore district;

(b) if so, when the factory would be constructed; and

(c) the place where it will be located?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) to (c) The questions are under the consideration of the Government."

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MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, when the Government will come to a decision in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The question, as I have already stated, is being considered. As soon as a decision is made it will be known."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, the approximate time by which the Government will come to a decision in this matter? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The question of locating a glass factory in Nellore district is one that involves a large sum of money and the question has to be viewed naturally in all its aspects and consequently it will take some time. It is very difficult to state here and now what time it will take to decide the matter. I might suggest to the hon. Member to put this question after a month or two or at the next meeting of the Assembly."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, is not the Government aware that Nellore district has got almost all the materials required for a glass factory and, if so, will the establishment of such a factory as that be profitable to the Government? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Nellore district and particularly some places of Nellore district have been investigated and it has been found that some places are suitable for a large-scale glass factory and so the Government are investigating into the matter and with special reference to the material available and also the other facilities."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, from the Minister whether he is aware that the Committee appointed last time recommended the opening of a glass factory in the Ceded districts? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" One of the recommendations of that Committee was that a glass factory may be started, if it is possible to do so, in the Ceded districts."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, how long this question of establishing a glass factory in Nellore district is under the investigation of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, in January 1946 a Glass Technologist was appointed for the purpose of investigating the possibilities of starting a glass industry in the Madras Presidency and he has been investigating the possibilities all over the Presidency and he has submitted a report and the question of starting a glass factory in Nellore is under investigation."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government consider the advisability of granting permission and help to private agencies if they want to start factories? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The question will arise only after applications are made to that effect."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—" Are the Government aware that Nellore has got the best material—clay—which is fit for the manufacture of sheet glass? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" That is why Nellore has been suggested for the starting of a factory."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" May I ask, Sir, if the recommendation of the Famine Enquiry Committee regarding Ceded districts has been examined and if anything has been done to start a glass factory in that area? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" So far as I can see there is no report about its recommendations. The possibilities of starting glass factories in the Ceded districts will be investigated."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I also impress upon the Minister the need for granting aid to glass factory in the East Godavari district? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir, may I point out that Mr. Ramaswami should speak always in Telugu and that has been your ruling? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" Regarding questions, it is a different thing."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it the intention of the Government to start a factory itself or is it their intention to leave it to private enterprise? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" Sir, that is one of the questions that is under the consideration of the Government. But I can say that if applications are received from private people they will also be considered."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, may I ask the Government, Sir, whether they have received any applications from the Ceded districts for opening glass factories? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" No applications have been received."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government believe in glassware or in mudware as is their belief in Khadi and their bullock-cart mentality? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I may point out to the hon. Member that glass and khaddar are quite different things and one has no relation with the other."

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Emoluments of employees under local boards and municipal councils.

* 592 Q.—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to empower local boards and municipal councils to fix the amount of the emoluments payable to the employees under them in menial service with reference to the local market rate and without obtaining any outside approval as is the case now?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“Under the existing orders, local boards and municipal councils may fix the pay of menials according to the necessities and circumstances in their respective areas subject to the sanction of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in the case of menials other than those belonging to the public health branch and of the Director of Public Health in the case of menials of the public health branch. The question of empowering the local boards and municipal councils to fix the pay and allowances of their employees belonging to inferior and menial services without having to apply for any outside sanction is under consideration.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Government, Sir, whether they will go a step further and see that uniform scales are given to these men serving in local bodies?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“The salaries and allowances allowed by the local bodies are according to their respective financial position.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“If there are not sufficient funds with the local bodies will the Government go to the rescue of such local bodies in order to see the poor people are paid better?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“I cannot assure the hon. Member in this matter.”

Pyrethrum cultivation in the Nilgiris.

* 593 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA (on behalf of Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai): Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the acreage under Pyrethrum in the Nilgiris and other districts;

(b) the quantity of Pyrethrum flowers produced during the years from 1939 to 1945 and the cost of production per pound of dried flowers;

(c) the acreage grown by private owners of land and the quantity of flowers supplied from 1939 to 1945 and the cost paid to them per pound of flowers;

(d) whether the Government propose to run the existing Pyrethrum cultivation departmentally or allow the private cultivators to take on lease the existing cultivated area on terms to supply to Government the required quantity of Pyrethrum at a fair price;

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(e) whether it is a fact that many of these departmental Pyrethrum cultivations are very near human habitations with the result that cattle in the latter places are subject to impounding for all petty forest offences; and

(f) whether the Government have considered the necessity of allowing a belt of land between the departmental cultivations and the human habitation and private cultivation?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) The Forest Department has planted pyrethrum in 1,868 acres on the Nilgiris and in 520 acres on the Palnis.

“(b) The first crop of pyrethrum flowers from the Forest department plantations was harvested about the middle of 1944. Up to the end of 1945, 82.6 tons of dry flowers from the Nilgiris and 21.3 tons of dry flowers from the Palnis were supplied to the Government of India. Besides these, small quantities of dry flowers were supplied to the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, and the Bio-chemical Laboratory, Andhra University, Madras. Based on the expenditure incurred up to the end of 1945, the cost of production per pound of dried flowers is about Rs. 6.

“(c) The total area under private cultivation of pyrethrum on the Nilgiris is 113.6 acres. During the calendar year 1945, 7,857 lb. of dry flowers were supplied by the private growers. These private growers were paid by the Government of India at the rate of Rs. 1-8-0 per lb. for crop harvested in 1944 and at Re. 1 per lb. for that harvested in 1945.

“(d) The question whether the departmental cultivation of pyrethrum should be continued permanently is under consideration of Government.

“(e) On the Palnis the nearest village is about 4 miles from the pyrethrum plantations. There have been no instance of impounding cattle on account of forest offences in this area. On the Nilgiris many of the pyrethrum plantations are near human habitations. A statement* showing the number of impounded cattle, the number of persons involved and compounding fees realized, in the pyrethrum areas on the Nilgiris during 1943-44, 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47 is placed on the table of the House.

“(f) The matter will be examined.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, may I put to you once again, Sir, the desirability of printing such long answers and supplying copies of the same to hon. Members?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“The statement referred to in the answer has been printed and kept on the table of the House, as it is long.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“That only refers to a portion of the answer. It is desirable that such long answers as has

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just been read out should be made available to hon. Members of this House in order to enable them to put supplementary questions?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I do not think the answer is long enough."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the cultivation belt is very near human habitation, will the Government consider the desirability of removing it a little further from the place?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is only in the Nilgiris that they are near human habitation and as much precaution as possible is being taken to see that cattle do not stray into those areas."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that much hardship is being undergone by the people of the Nilgiris and several representations have been made to the Government in this matter, will the Government now consider the question of removing the belt a little further?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The question of continuing departmental cultivation of pyrethrum is under consideration."

SRI K. BOKKAI GOWDER:—"Will the Government consider the question of raising wattle in those areas in which pyrethrum has proved a failure?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It can be considered, Sir."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know what is meant by pyrethrum, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The extract from pyrethrum is used for anti-malarial purposes."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"Are the Government aware that the Udayagiri hills in the Nellore district is famous for congenial growth of many herbs and it will be a very fine place for the cultivation of this herb and if so, whether they would try to raise beds of pyrethrum on these hills?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"From the experience that they have of the cultivation of pyrethrum in the Nilgiris and the Palni hills, Government think it is better to leave it to private owners to grow pyrethrum there."

Promotion of men belonging to the South Kanara district from the ranks of Tahsildars and Deputy Collectors to those of Deputy Collectors and Collectors.

* 594 Q.—MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many Deputy Collectors belonging to the district of South Kanara have been promoted as Collectors during the last 25 years;

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(b) whether the claims of any such Deputy Collectors have become overdue for promotion;

(c) the number of Tahsildars belonging to the same district who have been promoted as Deputy Collectors during the last 25 years; and

(d) whether the Government propose to consider the claims of officers whose promotions have become overdue?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) So far as is known, three Deputy Collectors who are natives of South Kanara have been promoted as Collectors during the last 25 years:—

Messrs. A. Upendra Pai, Rai Bahadur U. Rama Rao and Rao Sahib M. R. Bangara.

" (b) The claims of any such Deputy Collectors cannot be considered to have become overdue for promotion unless they have previously been selected by the Government for such promotion with reference to their merit and ability and have not been appointed in their turn.

" (c) Nine Tahsildars belonging to the South Kanara district have been promoted as Deputy Collectors during the last 25 years.

" (d) Promotion as Deputy Collectors is made mainly on considerations of merit and ability. The promotion of any officer cannot be considered to be overdue if he has not already been selected by Government in consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission with reference to his merit and ability. The claims of all officers likely to be suitable for appointment as Deputy Collectors are considered every year."

MOHAMED RAFAEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government pay special attention to cases of Muslim officers who have been rotting as senior Deputy Collectors for a long time but whose claims have not been cared for till now?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"At the outset I repudiate the statement that we are not caring for Muslim officers and secondly I must say that the question relates to South Kanara and as such it cannot be identified with the question of Muslims throughout the Province."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether any Muslim in the West Coast either in South Kanara, Malabar, Travancore or Cochin has been promoted to posts of Collectors at any time before?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"From the list just now furnished, there is no Muslim that has been selected as District Collector from the district of South Kanara. With reference to Malabar, I shall be glad if the hon. Member would put another question."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know what happens to these Deputy Collectors when the proposal of linguistic provinces is given effect to? I wish to know whether in that event they will be asked to migrate to South Kanara."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"There is much of speculation about it; my Friend is always interested in speculating."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know if the Government will take into consideration the case of any Muslim candidate of South Kanara district if he is qualified for promotion as Collector?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"That is what I have already stated. If there is merit and efficiency, that case will certainly be considered?"

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Twice in the course of his reply the Hon. Minister has made mention of merit and ability as criteria for promotion. May I know the distinction that he has between merit and ability?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I would like to get the definition from my hon. Friend who is an expert on Shakespeare and English literature."

M. MOHAMED ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that there is a Muslim Deputy Collector in South Kanara district whose promotion is long overdue in spite of merit and ability?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"It will be very difficult to discuss merit and ability on the floor of the House. If my hon. Friend would bring the case to my notice in my office, I would certainly discuss with him and if there is merit and ability, he will get preference."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it true, Sir, that members of minority communities are not promoted to the position of District Collectors on account of the fact that there is a certain number of Deputy Collectors from that community acting as Collectors and on that ground alone the members of that community are not given their chance for being promoted as District Collectors?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The hon. Member constantly shifts his ground. He generally asks why a particular proportion already allotted to the Muslim community on the basis of communal proportion, has not been given and when they get over-represented in the cadre, he again asks why the efficiency bar be taken into consideration. If he is prepared to mix both, I am game for it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend has misunderstood the question—I do not want to say—deliberately or is seeking to confuse issues. May I ask him if it is not a fact that simply because the Government remembers that there are two or three Muslim District Collectors, even

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though qualified and competent people with merit and efficiency are available among the cadre of Deputy Collectors, they do not choose to appoint those Muslims as Collectors on that account?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The question is about how many Deputy Collectors belonging to the district of South Kanara have been promoted as Collectors. The hon. Member put a general question and I submit it does not arise out of the main question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member perhaps means 'minority communities belonging to the district of South Kanara'."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I have already replied to it in reply to the question of the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition that if he brings such cases to my notice, I would consider them."

Muslim retail ration shop-keepers.

* 595 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR: (on behalf of Hajee Koyappathody M. Ahmed Kutty Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any circular was sent to the Taluk Supply Officers of Ernad and Walluvanad taluks in Malabar district to find out how many retail shop-keepers are Muslim Leaguers and whether they have been doing any political propaganda for the Muslim League;

(b) if so, what was the nature of the report received; and

(c) what is the Government's object in ascertaining the political views of ration shop-keepers and in singling out two taluks of Malabar for conducting such an investigation?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Yes. The Collector of Malabar instructed the Deputy District Supply Officer, Calicut, to ask the Taluk Supply Officers of Ernad and Walluvanad taluks to report regarding the truth of an allegation made by the President of the Muslim Majilis of Walluvanad taluk to the Government that most of the rice ration shop-keepers in the taluks of Ernad and Walluvanad were Muslim Leaguers and that they were using their position as ration shop-keepers to canvass support for the political views.

" (b) The report was that there were no grounds to support the second part of the allegation.

" (c) Reply will be found in the answer to clause (a) of the question."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what is the principle upon which the Collector asked an enquiry to be made on the allegation that they were doing political propaganda; may I know whether those persons running many of the ration shops in the taluks of Ernad and Walluvanad are looked upon as Government servants and they are debarred from carrying on political propaganda?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The principle is that when a fact was brought to the notice of the Collector, he asked for an enquiry and the enquiring officer submitted a report of his enquiry. With regard to the other fact whether one's political views has anything to do with it, so far as I can see it has nothing to do with it. Each man is entitled to hold his own views of things, whether he keeps a ration shop or whether he is employed in any other walk of life."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In that case, Sir, where was the necessity for the Collector to order such an enquiry?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The fact is that a complaint was made to him and as in duty bound, he caused enquiries to be made."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Why does the Hon. Minister think that it is a complaint? When a citizen has a right to hold any political views and carries on propaganda for propagating his views, is it considered to be a subject-matter of complaint and was the Collector right in holding an enquiry on a matter like this?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have got it stated in my file that there has been a complaint and the answer to it is that the Magistrate has enquired into it. There is nothing wrong in an enquiry instituted on a complaint."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government undertake an enquiry on any complaint referred to them, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes; if it is necessary in the interests of law and order and justice."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to know, Sir, whether, if a complaint is made (I underline the word 'complaint') against persons who are Congressmen, and who are running ration shops, that they are carrying on political propaganda for the Congress utilising their position as ration shop-keepers, will Government undertake an enquiry?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I will call for information, Sir, on this point."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister for Food said that all complaints would not be enquired into, and that only in cases where it was necessary, they will institute an enquiry. Then, may we ask, Sir. (Interruption by the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan). I understood him to say, Sir, that all complaints that were referred to Government will not be taken as fit for being enquired into. Perhaps, there may be a *prima facie* case that there is no ground for the complaint. That is perhaps what he evidently meant, or I took him to mean. Whatever that is, I ask why it is in this case, the Collector thought it necessary to enquire into the complaints preferred to him?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is very difficult to answer the question here. Discretion is vested in the Magistrate. If a complaint is made to him, it lies with him to enquire into it if it is true or if it is frivolous to simply dispose it of as frivolous and take no action about it. Discretion is with the Magistrate."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether Mr. Kapur was the Food Reorganization Officer in Malabar when this enquiry was ordered?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That question does not arise. The question is about an enquiry held in Walluvanad and Ernad taluks, and it is not a question concerning Mr. Kapur at all."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question relates to Mr. Kapur having been in Malabar when the said enquiry was made, Sir. It is quite relevant."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is entitled to know the name of the Food Reorganisation Officer of the district at that time."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have not got that information."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will justify the action of the Collector supposing somebody complain to him that a man is living with his own office?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will please repeat his question."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know Sir, whether this Government will justify the action of the Collector supposing somebody complains to him that a man is walking on his two legs?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is a hypothetical question, and I cannot answer that."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the word complaint which he used is a term which had been defined in the Criminal Procedure Code. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister has used that word in the meaning which is given to it in the Criminal Procedure Code, and if so, whether doing propaganda by a Muslim Leaguer utilizing his position as ration shop-keeper is an offence, which is implied in the word 'complaint'?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Not being so well versed in law, I would take this to the Advocate-General for his opinion."

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Alleged oppression by Police on Kallapalli Ramulu in Ellore.

* 596 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Ellore on 31st July 1946 at about 10 p.m. the house of Kallapalli Ramulu was surrounded by a Sub-Inspector and 40 police constables including mufti police and Kallapalli Ramulu was manhandled and taken to the police station;

(b) whether Government propose to take action against the police officials concerned;

(c) whether the Government received any memorandum on this from anyone;

(d) if so, what the main points in the memorandum are; and

(e) whether the Government propose to take action thereon?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) It is a fact that on 31st July 1946 at about 10 p.m., the Sub-Inspector of Police, Ellore town, went to Kallapalli Ramulu's residence with the men available in the police station to apprehend him on charges under Sections 353 and 224, Indian Penal Code. The allegation that Ramulu was manhandled is not true.

“(b) The answer is in the negative.

“(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(d) The main points are that the Sub-Inspector alleged to be corrupt should be dealt with and the false case alleged to have been concocted against Kallapalli Ramulu dropped.

“(e) The answer is in the negative.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to take any action on the basis of the memorandum submitted.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Memorandum submitted by whom?”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“The memorandum mentioned in the question.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government are considering the matter. But I do not give any undertaking.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer given, may I ask the Hon. Minister to place a list of answers that the Government have given so far during the last ten years as to whether the police at any time manhandled a prisoner?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“It is an impossible feat which the Government are not prepared to undertake.”

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Re-employment of retired officers and refusal of leave preparatory to retirement.

* 597 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the officers who retired and who have been re-employed; and

(b) the names of the officers who have been refused leave applied for, preparatory to retirement?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) & (b) பதவியிலிருந்து விலகி மீண்டும் வேலைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் எண்ணிக்கை 430 (கெஜட்டெட் 45, கெஜட்டெட் அல்லாதோர் 385). பதவியிலிருந்து விலக்குமுன் லீவு கேட்டு மறுக்கப்பட்டோர் 26. காசிதம், அச்சிடுதல் இவற்றில் சிக்கனத்தை முன்னிட்டு இவர்களைப்பற்றிய ஜாப்தாவை அச்சிட்டு இச்சபையில் சமர்ப்பிப்பது அவசியமில்லை என்று சர்க்கார் கருதுகின்றனர். கனம் அங்கத்தினர் விரும்பினால் பிரதம காரியதரிசியிடம் கேட்டு அத்தகைய ஜாப்தாவைப் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம்.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I have a translation, Sir?”

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—“Will it be translated in Telugu, Sir?”

(Mr. Speaker then read out the answer in English.)

“(a) & (b) There are 430 retired and re-employed officers (45 in the gazetted rank and 385 in the non-gazetted rank) and 26 officers who have been refused leave preparatory to retirement. The Government consider that in the interests of economy in stationery and printing, a list of those persons need not be printed and placed on the table of the House. If the hon. Member wants such a list he may obtain one on application from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. the Premier, Sir, whether this Government have the same policy as that of the previous Government in re-employing retired officials and whether they adhere to that policy or they have changed that policy?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—ஆபீசர்கள் இல்லாததால் retired ஆபீசர்களை நாம் employ பண்ணவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அவசியமில்லாவிட்டால் நாம் retired ஆபீசர்களை employ பண்ணமாட்டோம்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The following is an English translation of the reply of the Hon. the Premier: (As far as possible, retired officers will not be re-employed).”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether officers, who are next in the grade of the officers who have retired, are not entitled to the position of being promoted to those posts, or whether they lack anything that disqualifies them from being promoted?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“இது விஷயம் யோசிக்கப்படும்.”

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MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about the translation, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Premier's reply is 'it will be considered.'" (Laughter.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, how many retired officers are there in the Textile Department of the Government of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Premier is aware of the statement made by his colleague, the Hon. Revenue Minister yesterday to my question that Government are trying to retrench and that there is no need to re-employ any Harijans? If so, where is the necessity for the Hon. Premier to re-employ retired people?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"முன்னமேயே தெரிவித்திருக்கிறபடி ஆபீசர்கள் அகப்படாததால் retired ஆபீசர்களை employment பண்ணவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The following is an English translation of Hon. Premier's reply: (I have already informed you that only if fit and proper officers are not available, we have to employ retired men.)"

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIAM:—"கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களே, மிகவும் பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினரைச் சேர்ந்த வன்னிய குலக்கூத்திரிய டிபுடி கலெக்டர்கள் retired ஆகி விண்ணப்பித்துக்கொண்டால் அவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் கவனம் செலுத்துவீர்களா?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"அவர்கள் தனியாக இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி எந்த முறையில் application போடுகிறார்களோ அதற்குத்தகுந்தபடி கவனிக்கப்படும்."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"At present when there is supposed to be a glut of qualified men who are unemployed for want of service, is there really a necessity, Sir, for re-employing retired people?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"ஆபீசர்கள் அகப்படாவிட்டால்தான் அவர்களை appoint செய்யப்படும் என்று முன்னமேயே சொல்லி இருக்கிறேன்."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Premier's reply is as follows: (I have already said only if officers are not available, they will be appointed.)"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"ஏற்கனவே இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட தகுதியுள்ளவர்கள் அதிகம் இல்லையா?" (Laughter.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. Can the hon. Member speak in Tamil also?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can put his questions in Tamil also." (More laughter.)

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am forced to put the question in Tamil, Sir. (Renewed laughter.)

ஸர், இப்பொழுது ஏற்கனவே உத்தியோகங்களுக்கு அருகதையுள்ளவர்கள் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று ஆவலாதிகள் இருக்கும்போது வாஸ்தவத்தில் உத்தியோகத்தை விட்டுப்போக வேண்டியவர்களை மறுபடியும் நியமிக்கவேண்டிய அவசியம் உண்மையில் இருக்கிறதா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"எனக்குத் தெரிந்தவரையில் இப்பொழுது அதிகமாக உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் அகப்படவில்லை என்று தெரிவதாலேயே அவ்விதம் சொன்னேன். உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் அகப்பட்டால் இந்தமாதிரி ஆபீசர்களை நியமிக்கவேண்டிய தில்லை."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANIAM:—"மிகவும் தேர்ச்சிபெற்ற மிகவும் பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த வன்னிய குலக் கூத்திரிய வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் டிபுடி கலெக்டராக இருந்து retired ஆனவர்கள் ஏற்கனவே இருந்த முன் மந்திரி சபைக்கு விண்ணப்பித்துக்கொண்டிருந்து அதை மந்திரிசபை உதாசீனம் செய்திருப்பதை கனம் பிரதமமந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"தெரியாது."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"I wish to make one submission, Sir. The answer from the Prime Minister was that a copy of it will be available if an application therefor was made to the Chief Secretary by the questioner. I want to know whether any M.L.A. can get a copy of it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Prime Minister says you can get a copy."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether the U.N.O. conference methods will be introduced here immediately as regards the proceedings?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, I am also of the opinion that it should be introduced. But it cannot be done immediately."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it in keeping with the dignity of the Chair that it should render into English the Premier's reply?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is nothing wrong or beneath the dignity of the Chair to translate it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, when the hon. Member who put the question before the last gentleman, as to whether you are going to introduce immediately the devices adopted in the U.N.O. conference, you said that you are of the same opinion and that it will be brought into force immediately."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, his question was whether Government will take it into consideration; and I said it was not immediately possible."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"As regards questions now put and answered, the Speaker was kind enough to translate the answer of the Hon. Premier. May I know what about those friends who do not know English or Tamil?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I cannot help those hon. Members. It is not possible for me to translate into Telugu."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I certainly appreciate that it is not possible for the Speaker to translate questions or answers in Telugu. But may I submit . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Deputy Speaker can do it." (Laughter.)

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"That quite a good number of us are at a disadvantage when both questions and answers are in Tamil and that there are a good many Telugu people who do not follow clearly what is happening, may I suggest from to-morrow that you might make some arrangement whereby translation could be made both of questions and answers, as otherwise proceedings of this House would seem useless to some of us."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it only with reference to Tamil and Telugu only or is it with reference to Malayalam, Kannada and Urdu also?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri Viswanatham, has submitted to the Chair regarding translation of questions and answers in Telugu. I shall take that into consideration and give a reply in consultation with the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Premier in a few days, if not to-morrow."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Although you, Sir, in your generosity stated that it is not *infra dig* on the part of the Hon. Speaker to render translation for the benefit of the House, I wish to submit, Sir, that in my opinion it certainly is not proper that the Hon. Speaker should be put to trouble, not only that, but the indignity of translating, or rather having to become the translator to the House. We members of this House are jealous of your position. We are anxious that in no manner should we allow the Speaker to reduce his status and dignity to such a position. I therefore submit that you will kindly appoint from to-day members of this House for Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Malayalam and Kannada who can render translation for the benefit of the House."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, till now proceedings of the House were conducted in English. No member who was ignorant of English cared to demand translation of the proceedings in his own language. What has happened now to translate the proceedings in all languages?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me inform the House it is not below the dignity of the Chair to translate. It is for the benefit of the House that the Chair has taken the trouble. Let me once again inform the House that it is not below the dignity of the Chair to translate."

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

II.—ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE TEXTILE CONTROL BOARD.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following candidates have been duly nominated for election of one member to the Textile Control Board:—

- (1) Sri B. S. Murthy.
- (2) Sri V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar.

As the number of candidates nominated exceeds one, the election will be held in the Secretary's room between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesday the 23rd April 1947. The election will be by the ordinary method and not by means of the single transferable vote."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the candidates belong to the same party or different parties?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Chair has nothing to do with parties."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"For the information of the Members of the House I ask, so that we can vote."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, Sir, that Members who apply as candidates are asked to signify to which party they belong, because the arrangement has been, in the distribution of membership not only on committees but also on bodies elected by this House representation should be given to various parties. Such being the case it is expected that the candidates should give information as regards the party to which they belong."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"By the time the election will be held, I believe one hon. Member of the two will withdraw, and hon. Members may not be put to the difficulty of voting."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That does not make any difference."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House wants to know whether they belong to the same party."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They do, Sir; that is why I said one of them would withdraw."

III.—STATEMENT ON FOOD SITUATION IN GUNTUR DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House would remember that on Friday last Mr. Salam wanted certain information regarding famine in the Guntur district. The Hon. Minister for Food will now make the statement."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"What about Nellore?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not possible."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about Kurnool?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I make the statement here on the Guntur food situation. Famine in the usual sense of the term is caused by failure of rain. The rainfall in the Guntur district during 1946-47 was above normal, as will be seen from the figures given below. The unprecedentedly heavy rain in November damaged the paddy crop and reduced the yield. The millet crop also was partially affected by the heavy rains in November and by the comparative absence of rain in subsequent months. But there has been no widespread failure of crops to apprehend a famine. What has really happened is that rural rationing has partially broken down and grain is not readily available to the poorer classes at reasonable prices. The trouble is largely the result of the inability of the new procurement machinery to cope with the work.

"According to the final forecast of production and consumption in the Guntur district for the year 1946-47, the estimated production was 203,000 tons of rice and the estimated consumption of both the producers and non-producers within the district was 161,000 tons, leaving an estimated surplus of 42,000 tons for export to the deficit districts of the province. As the yield was affected by the heavy rains, the production figure was calculated on the basis of 85 per cent of the normal and the target figure for procurement to feed the non-producers in the district and for export to deficit districts was fixed at 81,000 tons of which 42,000 tons was estimated to be the exportable surplus as against the target figure of 88,000 tons last year and an exportable surplus of 49,000 tons. In actual fact, both the target figure of procurement and target figure of export were exceeded last year, though the season was admittedly bad. The total procurement amounted to 93,463 tons and 49,820 tons were exported to deficit districts—

		Average.	Actual.
April 1946	.. ..	0.7	0.9
May 1946	.. ..	2.2	1.8
June 1946	.. ..	3.3	3.6
July 1946	.. ..	4.3	5.8
August 1946	.. ..	6.1	4.2
September 1946	.. ..	5.3	3.9
South-west monsoon	.. ..	21.9	21.2
October 1946	.. ..	5.8	2.9
November 1946	.. ..	3.4	15.1
December 1946	.. ..	0.5	0.2
January 1947	.. ..	0.2	..
February 1947	.. ..	0.4	0.1
March 1947		0.4	..
North-east monsoon		10.7	18.3

Total for the year—Average=32.6.
Actual =29.5.

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It will thus be seen that neither the target figure for procurement this year nor the amount estimated as exportable surplus can be regarded as excessive or beyond the capacity of the district to attain.

"Out of the total procurement target of 81,200 tons only 14,389 tons had been procured up to the end of March and out of the exportable surplus of 42,000 tons only 8,216 tons have been moved out of the district. The result of this very unsatisfactory procurement was that the export quota of 4,000 tons for March had to be cancelled because there was no rice available to fulfil it and the stock of the district fell to the phenomenally low figure of 483 tons at the end of March.

"There are two main causes for this exceptionally bad procurement results during the months of January, February and March this year as compared with last year. The first is that the ryots expected that the price of paddy would be raised or that the Government would give a bonus. Repeated declarations were made that neither would be done because the Government of India had ruled against an increase as a matter of all-India policy; but the ryots still seem to hold that there might be some increase in the offing. Even so recently as the 16th of this month, Dr. Ranga is reported in the *Indian Express* to have stated that on his authority he advised the ryots 'if necessary to resort to Satyagraha by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it be acquired by force. Then Dr. Rajan, the Food Minister, would be forced to fly to Delhi and fight for increasing paddy price.' The second cause is the change over of the agency of procurement from the millers to the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies. The fact that the societies have proved inefficient as procuring agents in Guntur district cannot be disputed. In January 1946, millers procured 24,258 tons. In January 1947 the millers procured only 6,032 tons, because the producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies were about to take over and the millers were restricted to procuring only sufficient for the export quota and for internal consumption and were not allowed to purchase freely to build up stocks. From the 1st of February 1947, the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies started work but as they were not really ready, the millers were allowed to procure 4,700 tons for export only. Actually during February 5,280 tons were procured in all as against 16,330 tons in February 1946 of which 4,775 tons were procured by the millers and 505 tons by the societies. In March 1947, the societies were given a free hand and the millers were prohibited from procuring anything, and the societies procured 3,077 tons as against 17,031 tons procured by the millers in March 1946. Thus, in all, the societies have succeeded in procuring only 3,582 tons in two months.

"The result of the failure of the societies to procure sufficient paddy for the requirements of the district, much less for export,

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was that the ryots with paddy on their hands sold it in the black-market at the highest prices they would get for it. Undoubtedly, a large quantity of paddy and rice have been sold to the upland taluks and it is impossible to estimate this amount. This state of affairs was aggravated by the partial failure of millet crops in the upland parts of the district and by the amount of money which the ryots in the upland taluks have got from such paying commercial crops as tobacco. Thus ryots with plenty of money to spend were prepared to pay any amount for the rice from the Delta.

"The situation at the end of March was therefore very serious. The export quotas had to be cancelled which meant that the deficit districts like Coimbatore, Salem and the Nilgiris were left with the stock in the district of only 384 tons. Still the situation is being managed with considerable difficulty. Statutory rationing has been maintained in all the five statutory rationed towns and in the rural areas; no one has starved though he may have had to buy his needs in the black-market or live on what he had stored. There is plenty of paddy in the district. It is only a question of procuring it. If rice had been brought in from Kistna or any other adjoining surplus districts the incentive to procurement within the district would have gone. Further, Kistna and the Godavaris have their own commitments and they are struggling hard to fulfil them.

"The following measures were therefore taken to relieve the situation in the district:—

"From the 1st of April procurement licences of the societies have been cancelled and given back to the millers. In the 1st week of April the millers were only able to procure 200 tons because they had to re-engage their staff, collect again their bandies and make new financial arrangements. From the 9th to 12th of April, in the course of three days, they have procured further 800 tons. Part of the damage has already been done and it is unlikely now that the district will be able to honour the whole of the export quota because so much of the surplus has been sold in the black-market. The situation in the district, however, is slowly improving and stocks are now being sent in small quantities to those rural areas most in need. It is desirable to build up further stocks in the district before anything more is exported and owing to the big and unusual demand for rice from the upland taluks, the full export quota of 42,000 tons cannot be met in full but it should be possible to export at least half that quantity in due course provided the district plays its part."

"The stock of millets on 1st November 1946 was 546 tons. Since then 1,618 tons of millets have been sent to the district. The closing stocks for the week ending 10th April 1947 are 537 tons and the district is to receive out of the allotments already made 672 tons. Similarly the district had 1,117 tons of maize on 1st November 1946 and about 300 tons were diverted from other

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districts. One would have expected an increase in the off-take of millets as a result of the partial failure of millet crop. But in fact the off-take has gone down as the following figures show:—

	Millets.	Maize.
Off-take in December ..	640	280 tons.
January ..	345	123 ..
February ..	339	64 ..

"It is clear from these figures that the millet eaters are unwilling to consume the imported millets but prefer to get hold of rice by fair means or foul. If this tendency persists, it is unnecessary to say that the habitual rice-eaters in the rest of the Province will suffer seriously.

"It is obvious that the millers, judged from their performance in the last few days, will be able to show better results than the societies have done if they are assured that procurement will not be handed over to the societies. They cannot be expected to put out their capital or show any enthusiasm over procurement if there is no likelihood of the societies being given procurement work again this year or their having to transfer any of the stocks which they have procured to the societies. The question of the suitable agency for the four Circar districts is being separately examined and the Government will take a decision as soon as possible.

"I have just received the following telegram from the Collector of Guntur:— 12-15 p.m.

"About 2,500 tons rice procured. Situation improving. Statutory rationing maintained in five areas. Rural rationing will be restored by the end of month. No starvation. Position of mills fairly satisfactory. 100 tons locally procured. 500 tons received from Madras. 670 expected from Vizagapatam and Cocanada."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I have given notice of an adjournment motion. I thank the Government for the valuable information and also for their clean confession that procurement has failed, rural rationing has failed and that the consumer-cum-producer societies are responsible for it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We should not have a debate over it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am only asking some questions. Now that the Government have realized the urgency of the matter, I hope something will be done. But before I withdraw the motion for adjournment, I want to know whether this district will be declared a deficit district and nothing will be exported from that district until all the people are fed and also whether Government will take any action against persons who are preaching to the ryots not to deliver the stocks. For instance, the Hon. Minister was pleased to refer to a statement reported to have been made by Professor Ranga . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This becomes more like a debate than a point of information. If the hon. Member wants any information, he may ask the Hon. Minister some direct questions."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, I want to know whether any action will be taken against those people who are preaching actively and advising people to go even to the extent of offering satyagraha and not to surrender the paddy in the Guntur district. I want to know whether the Government will come forward with the information whether they will not be able to raise the price of paddy at all, or whether they are ready to raise the price of paddy and that the Central Government is coming in the way. An announcement on the matter may be made very soon before mischief can be done. We have heard also that the ministerial crisis has got a bearing on the procurement in the district. The unfortunate ministerial crisis has affected procurement in the district. I should like to have categorical replies to these questions."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, let the Hon. Minister reply to the points raised."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I would request you to have the Hon. Minister's statement printed and circulated and a debate be raised on the important matter. This is a very important matter. All kinds of statements are made and they must be debated on the floor of the House. We shall have to deal with it seriously."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under what rule does the hon. Member want a debate to be raised on this statement?"

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"An adjournment motion has been tabled by an hon. Member and the Hon. Minister has made a statement on the question. Apart from any question of rules, I would like the statement to be printed and circulated and a debate raised, because it is a most important matter regarding famine in Guntur district. How the famine cropped up, who was responsible for it—all these things have got to be discussed. These cannot be lightly disposed of. As regards rules, you know the rules better."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am afraid the hon. Member, Sri Prakasam, has forgotten the matter. When he was the Prime Minister he made a statement and an hon. Member from the Opposition wanted to raise a debate and at that time I gave a ruling. I want to repeat that ruling again here. I also referred to the rulings in the Central Legislative Assembly and relevant portions from May's Parliamentary Practice. I shall repeat them for the benefit of the House."

"In the Central Legislative Assembly it is open to a Government member, with the permission of the Chair, to make a statement on matters of public concern. No debate is allowed on such statements, but sometimes on the request of members President has permitted the putting of a few questions with a view to elucidate the statement or to elicit further information on points arising out of the statement."

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"In the Provinces, where a statement has been made on behalf of the Government relating to a matter of general public interest, it is open to any Member to give notice of a motion under rule 24-A that the statement relating to such and such matter be taken into consideration. Such a motion cannot under our rules be moved except with the consent of the Speaker and the Member of the Government to whose department the motion relates."

"Now I shall refer to the practice in the House of Commons. This is the second time I am repeating my ruling on this point. I shall read from May's Parliamentary Practice, 14th Edition, page 352:

Ministerial Statements and Obituary Speeches.

'Explanations are made to the House on behalf of the Government regarding their domestic and foreign policy; stating the advice they have tendered to the Sovereign regarding the retention of office or the dissolution of Parliament; announcing the legislative proposals they intend to submit to Parliament; or the course they intend to adopt in the transaction and arrangement of public business. These explanations are now usually elicited by arrangement in reply to a question. But the older practice under which they were volunteered spontaneously is still sometimes followed. In that case, they are taken in the order of business indicated on page 326, and prior notice to Mr. Speaker is necessary.'

"I will leave a few lines and read further the portion which relates to the question before us. It says:

'As no question is before the House, debate on such statements is irregular.'

"Suppose the House wants a debate. The hon. Member Sri Prakasam will remember that I have made the point clear that the Government themselves may make a statement and say that the statement be taken into consideration. The Government themselves may move such a motion, or if the House wants it, any Member may request the Speaker to have a debate under rule 14. This is a very important matter. The hon. Member Sri Prakasam wanted that the statement should be printed and circulated to the Members. I have no objection. I shall ask the Government to have the statement printed and circulated. As regards a debate, if the hon. Member Sri Prakasam wants to have a debate under rule 14, it is not possible to-day, because we are rising at 1-30 p.m. We shall have to take it on some other day. I will allow hon. Members to put one or two questions."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The House will remember that I gave notice of an adjournment motion the other day and the Hon. Minister, Sri Kala Venkata Rao, promised to make a statement and asked me to postpone the matter. In view of the importance of the subject and in view of the views which have been expressed on the floor of the House, I press that my motion may be discussed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I may advise the hon. Member to ask for half-an-hour adjournment under rule 14 instead of a regular adjournment motion. The half-hour debate cannot be had to-day but on some other day."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"People are dying there."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Let not the hon. Member lose temper. I will advise the Government to print the statement and circulate it to the Members. The Hon. Minister Dr. Rajan will now answer the questions which have been raised."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I shall answer the few points which have been raised categorically. First of all, I assure this House through you, Sir, that nobody has died of famine in Guntur. That is a point that has to be made clear. The next point was that there is no food available. It has been made clear that food is available not only for the people of Guntur but it is available for export also. The next point made out was that though food was available, procurement has failed. That is the point on which I laid stress. While there is paddy and rice, procurement has failed and the available quantity of paddy that ought to have been procured for export and internal consumption has not been procured. The reasons have been given. That is number two, Sir.

12-30
p.m.

"The third point is about a statement made by Mr. Ranga. It does not matter who the gentleman is; if his action comes under law, it is for the authorities to take note of it. I need not make a statement on it here. The Government have got laws, and whoever defies them will have to face the consequences. Therefore I do not want to discuss the matter any further.

"As per your suggestion, I am perfectly willing to have the statement printed and circulated to the Members, because I know the statement contains figures and details which cannot be easily followed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"After the statement of the Hon. Minister, the Speaker can allow certain Members to raise points of information. Now I am going to allow one or two Members."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The answers given by the Hon. Food Minister are not at all satisfactory. He seems to proceed on certain fallacies and to sidetrack the issue. I press that my motion for adjournment of the House to discuss this matter may be taken up at a convenient time to be fixed by the Hon. Speaker."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the adjournment motion is pressed, I will have to go through the rules carefully. I want to know whether the Leader of the House gives his consent. If he objects, I will put it to the vote of the House. At least 35 members will have to support the motion."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I object."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether the hon. Member has the leave of the House to move the adjournment motion."

(Eighteen members rose in support of the motion.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has not got the leave of the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister for Food said that procurement had failed, which means

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that the procured quantity is not sufficient for the people of the district. He also said that there was food available in the district—perhaps in the blackmarket. Does he mean that the food in the blackmarket will be available to all the people in time and in sufficient quantity?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In my statement I have said that food is available but that it has not been obtainable because it has not been procured in sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the situation. I have also said that procurement has increased, that we are getting more stocks, and that the demand shall be met."

* SRI K. BRAHMANANDAM REDDI:—"The statement of the Hon. Minister conveys the impression that after some time there is scope for some export to be made. I fear that it may not be possible. So, let the Government make it perfectly clear to the district authorities that, until the needs of the district are fully met, not a grain of rice should be exported from the district. That is my first point.

"My second point is, that two-thirds of the Guntur district is dry and only one-third is wet. It has been admitted by the Government that the crops failed on account of heavy rains last year and that millets, especially cholam, had to be imported into the district from surplus areas. I welcome the statement that about 500 tons of millets have been imported into the district. But it may not be sufficient. So I suggest that more millets, especially cholam, should be imported into the district in future also.

"My third point is, that as the Firka Supply Officers are causing a lot of trouble in villages in the matter of distribution, may I ask whether the Government will take a decision to scrap all those posts, thereby saving a lot of money to Government also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have to reiterate what I have said. There is still 400 tons of paddy available for distribution in the district. With regard to millets, we have already imported 1,618 tons. The closing stock for the week ending 10th April 1947 was 537 tons and the district is to receive out of the allotments already made 672 tons. I have also drawn the attention of the House to the fact that because there is surplus paddy available, even people habituated to eat millets prefer to take paddy and not millets from the ration shops. The fall in procurement is in the surplus which the district was expected to export after meeting its own requirements. There is enough paddy, there are enough millets—enough even for export though not in such large quantities as last year. Even now there is paddy available for export. On this point, I do not want that there should be any confusion in the minds of any of the hon. Members. That is the gist of my statement."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"A submission was made to the Hon. Minister by my friend Mr. Salam that the Government should issue instructions to the procuring authorities to force

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the cultivators to part with their paddy. This is a very dangerous suggestion. I have also received complaints from my districts that the procuring authorities go to the villages, enter the houses, and force the cultivators to part with their paddy even without leaving the margin they are allowed to retain for themselves. The whole process is like looting. The safety of the peasants is threatened. So I request the Hon. Minister to protect the interests of the peasants and save them from this threat."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not know whether this point arises out of my statement. My statement confines itself to the stock of foodgrains available in Guntur district and its distribution. If there is high-handedness on the part of the authorities in the process of rationing, I have not referred to it in my statement."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"In view of the attempt to lay the blame at the door of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, will the Government be pleased to furnish this House with figures of procurement in other districts also, when this question comes up for discussion, so that one may assess whether the societies alone are responsible for the low procurement or whether there are any other reasons?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have clearly said that my whole statement concerns itself only with the food position in the Guntur district. The hon. Member wants a comparative statement for the whole province; it is not possible to give."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"If I heard the Hon. Minister aright, reference was made to an attempt for removing certain rice stock available in Vizagapatam district. Often, it is forgotten that Vizagapatam is not a surplus district. Seven-eighths of the acreage in that district is dry and only one-eighth is wet. When Mr. Masterman was the Commissioner of Civil Supplies, a large quantity of grain was removed, much to the detriment of the people in that district. I request the Government to treat Vizagapatam as a famine district, as no stock can at all be removed consistent with the safety of the citizens of that district."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"My statement concerns itself only with the Guntur district."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"I could not hear properly. Hence may I know whether the Hon. Minister said in the course of the statement that the Government were trying to export some rice from Vizagapatam district to Guntur district?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is only for foodgrains that are expected to come."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Are the Government aware that in blackmarket cholam is sold at half a measure per rupee and rice at three-fourths measure per rupee? People in villages in dry taluks like Palnad are marching with their cattle and starving children to wet taluks. People are dying on the roads just as the immigrants from Burma were dying. The authorities

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there have not taken proper measures to improve village rationing. Some responsible Minister must go and stay there till famine is over and save the situation. Otherwise there will be a number of deaths in that district."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If it becomes necessary, I will go and not only live there, but even die there."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"In several villages in my district (Salem district), rationing has been stopped because I am told . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are speaking about Guntur."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"I want the Hon. Minister to consider the question of the suspension of rationing in several villages in Salem district."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Has the hon. Member got any doubt? If so, he can put some questions by way of eliciting information about the position in Guntur."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" (1) May I know whether the Government are aware that the failure of procurement is due to fact that the millers began purchasing paddy at a higher price to defeat the purpose of co-operative societies?"

" (2) May I know whether the Procurement Officers are teasing the poor kisans, whereas the rich landlords having more paddy with them are not at all asked for? Are they teasing only kisans and poor sections of the population?"

" (3) Are the Government aware that kisans are reluctant to hand over their paddy to the millers, because it goes to the black-market and they could not get the required quantity? Are not the most popular organizations, like the Congress, Communist Party and the Kisan Congress are all against handing over procurement at controlled rate back to millers, because the Government has handed over the procurement to millers? Are the Government going to change its policy once again and democratize the co-operative societies in such a way that they can procure paddy better?"

" (4) Are the Government aware that even now a greater quantity of rice has gone into the blackmarket? Are the Government prepared to take drastic action against the blackmarketers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Most of these questions are with regard to blackmarkets. They have nothing to do with the statement I have read. I should like to inform the hon. Member one point of fact. When societies were procuring paddy in the market, millers were prevented from doing so."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It looks as if a debate is going on."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No debate is taking place now. I have allowed hon. Members to put a few questions; this is a very important question. It is stated that thousands of people are starving and dying on the road."

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like the Hon. Minister to make his statement quite clear to the House as to what he means by saying that sufficient paddy and millets are available in the district. I want to know what he means when he says they are available. Does he mean that they are available in the blackmarkets? If that is so, does he really think that it will be useful and available for the poor people in the country? I would like the Hon. Minister to clarify another part of his statement. He said that so far as paddy and millets are concerned, they are available for the people. Will he state whether there is enough paddy available in the district? I would like to know whether the quantity required for the consumption of people is available. Is it available to the ordinary people by the present method of procurement? Does he mean that some quantity of paddy is to be exported? I want to know whether the quantity that is available is sufficient for the consumption of people."

"There is one more point which I would like the Hon. Minister to clarify, arising out of the statement made by him. To the knowledge of the Government Professor Ranga has been advising people and goading them to refuse to deliver paddy to the societies and to observe Satyagraha. It is quite clear that a lot of trouble has been caused by this kind of propaganda also. When the Hon. Minister was asked whether any steps would be taken by the Government against people who have been carrying on propaganda in such manner, the answer is it is not his concern."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I never said that it was not my concern."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister is a Member of the Government as any other Minister. If such a propaganda is carried on, if he has no power, he must ask his Colleagues to take immediate steps. It is a mischievous propaganda which results in the starvation and death of thousands of people."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Speaking on behalf of the Government, I make the statement that Law will take care of lapses of law. There is enough power in the hands of the Government. The hon. Member knows this fact. It does not require a statement from me. I think the hon. Member has not followed my statement carefully."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The best thing will be to have the statement printed and circulated. Most of these questions arise because hon. Members have not followed the statement. It is better if the statement is placed on the table of the House to-day or to-morrow. To-morrow I shall allow hon. Members to put a few questions on points of information."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The statement will not be ready to-day."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Will you allow hon. Members to have a debate on this matter for half an hour either to-morrow or day-after-to-morrow, or whenever it is convenient?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What I say is, let the statement be printed and circulated to hon. Members. It will then be available to hon. Members. I shall allow a few questions by way of eliciting information."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If the statement is printed and supplied, there will be a series of questions put in the House and it will become a discussion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"On points of information, hon. Members can put some questions as some parts of the statement may not be clear. They are entitled to ask the Hon. Minister to make some parts of the statement clear."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am prepared to give all the information I have. I shall share it with the House. If the matter is taken up, I am afraid there will be another debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members can ask some questions to clarify the statement."

IV. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

RE-DISTRIBUTION OF PROVINCES ON LINGUISTIC BASIS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow ten minutes for each hon. Member who speaks on the resolution."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose this resolution moved on behalf of the Government by the Hon. Leader of the House. In doing so, I may state for the information of the House that the opposition of the Members of the Muslim League Party to this resolution is based on two main grounds. One is that the demand for the division of provinces on a linguistic basis, is not based on precise and exhaustive grounds. The other objection to the resolution is that this resolution makes a recommendation to the Constituent Assembly. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has stated that the recommendation to the Constituent Assembly is out of place, because the Constituent Assembly does not exist. Some hon. Members like Mr. Nagappa expressed surprise when the Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that the Constituent Assembly was not in existence, in spite of the fact that a galaxy of 'brilliant men' like Mr. Nagappa are going to Delhi to attend this very 'august' body. I am sure those Friends did not follow the Leader of the Opposition; it was not the physical existence of the Constituent Assembly that was denied by him. It was the legal and valid existence of the august body that was questioned and denied by those on this side of the House. The reason why we say that the Constituent Assembly is not in existence in law, is that though it is only a creature of the Cabinet Mission's Plan, it is not functioning either in the letter or in the spirit of that plan. The Cabinet Mission's Plan is contained in the declaration of the

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Cabinet Mission made on 16th May 1946. It was clarified by His Majesty's Government on 16th December 1946. There are certain fundamental factors in the Plan of the Cabinet Mission regarding the Constituent Assembly. One of them relates to the grouping of Provinces into Groups B and C. The Provinces in the said groups have to sit in their respective groups and take the decisions of the groups arrived at by a simple majority of the groups. The interpretation put by the Congress is completely at variance with that put by the very persons who are responsible for the Cabinet Plan. On the 6th December 1946 the British Government made it absolutely clear that Grouping was a most important and fundamental part of the Cabinet Mission's Plan. No province is entitled to stand out of the Group at the beginning. It will have the option of going out of the Group only after the first elections to be held according to the new constitution. Only after the first election, will the provinces be entitled to opt out of the Group and not before that. The All-India Congress Committee have passed a resolution that a province or a part of the province will have the right of seceding or walking out of the Group even at the very beginning. This cuts at the very root of the Cabinet Mission's Plan. This is a most erroneous interpretation put upon this part of the Cabinet's Plan. The Muslim League was invited to join the Constituent Assembly after accepting this interpretation. The Muslim League had accepted the Cabinet Plan *in toto*. It has now rightly decided to withdraw its acceptance and not to participate in the Constituent Assembly as the Congress refused to accept the Cabinet Plan. The question is whether the Constituent Assembly is functioning legally and within the letter and spirit of the Cabinet Mission's Plan. Even the Congress has stated that the Constituent Assembly is a creature of the Cabinet Mission's Plan. In his address to the State Peoples' Conference in Gwalior, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru clearly stated the other day that the Constituent Assembly is a creature of the Cabinet Mission's Plan and has to work within the limitations imposed by that Plan. The British Government has made it abundantly clear that grouping is an integral part of the Cabinet Mission's Plan. The Congress Party puts its own interpretation on that plan. The British Government does not accept those interpretation and have stated that that interpretation is wrong. It is absurd to say that the Congress has accepted the Cabinet Mission's Plan and that the Muslim League has not accepted it. It is a thoroughly dishonest, disingenuous and unpardonable attitude to take up.

1 p.m. "We are not putting forward the contention, that because the Muslim League is standing out and has not gone to the Constituent Assembly, the Constituent Assembly is not representative. That is not the contention at all. To say that it is so is to miss the point and to put a wrong interpretation on the position taken up by the Muslim League. Irrespective of the fact whether the Muslim League has stood out or not, the real position is that the persons who are in the Constituent Assembly have not accepted the Cabinet Mission's plan in the spirit and in the letter in which it was sought to be accepted and which is responsible for the coming

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into existence of the Constituent Assembly. When it is the fact that as has been made out from this side of the House that such a body has no legal existence, it will be absurd and meaningless and useless to make any recommendation to that Assembly from this House. I therefore submit that that part of the Resolution relating to the Constituent Assembly is not in order, is meaningless and that is why, we on this side of the House strongly oppose the resolution.

"Well, Sir, the other point of the Opposition is this. As I said, Sir, the redistribution of the Provinces on the basis of language alone is neither precise nor exhaustive, because language alone is not the basis on which the division of a country has to be made. My hon. Friend Mr. Wilson was confusing the issue when he said that there is no analogy between Pakistan and the formation of linguistic Provinces. Whether it is on the basis of language or on the basis of culture or on the basis of religion, the division of a Province is a division, though this kind of division is desirable according to the Congress section of this House. Till recently the division of the country on the basis of two civilizations or on two distinct types of culture was an anathema to the Congress and our Congress friends have been protesting against it and now they agree to the division on a linguistic basis which really means a concession on the basis of Pakistan. My hon. Friend Mr. Wilson has not understood this point, but he was trying to confuse the issue by saying that this redistribution is different from the demand for Pakistan. He went even further and out-congressed the Congress when he said that Pakistan is an unthinkable proposition, that the Muslims cannot be said to form a nation and even if they form a nation, they are part of a nation which is spread over the whole globe. My friend is wrong in thinking like this. He has missed one point, namely, that one nation may have a number of states and that therefore they can have a Muslim State in India also. The Muslim Nation may have a state in Arabia, a state in Turkey and so on as they can have one in India. That does not in any way go against the contention that we are putting forward, viz., that a part of a nation which is inhabiting a portion of a country might claim a state for itself. My hon. friend's point that we form part of a world nation and therefore we cannot claim a state in India is not a valid point at all. I concede that Muslims form part of a world nation, but that does not in any way stand in the way of our claiming a state within India, where they number millions. That is our point in our demand for Pakistan. In the north-east and north-west part of this country Muslims live in millions and they claim a homeland there. To say, 'you are scattered throughout the world and therefore you do not form part of a nation' is beside the point.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Wilson was also referring to the Balkanisation of the country. The term 'Balkanisation' is a hackneyed one. But, I might say, Sir, that Balkanisation has, in fact, saved certain countries in Europe from misery. It has, in

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fact, saved Turkey as much as Balkan States from the misery with which she was afflicted before. Some of the Balkan States, which belonged to different cultures and different nationalities were always creating trouble in the Balkans, and the moment the Balkan States were divided into several states, Turkey was given her natural homeland and thenceforward she began to prosper and the other state also began to prosper. Balkanisation has not, therefore, done any real injury to the Balkan States; on the other hand it had rid Europe of misery and trouble and removed the seed for internecine quarrels. But what do we find in this country to-day? What about the death and misery that people are suffering in several parts of India to-day? Hundreds and thousands of persons are murdered at every turn. Is it not due to the insistence of one section of the people for a United India, and legitimate demand of another section of the people for a division of the country on the basis of nationhood? If that were so, may I respectfully submit to friends on that side to take a lesson from India and not from the Balkans and plead for Pakistan, if you really want peace and harmony in this country. The moment Pakistan is given, this country will enjoy peace and harmony.

"Then, Sir, let me come to the question of the division of this Province into Kerala, Karnataka, Tamilnad and Andhra Desa. If you concede the demand for Kerala to form a separate Province, then we are putting forward this demand that Kerala should not take the form of a single Province, but should be divided into two states, one the Moplastan and the other, the area outside the Moplastan. What is this Moplastan? In Malabar we have more than a million people—about 14 lakhs to be more precise—belonging to the Moplah community. They are people who have a history and tradition of their own, who are mainly descendants of the Arabs, who have their own culture, customs, manners and outlook of life, which are entirely different from the other communities of Malabar."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should not refer to Moplastan as I have ruled it out of order."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is exactly because my amendment has been ruled out of order that I have to refer to it here, Sir. I had no opportunity of explaining my position after tabling the amendment, and this is the only opportunity that is afforded to me to speak on that point while opposing the resolution. I think I will be in order if I refer to it and make my position clear. Sir, if I am asked whether we should have one united Kerala or a divided Kerala, I would say that we should have a divided Kerala and that the division should be made according to culture and language and religion of people inhabiting the Kerala Province. Reference has been made by the mover of the resolution to the necessity of division based on culture. He was trying to seek shelter in the wording and language used in the resolution. In the beginning of his speech while commending this resolution for the acceptance of the House, the hon. Mover

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said that the principle underlying this resolution is the division of the Province on the basis of language and culture. Sir, if similarity in culture and language could warrant the claim for division, it is on that principle and on that basis that we respectfully submit that Kerala undoubtedly requires a division based on culture. Sir, out of 14 lakhs of Moplahs inhabiting Malabar, about 10 lakhs are inhabiting the southern area of Malabar now marked out for a Moplastan. Moplastan extends over taluks where they are living predominantly and the group of islands exclusively inhabited by the Moplahs. Moplastan will have a population of million Moplahs if not more. If Cochin with a population of one million can have a separate State, if Pudukkottai with just over 4 lakhs of people can have a separate State, there is no reason why the Moplahs who have a cultural identity of their own and who make a distinct nationality of their own, cannot have a Moplastan in Kerala? The reason why we are driving towards this separate state of Moplastan should be made clear to the House. Sir, the particular community for which this state is claimed is a very very unfortunate community. In fact, they too had taken part in the non-co-operation movement and fought for the freedom of the country against the British Government and they had also endured the greatest afflictions during the days of the Moplah rebellion. Though they struggled and fought for the independence of this country along with their sister community, their compatriots were responsible to send many of them to the gallows. What is the experience they are having with their sister community? Under the aegis of their sister community, they have not made an inch of progress in any walk of life. They are as backward as they were 150 years ago and in the matter of literacy, they are worse off than any other community in that part of the country."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Moplastan cannot come here. I have already told the hon. Member that I have ruled it out of order."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I have been making clear how my reference to Moplastan is relevant to the main resolution and, with your permission, Sir, I shall explain it still clearer. The main object of the resolution is that these linguistic provinces should be enabled to develop according to their own culture and for the identical reason we respectfully submit that Moplahs, who are a cultural entity altogether, should be given a separate State where they can grow and develop in their own way aligning themselves with and keeping abreast with other progressive communities, and where they can have a hope for the future. No provision for such a Moplastan has been made in the resolution. For these reasons, I oppose the resolution."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the resolution moved by the Hon. Leader of the House, I want to say a few words. We, Tamilians are very much anxious to have a separate province just as much as the Andhras and others. We feel that only when a Tamil province comes into being that we can really do something to better the condition of

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our people in the Tamilnad. Sir, the agitation of Tamilnad for a separate province is not a new thing; it has been there for a long time. Hon. Members are aware that the agitation is going on in Tamilnad for Dravidastan. Of course, the sponsors of the movement have not defined what Dravidastan is. They have simply been saying that they too want Dravidastan on the basis of Pakistan. Nobody knows what is Pakistan. (Laughter and interruption.) Even the Muslim League Members of this House do not know what is Pakistan." (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should come to the point."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I am coming to the point, Sir. I say that even the Qaid-e-Azam Jinnah himself does not know what is Pakistan." (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"This has nothing to do with Pakistan. Let the hon. Member confine himself to the subject-matter of the resolution."

* SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, I was just saying that the agitation for Dravidastan came into this Province just after the claim for Pakistan was raised. But there was no support for Dravidastan then and that is why people do not know anything about it. My hon. Friend Mr. Raza Khan mentioned something about the Andhra province and said that Andhras are afraid of Tamilians, because they are in a minority and that is why they want a separate province. That is what he said the other day. But, Sir, I may state that in this province, the major communities who form the bulk of the population of the Tamilnad are afraid of the so-called minorities of the other linguistic provinces, namely, the Andhras and Malayalees. Ever since the advent of the Montford Reforms in this Province, only the minority leaders of this Province were in power and they were actually ruling this Province with the help of the so-called minorities of other linguistic areas. Sir, the fact is that these minority people prevented the majority people in the Tamilnad from coming to power. I can quote one instance. When I say minority communities, I do not mean the Brahmin community, but I refer only to the smaller communities of the Non-Brahmins. For instance, there are the Tevar community consisting of Kallars, Maravars and Ahmadiars and the Vanniyakula Kshatriyas; they form nearly 50 per cent of the total population of the Tamilnad. Can anybody say that a member of any of these communities has been in power all these days? I only speak about the provincial administration; but even in regard to district administration and local bodies and other institutions, the position is the same. Only if we get a separate Tamil province can the majority communities get their share in the provincial administration. That way only can we prevent the exploitation of the majority communities by the other minority communities who have come from the Andhra and the Malayalam areas.

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"I shall close my speech with one more word. Some doubt has been expressed that we cannot get these linguistic provinces. I do not think so, Sir. We can achieve our Tamilnad province, that is what I think. If there is any difficulty and if anybody stands in the way, we will fight it out. We fought for freedom and we are now getting it; similarly, we will also fight for a separate province and we will achieve it.

"I want to say one word to my Andhra friends. The Andhras have created an impression that they are the only people who are fighting for a separate province of their own. That is incorrect; we, Tamilians, also are fighting for a separate province for ourselves. I may state, that even in case the Andhras give up their agitation for a separate province, the Tamilians will continue to fight for and get a separate province for themselves.

"Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity."

* SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, I rise to support the motion before the House. In doing so, I want to bring to the notice of the House a few facts. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, was kind enough to say, the other day, that there was no Constituent Assembly at all. If my friend thinks like that, are we to be guided by him? He has been in a dreamland all along, if he were to say now there is no Constituent Assembly, in spite of the fact that so many representatives from this House have been sent to take part in the framing of a constitution for the country as early as possible, in order that we may become a free nation after June 1948. Well, if my hon. Friend refuses to accept the fact that there is a Constituent Assembly, may I ask him why he had four members of his party elected to the Constituent Assembly out of a total of 49? If he thinks he should not take part in it, he is at liberty to resign and go out of it. Suppose I invite half a dozen friends to dine with me to-day; if one of them does not turn up, am I to send back all the other five friends just because one of them has not come? I will be doing injustice to the others in that case. So also, Sir, when there is the Constituent Assembly, when the country is framing a constitution, how can my Friend, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, deny the fact that there is a Constituent Assembly at all?

"As regards Akand Hindustan, I may say, Sir, I am a member belonging to that community and as such a descendant of the oldest inhabitants of this country. As a result of that, I claim that the whole country is mine. After all, some of my friends, who claim to be Aryans and also some other friends who pose to be Muslims, are invaders of this country. They invaded this country, they conquered it and they have now lost it; they have no hold on the country now. The Britisher, who is a third party, is after all a trader in this country. Being a trader, he has exploited us enough. Now he has realized his position . . ."

MR. W. T. WILLIAMS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I don't think the hon. Member used the word 'traitor'."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He used the word 'trader'."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My hon. Friend may please understand that the Britisher is a trader and even to-day he is trading."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let not the hon. Member go on answering the other hon. Members. Let him come to the point at once."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"So, all these three people put together have exploited us enough; but this kind of exploitation cannot go on any longer. We want linguistic provinces now for the simple reason that we want to be a united country, so that we can understand each other better and also do our business better. We have been experiencing difficulties only because of this trouble of the provinces not being formed on any linguistic basis."

"Mr. Swaminathan went to the extent of saying that he has been fighting for a Tamilnad province; I appreciate his fighting spirit. But if he had done it earlier than now, it would have been much better. In 1937, the Congress Government of this province passed a resolution in favour of the formation of linguistic provinces. Due to whose interference it was stopped, is a matter to be investigated and gone into. My Tamil friends are saying that they have been exploited to the maximum by the Andhras; but we, the Rayalaseemites, are the Cinderellas of this province. We have been exploited by the Tamilians and they have exploited us to the utmost. There is now a pact entered into between the Rayalaseemites and the Northern Circars people. I trust they will see that the pact is fulfilled. You all know how much injustice has been done to us; we, Rayalaseemites, have been given one seat in the Cabinet now; but in the previous Ministry we were not given any seat at all. The economic conditions of the Rayalaseema are poor. When you are dividing the country, who is to take responsibility for developing Rayalaseema? Therefore, Sir, I now ask, before the Boundary Commission is appointed, something radical must be done in order to alleviate the economic condition of Rayalaseema. Unless and until that is done, there is no use fighting for separate provinces. I do want the linguistic provinces, that is clear; but at the same time let me say that the elder brother should not exploit the younger brother simply because he is ignorant and innocent. With these words, Sir, I support the resolution and also request the friends of the Northern Circars to say what will be their attitude towards Rayalaseema when they get their province."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will rise to-day at 1-30; if any member can finish his speech in five minutes, he can speak now."

* SRI K. BOKKAI GOWDER:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the resolution before the House. I feel this is the only solution for developing the whole country, every nook and corner of it without neglecting any portion of it, as was and is happening under a Government which has to administer vast areas consisting of heterogeneous elements. In a small homogeneous Government, the resource of the entire area can be exploited for the good of the people in that area, and also of outsiders perhaps."

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"Sir, the hon. Muslim members of this House have striven hard to make out a case of unreality out of reality. They tried to cast a shadow on the Constituent Assembly and a shadow on the proceedings of that Assembly, the glories of which can be properly shared by all if it is supported by all. Instead of wasting their time in such an attempt, if they take strength in their hands and offer advice to their leader, the Qaid-e-Azam, and persuade him and persuade their members of the Constituent Assembly to take part in the carving out a constitution for the good of us all and worthy of our great country, then they will be really doing very good service."

"Sir, as regards linguistic provinces, the determination of border line may present some difficulty to the Boundary Commission. So, that question must be carefully considered. The boundary commission should take the views of the natives of the border line areas into consideration and then come to a conclusion to include those areas into one or the other of the linguistic provinces which they prefer. They must consider which province, in the interests of the natives, will be suitable for including them."

"More than one hon. Member made reference to the Nilgiris. I would not touch on that point if the hon. Mr. Madhava Menon had not made a hasty and passing reference to the Gudalur taluk of the Nilgiris district. Sir, it is not correct to say that Gudalur taluk consists of Malayalees only or that all the land there belongs to the Nilambur zamin. It is true of course that some portion of the zamin land is cutiyated; but who are the real cultivators? The real cultivators are the Badagas and the Kongu Chettiyars. And the entire Gudalur taluk consists of tea and coffee plantations and plantation labourers are mostly drawn from Mysore, Malayalam and even Tamilnad. Therefore, the question to be considered is, who are the real cultivators of the land. As I have said before on the floor of this House, the Nilgiris district has been entirely neglected and the poor natives of the district are forced to learn a language which is as foreign to them as English. They are not taught in their mother-tongue. I do not know how that anomaly has come about, but that great grievance has got to be removed and blotted out at once. That would be easily possible only when linguistic provinces come into existence."

"I do not want to say to which province this district should go. That will be considered by a conference which is being called now; their views will be communicated to the Constituent Assembly—that is, as to which will be the proper province in which the district should be included."

"With these words, Sir, I support the resolution."

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the Upper House sits to-day at 3 p.m., we won't have an evening session to-day."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Sir, I should like to repeat my old submission to the Chair. I am not having any quarrel over the question of the adjournment of the House now or even during the rest of the week; I have

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no objection to the Assembly rising at 1-30 on days when the Upper House meets in the evening. I only beg to remind you of my submission made to you some time ago when you said you would consider the matter and see that the meetings of the Upper House and of the Lower House are not held on the same day. My only submission is: in view of the fact that both the Houses sit on the same day, it has been found desirable for the Lower House to sit for only half a day. But that means more number of days for the work of the Lower House to be finished and Members also will have to stay in Madras longer to get through the work of the Assembly. Therefore, Sir, it would be advantageous if you are able to devise some means by which the days on which the Upper House meets and the days on which the Lower House meets do not clash. There was a suggestion made sometime ago that if the reporting staff of the Assembly Secretariat is strengthened very much, it would be possible to have different hours of meeting for both the Upper and Lower Houses on the same day. I am not here to say how far that would be possible. I only submit to you and I also appeal to the Hon. Leader of the House to consider this matter. I hope, Sir, you yourself, in consultation with the Hon. Leader of the House, will be able to make a reasonable arrangement. I agree it may not be possible to put that arrangement into effect this session itself. I am only reminding you of my old request, so that when we meet at the next session, it may be possible to have some reasonable arrangement in this respect."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"I quite sympathize with the Hon. Leader of the Independent Group; but the thing is, this time the Hon. Ministers will not be in Madras from the 26th onwards. This, however, will be taken as an exceptional case. In the future, of course, we shall look into the matter."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I am not mentioning about this session, or about the rest of the days of this week."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on the next day.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 589 asked by Sri U. Padmanabha Mallayya at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 21st April 1947, page 762 supra.]

(a) Area served in acres—

	(a) Double wet.	(b) Single wet.	(c) Garden.	(d) Protected dry irrigation.	Total.
(i) Harvi-Basapuram ..	..	58,200	..	..	58,200
(ii) Malapuram ..	..	15,000	15,000	264,219	2,42,219
(iii) Thimmalapuram ..	..	(Separate figures are not available.)			2-94 (lakhs)

Area submerged in square miles—

	Madras.	Bombay.	Hyderabad.	Mysore.	Total.
(i) Harvi-Basapuram.	No area will be submerged as it is an ancient scheme.				..
(ii) Mallapuram ..	75-9/16	5-1/16	57½	..	138-1/8
(iii) Thimmalapuram ..	63-32	134-26 (in- clusive of 8-71 in Sangli State).	..	6-72	228 (in- cluding river beds).

(b) Negotiations were made with the Bombay Government in connexion with the Thimmalapuram Project but they were not agreeable to the proposal for the reasons given in answer to (c) below:—

(c) Reasons for abandoning Thimmalapuram Project—

Mallapuram scheme.	Thimmalapuram scheme.
Length of dam, 8,188 ft.	9,500 feet with another subsidiary dam of 7,400 ft. across a gap.
Cost of dam and reservoir— 20 crores of which Madras share will be 10 crores.	14-79 crores which is to be wholly met by Madras.
The area of submerision— 138 square miles	228 square miles.
Cost of acquisition	As the submergible area is greater and as it contains rich cultivable lands in Bombay Presidency, the cost of acquisition will be higher and the entire cost will have to be borne by this Government.
Canals	Involves long and expensive canals.
Proximity to railway— 3 miles from Hospet Railway Station.	Far away from the railway line. A road 36 miles long with bridges over several wild streams and rivers like Hagari and a railway line will be necessary.
Disturbance to local people	125 square miles of Bombay Presidency comprising of 104 villages of which 33 villages will be wholly submerged. Population dispossessed subsists on agriculture.

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Thimmalapuram scheme as originally contemplated was based on a quantity of 310 t.m.c.ft. But after division of waters with Hyderabad, we get only 65 t.m.c.ft. The figures for comparison are based on the available water of 65 t.m.c.ft. To share this quantity of water in a larger reservoir is out of question.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to clause (e) of starred question No. 593 asked by Sri S. Nagappa (on behalf of Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 21st April 1947, page 767 supra.]

Statement showing the number of impounded cattle, number of persons involved and compounding fees realized in Pyrethrum areas during 1943-44, 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47.

O.R. Number.	Locality.	Nature of offence.	Number of cattle involved.	Number of persons accused.	Compounding fees collected.	Convicted amount.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
					RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
1943-44.							
North-east group—							
6	Thuner, Thummanatti, Kendorai grazing and Ebbanad.	Illicit grazing.	14	8	16 7 0	..	..
West group—							
2	Hodgson's Hill ..	Do.	8	2	9 6 0	..	..
5	Hecuba and Governor shola.	Do.	58	6	16 7 6	..	..
North-west group—							
14	Brookhampton ..	Do.	69	21	91 13 0	..	..
4	Sholur ..	Do.	14	5	18 3 0	..	..
1944-45.							
West group—							
12	Governor shola and Hecuba.	Illicit grazing.	87	21	97 15 0	5 0 0	..
North-west group—							
26	Brookhampton ..	Do.	185	32	184 1 6	..	..
5	Sholur ..	Do.	37	5	50 0 0	..	..
9	Muthinad ..	Do.	137	13	170 6 6	..	..
1945-46.							
East group—							
2	Bettumund and Jakantha.	Illicit grazing.	14	2	12 11 0	..	..
West group—							
10	Hecuba and Governor shola.	Do.	127	19	152 3 0	15 0 0	..
9	Ree's corner ..	Do.	45	14	38 13 0	6 0 0	..
	Do. ..	Collection of fuel.	9 head loads.	9 at 4 annas each.	2 4 0	..	..
1	Hodgson's Hill ..	Illicit grazing.	30	2	27 11 0	..	..

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O.R. Number.	Locality.	Nature of offence.	Number of cattle involved.	Number of persons accused.	Compounding fees collected.	Convicted amount.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
					RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
1945-46—cont.							
North-west group—							
31	Brookhampton ..	Illicit grazing.	224	31	186 11 0	19 8 0	..
1	Sholur ..	Do.	4	1	1 14 0	..	..
8	Muthinad ..	Do.	52	19	48 5 0	23 0 0	..
1946-47.							
East group—							
1	Mainalai ..	Illicit grazing.	17	2	7 15 6	..	..
1	Honnathalai ..	Collection of fuel.	..	2 at Re. 1 each.	2 0 0	..	..
West group—							
4	Ree's Corner ..	Illicit grazing.	18	11	13 6 6	..	..
4	Hecuba ..	Do.	26	5	22 1 0	20 0 0	..
North-west group—							
29	Brookhampton ..	Do.	157	58	55 14 0	5 0 0	..

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 22nd April 1947.

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

MR. SPEAKER (referring to the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan):—
“The Hon. Minister should stand in his place when the chair enters the House.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am sorry, Sir.”

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

*Alleged prosecution for putting certain questions in the
Legislative Assembly.*

* 597-A Q.—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that hon. Member Mr. Nambiar has been prosecuted for putting certain questions in the Assembly; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative whether the Government consulted the Hon. the Speaker and the leaders of various parties in the House before the prosecution was sanctioned?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No.

“(b) The question does not arise.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister for Law aware that a news item to this effect was published in the newspapers and, if so, may I know why he has not contradicted it?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I cannot go on denying everything that appears in the newspapers. It is not the function of the Government.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is there not the Public Information Department of the Government? Will the Government consider the desirability of denying at least the important news published in the newspapers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The Government do not think it is worth while denying these matters in spite of the fact that there is the Public Information Department.”

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the hon. Members of this House are quite safe and whether no action will be taken against them in such cases in future? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already stated that Members of the House have a privilege; only they should not misuse it."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, under what circumstances a Member can be prosecuted for allegations made on the floor of this House? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is too wide a question to be answered in an answer to a supplementary question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" May I know whether the case is under enquiry? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes, Sir, the matter is *sub judice*."

MR. SPEAKER:—" As the matter is *sub judice*, I will not allow any more supplementary questions."

Assistants to the Rural Development Officer, Tellicherry firka.

* 598 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of A. K. Kaderkutti Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number and names of the Assistants appointed under the Rural Development Officer for the Tellicherry firka;

(b) the educational qualifications of the said Assistants and their salaries;

(c) the political party to which the said Assistants belonged;

(d) the nature of the work done by the Assistants; and

(e) the total amount spent per mensem on the rural development work?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) & (b) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Village Development Officers who are the executive assistants of the Firka Development Officer of the Tellicherry firka. The Firka Development Officer of this firka has five Village Development Officers under him at the rate of one for each of the five groups of villages into which the firka has been divided. Their names and educational qualifications are:—

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----|------------------------|
| (i) Sri K. Somasundaram | .. | Studied up to S.S.L.C. |
| (ii) ,, P. V. Velayudhan | .. | Do. |
| (iii) ,, M. A. K. Nambiar | .. | Do. |
| (iv) ,, T. K. Kunhiraman | .. | Matriculate. |
| (v) ,, C. H. K. Nambiar | .. | V Form. |

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" The Village Development Officers draw a salary of Rs. 30 per mensem each in the scale of Rs. 30—55 per mensem.

" (c) The Government has no information.

" (d) The duties of the Village Development Officers are—

(i) to conduct an intensive survey of the villages included in their respective groups in consultation with the villagers concerned with a view to assess accurately the present condition of the villages and villagers and their urgent needs.

(ii) to stay in each village within their jurisdiction during the period of survey at the rate of about a week in each village with a view to get to know the people, study their economic condition and their circumstances and with the help of the villagers prepare a list of improvements needed for each village.

(iii) to visit each village regularly after the period of survey is over on specified days of the week for supervising the progress of work in the village concerned.

(iv) to attend to such other work as may be entrusted to them by the Firka Development Officer from time to time; and

(v) to help the Firka Cottage Industries Officer in his work.

" (e) Expenditure on account of rural development work is being incurred by several departments of the Government under various heads. The total amount spent also will vary from month to month. If the Hon. Member desires to have information in respect of any specific scheme and for any specific period it will be furnished."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the Government have made any enquiry as to the political party to which these officers belong? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Government do not think it necessary to make such enquiries because Government servants, once they are appointed, are supposed to be free from political opinions."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know what the policy of the Government is in making such appointments, whether any Harijan of that firka was appointed and if not, why, and if so, who it is? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Member has combined so many questions into one that I have not really followed what he has said. But I know he is accustomed to jump about a good bit. At the same time, I would like to tell him if Harijans, who are capable of doing the work as the Government want it to be done, are available, the Government will consider the appointment of such men."

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SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" May I know whether the Firka Development Officers and their subordinates have no work to do now, and whether the Firka Development Officer, Bezvada, Mr. Suryaprakasa Rao, has written to the Government that there is no work for him and his subordinates and that the villagers are pooh-poohing them for drawing salary without doing any duties? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member can put a separate question. This question deals only with the Tellicherry Firka. "

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government have received any report on the rural development scheme in the Tellicherry Firka? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is too early, but as the hon. Member seems to be keen, the Government are prepared to call for such a report. "

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know whether these officers have undergone any course of training in rural reconstruction work? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" They are fit according to the recommendations of the associations which have carried on village development work. But their work has got to be watched, and if we find that they are not up to the task expected of them, they may be replaced. "

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" When there are so many passed candidates without any appointment, may I know the reason why the Government have appointed men who have studied only up to S.S.L.C. and V Form? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It is not a question of education alone; it is a question of doing a particular kind of work, namely, rural development work. As the Government felt that these people were suitable for the posts, they were appointed. "

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the answer to clause (c), may I know to which political party these officers belonged before they were appointed and whether their political leanings were taken into consideration in appointing them? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not think their political leanings were taken into consideration at all. "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The Hon. Minister referred to certain associations. May I request him to name them? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The All-India Spinners' Association and the All-India Village Industries Association, which have carried on rural development work in an intensive way. "

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether the Government consulted the local Harijan M.L.As. before making such appointments? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am afraid I cannot do that, because I do not think M.L.As. ought to interfere in Government appointments. "

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask whether the Firka Development Officers are regularly sending fortnightly reports to Government through the Collectors? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I will make an enquiry. "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Are not the two associations, mentioned by the Hon. Minister, Congress organizations? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" They are not. "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it not a fact that cent per cent of the members of those organizations are Congressmen? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Certainly not. "

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether it is the policy of the Government not to consult the M.L.As. in the matter of such appointments? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Yes, Sir. I have already stated that M.L.As. should not interfere with the discretion of Government in the matter of appointments. "

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" My question was whether it was the policy of the Government not to consult M.L.As. in the matter of such appointments and not whether the M.L.As. should or should not interfere. "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" If necessary, M.L.As. may be consulted; as a general rule, I think they ought to be above these things. "

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" May I know whether making of suggestions by Members will amount to interference? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Member had considerable practice in courts, and he knows the import of the language I used. What I said was that they could make suggestions, but that they should not think that their suggestions would always be carried out. "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that, under cover of various reasons, 50 per cent of the appointments has gone to the Brahman community? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" It might be so, but the Government will see that such things do not recur. "

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Would it not be advisable to make these appointments after laying down a well thought out plan of rural development?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I entirely agree with the suggestion of the hon. Member."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Is it not a fact that the local Harijan M.L.A. was consulted in appointing Firka Development Officer in West Godavari district?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can put a separate question. This question deals only with the Tellicherry Firka."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it the policy of the Government to appoint only men who belong to the Congress Party or have Congress affiliations?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have said that these officers were appointed not because of their political affiliations, but because of the particular kind of work to which they had been accustomed."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"For future appointments to the posts of Village Development Officers, will the Government consider the desirability of choosing more persons from rural parts than from urban parts, as the former will have a better understanding of the rural needs?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

Ordinance XI of 1945 (India).

* 599 Q.—MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ordinance XI of 1945 (India) (that Agriculturists' Act applies to pro-notes also) ends on 31st March 1947;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to take steps to see that the Ordinance is extended for two more years; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to stay all proceedings till the new amendments are introduced?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Consequent on a judgment of the Federal Court in 1945, in a case of the Bengal Government, that it was *ultra vires* the Provincial Legislature to enact debt laws in so far as they relate to promissory notes, the Government of India issued an Ordinance temporarily validating the provincial debt laws in respect of promissory notes. So far as this Province was concerned, Sections 3 (iii), 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 19-A of the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1938, were affected by the Federal Court judgment. As the Ordinance issued by the Government of India would be valid

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only up to 31st March 1947 the question of introducing permanent legislation to validate such provincial debt laws in the event of the Privy Council upholding the Federal Court judgment was considered by the Government of India. The Privy Council has since delivered judgment on 11th January 1947 holding that the Bengal Money Lenders Act is not void either in whole or in part as it deals in pith and substance with money-lending. In view of this it is not necessary to extend the Ordinance issued by the Government of India.

" (c) In view of the answer given under (b), the question does not arise."

Profiteering.

* 600 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take to put down profiteering in imported goods consequent on the repeal of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance by the Central Government?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"By the term 'imported goods' the hon. Member presumably refers to consumer goods imported from abroad. The Government have not promulgated any order controlling the prices and distribution of consumer goods in the place of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance which lapsed on the 30th September 1946. They have been watching the effect of de-control and if they find that, in spite of a larger supplies and greater freedom in import and distribution, prices continue to be unreasonably high and there is profiteering, they will consider the question of re-instituting controls."

Appointments under Co-operative and Labour departments.

* 601 Q.—SRI S. GURUVULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of officers, both gazetted and non-gazetted, serving in the Co-operative and Labour departments who are closely associated with the work of the uplift of the Harijans; and

(b) whether the communal Government Order has been adhered to in such appointments?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) & (b) The information^a is placed on the table of the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the information placed on the table of the House, may I know why the Government are not applying the communal Government Order in promoting Junior Inspectors of Co-operative Societies as Senior Inspectors?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The communal Government Order is applied only at the time of the first appointment to Government service. It does not apply to promotions which depend upon the merits of the individual."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether the purpose of the Government or of the Labour department is not lost if many Harijans and the people interested in Harijans are not promoted?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not think the hon. Member is interested in putting a premium on inefficiency, if inefficiency is the criterion for jobs. If a Government servant is efficient and if he first gets admission according to the communal Government Order, he is left to work his way up. He will not be prevented from being promoted according to his merits. Administrative efficiency may not permit the procedure of a man being promoted, simply because he belongs to the Scheduled Classes community."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government is not aware that Scheduled Class members will be in a better position to serve their communities than members of other communities?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question of community does not arise when it is a question of a person discharging his duties. Service requires prompt attention to details and right discharge of duties without consideration of persons or communities. Therefore fitness for service is the essential quality required."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With reference to the assurance given by the Hon. Minister that if a man is efficient, promotion will be automatically given to him, may I ask whether it is in practice or only in theory?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is so in practice."

* 602 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member (Sri K. Varadachari) is not in his seat. The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

Removal of control over price and movement of groundnut oil.

* 602 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have recently removed control over the price and movement of groundnut oil (vide Press Note published in the *Hindu*, dated 5th March 1947); and

(b) whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of withdrawing all prosecutions now pending in different courts or pending investigation by the police as was done last year regarding foodgrains?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Not as a general policy."

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Major and minor projects in Rayalaseema.

* 603 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what are the major and minor projects that are going to be taken up immediately in Rayalaseema in general and in Kurnool district in particular?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the list of schemes placed on the table of the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the list placed on the table of the House, I see there are six major projects and four minor projects with regard to the Kurnool district. May I know in what stage these projects are and whether estimates have been drawn up?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"In answer to the question put, a list of major and minor projects that are to be taken up immediately is placed on the table of the House. These projects are in a ripe stage and they will be taken up for execution immediately."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My question has not been answered. Have the estimates been drawn up? If so, at what stage the projects are and when will they be taken up?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already answered that the schemes will be taken up immediately."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My question is as regards Rayalaseema generally. The Government have omitted to give the information regarding Chittoor district."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The question refers to Rayalaseema generally and to Kurnool district particularly."

SRI T. K. T. N. R. TATACHARI:—"I am sorry, Sir, that Chittoor district has been omitted. Are we to understand from the reply given, that there are no schemes for Chittoor district?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I see that Chittoor district has been omitted. I shall look into the question and give an answer to my hon. Friend if he would put a separate question."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I request the Hon. Minister whether the Pennar Kumudavati project which is ready for execution in the Anantapur district will be taken up under Grow More Food campaign this year?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"This project has been pending for a long time, although I cannot say whether it is ready for execution. I shall see whether it cannot be taken up this year."

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ There are many major and minor projects in Kurnool district whose investigation has been completed and estimates are ready. How is it that only a few schemes have been included? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ These are projects that will be taken up for immediate execution.”

Restoration of breached tank in Dhone taluk, Kurnool district.

* 604 Q.—SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been received from ryots to restore the breached tank near Gutupalli village, Dhone taluk, Kurnool district;

(b) whether any investigation has been made and estimate drawn up; and

(c) whether the Government have ordered that the work be taken up?

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

“ (b) No. The breached tank referred to has no irrigation under it and it was considered not worth investigating by the Tank Restoration Scheme Party.

“ (c) The Government will consider the question after the preliminary report on the feasibility of restoring the tank called for from the Executive Engineer, Kurnool division, is received and examined by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and a report submitted by him to the Government.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ Arising out of the answer given to clause (a), may I ask whether the Government have examined previous records and found out that irrigation was going on under that tank? I have inspected the tank and found it is all right except for a small breach.”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ A report was called for originally. The breached tank has no irrigation under it; therefore it was not considered worth while investigating the scheme. We have asked the Executive Engineer to examine the whole question again and we expect a reply.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask the Government whether they do not realize the urgency of repairing breaches of tanks? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ The Government do realize the urgency of such matters.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ If the Government realize the urgency of the matter, why is so much time taken? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ That is because, when they examined the question, they found that the tank had no irrigation under it.”

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SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“ May I know what is the wet ayacut under the tank before it breached? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ It was found there was no irrigation under it.”

Construction of a channel in Vizagapatam district.

* 605 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what action has been taken by the Government towards the construction of a parallel channel to the one existing now under the name of Dusi channel in Vizagapatam district to irrigate 650 acres of land;

(b) whether it is a fact that the inhabitants of Dusi village have remitted some amount in the treasury at the instance of the Public Works Department and Revenue officials some years back towards the construction of the said channel; and

(c) when is the work likely to be started?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) There is a proposal to construct a channel parallel to the existing Dusi channel in the Vizagapatam district, but it is for providing better irrigation facilities to 650 acres of land at the tail end of the Dusi channel and irrigated by that channel and not for any new irrigation. The estimate for the work is under scrutiny by the Superintending Engineer.

“ (b) Yes. They deposited a sum of Rs. 325 in 1943 when the work was estimated to cost Rs. 4,800.

“ (c) It is not known when the work is likely to be started since several questions have to be settled before then, one of which is the payment of further contribution by the ryots in view of the fact that the cost of the work has now gone up to Rs. 15,000, and the work contemplated is not necessitated by any defect in the existing channel but is intended to afford greater facilities to the lands in question.”

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—“ May I know what are the recommendations of the Chief Engineer in this respect? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I would like to have notice.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know why villagers are asked to remit money for improvement of irrigation channels like this? Are there any reasons? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ When there is betterment of land by Government incurring some expenditure, we naturally expect the ryots who benefit by it to contribute a portion of the expenditure.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“ May I ask the Government to see that work is completed before the next rainy season commences? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ That would depend on the ryots agreeing to pay further contribution towards the work.”

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SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—" May I know whether these irrigation channels come under remunerative or non-remunerative work? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" It would come under non-remunerative work."

SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—" Is it not a fact that for want of sufficient water-supply, the crops of lands fed by this channel are miserably failing every year? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" We have no such information."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" Since the amount required for the channel has been collected already, may I know whether the villagers will not be asked to pay enhanced rates when the scheme is completed? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" What is collected is only a paltry sum of Rs. 325; it works out at 8 annas per acre; this amount is not sufficient."

Appointment of Firka Officers.

* 606 Q.—**ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:** Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the names of the Firka Officers appointed and the community to which each of them belongs?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The information asked for is given below:—

Firka and district.	Name of the Firka Development Officer.	Community.
1 Hindupur (Anantapur) ..	Sri R. Balasankara Gowd ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
2 Kalasapakkam (North Arcot) ..	" K. Muniswami Mudaliyar. ..	Do.
3 Kadambuliur (South Arcot) ..	" T. S. Krishnamachari ..	Brahman.
4 Alur (Bellary) ..	" R. Hanumantha Rao ..	Do.
5 Tiruvallur (Chingleput) ..	" C. Parthasarathi Ayyan- gar. ..	Do.
6 Palladam (Coimbatore) ..	" S. Subbian ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
7 Nagari (Chittoor) ..	" P. R. Kumaraswami ..	Do.
8 Prodattur (Cuddapah) ..	" B. Rama Sastri ..	Brahman.
9 Rajahmundry (East Godavari) ..	" C. Hanumantha Rao ..	Do.
10 Dendulur (West Godavari) ..	" J. A. Ramamurthi ..	Do.
11 Polavaram (West Godavari) ..	" K. Ch. Raghupathi Rao. ..	Do.
12 Ongole (Guntur) ..	" M. Satyanarayana ..	Do.
13 Kumbala (South Kanara) ..	" K. M. Babu Shetty ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
14 Bezwada (Kistna) ..	" D. Suryaprakasa Rao ..	Brahman.
15 Kurnool (Kurnool) ..	" B. Ramakrishna Reddi ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
16 Tirumangalam (Madura) ..	" N. Subbiah ..	Do.
17 Tellicherry (Malabar) ..	" N. P. Damodaran ..	Do.
18 Kanupur (Nellore) ..	" G. Padmanabiah ..	Brahman.
19 Kundah (The Nilgiris) ..	" M. Halayya ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
20 Malli (Rannad) ..	" V. Venkataswami ..	Do.
21 Veerapandi (Salem) ..	" V. Venkataramanappa. ..	Scheduled Caste.
22 Saliyamangalam (Tanjore) ..	" N. S. Krishnamurthi Ayyar. ..	Brahman.
23 Shermadevi (Tinnevely) ..	" N. Tirumalachari ..	Do.
24 Musiri (Trichinopoly) ..	" J. Nataraja Ayyar ..	Do.
25 Gara (Vizagapatam North) ..	" B. Krishnamurthi ..	Do.
26 Pendurthi (Vizagapatam South) ..	" M. Kameswara Rao ..	Do.
27 Madugula (Vizagapatam Agency) ..	" B. Dwaraka Dixit ..	Do.
28 Vellakovil Centre ..	" K. C. Songappan ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
29 Avanashi Centre ..	" Mr. S. R. Wellington ..	Indian Christian.
30 Puliyankuruchi Centre ..	" Sri V. O. C. Arumugham Pillai. ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.

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Firka and district.	Name of the Firka Development Officer.	Community.
31 Tuni (Uratla cum Tuni) Centre ..	Post vacant.	
32 Guruvareddipalem Centre ..	Sri P. R. Bavaji ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
33 Erragundapalem Centre ..	" K. Chandramouleeswara Rao. ..	Brahman.
34 Payyanur cum Nileseshwar Centre ..	" A. Achuthan ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
Firka and district.	Name of the Firka Cottage Industries Officer.	Community.
1 Hindupur (Anantapur) ..	Sri T. Thanappa ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
2 Kalasapakkam (North Arcot) ..	" S. Krishnamurthi ..	Brahman.
3 Kadambuliur (South Arcot) ..	" A. Natarajan ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
4 Alur (Bellary) ..	" Bhimasena Acharya ..	Brahman.
5 Tiruvallur (Chingleput) ..	" D. Govindarajan ..	Scheduled Caste.
6 Nagari (Chittoor) ..	" Veeravalli Ramanujam ..	Brahman.
7 Palladam (Coimbatore) ..	" J. A. Gnanam ..	Indian Christian.
8 Prodattur (Cuddappah) ..	" Madhvamuni Rao ..	Brahman.
9 Rajahmundry (East Godavari) ..	" Dinavathi Satyanarayana. ..	Do.
10 Polavaram (West Godavari) ..	" Ch. Soma ya ..	Do.
11 Dendulur (West Godavari) ..	" Uppaluri Ramasastri ..	Do.
12 Ongole (Guntur) ..	Janab Darya Khan ..	Muslim.
13 Kumbala (South Kanara) ..	Sri M. Narayana Rao ..	Brahman.
14 Bezwada town (Kistna) ..	" Mellela Gajapathi Anand. ..	Do.
15 Bezwada Firka (Kistna) ..	" K. L. N. Sastri ..	Do.
16 Kurnool (Kurnool) ..	" Gumpalle Satyanarayana. ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
17 Tirumangalam (Madura) ..	" C. Annakamu ..	Do.
18 Tellicherry (Malabar) ..	" Krishna Warriar ..	Do.
19 Kanupur (Nellore) ..	" P. Govinda Rao ..	Brahman.
20 Kundah (The Nilgiris) ..	" N. Chevana ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
21 Malli (Rannad) ..	" Alagiriswami ..	Do.
22 Saliyamangalam (Tanjore) ..	" V. Santhanam ..	Brahman.
23 Virapandi (Salem) ..	" Palaniswami ..	Indian Christian.
24 Shermadevi (Tinnevely) ..	" J. A. Durairaja Reddi ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.
25 Musiri (Trichinopoly) ..	" M. Periyaswami ..	Do.
26 Gara (Vizagapatam) ..	" Bulusu Venkataratnam ..	Brahman.
27 Pendurthi (Vizagapatam) ..	" Pillutla Krishnamurthi ..	Do.
28 Madugula (Vizagapatam) ..	Post vacant.	
29 Madras City ..	Sri Y. Satyanarayana ..	Brahman.
30 Madras City ..	" A. K. Chandrasekhara Mudaliyar. ..	Non-Brahman Hindu.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Does the Hon. Minister realize that out of 34 appointments of Firka Development Officers that were made, there are 16 Brahmans, 12 Non-Brahmans, 1 Christian, 1 Scheduled Class member and no Muslim? Out of 30 appointments of Firka Cottage Industries Officers made, 14 are Brahmans, 8 Non-Brahmans, 1 Muslim, 1 Scheduled Class member and 1 Christian? May I know whether the Government advertised these posts before they made the appointments? Did they apply the communal Government Order when making these appointments? If not, what is the principle on which these appointments were made? Do the Government realize, that left to themselves and without any check of the communal Government Order, they would make appointments as they have done in these cases? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am grateful to the hon. Member for the question paper that he has set on this question and will proceed to answer it. I quite realize that the number of a particular community is large. As I said in answer to another question, in future appointments the Government will see whether the communal disparity cannot be rectified. I can see there is a sort of feeling in the minds of hon. Members in these days when unemployment

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faces the Province, that all communities should have their share in the appointments. I realize their feeling. With regard to the question whether any advertisements were made and applications called for, as far as I can see, nothing of the kind was done and in future in view of what hon. Members have said, the Government will advertise the posts. At the same time I would like to bring it to the notice of hon. Members both on my side of the House and on the opposite side that this is a peculiarly special work and we have to get men having the special qualities that are necessary for such a work. For instance, khadi development is a particular feature of this rural development and therefore unless the person possesses what I would call khadi mentality, it will be difficult for him to undertake the task and carry it in a manner in which it should be carried out. I know that merely wearing of khadi does not give the khadi mentality. If a person is put on this job, the question is 'has he got the will to do the work and will he be able to accomplish the work?' Hon. Members need not run away with the idea that no attention will be paid to the education of the persons appointed. At the same time I want to bring to the notice of hon. Members opposite that, if such a development is to take place in the proper manner, whatever a person may be doing before he is appointed on this particular job, in future at least he should wear khadi, because he cannot advertise khadi to the people and not wear khadi himself because people will have no faith in the programme. The person who is appointed must be prepared to wear khadi. I know there are political associations working for the cause of khadi. But if khadi development is to take place in the right manner, I feel it is necessary that people who are appointed to these jobs must be prepared to wear khadi. I hope hon. Members will not misunderstand me when I emphasise this point."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is the Government aware that out of the 64 appointments of Firka Development and Firka Cottage Industries Officers, only two have been given to Harijans and in view of that, will the one post which is vacant in the place of Mr. K. V. N. Appa Rao be given to the Harijan community?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am sorry, Sir, the hon. Gentleman is referring to one particular appointment and I cannot give any undertaking like that. I have repeated it time and again."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this novel experiment has been made on a very large scale by the Government and that these appointments were given to persons not because they belong to a particular community, but because they have given a good account of themselves, having a very deep faith in khadi and living up to that faith?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am glad to take the information from the hon. Member."

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SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Inasmuch as this department is a sort of public organization, may I know, Sir, whether the District Collectors who are in charge of the work are wearing khadi, so that they may carry out the work efficiently?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The District Collectors are not in charge of this work and I am not compelling them to wear khadi."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, under whose control they are working and from whom do they take orders?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"They have got to take up orders from District Collectors as well as from the Government."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I suggest to the Hon. Minister that, in view of the fact this is a very technical sort of work requiring a rural bias, all those who are recruited for this work are trained in a regular school for a period of three months?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that these officers have no work to do now?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not aware of it, Sir, but I shall make enquiries into the matter on the information given by the hon. Gentleman."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it was suggested that so far as khadi is concerned, the only community which is not interested in it is the Muslim community. May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister whether all the communities except the Muslims are so Congress-minded that they are all khadi-wearers and that only Brahmans are best-fitted for khadi work?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, there are even Muslim gentlemen who are khadi-minded. I find my hon. Friend opposite who represents the Muslim constituency from Malabar sitting there wears khadi. Therefore, I say, he is also khadi-minded. That is why I don't grant the suggestion of the hon. Member that anyone particular community is khadi-minded, and that is why, Sir, the Government will try to get these people from various communities in order to fulfil the proportion assigned to them."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it the impression, Sir, that all wearers of khadi are khadi-minded?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Khadi-wearing is an ostensible proof of a khadi-mind, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government if they are not aware that Harijans are the best spinners and weavers and on that account alone, will the Government consider the desirability of giving most of these posts to the Harijans?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am thankful to the hon. Member for his information, but as I said, I will not give any undertaking in the matter."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I point out to the Hon. Minister that the only solitary appointment that was given in this department to the Muslim community is a nationalist Muslim?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, that must naturally follow, and my hon. Friends must know it because hon. Gentlemen opposite day in and day out think that khadi is a sort of sin."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I have some particulars of the exact nature of work these officers are now doing, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As I said, I shall call for the information, Sir."

Education to prisoners.

* 607 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the percentage of illiterate prisoners who received education during 1945 and 1946?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The percentages of illiterate prisoners who received education during each of the years 1945 and 1946 were 5.34 and 4.12 respectively."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Are the Government aware that jails are the best places where adult education could be spread? And if the Government promise that prisoners who pass a particular standard at the earliest opportunity would be released, the prisoners would be encouraged to study hard and pass the test and come out of the prison?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is not at all possible to give any such undertaking, Sir. The majority of the prisoners in the jails are there only for less than four months and it is, therefore, not possible to carry out the suggestion of the hon. Member."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of adopting the policy that I have suggested and practice it for some time, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The Government do not think that the policy is correct, Sir."

Libraries attached to jails.

* 608 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the libraries attached to jails have separate librarians; and

(b) whether they have any shelves to keep the books?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) There are no separate librarians attached to jail libraries but jail school teachers perform the work of librarians.

" (b) They have shelves and cupboards to keep the books."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government whether the instructions that are imparted in jails include moral and religious instruction which form the basis of good behaviour?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"May I remind the hon. Member that the question relates to jail libraries and librarians and not to education in jails?"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I should like to know, Sir, what are the actual instructions that are imparted to the prisoners?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"As I said, Sir, the question is whether there are separate librarians in jails and the answer is that teachers are doing the work."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, what is it that these jail school teachers practically teach?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, they are qualified teachers under the rules and they do the teaching work in jails."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government consider the advisability of sending Mr. Nagappa to jail so that he can get some education there, Sir." (Laughter.)

[No answer.]

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will make efforts to increase the number of books in the jails, because they are very few now?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, a particular amount is allotted in the Budget for the purchase of books; but if more books are required and if they are presented by friends, they will be welcomed."

Application for licences to new bus and city services in the South Kanara district.

* 609 Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons who applied for the new bus and city services in the South Kanara district; and

(b) the names and designation of persons to whom the licences were granted so far?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) The number of persons who applied for—

(i) New bus service in South Kanara district	18
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(ii) City service in South Kanara district.	12
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- "(b) (i) Mangalore Automobiles Limited,
Mangalore One permit.
(ii) Sri M. Sham Bhat, Proprietor, Sri
Durga Parameswari Motor Service,
Kadri, Mangalore Two permits.
(iii) Messrs. The Canara Public Conveyance
Company, Limited, Mangalore .. . One permit.

NOTE.—Messrs. Mangalore Automobiles, Limited, Mangalore, were given two permits but the Company withdrew in December 1946 one of the two buses and did not replace it. Messrs. the Canara Public Conveyance Company, Limited, was therefore given one permit in its place.

"The information furnished above is for a period of one year."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, if these licences are for new routes?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I have no information on hand, but I shall call for it, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, the basis on which these permits have been granted to these persons?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Permits were issued on the basis of competence, efficiency and on the benefit of the service to the public."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, how many villages are benefited by granting licences through these routes?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I want notice, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government when these transport services will be nationalized?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The question is under consideration."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Government how long will they take to come to a decision in the matter and when we can expect State buses, Sir?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, 'how long' or 'how soon' are very familiar questions on the floor of this Assembly and the answer is equally familiar, 'as early as possible'."

Eviction suits under Malabar Tenancy Act of 1929.

* 610 Q.—M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of suits filed in the district of Malabar for eviction of tenants governed by the Malabar Tenancy Act of 1929 from 1940 to 1946, both years inclusive;

(b) the number of suits in which renewals were ordered;

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(c) the number of suits dismissed on deposit of arrears of rent; and

(d) the number of suits in which eviction was actually ordered?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"The information is not available. The Government have called for a report."

M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, when the report will be ready?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I need not repeat the answer just now given by my hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas. But a report has been called for and it will be placed on the table of the House, as soon as it is ready."

Breaches in "Agraharam Samakulam" tank in Coimbatore taluk.

* 611 Q.—V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation tank called "Agraharam Samakulam" tank in Coimbatore taluk breached during high floods last year and that the breaches remain unclosed even now;

(b) if so, the reason for the delay in carrying out the repairs in the proper season and avoiding loss to cultivation of food crops; and

(c) whether there is co-ordination of interests between the minor irrigation and major irrigation authorities?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) Yes,

" (b) The waste weir and the bund of the tank to a length of 118 feet were washed away. There were also two other breaches in the tank bunds measuring 220 feet in length. The repairs have to be carried out after getting the technical opinion of the Public Works Department and after the estimate is sanctioned by the Board of Revenue. The estimate prepared by the Collector of Coimbatore had to be revised and scrutinized by the Public Works Department. The estimate is now pending with the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle. The repairs will be carried out as soon as the estimate is sanctioned.

" (c) Yes."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"May I know what is the period that has elapsed between the breaches of this tank and the last preparation of the estimates?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I have only here a letter from the Board of Revenue, dated 21st March 1947, stating that the Superintending Engineer has been asked to expedite the estimate."

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SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"Sir, this is a matter of irrigation work, and as the Government are aware of the importance of raising food crops, they should see that the repairs are expedited as quickly as possible. If the technical authorities are so careless as to delay such a small work in the preparation of estimates, is it not proper that such authorities are taken proper account of?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, as soon as the member gave notice of the question, the department has already taken sufficient action and I have got here a letter from the Revenue Secretary asking for explanation."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether all this delay is due to the fact that the Minor Irrigation department is not getting sufficient advice from the P.W.D. promptly?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"It does not refer to the breach in a tank, Sir."

Vaccination in this Province.

* 612 Q.—K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government propose to make vaccination optional in this Province?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The answer is in the negative."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the Government know that there is a very strong opinion in the world against this practice of vaccination?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, experience in several countries has established the fact that vaccination and re-vaccination at periodic intervals is the best means of affording immunity against smallpox."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Do the Government realize the enormous good that is ensured to the public on account of compulsory vaccination?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that Mr. Gandhi is opposed to vaccination?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"We go according to medical opinion in this matter, Sir."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that in many of the western countries, this compulsory vaccination has been abolished and is it not a fact that Mr. Gandhi whose view is always upheld, is also opposed to it?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"As far as I know, at least primary vaccination is compulsory in most of the countries."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that a Royal Commission sat on this question and as a result of their labours, exemption from vaccination has been liberalized and rigours of compulsion minimized?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I am not aware of it, Sir. But as far as I know, primary vaccination is compulsory even in England."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask the Government whether in making provision for a conscience clause in the Public Health Act of 1938, an assurance was given in this House that vaccination would not be made compulsory in all circumstances?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Any person who has conscientious objection to vaccination may get himself exempted by a magistrate as provided for in the Madras Public Health Act."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether it is a fact that the abolition of this vaccination system has been upheld even by Gandhiji?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I am not aware, Sir."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Do the Government realize that those who hold conscientious objection in this matter are a very small number in this world?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Very few people have applied for exemption, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that Gandhiji's opinion will not be taken in this matter, will the Government give a categorical statement in what matters they will take the opinion of Gandhiji and in what matters they will not take his opinion?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I do not think it is necessary to do so in this matter."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"On a point of information, Sir. I may enlighten the House of the fact that the Public Health Act contains provisions regarding conscientious objectors. A clear procedure is there laid down as to how a conscientious objector should use his privilege and in what way."

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

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following messages, dated 21st April 1947, have been received from the President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

(1) In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.

(2) In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me."

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III.—STATEMENT ON THE GUNTUR FOOD SITUATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Hon. Members may be aware that the statement made yesterday by the Hon. Minister is now before the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We have not received it yet, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall ask the peon to distribute them to the Members just now."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"In the meantime, Sir, we shall continue the debate on the resolution regarding linguistic provinces."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether what is proposed on the statement regarding food is going to be a debate or merely the asking of questions?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let hon. Members first of all go through the statement. Then they may raise the point whether question will be asked or whether a debate will be allowed under rule 14 afterwards."

IV.—CHANGE IN THE TEXTILE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information. After this Government came into power, during the question hour we have been asking whether there has been any change in the textile policy of the Government, and we have not been told that there has been any such change. In the last two days, the papers have been publishing that the Government have decided on a reversal of the old policy. In spite of the assurance given in this House by the Hon. the Leader of the House that this House would be informed of any such change earlier than the newspapers, no statement has been so far made in this House. May I know, Sir, whether there has been any change in the policy of the Government in regard to this matter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Gentleman opposite ought to realize that we are not responsible for what is published in the newspapers. When a Government Communiqué on the subject is ready, which I hope will be in the course of a day or two, I shall make an announcement as regards the policy on the floor of this House."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I ask the Hon. Leader of the House when he will give this House an opportunity to debate on the textile policy of the Government?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"There is no question of debate now. The hon. Members will know what the policy is going to be; and if they want a debate, hon. Members on the

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opposite side may ask me about it. There is time enough and the Government can find the time and the policy may be debated if necessary."

SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I should like to know whether after the statement on the Guntur food situation is distributed, you will allow us to ask questions to-day or to-morrow after question-time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"First of all let the statement be distributed to the Members. Then the hon. Member can ask me whether I will allow a debate or allow only questions to be put on that. I think it is better we take up this matter on Thursday as that will give time for hon. Members to go through the statement in detail."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"To-day during the question hour, the Leader of the House asked us not to put confidence in what is published in the papers. I want to know, Sir, whether what is stated in the papers regarding the textile policy is true or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the House says that he is going to make a statement later on, on that."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But I want to know whether it is not a fact that there has been a reversal of policy."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am afraid the hon. Gentleman must have patience; because I have already said that the Government have under consideration the issue of a communique on the subject and before that communique is issued, I hope to announce it on the floor of this House."

V.—MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE MEMBER OF GOVERNMENT IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT TO WHICH THE BILL RELATES.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"With your permission, Sir, may I point out that the next item on the agenda may kindly be permitted to be taken up now?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, please."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Sir, I beg to move—

that in view of sub-rule (1) of rule 77 of the Madras Assembly Rules requiring the Member of the Government in charge of the department to which the Bill relates to be a member of the Select Committee, this House do proceed to appoint the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, the Minister in charge of the department, to be a member of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Extension to Agricultural Land) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1947)."

The motion was put and carried.

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VI.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

FORMATION OF LINGUISTIC PROVINCES—*cont.*

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on the resolution regarding linguistic provinces will now continue."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is a pity that some members of the House are not able to appreciate the stand taken by the Muslim League party on this resolution. People of the status of Mr. T. Viswanatham have gone to the extent of saying that our opposition to this resolution is unreal. Apart from the question of its being real or unreal, the stand taken by the Muslim League in this respect is to be viewed on the actual reading of the resolution. Some people like Mr. Viswanatham have stated that in the past, the Muslim League members of the House have supported the Andhra movement; true, but then there was no reference to the Constituent Assembly. Now because there is reference to the Constituent Assembly, they have taken their present stand after mature consideration, and it is better that people like Mr. Viswanatham make statements which will not cause harm to their own principles, as has been the case in the past when some statements brought trouble to some members on the Treasury Benches and caused harm to their own party. Again, Sir, as regards the Constituent Assembly, it is high time we realized that the Assembly is dead beyond resurrection. After the Press statements that the Viceroy was likely to call a Round Table Conference and after Pandit Jawaharlal's statement to-day that unless the Indian States decided to join the Constituent Assembly now, they would consider the States as the enemies of India, it is high time we realized that the Constituent Assembly is not living and that it is dead beyond resurrection."

"As regards the argument that the Minister for Finance is sanctioning the expenditure of the Constituent Assembly and paying its members, i.e., that because Mr. Liqat Ali Khan is paying the Constituent Assembly Members, therefore that Assembly has sanction behind it, I may point out that many Associations in Madras are receiving grants from the Madras Government, for instance, the Vigilance Association and others. But on that account can we say that it has something to do with constitution making or that it has power to force the Indian States to join it? It is a very strange argument, Sir."

"Coming now to the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon, we cannot be a party to a resolution with reference to which it is said that some States will have to be liquidated if this resolution is to be put into force. It is very difficult to bring within the scope of this resolution, the question of disruption of the States over which it is not possible for the Constituent Assembly to have any control. If what Mr. Madhava Menon dreams of is to come true, some States will have to go, and the Maharaja of Cochin and the Rajas of other States may have to abdicate before we can think of . . ."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I never said that I wanted the disruption of the States. I simply said that the question of the Indian

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States was an All-India question and that we could not wait till that question was finally settled. I never said anything about the disruption of the States."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I would also advise the hon. Member that we have nothing to do with the States here."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is why I described some Members of the House as day-dreamers. My friend of the Communist party said that part of Hyderabad also should go. That is why I had to refer to these States. Unless they are dreaming, I think this resolution which aims at the disruption of the States as they exist at present, cannot be supported by anybody."

"Sir, people like Mr. Wilson are exhibiting some knowledge and very little understanding. Some knowledge is dangerous, but little understanding will be alright. People refer to matters which they are not able to understand. It is high time that the stand taken by this Party is understood by the members of the House. Again, Sir, it is not correct to say that we are not for linguistic provinces. You base your division of the provinces only on language, but we want division on much broader basis such as culture and religion. From that point of view, the unreality of this resolution is clear. Mr. Viswanatham has been wondering how the members of this party have been changing the views which they held in the past. I say that the resolution becomes much more unreal when we see that Hon. Dr. Subbarayan has moved this resolution. He supported a portion of this resolution when he was in the Justice Party; there was another resolution like this which he supported when he was a Minister in the C.R. Ministry; now again in this Ministry, he is moving this resolution; I am sure Dr. Subbarayan, when he finds a place in a future Communist Government will support another resolution like this."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"On a point of information. Dr. Subbarayan was never in the Justice Party."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He was the leader of the Independent party. I was referring to the unreality of the resolution, a resolution sponsored by Dr. Subbarayan who has supported a similar resolution once when he was leader of the Independent party, again when he was a Minister in the C.R.'s Ministry and again now, I wonder, as I said, if he will not support a similar resolution in a future Communist Government of this Province. I suggest therefore that in his moving this resolution there is greater unreality than in the resolution itself. We, on this side, think that there can be only one basis on which the division of provinces can take place, viz., culture and religion, and not language, as is done in this resolution. Even when provinces are divided on that basis, I suggest they should not be linked to the Centre, as stated by the Hon. Leader of the House."

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Some provinces which may be divided on a cultural basis, such as Moplahstan, should be linked to a South Indian Federation called Dravidistan and they shall have nothing to do with the Centre. We have seen in the past how changes have come about without any reference to South India; it is high time we realized that some sort of federation for South India only is essential and that it is the need of the day.

12 noon. "Sir, we know that there are some differences between the Tamilians and the Andhras but they are not real differences. The real differences are the differences between the Brahmins and the Non-Brahmins in Southern India. Unless those differences are solved, the division that is now proposed will not solve the problem and it will only be based on an imaginary basis. So, Sir, I suggest that this resolution which imagines a Constituent Assembly and which also magnifies the Congress Working Committee should be dropped. Even a leader like Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru has recently pointed out that he would declare the States as hostile if the States are not prepared to come into the Constituent Assembly. To-day, the Viceroy and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru have invited the Muslim League to a Round Table Conference. I ask, Sir, if Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru has got faith in the Constituent Assembly, why should he invite the Muslim League to a Round Table Conference? The fact that there is to be a Round Table Conference and the fact that Mr. Jawaharlal himself has invited the Muslim League to a Round Table Conference prove that the Constituent Assembly is dead."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's time is over."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The question-time was just now over and I began only a few minutes back."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allowed you more than ten minutes. You can finish in one or two sentences."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As the Constituent Assembly is now dead and as Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru himself has invited the Muslim League to a Round Table Conference, it is better that 'Moplahstan' and other Provinces are not tagged on to the Centre."

* SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while rising to support this Resolution on Linguistic Provinces, I fully endorse every sentiment expressed by the Leader of the House. When he said that all the friends in Tamil Nadu will appreciate and help to contribute to the Andhra Province, I felt quite happy. I am also happy to find that even yesterday in the Tamil Nadu Congress Committee, they fully endorsed the resolution which we are moving now. The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan has also pointed out that the sixteen per cent of the Andhra element in Tamil Nadu will form a connecting link between the Andhras and the Tamilians."

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"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the agitation for the Andhra Province can be traced back to 1912, when at Nidadavole all our Leaders have decided to hold the First Andhra Mahasabha in 1913 at Bapatla. Thus our agitation has been carried on from year to year, but so far, we have been unfortunate in not getting a Province for ourselves whereas minor Provinces like Orissa and Sind have already attained their objective. Again, Sir, 25 per cent of the people in India can speak Hindi, Bengali speaking people form 18 per cent of the population whereas the Telugu speaking form 9 per cent. Thus we stand third in India. In Telangana, of Hyderabad State, the Andhras are about eighty lakhs. In Bombay Presidency, we have got more than a lakh. In Central Provinces and Berar, we have got a population of one lakh and thirty thousand. Thus, we have the population; we have the finances, and we have all other contributory factors for forming a good, self-governing Province. I am surprised why my hon. Friends on the other side oppose this resolution. They need not be frightened about minority rights because, the rights of the minorities are safeguarded in this Province. If they read a report written on the subject in 1938 by the Madras Government, they will understand the position. We have got statistics to show that the Muslims are already having their full quota of representation in the District Boards and Municipalities. If you take the Vizagapatam District Board, the percentage of population of Muslims there is .8 and the percentage of representation in local boards is 5.7. Again, if you take West Godavari district, the percentage of population of Muslims is only 2.1 and they are having a representation of about seven per cent in local boards. The position is the same in Tanjore, Tinnevely and South Arcot. Sir, if you take the municipalities, in Anantapur and many other places, we see that the Muslims are having more representation than they deserve. If you take the Rajahmundry municipality, for instance, you will find that the percentage of Muslims according to population there is 4.3 whereas the percentage of representation is 12.5. In Bezwada, the percentage of population is 12.5 and the percentage of representation is 21. So, I do not really understand why my hon. Friends on the other side are opposed to this resolution even though they are having more than they deserve. I say, they need not be afraid of their minority rights in an Andhra Province. I can understand at least that there is some meaning in some of my hon. Friends talking of 'Moplahstan' but I am yet unable to follow the logic and the rationale of my hon. Friend, Mr. Salam's arguments and also of some other hon. Friends, who opposed this resolution. The Andhras deserved their Province long ago and it is now high-time that we should work up and agitate. Some hon. Friends questioned the value of this recommendation to the Constituent Assembly. Since the Constituent Assembly is now meeting, I feel that it is the right time for us to send up a resolution like this to the Constituent Assembly. Even the High Command will approve of our action and so, this is right time for

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us to put forth all our combined effort for the immediate formation of the linguistic Provinces. We are committed with the task of forming separate linguistic Provinces and the Congress a long time ago, has passed a resolution to reorganize the Provinces on a linguistic basis and in their Election manifestos, they have stated, 'We have explained to all the people that as soon as popular Governments come into existence we will take up as a first step, the reorganization of Provinces on a linguistic basis.' So, Sir, I heartily support the resolution and more than that, I appeal to the hon. Friends opposite to withdraw their opposition to the Resolution and thus contribute towards the real, natural and rational reorganization of the Provinces on a linguistic basis."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, I rise to oppose this resolution. ('Hear, hear' from Muslim League Benches.) In doing so, it may be that I am the only Hindu member who has to say something against this Resolution. Sir, I have got the speech of the Hon. the Leader of the House here. He started off by saying that 'there has been a general feeling among the people that it would be better if the Provinces were carved out on a linguistic as well as cultural basis.' Sir, is that all the argument for sponsoring this resolution, I ask. It is only an assumption. Have the Congress Party got a mandate from the people that they would like to have the separation of these linguistic Provinces? Is this an election pledge? Did the Congress tell the country that this will be one of their items on their programme if they run the Government?

"Sir, Dr. Subbarayan says, 'There is however one link between them in that the languages spoken in the areas were allied.' Well, Sir, if there is a link, if there is affiliation in language, then why the separation of these linguistic Provinces. Again, Sir, the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan says that all these languages come from the same Mother. In those days, this was the argument put forward by the Justice Party in their demand for 'Dravidistan'. I have always thought that this doctrine of separation of Provinces on a linguistic basis was harmful. The Justice Party first organized what was called the South Indian Liberal Federation and said that South India had a distinct culture and that culture was Dravidian culture. Here also (Dr. Subbarayan) says that it will be on the basis of culture. What is the wonderful culture that these Tamilians, the Keralas, or the Andhras have got, Sir, each separately? I always thought that we, Indians, have only one culture, the Indian culture and Indian heritage; I am nowadays hearing about hundred and one cultures. I can understand the Roman culture, the German culture and the French culture and so also I can understand only one culture, the Indian culture and the Indian heritage."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is the Muslim culture."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"I do not want to be interrupted, because many Hon. Members have had their say in the matter. Sir, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese are supposed to be derived from the same mother according to Dr. Subbarayan. Who is that mother? That is the 'Dravida Mata' to whom the Justice Party said in those days we should pay homage. The Justice Party wanted that South India should be a separate sovereign state—a federal union consisting of the four linguistic units. Sir, the Congress have always been saying that they are fundamentally opposed to separatist tendencies, because India is supposed to be one nation and we Indians from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas are supposed to pay homage to what is called the 'Bharata Mata'. Sir, when the great Muslim League Leader, Mr. Jinnah wanted Pakistan, the Congress said that they ought not to cut Bharata Mata into two. What is it that we are trying to do now? We are trying to cut 'Bharata Mata' into four or five pieces, limbs gone, head gone, and so on. Are we to pay homage to such a 'Bharata Mata'. How do the Congress Leaders reconcile these differing and conflicting statements? Now the Hon. the Leader of the House wants us to pay homage to "Dravida Mata". Sir, I consider that India is one country and Indians are one nation. We have a common culture and heritage. The Leader of the House wants to divide South India according to culture. I want to know how these conflicting statements can be reconciled. If there has been an agitation in Tamil Nad for a separate Tamil Province, I can understand. Has there been any agitation in the press? Have the Government received memorials or deputations from the Tamilians for the formation of a separate Tamil Province. But, I can understand the demand by the Andhras at this juncture for the formation of a separate Andhra Province. What I cannot understand is why this resolution must go in the name of this Assembly? Let the Andhra Leaders, the Tamilian Leaders, the Kerala Leaders who are all members of the Constituent Assembly go there and make out a case for these linguistic provinces. The Andhras are highly emotional and excitable people. (Laughter). Sir, ever since the Government came into our hands, it was mainly the Andhras who have been running the Government of this Province. There was Mr. Subbarayalu Reddiyar, then the Raja of Panagal, Mr. Munuswami Naidu, then came the Raja of Bobbili. (One Hon. Member: Dr. P. Subbarayan was also there.) He was there only for a few months and I do not recognize him as having run the Government for a long time. Then came Mr. C. Rajagopalachari for a short time. Then came Mr. Prakasam and now Mr. Omandur Ramaswami Reddiar is running the Government. What more do they want? Sir, the Andhras think that all their money is spent on Tamil Nad people because Tamil Nad is having the benefits of Papanasam scheme, the Mettur scheme and the Pykara scheme. The Andhras have now got the Tungabhadra Project. They have a network of electric transmission lines in Andhra districts; Sir, what about little Kerala with its culture

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the 'Kathakali' dance? (Interruption). Even Malabar is going to have electric lighting now. So, if we are one consolidated unit, then all of us can share the advantage. Otherwise, disunity and disruption only will exist.

"The one great advantage of present provincial boundaries and district formations is that they, in the main, cut across linguistic and cultural affinities. I want to say that there is absolutely no difference between what Mr. Jinnah wants and what the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan says. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim group.) Dr. Subbarayan says 'jealousies arise when we are together. Our friendship will be better when we are separated.' That is just what Mr. Jinnah also says. Then he says, don't ask questions; let this not be a controversial issue; you first concede the principle of linguistic provinces, and then we will decide what to do. Mr. Jinnah also says that, concede the principle, then I will tell you what to do. When I heard Dr. Subbarayan speaking, I thought I was hearing Mr. Jinnah making out a case for Pakistan. ('Hear, hear' from the Muslim group.) Sir, what would have happened if the British Government had formed provinces, not on the basis of respective jurisdictions but on the basis of cultural affinities and attachments? In a country like India, formation of provinces on the basis of language will only mean jealousies and bickerings, rivalries and quarrels among all these linguistic units. Take for instance, the question of capital for Tamil Nad and Andhradesa. The Andhras want Madras and we also want Madras and why should we go on fighting with these people. After all they stand to benefit by being together. Here again I must refer to Dr. Subbarayan's speech. Sir, the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan referred to 'the demand for dividing the finances of the provinces in such a manner as to have separate Budgets for Andhra and Tamil areas, and said that this matter was considered by the Adviser Government, who decided to give it up for the time being, because it was found difficult to make such allocations'. Sir, when the Advisers' Government failed, Mr. Prakasam also failed, how are you going to do any better, I want to know? If these gentlemen who have got the greatest interest at heart failed, how anybody else is going to succeed, I want to know (the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan: 'Divide them'). The Tamil Nad Congress Committee passed a resolution that the limit should be up to Tirupati. Where is the need for this? Why should you bring in a controversial matter and say, do not raise controversial issues. That is what I want to know. What are the implications of the division based on languages? Supposing we take Tamil Nad? How are you going to get the necessary money for running the Government. Will there be a separate machinery for the administration, separate legislature, separate services, separate post offices and perhaps separate stamps for these provinces? My point is this: Sir, what are the people in for, if they agree to a separate Tamil Nad, a distinct Andhra Desa, a new Canarese area, and a united or disunited Kerala of

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British Malabar and Malayalee States? What are the implications? It is unfair to ask people to accept certain things without telling them the implications. It may be that I may not want a Tamil Nad at all, if it will mean financial bankruptcy, heavy taxation, and inter-provincial jealousy and bitterness. It may be that my Andhra friends will think twice if they know that a separate Andhra Desa will entail great sacrifices and possibly, an isolated existence for them. I may say, Sir, that even in Andhra Desa there is no union in regard to this matter. For instance, the people of Rayalaseema have been saying; 'No, we do not want to have anything to do with Andhradesa. (A voice: 'No. No.')

I hear a voice 'No, No.' Let those gentlemen give me the reason why their colleges are affiliated to the Madras University; why should they not go to the Andhra University if that were not so? As a matter of fact, they have got their colleges affiliated to the Madras University. What does that mean, I ask? Are they really serious in joining the demand for Andhradesa, I want to know. Whatever it is, Sir, these are all the difficulties which are bound to crop up. It may be that Malayalees may have to be sent back to their own country because as a Tamilian, I may not like to be ruled by them. That is why I put a supplementary question, yesterday, 'are you going to ask these people to migrate to South Kanara', on an interpellation about South Kanara. (Interruption from an hon. Member.) I request the hon. Member not to interrupt me. I want to ask whether these people will be transferred to other places when the linguistic provinces come into being.

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p.m.

"Sir, my idea in opposing this resolution is simply this. I say there is the Constituent Assembly and we have recognised this Constituent Assembly, and all our leaders are members of that body—I mean every leader in every part of our province is represented on that body. I want them to go and take up the question and convince the Constituent Assembly about the division of the province into linguistic areas. I have always been under the impression that I am an Indian first and a Tamilian next and in case I happen to be in Germany, I would only say I am an Indian. I want steamers sailing from my country to go with an Indian flag across the seas. The Hon. the Leader of the House while sponsoring the resolution said, we will divide this province into linguistic areas. I say it is a most dangerous thing now, because you do not know its financial implications. I ask, where is the hurry for it and where is the need for this resolution now to be sponsored in the name of the Legislative Assembly.

"Sir, I know I am taking too much of your time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is why the hon. Member should close soon."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I shall finish soon, Sir. In the words of the Hon. Dr. Subbarayan, let us all hang together and that is what I want. On the other hand, if we hang separately, we

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know what would be the result. Every one will have to suffer. That would be the result of hanging separately.

“Sir, I have to oppose this resolution simply because I honestly feel that this is not the time for linguistic provinces. The Hon. Dr. Subbarayan was saying that the question of linguistic provinces has been in the air for so many years. I say that was all due to the machinations of the old Justice Party who wanted Dravidian culture in this country and that is what my hon. Friend, Salam, also referred to. I can understand Dravidian tradition and Dravidian culture, but when you talk of India, we must talk as a nation. When we are having Asian conferences and discussions, what is it you are going to say to them except telling them we are all Indians. So, Sir, I strongly oppose this resolution and I do not see why this resolution must go in the name of the Madras Legislative Assembly.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Already a number of members have taken part in the debate and so I reduce the time-limit from 10 to 5 minutes in future.”

* SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, பாஷா வாரியாக மாகாணத்தை பிரிவினை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தில் கலந்துக்கொள்ளும்படியான பெரும்பாக்யம் எனக்குக் கிடைத்ததைப்பற்றி நான் சந்தோஷமடைகிறேன். இம்மாதிரியான தீர்மானம் வெகு நாட்களுக்கு முன்பே இந்த மாகாணத்தில் நிறைவேற்றியிருக்குமானால் நான் மட்டுமல்ல, எல்லோரும் சந்தோஷமடைந்திருப்பார்கள். ஆனால், இதில் குறிப்பிட்ட சில பிரச்சினைகள் சில அன்பர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். அது அவ்வளவு பொருத்தமுடையதாக இருக்க முடியாது என்பதை நான் சொல்லக்கூடிய சில விஷயங்களிலிருந்து புரிந்துகொள்ளக்கூடும். பொதுவாக பாஷாவாரியாக இந்த மாகாணத்தைப் பிரிக்கப்பட்டால் அவர்வர்களுடைய தாய்பாஷைக்கு எவ்வித பாதகமும் பந்தமும் ஏற்படாது. இந்தியாவின் பொது பாஷையை கற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கும் தடை இருக்காது. வேறு பாஷைகளை கற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு செலவுகளும் சந்தர்ப்பமும் இருக்கும். அதற்கும் எவ்விதமான பாதகமும் ஏற்படாது. ஆனால், சில குறிப்பிட்ட பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினர் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் குறிப்பாக கல்வியிலும், செல்வத்திலும், மற்ற அரசாங்க உத்தியோகங்களிலும் மிகவும் பிற்போக்காக இருந்து வருகிறார்கள். ஒரு பெரிய ஜனத்தொகை மிகவும் பிற்போக்காக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள்தான் வன்னியகுல சுடித்திரியர்கள் என்று சொல்லக்கூடியவர்கள். அவர்களும் இப்பொழுது சற்றேறக்குறைய 60 லட்சத்திற்குமேல் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அப்படி இருக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் யாவரும் பழந்தமிழர்கள். அவர்கள் விஷயத்திலும் குறிப்பாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். இங்கு ஹீறிகுக்கும் பத்திரிகை நிருபர்கள்கூட அவர்களிடம் அறுதாபம் காட்டுவது இல்லை. இந்த பிற்போக்கு சமூகத்தைப்பற்றி இந்த சபையில் சொன்னாலும் அதை எழுதுவதும் கிடையாது நினைப்பதும் கிடையாது. ஆகையால் இவர்கள் எவ்வளவு பிற்போக்காக இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை இதிலிருந்தே எல்லோரும் உணர்ந்துகொள்ளலாம். அதற்காக ஒரு வன்னியகுல சுடித்திரிய பத்திரிகைக்கூட ஆரம்பிக்கவேண்டுமோ என்றுகூட ஒரு அச்சம் எனக்கு ஏற்படுகிறது. இந்த மாதிரி இந்த மாகாணத்தில் பாஷாவாரி பிரிவினை ஏற்படுமானால் அக்காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு நல்ல சந்தர்ப்பமும் நல்ல காலமும் ஏற்பட்டு சகல விதத்திலும் முற்போக்கடைவார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு சுயேச்சையும் ஏற்பட்டு அவர்களுக்கு நல்லது ஏற்படும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இப்பொழுது தமிழ், ஆந்திரா, கேரளா, கர்நாடகா என்று நான்கு மாகாணங்களாக பிரிக்கப்படும் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது.

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[Sri A. Subrahmanyam]

பிரிக்கிற காலத்தில் கேரளா தேசத்தில் “மாப்பிள்ளைஸ்தான்” வேண்டுமென்று முஸ்லீம்கள் கேட்கிறார்கள். அப்படி சொல்வதற்குக் காரணம் அங்கு உருது பாஷை இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். அது முடியாத காரியம். ஏனென்றால், அங்குள்ள முஸ்லீம்களெல்லோரும் மலையாள பாஷையைத்தான் பேசுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுடைய உருது தாய் பாஷையை கற்றுக்கொள்வதற்கு தடை கிடையாது. இன்னும் தமிழ் நாட்டு வன்னியகுல சுடித்திரியர்கள் ஆந்திர தேசத்தில் இருந்துகொண்டு தெலுங்கு பேசுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் அங்கு தமிழ்ப் பாஷையைத்தான் பொதுப் பாஷையாக வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூறினால் அது நியாயமாகுமா? அது முடியுமா அதைப்போல் ஆந்திரர்கள் தமிழ் நாட்டில் தென் ஆற்காட்டிலும் வட ஆற்காட்டிலும் இன்னும் இதர தமிழ் நாட்டிலும் இருக்கிறார்கள் அவர்கள் தெலுங்கு பேசுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்குப் பிரித்துக்கொடு என்று கேட்டால் அதுவும் முடியாத காரியம். அது நியாயமாகவும் இருக்கமுடியாது. அந்தந்த நாட்டில் அந்தந்த தாய் பஷையை பேசுவதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு ஆட்சேபணை கிடையாது.

‘வேறு வேறு பாஷைகள் கற்பாய் நீ!
வீட்டு வார்த்தை கற்கிலாய் போ! போ!
ஜாதி நூறு சொல்லுவாய் போ! போ!
தருமமொன்றும் ஆற்றலாய் போ! போ!
நீதி நூறு சொல்லுவாய் கா சொன்று
நீட்டினால் வணங்குவாய் போ! போ!’

(பாரதியார்)

என்று பாரதியார் பாடியிருக்கிறார். ஆகையால் இதை மனதில் வைத்துக் கொண்டு இந்த மாதிரி நல்ல சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் வந்த பிரச்சினையை நாம் பயன்படுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரிக்க வேண்டுமென்பதை இந்த மாகாணத்திலுள்ள எல்லோரும் சந்தோஷத்துடன் ஆதரிக்கிறார்கள். குறிப்பாக இதை எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரத்தில் பாஷாவாரியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைக் கண்டிப்பாகச் செய்யவேண்டும். தமிழ் நாட்டில் எல்லோரும் இதற்கு உதவியாகவே இருக்கிறார்கள். தமிழ் நாட்டில் எல்லோரும் இந்த பாஷாவாரி பிரிவினைக்கு உதவியாக இருந்து இந்த மாதிரி நான்கு மாகாணங்களாக பிரிக்கப்படவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லக்கூடியவர்கள் இதை பரிபூரணமாக ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ஆகவே அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபையில் உள்ளவர்கள் இதற்கு வேண்டிய பரிசாரத்தை உடனே தேடுவார்கள் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு இந்த தீர்மானத்தை முழு மனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a labour meeting, Sir?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is a quotation from Bharathiar.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I thought it was a labour meeting.”

* SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—“I get up, Speaker, Sir, to 12-30 p.m. support the resolution moved by the Hon. the Leader of the House. The resolution is a pure and simple one and not at all controversial. Sir, the principle of formation of provinces on linguistic basis has been accepted by the Congress long before and the agitation for division of provinces in British India has been going on for some years and 21 Congress provinces are to-day functioning. The only thing is there has been no statutory powers or recognition of the same. The slogan in the days of the ‘Vande-mataram movement’ was ‘one race, one history and one language’. You know, Mr. Speaker, the late Lord Hardinge, an

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ex-Viceroy of India once declared that the Hindi speaking people of Bihar being tied with Bengal was a big handicap in the way of development of Bihar and its entity. Accordingly Bihar was separated from Bengal and this action of Lord Hardinge created an urge in the minds of the Andhras and inspired them in their demand for a separate Andhra province. The agitation for a separate province for Andhras was started as early as the year 1911 and ever since Andhra leaders have been fighting for it and year after year, conferences were held and resolutions were passed reiterating their demand. In the years 1927 and 1928 in this very Legislative Council resolutions were passed to the same effect but the cherished goal of the Andhras has not so far been realised. In this connexion, one thing has to be taken note of. A small province like Orissa has been constituted by the Government in the year 1936, a province which is wanting in area, a province which is wanting in population and a province which is wanting in income was created by the Government. When such a province was created there should be no difficulty at all for the formation of a separate province for Andhras which satisfies all the requisite conditions for the formation of a province.

"When the Orissa province was constituted out of an area of 17,186 square miles of the Vizagapatam district in 1931 the whole of Jaipur estate consisting of an area of 9,495 square miles with all its woods and forests and hills had to be added on to the province of Orissa; for want of sufficient area for the new province these had to be done. Curiously enough, Sir, for want of income, 40 lakhs of rupees are being given from the Central Government in the shape of subvention to this province year after year. It is, Sir, for want of population, the preponderatingly Andhra areas of Jaipur, Gopalpur, Berhampur and Sonnapur which are contiguous with our province with a population of more than two lakhs were added to the province of Orissa.

"Now, Sir, you will please note that the Hon. the Speaker of the Orissa Legislative Assembly in his interview to the press stated that there are only 2 lakhs of Telugus in Orissa. I have only to say that it is far from true. The population of Andhras in Orissa is not two lakhs but about ten lakhs. You will learn with interest, Sir, that the population of the above coastal strip alone which is contiguous to our province is 2,19,000 and odd. The population of Andhras in Gunpur, Jaipur, Parlakimidi and other parts of Orissa is about 8 lakhs.

"The Andhra area satisfies all the requisite conditions for the formation of a separate Andhra province. We have the requisite area, the requisite income and the requisite population. There are 26,000,000 and odd of Telugus in the province and we have 14 districts and from the figures published even in the year 1938, the income was 1 crore more than the expenditure. Our lands are naturally fertile. We have got good mineral resources and facilities for industrial development and everything to satisfy all the conditions for a separate province but still we have not got it.

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"We want a separate province to have an entity of our own. We want it in the interests of self-protection. We want to develop our own history and culture. The formation of the Andhra province does not in any way stand in the interests of others. The Kerala, Tamil Nad and Karnatak provinces must also be immediately constituted and wherever they are self-supporting it is necessary that such linguistic provinces should immediately be created. We are not asking this out of any ill-will for anybody, on the other hand we want to spread goodwill. We are not satisfied with a Ramapadasagar project or a Tungabhadra project or a Dudana project alone. We want many more projects in our land. We want our rivers Varaha and Vamsadhara, Sarada and Nagavalli, Bahuda and Mahendradanaya and every other river in the coastal districts as well as Rayalseema to be harnessed. We want all irrigation facilities. We want the Andhra province because we want to hold up our heads in pride and safeguard the prestige and respect of our Andhra Desa.

"Finally, I feel it is the duty of every Madrasi to see that all those portions which have been unjustly and cruelly included in Orissa are again brought back to our province and see that our demand is granted and a separate province is conceded.

"One of my preceding speakers, Sir, has said Andhras are very emotional and idealistic. I do agree with him but emotion and idealism are good and well disciplined emotion and well directed idealism are better. With these qualities and with all the energy and enthusiasm we can mobilise, a separate province for Andhras will be knocking at our doors ere long."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the Leader of the House in his statement said that this resolution is a non-controversial one, the subject has become the most controversial one. The reason for this is this. An attempt has been made to make this unrealistic subject a realistic one. After all, the division on the basis of language is impossible. At the same time it has been admitted by the Hon. the Leader of the House about certain drawbacks in his own proposal. He says that this province is a composite province and he also says that the issue of Madras has to be decided along other such things. According to the proposal, if we divide this province into four linguistic provinces what would be the result? As the Hon. Leader of the House admits the one present composite province is going to be divided into four composite provinces. Again another hon. Member from the opposite benches says that when Bengal and Punjab are going to be divided why not our province also be divided. But I may say that Gandhiji does not approve the partition of Bengal. Are we to take the word of the hon. Member or the words of Gandhiji? If Gandhiji is not prepared for the partition of Bengal this resolution before this House will become both a pathetic fallacy and an illusion and will not stand to reason and

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commonsense. It is a curious proposal made by Mr. Varadachariar. He wants to divide the province into small units on the plea that it would be easier to effect a better administration if the units are small. I will agree with him of course with a slight modification. When he wants smaller units I should like to say that we will make every election constituency a district and every district province and Madras a Provincial Central Government and Delhi as the All-India Central Government. I am not going to stop here also if I want to approve of the hon. Mr. Varadachariar's proposal. There should also be further modification and the Leader of the House only speaks about the four languages alone, Telugu, Malayalam, Canarese and Tamil as four sisters. What about the 5th sister Urdu? Now she is there and the Hon. the Leader of the House should take notice of her. There are at least 60 per cent of the Muslims who talk Urdu. Now when you are going to effect partition in the mother's property when the four daughters get their share why not the fifth daughter also get her share? He will only be fair and just if he will also consider about this daughter, the Urdu. Or if you think that Urdu is not the daughter of the same mother and if you think that Urdu is the daughter of some other mother even then our position is much better and you have to recognise that we are a separate nation. On that account, we also want another 'stan' by whatever name you may call it. It may be 'Islamistan'. We do not want to get into the Mophlastan. Mr. Nagappa was advocating the cause of the Harijans and he may also want a 'stan' for Harijans. Along with it let them have 'Brahministan' also if they want it. After all these are merely fantastic ideas. Go back to history and see which is practical and which is not. Language is not the criterion for the division of a province. In Punjab the Muslims and non-Muslims speak the same language, so also is the case in Sind but still they are at loggerheads. Therefore language is not the criterion for the creation of a province and the basis should be culture and civilization. You will see that you cannot unite nations having different cultures. Take the history of Spain and Portugal. When the Arabs were ruling they were united and as soon as the Arabs left that place they again became two different nations as we are not the natives of this land. It was stated by Mr. Nagappa yesterday that Pakistan should not be granted. Who is he to say that? We are here to get it. As you have got the right of getting 'Akhand Hindustan' we also have the equal right of getting 'Pakistan'. Take the continent of Europe and see how many different nations are there. Why not you make an Akanda Europe?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has exceeded the time limit."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Nagappa said that we have no right to live in India. I say that we have got every right. As a matter of fact ourselves and the Christians alone have a right

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to get this land. We are the descendants of the original Adam who came to India and left a son, Ind after whose name the country is called even to this day. The Phoenicians gave the name of India to this continent. So we both, Muslims and Christians, have greater right to live in this land than the others."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"అవ్యక్త, ఈ 5 నిమిషముల అవ 12-45 p.m. కాశమైనా నాకు యిచ్చినందులకు మిమ్ములను అభినందించుచున్నాను."

"సభాపతి, అనేక మహనీయుల త్యాగ, యోగ తపః ఫలితముగ భారతావని స్వాతంత్ర్యమునకు పురోగమించుచుండు నీ తప సమయమున, భావిభారత రాజ్యాంగమును నిర్మింప నియమించబడిన ప్రజా పరిషత్తు వారికి భాషా ప్రయత్న రాష్ట్ర నిర్మాణ అవసరమును, అవశ్యకతను తెలుపుటకుగాను ఈ తీర్మానమును శాసన సభలో తెచ్చి నందులకు నాయకుని అభినందించుచు వృద్ధయ పూర్వకముగా తీర్మానమును విలపరచుచున్నాను."

"ఈ రాష్ట్రమును భాషా ప్రయత్నముగా విభజింప కోరుటకు ముఖ్య కారణములు భాష, లేక వత్తము కాదు. పరిపాలనా సౌకర్యమే ముఖ్యమైనది. కాని ప్రతిపక్షం లనేకులు మతము, సంస్కృతి మీద ఆధారపడి వేర్వేరు రాష్ట్రములు యేర్పరచవలసి నదిగా కోరుచున్నారు. ఆంధ్రులుకాని ఆరవలుకాని యీ విభాగములు కోరడము సంయుక్త భారత దేశములోనుండి ప్రజల సుఖ సౌభాగ్యాభివృద్ధికి పాటుపడుటకుకాని వేరుకాదు. ప్రజల భాషలో ప్రజల చాగోగుల నెరింగి ప్రజల క్రేయస్పృకు అవసర మగు చట్టముల నిర్మించు సుస్థిర ప్రజా రాజ్యమునకు భాషా ప్రయత్న రాష్ట్ర విభజన యే మనద శరణ్యము."

"మదరాసు ప్రాంతమును ఆంగ్లేయ లాక్రమించినపుడు వారి వ్యాపార వ్యవహారముల కనుగుణ్యముగా ఆంధ్ర-ఆరవ-కన్నడ-కేరళ ప్రాంతములను చేర్చి యిల్లల నేర్పరచినారు. అట్టి యీ విశాల రాష్ట్రమును, ప్రజా పాలనా సౌఖ్యవమునకుగాను రాజ్యి రాజేంద్రుని అధ్యక్షమున నడుపబడు ప్రజా పరిషత్తు వారి ఆదరమును, అతీర్వచనమును బడసి, విడిచి వేర్వేరు భాషా భాగములుగ నేర్పరచుకొని ప్రజాను రంజకముగా వర్ణి కోరుచున్నారు."

"ప్రజా పరిషత్తును ప్రతిపక్షంలు శాశన చేయుచు మాట్లాడినారు. ఈ పరిషత్తు ప్రజలు రక్షమును భారపోసి, అనేక కష్ట సమస్యలతోర్చి సంపాదించి స్థాపించినట్లు వంటిది. ప్రపంచ భానుడు విజృంభించి ప్రకాశించుచున్నపుడు ఆంధ్రులకు కనుపించడు. (నవ్వు.) విపాటి త్యాగమును చేయక కరుణ కష్టాతితమగు నీ సభలో సభ్యులుగా నుండి మరి ఏ సంబంధములేని ముస్లిం లీగ సభ్యులకు దాని విలువ తెలియదని మాత్రమే నేను చెప్పుచున్నాను. వారి వాదన అడరించ తగినది కాని, మన్నింప తగినదికాని కాదు."

"శ్రీ నరేశ్వరుగారు భారత భూమి పీకలే, యీ విభాగము రెండుకన్నారు. భూపాలనా సౌకర్యమునకనియే నే తెలిసినాను. ఈ విభజింపబడు రాష్ట్రములన్నియు వికభారత దేశములో సభ్యతలో సౌ హార్ద్యతలో మెలగుచుండును. అందులకే యీ తీర్మానము ప్రజా పరిషత్తు వారికి విన్నవించు కొనుచుండుట. నేడు వాకిస్థాను కోరుచుండు ముస్లిములు సంయుక్త భారత దేశములో భాగస్వాములుగా వర్తించెదమని వెప్పినచో ఆ కోరికకు సత్తులించుటకు యెవ్వరు అడ్డు లేరు. కాని యే ప్రాంతమున కా ప్రాంతము వేర్వేరుగా విడి పోవలసన్న అంగీకరించరవ్వరా. భారత దేశము అవిచ్ఛిన్నము; అవిభాజ్యము."

[Sri Kallur Subba Rao] [22nd April 1947]

“అంధులు భాషా ప్రయత్న రాష్ట్రమును 35 సంవత్సరములుగా కోరుచున్నారు. పరులపై పగచేకాదు. తమ సారస్వతమును, సంస్కృతిని, పాలనా సౌష్ఠ్యమును వర్ధిల్ల జేసుకొనుటకే. ఏ నాడు లోకమాన్యుడు “స్వరాజ్యము నా జిన్న హక్కు” అని చాటెను ఆ నాడే అంధులు తమ ప్రజ్ఞ, వివేకముల వ్యాపింప చేయుటకు, ప్రాభవము పెంపొందించు కొనుటకు స్వరాజ్యముతోపాటు స్వరాష్ట్ర వాంఛను వెల్లడించినారు. అంధ్ర రాష్ట్రము వైశాల్యములొను, విజ్ఞానములొను, వికాసములొను, విత్తములొను, అంగబలములొను యిప్పుడున్న యే రాష్ట్రమునకు గాని, యికముందు యేర్పడబోవు యే యితర రాష్ట్రమునకుగాని వెనకబడదు. స్వరాజ్యముతోపాటు స్వరాష్ట్రము సిద్ధించినపుడే సామాన్య ప్రజలు ప్రజారాజ్య పాలన లో భాగదారులై ప్రశాంతముగా, స్థిరముగా సంతృప్తికరముగా వర్ధిల్లుదురు. (వినుడు, వినుడు.)”

[An hon. Member crossed the floor of the House.]

12-45
p.m. MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can go this way. He may not cross between the speaker and the Chair. If he wants to go, he can go this way."

Mr. Annamalai Pillai rose from his seat being called by the Speaker.

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ On a point of information, Mr. Speaker. When an hon. Member is addressing the House in Telugu, which you do not know, how would you know whether he uses parliamentary or unparliamentary expressions? Supposing some other hon. Member says that he has used unparliamentary expressions, how would you judge whether it is unparliamentary or not? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—"If any hon. Member brings it to my notice that a certain expression is unparliamentary, then I will judge on the merits of each case."

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—“சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களே, . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“நீங்கள் சபாநாயகர் என்று மாத்திரம் address பண்ணவேண்டும்.”

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI:—“இன்றையதினம் தெலுங்கர்களும் தமிழர்களும் என்ற சம்பந்தத்தைப்பற்றி பேசுவதற்கும் இந்த மாகாணத்தை பாஷாவாரியாக பிரித்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று பேசுவதற்கும் ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பம் எனக்கு கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. தெலுங்கர்கள் தமிழ் நாட்டிலும் தமிழர்கள் தெலுங்கு நாட்டிலும் இதுவரையில் ஒன்றுபட்டு சகோதரர்களைப்போல வாழ்ந்து வந்தோம். இப்பொழுது தெலுங்கு மாகாணத்தை தனியாக பிரித்து விட்டு விட வேண்டுமென்ற நோக்கத்துடன் இந்த தீர்மானம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. தெலுங்கர்கள் தமிழ் நாட்டில் குடியேறியது முதல் இன்றுவரையில் அவர்களை தமிழர்கள், உச்சஸ் தானத்தில் வைத்து பாதுகாத்து தர்மகர்த்தர்களாக போஷித்து அரசியலிலும் சரி, மத விஷயத்திலும் சரி, எல்லா இடத்திலும் அவர்களுக்கு உயர்ந்த ஸ்தானத்தை கொடுத்துவந்துள்ளார்கள் அவர்களும் உயர்ந்த ஸ்தானத்தை பெற்றுமிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று நான் மாத்திரம் சொல்லவில்லை சில வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்பு **M.L.C.** என்ற பெயருடன் இந்த சபை விளங்கிய போது கனம் இராமச்சந்திர ரெட்டியார் தலைவராக இருந்தார் அந்த சமயம் திருவண்ணாமலையில் ஒரு ரெட்டி மகாநாடு கூடப்பட்டது. அந்த மகாநாட்டில்

22nd April 1947] [Sri N. Annamalai Pillai]

இந்த சபையில் இன்றைக்கு அங்கத்தினராக இருந்துவரும் கனம் குமாரராஜா முத்தைய்யா ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் மகாநாட்டை திரந்துவைக்க வந்திருந்தார். அப்பொழுது அவர் சொன்னதாவது. தெலுங்கர்களாகிய உங்களுக்கு மத்தியில் தமிழாகிய நான் பேசுவதற்கு காரணம் என்னவென்றால், அநேக நூற்றாண்டுகளாக நாங்கள் உங்களுக்கு தர்மகர்த்தாக்களாக இருந்து உங்களைப் போஷித்து சகல லீமையும்கொடுத்து உங்களை ஆதரித்து வந்திருக்கிறோம். இந்த தர்மசிந்தனையை நீங்கள் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. நீங்கள் எங்களிடத்தில் எப்பொழுதும்போல் அன்புடையவர்களாக இருக்க வேண்டும். நாங்களும் உங்களிடத்தில் பற்றுடையவர்களாக இருப்போம் மென்று சொன்னார். அதேபோல் இந்த மாகாணத்திலுள்ள தெலுங்கர்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தைப் பிரித்துக்கொண்டு போவதில் தமிழ் நாட்டிற்கு எதும் நஷ்டம் கிடையாது. அவர்கள் அப்படி பிரித்துக்கொண்டு போனால் நமக்கு தொந்தரவுகூட இல்லாமல் இருக்கும். அவரவர்களுடைய வருமானத்தை அவரவர்கள் அடைவார்கள். தமிழ் நாட்டின் வருமானம் தமிழர்கள் அடைவார்கள் அல்லது அதன் நஷ்டத்தை அடைவார்கள். தெலுங்கு நாட்டில் வரும் லாப நஷ்டத்தை தெலுங்கர்கள் அடைவார்கள். உதாரணமாக உங்களுக்கு சொல்லுகிறேன் சில வருஷங்களுக்குமுன்பாக இந்த மாகாணத்தில் தமிழ்நாட்டை யார் ஆள்வது என்பதுபற்றி, முன்னால் இந்தசபையில் அங்கத்தினராக இருந்த ஸ்ரீ இராமலிங்க ரெட்டியார் அவர்கள் காங்கிரஸ் மாளிகையில்சுமார் ஒரு வருஷங்களுக்குமுன் ஒரு பிரசங்கம் செய்தார். அதில் தமிழர்கள் தெலுங்கர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு விட்டுக்கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அவர் எடுத்துச்சொன்னார். இராஜபாளையத்தில் குமாரசாமி ராஜா, ஒரு தெலுங்கர், ஜில்லாபோர்டு President ஆக இருக்கிறார். மதுரையில் முனிகலப்பாடமய்யா, ஒரு தெலுங்கர், President ஆக இருந்திருக்கிறார். திருச்சியில் ரெங்கசாமி ரெட்டியார் ஒரு தெலுங்கர், அவர் President ஆக இருந்துவருகிறார். தென் ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் சீதாராம் ரெட்டியார், ஒரு தெலுங்கர், ஜில்லாபோர்டு President ஆக இருந்திருக்கிறார். வட ஆற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் பெருமாள்சாமி ரெட்டியார், ஒரு தெலுங்கர், President ஆக இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார். சென்னப்பேட்டணத்தில் ஸ்ரீமான் வெங்கிசாமி நாயுடு ஒரு தெலுங்கர் அவர் கான்பொரேஷன் மேயராக இருந்து வந்திருக்கின்றார் செங்கல்பட்டு ஜில்லாவில் துரைசாமி ரெட்டியார், ஒரு தெலுங்கர், President ஆக இருந்திருக்கின்றார் அதைத்தவிர திருநெல்வேலியில் கோபால் நாயக்கர் ஜில்லாபோர்டு President ஆக இருந்துவந்திருக்கிறார் அவரும் ஒரு தெலுங்கர். எவ்வளவு தாராளமாக அதிகாரங்களை தமிழர்கள் தெலுங்கர்களிடம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். தமிழராகிய நாங்கள் இதவரையில் தர்மம் தர்மம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்தோம். ஆனால் நல்லவேளையாக இப்பொழுது தாமாகவே கடவுள் பார்த்து அனுக்கிரகம் செய்ய தெலுங்கர்கள் மனதில் புகுந்து எங்களை பிரித்துவிட்டுவிடு என்று கேட்கிற நிலைமைக்கு கொண்டு வந்துவிட்டார். ஆகையால் அவர்கள் பிரிந்துபோவதை சந்தோஷமாக வரவேற்கவேண்டியதுதான். அவர்களுடைய பிரிவு நமக்கு வருத்தத்தைக் கொடுத்தாலும் அவர்களும் பிரிந்துபோவதால் அதிக லாபம் இருக்கிறது என்று அவர்கள் நினைத்தால் அவர்கள் செய்துகொள்ளலாம்.

“மற்றொருவார்த்தை சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். தெலுங்கில் பேசினால் தமிழருக்கு புரியவில்லை என்றும் தமிழில் பேசினால் தெலுங்கர்களுக்கு புரியவில்லை என்றும் சற்றுமுன் சொன்னார்கள். இனிமேல் பிரிந்து போனால் தமிழர்களுக்கு தமிழில் பேசுவதற்கு ரொம்பவும் வசதி இருக்கும். இப்பொழுது கொஞ்சம் முன்னால் எதிர்க்கட்சி தலைவரால் சொல்லப்பட்டது. தெலுங்கு தெரியாதவர்களின் முன்னே தெலுங்கில் பேசினால் அவர்கள் சட்டத்துக்குள்பட்டு பேசுகிறார்களா அல்லது சட்டத்திற்கு வெளியில் பேசுகிறார்களா என்று எப்படி தெரியும் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆகையால் At this stage Mr. Speaker requested the hon. Member to resume his seat.”

* V. S. MUHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“கனம் ஸ்பீக்கர் அவர்களே, சபையோர்களே, நான் இந்த தீர்மானத்தை பலமாக ஆட்சேபிக்கிறேன் ஓர் கட்டிடம் கட்டுவதானால் முதலாவது அஸ்திவாரம் போடவேண்டும். (அந்த அஸ்திவாரத்தின்மேல்தான் கட்டடம் கட்டவேண்டும். இத்தீர்மானம்.

[V. S. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [22nd April 1947]

கொண்டுவிட்டுப்போனது, அஸ்திவாரமின்றி கட்டிடம் கட்ட முயற்சிப்பது போலிருக்கிறது. இம்மாகாணத்தை பாஷாவாரியாக பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென அரசியல்நிர்ணய சபைக்கு சிபார்சுசெய்யவேண்டுமென்பது இத்தீர்மானத்தின் நோக்கம். ஆனால் அந்த அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபையானது எங்கே இருக்கிறதென, மேற்படி தீர்மானமாவது, அல்லது அதைக்கொண்டுவிட்டு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களாவது விளக்கவில்லை. இது எப்படி இருக்கிறதென்றால் பரிசம் போடுவதே நிச்சய மில்லாமல் இருக்கும்போது கல்யாண தேதி எப்போதென்று கேட்கிற மாதிரியிருக்கிறது. இது ஒரு பெரிய கேலிக்கூத்தாகும். இந்தமாதிரி சங்கதிகளை அந்நியநாட்டார் பத்திரிகைகளில் படித்தால் நம்மை என்ன நினைப்பார்கள்? அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபையே இன்னும் நிறுவப்படவில்லை. அரசியல் நிர்ணயச்சபை இன்னும் நிறுவப்படவில்லை என்பதை இத்தேசத்தில் வசிக்கும் பத்திரிகை முஸ்லிம்களும் சென்ற பல மாதங்களாக தெளிவாக வலியுறுத்திக்கொண்டே வருகிறார்கள். பிரிட்டிஷ் மந்திரிசபையினால் நம் நாட்டுக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்ட தூதுகோஷ்டியினர் சென்ற வருஷம் மே மாதம் வெளியிட்ட அறிக்கையின்படியே, அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபை ஏற்பட்டதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் நாளதுவரையில் நடந்துள்ள சம்பவங்களை அலசிப்பார்த்தால், மந்திரி சபை தூதுகோஷ்டியினரின் அறிக்கைப்படி இதுவரையில், அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபை அமைக்கப்படவில்லை என்பது புலப்படும். மேற்படி மே மாத அறிக்கையைக் காங்கிரஸ் ஒப்புக்கொண்டு விட்டதால், அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபை கிரமப்படி அமைந்துவிட்டதென்று வாதிக்கலாம். ஆனால் அவ்விதம் வாதிப்பது உண்மைக்கு மாறானது என்பது வெளிப்படை. ஏனெனில் மே மாதம் அறிக்கையை காங்கிரஸ் ஒப்புக்கொண்டவிட்டதாக வெளிப் பார்வையில், சொல்லிக்கொண்டபோதிலும், அதன் அடிப்படையான உண்மையான தத்துவங்களை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை. உதாரணமாக மாகாணங்களை தொகுதிவாரியாக இணைப்பது மேற்படி அறிக்கையின் முக்கியமான அஸ்திவாரமான தத்துவம். அதை உத்தேசித்துத்தான் அகில இந்திய முஸ்லிம் லீக் மகாசபை மே மாத அறிக்கையை ஆதியில் ஒப்புக்கொண்டது. அவ்வித தொகுதிகள் சம்பந்தமான நிபந்தனை இல்லாவிட்டால், பொதுவான கவர்ன்மெண்டை, முஸ்லிம் லீக் ஒருக்காலும், ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ் சபை இந்த முக்கியமான விஷயத்தில் எவ்விதம் நடந்திருக்கிறது? மே மாத அறிக்கையைப் பூராவும் ஒப்புக்கொண்டதாக ஒருபுறம் தீர்மானித்து விட்டு, மறுபுறம் தொகுதிவாரியான மாகாணங்கள் ஏற்பாட்டிற்கு விரோதமாக பிரசாரமும் செய்துவருகிறது. தொகுதி ஏற்பாட்டை ஒப்புக்கொண்டால், அல்லாமல் மாகாணம் அழிந்துவிட்டதாக முடிவு கட்டிவிடவேண்டியதுதான் என்று காந்திஜியே கண்டிப்பாக சொல்லியிருக்கிறார். இவ்வாறு மே மாத அறிக்கையின் அஸ்திவாரமான தத்துவங்களை காங்கிரஸ் சபை புறக்கணித்து நிராகரித்ததால்தான் அகில இந்திய முஸ்லிம் லீக் மகாசபையானது முதலாவதாக ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருந்ததை வாப்பஸ் வாங்கும்படியான நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டது. ஆகவே இப்போது நடைபெற்று வருவதாகச் சொல்லப்படும் அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபை ஒழுங்காக அமைக்கப்பட்டதல்ல. இந்நாட்டிலுள்ள சகல வகுப்பாரும் மே மாத அறிக்கையை முழுமனதுடன் ஒப்புக்கொண்டு அதன்படி அமுல் நடத்தவேண்டுமென்றும், அவ்விதம் சகலரும் கலந்து நடத்தும் சபையின் முடிவை மட்டும்தான் தாங்கள் ஒப்புக் கொள்ள முடியுமென்றும், எல்லாவகுப்பினரும் கலந்துகொள்ளாமல் சிலர் மட்டுமே சேர்ந்து அரசியல் நிர்ணயம் செய்தால், அவர்களுடைய நடவடிக்கைகளையும், முடிவையும் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியாதென்றும், பிரிட்டிஷ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் பலதடவை வற்புறுத்திச் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இப்பொழுது பிரிட்டிஷ் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் உத்தேசப்படிக்குள்ள அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபை இதுகாறும் அமைக்கப்படவில்லை, என்பதை நியாய உணர்ச்சியுள்ள எவரும் ஒப்புக்கொண்டே தீரவேண்டும்.

“முஸ்லிம் லீக் மகாசபை முதலாவது, மே மாத அறிக்கையை யாதொரு நிபந்தனையுமின்றி முழுமனதுடன் ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருந்தபோதிலும், காங்கிரஸ் மகாசபை அவ்விதம் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளாமல் அடிப்படையான தத்துவங்களையே நிராகரித்து காரியம் செய்துவருவதாக முஸ்லிம் லீக் மகாசபை தனது பழைய தீர்மானத்தை ரத்து செய்து அரசியல் நிர்ணய

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சபையில் சேர மறுத்துவிட்டது. காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களும் அவர்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் இப்போது அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபை யென சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் சபையில் சேர்ந்திருக்கிறார்கள். மேலும் தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பினர்களில் பெருபான்மையினரும் பெரும்பான்மையான சமஸ்தானங்களும் மேற்படி சபையை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை, இந்தநிலைமையில் மேற்படி சபையை அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபையாக எவ்விதம் ஒப்புக்கொள்வது?

“தவிர மேற்படி சபையின் நடவடிக்கைமுறைகளும் மே மாத அறிக்கைக்கு முற்றும் மாறாகவே இருக்கின்றன. மே மாத அறிக்கையில் கண்டுள்ள நிபந்தனைகளுக்கு உட்பட்டே மேற்படி சபை நடைபெறவேண்டியிருக்க, அது பூரண சர்வாதிகாரம்பெற்ற சபையாக இருக்கிறதென்றும், அது தன் இஷ்டப்படி நாட்டின் அரசியலை அமைத்துக் கொள்ளலாமென்றும், பூர்வ பீடிகை போட்டுக்கொண்டு, மேற்படி சபை வேலை நடத்திவருகிறது. இதுவும் மே மாத அறிக்கையின், அடிப்படையான தத்துவத்தை புறக்கணித்து அதற்கு நேர்மாறாக நடப்பதாக இருக்கிறது. சுறுங்கச் சொல்லுமிடத்து, காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள், மனோ இஷ்டப்படி நடந்துகொள்ள தங்கள் இஷ்டப்படி ஓர் சபையை அமைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்களேயன்றி மே மாத அறிக்கைப்படி இந்நாட்டில் வதியும் சகல வகுப்பார்களின் பிரதிநிதிகளையும் கொண்ட அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபை அமைக்கப்படவில்லை. ஆகவே அரசியல் நிர்ணயசபைக்கு சிபார்சு செய்வதாக தீர்மானத்தில் கண்டிருப்பதற்கு அர்த்தமேயில்லை. அசல் உத்தேசப்படி அரசியல் நிர்ணய சபையே அமைக்கப்படாதிருக்கும்போது அச்சபைக்கு எங்ஙனம் சிபார்சு செய்வது? இதனால்தான் அஸ்திவாரமின்றி கட்டிடம் கட்டுவது போலிருக்கிறது இத்தீர்மானமென்று நான் ஆரம்பத்திலேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். உண்மை நிலைமை இவ்வாறிருப்பதால் இத்தீர்மானத்தை பலமாக ஆட்சேபிப்பது என் கடமையாக இருக்கிறது. இந்நாட்டின் 10 கோடி மக்கள் சேராத சபைக்கு, நாட்டின் அரசியல் அமைப்பையே நிர்ணயிக்க என்ன உரிமையிருக்கிறது? இத்தீர்மானத்திற்கு முதல் ஆட்சேபனை இதுதான்.

“அடுத்தபடியாக இம்மாகாணத்தை பாஷாவாரியாக பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென இத்தீர்மானத்தில் கண்டிருக்கிறது. இது எனக்கு பெரும் ஆச்சரியத்தைக்கொடுக்கிறது. முஸ்லிம்களும் ஹிந்துக்களும் தனி இனங்களாக இருப்பதால் நாட்டை பாக்கிஸ்தான் இந்துஸ்தானென்று இருபாகங்களாக பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் இந்நாட்டில் சமாதானம் நிலவி நாட்டுமக்கள் சுபீட்சமாக வாழ்வதற்கு, ஒரேவழி இதுதானென்றும் முஸ்லிம்கள் அபிப்பிராயங்கொண்டு உழைத்துவருவது பெரும் பாதகச்செயல், தாயை இரண்டாக வெட்டுவதுபோலிருக்கிறது, பசுவை துண்டாடுவதாயிருக்கிறது என்றும் கதரும் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் கேவலம் வெவ்வேறு பாணைகள் பேசுவதால் இம்மாகாணத்தை நான்கு பாகங்களாக பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுவது விந்தையாகியிருக்கிறது. வெவ்வேறு பாணைகள் பேசுகிற போதிலும், மீலயானிகளும் தெலுங்கர்களும், கன்னடம் பேசுகிறவர்களும், தமிழர்களும் ஒரே இனம்தானென்று வாதாடும் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் என் மாகாணத்தைத் துண்டாடவிரும்புகிறார்கள்? இவர்கள் எல்லாம் ஒரே இனமாயின், வெவ்வேறு பாணைகள் பேசுவதை ஆதாரமாகக் கொண்டு என் பிரிந்துபோகவேண்டும்? பாணையைத்தவிர மற்ற இதர விஷயங்களிலெல்லாம் ஒற்றுமையாய் இருப்பதாகச் சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் ஹிந்துக்கள் பாணையின் காரணமாக பிரிந்துபோகவேண்டுமென்பது நியாயமும் அவசியமுமானால், வாழ்க்கையில் ஒவ்வொரு முக்கிய விஷயத்திலும், அதாவது மதம் வாழ்க்கை லட்சியம், வாழ்க்கைமுறை, உணவு, உடை, முதலிய சகல விஷயங்களிலும், மாறுபட்டிருக்கும் முஸ்லிம்கள் தங்களுக்கு தனி நாடு வேண்டுமென நினைப்பதும் கேட்பதும் இதைவிட அதிக நியாயமும் அவசியமான காரியமுமாகும் அல்லவா? இந்நாட்டை பிரிக்க முடியாது, இது பூமி சாஸ்திரப்படி பிரிக்கமுடியாத ஒரு நாடு என்று அலரிவந்த காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் இப்பொழுது, பஞ்சாப் வங்காள மாகாணங்களை துண்டாட வேண்டுமென வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள். நாட்டை பாக்கிஸ்தான் ஹிந்துஸ்தான் என்று இருபாகங்களாக பிரிப்பது முடியாத காரியமாயின் அவ்விருமாகாணங்களை துண்டுபடுத்தவேண்டுமெனச் சொல்லுவது எவ்விதம் பொறுத்தமாகியிருக்குமென்பதைக்கூட அவர்கள் சிந்திக்கவில்லை.

[V. S. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [22nd April 1947]

இந்த சாதாரண விஷயத்தைக்கூட மறந்துவிடும்படியாக சுயநலம் செய்து விடுகிறது. உண்மையில் இத்தீர்மானத்தின் நோக்கமும், வங்காளத்தையும் பஞ்சாபையும் பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூறுவதும், முஸ்லீம்களின் பாக் கிஸ்தான் திட்டத்தின் நேர்மையையும், நியாயத்தையும் அவசியத்தையும் ருசுப்படுத்துகிறது. ஆகவே இந்நாடு சுதந்திரம் பெற்று நாட்டு மக்கள் சேஷமமாகவும் ஒற்றுமையாகவும் வாழவேண்டுமாயின் பாக் கிஸ்தான் திட்டம் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளப்படவேண்டும். பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணங்களைப் பிரிப்பதால் நாட்டின் பிரச்சினை தீர்ந்துவிடாது. அவ்விதம் பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் தங்கள் மனோ இஷ்டப்படி அமைத்துக்கொண்ட ஒரு சபைக்கு சிபார்சு செய்வதனால் நாட்டில் அமைதி ஏற்பட்டுவிடாது. நாட்டின் சுதந்திரத்திலும் முன்னேற்றத்திலும் அக்கரைகொண்டவர்கள் யாவரும் ஒரே இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களென்று மனப்பால் குடித்துக்கொண்டிருப்பதை விட்டுவிட்டு உண்மை நிலையை உணர்ந்து பாக் கிஸ்தான் திட்டத்தை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அவ்வாறு செய்வதால் முஸ்லீம்களும், ஹிந்துக்களும் மற்ற சகல வகுப்பினரும், சுதந்திரம் பெற்று சுகமாக வாழ முடியும். பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரிப்பதாலும், அவ்வாறு பிரிக்கும்படி ஏதோ ஒரு கூட்டத்தாரை மண்டியிட்டு கேட்டுக்கொள்வதாலும் நாட்டிற்கு சுதந்திரம் கிடைக்காது. இத்தியாதி காரணங்களினால் இத்தீர்மானத்தை நான் பலமாக ஆட்சேபிக்கிறேன்."

1 p.m. * P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the resolution and I do so on two or three grounds. I am really surprised that the Hon. the Leader of the House with his long parliamentary experience and its working should have brought forward such a resolution for wasting the time of the House. I say that because I feel that the Congress is wedded to the principle of the distribution of provinces on linguistic basis and it would be only waste of time for this Honourable House to be speaking on a resolution of this sort. If it is the fear that their High Command is a little lukewarm about the distribution of provinces on a linguistic basis, then I would appeal to him to put pressure on them through the respective Congress Committees, the Andhra, Tamilnad and the Kerala Committees."

"I oppose this resolution because it is based on a wrong principle. Distribution ought to have been based as other hon. Members have pointed out I do not wish to take the time of the House on that question—on the basis of culture. Further as the previous speaker has pointed out, this resolution is addressed to a wrong place. With regard to the Constituent Assembly, I need not say anything but quote the words of Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan who according to this morning's report from newspapers has said that it is dead beyond resurrection. I repeat, Sir, that distribution of provinces on linguistic basis is thoroughly wrong and it ought to be on the basis of culture. I must in this connexion remind the House of our very just and reasonable demand for Moplahstan. I would have thought that the Hon. the Leader of the House would have readily agreed to such a very reasonable demand of ours. All the pleading for me has been done by the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture and I am really thankful to him for making such an able pleading for us. Speaking on this resolution, he said that a small state was capable of efficient administration. I thank him for it. I have to say a few words why we demand Moplahstan. We base our demand on culture,

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on justice and on fair play. We form about 15 lakhs of the population of that district and our experience throughout including the administration that we have in this Presidency now, has been bitter. Take any department, any walk of life, you see that our just claims have been ignored and administrators and officers have been riding rough-shod over all our just rights. Even yesterday, I had the experience of a reply from the Hon. the Minister for Food. He has had the indifference to say that he had no need to go into that question at all when I wanted some information about the injustice that was done to the Moplahs, so that he might enquire into the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The time is over. The hon. Member will resume his seat."

"Before the Hon. the Leader of the House replies I want to allow a lady speaker to take part in this debate."

Mrs. V. Lakshmi Ammal rose.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I suggest that the Deputy Speaker might also be given a chance seeing that no lady Andhra Member has participated in the debate so far."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall consider but let it come from her."

* SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"அக்கிராசனார் அவர்களே, பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று leader அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தை நான் ஆதரித்து இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆரம்பித்து மூன்று நாட்களாக விவாதம் நடக்கிறது. இவ்விதமான நீண்ட விவாதத்திற்கு இதில் இடம் இல்லை என்பதுதான் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இது ஒரு நாளில் அல்லது இரண்டாவது நாளில் முடியும் என்பதாக நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தேன். மூன்று நாள் இல்லை நாலாவது நாளாகிறது இன்று. இது ரொம்ப நாளாகவே எல்லோராலும் ஒப்புக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட பிரச்சினை. இந்த தீர்மானத்திற்கு இவ்வளவு விவாதம் வேண்டியது இல்லை. விவாதம் நடக்கவேண்டும் என்பது எப்பொழுது என்றால் எந்தெந்த இடங்களை நாம் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்றும் தமிழர்கள் எந்த இடத்தை வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்றும் ஆந்திரர்கள் எந்த இடத்தை வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று பிரச்சினை வரும் போது நீண்ட விவாதம் இருக்கிறது. அதை கமிஷனில் விடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது இந்த தீர்மானம் constituent Assembly-ல் consider பண்ணவேண்டுமென்பதைக் குறித்து மாத்திரம்தான் இந்த தீர்மானத்தில் கண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் ஏகமனதாக விவாதம் அன்னியில் தீர்மானிக்க இடம் இருக்கிறது. இது பாக் கிஸ்தான் போலிருக்கிறது. ஏன் நாம் பாக் கிஸ்தான் கேட்கக்கூடாது என்றும் மாபிஸ்தான் வேண்டுமென்று முஸ்லீம் நண்பர்கள் கேட்கிறார்கள். அது எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் ஆல் இலை எப்படி இருக்கிறது என்றால் அது புளிய இலை மாதிரி இருக்கும் என்று சொல்வார்கள் அது மாதிரி இருக்கிறது. என்னென்றால் ஆலிலையும் தெரியாது புளிய இலையும் தெரியாது என்று தான் அர்த்தம். அதைப்போலவே பாக் கிஸ்தான் கேட்கிறார்கள். பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரிப்பதில் யாருக்கும் ஒருவிதமான தொந்திரவு இல்லை. நம்முடைய ஸ்நேகபாவம் ஒன்றும் விட்டுப்போகாது. ஆந்திரர்களை விட்டுவிட்டு தமிழர்கள் பிரிந்தாலும் மலையாளத்தைவிட்டு தமிழர் பிரிந்தாலும், கர்நாடகத்தைவிட்டு தமிழர்கள் பிரிந்தாலும் நம்முடைய

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ஸ்நேக பாவத்திலும் அசௌகரியமும் கிடையாது. பாக்கிஸ்தானை விளக்கி முதலில் தனியாக போகவேண்டுமென்று அதில் கேட்பது எவ்விதத்தில் சரி என்று எனக்குத் தெரியவில்லை. ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது பாஷா வாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரித்துவிட்டால் அநேக விதத்தில் நாம் எல்லோருக்கும் சுலபம். தேச அரகாட்சி நடத்துவதும் சுலபம். இந்த விதமான சௌகரியங்கள் இருக்கிற காலத்தில் இந்த பாஷாவாரியாக மாகாணத்தைப் பிரித்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வதற்கு இவ்வளவு விவாதத்திற்கு இடமில்லை. எல்லோரும் இதை ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றும் இன்றுடன் இந்த பிரேரேபணையை தீர்மானிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Mr. Speaker, when I proposed this resolution, I did not in the least imagine that there was going to be so much opposition because the hon. Gentlemen at one time did believe in the division of the Province into linguistic areas. But other extraneous considerations have come in now. The question was raised whether the Constituent Assembly is functioning. Hon. Gentlemen opposite keep on saying that it does not exist and members on this side of the House keep on saying that it does and I am here to prove that the Constituent Assembly does exist and it can go on with the framing of a constitution for India, despite the fact that some people did not attend though they have been given a chance of attending the Assembly if they wished to. If they really felt that the Constituent Assembly was not representative of the people, they had sufficient opportunities to have refused to co-operate in the Assembly. Hon. Gentleman opposite ought to have carried this to the logical conclusion and refused to elect the number of members that had been given to them in the various Provinces concerned. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: We were betrayed.) There was no question of betrayal; on the other hand hon. Gentlemen elected every member that they were entitled to elect to the Constituent Assembly and they are still sitting on the wall because they feel that the time might come when they might have to go into the Assembly because circumstances have so conspired that unless they take part in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly, they might find themselves left out. (An hon. Member: question.) You may question that but that is the truth. (An hon. Member: If reason prevails.) I am glad that the hon. Gentleman says that they might come in if reason prevails and I do hope he will become more reasonable than he is to-day. The Constituent Assembly, there it is; it exists; it has met; the Committee is working in several Committees and those Committees are about to report and an important Committee, the Union Powers Committee is reporting and what is more other Committees have had representatives of the States on them. Two eminent Dewans of States serve on that Committee. (An hon. Member: How many States have come in?) The States are now beginning to feel that if their existence in India is to be a reality, they should take part in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. States like Jeypore, Gwalior, Baroda and most of the Central India States have elected their members to the Assembly. Not only that, they have agreed to serve on the various committees

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like the Union Powers Committee, the Fundamental Rights Committee and the Tribal Enquiry Committee. The Constituent Assembly is an actuality and a constitution for the whole of India is going to be framed and if you are not there, it is not our fault but yours.

“ Besides, I also want to say that the Constituent Assembly is not a Congress Assembly as hon. Gentlemen opposite have taken a great deal of trouble to prove. There are men like Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Sir N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar. (An hon. Member: They are Congressmen.) They will not accept being Congressmen if you told them so. I know Dr. Jayakar will not accept that position of being a Congressman. (An hon. Member: They were elected by Congressman.) There is also the Kumara-raja of Chettinad who I believe wants to serve on the Committees of the Assembly and does want to go to Delhi but circumstances have been such that he has not been able to visit the capital; I hope he will visit the capital this time. There are the Anglo-Indians and there are the representatives of the Sikh community who are not members of the Congress. There is Dr. Ambhedkar a distinguished son of the country. (An hon. Member: He has become distinguished now.) I have considered him distinguished always and what is more, he has given his support in the various Committees that have been appointed. I do not for a moment grant that the Constituent Assembly is composed only of Congress; it is not a Congress Assembly; it is an Assembly which has come into being by the statement of the 16th May and it is functioning under the statement of May 16th. Whatever report the Committees are submitting to the Constituent Assembly it will be within the provisions of the 16th May statement. Hon. Gentle- 1-15
men opposite made a great deal of the position that once they p.m.
have accepted the May 16th statement, and gave it up because of the various statements made by the All-India Congress Committee. Here again, I would like to point out that the All-India Congress Committee have accepted even the latest statement of His Majesty's Government of December 6th, which clarifies the position with regard to Groups and Sections. In spite of it, if hon. Gentlemen opposite want to remain out of the Constituent Assembly because they have a particular point of view they are welcome to do it.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ What about their reservations? ”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ There is no reservation at all. Members of the House of Commons who have spoken since the resolution of the All-India Congress Committee of January have accepted that the Congress has accepted the statement of May 16th. That is the only answer I can give. Hon. Gentlemen opposite have said that it has not been accepted by the Congress. They are a prejudiced party. It is the neutral man whose opinion I am prepared to take rather than the biased opinion of my hon. Friends opposite.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Why the 20th February statement, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"What I say is if you want an interpretation of a particular document, you better take it from one who is interested in neither of us. I am not prepared to take your statement like you who are not prepared to take my statement. That is the only point of view (interruption). The 20th February statement is necessary for the simple reason that a suspicion has arisen in the minds of the people of this country whether Great Britain is *bona fide* in her idea to quit this country. The statement of 20th February makes it clear that at the end of June 1948, whether we like it or not, the British are quitting this country. That is the effect of that statement. But the Constituent Assembly does work, the Constituent Assembly does go on and if the question of the division of Provinces on linguistic basis is to be considered, it must be by the Constituent Assembly, and that is the reason why this resolution is brought before this House, so that Members representing the various points of view in the various linguistic areas in this House could express their opinion with regard to the question of division of this Province on a linguistic basis in the future order of the constitution of this country. I have heard a good deal of the differences in culture between the Muslims and Hindus of the part of this Province I come from—Tamilnad. I was glad to see the hon. Member for Trichinopoly representing the Muslim League could express his opinion in the only language which he and I speak—Tamil. (An hon. Member; "It is not only in language, Sir.") I am afraid my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition is very wrong in his contention. He and I have been friends for many years, and I cannot find any difference between him and I. We have lived as brothers in the same part of the country. We have worked in the same way. It is because something has come down from the north, my hon. Friend feels he ought to stand for that. I hope when the time does come, and there is partition of this country, my hon. Friend will see his way 'to go to that cultural part of the country which he thinks belongs to him. That is the only answer I can give him."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not based on common culture."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Whatever I may say, my hon. Friends opposite are so drunk with this question of partition."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As you are."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not going to convince them. Mr. Raza Khan referred to this matter of partition. I did believe in partition. I did feel at that time in 1942 that if Muslim friends wanted to live in a part of the country which they claimed to be their own they should go. But what was the reply? The thing was offered to them on a plate, in the statement, and later by Mahatma

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Gandhi on September 25, in plain categorical terms. What did my friends say? They are after the moon. They are like this. They are of this nature. You have heard of the horizon. The nearer you go, the farther the horizon goes. That is the position in which my hon. Friends found themselves. If they had accepted that position, well and good."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You are for the horizon."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Not at all. We have offered something very actual, very fundamental, the very thing that exists. If you do not want it, it is not our fault. You still talk of partition. You want to take a large portion of the Hindu population of this country into your area. Why? Because you think economically it is not possible for you to exist. That certainly we cannot allow. Therefore, again the question has come up to the fore. My hon. Friends opposite are talking big on 'what is this division of Bengal and Punjab.' Yes; division of Bengal and Punjab is bound to come if you want partition from the main portion of this country."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes; because the suspicion you have of Hindus dominating over you will exist in Hindus also when you are dominating over them. That is why partition of Bengal and Punjab has become actual to-day. Not because we wanted it, but because friends opposite wanted it. I stand for a united India. I want a united India if possible; but if it is not possible, then let us part as friends; do not take away portions which are really Hindu, which are really culturally bound up with Hindu civilization and Hindu culture. You cannot have the cake and eat it. You want to have the whole country. You want to dominate over it, and because you think the majority of the population of this country are Hindus, you do not want. . . ."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"16th May statement is not accepted."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The 16th May statement is for a united India which has been accepted, and which we will try to follow, if possible, but if 16th May statement is not acceptable to my Muslim friends, which seems to be the case to-day, all I say is that if there is to be a division, it must be on the basis of population and not on the basis of merely the existing Provinces. That is the only point I wish to make. You are mixing up the 16th May statement and the resolution of the all-India Muslim League on partition of India. I am dealing with the 16th May statement. If you want partition you can only have it on conditions which are relevant to partition and not merely because you want the whole part of the country. That is my answer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You have not accepted the statement of May 16th."

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The statement of May 16th has been accepted. My hon. Friend says 'no'. I will say 'yes', and we will go on doing it all the time. That is the only objection with regard to this resolution. I am glad to find my hon. Friends opposite like Mr. Ali Baig are quite willing to have the Province divided on linguistic basis, but the trouble with them is that there should be no reference to the Constituent Assembly. This cannot be done, because it is the Constituent Assembly that deals with this matter. I leave it at that."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about safeguards?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am glad that as far as the question of safeguards is concerned, they are being considered, they will be considered in spite of the absence of my friends. I am sure the minorities committee and the others who are on the Fundamental Rights Committee are going to be generous in that respect. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: 'We cannot accept or approve of it'.) Most of the others have spoken really on the fundamental question. With regard to the question of boundaries, etc., that is, a matter which will be for the Boundaries Commission. I wanted to be most careful not to raise any controversy over the question of boundaries because every one has a different opinion on this matter, and what is wanted is really the acceptance of the principle, and the question of boundaries will be settled by the Boundaries Commission when it does function. My hon. Friend the Member for South Indian Commerce waxed eloquent on 'why do you want a division when really you want a united India'. I am afraid he forgot the fundamental proposition of this question, and that is this. There is no question of division at all. If there is going to be provincial autonomy, let the provinces exist on linguistic basis connected with the All-India Federation. Therefore, there is no question of separation of any province from India at all. So, the question before us is that the provinces should exist on a linguistic basis so that the trouble we have here, for instance, hon. Members talking in Tamil, talking in Telugu, and hon. Friends like my Friend the Leader of the Opposition raising the point 'do you understand this Gentleman, Sir'; because he speaks in Telugu how can you call him to order, Sir—these difficulties will not occur if we divide on linguistic basis. It is on that basis there is to be a division. There is no question of separating from the All-India Federation at all. I have dealt with the question of separation which has been raised by my friends opposite who want definitely a partition of India. This is the identical difference between friends on the other side of the House representing the Muslim League and those on this side. My hon. Friend the Member for South Indian Commerce does not accept it, because, I see, he is a very ardent supporter of a United India—not even linguistic provinces. I see his jealousy, but even his jealousy may be overcome. It is the real difference between the two sides of the House. Whether the Constituent Assembly should be referred to or not, I have already dealt with the matter effectively. I hope my Muslim friends will

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withdraw their opposition, because Pakistan or no Pakistan, this question is not part of that. This question is merely whether you want linguistic provinces in an All-India Federation. This is a very simple proposition, and can only be considered by the Constituent Assembly. That is the second proposition which I want to put before this House. I, therefore, hope that my Muslim friends will withdraw their opposition to the resolution."

(M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur rose.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know from the Hon. the Leader of the House his attitude towards the amendment moved by the Hon. Member Mr. Venkateswarlu."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not propose to accept it, because my resolution is comprehensive enough."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, though many of my hon. Friends on the opposite side had agreed to the principle underlying the slogan 'divide and be free; divide and be friends; divide and be happy', they have not, particularly the Members of the Treasury Bench, taken pains to understand the point of view which we tried to put forward."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member replying now? I have already allowed him. What is it that he wants to say?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am making a submission, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Submission about what? Is it on a point of information or an personal explanation?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House made an appeal to the Opposition, and in that connexion, Sir, I want to tell you this thing that we are not convinced that many Members endorse the principle which I referred to half minute ago, i.e., that they have not taken pains to understand our point of view, and the appeal made by the Leader of the House is not at all convincing. He has not proved that the Constituent Assembly is in being, and he has not proved that language is the only basis on which provinces should be divided. He has not taken pains to understand the cultural basis as the proper basis for division, and it was not at all sympathetic on the part of the Leader of the House not to have agreed to the amendment moved by my party saying that this matter should not be referred to the Constituent Assembly."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That amendment was ruled out of order by you, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am referring to the objection raised by the Leader of the House to the amendment, Sir. In view of these things, we want to make it clear—we want to indicate—that we do not at all take any part in these proceedings of dividing the province on these unnatural lines. I am to say that 'Moplahstan' is a very natural proposal based

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on culture, and the will of the people. We do not, Sir, propose to take part in the voting of this resolution. Therefore, we walk out of this House, Sir."

(After making this statement, M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur, followed by members of his party, left the House amidst cries of 'Pakistan Zindabad' and 'Moplaistan Zindabad'.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the hon. Member Mr. Venkateswarlu withdrawing his amendment?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The content of my amendment is in the resolution itself. The Leader of the House did not go through the amendment. That is why he said he was not agreeing with my amendment. Any way, I am withdrawing my amendment."

The amendment of Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu was withdrawn by leave of the House.

The original resolution was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House to 2-30 p.m."

The House then adjourned till 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch 2-30 p.m.)

VII.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 5 OF 1947).

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I present the Report^a of the Select Committee on the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1947) and move that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration. Sir, practically the principles laid down in the present Bill are the same as those laid down in the District Municipalities Amending Bill. So I need not dilate much on this Bill. But the Select Committee in its report has made one or two slight changes. Instead of reserving three seats for ladies, it has now reserved four seats for women. The next change made is this: the Chambers of Commerce have been given separately, one seat each instead of being clubbed together. That is all the main changes, and due to those changes, instead of 80 total seats, the total strength has now risen to 85. The necessity for this amending Bill is, now that Sembiam, Saidapet and some other similar areas have been included in the Madras City; due to this extension and also due to the fact that some of the divisions of the City have become unwieldy and some new additional divisions have been included in the City,—so for all these reasons an amending Bill has become necessary. Also there is one more point. Hitherto there were only 40 divisions. Hereafter the total divisions will be fifty; and the total number of divisional seats in the council will be 66 instead of 50. Also the

^a Printed as Appendix III on page 894-897 infra.

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institutional seats have been raised to 19, thus raising the total number of seats to 85. Another point to be noted is till now there was no reservation of seats for Muslims, women and others. Now on the basis of joint electorate, Muslims have been given four reserved seats, and women also have been given four. Hitherto Anglo-Indians used to have a separate seat. But now that seat has been kept under the joint electorate reserved for Anglo-Indians. As will be seen from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, Railways used to have two seats; but now since State has taken over the Railways, these two seats have been left out. Excepting these few changes there is nothing new in the Bill. So I would request hon. Members to accept the amending bill."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has suggested that after all the object of the Bill is to expand the council of the Corporation of Madras in order to give representation to the people of areas which have been brought into the city by the extension of its limits. He also added it was the only reason for this amending bill. If it is as simple as that we will have no opposition to this bill. Sir, the fundamental basis of representation still remains unsolved so far as Muslims are concerned. I said it on a former occasion, and so I do not wish to repeat it here. Whatever my hon. Friends may say, it is always safe for a Government, which belongs to a particular party, to govern the Province taking along with it other sections of the people. If it should believe that the Government is there in order to give effect to its policies wholesale and remain adamant in regard to its views and policies, it does its work only in a half-hearted manner, as it does not satisfy the wishes and aspirations of those people who do not see eye to eye with them. Sir, if one reads the history of parliamentary government in other parts of the world, and more so that of the Mother of Parliaments, in England, one would see, that it is always safe and it has always been found to be true, that there has been a give and take policy between the party in office and the party in opposition. If a Government which belongs to one party should carry on the administration of the Province according to its own water-tight principles and policies, and hide-bound policies and programmes, it won't carry with it the country. It should be the desire—not only desire—it should be their anxiety to satisfy the other people who do not belong to their party, so that it may carry with it the co-operation and confidence of other sections of the people. The Congress party are novices in administration; not only novices in administration but also novices in parliamentary kind of Government. Therefore it makes it more and more necessary for these gentlemen to so carry on administration as to take other people along with them. Whereas I see in the legislation before us no sign or symptom of that liberality of outlook. As I said, they wish to remain within the four corners of their party, or, if I may say, within the four walls of their party for all time. (Interruption by the Hon. Dr. P. Subbaravan). Sir, my hon.

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Friend, the Leader of the House would like to suggest that I belong to a party which wishes to continue within the four corners—within the four walls of party politics and party programme. The history of this country within the last ten or twelve years has shown beyond a shadow of doubt, that we, Muslim Leaguers have shown always an inclination and a readiness to come to terms with the party of hon. Members opposite by agreeing to a compromise. But if my hon. Friends cannot honestly adhere to a compromise which is solemnly reached, I am not to be blamed. Sir, hon. Members opposite are to be blamed for their short-sighted policy and for their wanting in intellectual honesty. That apart, I would like to come down to our own Province and particularly to the legislation which we are considering now. I have made it clear on a former occasion that you will not be satisfying the Muslims wholly unless you concede to them the right of electing their own representatives to the local bodies. On that question there was a fairly long debate. My hon. Friend the ex-Minister for Local Administration argued his case, but ultimately he failed, because the failure was not merely in words but in reality, for he is no longer the Minister for Local Administration. (Laughter.) Not only he did not accede to the demand from an important section of the people but he has not made it possible for his colleagues to understand that if any Government wishes to satisfy the minorities, it should do so wholeheartedly. My hon. Friend the Home Minister in season and out of season suggests that what are called fundamentals should not be disturbed and there cannot be any compromise on fundamentals."

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the Bill was passing through its first stage, the hon. Member took nearly half an hour to explain these matters."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"And he has failed!"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I never said he had failed."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If I had failed as others have failed I would not be in my place to-day as I am. I will not be tired and I will not give up my fight, for I am in the right. I think 70 to 80 lakhs of Muslims in the Province are with me and it is not a small number. Perhaps with the honourable or dishonourable exception of a few Quislings the whole Muslim population is with me in this demand."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I object to the word Quisling? It is a very obnoxious word to use with regard to certain public men in this Presidency."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'Quisling' when applied to a Minister or a Member of the House, is unparliamentary. When it is used to describe some outsiders, it is parliamentary. We are only concerned with Members of the House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that I have the support of 70 lakhs of Muslims in this Province for the demand which I and the party to which I have the honour to belong have been making in this

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House. The demand for separate electorates has been regarded as a very large demand affecting fundamentals. On the other hand, my view is that the fundamental of all fundamentals is for a Government to keep a large section of the people satisfied and contented. If you do not pay any heed to the legitimate demand put forward unitedly by a large section of the people, then Sir, you are certainly obstinate and adamant and—not to use very strong terms—most inconsistent."

"Sir, I do not wish now to repeat the arguments in favour of our demand for separate electorates. We are not the only people who are making this demand. In the United Provinces and other Provinces, they have made similar demands. That is because we believe in representation of a proper type. And if the Government which has a very large majority uses that majority and is not prepared to see reason and concede the legitimate demands of people who are not with them and yet belong to this Province . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may conclude his speech soon."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is there any time limit for us?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is no time limit. But the hon. Member has spoken on this Bill for more than 40 minutes during the first stage."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, you also belong to a minority and you can realize. . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I object to this appeal *ad misericordiam* to you."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I dare say, Mr. Speaker, you are well versed in the working of the British Parliament where a minority, even if it be only one, has got the right to go on fighting and it has sometimes necessitated. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I quite agree with the hon. Member, but there are others also who wish to take part in the debate. If arguments are repeated, I am afraid I cannot allow them."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If the arguments have to be repeated, it has become necessary on account of the obstinacy of the Government. I am really sorry that the arguments I have repeated have not penetrated into the hearts of the Government. It has become necessary for us to repeat and repeat till we can open the door which is banged and locked against us by the obstinacy of the Government and adamant adherence to their policy."

"My hon. Friend the present Minister for Local Administration is a gentleman. If he were a free man and had a little more freedom, he would have considered the question on its merits. But since he also believes in joint responsibility of the Government, he has no other alternative but to follow the lead

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of the previous Government to some extent and the present Leader of the House to some other extent. Possibly my hon. Friends say that they will never give up joint electorates for local bodies and they would even go to the extent of working against separate electorates for the Legislatures also. But they should realise that by ignoring the legitimate claims of the Muslims they are making it impossible for us to co-operate with our own friends belonging to the other parties and the communities.

3 p.m. "Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have heard the arguments advanced by the Members of the League on the question of formation of provinces on a linguistic basis. In their opposition to the constitution of provinces on a linguistic basis, forced by circumstances and realities of the situation, they went to the extent of demanding a separate province for themselves, the constitution of a separate Moplah Province called Moplahstan. Who is responsible for driving us to the necessity of demanding a separate province for ourselves in this part of the country and the formation of provinces like Moplahstan, Dravidastan and also a Muslim Province separate from other parts of the province in this country? Sir, we will not be tired of asking for the recognition of our rights. If our rights are not recognized by our friends, we will be driven to the necessity of parting company with them, for that is the way in which our minds are working. If they are really our friends, if they are really anxious to have our co-operation, if they really regard us as their brothers and countrymen, they will certainly not deny the recognition and the grant of our legitimate right to send our own representatives to the local bodies who will be our real representatives instead of representatives who will be representing others. Therefore, Sir, that is not the correct view that the hon. Members should take on a fundamental question like this. I am glad that the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has got out of the hidebound four-cornered structure, which the ex-Minister for Local Administration could not do, and taken a somewhat liberal view. For this change, on the part of the new Minister, we are thankful to him.

"I do not know on what basis the reservation of seats for the various interests has been made in the Bill. I see that five seats have been reserved for members of the Scheduled Castes, four for Muslims, two for Indian Christians, one for Anglo-Indians and four for women. Even if the population basis is taken, I believe that the Muslims will be entitled to a larger number of seats. Generally speaking, we are not for the reservation of seats on principle. But since reservation has been provided for in the Bill, it should be made on certain principles. When I move my amendment, I will speak on it."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to oppose the Bill, before this House, despite the fact that it has emerged from the Select Committee. The main reason for my doing so is that the principle of separate electorates, which the Muslims have been demanding, has not been conceded. Being a member of a minority community himself, the Hon. Minister

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who framed this Bill was conscious of the necessity to do something to safeguard the rights and interests of minorities. Hence he came forward to concede the principle of communal representation which is deplored and deprecated by many members of his own party. I am glad that the Hon. Minister came forward to concede this principle, but I wish he had gone a little further and also recognized the principle of separate electorates. When introducing the Bill the other day, that Hon. Minister stated that reservation of seats had been provided for Muslims as a gesture of friendliness. I am not oblivious of the fact that he was actuated by a sincere desire to help the minorities in this Province, but he is impeded by the restrictions and circumscriptions imposed upon him by the policy of the party to which he belongs.

"In the Bill four seats have been reserved for Muslims in areas where they are in a majority. I wish to know how this will improve the position of Muslims for in the four wards where they are in a majority, they are bound to succeed even without reservation of seats. Hence this guarantee of a certain number of seats for Muslims in those wards is unnecessary and redundant. Why then delude the world into a belief that a boon is being conferred by the majority party in this Province on the Muslim minority? Further the logical implication of reservation of seats for Muslims would be to prevent them from securing some other seats because once reservation is made the general impression that gets hold of people is that there is no necessity for any further representation for those for whom seats have been reserved. Already there are seven Muslims in the Corporation of Madras out of 65 Councillors, and with an increase in the strength of that body, it is likely that the number of Muslim Councillors might also increase. Since this reservation is of no benefit to the Muslims, they feel that they would rather do without it.

"It has been urged that separate electorates are unnecessary so far as civil bodies are concerned for such bodies deal with matters which are of common interest to the various communities. No doubt, this is generally so. But it must be acknowledged that constituted as the civic bodies are to-day in addition to their dealing with matters of common interest they have to discharge certain functions in which Muslims have a particular interest. The other day I pointed out that education was one such function. Hence it is necessary that Muslims should have their true representatives in these bodies to safeguard their rights and interests. As was rightly mentioned the other day by an hon. Member opposite—I am referring to Sri N. S. Varadachari—we find that in the civic bodies of to-day the constant and unrelenting pressure of party politics playing a dominant role, and that the members thereof are governed to a large extent by the ideals of their political parties. Hence I hold the view that as things stand at present, the same rule which applies to political institutions must perforce be made applicable to civic bodies also.

"The main argument advanced against separate electorates is that they foster a separatist tendency. But I wish to point out that such a tendency is an instinct of human nature, which very

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often seeks expression irrespective of party considerations. Is it not this instinct that has been responsible for the clamour in this House for the past three days for the creation of linguistic provinces? The Congress, Mr. Speaker, is opposed to the division of India, but it is curious that Congressmen have vociferously accorded their support to the fragmentation of this Province and have acquiesced in implementing a fissiparous tendency among the adherents of their own creed which they deplore, deprecate and condemn when it emanates from the Muslims? If Congressmen are agreeable to creating a wedge between Tamilians, Andhras and others, it is not in consonance with logic that they should refuse to accede to the demands of the Muslims for a separate existence and for separate electorates. The Hon. Leader of the House when moving the resolution on linguistic provinces the other day thus declared—if I remember aright—his words were: 'Jealousies arise when we are together; our friendship will be better when we are separated.' I wish to point out that the same argument holds good with reference to the demands preferred by Muslims.

"Humanity, Mr. Speaker, is diverse in colour, creed, culture and language and multifarious in outlook. Differences are bound to prevail in human society; it is futile to discount and deplore them and still more futile to lay the blame on separate electorates for many of these differences. What is the reason, I wish to know, for the prevalence of acute differences within the ranks of Congressmen themselves in this Province, despite the fact that they are all wedded to one and the same political creed? As a matter of fact, it is not the members of the Muslim League, but some members of the Congress Party itself that constitute the most potent opposition to the Treasury Benches. Are separate electorate responsible for this? Nay, this disharmony is the outcome of the weakness of human nature and the craze for power. Hence we must look to other directions for the elimination of discord and disharmony from among the peoples of this land and should not imagine that joint electorate alone will provide a solution of the problem. After all, have not the elections to the municipal bodies all these years been on the basis of joint electorate, but has this served to cement the cleavage between the Hindus and the Muslims and to assuage communal feelings? It must be remembered that it is not mere agreement in regard to political views that can foster a spirit of amity and concord in the sphere of human relationship. There are other factors necessary for the emergence of that spirit, namely, the prevalence of toleration for the views of others and of an attitude of accommodation: the elimination of egoism and self-aggrandizement from man; and above all, the elevation of politics from its present level to a high standard of thought and action. Rightly did Plato proclaim that it was vital for the progress of any nation that its rulers, administrators and legislators should be imbued with lofty ideals. The irresistible conclusion, therefore, is that we have to look to other directions and not to joint electorate for ushering in for this Province a destiny sublime.

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"It is urged that joint electorates will foster a spirit of harmony and concord between the various communities inasmuch as the Hindu candidates will be compelled to seek the assistance of Muslim voters and *vice versa*. But I wish to point out that the position in this Province is different from that in other Provinces. In this Province where Hindus are in a preponderant majority it is evident that they can stand on their own without Muslim support. As a matter of fact Hindu candidates can afford to disregard and ignore Muslim voters whereas Muslims being a microscopic minority, are not in a position to dispense with the support of the Hindus. What can be the result of this? Such a state of affairs cannot tend towards harmony and concord, on the other hand it creates a feeling of bitterness in the minds of Muslims. Hence it is best that joint electorates should be dispensed with even with regard to civic bodies.

"I wish to remind hon. Members of this House that separate electorates have had the support in the past, of wise and great heads. The other day I referred to the support accorded to this system by the late Moulana Muhammad Ali even at a time when he was a Congressman. To-day I wish to recall the fact that separate electorates received the support of no less eminent a person than the late Gokhale. Hon. Members on the opposite side may fling at me the retort that the late Gokhale was a moderate. But, Mr. Speaker, it must be acknowledged that wisdom cannot be deemed to be the monopoly of any particular party and that there are many other wise heads in this vast universe besides those of the party opposite. Moreover, the principle of separate electorates was conceded by Congressmen themselves, on the occasion when the Lucknow Pact was concluded. We wish that pact to be implemented and the principle embodied therein extended to local bodies also, for, then and then alone will the Muslims be able to have on these bodies their true representatives. The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas stated that there are to be found to-day on the local bodies certain Muslims who have been returned through joint electorates but who nevertheless correctly voice the views and sentiments of their community. This no doubt is true. But it must be remembered that a few swallows do not make a summer. As a matter of fact the cases mentioned by the Hon. Minister are but exceptions to the general rule. As practical men and women we have to take actual facts into consideration and realize that self-interest plays a dominant role in human affairs. Those who are returned through the medium of joint electorates will not have the courage to present the Muslim point of view in its true perspective. Let us, Mr. Speaker, not delude ourselves into a belief that an ideal state of affairs prevails or is likely to do so. Let us make provision for actual facts as they happen to exist. In this connexion, I can vividly recall how that ardent Nationalist of Bengal, the late Surrendranath Bannerji, underwent a transformation when he became a Minister of the then Government and was knighted. 'The trumpet voice of India' then became 'His Master's voice in Bengal' and the once 'surrender not' surrendered. Such being the lesson of

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history, we have to take actual facts into consideration, make due provision for the frailties of human nature and act in such a manner as will counter those tendencies. Hence it is that we demand that separate electorates should be provided for Muslims.

"In regard to a matter such as this, it is the views and opinions of the minorities that are affected by the measure that should prevail. Muslims have a right to declare what they want and wise statesmanship requires that this demand should not be brushed aside. When an overwhelming majority of the Muslims in this Province and when cent per cent representatives of this community in this House declare that they consider separate electorates to be their only safeguard, the course of wisdom would be to accede to this demand? Of course in a Province such as this where the Hindus are in a preponderant majority, they can impose their will on the minority. But it must be remembered that such a course will not be conducive to the promotion of that harmony, and concord, between the two major communities in the land, towards which end every well-wisher of this country should strive. The majority party should act in such a manner as will secure for it the confidence and goodwill of the minority.

"Mr. Speaker, in this connexion, I wish to commend to the Treasury Benches the example of the Muslim Government in Egypt, in regard to the treatment that that Government metes out to the minorities in that land, namely, to Copts, who are adherents of Christianity. When I was in Egypt some years ago, it was a matter of intense gratification to me to learn that in that ancient land of the Pharaohs no communal disputes marred the peace and tranquillity of that land and that Christians and Muslims lived there like brothers. On enquiry as to the reason for this, I was informed not by the Muslims but by the representatives of the Copts themselves that that was because the Copts were perfectly satisfied since they had been granted by the Muslim Government even more rights and privileges than those to which they were entitled on the population basis. If the Congress Party were actuated by similar vision and foresight as displayed by the Muslims of Egypt then surely the problems of India would meet with a quick solution. But, alas! the spirit of accommodation is absent from among the ranks of the members opposite, with the result that the Muslim minority in this Province has to bewail thus with the Persian poet when addressing itself to the majority party:

کوش اگر گوش تو و ناله اگر ناله من
آنچه البته بجائی نرسد فریاد است

which means 'Since it is your ear to which my appeal is addressed, it is evident that this appeal will prove futile.'

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am put to the necessity of opposing this Bill on principles. But at the outset I have to thank the Government for the few changes they have made in the Bill as it has emerged from

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the Select Committee. This is the first occasion when this Government have made any change in any Bill which they have framed and brought before this House. Therefore even for such small mercies we have to be thankful to the Government. We hope that this spirit of accommodation which they have begun to show in a small measure, will expand and deepen itself. It is this hope which makes us speak here. Otherwise, we feel that all our arguments, all our contentions and all our pleadings in this House will be useless. We need not at all stand up on the floor of this House and indulge in the art of trying to persuade the Government. I hope that this spirit of accommodation which they have shown by making these changes—though minor they may be in substance—will improve and that they will also come to recognize the principles for which we on this side are fighting for. Though they have made a few minor changes, the fundamental objection to the Bill remains. That objection is that this Bill does not provide for separate electorates for Muslims amongst other communities. We want separate electorate not for the purpose of separating sections of people from one another; it is for the purpose of bringing them together and it is for the purpose of creating harmony and concord amongst the people, that we want separate electorate. It is not the existence of separate electorates that has created any cleavage among the people in the past. It is the opposition to the right of Muslims to send their own representatives through separate electorates that has been the cause of misunderstandings and ill-will that have been existing amongst various sections of people. I recognize the necessity of bringing in friendly relations between the two important nations which are inhabiting this land and the surest way of doing it in such a Province as this is the clear and unequivocal recognition of Muslims to their representation by separate electorates. In the place of separate electorate, if you have joint electorate, it will do great harm to Muslims. Through a joint electorate the Muslims fear—the fear is based on solid facts and grounds—that they will not have their real representatives on the various bodies. The other day when I was speaking to a friend of mine and was complaining that many Muslims are not elected through joint electorates, he said that it depended upon the type of candidate that is put up for the constituencies. That is exactly our contention also. The success of the Muslim candidate through the joint electorate depends upon the type of candidate who is put up. That is, they want Muslims who will serve their own purposes, Muslims who will represent the majority electorate of Hindus and not the Muslims. Here the question is one of Muslim representation. So far as our Hindu brethren are concerned, they have got their own representatives in any number. What we are fighting for is the representation, the proper representation and adequate representation for Muslims, and the representative who is to represent the Muslims has necessarily to be elected by Muslims alone. A Muslim who is elected by the majority of other communities cannot in any sense be termed to be a representative of the Muslims. Therefore when it is a question of the representatives of Muslims.

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it stands to reason that those representatives must be elected by the Muslims themselves. Sir, on previous occasions we have given reasons why the Muslims want their representatives to sit on these local bodies, because they have got their own interests to represent—interests which cannot even be understood by any of our brethren. This has been shown on many an occasion even on the floor of this House.

“Therefore, Sir, I need not labour the point that Muslims have got interests of their own and therefore they want their own real representatives to represent them in these local bodies. It is only when Muslims get their real representatives that they will be satisfied and until then this discontent will remain with the Muslims. It is why we are urging that the Government must remove this discontent by conceding the principle of separate electorate.

“Sir, here as the Bill stands, the Muslims have not only been denied of representation of the quality which they want, but also they have not been given adequate representation. The number of seats provided for us and also the number of seats which we may get as a result of the redistribution of the several wards and divisions of the City,—when these two numbers put together—do not give us any adequate representation in the Madras Corporation to which Muslims are entitled. Sir, I shall explain this in greater detail when I come to move my amendments which I have tabled. Now, Sir, I shall confine myself to this vital question of separate electorate *versus* joint electorate.

“Sir, on this question, the Muslims will not be satisfied with anything else than separate electorate in the matter of representation for them in the local bodies. I once again request the Government to view it from a very reasonable point of view and see that this unanimous demand of the Muslims is conceded to them, because it is not the idea of the Government, I am sure, that these two nations must become one, must coalesce, and must fuse. That is not the idea of the Government. Their idea is to bring about harmony and friendship between these nations, and between the two communities inhabiting this Province and the surest way of doing that is to recognize the right of the Muslims sending their own representatives and that their true representatives could be elected only through separate electorate. I therefore once again appeal to the Government to concede this principle.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, the questions involved in this Bill have been fully and elaborately discussed in the course of the first reading of the Bill before the House.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I suppose the Hon. Minister is not replying to the debate.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“I am not replying to the debate, Sir. I am only speaking on this Bill. My hon. Colleague Mr. Chandramouli will reply to the debate.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister can continue.”

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Sir, I was saying that the principles involved in this Bill have been fully and elaborately discussed in the course of the introduction of the Bill in this House. Two questions are involved in this Bill. The first is the reconstitution of the councils and the reservation of seats for certain communities including women. The other is the question of separate *versus* joint electorates. So far as the electorates are concerned, whether joint or separate, the only change that has been effected by this Bill is the increase in the number of members of the Adi-Dravida community or the Harijans. So far as the Muslim community is concerned, the position remains what it was before the introduction of this Bill and no change has been proposed. This Bill has got certain limited objects and purposes in view. So far as those purposes are concerned, it seeks certain provisions for carrying out those purposes and one of the specific purposes of the Bill is the conversion of the Harijan electorate from separate into joint electorate.

“So far as joint electorates are concerned, my submission is that this system was introduced so far back as 1934 for all communities, Hindus, Muslims and others in this Province and during the last twelve years the system of joint electorates has worked successfully both in the mufassal and in the City of Madras. In the City of Madras again, as has been mentioned even by my hon. Friends from the opposition benches, there are as many as seven members belonging to the Muslim community in a council of 65 seats. That is the position in the City Corporation. That is to say, in the City of Madras which has a population of about 11 lakhs and in which there are only 1 lakh of Muslim population, the Muslim community gets seven seats out of 65 seats. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: It is wrong.) That is the figure according to the census, Sir, and if you just work out the proportion of Muslims to the total population and their number in the existing City Council, you will see that they get more than what they are entitled to. I would submit, Sir, that with the passing of this Bill, the number of Muslim seats will be increased to 10 so that they will have hereafter 10 seats out of 65 in the Madras Corporation. Thus Sir, the Muslim representation in the Corporation of Madras will be far in excess of what they would get on the basis of their population in the City and therefore, I submit that they have no reason to feel dissatisfied with the Bill.

“Then, Sir, on the question of separate *versus* joint electorates I may submit that my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan has been saying some unkind things about myself and the great Congress organization to which I have the honour to belong. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan is not in this Chamber now to hear my reply to his allegation. Sir, there is, as we all know, a rather discredited maxim which is prevalent among us, lawyers and that is, ‘if you have a bad or a weak case, abuse your opponent’. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan having put forward his case when the Bill was originally introduced and having failed and failed completely, he has now taken a different line and has come forward saying that the Minister for Local Administration who was then

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in charge of the Bill is responsible for all sins of commission and omission in this Bill. Now, Sir, there is no question of individuality in the Cabinet at all. There is no question of administration by compartments at all. I handed over charge of my portfolio of Local Administration to my hon. Colleague and he will carry on the administration of the Local Administration Department on the best lines on which the Congress Party stands committed, namely of doing the greatest good to the greatest number of people. That is the policy to which the Congress Ministry is committed and whoever may be in charge of any portfolio, must carry out that policy, which is based on that guiding principle.

"Now, Sir, I submit that the Congress Ministry is thoroughly alive to the needs and necessities and also the apprehensions of the Muslim community. My hon. Friend the lady member Begum Mir Amiruddin asked me why is this reservation at all. I submit, Sir, that this is a principle which we have adopted not for this particular place, not for a particular contingency or for a particular set of circumstances prevailing in a particular ward, but generally for the whole of this Province. This Bill is based on that principle and is closely in line with the Bill drafted in connexion with the elections to district boards and municipalities. When once this principle of joint electorates with reservation of seats for minority representation is accepted, then it will be applicable to the whole province. As I have already stated on the floor of this House, the Congress Party has committed to this principle and it is their aim that without distinction of caste, creed or community, justice should be rendered to every community and to every section of the community. It is not therefore a question of whether a particular candidate under particular circumstances will be returned or will not be returned by the Muslim community. What the Congress Ministry seeks to do is to see that all the reasonable and legitimate apprehensions of the minority communities are allayed and to guarantee protection to the minority interests and it is for that purpose that they are introducing this measure, guaranteeing full and adequate representation for every minority community in every municipality both in the City and in the districts. Therefore, Sir, the statement of my hon. Friend that the Congress Ministry are not alive to the needs of the Muslim community is belied by this measure.

"Sir, there is a proverb, that none are so blind as those who will not see, or who refuse to see, who are short-sighted or who see through coloured glasses. I would only submit, Sir, that while the object of this measure is to ensure and guarantee full and proper representation to every minority community throughout the length and breadth of this Province, I see that such a measure is cavilled at, criticized and sought to be perverted and diverted by my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan by seeing it through coloured glasses.

"Sir, I should like to make only a very few observations as regards the point raised by the hon. Lady Member, Begum Mir Amiruddin and also by Hon. Leader of the Opposition Mr. Ismail. Both of them said that while Muslims demand in a united voice

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that they should have separate electorate, why is it that you deny it to them? Sir, I do submit that in the interests of the Muslims themselves, we are anxious that they should not have separate electorate. I shall just give a concrete illustration to explain my position how separate electorate will not help them in any real sense. I would challenge the Leader of the Opposition and also the hon. lady Member Begum Mir Amiruddin to show if there are any municipalities in this province except two or three, where . . . "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, may I submit that the use of the term 'challenge' is not parliamentary?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Sir, instead of the word challenge, I shall use the word, 'ask.' I would ask or I would request the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and my hon. lady Friend Begum Mir Amiruddin to show, except in two or three municipalities, whether there are any municipalities and district boards throughout the Province including the City of Madras, where they expect to be in a majority by reason of separate electorate. Would they ever hope to get a majority in any of the councils or even in the City Corporation? Could it ever happen, as it has happened in the case of my hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan to become the Mayor of the Madras Corporation, if he had been returned by separate electorate? Could it have ever happened, as it had happened in the case of my late friend, the Chairman of the Bellary Municipality to become the Chairman of that municipality for two or three successive terms, where the majority of members were non-Muslims, if he were returned by separate electorate? Sir, leaving alone the question of office, leaving alone the office of chairmanship, or presidentship or vice-presidentship of a municipality or a district board, even for representing their own community and even for putting forward their own claims and their own grievances in civic affairs, it is necessary that they should be returned by joint electorates, so that their claims might be considered, not on the basis of this community or that, but to benefit the entire community inhabiting the whole town or the district.

"Sir, I submit that we are a democratic organization working a democratic constitution, however much my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan might deny it. We are carrying on the administration by the majority rule and therefore if any resolution or if any motion has to be passed, or for the matter of that, if anything has got to be done in any of the municipalities or local boards, can the Muslims ever hope to obtain a majority vote and get their things done by relying upon separate electorate? Their voice will be a voice in the wilderness, a lonely unheard of voice and an unavailing cry. Therefore, Sir, where non-Muslims are in a majority in all municipalities and local bodies, and where Muslim interests are intimately bound up with them, I would only submit, that in their own interests and for their own benefit, the system of joint electorates with reservation for minority representation is the best thing that could ever be devised.

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"Again, Sir, my hon. Friend Begum Amiruddin referred to Plato. I am very glad she still remembers Plato and has referred to Plato's idealism and his high principles. I would only ask her whether these high principles of Plato, his far-reaching vision and his lofty idealism can be applied to the practical politics of the hon. Members of the Opposition in this practical matter. Suppose Plato were here to-day, would he plump in for a separate electorate? Would he not claim that we are all one family, that we are all united together, and therefore we should all work together, live together, act together and, if necessary, die together? I would say that Plato's idealism is the greatest argument for accepting the principle of joint electorates which would bring all the communities together.

"Again, Sir, I would submit that so far as the question of the adequacy of representation is concerned, every interest, as I have already submitted, is sought to be provided for. My hon. Friend said that the Government have not shown any responsive interest in the matter of the representations made to them. The very fact that we in the Select Committee have allotted one separate seat to the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and have also added a number of seats shows that we are prepared to sympathize with your claims; heed your representations and meet your demands so long as they are consistent with your interests and the interests of the country at large. Viewed in that light, I am sure the present Bill which has for its object the protection of the minority communities in the civic bodies deserves wholehearted acceptance by every section of this House, including my hon. Friends the members of the Muslim League."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just wanted to intervene in this debate when the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was insisting that there is no scope under this Bill for the real representatives of the Muslims to be elected to sit and discharge their duties in the Corporation. These questions, I think, were also agitated in the first reading of this Bill and a reference to these things was made at the time of the Select Committee proceedings also. Now, what happens under the provisions of this Bill is this: I did not exactly follow the previous speaker; but the Government are going to reserve four seats in four divisions where the Muslims are in majority. That assurance has been given, although it is not written here. The Muslims will therefore get their four general seats and certainly they must get their real representatives; and by having their reserved seats also in the very same division, they will get the other four representatives also as their real representatives of the Muslims who form a majority in those divisions. It is impossible to say that these representatives elected by the Muslims themselves would not be the real representatives. So, I cannot understand the argument: what is the use of reserving four seats also in the same division? Their argument has all along been: 'If you club us in wards where Hindus and other communities are in a majority, the reserved seat will be obtained not by a real representative of the

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Muslims but by somebody who is favoured by the majority communities.' In order to avoid that possibility reserved seats are now being reserved only in the divisions where there is Muslim majority. Therefore, Sir, there is no question or doubt about this. In the result, there will be eight seats, and 'real' representatives of Muslims may come into the Corporation.

"Then, Sir, it must be noted that the Muslim Chamber of Commerce has been added. The Muslim Chamber, will I suppose, certainly give a 'real' representative of the Muslims, and if they do not do so, of course we can do nothing at this stage. Again, there is the Southern Indian Skins and Hides Merchants Association. We have absolutely no doubt that they will ordinarily return only a Muslim and a real representative of the Muslims. So then, out of the 65 seats, there will be ten real representatives of Muslims. Therefore, the whole argument that they cannot get real representatives in a joint electorate is answered by the arrangement proposed in this Bill. In spite of our objection to the principle of separate electorates, you will have to appreciate the fact that the Bill is framed to satisfy the sentiments and the demands of the Muslims, because under this arrangement, they get exactly what they want under a separate electorate and much more than what the numerical strength of their population entitles them to get. I wanted only to emphasise that particular point, Sir, and I am done."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The only controversial point before the House is the question of separate or joint electorates. I allot ten minutes for each of the speakers."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after the eloquent and passionate appeal made by the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas in defence of joint electorates, we on this side of the House remain as unconvinced of the wisdom of providing joint electorates in local bodies as we were before. The point involved in our demand for separate electorate is the only point missed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas; and that is the point which should determine the utility and the necessity for providing separate electorates in local bodies. The very arguments he advanced in support of the provisions made in this Bill for safeguarding the interests of minority communities are the arguments for providing for separate electorates." The moment it is conceded by my hon. Friend that there is necessity for providing for special safeguards for the preservation and protection of minority interests, that moment he will have to concede that it cannot be an unqualified method of democratic election through joint electorates that should be provided for if the safeguards should be effective. In representative bodies an effective device which would really and effectively reflect and represent the real feelings of the minority communities should be provided in any enactment intended for the representation of minority communities—that will have to be conceded by my hon. Friend. When he says that in a democratic body like the Congress the main emphasis should be on the benefit to the country,

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he really forgets that the country consists of communities and nationalities and if the interests and welfare of the various nationalities are effectively safeguarded, the sum total will be the protection and safeguarding of the interests of the country. Whenever he refers to the country, he forgets the fact that the country is not an imaginary entity without reference to the communities and nationalities which it consists of, and speaks of something imaginary or idealistic which is called the country. But actually we have to refer to the country only with reference to communities and when the communities are pleading for a certain provision to be made for the preservation of their interests, their voice and their representation should be taken into account and not insist on what you would like to be beneficial to be included in the constitution. My hon. Friend Mr. Viswanatham was creating a little bit of confusion when he said that since seats are reserved in places where Muslims are in a majority, the danger to which they will be subject of being overridden by the non-Muslims will disappear. As a matter of fact, if there is a slight division among the Muslims and if a minority section of the Muslims lines itself with the non-Muslims, the majority wishes of the Muslims may be easily defeated in all the so-called majority wards where Muslim seats are reserved. That is a danger which cannot be avoided in spite of the provisions in this Bill, and the so-called protection referred to by Mr. Viswanatham is no protection at all. In fact real representatives will not be returned except through separate electorates; and that is a very genuine conviction which the Muslims are entertaining. It is not based on any strange idealism or novel theories or principles of political philosophy. I will quote one concrete typical instance to show how the joint electorate worked against Muslim interests in one of the wards in the elections to the Bombay Corporation. In one of the wards, where there were some 700 to 800 Muslim voters, about 642 voters voted for one Muslim candidate and they looked upon him as their genuine and real representative; but what happened? Another gentleman who had the backing of the remaining few Mussalmans, with the support of about a thousand or more non-Muslim electors, got himself elected and he went to the Bombay Corporation as the representative of the Muslims of that ward, while the vast majority of the Muslims actually did not want him but wanted somebody else. Can you say for a moment that that man really represents the Muslims in the Bombay Corporation? Sir, I fail to see how my hon. Friends fail to understand the point of our difficulty when we say that through a joint electorate we cannot have our real and genuine representative. I can quite understand your contending there is no necessity for reservation of seats at all. Then say so; but you say there is necessity for reservation in this country where there are communities and communal interests and it is not unqualified democracy that we should have. When you concede that principle and then insist on joint electorates you take away by one hand what is given by the other. Give up that attitude, be honest and be helpful to us; do not profess to help us but at the same time

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refrain from helping us in the matter of representation. I respectfully submit that as long as joint electorates are provided however much you say that it is in the interests of the minority communities, I say the minority interests will not be safeguarded or preserved and they can never be thankful to the Government for doing that.

"Sir, as for the provision for reservation of seats, it is not a blessing now bestowed by the Congress Government on the Muslims as my hon. Friend seems to suggest. Ever since 1931 or so, when the Congress was not in power, this reservation has been in existence and now it is only continued by the Congress Government. It is not therefore a blessing conferred on Muslims by this Congress Government. My hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, was referring to the greatest good of the greatest number and all that. It is very nice to preach that political idealism; but the greatest good of the greatest number, if pressed to its logical conclusions, will find no application at all even in reservation. Why should there be reservation at all for Muslims in this country then? An unqualified democracy would be the result of the hon. Friend's theory. But considering the peculiar situation in which this country is placed, considering the reality of the existence of so many interests and communities in this country with divergent interests and conflicting rights and claims, when you concede that, we are appealing to you, be honest, be consistent and be really helpful to the Muslims, instead of pretending to be helpful by giving them the electorate that they want. On these grounds, I submit that the omission of separate electorates from this Bill is really a vital and fundamental defect and drawback and it is for this among other reasons that we are constrained to oppose this Bill."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. 4 p.m.
Speaker, Sir, I was amused by the speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas. It is said that Daniel has come to judgment. (Laughter.) In that way, Mr. Daniel came to deliver the judgment, not knowing the problem and not being able to understand the problem. He delivered the judgment, sat in satisfaction but ultimately it proved that the judgment was very wrong and bad. I am sorry to say that while condemning the members of my party for having repeated the same arguments in the course of the debate which they had used on previous occasions, in discussing this matter, the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas himself has used the very same arguments used by him previously and which cannot carry much weight.

"Sir, the Hon. Minister made a reference to our leader, Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur, having been elected in 1934 under the joint electorates. I concede that point. But this much I have to bring to the Hon. Minister's notice that conditions in 1934 were quite different when Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib was elected to the Madras City Council. He was elected not because he was Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan but because of the interest which he took in the civic affairs and the popularity which

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he enjoyed. I would also like to bring to your notice that to-day if the same Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan were to stand for election under the joint electorate system, in spite of his vast experience of civic affairs which extends to over thirty years, I am sure he would not be elected." (Interruption.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Can one hon. Member use the words 'Shut up' against another hon. Member on the floor of the House?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will be more courteous in future."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan were to contest in general seats with predominantly Hindu voters, I may assure the Hon. the Minister, Mr. Daniel Thomas, that Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan will not get elected by the Hindu electors or the non-Muslim electors."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"It is not a fact."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Whatever Mr. Natesan may say, it is an absolute fact. You will see that it is the real thing, whether it be in municipal councils or local boards. Unfortunately, personal politics is almost dominating our civic affairs to-day. It is really unfortunate, but that has been my experience of these civic bodies and I hope that things will improve. When elections are held under the joint electorate system, it is not always the best way of ensuring that we are sending deserving members to those civic bodies. I may submit that if two candidates belonging to the Muslim community contest for the seat, one of them having been set up by the Congress Party and the other by the Muslim League, the Congress Muslim is sure to come out successful under the joint electorate system, because people have a sympathetic view for the Congress Party."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"It is the same case with the Muslim League also. As elections have to take place to these bodies, Muslim League Members also may contest the elections and they may come out successful."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"According to the present position, I may say for the information of the hon. Member that unless the Congress change their policy in the meanwhile, the Muslim League has decided not to contest the elections to the municipal councils and local boards, because elections are fought on party principles. That is why we have been pressing for these separate electorates. In this connexion, I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government one instance. The two new Presidents who have been recently elected to two of the mufassal municipalities are Congressmen, because they have been recommended by the Government. But, I am sure, if they were to be elected under the separate electorates system, they would have been Muslims. So,

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we think in order to ensure seats for the real representatives of Muslims on these bodies, it is better for the Muslims to have separate electorates and so, for the time being, we have decided not to contest these elections if joint electorates are to be introduced, but if separate electorates are allowed, we would almost be tempted to enter those bodies. The necessity for separate electorates will of course cease when the electorates are permitted to choose their representatives on real merit.

"Sir, nowadays, political differences are made capital. It is all due to the policy pursued by the party in power. Subject to correction, I may say that at least one good change has really been brought about in the Ministry and that change is that the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas has now been given the portfolio of Prohibition instead of the portfolio of Local Self-Government, because, as the Leader of the Opposition said, that change has done some good in certain respects. The Hon. Mr. Chandramouli, who is now in charge of the Local Administration Department, was good enough to give a seat to the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and also another seat to the other Muslim organizations. He has also been very good to Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin in that four seats were conceded to women. So far, he has been good. But, with regard to other points, he has not done much for the benefit of the Muslim community. I can appreciate if he can exactly recommend to Government that very good results will flow if Muslims were given separate electorates. Whatever you may say about separate electorates, it is our belief that the Muslims will have a real opportunity and that is the only way by which we can get our real representatives elected to all these civic bodies. After all, you have got a majority and it is but our right to demand these separate electorates because we have got a democratic right to function on those bodies. Mr. Viswanatham said that in spite of these joint electorates, the Muslims are going to have more than their quota on these bodies by way of nomination. But, unfortunately, in a democracy, we cannot always count upon imaginary considerations. If you seek to do any benefits to the Muslims and if you accept the principles of democracy, then you must see that Muslims, wherever they are in a majority are given these separate electorates. I ask, what is the reason behind for not giving effect to this principle, which the Muslims rightly deserve. So, unless you are prepared to settle this demand for separate electorates, Muslims stand a very little chance of getting into those municipal councils and local boards, and that will in no way help the Hon. Minister for Local Administration who is anxious to get the co-operation of Muslims on those bodies.

"Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House except to join the other members of my party and my Leader especially, in saying that unless you concede the principle of separate electorates in the Muslim majority areas—it does not very much matter in the Madras City Council—but in the mufassal where there are many municipalities containing a majority of the

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Muslim population, I am not sure, when the time comes, whether the Muslims will co-operate in serving on those bodies. For, after all, personally speaking and left to myself, I will say that two seats in the Council is not a great thing. These are small things after all. But if you are going to persist that joint electorates should be adopted, I am certain that the real representatives of Muslims will not get into those bodies and unless they get in there, the representation that is given to Muslims by means of nomination will be very small. You may take part in those civic bodies and we are not very much enamoured of having a few seats on those bodies, but the unfortunate position is that our real representatives will be deprived from serving on those civic bodies. I simply wanted to bring to your notice that, according to our needs, we would not be really represented on those bodies. Having agreed to reservation in the city in divisions where Muslims are in a majority, I appeal to Hon. Minister to do likewise in the mufassal also.

"On a point of explanation, Sir, I am sorry my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa, has unfortunately taken me to be discourteous against another hon. Member. I may say, Sir, it is against the very Islamic principle. I never remember to have used the words 'Shut up'. Anyhow, if you feel that I have said it, I express my regret for having said so."

* SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is really unfortunate that we on this side of the House always differ from the Government. I do not know whether they are always correct and we are always wrong. It so happens that we always differ. Anyhow, whatever it may be, unless you give a patient hearing to the minorities also, the minorities will be nowhere. You should understand, Sir, that the minorities have also certain rights and it is well said that parliamentary sanity is the outcome of differences of opinion at least after discussion for a few hours, we should come to a compromise. But it is really unfortunate that the members on the Treasury Benches are persistently refusing to hear our point of view. There are only two things, which we want. One is that we want separate electorates, not because we want to oppose you or that we are against your policy, but because we want to get our real representatives on those bodies.

"Sir, an argument was put forth that Janab Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib was elected in a ward under the joint electorate system. It was said that Janab Abdul Hameed Khan was elected where there were majority of Hindu voters. I have contested eight elections to the Madura Municipal Council during the last twenty-eight years in my ward consisting of 2,700 voters of which 900 only are Muslims. Still, I could succeed. To-morrow, if you hold elections, I cannot get even a single Hindu vote for me. What is the reason? After communal disturbances the conditions have changed. As it is, Sir, there are only certain wards in the

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City with Muslim majority population and most of them do not have so. You may say that you have reserved seats in those wards under the joint electorate system. But, I ask what is the use even if you give fifty per cent of the seats, when you are going to have joint electorates as you are going to elect only by the majority of the non-Muslim votes. That is why, we want at least certain Muslims to be elected by the majority of Muslims. The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas just now said: 'We should live together, stand together and die together', but what is really going on in the mufassal is something different. It was pointed out by Mr. Raza Khan that political interest has dominated civic interest. What is that is really going on in the transaction of business in the municipal councils? Congress party meetings are held before the municipal council meetings take place; they discuss item by item and decide and then come to the municipal meeting and the Congress Party's view is given effect to. Thus, a man who did not get elected on the Congress ticket has no voice there. So, the decision arrived at by the Congressmen is simply carried through at the municipal council or district board meeting. Is this the way, Sir, to live together, stand together and die together. We have no voice in those bodies. That is what is going on in the mufassal. Under the present system if Muslims should get into those bodies, they should get themselves elected by the majority of Hindus. Even if they get elected like that, the Muslims cannot have a voice in those councils, because we are very insignificant there. Moreover, everything is decided in the party meetings beforehand. So, we are helpless because the Congressmen carry on the things according to their wishes by means of their majority. That is the position, Sir, and that is why we want separate electorates.

"Sir, the second point I wanted to say is about reservation. Reservation, so far as Madras City is concerned, is all right; as there are certain wards where the Muslims are in a majority. I suggest that from among such wards in the mufassal where the Muslims are in a minority, at least one or two wards may be selected and they may be redistributed to have majority of Muslims so that at least in those wards, the real representatives of the Muslims can be elected. So, Sir, I would like to submit that it is necessary to have at least one or two wards in each of the mufassal municipalities from which Muslims may be elected with the support of the majority of Muslims. This is a matter, Sir, which requires the kind attention of the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration.

"Again, Sir, when reserving seats for women, we should see that Muslim women also get elected to these bodies. There were a large number of seats reserved for women throughout the Province but no Muslim woman was elected to any of these municipalities during the last elections."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"In the City Corporation, there is a Muslim lady."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI-MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is only a policy, Sir. The Hon. the Minister, Mr. Daniel Thomas, has also stated that it is only a policy. So, my only request to the Hon. Minister in charge of Local Administration is that he should reserve a seat for a Muslim lady in all the local bodies."

4-15
p.m. SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and in doing so, I should say that I am very much thankful to the Hon. Minister, Mr. Daniel Thomas, for his goodness in having come forward with this Bill when he was Minister in charge of Local Administration. He has been kind enough to give greater representation to minorities. Now, my point is that so far as the City is concerned, it has now a population of about 10 lakhs and out of this, Harijans form more than one lakh. The number of seats reserved for Harijans is only five. If we take into consideration the reservation of seats on population basis, the Harijans should get at least 6.6 or 7 seats and we have a right therefore to demand this from the Government and it would have been fair on the part of the Congress Government if they give us these seven seats. Of course, my hon. Friend may come up and say that Harijans are not prevented from contesting the seats in the general electorate. I ask, how many Harijans are there in the general seats? So, it is not possible for Harijans to come through the general electorate though you may put down a rule to that effect. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to increase the number of Harijan seats from 5 to 7."

"With these few remarks, I once again support the Bill in the hope that the Congress Government will give just consideration to my idea and give not less than 7 seats for the Harijans in the coming elections."

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, much debate has been raised over this small amending Bill on the Congress and Muslim League ideologies and principles. I do not want to go into the merits or demerits of those arguments and counter-arguments, but I can assure the Opposition one thing, namely, that the joint electorate or the other arrangements that have been provided for in this amending Bill have been made with the best of motives and after much deliberation. I can assure that much to the Opposition."

"Now, coming to the practical side of the issue, the system of joint electorates has been worked in several municipalities and local boards for the last ten years and no opposition has been raised or any objection has been raised, so far as I know. On the other hand, it has proved a great achievement for enabling all the other communities to come together and work together for the civic needs of the people. When this facility has been extended

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to the City Corporation, it is with the same motive and with the same principle that it has been sponsored by us. I can say the interests of the various communities living in a division or in a ward are identical and you cannot separate them into water-tight compartments. As far as civic matters are concerned, they are always safe and we must work together. The needs of one community living in a particular street or lane in respect of water-supply, or roads, or lighting or other small civic amenities, are identical and you cannot separate them and keep them in water-tight compartments. Therefore, Sir, in view of the identity of interests and also in view of the general interest, we cannot afford to be always separate and work separately. Honest differences of opinion may be tolerated and honest differences of opinion are always welcome. With all that, I assure all hon. Members that you cannot go on for eternity thinking of separation and however much you may like that, we must all work together, live together and die together. This is the object with which the Congress has made joint electorate as their principle. I do not want to say much about these things at the present moment, except to say one thing. You know that my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, has been elected to the Syndicate of the Madras University. How many Muslims are there in that body? Most of them are Hindus and yet was there any consideration there that Mr. Hameed Khan is a Muslim member, or that somebody else is a Christian and so on. So, Sir, what I wish to point out is, that so long as there is that goodwill, because of the ability and the intellectual capacity in him that he was elected by all the people without any consideration of any caste distinction. So also is the case in several municipalities and local boards, and several such cases have been cited by my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas."

"So, Sir, in view of all these things I request the Opposition not to make much of the separate electorate or joint electorate. Even in the matter of inadequate representation, it has been rectified in this Bill. I assure my hon. Friend, Mr. Nagappa if his community is not satisfied, we are prepared to make them also come up to the level of other minorities and see that no injustice is being done wilfully to any particular community or any other people belonging to other groups. (Sri S. Nagappa: Why not reserve more seats?) Only three seats were provided previously but now five seats have been given to them. If that is found not enough I am prepared to give more seats when the time comes."

"In view of all these, Sir, I request the House to accept the Bill."

The motion that the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will now take up the Bill clause by clause. The Preamble and clause 1 will be taken up at the end."

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Clause 2.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

Sub-clause (1).

MR. SPEAKER:—"I propose taking sub-clause (1) (i) (a) at the end, because it relates to the number of seats to be allotted and if there are any changes effected in sub-clauses (b), (c) and (d) it will be convenient to amend sub-clause (1) (i) (a) accordingly. I will now take up sub-clause (1) (i) (b)."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"It is not necessary to put the sub-clauses to vote, Sir. Only the main clause is put."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There are amendments to several sub-clauses and if they are carried, then the clause as amended would be put to vote."

Sub-clause 1 (d).

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to move the amendments which stand in my name, namely—

(1) For the words "six councillors", the words "seven councillors" shall be substituted.

(2) Before the words "and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association", the words "the South Indian Beedi Workers' Union" shall be inserted.

"In sub-clause 1 (d) you will kindly notice, Sir, that according to the Bill as amended by the Select Committee, there are only six seats allotted to various bodies, of course, including a seat for the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. I wish to add another organization, namely, the South Indian Beedi Workers' Union, Madras. It will be seen that in this Bill certain seats have been reserved for labour organizations. I want to include the Beedi Workers' Association also for this reason . . ."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Why not also the jutka-wallas?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wish my hon. Friend to be a little more—not considerate, not patient—courteous and has a little more courtesy and culture in him. I was suggesting, Sir, that a seat be given to the representatives of a labour organization, because in the amending Bill you will kindly notice that representation has been given by reserving two seats for labour. But, there is absolutely no possibility of Muslim labour getting any representation through the seats that are allotted for labour. In the City, Sir, there are a large number of labour organizations. For instance, there is the B. & C.

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Mills labour organization which has made itself famous recently and there are also the organizations for railway workers. Perhaps rules may be prescribed as to the manner in which elections to these seats should be conducted, or what kind of electorate it will be and which of the organizations will elect their representatives to these labour seats. But, knowing as I do the conditions in the City and particularly the various labour organizations in the City, I can assert here without any fear of contradiction that there will be absolutely no chance—not only to-day, but for a very long time to come and as long as the constitution of the City Municipality continues—for Muslim labourers to get elected through any labour organization for whom these two seats have been provided. Therefore, I suggest that representation should be given to one of the biggest labour organizations in the City. It is not as if this organization is purely a Muslim organization, because there are many number of Hindu members in this Beedi Workers' Association. I would like to tell my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, to correct his information that this body of workers has got not only Muslim members but also Hindu members. There is a greater chance of a Muslim being elected through this Association to the City Corporation than from any other labour organization. That is why I suggest that a separate seat should be allotted to this organization which is not purely a Muslim organization. That, I suppose will give some consolation or solace to the soul of my esteemed and hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"When I mentioned jutka-wallas, should they not also have representation?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If he were so considerate to the jutka-wallas he would have given notice of an amendment, but the fact that he has not given any amendment shows the deriding manner in which he referred to these poor people. As long as this kind of mentality continues in my hon. Friend, there is no hope for this country. If there is any other justification for our asking for separate electorates and separate rights it is on account of this most objectionable and most deplorable mentality of even a very longstanding politician of this province like Mr. Kaleswara Rao. If there are politicians like this in the Congress no wonder why we should not ask for protection against such gentlemen.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether I am asking for too much because my hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, has exhibited a mood for conciliation and recognition of the rights of certain classes of people by reserving a seat for the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. Of course that is a capitalistic organization. I am seeking for representation being given to the labour organization as well. My friend belongs to the party which has got a great deal of consideration for the poor men and man-in-the-street, particularly the labourers. I am asking for

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representation for labourers and I am sure that my hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, would concede for labourers of all classes an opportunity to express their point of view, in the City Corporation. To-day as the Hon. the Minister is aware, there is a rising tide of labour organizations and the labourers are now seeking to have their place in the country and I am sure it will be not only in the interests of harmony but in the interests of the very organization to which my hon. Friend belongs that he should concede the right of increasing the number of labour representatives in the Corporation. Therefore, Sir, I plead that the Hon. Minister and the Government will be doing bare justice to one section of labour in the City of Madras by giving them representation in the City Corporation. After all, it is our desire to bring up the people who belong to the lower strata of society economically. I do not use the words 'lower strata' in any other sense. By this representation they can bring to bear on the deliberations of this civic organization all their grievances and other things. The mere fact that those labourers live in the city is enough justification to give them better and larger representation. You have rightly given opportunity by reserving two seats for labour in the City of Madras but as I have already pointed out it will not be possible for a very large number of labour in the city to get elected through these seats and therefore I suggest, Sir, that a larger representation be given to these people. For instance, Sir, in the City of Madras, there are as many as 50,000 beedi labourers living. It is not too much if I ask that one seat be given to them. I therefore hope that my pleading on behalf of labour will not fall on deaf ears but on ears which are always ready to recognize the rights of the poor man and the main-in-the-street, particularly when a civic body is concerned where their interests are more to be attended to rather than the interests of the richer people. I therefore, Sir, plead and I am glad that my hon. Friend, the Premier, is also here and let them consider the matter for a moment among themselves and consent to my request. I move the amendments, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendments, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I am sorry to oppose the amendments. Hitherto there were only two seats in the Corporation for the labourers. Now it is proposed to be raised to four. Union workers will have two seats and non-Union workers will have two seats and the elections will be separate also. If you go on taking individual trade sections, there will be no end at all. Beedi workers and such other workers in every trade are many. If we go on individually like that, it will not be to anybody's good. So I would appeal to Mr. Hameed Khan to withdraw these amendments in view of the fact that the labour representation has been recognized and adequate representation given for the present."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information may I ask which are the organizations which will be given the franchise so far as representation to these four seats for labour is concerned?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"So far as the Union workers are concerned they have been published already but as far as non-Union workers are concerned, all labourers that are given votes will be represented there."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit that this is a registered labour organization and I wonder if this will also be included among the organizations which will be called upon to elect these four representatives?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I think they will be included."

The amendments were put and lost.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I move, Sir—

'that after clause 3 (1) (i) (d), the following shall be inserted as sub-clause (e):—

"(e) four councillors to be elected in such manner as may be prescribed, by the members of the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India."

"This amendment was already there before the Select Committee. The Hon. Minister has not considered this for the reason that we are asking for representation only for a particular organization whereas there are educational institutions like the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India which does not have any representation on the Municipal Corporation. If my hon. Friends want representation given to other institutions they are free to come forward and ask for representation but I believe, Sir, it is very necessary that the Muslim Educational Association should be given representation on this local body so that it will be possible for the Muslims to send their representatives to the City Corporation through this very useful organization. I move the amendment, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I am sorry to have to oppose this amendment, Sir. The question of special representation for specific bodies is a really objectionable thing in respect of this matter."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, the hon. Member is speaking from the Treasury Benches. I do not know whether it is in order to do so."

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* MR. SPEAKER:—"He is not speaking as a Minister."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I am only speaking before the mike. I am speaking from more or less a convenient place. I am not speaking as a Government Member. I may reflect the Government views as a member of the party which occupies the Treasury Benches."

"Sir, a democratic body cannot recognize vested interests for the purpose of special representation. It is a very objectionable thing. We now find, Sir, in clause (d) that six councillors on behalf of various trade associations are to be separately elected. There is some justification for occupational representation. If all labourers, teachers and merchants come together and ask for representation, there may be some justification, though I personally think it is also objectionable. If the merchants divide themselves into Andhra Chamber of Commerce, Muslim Chamber of Commerce and so on and demand separate representation, it is a dilution of democracy. These are not necessary for the purpose of conducting the affairs of the Corporation in the best interests of all. After all, civics, health and education are common to all persons and individuals who go to these bodies and work in the interests of all persons. I do object giving separate representation to these Associations, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce or the Andhra Chamber of Commerce. Another objection to clause (d) is that most of the members of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and Andhra Chamber of Commerce are also members of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. Then it will mean that there will be double representation. This is a vicious principle against the principle of 'one vote to everybody.' This question of an amendment for the purpose of Muslim educational institutions is itself bad. After all, education concerns all persons. If such a claim is conceded, then the Elementary School teachers, the Non-gazetted Officers' Association, other teachers' associations, some society representing the professors in the colleges, all will ask for separate representation. Thus the question will go on expanding and there will be no end. It must be a case of territorial representation by the voters of the City. That should be the basis. That will be democracy. I do feel strongly that it is an objectionable amendment that has been moved by Mr. Hameed Khan."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I oppose the amendment, Sir. Even in the municipalities and local bodies no such representation has been given and for good and sufficient reasons."

The amendment was put and lost.

4.15 p.m. * BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, I move that after clause 3 (1) (i) (d), the following shall be inserted:

'(e) one councillor elected by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India.'

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The proposition of my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, was that four seats should be given to the Muslim Educational Association but mine is very much modified. I am proposing that only one seat should be allowed to that Association. In this connexion, I should like to point out that the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India is the premier Muslim organization throughout the Province, the like of which perhaps it would be difficult to find even among Hindu organizations. This Association has been in existence for the past 40 years; it has a membership of over 1,500 and annually disburses scholarships amounting to several thousands of rupees. I am suggesting representation to several thousands of rupees. I am suggesting representation for this Association because of its high standing and its importance in the sphere of Muslim education. In this connexion, I wish to point out that the University of Madras has all along been giving two seats to this Association. Recently when the proposals for the amendment of the University Act was considered by a Special Committee appointed by the Syndicate, that committee accepted my resolution to increase the number of members to the Senate from the said Association from 'two' to 'four.' That indicates that the Muslim Educational Association does deserve consideration and representation. I find that commercial bodies and organizations have been given adequate representation, but education is also one of the important interests with which the Corporation deals; therefore educational interests should also be represented in the City Council. The educational interests of the Muslims cannot be better represented than through the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. Hence I move that one seat should be given to this Association. I wish to point out that the Government need not be oppressed by the feeling that this will imply that they should have to give seats to other educational organizations also, for this Educational Association is different from ordinary educational organizations. As I informed the House, this Association is the premier Muslim association of this Province which evinces considerable interest in the education of Muslims. Hence, it is that this Association should be given representation in the Corporation of Madras."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In seconding the amendment, I wish to make only one observation. Mr. Bhashyam in opposing Mr. Hameed Khan's amendment said that on principle it is objectionable to give representation to any organization representing special interests. I wish to point out that the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and the Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association, the Skins and Hides Merchants' Association and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association have already been given representation. So, I do not see the reason why exception could be taken on principle to the representation to be given to the Muslim Educational Association. As was pointed out by the mover of the amendment, this is a premier organization of the Province and is of a longer standing than any other association or organization. I wish to say that Muslim

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education is an interest to be given representation in the Corporation. It is a fact that the Corporation of Madras is running separate schools for the Muslims, and it has to be conceded that the interests of Muslim education has to be safeguarded. From that point of view, there is no other representation to the Muslims in the Corporation. Therefore, it is absolutely essential that at least one seat should be reserved for the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I have already stated the reason why special representation could not be given so far as local boards and municipalities are concerned. So, I oppose the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'that in clause 3 (1) (i) (a) for the words "sixty-six divisional councillors", the words "seventy-three divisional councillors" shall be substituted.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before the Leader of the Opposition finishes his motion, I suggest that we sit till six o'clock and finish the Bill. I think we can finish the Bill much earlier."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"There is a Select Committee at 5-15."

Sri K. Bhashyam rose from his seat.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Though the Select Committee has been scheduled to meet at 5-15, it is the desire of the House that the Select Committee might begin sitting a little later."

SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"The members of that Committee know that it is to meet at 5-15 and when, on coming at that time, they see the Committee is not sitting, they might go away thinking that there is no meeting."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall arrange for information being passed on to members of the Committee that the Select Committee assembles a little later, say 5-30."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Opposition is always accommodating though some of the members of the other party are not. You have an example in this that they are prepared to sit beyond time in order to finish the business of the House.

"I move that in clause 3, sub-clause (1) (i) (a)—

'(i) For the words "sixty-six divisional councillors", the words "seventy-three divisional councillors" shall be substituted.

(ii) For the words "four to seats specially reserved for Muslims", the words "twelve to seats specially reserved for Muslims" shall be substituted.

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(iii) *After the words "to prevent members of any community" occurring in the proviso, the words "except those of the Muslim community" shall be inserted.*

(iv) *After the existing proviso to sub-clause (1) (i) (a), the following further proviso shall be inserted:—*

"Provided further that the seats specially reserved for Muslims shall be filled by Muslims elected by separate electorates consisting of Muslims and that the Government shall constitute such electorates in a suitable manner."

In this connexion, Sir, we have spoken many times previously. Now, I have only to say that the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, when speaking in support of the Bill as a whole, said that the Muslims could not hope to have a majority except in a few municipalities, and that therefore they need not at all stress the question of separate electorates. I say, Sir, that this statement of his provides another ground for the demand of the Muslims for separate electorates. The Muslims have all along been making their position very clear, and they have been telling this House and also others that Muslims want separate electorates not with a view to get a majority anywhere, but only to get representation of the proper quality that is desired by them. The principle that Muslims must have their representatives is conceded. It is on that basis that the reservation of seats is being made for the Muslims as well as for the other communities. When that reservation is made and that principle is conceded, who is to be the proper representative of the Muslims—whether a candidate elected by the Muslims themselves or a candidate elected by a majority of non-Muslims—is the question. That is the point that we have been explaining and that is the point which we have been trying to make our friends opposite understand. Even after all these debates and speeches and explanations, I am very sorry, Sir, we were not able to impress our point of view on our friends opposite. We want that Muslims must represent Muslim interests. It is only a Muslim who knows where the shoe pinches, and it is only he who can represent the Muslim cause properly. Certain friends have been urging that the interests dealt with by the City Corporation and also by local bodies are interests common to all sections of people. Sir, there are interests which are common to all people; at the same time, I have also to say and make it clear that there are interests in which Muslims alone are concerned. Therefore, we do require Muslim representatives to represent Muslim interests. It is for that purpose we want Muslim representation. This demand has been conceded already, as I said, by the reservation of seats to which the Government have committed themselves, and now, Sir, the only question is about proper representation. Therefore, I need not dwell much upon this.

"With regard to the number of 12 seats, I take this number on the basis of the communal Government Order. There too I

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confine myself to the general seats. I want 16-2/3 per cent to be reserved for Muslims out of the general seats. I leave alone the seats which are reserved for functional bodies like the Chambers of Commerce, labour unions and other classes. This number 12 out of 73 seats works out to 16-2/3 per cent, which I have proposed in my amendment. I think Government will concede this number. We are not asking for anything unreasonable. The communal Government Order is in existence. I want that our representation on the City Corporation should be only on the basis of the communal Government Order. With these words, Sir, I commend my amendment to the acceptance of the House."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendments, Sir."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, I move the following amendment to clause 3 (1) (i) (a):—

- (i) For the words "sixty-six divisional councillors", the words "seventy-five divisional councillors" shall be substituted.
- (ii) For the words "four to seats specially reserved for Muslims", the words "twelve to seats specially reserved for Muslims" shall be substituted.
- (iii) For the words "four to seats specially reserved for women", the words "five to seats specially reserved for women" shall be substituted.
- (iv) After the words "reserved for women", the following proviso shall be inserted:—
 - "Provided that the seats specially reserved for Muslims shall be filled by Muslims elected by separate electorates consisting of Muslims."

With reference to item (ii) and the proviso, they are the same as have been moved by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. One of our demands is that instead of 4 seats 12 seats should be given to Muslims. Having regard not only to the population, but also to the importance of the Muslim community, this demand is not extravagant. I think this is quite a modest request that we have put forward. You may say that we are not entitled to 12 seats on the population basis. But the importance of the Muslim community in the land should also be a factor that should be borne in mind. With reference to the question of separate electorates, which has been dealt with elaborately, I do not wish to advert to that matter any further. I only wish to refer to the remark of the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas who stated that he was glad that I still remembered Plato. (Laughter.) I should like to remind him that on a previous occasion he quoted Aristotle. I am glad that while I remember Plato, he remembers Aristotle. (Renewed laughter.) The Hon. Minister stated that these are not the days when the idealism of Plato could prevail. But, Mr. Speaker, I wish to emphasize that, if the modern world is to survive, the lofty ideals preached by great philosophers like Plato and by great prophets should become part and parcel of

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our lives. It is the ideals of these great men and not Machiavellian ideals that should prevail in modern politics. Then and then alone can there be any hope for the world."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. What I said was that Plato's principles should be applied to the members of the Muslim League."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Surely the members of the Muslim League must also be governed by lofty ideals. In the days of Plato, there was no question of joint electorates or separate electorate at all. (Loud laughter.) Plato has emphasized the need for adherence to great and good principles in various spheres of human activity. He did not have occasion to refer to separate electorates or joint electorates. Mr. Speaker, Sir, in modern days, not merely in the West, but even in India, I am sorry to note, that the principles enunciated by Plato or by great prophets of old are not being applied in the sphere of politics. It is my desire that in the political field the high ideals set out by great philosophers and religious teachers should be the guiding factors. Then and then alone will the world be able to emerge from its present chaos."

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, another point with which I wish to deal is the remark made by the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham, regarding separate electorates. That hon. Member stated that, as a matter of fact, the Government had conceded to the Muslims their demand by providing for them election through their own people. This affirmation on his part is itself proof positive of the fact that our demand has been just and fair. When, in the actual working of the scheme, it has been so arranged that the Muslims should be elected by their own community, why then should not the Government come forward and say that in principle also they have accepted the demand of the Muslims? If the Government would candidly come forward and say that they have accepted the principle of separate electorates, then the disputes between the two communities would end and harmony and concord will prevail. It is with a view to promote peace and enable the Hindus and Muslims to live like brothers that I move the amendment, Sir."

"There is another point about women, Sir, regarding the increase of seats for women from 4 to 5."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"From 4 to 5!" (Laughter.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Just five and not more. This is a very modest demand. In this connexion, I must state that I am really grateful to the Government for having made a concession to women. At the Select Committee both the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas and the Hon. Mr. Chandramouli were good enough to allow one more seat to women. I must acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, that the men of this country have been far more generous in regard to women's rights than the men of

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the West. ('Hear, hear.') I say this from personal knowledge and experience. I have been in the West, and I know how difficult it is in Western countries even for eminent women to occupy positions of importance. But in India in spite of the fact that our women are not very much advanced, our men have come forward to give them places of importance and in certain cases have actually pushed up women. Coming now to my amendment, Mr. Speaker, when I was in college, our professor used to impress upon us that persistence and perseverance is the key note to success. (Laughter.) In pursuance of this one seat has been secured at the Select Committee and I now come forward with my demand for another seat with the hope that the men in this House who are chivalrous men, I presume, will come forward and say 'Let us give women one more seat also'. I know, Mr. Speaker, that there are some men who are opposed to women's rights but I take it that the men of this House are of a different mentality.

"Sir, the other day, when I was discussing the question of women's representation in the Corporation with certain men, I discovered that many of the members of that body were opposed to giving women any reserved seats. One gentleman remarked that women felt gratified once they got into places of importance, but usually they did not bestir themselves, and did not make use of the opportunities granted to them. But I pointed out that as a matter of fact the fault lay not with the womanhood but with the electors. It was up to the electors to elect proper representatives, then and then alone would they find women acquitting themselves well. With these words, Sir, I move the amendment."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendments, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I move my amendment to clause 3 (1) (i) (a)—

(i) For the words "sixty-six divisional councillors" the words "seventy-two divisional councillors" shall be substituted.

(ii) For the words "four to seats specially reserved for Muslims" the words "ten to seats specially reserved for Muslims" shall be substituted.

(iii) After the words "four to seats specially reserved for women" the words "that one at least of the four seats be reserved for Muslim women" shall be inserted.

(iv) At the end of the existing proviso to sub-clause (1) (i) (a) the following shall be inserted:—

"and provided that separate elections of councillors for the ten seats specially reserved for Muslims shall be held by a Muslim electorate for each of the constituencies."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment, Sir."

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THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I am sorry, Sir, I oppose all the amendments. But one explanation I will give with regard to the amendment of the hon. lady Member. At first three seats were reserved for women. When we met in Select Committee, the hon. lady Member Begum Amiruddin moved that five seats should be given. But as a sort of compromise we have made it four. There is no good of changing it every two minutes and giving a number of seats."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister must know that the hon. lady Member is persistent." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"That is why I am saying this, Sir. I request the hon. lady Member Begum Amiruddin to adhere to that compromise and withdraw that amendment. All other amendments I oppose." 5-15 p.m.

The amendments of Mr. M. Muhammad Ismail, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin and Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan were put and lost.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were put and carried.

Clause 1 and the preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Sir, I move—
'the Bill be passed into law.'"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I wish to say only a few words. Sir, I wish to respond to the appeal made by the Hon. Minister for Local Administration. He is a man of very few words and I was moved by the way in which he spoke on one of the amendments, and his words appealed to me very much. What he said was that there must be co-operation, we must work together so that there may not be disharmony in this Province so far as Hindus and Muslims are concerned. Sir, a joint appeal has been made by two great leaders, and it is our responsibility to see to implement that appeal. He has made an appeal and I on behalf of my party respond to the appeal. We know our sentiments; but mere sentiments will not do; there must be implementation of that sentiment, not only from friends, but also from those who have authority in their hands. I plead that this Government should give their best attention to this and see that the appeal made from high quarters as well as made on the floor of this House is implemented in the best manner possible."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all let me offer my congratulations to the Hon. Minister for having so ably conducted the affairs in the Select Committee as well as here. I may say the fears of the Muslim community so far as Madras City is concerned will be belied. We know the City so well, that many eminent Muslim members in the past have been returned to the Corporation and it would continue to be so even under the joint electorate. I do

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not wish now to enter into the vexed question of joint electorate for Muslims except to say that in the past several Muslims have been elected to the Corporation by the vote and support of Hindu electors, and that Muslim members have joined with the electorate of all communities. Perhaps the apprehensions of the Muslims here are based on the circumstances that exist outside the City. Probably it is because of that they do not welcome the proposal to have joint electorate. But let us hope in the City of Madras at least, apart from other places, we shall live in amity and peace, and through us, the two great communities in Southern India may live in peace.

"Sir, this great City, as you know, is the oldest municipality in India, and it has earned a reputation for itself. This City deserves great consideration from members of this House. It is a matter of regret, when we have to express, that many Ministers in this House were not kind to the Corporation in the matter of finance. Now that the Hon. Ministers, Mr. Daniel Thomas, the former Local Administration Minister, and Mr. Chandramouli, the present Minister for that department, are here, I hope hereafter the claims of the Corporation will meet with a favourable response. I hope this measure is only a precursor of greater improvement to the City of Madras. Let us hope this Ministry will be able to do much to the City. I shall not be wrong if I remind members of this House that in the past it was said that Madras City does not deserve the revenues of the Province to be spent for its improvement. Sir, if Madras City is clean and the slums are removed, I dare say it will be a thing to be copied by other municipalities. I hope in that spirit the Ministry will extend help to it. I am glad the present Minister for Finance was once a Minister for Local Administration and he knows well in what direction the City should be improved; and I hope he will grant the necessary amounts without any delay. I see exactly four Hon. Ministers sitting before me now, and I hope . . ."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I invite the hon. Member also to take his seat along with us." (Laughter.)

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I am not one of those who would refuse a garland, if offered. I am not one of those to whom office is unwelcome, and I will be ready to jump over to the other side when the proper time comes, and I shall be happy to do anything to improve the City of Madras whether I am in the Treasury Bench or on this side. Whether in this House or outside I shall endeavour to do anything for the City. In fact, any citizen of Madras should make it his first duty to take a zealous interest in the affairs of the City. Sir, you are an ex-Mayor of the City, and we all know what interest you took in the City when you were occupying that exalted office. Mr. Hameed Khan, who was my immediate predecessor-in-office, took an abiding interest in the City, and let us all hope

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the various Ministers here will take great interest in the City, and more especially the Finance Minister will be kind enough to finance the Corporation liberally. I hope there will be unanimous help from the Ministry."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Sir, all this appeal for money does not come within the purview of this Bill." (Laughter.)

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"On a point of information, Sir, may I know how many ex-Mayors there are in the Assembly?" (Voices: 'Three'.)

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I shall try to show how the appeal for money is relevant. For the purpose of reconstituting of Madras Corporation with Saidapet, Sembiam and the other outlying areas, money is necessary, and I am only hoping that this money will be forthcoming without difficulty."

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am much thankful to the House for steering this Bill in such a healthy way. The criticism levelled against it is so friendly that I appreciate the way in which the Opposition, particularly our Muslim friends, have presented their case. I am also thankful to the Opposition for enabling me to push through this Bill and make it a law so that we may work together for the good and the improvement of the Corporation, as was stated by Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar. I once more thank particularly the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar for enabling me to pass this Bill very easily and very warmly."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

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

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 601 asked by Sri S. Gurusulu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd April 1947, page 811 supra.]

Statement showing the number of Gazetted and non-Gazetted Officers serving in the Labour department and the Co-operative department who are associated with work of the uplift of Harijans.

I.—LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

The Gazetted and non-Gazetted officers of the Labour department who are closely associated with the work of the uplift of the Harijans are as follows:—

Head office:—

Gazetted officers:—

1. Commissioner of Labour (I.C.S. officer).
2. Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Labour (Provincial Civil Service).

Non-Gazetted:—

3. One Manager.
4. Two Superintendents.
5. Twenty clerks on different scales.
6. One Overseer.

District staff—

Gazetted officers:—

7. Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers.

Non-Gazetted officers:—

8. Fourteen District Labour Officers.
9. Twenty-five special revenue inspectors.
10. Forty-four clerks on different scales.
11. Fourteen special overseers.
12. Two thousand two hundred and thirty-seven teachers, instructors, wardens, tutors, etc., on varying rates of pay.

2. Appointment of teachers, instructors, etc. (item 12) is made with reference to the Madras Labour Subordinate (Temporary) Service Rules and preference is given to qualified candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes in filling up these posts. In the case of the remaining posts, except that of the Commissioner of Labour, the communal Government Order is applicable only for initial recruitment. Subsequent postings to the Labour department for Harijan uplift work are not ordinarily made on communal consideration.

II.—CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

(a) Number of officers, both Gazetted and non-Gazetted, serving in the Co-operative department who are closely associated with the uplift of the Harijans.—The Deputy Registrars of the department and the Co-operative Sub-Registrars visit societies formed

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for the benefit of Harijans periodically and give the societies whatever help is needed. Nine senior inspectors and 88 junior inspectors are closely associated with the uplift of the Harijans as they are solely in charge of the societies formed for their benefit.

(b) *Whether the communal Government Order has been adhered to in such appointments.*—Junior Inspectors are recruited by the Madras Public Service Commission and the communal rotation is observed. The Senior Inspectors are appointed from Junior Inspectors by promotion and the communal Government Order is not applicable in their case.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 603 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 22nd April 1947, page 813 supra.]

List of schemes under consideration for being taken up under the Grow More Food Scheme in 1947-48 in Rayalaseema.

District.	Name of the scheme.
Kurnool	Major projects— 1 Reclamation of the lagoon at 56/0 of Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. 2 Restoration of Malla tank, Gothipadiya village. 3 Peruru tank of Boyadagumpala. 4 Formation of a reservoir across Kollimagula vagu near Paniem. 5 Restoration of Venkatareddigunta of Edavalli. 6 Formation of a reservoir across the Tigaleru at Eguva-cherlopalli village. Minor projects— 7 Duvvaleru Project Raupalem channel to Tirupurantakam channel. 8 Improvements to Gotiyar channel, Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. 9 Improving No. 13 sluice channel of Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. 10 Re-opening the old low-level channel at mile 91/42 left bank of Kurnool-Cuddapah canal.
Bellary	Major project— 11 Restoration of Madirikatta tank. Minor projects— 12 Improvements to Roya channel. 13 Do. Basavanna channel. 14 Do. Kampli channel. 15 Sluice at 5/0 of Dasanur channel. 16 Improvements to Kottur tank supply channel. 17 Do. Narayana Devagiri tank supply channel. 18 Hunsli tank supply channel.
Anantapur	Major project— 19 Restoration of Gantimarri tank. Minor projects— 20 Improvements to Gooty tank. 21 Do. Yerrattimmaraju tank.
Cuddapah	Minor projects— 22 Chepad channel No. 6 Distributary. 23 Spring channel from Pennar in Vadur limits.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide item VII at page 854 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1947), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 21st January 1947, in English.

3. The Committee was appointed on the 13th February 1947.

4. The Committee met in the Committee Room, Fort St. George, on Friday, the 18th April 1947, at 5-30 p.m. and considered the provisions of the Bill and submit the following report.

5. The only changes in the Bill approved by the Select Committee are as follows :—

They increased the representation of women from three to four and they thought that the members of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce, the Nattukkottai Nagarathars' Association, the Southern India Skins and Hides Merchants' Association and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association, Madras, should elect six councillors, each of the bodies and associations aforesaid voting separately and electing one councillor.

6. The Select Committee considers that it is not necessary to republish the Bill.

A copy of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee is annexed.

DANIEL THOMAS,
Chairman.

18th April 1947.

ANNEXURE.

[Note.—The changes made by the Select Committee are shown in clarendon type.]

L.A. BILL No. 5 OF 1947.

(As approved by the Select Committee.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919.

WHEREAS it has been found necessary to increase the number of councillors in the council of the Corporation of Madras and to reserve seats in the council for certain communities and for women ;

MADRAS Act IV of 1919. AND WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, for this and certain other purposes ;

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1947.

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2. In section 3 of the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act)—
Amendment of section 3, Madras Act IV of 1919.

(i) clause (1) shall be re-numbered as clause (1-A) and the following shall be inserted as clause (1), namely :—

“(1) ‘Anglo-Indian’ shall have the same meaning as in the First Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, as in force for the time being ;”

(ii) after clause (12), the following clause shall be inserted, namely :—

“(12-A) ‘Indian Christian’ shall have the same meaning as in the First Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, as in force for the time being.”

3. In section 5 of the said Act—

(1) in sub-section (1)—
Amendment of section 5, Madras Act IV of 1919.
(i) for clauses (a), (b), (c) and (d), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely :—

“(a) Sixty-six divisional councillors, of whom fifty shall be persons elected to general seats, five to seats specially reserved for members of the Scheduled castes, four to seats specially reserved for Muslims, two to seats specially reserved for Indian Christians, one to a seat specially reserved for Anglo-Indians and four to seats specially reserved for women :

Provided that nothing in this clause shall be deemed to prevent members of any community or women for whom seats have been reserved from standing for election to the non-reserved seats ;

(b) four councillors to seats specially reserved for labour ;

(c) two councillors, one elected by the members of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the other by the members of the Madras Trades Association in such manner as may be prescribed ;

(d) Six councillors elected in such manner as may be prescribed, by the members of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, The Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce, the Nattukkottai Nagarathars' Association, the Southern India Skins and Hides Merchants' Association and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association, Madras, each of the bodies and associations aforesaid voting separately and electing one councillor.”

(ii) clause (f) shall be omitted ;

(2) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely :—

“(1-A) The Provincial Government may, by notification, increase or reduce the number of councillors to be elected to seats specially reserved under clause (a) or clause (b) of sub-section (1) ; and thereupon the number of councillors specified in those clauses shall be deemed to have been increased or reduced accordingly.”

4. In section 45 of the said Act—

(a) in clause (a) of sub-section (1), for the word “forty” in both the places where it occurs, the word “fifty” shall be substituted ;
Amendment of section 45, Madras Act IV of 1919.

(b) in sub-section (2)—

(i) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely :—

“(a) For the purposes of the election of councillors to fill the seats specially reserved for members of the Scheduled castes, Muslims, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and women under section 5, the Provincial Government may, by notification, declare—

(i) in which of the divisions the said seats shall be reserved ; and
(ii) for whom such seats are reserved.” ;

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(ii) in clause (b), for the words "vary any selection of divisions made by them under this sub-section and reserve any other division or divisions for members of the Scheduled castes", the words, brackets and letter "vary any declaration made by them under clause (a)" shall be substituted.

Substitution of new section for section 46, Madras Act IV of 1919. 5. For section 46 of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Number of councillors for each division. "46. (1) Except in the case of the divisions notified by the Provincial Government under sub-section (2) of section 45, only one councillor shall be elected for each division.

(2) Each of the divisions notified by the Provincial Government under sub-section (2) of section 45 shall elect in the manner specified in section 46-A, two councillors, one of whom shall be a member of the Scheduled castes, a Muslim, an Indian Christian, an Anglo-Indian or a woman, as the case may be."

Substitution of new section for section 46-A, Madras Act IV of 1919. 6. For section 46-A of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Mode of election. "46-A. All the voters in a division, irrespective of their sex or the community to which they belong, shall be entitled to vote at an election to any seat in that division, whether reserved or not."

Substitution of new section for section 46-B, Madras Act IV of 1919. 7. For section 46-B of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Mode of election of councillors to labour seats. "46-B. (1) For the purpose of the election of councillors to the seats specially reserved for labour under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 5, the Provincial Government shall, by notification, constitute in such manner as they think fit—

(a) two electorates consisting of persons employed in a railway workshop or textile mill situated in the City, whose names are included in the electoral roll for any trade union labour constituency of the Madras Legislative Assembly; and

(b) two electorates consisting of persons employed in the Madras Harbour or in a perennial factory (other than a railway workshop or textile mill) situated in the City, whose names are included in the electoral roll for the Madras City Dock and Factory Labour (excluding textile and railway labour) non-union labour constituency of the Madras Legislative Assembly:

Provided that if the number of councillors to be elected to seats specially reserved for labour is increased or reduced under sub-section (1-A) of section 5, the labour electorates aforesaid shall be increased or reduced in number accordingly and be reconstituted in such manner as the Provincial Government think fit.

(2) Each of the electorates constituted under sub-section (1) shall elect one councillor.

Amendment of section 48, Madras Act IV of 1919. 8. In sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 48 of the said Act, for the word "forty" the word "fifty" shall be substituted.

Repeal of section 49, Madras Act IV of 1919. 9. Section 49 of the said Act shall be omitted.

10. In sub-section (1) of section 51 of the said Act—

Amendment of section 51, Madras Act IV of 1919. (i) for clauses (a) and (b), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—

"(a) as a councillor in respect of any of the fifty general divisional seats, unless his name is included in the electoral roll of any of the fifty divisions of the City;

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(b) as a councillor in respect of any of the divisional seats specially reserved for members of the Scheduled castes, Muslims, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians or women, unless—

(i) such person is a member of the community concerned or a woman, as the case may be; and

(ii) his or her name is included in the electoral roll of any of the fifty divisions aforesaid;";

(ii) in clause (c), for the word "either" the word "any" shall be substituted;

(iii) in clause (d), for the word "forty" the word "fifty" and for the word "either" the word "any" shall be substituted and the brackets and letter "(b)" shall be omitted.

11. In section 56-B of the said Act—

Amendment of section 56-B, Madras Act IV of 1919. (i) in sub-section (1), the words "or appointed", the brackets and letter "(f)" and the words "or appointment, as the case may be," shall be omitted;

(ii) in sub-section (2), the words "or appointment, as the case may be", shall be omitted;

(iii) in sub-section (3), the words "or appointed" in both the places where they occur shall be omitted.

12. In section 57 of the said Act—

Amendment of section 57, Madras Act IV of 1919. (i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(1) If any person has been elected—

(a) for two or more divisions or by two or more labour electorates or by two or more of the institutions or bodies referred to in clauses

(c) to (g) of sub-section (1) of section 5; or

(b) for one more divisions and by one or more labour electorates or one or more of the said institutions or bodies; or

(c) by one or more labour electorates and by one or more of the said institutions or bodies;

(d) for one or more divisions, by one or more labour electorates, and, by one or more of the said institutions or bodies,

he shall, within three days from the date of the last of such elections, intimate to the Commissioner, the division, the labour electorate, the institution or the body for which he chooses to serve";

(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words "the division or the institution or body," the words "the division, labour electorate, institution or body" shall be substituted;

(iii) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted namely:—

"(3) The said person shall be deemed to have been elected only for the division, labour electorate, institution or body so chosen or so notified, as the case may be, and the vacancies thereby arising in the representation of the other divisions, labour electorates, institutions or bodies shall be filled by fresh elections."

13. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of the said Act as amended by this Act, the Provincial Government may, as occasion may arise, by order do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

14. For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that nothing contained in this Act shall be deemed to affect the term of office of the councillors and aldermen of the Corporation of Madras holding office at the commencement of this Act, or the operation of section 2 of the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 23rd April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Losses to South Indians in communal troubles in Bengal.

* 613 Q.—DR. M. J. SAMUEL (on behalf of Sri G. Venkata Reddi): Will the Hon. Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an hon. Member of this House has been sent to Calcutta to enquire into the loss of person and property incurred by South Indians in Bengal in the recent communal troubles;

(b) if so, whether he has submitted any report to the Government;

(c) if the reply is in the affirmative, what were the losses in respect of person and property;

(d) whether the Government propose to give any relief to the victims; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take to protect the rights of the South Indians in other Provinces?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) Yes.

“(c) The losses in respect of property of persons who filed their claims before the hon. Member were approximately Rs. 9 lakhs. He received information of only one case of loss of life.

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

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know what was the amount spent in this matter by the Government?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I must cause an enquiry to be made, because the bills have not yet been settled.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask, Sir, how was it that only one M.L.A. instead of two or three, was sent to collect information regarding loss of life and property?”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Evidently the Government thought that he would be in a position to make the enquiry alone."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the report will be placed on the table of the House for the information of hon. Members?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I will consider the matter after the Government have gone through the report."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether it is the policy of the Government to depute only one non-official Member for making enquiries of this serious nature and if that is so, may I know whether this was done on the application of the Member or whether the Government deputed him *suo motu*?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think it was done on the application of the Member. Whether one M.L.A. or two M.L.As. should be nominated is a matter entirely for the consideration of the Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In matters involving communal troubles, may I ask whether it is safe for the Government that only one non-official member belonging to one community and one party is deputed?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not accept the premise of the hon. Member. I think every one is capable of making an enquiry and I do not think any communal considerations come into this matter at all."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Hon. the Leader of the House is aware that troubles are still going on and whether any steps have been taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of South Indians in Bengal?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Hon. Members of this House must realize that we are part of India and anything that happens in another part of the country is a matter for the Provincial Government concerned. All that we can do is to represent to the Central Government that some of the Provincials of this area are suffering under the circumstances that prevail there. No more than that can be done, because neither Bengal nor Madras is independent of India."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government are actively considering the grant of any compensation towards the losses sustained and if so, whether the Government will give an assurance that no amount will be spent before an opportunity is given to this House to discuss the matter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As far as the Government are concerned, I think it is a very wrong premise to begin with the idea that when a riot occurs somewhere in the

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Province compensation will be paid. It will be an *insurance* to rioting. So there will be no question of compensation at all."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister what were the losses suffered by this hon. Member?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think the hon. Member suffered any losses, because he was not present in Calcutta then nor does he possess any property in Calcutta."

MOHAMED RAFFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government propose to depute someone to Bombay and Bihar to enquire into the losses of South Indians there?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government feel that the usual channels of communication and correspondence will be sufficient for the purpose."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Has any representation been made to the Bengal Government regarding the safety of person and property of South Indians there and has any reply been received from that Government?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have already answered that there is no question of Madras being separate from Bengal. We are all part of one administration under the Central Government in India. So anything that should be done to save the interests of the Provincials of this Province can only be done by communication between the Government of India, the Government of Bengal and the Government of Madras."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. the Leader of the House stated that with reference to Bombay and Bihar the usual channel of correspondence would be resorted to make enquiries regarding the losses of South Indians. May I know why this procedure of sending a Member of this House was adopted with reference to Bengal alone?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Evidently, Sir, hon. Members who were on the Treasury Benches at that time thought that this was one method of causing an enquiry to be made. On the other hand, I have a very different opinion on this matter."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what are the special considerations which prevent the Members on the Treasury Benches now from adopting that method to safeguard the interests of South Indians in the Province like Bengal?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"What method has to be adopted in circumstances like these has to be decided as occasion arises."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, before the representative of the Madras Government was sent to Bengal, whether permission was obtained from the Bengal Government for such an enquiry? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" There is no question of any permission. Any person can go into any part of India and cause an enquiry to be made. When the enquiry is made the Government can deal with the matter as occasion arises."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, what are the total losses suffered by the South Indians, how much of it was suffered by Tamilians, how much by Andhras, Malayalees and Kanarese? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" If the hon. Member wants an account of what has been done in a linguistic basis or communal basis, it may be very interesting, but it is a matter of losses of all the people concerned. I do not think any communal or linguistic question arises in this matter at all."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" When I put my supplementary question, I never meant that India is not one, that the Central Government has no powers to do anything in the matter. My anxiety was about the safety of South Indians in Bengal in the difficult conditions they are living to-day . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Government understand the position of the hon. Member."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" May I ask whether any representation has been made to the Central Government and what steps have been taken to ensure the safety of persons and property of South Indians in Bengal? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already answered that. I will have to get this question wholly examined."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the Bengal Government was first addressed enquiring whether they would co-operate with Mr. D. V. Ramaswami and only after their reply was received he was deputed by this Government? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The hon. Gentleman is perfectly correct."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask whether the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham, has a right to make use of the information he was having at his disposal in his official capacity for putting this question? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" As far as I am concerned, I do not think the hon. Member, Mr. Viswanatham, is making use of anything which he came across officially. He was referring to something he came across from other sources."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the selection of the hon. Member, Mr. D. V. Ramaswami, for deputation to Bengal was made by the party or the Government? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I think he was selected by the Government."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In answer to a supplementary question, the Hon. the Leader of the House stated that the Government did not propose to send any representative of this Province to Bombay or Bihar. May I know why Bengal was specially selected for this sort of enquiry? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I think the question has already been answered by the Hon. the Leader of the House."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it because there is a Muslim League Ministry in Bengal? Is that the reason? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I absolutely deny this allegation."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Apart from the views of the present Government on the question of compensation, may I know whether the previous Government wanted to pay any compensation to these victims? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I do not think any decisions were arrived at by the previous Government."

Selection of candidates for Secretaries of co-operative societies in Andhra area.

* 614 Q.—S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of candidates selected for appointment as secretaries in the proposed co-operative societies to be started in the Andhra area;

(b) the training given to such candidates and its duration;

(c) the names of candidates selected communalwar; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government have separately selected 30 candidates for such appointments and that they were not given the training?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Two hundred and thirty.

" (b) The candidates were given training in co-operation, book-keeping, accounts, business management, etc., for a period of about one month.

" (c) Information is being gathered and will be furnished later.

" (d) No."

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S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the candidates who have been selected have to pay a certain amount of deposit money and whether some candidates have been exempted? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have not got the information ready. If the hon. Member wants it, I will call for it."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Are the Government sure that one month's training in Accountancy and Co-operation is enough to make them fit to discharge the duties of Secretary? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Because it was thought sufficient, that period was prescribed."

MOHAMED ADDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Are the Government aware that no principles were followed in these appointments and that only one community was favoured with regard to 60 per cent of the appointments? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" It may be so, Sir."

Haji K. M. AHMED KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government be pleased to circularize these societies that those secretaries who have not furnished security cannot be retained? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" If the rule is that they should furnish security, I am sure it will be followed and any lapses on their part will be taken note of and due action taken."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether there have been any previous instances where one month's training as in the present case has been found to be sufficient for employment in any other department, especially in the Co-operative department? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" Here the recruitment is for a particular department and I do not see how the question arises."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government propose to follow the rule of one month's training in future also? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" This service had been newly ushered in and hands had to be recruited within a short time. As the time at the disposal of the Government was very short, they thought that they could give some training which was necessary to pick up work. The exigencies of the particular situation made it necessary; that is all. I am sure that is not a standard to be set nor is it going to be followed any more."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Does not the Government think that Rs. 3,000 cash security and Rs. 10,000 property security are too much for these secretaries to pay? "

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The amount which they handle is much more than the security asked for. In the circumstances, I do not think that the security is at all too much."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" May I know whether it is a fact that no educational or other qualification has been prescribed for the posts of secretaries to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" From the qualifications possessed by the secretaries selected so far, I come to the conclusion that at least a good majority of them are well qualified."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—" May I know how many Adi-Andhras have been selected as secretaries to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I want notice."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that recruitment to sixty per cent of the posts might have been made from one community, may I know whether the present Ministry will rectify this great injustice by making provision for the due representation of all communities in this service at least hereafter? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" On behalf of the Government the question has been answered satisfactorily yesterday."

S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the few Muslim applicants for these posts have been denied appointments? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" For the information of the hon. Member, I may say that four Muslims were appointed after due training. But unfortunately none of them stuck to their posts after a month. They found the work very difficult."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that an Adi-Andhra with B.A. and B.L. qualifications underwent training but that he could not get appointed because he was not able to furnish the security of Rs. 3,000? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" I have not got the reply ready; I must call for the information."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" As the present Government are likely to abolish the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, will they consider the desirability of giving some compensation to the secretaries if they are asked to go? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" The question is not proper and it does not require any answer."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the four Muslims who were selected could not continue on account of ideological differences?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are not aware of any such differences, but the fact remains that they left their jobs within a month."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Is it a fact that retired people are given training and employed in these posts?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have no information to that effect."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Will the Government be pleased to exempt the Harijan from the payment of cash security and appoint him?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have already said that, if the hon. Member wants the Government to enquire into the matter, I am quite prepared to do so. Only let him give me the information that he possesses."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government propose to relax the rule relating to security for these posts?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When will the Government be able to come to a decision regarding the abolition or retention of these societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As early as possible. I cannot give a definite answer."

Strike by beedi workers in Palghat taluk.

* 615 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the beedi workers of the Palghat taluk are on strike; and

(b) if so, what the Government propose to do in the matter?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The dispute has been referred for adjudication to the District Sessions Judge, South Kanara, who is enquiring into grievances of beedi workers in the Malabar and South Kanara districts."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the answer that the matter is under enquiry, I am not going to allow supplementary questions."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Not a judicial enquiry."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a judicial enquiry or not."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The enquiry is being conducted by the District and Sessions Judge, South Kanara."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government are not aware that a settlement had been arrived at between the employers and the employees?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If there had been settlement, there would have been no necessity to enquire into the dispute."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know since how many months the adjudication has been going on and how long it will take to finish its labours?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The workers of the Lion Brand Sendamarai mark beedi also struck work. A similar dispute between the employers and the beedi workers in South Kanara and some of the taluks of Malabar, e.g., Tellicherry, Cannanore, Ponnani, Badagara, Calicut and Kottayam has been referred to the District and Sessions Judge, South Kanara. The Commissioner of Labour has recommended that the dispute between the employers and beedi workers of Palghat taluk may also be included within the scope of the enquiry by the District and Sessions Judge. That is all the information that I have at my disposal."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the facts of the case, may I know whether the Government are aware that there is a general feeling in this country that the present Government are not able to solve any labour problem properly?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That is a matter of opinion."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As a settlement had been arrived at between the employers and the employees, do the Government consider that there is any necessity for continuing the adjudication proceedings?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The adjudication has started and the Government do not desire to stop it and they would like to have the opinion of the adjudicator. After they receive his opinion, they will be in a position to decide whether continuing the proceedings is at all necessary."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"May I know whether the Government propose to bring forward any legislation to prevent the epidemic of strikes that is now prevailing?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not know what the hon. Member really wants. If there are labour troubles, the Government are always willing to interfere to effect a settlement. About the epidemic, I must requisition proper doctors to deal with it."

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P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the opinion of the adjudicator?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The adjudicator's opinion will be submitted to the Government after the enquiry is over."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know how many workers were arrested during the course of the strike?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Notice, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the ministerial crisis has anything to do with the strikes in general?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not know anything about the ministerial crisis. The Government has been running right through, and this Government are responsible for whatever has been done both before and after their coming into office."

Strike in Pasumalai Mahalakshmi Mills.

* 616 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) how the strike situation in the Pasumalai Mahalakshmi Mills, Madura, is at present; and

(b) what action the Government have taken to force the management to pay the workers interim relief?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The strike in the Mahalakshmi Mills has been called off.

" (b) Through the intervention of the Government, the Management and the workers agreed on the terms of interim relief."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—"Is it a fact that the management of the Mahalakshmi Mills did not accept the adjudicator's award and, if so, why the management was not prosecuted?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The strike in the Mahalakshmi Mills has been called off. I want the hon. Member to note this."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact that the workers in Kothandarama and Rajan Mills in Madura have struck work?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"That does not arise out of this question."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Are the Government aware that the management of the Mahalakshmi Mills did not accept the award of the adjudicator and that the strike still continues?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Government have not received any information to that effect."

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the management of the Madura Mills have reduced the wages of the workers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"My answer is about the Mahalakshmi Mills, and not about the Madura Mills."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"This is also another mill in Madura."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There are a number of mills in Madura besides this."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My question has not been answered."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's question is about Madura Mills, which has nothing to do with this question."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether this Government have authorized Mr. Kamaraja Nadar to negotiate or settle on behalf of Government disputes in textile mills?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Government are not aware of any such thing."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government interfere and effect a settlement between the management and the workers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member has been assured through my answer that the Government have interfered and effected a settlement."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: "மகாலக்ஷ்மி ஸ்ட்ரைக்கைப்பற்றி பேசப் பட்டது. அட்ஜூடிகேஷன் தீர்ப்பை முதலாளிகள் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை யானால் அவர்களை ஏன் இந்த அரசாங்கம் கைது செய்யவில்லை என்று கேட்கிறேன்?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN: "Adjudication-ஐ அவர் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை என்பதற்காக அவரை கைது செய்ய முடியாது. அதற்காக அவரை தண்டிக்க சட்டம் கிடையாது."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: "தொழிலாளர்கள் அவ்விதம் தப்பு செய்தால் அவர்களை தண்டிக்க இடம் கொடுக்குமா?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"நீங்கள் கேள்வி கேட்டவுடன் உட்கார்ந்து கொள்ள வேண்டும்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN: "தொழிலாளர்களாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, யாராக இருந்தாலும் சரி, சட்டத்திற்கு விரோதமாக தப்பு செய்தால் அவர்கள் தண்டிக்கப்படுவார்கள்."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the award has been accepted by both parties and, if not, what steps the Government propose to take to enforce the award?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have given all the available information about the position in the mills. If the hon. Member wants further information, he can put a separate question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether any strikers were arrested simply because they did not accept the adjudicator's award?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not so."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the Government is aware that the Mahalakshmi Mills have reduced the wages of workers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir; we are not aware."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the strikes in Madura and in view of the statements issued by some Congress members who have appointed themselves as arbitrators, is it not proper and necessary that a debate should be allowed in this House on Labour strikes?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"This question does not arise as a result of the answer I have given."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the allegation made by an hon. Member by putting a question to-day, will the Government make an enquiry whether the mills have accepted the adjudication and, if not, what the Government propose to do to enforce the adjudication?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have said that a separate question should be put down to enable the Government to get all the necessary facts because statements are made in the House about which the Government have no information. If a separate question is put down, I shall cause enquiries to be made and give the exact stage with regard to Mahalakshmi Mills."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Has not the Government got an agency as a matter of course to know whether the parties to strikes have accepted the adjudicator's award or not?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The information at the disposal of the Government is that the adjudicator's award has been accepted. Whether any other development has taken place, I shall call for information."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the long experience which the hon. Member, Mr. Giri has in the matter, will the Government take his advice and his help?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member has got an opinion of his own; he is trying to communicate it to the Government. The Government know what they are doing."

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Reconstruction of railway lines dismantled.

* 617 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have asked this Government for their views regarding the reconstruction of railway lines dismantled during the war; and

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what the Government reply was with particular reference to the Tiruppattur-Krishnagiri line and Morappur-Hosur line?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The restoration of the lines was originally recommended, but was subsequently dropped after a conference of the official members of the Transport and Communications Subcommittee of the Post-war Committee with the representatives of the Railway Board and this Government. However, the position has once again been reviewed, and it is proposed to recommend to the Government of India the restoration of these lines and their conversion into at least metre gauge."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government have made any recommendation regarding the Bodinayakanur line?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI P. GOVINDA MENON:—"May I ask whether the Madras Government have recommended to the Government of India the restoration of the Nilambur-Shoranur Railway line?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We are considering the question. We shall be addressing the Government of India on this matter."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I know whether the Government have made a recommendation regarding the Kotapalli-Cocanada line?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether this Government has recommended to the Government of India the restoration of Nilambur-Shoranur Railway?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The previous Government—the Advisers Government—did not recommend the restoration of this line. This Government is now considering the question of recommending the restoration of this line."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the South Indian Railway Authorities are refusing to open some railway stations which were closed during the 1942 movement, on account of some destruction done to station buildings. For instance, I may mention the Natarajapuram station near Sivaganga, Ramanad district?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The matter pertains to the Central Government. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister has got the information; if so, he can answer the question."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We can make a recommendation to the Government of India. The present question is about the restoration of certain dismantled lines. I therefore request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government referred to the Central Government only the dismantled lines or also survey lines which were given the highest priority before the war?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That is also under the separate consideration of this Government."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government have recommended the restoration of the Tirupathur-Krishnagiri line and the Morappur-Hosur line, with necessary data pointing out that economic service that can be rendered to these parts?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already answered that we have recommended the restoration of these lines. We have given all data that are necessary and in support of our contention."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Can we ask for a very early and favourable recommendation to the Government of India, for the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I think so."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the Central Government have proposed alternative routes for the Tirupathur-Krishnagiri and Morappur-Hosur lines?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice to answer the question."

Revenue from commercial tax.

* 618 Q.—SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to place on the table of the House a list showing the revenue collected districtwise as commercial tax in the year 1945-46?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The information asked for by the hon. Member has been placed on the table of the House."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"May I know whether the figures of the sales tax include also collections made from commission agents?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware of it."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government intend to increase the sales tax?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Is it a fact that the Sales Tax Officers in Andhra districts were ordered that they should not collect from some merchants the taxes leviable on and collectable from them because they had to be considered as commission agents? May I know whether any definite order to this effect was issued?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware of it; I shall call for information."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Are the Government aware that there is evasion to pay the sales tax by merchants calling themselves as commission agents? Is not the decrease in Telugu districts due to this fact?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am not aware of any known evasions."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the amount mentioned under the sales tax includes also the tax levied on sales on products of cottage industries?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Notice, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government intend to reduce the incidence of the sales tax on consumers? Is the Hon. Minister aware that the sales tax is levied at various stages and hence it presses very hard on the consumers? Will the Government therefore impose the tax at one stage only?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There is no proposal before the Government to reduce the incidence on the consumer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what the amount of revenue is that the Government expected when they first levied this tax and whether the amount collected now has exceeded their expectations?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I think the expectation was that it should meet the entire deficit due to the introduction of Prohibition. It has not met the entire deficit."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware that a good portion of the entertainment income escapes assessment, on account of the exemptions and permission given by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

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SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that, when merchants take their accounts for scrutiny, they are put to a lot of difficulties by the officials?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“When accounts are taken for scrutiny, there will be some incidental inconvenience.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know whether the Government intend to exempt the Press from the obligation of the sales tax?”

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

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Government are collecting sales tax from the coffee hotels also?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“They are also getting income from their business.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“When the sales tax was levied, the revenue from excise was only Rs. 4 crores . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is giving information; he is not putting a question.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know whether the revenue from Excise was within Rs. 5 crores at the time when the sales tax was levied?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We are now considering sales tax and not Excise.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“The Hon. Minister said that the sales tax should cover the entire deficit.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The deficit is Rs. 15 crores.”

MOHAMED RAFFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are the Government aware that the levy of sales tax on butchers—meat-sellers—is unjust and will the Government exempt them from the payment of this tax?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“We do not accept the suggestion that it is unjust.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I inform the Government that of all people, these butchers are illiterate and the collection of the tax imposes much hardship on them? Is the amount collected by the Government from the butchers worth the trouble that is given to the butchers?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“The illiterate people that is engaged in this trade are making a profit and they must pay the sales tax.”

11-45 a.m. M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, May I be permitted to inform the Hon. Minister for Finance that it is

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not necessary for people who engage themselves in these petty trades to be literate, and as a matter of fact the people who are actually engaged in these small trades are actually illiterate?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I am thankful for the information given.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that these butchers are so poor and helpless, and see that they were helped and relieved by our Speaker?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I think no answer is necessary for this question.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Since the Hon. Minister for Finance has thankfully accepted my information, may I ask him to kindly act upon that information and give relief to these poor and deserving people?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“If the hon. Member wants I shall get it examined.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether it is a fact that the Government has exempted bullion from the levy of sales tax and if so, whether the Government will consider the question of levying a tax on bullion?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It is under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“May I bring to the notice of the Government that all the matters now raised by the Leader of the Opposition were elaborately explained and considered last time when the Sales Tax Act was considered when he was himself representing these matters in the Select Committee at that time?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“I am thankful to the hon. Member for the information, Sir.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, as a matter of personal explanation, I got some words of the hon. Mr. N. S. Varadachari, not all, and he said . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This is not a matter for personal explanation. If the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said something which is misunderstood by the House, then he can raise a point of personal explanation, but now there is no point of personal explanation.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, my point of personal explanation arises from the fact that the Hon. Minister for Finance has accepted the information given by the hon. Member . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Leader of the Opposition is making a speech. If the Hon. Minister has accepted the statement of Mr. N. S. Varadachari, then the Hon. Minister is responsible; then where is the question of personal explanation by the hon. Member?”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The statement refers to me, Sir. The hon. Member, Mr. N. S. Varadachari, has made a wrong statement regarding me, and the Hon. Minister for Finance has accepted that wrong statement and that is why I have to get up on a point of personal explanation. Sir, the Hon. Finance Minister has accepted the statement of Mr. N. S. Varadachari that I had occasion in the Select Committee on Commercial Taxes to thrash out all the points now raised in this House. I want to deny the fact that all these subjects were not dealt with in the Select Committee, and only in regard to bullion alone we had some discussion and my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari knows this quite well . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Apart from that, what takes place in the Select Committee should not be revealed in the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Therefore, Sir, let my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari be asked to retract the information he has given to the Hon. Minister for Finance and then let the Hon. Minister renounce the information which he has thankfully accepted."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If what the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said is true, then the hon. Member stands corrected."

Closure of toddy and arrack shops in view of plague in Palni town.

* 619 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been made by the President of the Palni Town Congress Committee requesting that in view of the prevalence of plague in the town the toddy and arrack shops may be closed and all the pilgrims coming from outside may be prevented from entering the town at least for a month; and

(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Extracts from the representation were sent to the Collector of Madura for taking action under condition 11 of the general conditions applicable to all abkari and opium licences which empowers the Collector to close temporarily any abkari or opium shop when epidemic diseases break out in a virulent form. As the Director of Public Health reported in the meanwhile that there was no need to close the Palni temple to pilgrims or the liquor shops in the town, no further action was taken by the Government in the matter. Sir, time is a great healer, and I am happy to inform that for some time past there has been no instance of plague in the town of Palni."

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SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Is it not a fact that those who are going out from the plague-affected area should obtain a certificate from the local health officers that they were inoculated, and is this being observed?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I think that is the normal procedure, but if necessary, I shall examine it."

SRI K. P. KAMATCHI CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will in future take active precautionary measures to prevent the infection of plague?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I cannot agree to the proposition that the Government have not taken the necessary precautions in the matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, with regard to the closing of toddy shops in the town referred to in the question, does it mean that the toddy shops being closed to Dr. Subbarayan's police also?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It means, closing down toddy and arrack shops to all the people, police as well as others, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, the hon. Member representing West Godavari *cum* Kistna *cum* Guntur, Factory Labour, constituency has talked of Dr. Subbarayan's police; I want to point out, Sir, that there is no such thing as Dr. Subbarayan's police in the Government of Madras."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will not repeat that."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Sir, what the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu said was not 'Dr. Subbarayan's police,' but 'Dr. Subbarayan and police'. It is an insinuation, Sir, which he made."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Perhaps he was referring to one Mr. Subbarayan in the Police department, Sir—probably the District Superintendent of Police."

Soap institute in the Province.

* 620 Q.—SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that there is only one Government Soap Institute in the whole Province; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to start another in Rayalaseema?

THE HON. SRI H. SEETHARAMA REDDI:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) No such proposal is under consideration."

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SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of establishing a soap institute in Royalaseema as there are so many oil mills there and also oil seeds are found in abundance?"

THE HON. SRI H. SEETHARAMA REDDY:—"Sir, the question of establishing a separate institute in Royalaseema for soap industry by the Government cannot be considered by the Government at present because the Soap Institute at Calicut is training the necessary personnel to man the industry in the Province and if private industrialists who want to start soap factories in the Province come forward with proposals, any technical help that is possible would be given by the Government, and necessary facilities will be given for training such personnel. If there is a need specially in Royalaseema to have a separate institute, a case must be made out to start one."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Soap Institute at Calicut is not manufacturing soap for consumption by people and if so, may I ask whether the Government consider that the demand in the province for soap does not warrant the establishment of more soap factories?"

THE HON. SRI H. SEETHARAMA REDDI:—"The question is different, Sir. The question put by my hon. Friend was about a soap institute and not about soap factories."

Harijans as Municipal Chairman and District Board Presidents.

* 621 Q.—SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMIAH (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the number and names of Harijans who were elected as Municipal Chairmen and District Board Presidents in the Province for the last ten years?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"The Government have no information. It has been called for."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Will the Government be pleased to make a convention, as the one existing in the Corporation of Madras, enabling Harijans also to be being elected as presidents of district boards?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Government cannot make a convention. Conventions should be made by members themselves."

Menial servants in Veterinary hospitals.

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

(a) whether in Veterinary hospitals the menial workers are classed as temporary or permanent servants;

(b) what is the present scale of pay for these menial servants; and

(c) whether they are entitled to dearness allowance or not?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—" (a) The menials employed at all veterinary institutions are paid from contingencies and they are classified under contingent establishment.

" (b) These menials are paid at the local market rates as recommended by the Collectors, the maximum of which is Rs. 15 per mensem.

" (c) They are paid dearness allowance at the rate of Rs. 16 per mensem."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that these so-called menials have been in service for more than 15 and 20 years, whether it is advisable to keep them paid from contingencies for such a long period?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is not the case in the veterinary service alone; it is prevailing in various other services as well."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As this involves the case of thousands of poor labourers, will not the Government put them on a permanent basis?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"That is a general question, Sir, which cannot be answered now."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"Will the Government be pleased to say whether these menials—I would not like to call them by as menials, but by some other name—are entitled to provident fund, leave and other amenities, which obtain in the case of other Government servants?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"No, Sir."

Drainage difficulties due to faulty construction of a culvert in Tellicherry Municipality.

* 623 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that continued and serious loss and damage is caused to paddy cultivation in the Kaivattam area within the Tellicherry Municipality owing to drainage difficulties caused by the faulty construction of a culvert by the Tellicherry Municipality;

(b) since which year the Government have been receiving representations from the public of the area concerned for the removal of the cause of such loss and damage to them;

(c) what measures the Government have taken to put right the above; and

(d) in what time can the public expect relief in the matter?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Since 1942.

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" (c) & (d) The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (General, Buildings and Defence), made the following suggestions to remedy the defects:—

- (i) the extension of the culvert by one or more vents and formation of an unpaved low level drain up to the sea to lead off the water from the channel.
- (ii) Reforming the Kaivattam channel to proper section and slopes.

The Tellicherry Municipal Council has been asked to get detailed plans and estimates prepared for the improvements and get them sanctioned by competent authority. It is understood that the Council has asked the Sanitary Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, to prepare the plans and estimates."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know when the Municipal Council, Tellicherry, has asked the Sanitary Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, to prepare the necessary plans and estimates? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" The information is not available, Sir. The information that is available from the file is given in the answer. If the hon. Member wants any particular information, I will write and get it."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" How long will it take for the Government to have the matter settled? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" As early as possible, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government take steps to expedite the matter? "

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Certainly, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" There are five more questions which will, I think, take not more than five minutes. We shall finish them to-day."

Touring hospitals in motor vans.

* 624 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether any touring hospitals in motor vans are being maintained by the Government in the Province;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) the number of touring hospitals run by Local Boards and by private individuals; and

(d) whether the Government have any scheme to extend such touring hospitals throughout the Province?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) & (b) The only touring hospitals or mobile medical units maintained by Government

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are the two engaged in anti-malarial operations in the Vizagapatam district. Two units maintained for the same purpose in the Nellore district have been disbanded consequent on the decrease in the incidence of malaria in that district.

" (c) No touring hospitals are maintained by local boards. As regards the touring hospitals, if any maintained by private individuals, the Government have no information.

" (d) According to one of the post-war schemes, medical relief will be provided in sparsely populated areas through itinerating dispensaries. The Government have recently sanctioned the opening of six itinerating dispensaries in

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|----------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) Anantagiri | } in the Vizagapatam district. |
| (2) Lumbasingi | |
| (3) Madugule | |

and

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| (4) Padigapuram | } in the East Godavari district. |
| (5) Goviridevipeta | |
| (6) Gangavaram | |

The post-war plans of the Government provides for the establishment of a comprehensive health service for the province. Pending the execution of these plans within a period of twenty years, the Government are considering a scheme for providing medical relief through mobile medical units which will be equipped to give out-patient treatment for any disease and also deal with cases of labour."

Construction of houses for sweepers and scavengers in municipalities.

625 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI (on behalf of Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to advise all municipalities to construct houses for sweepers and scavengers whom they employ; and

(b) whether the Government are prepared to grant to municipalities sufficient grants or loans for the above purpose?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) The Government have already done so.

" (b) The question of giving grants for the purpose is under consideration. Loans are given on the usual terms."

Wells in Labour Harijan Colonies in South Kanara.

* 626 Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) what amount was spent for the new and old wells in the Labour Harijan Colonies in the South Kanara district from 1940-46; and

(b) the number of wells in each taluk of the said district?

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“(a) Rs. 46,360-10-0.

“(b) The number of wells in each taluk is as given below:—

1 Kasaragod taluk	...	...	...	...	75
2 Puttur taluk	...	...	...	...	10
3 Mangalore taluk	...	...	...	...	71
4 Coondapur taluk	...	...	...	...	12
5 Karkal taluk	...	...	...	...	33
6 Udipi taluk	...	...	...	...	61

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Strike notice served on Commonwealth Weaving Factory, Cannanore.

* 627 Q.—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any information about the notice served on the Commonwealth Weaving Factory, Cannanore, by the Commonwealth Labour Union, that a strike will commence from 14th March 1947; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government to bring about an amicable settlement and thus avert the strike?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Yes, Sir.

“(b) The Commissioner of Labour has advised the Union not to resort to strike and to await the findings of the Court of Enquiry as most of the demands are covered by the Court of Enquiry.”

Scarcity for match boxes in Malabar.

* 628 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state the reason for the scarcity for match boxes in Malabar?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The scarcity of matches experienced in Malabar was part of the general scarcity of the article, felt all over the Province. The Government understand that it was due to the supply not being equal to the demand and the diversion of some of the stocks to Mysore and other places outside the Province where it is gathered they fetch higher prices.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.*Building-sites under Mission authorities in Cuddalore Town.*

49 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANADA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the authorities of the St. Ann's Girls High School, Cuddalore N.T., have requested the Government for acquisition of the premises No. 13-A in Pugh's road;

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(b) whether it is a fact that a petition from the Roman Catholic Mission authorities for acquiring the pathway leading from Pugh's road to the rear portion of the school premises was rejected by the then District Collector;

(c) the total extent of the building-sites now under the control of the Mission authorities in the town;

(d) whether it is a fact that in most of the compounds only rain trees and coconut trees are grown and the latter on a commercial scale;

(e) whether it is a fact that a grant of Rs. 10,000 has been sanctioned as a building grant to the Mission who intend to use it speedily for the purchase of premises No. 13-A, Pugh's road to prevent its lapse in March 1947; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the Government Secondary Training and High School for Women is badly in need of a good site?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Information is not at present available. The information will be obtained.

(c) 62.63 acres.

(d) So far as the Government are aware, the coconut trees in the compound of the St. Ann's High School were cut a year back and the space was converted into a playground. There are some rain trees in the compound of St. Joseph's School for boys.

(e) Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10,000 to St. Ann's Girls' High School, Puduppalayam, towards the cost of the purchase of a site and building adjoining the school to provide additional accommodation. It is not proposed to disburse the grant in the current year.

(f) No.

Qualifications prescribed for lecturers in Madras Veterinary College.

50 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the qualifications, if any, prescribed for lecturers in the Madras Veterinary College;

(b) whether the present incumbents in the said college possess the qualifications prescribed; and

(c) whether there are men in the Veterinary department possessing Mukteswar and Edinburgh qualifications and, if so, why those men have been overlooked in making these appointments?

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A.—(a) The qualifications prescribed for the Lecturers in the Madras Veterinary College are as follows:—

Posts.	Method of recruitment.	Qualifications.
Lecturer in Pathology and Bacteriology, Madras Veterinary College.	Direct recruitment or recruitment by transfer.	(i) (a) Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London, or the B.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras; (b) training for a period of not less than one year at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar; and (c) work for a period of not less than one year under an able and experienced Pathologist; (ii) If a candidate with the above qualifications is not available (a) Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London; or (b) B.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras.
Other Lecturers in the Madras Veterinary College (other than Lecturers in Chemistry and Biology).	(i) Direct recruitment.	(a) A degree in Veterinary Science of the University of London or Edinburgh or the diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London; or (b) (i) The B.V.Sc. Degree of the University of Madras; and (ii) a post-graduate course outside India and Ceylon or practical training for not less than twenty months at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar; or (c) If the candidate belongs to any community other than the Brahman or Non-Brahman (Hindu) community, the B.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras.
	(ii) Recruitment by transfer.	(a) A degree in Veterinary Science of the University of London or Edinburgh or the diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London, or (b) (i) the diploma of the Madras Veterinary College or the B.V.Sc. degree of the University of Madras; and (ii) a post-graduate course outside India and Ceylon or practical training for not less than twenty months at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar or teaching experience for a period of not less than five years in the subject concerned at the Madras Veterinary College.

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Posts.	Method of recruitment.	Qualifications.
Lecturers in Chemistry and Biology in the Madras Veterinary College.	Direct recruitment or recruitment by transfer.	A first-class degree of B.V.Sc. of the University of Madras; or a first or second class degree of B.A. (Hons.), B.Sc. (Hons.) or M.A. of a University in the Province in the subject concerned. Preference shall be given to a candidate who has obtained the degree of L.T. of the University of Madras or the degree of B.Ed. of the Andhra University.

The ordinary scale of pay attached to lecturers is Rs. 200—30/2—260—40/2—700. The higher scale of Rs. 300—30/2—360—40/2—600—50/2—750 will be applicable to Lecturers who possess the following qualifications:—

Lecturers in the Madras Veterinary College other than Lecturers in Chemistry and Biology.

- Either—(i) a F.R.C.V.S.; or
- (ii) a M.R.C.V.S. who has done post-graduate work in a teaching institution for a period of not less than one year; or
- (iii) a B.V.Sc. of the University of Madras and M.Sc. of the University of Madras in that subject or a Doctorate in the subject from any other University; or
- (iv) a B.V.Sc. of any University in India which has got that course with a Doctorate in the particular subject from any University. He should also have at least 5 years' teaching experience.

Lecturer in Chemistry .. Either—(a) a B.V.Sc. of the University of Madras or any other Indian University and a Fellow or Associate of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain; or

(b) a B.V.Sc. of the University of Madras plus a M.Sc. in Chemistry of the Madras University; or

(c) a D.Sc. in Chemistry of any University with some branch of organic Chemistry as the subject of his thesis. He should also have at least 5 years' teaching experience.

Lecturer in Biology .. Either—(a) a B.V.Sc. of any Indian University that offers the course plus a M.Sc. of the University of Madras; or

(b) a Doctorate of Zoology of any Indian University; or

(c) a D.Sc. of Zoology of any University. He should also have at least 5 years' teaching experience.

- (b) The present incumbents except the temporary additional lecturer in-charge of stockmen-compounders' course and the officer posted temporarily as Lecturer in Medicine, possess the qualifications prescribed for the ordinary scales of Rs. 200—700. The lecturer for stockmen-compounders was first appointed as a District Veterinary Officer and was subsequently posted to act as additional lecturer as he was considered suitable for the training of stockmen compounders. The officer posted as Lecturer in Medicine is a permanent District Veterinary

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Officer and he has been posted only temporarily till a suitable candidate is recruited by the Public Service Commission.

- (c) There are men in the department possessing post-graduate training in the United Kingdom and at Mukteswar but the question of overlooking these men does not arise as the posts of Lecturers and the other posts (viz., District Veterinary Officers, etc.), which they now hold are on the same scale of pay, viz., Rs. 200—700.

Construction of Road in Chirakkal taluk.

51 Q.—M. EBRAHIM COONHE SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to examine the question of constructing roads in Chirakkal taluk—

- (a) from Payangadi Railway station to Muttam;
(b) from Payangadi Railway station to Puttiyangadi; and
(c) from Puttiyangadi to Matool?

A.—(a) The Chief Engineer (Highways) has stated that the construction of this road is not feasible as the locality is sandy beach where it is difficult to construct and maintain a road.

(b) The original Post war Road programme does not provide for this work. A revised programme is being drawn up and the question of including this road in the revised programme is under consideration.

(c) The original Post-war Road Programme does not provide for this road but it included a road from Matool to Chirakannu. The question of substituting the Puttiyangadi to Matool road for the Matool-Chirakannu road is being examined in drawing up the revised programme.

Cases of labour disputes.

52 Q.—SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commissioner of Labour is not in the habit of replying to communications addressed to him by the Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union, Singanallur; and

(b) how many cases of labour disputes were reported to the Commissioner of Labour during 1946 from the various districts in the Presidency in general and how many cases from Coimbatore district in particular and how many out of these the Commissioner has settled so far?

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4.—(a) No, Sir. Replies are given whenever necessary.

(b) During the year 1946, about 1,024 labour disputes were reported to the Commissioner of Labour from all districts. Of these, 391 were from the Coimbatore district. Twelve of the disputes in the Coimbatore district and 45 disputes in other districts were settled by the Commissioner of Labour personally. One hundred and thirty-two disputes in Coimbatore district were settled by the Labour Officer in consultation with the Commissioner of Labour.

Medical fitness of certain type casters of the Swadesi Type Foundry, Chintadripet, Madras.

53 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on 9th and 10th December 1946, certain type casters of the Swadesi Type Foundry, Chintadripet, were declared medically unfit by the Surgeon, III and IV District, without assigning any reasons;

(b) whether it is a fact that those workers who were thus declared unfit were not given any medical aid by the Surgeon; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action in the matter?

A.—(a) Four type casters of the Swadesi Type Foundry, Chintadripet, were declared medically unfit by the Surgeon, IV District, Royapetta, after assigning proper reasons. No employee of the foundry was examined by the Surgeon, III District, on these dates.

(b) All the four persons who were declared unfit were asked to get the necessary treatment in the hospital.

(c) This question does not arise in view of the answer to question (b).

Engineering studies under the Bevin Trading Scheme.

54 Q.—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons who have gone to Western countries for engineering studies under the Bevin Trading Scheme;

(b) how many of them are employed in posts in which they can utilize the knowledge acquired by them; and

(c) how many are keeping quiet without having an opportunity to utilize the knowledge they have acquired?

A.—(a) One hundred and seven (includes six candidates now undergoing training in the United Kingdom).

(b) Eighty-three.

(c) Eighteen are not employed.

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Nursery schools and rest asylums.

55 Q.—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government propose to start a nursery school for young children and rest asylums for the old and emaciated?

A.—The policy of the Government is to give priority for providing elementary education to children of school age. The Government are not conducting any nursery schools themselves, but encouragement is given to nursery schools conducted by private agencies. These schools are treated as special schools and aided under the provisions of the Grant-in-Aid Code. As regards rest asylums, there is no proposal under consideration.

Distribution of mill cloth.

56 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the arrangements adumbrated in paragraphs 15 and 21 of the general scheme of distribution of mill cloth in the Madras Province issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner to the public;

(b) whether it is a fact that in connexion with the arrangements made for the maintenance of the supplies to deficit districts of their cloth shares, the Provincial Textile Commissioner created a class of selected group of retailers styled 'consignees' for distributing cloth obtained from 'importing dealers' in surplus districts;

(c) whether these 'consignees' were told that they were mere distributing agents and were not to deal in such cloth in their own retail shops;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Provincial Textile Commissioner directed these 'consignees' not to pay sales tax to the importing dealers and not to collect sales tax from the retailers in their district;

(e) whether it is a fact that the instructions mentioned in (d) above as also the general scheme of distribution of mill cloth adumbrated by the Provincial Textile Commissioner were communicated to the several Commercial Tax Officers in the Province and if not, why not;

(f) whether it is a fact that these 'consignees' were asked to get the cloth consignments against payment to the importing dealers directly;

(g) whether it is a fact that the Commercial Tax authorities in Chittoor district are seeking to assess these 'consignees' for sales tax on their so-called turnover;

(h) whether it is a fact that the 'consignees' have petitioned the Government for exemption from sales tax on the ground that they were mere distributing agents and not 'dealers' within the meaning of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939 (Act IX of 1939);

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(i) whether the Provincial Textile Commissioner obtained the sanction of the Government before instructing these 'consignees' not to pay or collect sales tax, and, if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay the correspondence and the orders on the table; and

(j) whether the Government propose to exempt these 'consignees' from the payment of Sales Tax or instruct the Commercial Tax department not to levy the same from them?

A.—(a) to (d) The answer is in the affirmative.

(e) The instructions issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner to the Textile Control Officers that the retail consignees should not be made to pay sales tax or collect it from the retail dealers were not communicated to the officers of the Commercial Taxes department, as the Provincial Textile Commissioner did not anticipate that the officials of that department would take a different view in the matter. He wrote to the Commercial Tax Officer, Nellore, on 22nd January 1946 as soon as it was brought to his notice that the Deputy Commercial Tax Officer, Chittoor, proposed to levy sales tax on the transactions of retail consignees.

(f) to (h) The answer is in the affirmative.

(i) The answer is in the negative.

(j) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Division of supply to the channels at Lower Coleroon.

57 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the ratio of 1:3 fixed by Government in 1931 for a division of the spring supply at the Lower Coleroon to the channels taking off from there for the second crop areas in the Shiyali and Chidambaram taluks has undergone any revision;

(b) if so, the particulars as to the new ratio, the acreage in the two taluks for the new ratio and number and date of the Government Order, as also whether the Collector of South Arcot was consulted in the arrangement;

(c) whether the Pudumaniyar ayacut in Shiyali taluk is among the second-crop ayacut for which the aforesaid division is given;

(d) the officer who is responsible for the regulation of supply at the Lower Coleroon; and

(e) whether any supply is now received at the Lower Coleroon from the Stanley Reservoir for the second crop?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The new ratio for Tanjore and South Arcot districts is 7 : 12 and the acreage is 3,500 for Tanjore and 6,000 for South Arcot. The number and date of the overnment Order is 252 3I., dated 30th October 1936. The Collector of South Arcot was consulted before the arrangement was ordered.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Superintending Engineer, Tanjore Circle.

(e) No regular supply to the Lower Coleroon anicut system for second crop is made from the Stanley Reservoir. The supply actually received is from the hydro-electric discharges from Mettur and the spring flows in the reaches below Mettur.

Communal representation in the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce.

58 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the number of persons employed as officers, clerks, peons, etc., in the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, and the number of Hindus and Muslims among them;

(b) the number of Gazetted Officers in the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, and the number of Hindus and Muslims among them;

(c) the principles that are being observed in the matter of promotions there;

(d) whether it is a fact that the claims of certain Hindus have been overlooked in the promotion to upper division clerks' and Superintendents' posts;

(e) whether it is a fact that in making promotions Service Commission candidates with some years of experience belonging to other communities were overlooked in favour of Muslims working under rule 9 (a) (i) of the M.S. Rules;

(f) whether it is a fact that Shia Muslims were given preference to Sunnis; and

(g) if all these are true, what action the Government propose to take in this matter?

A.—(a) The following are the number of persons employed as officers, clerks, peons, etc., in the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce:—

	Hindus.	Muslims.	Others.	Total.
Gazetted officers	19	8	2	24
Non-gazetted officers other than Ministerial and inferior	30	5	2	37
Ministerial	120	29	6	155
Inferior staff	54	21	7	82

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(b) The number of Gazetted Officers in the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce is 24, of whom 3 are Muslims and 19 are Hindus.

(c) Promotions are made in accordance with the rules on grounds of merit and ability, seniority being considered only when merit and ability are approximately equal.

(d) No. Promotions to the grade of Upper Division clerks and Superintendents are made according to the above principle.

(e) The claims of no Service Commission candidates were overlooked in favour of those working under rule 9 (a) (i) of the general rules for the Madras Provincial and Subordinate Services. In cases where candidates appointed under rule 9 (a) (i) were promoted to the upper division due regard was paid to efficiency and seniority. In no case was preference given to Muslims in the matter of promotion.

(f) There is no distinction between Shia and Sunni Muslims as far as appointments and promotions under the Service Rules are concerned.

(g) Does not arise.

Area under paddy cultivation in Tanjore district.

59 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the area under wet paddy cultivation in Tanjore district, taluk-war;

(b) the area under dry paddy cultivation in Tanjore district, taluk-war;

(c) the area of waste lands, taluk-war;

(d) the area of punja lands in Tanjore district, taluk-war; and

(e) the proposals for converting the waste and punja lands into paddy cultivation area?

A.—(a) to (d) A statement^a containing the information for fasli 1355 is laid on the table of the House.

(e) It has been reported that practically all the waste and punja lands in the Tanjore district which were capable of being brought under paddy cultivation have been brought under such cultivation and that, to bring the remaining lands under such cultivation, the existing concessions in regard to remission of water-charge and dry assessment are sufficient. The Government have accordingly no proposals under consideration for bringing the waste and punja lands in the Tanjore district under paddy cultivation.

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Admissions in Government Colleges.

60 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state how admissions are now being made in the Government Colleges?

A.—Admissions are made mainly on the following basis with slight modifications, to suit the special needs of a particular college. All the applications received are classified in the first instance according to the class and group for which admission is sought. The applications in each group are then classified according to community, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, Muslims, Christians and Scheduled Castes. The applications in each one of these communities are further arranged according to the marks obtained in the immediately previous public examination in a descending order. Selection is finally made on the basis of this arrangement in accordance with the Government orders on the subject from time to time.

Electrical schemes.

61 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of electrical schemes that have been taken in hand for execution as part of the post-war development scheme;

(b) what they are; and

(c) their respective possibilities in the matter of power resources and financial returns?

A.—(a) Twelve.

(b) & (c) The following are the schemes and their respective possibilities in the matter of power resources and financial returns:—

Serial number and name of scheme.	Possibilities in the matter of power resources.	Financial return.
	KW.	PER CENT.
1 Madras Power Station Extensions	15,000	5.9
2 Machkand Hydro-Electric Scheme	51,750	5.3
3 Pykara III Stage Extension and Moyar II Stage Extension.	27,000 } 12,000 }	4.82
4 Madras Mettur Inter-connection	..	5.4
5 Papanasam II Stage Extension and Madura Thermal Station.	7,000 } 12,000 }	4.75
6 Bezwada-Rajahmundry-Samalkot Ex-tensions.	6,000 (advance construction of Machkand).	..
7 Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme	24,000	5.1
8 Vizagapatam Power-House Extensions ..	3,000	5.1
9 Ceded Districts Scheme	4,000	3.52
10 Kuppam Extension	..	13
11 Erode-Trichinopoly-Dalmianagar Ex-tensions.	..	12.7
12 Erode-Salem Extensions	..	12.5

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Pamphlet on 'Rationing'.

62 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the rules and regulations regarding rationing are not widely and satisfactorily published;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to ignorance of rules offences are inadvertently committed by the public at large for which they are prosecuted; and

(c) whether the Government propose to publish a rationing manual containing all the rules and regulations, for the benefit of the public?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) With a view to give further publicity to the Rationing Rules and Regulations, the Director of Information and Publicity has since published a pamphlet on "Rationing" in English and in the regional languages and copies are being distributed to Collectors with instructions to exhibit the pamphlet on the notice boards of Rationing offices prominently for the information of the public and also to distribute copies to the public in the best manner possible to give publicity to the contents.

Revision of pay of Executive officers of panchayats.

63 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the only change effected by the revision of pay is that increments have been made annual instead of biennial in respect of Executive Officers of panchayats; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to re-examine the question of pay and promotion of these officers?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

Classification of panchayats.

64 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present classification of panchayats into three groups on the basis of annual income and consequent appointment of executive officers affect adversely the service conditions of those officers with respect to pay and promotions; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of reclassifying the panchayats into two groups only and appoint executive officers for these bodies on better service terms?

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- A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.
(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation system in the Cauvery Delta.

65 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the irrigation system in the Cauvery Delta area is thoroughly defective in drainage facilities; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government are taking to improve the drainage facilities there?

A.—(a) The Government are aware of the defects in the drainage facilities in the Irrigation system of the Cauvery Delta.

(b) The Government have included two schemes for improvements to the drainage of the Cauvery Delta in their post-war plan for the five years, 1947–52, viz., (1) Improvements to drainage in Cauvery Delta (cost Rs. 82.50 lakhs) and (2) Disposal of upland drainage in the Cauvery Delta being part of the scheme of disposal of upland drainage in major deltas (cost Rs. 174.33 lakhs).

Part of the first scheme called, “Twelve key schemes for Cauvery delta” and estimated to cost Rs. 29.63 lakhs was sanctioned in April 1946. Work on this is progressing and portions of the work have been completed. The Government have also sanctioned for execution in 1947–48 certain improvements to the Alivoikal drain and seven other drains in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.02 lakhs and have included provision for it in the Budget Estimate for 1947–48 which is to be voted by the Legislature during its present session.

Subsidy for sinking wells.

66 Q.—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is proposed to increase the amount of subsidy for sinking wells under the Grow More Food Campaign?

A.—The Government have sanctioned a new well-subsidy scheme with effect from 1st March 1947. All the aspects of the scheme, including the sufficiency of the subsidy, were carefully considered before a decision was taken. Details of the scheme were announced in a Press Note, dated 3rd March 1947.^a They are also being placed on the table of the House.

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 956–957 infra.

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Communal representation in the Board of Revenue.

67 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the names of the Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and Superintendents who have been working in the Revenue Board office from the various communities for the last ten years?

A.—A statement^a is laid on the table of the House.

Duties of the Chief Electrical Engineer and the Chief Engineer (Electricity).

68 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the respective functions of (1) the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government, and (2) the Chief Engineer (Electricity) to the Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that the functions and responsibilities of these officers are overlapping; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of abolishing either of the posts for the smooth running of the department without friction?

A.—(a) A statement^b showing the particulars is laid on the table.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

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

II.—ABOLITION OF LOCAL BOARDS AND DISTRICT BOARDS.

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Leader of the House when elections to the local boards would be held and whether the Government are considering the question of abolishing the local and district boards, as the hon. Member Sri Kamaraj Nadar has suggested in the papers?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The hon. Member has entirely taken me by surprise; I must gather the information that he requires before I can answer it satisfactorily.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I would like to know when the elections would be held, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“This is a question which the hon. Member ought really to put to the Hon. Minister for Local Administration.”

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 957–959 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix V on pages 959–960 infra.

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III.—SETTLEMENT OF THE BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS DISPUTE.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"On a point of information, Sir. In yesterday's paper a statement has been published on behalf of the Government giving an ultimatum to the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills workers and stating that the compromise agreement would be withdrawn unless it was accepted by the 23rd evening or so. If therefore the Government admit a failure to effect a settlement, will the Government appoint an all-parties committee to go into the dispute and to consider the demand of the workers . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know what the hon. Member is reading from and what his point is?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I wish to know whether the Government are going to effect a settlement by appointing an all-parties committee to go into the question of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills workers' strike."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. Gentleman is either entitled to put a short notice question on the matter or to move an adjournment motion thereon; he cannot ask questions of the Government on a communiqué that has been issued."

IV.—ALLOTMENT OF DAYS FOR NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS IN THE ASSEMBLY.

M. MUHAMMAD, ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I want to make a submission. I understand, Sir, that to-day the House is going to rise at 1-30 p.m. You will remember this is a non-official day and this non-official day we get, according to the rules, only once in a week; and that too, on account of various circumstances governing the deliberations of this House, this non-official Wednesday comes once in a blue-moon. Even on such occasions, we are deprived of having the benefit of a whole day for non-official business. Therefore, I would request you to expedite the amendment of the rules, so that the Council or the Upper House may have its non-official day on some other day of the week or the Lower House may have it on some other day than Wednesday. Sir, you will have some sympathy for this House and see that we are not deprived of even these small privileges that we the non-official members have got, of getting one non-official day in a week."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let me inform the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and the House that I have a lot of sympathy in this matter. I shall go into the question and see whether we can change the non-official day from Wednesday to some other day of the week."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, may I hope that you will be implementing that sympathy by having the whole day to-day for the Assembly sitting?"

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sorry that is not possible because the Council sits at 3 p.m. to-day and it will not be possible for the Ministers to be here as well as there; moreover we have not sufficient number of reporters to attend if both Houses meet at the same time."

V.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE TEXTILE CONTROL BOARD.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following candidates were nominated for the election of one member to the Textile Control Board—Mr. B. S. Murthy and Mr. V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar. Mr. B. S. Murthy has since withdrawn his candidature. Since Mr. V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar is the sole candidate for filling the seat on the Textile Control Board, I hereby declare him duly elected."

VI.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS—BILL.

THE MADRAS HINDU BIGAMOUS MARRIAGES PROHIBITION AND DIVORCE BILL, 1947.

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your permission to make another motion now instead of the motion to refer the Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill to a Select Committee. I want to move that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon before the end of June 1947."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has the permission of the Chair to do so."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Sir, I now move that the Madras Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill, 1947, be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon before the end of June 1947."

"Sir, I am doing this in obedience to the decision of my party, because they think that some more time should be given to the public to give their opinion upon an important Bill like this. Of course . . ."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"On a joint of personal explanation, Sir. I would like to request the hon. Member not to make any reference to anything that happens in the party, because we are here dealing with the Legislature."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"It is true, Sir, that the Bill has already been before the public for some months since the time I first gave notice of it; it was published in the Press; I have received ever since, the support of the Womens' Indian Association, the Hindu Law Reforms Committee and some public meetings and several private individuals. Some detailed criticism of it also appeared in a Telugu weekly and I made a reply

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to it. Two Acts have been separately passed as Government measures in the Bombay Legislature, one to prohibit bigamous marriages and the other to permit divorce among the Hindus. The Hindu Law Committee appointed by the Government of India to formulate a Code of Hindu Law under the distinguished presidency of Sir B. N. Rau has recently presented its final report to the Central Government in which they have not only prohibited bigamy, and provided for divorce, but also recommended that the daughters should get some share in the father's property along with the sons and that sons should get some share in the mother's sridhana along with the daughters. If their proposals are accepted and an all-India legislation is passed by the Central Legislature, in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, then there will be no necessity for the passing of this Bill by this Legislature. But it appears as if it would take a very long time and no such legislation would be either taken up or passed by the Central Legislature before the new constitution comes into force. We all know that under the Union Powers Sub-Committee's recommendations, the Central Government or the Federal Republican Government of India will only have under its jurisdiction Defence, Communications, Foreign Relations and Finance, and all Hindu and Muslim law reform will naturally be assigned to the provinces. Therefore, there is perfect justification for proceeding with this Bill in this House. But it is considered desirable that some more opportunity should be given to the public of the Madras Province to express their opinion on this important question of marriage and divorce. Therefore I propose, Sir, that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion and that the opinion be collected by the end of June this year, so that it may become possible for me to proceed further with this Bill in the next session of the Legislative Assembly which perhaps will meet in July next."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"I second it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. The Bill is being of course proposed to be circulated for eliciting public opinion; but may I know with reference to clause 2 (2) what the mover exactly means by a 'convert to Hinduism'. Is Hinduism a proselytising religion? What does he mean by 'convert to Hinduism'?"

12.15 P.M. * SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Yes, Sir, any person who becomes a convert from any other religion to Hinduism will also be treated as a Hindu under this Bill. That is the modern notion of Hinduism, Sir. The intention of this Bill is to include all those persons who are converts or reconverts."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. I was not answered whether Hinduism is a proselytising religion and whether this word 'convert' to Hinduism will be acceptable to all the Hindus or at least the bulk of the Hindu population."

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* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Hinduism is a proselytising religion also. That is the modern notion, Sir. Therefore, any person who converts himself into Hinduism from any other religion will be accepted as a Hindu by the Hindus or by the majority of Hindus or at least the enlightened section of the Hindus."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir. I support the motion to allow the Bill for being circulated for eliciting public opinion. I am glad that Mr. Kaleswara Rao has amended his original proposal for referring it to the Select Committee. This is good for two reasons. One is that in the Central Legislature there is a Bill, an all-embracing Bill on the subject, which has already been published, and it may be taken up by the Central Legislature before long. It may be that the Central Government are very busy with more important constitutional changes at the present time and so, they may not take up this Bill in the near future. So, Mr. Kaleswara Rao is justified in asking that this Bill may be circulated for eliciting public opinion so that it may be taken up in this Assembly at a later stage. I also wish to point out to him in this connection that so far as this Bill is concerned, it affects a large number of Madrasis who are resident not only in Madras but outside also because the Bill is concerned with the important question of marriage. So, I would request Mr. Kaleswara Rao to allow some time so that the Central Legislature may bring in their Bill because marriage is an all-India question. If the Central Assembly do not come up with the Bill at an early date, then we can consider the question of taking up this Bill here. But at this stage, it is not necessary to object to this Bill being brought forward here especially when the Central Legislature are thinking of a comprehensive legislation on the subject. It is preferable to have a Central legislation than a provincial legislation on this matter. If you think it necessary that the Bill may be published for eliciting public opinion, you may do so. There is a report published on this Bill by the Hindu Law Committee. The Government will do well to look into that report if they have not already done so, and then they may come to a definite understanding in respect of this matter."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not in a position to understand the objects of this Bill, especially in view of the fact that the author of this Bill has not thought it fit to define the word 'Hindu'. I do not know whether he is not in a position to define the word 'Hindu'. I would also like to know whether there is any definition of the word 'Hindu' in any of the Law books. If there is no complete definition of the word 'Hindu', I do not know whether it will be possible for those who are going to consider this Bill to give their decision and unless and until they know what is exactly meant by the word 'Hindu', they cannot give their decision in this matter. We find, Sir, that in sub-clause (2) of clause 3, it

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is said that a "Hindu" includes a Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, a follower of Arya or Brahmo Samaj or a convert to Hinduism. Since this does not definite exactly what the term 'Hindu' means, it becomes difficult for us to understand the exact scope of the word 'Hindu'. It merely says that a 'Hindu' includes a Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, a follower of Arya or Brahmo Samaj or a convert to Hinduism. Is this a complete definition or denotation of the word 'Hindu'?

"Sir, this Bill has got a very wide effect on the people of this Province and it is much better if the author of this Bill comes forward with a clear definition of the term 'Hindu.' Only then it will be possible for anyone in this House to give his or her best consideration.

"So far as the objects of the Bill are concerned, Sir, I find that there are two objects. One of them is to prevent bigamy among the Hindus and the second is to introduce the system of divorce in Hindu society. So far as the prevention of bigamy is concerned, I find that my hon. Friend has come forward with a legislation in order to prevent a Hindu gentleman from contracting too many marriages. Perhaps, from his experience, he has come to know that at least those Hindu gentleman who have been converted have been contracting too many marriages. On this subject, I would suggest to my hon. Friend to adopt the policy that has been given to the Muslims 1,400 years ago by the Prophet Islam. (Laughter.) My hon. Friends have betrayed their ignorance as regards the Muslim injunction with regard to the number of marriages. I think it is better my hon. Friends should know what exactly Islam has given to the world so far as the question of marriage is concerned. Sir, the injunction in Islam pertaining to marriages is to the effect that a Muslim is allowed to marry up to a number of four wives. It is only permissive . . ."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"On a point of order, Sir. With reference to the injunction of the Holy Quoran in regard to marrying four wives, I wish to point out that there is an explanation in the text-book of Quoran itself and that is, that a man who marries more than one wife should give equal treatment to the wives he marries."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was going to say that."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. the Lady Member must be allowed to finish."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member continue his speech. I will allow the hon. Lady Member to correct the hon. Member in the end if that is necessary."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before I completed my statement, the hon. Lady Member was too impatient to contradict me. This is not the first occasion on which she has come forward with her knowledge of the Holy Quoran.

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"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said, a Muslim is allowed to marry up to a number of four wives, but at the same time, there is a very serious rider, and a severe rider too, added to it, and that is, a man can marry more than one wife only if he can give equal treatment to all his wives. Ultimately, it comes to this that the Muslim is advised to marry only one wife as it is impracticable for a husband to give equal treatment to all the wives. Therefore, I would ask my hon. Friend to advise his society also to follow the very wholesome rule that has been given to the world 1,400 years ago by the Prophet. Sir, so far as the latter part of this Bill is concerned, namely, introduction of divorce in the Hindu society. I am glad that the Hindu society is adopting the Muslim principle of divorce at this late hour. I am glad that to-day the world is coming back to Islam and that it is trying to adopt the wholesome injunctions given to the world 1,400 years ago by the Prophet. I am glad that they find it necessary to give equal rights to women also. Hitherto, the Hindu wife has been labouring under a very great difficulty, and she has been subjected to whatever treatment that was given to her by her husband. She did not possess the right of separating herself from a cruel husband. Hindu society has been suffering for a long time under this great drawback. So, I am glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, has followed the Islamic principle in this matter and has come forward with such a wholesome rule to the Hindu society. This is not the only thing. Prohibition has been adopted by our Hindu friends and now, so far as divorce is concerned, they are again following the Islamic religion. I am glad, Sir, that my hon. Friends, who are strongly opposed to Muslims, are following Islam in these matters. That is a very welcome sign."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may call your attention to the fact that Mr. Kaleswara Rao has moved his motion specifying a date before which public opinion should be elicited on this Bill. But, since he has done so, I do not wish to say anything more about it. I want that this Bill should not create the impression that there are some things in Hindu society which we admit are very wrong and which deserve remedies at once. I am here to say, Sir, that the Hindu religion—let my hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan listen to me—is a live religion and it is changing from century to century. We Hindus believe in the faith adapting itself to the environment. We believe that knowledge is ever expanding and it is almost like the horizon—the nearer you reach, the farther you seem to be from the end you are seeking. That is the vital principle of the Hindu faith."

"Regarding bigamous marriages, let me be allowed to say this. Hinduism is the only religion that lays down the highest moral doctrine in this respect. It was said, you should marry only once and the bond of fidelity was such between the husband and the wife that it was made indissoluble, that the husband regarded the wife as alive even after she shuffled off her mortal coil and the wife lived in the same manner when the husband

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unfortunately passed away. It should not be imagined by anybody either here or in any other country that we have such cruelty in India that it calls for instant remedy. The Hindus are the most charitable, the most reasonable and perhaps the most cultured people in the world. I am here to say that from my experience as an average man living in average surroundings and as a married man having lived amongst married men and women all my life—and I have not lived amongst friends who set aside marriages or detest marriage as such or amongst those who think of marriage very lightly and worship divorce—I am here to say to the world and to all my Hindu brethren in particular that we should be proud of our social order and if changes were needed we are more alive than others to the necessity for change without legislation. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'Are you opposing the Bill?') I am not opposing the Bill, but am expressing public opinion in this House. Legislation is made for the average man and not to suit particular circumstances or to suit particular cases. The highest ideal preached by the Hindu religion is that of one marriage only. That is the central theme of the whole of the magnificent story called the Ramayana. We believe in woman having her full rights even without legislation. Let nobody imagine that the Hindu wife is oppressed. I would implore my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, to separate his Bill into two, one Bill for bigamous marriages and another separate Bill for divorce. Divorce I do not agree to. There may be a case of cruelty one in a million and you must not therefore introduce this subtle idea of separation which may work havoc amongst average men and women. I believe in the fullest freedom for women. I believe in the Hindu discipline as it obtains in the home in the joint families where not only the husbands live, but where the father, the brothers, the sisters, wife's relatives and the husband's relatives all come together, freely mix together and live as one common unit. Sir, Hinduism, accustomed as it is to such a life, is the only religion where toleration is exercised in a most remarkable degree. We do not believe in rigorous laws compelling us to abstain from doing certain things or compelling us to do certain things. As a matter of fact, abstinence flows as a natural course from the religious dictates which we have more than in our sacred books, in the common lives of our common people. Sir, Hinduism is the only religion that it derives its strength, not from verses or books or knowledge emanating from any particular individual, however eminent he may be, but from that sum-total of character which you call culture, which you call wisdom, which you call prophetic vision and all that.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, asked, who is a Hindu. Shall I define it for him. He is a Hindu who is governed by the Hindu law and who believes in the ordering of life without the compelling force of the State, who really abstains from evil and who does good, not because it is enjoined on him by the scriptures but because it becomes part of his daily nature being subject to the rule of good conduct. Can any other religion

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boast of any such thing in this fashion, I ask? We are not missionaries; we do not believe in proselytising and in our religion there is no proselytisation. Perhaps, of all religions, ours is the most ancient and we think that in our frail bodies we are carrying the quintessence of the wisdom of the ages. That is Hinduism. Are you content with this definition? I believe that their culture and our culture are equally good and that there is much in Islam which we can ponder over. (Interruption.) This Bill however does not follow Islamic law. We will never agree to divorce on those conditions. The patience of our wives and that of the equally patient husbands carrying the burdens from day to day and even in dire poverty for the protection of their wives and children, are the main things which make our religion so attractive as it appears to-day. Do you think that because you have a law of divorce in England or in America, we should have a similar law here also? There is a subtle disruption in this which I do not wish to see introduced into Hindu society at this stage of our development. The subtle psychological factor that makes for divorce is that it is not a remedy for particular cases of cruelty but that it will make for disturbance of normal married life in this country. There is also no urgency; there can be patient suffering for some time. I do not mind a few people suffering some cruelty of some sort or other. God will help them. But I must refuse to believe and I emphatically repudiate the statement of my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, that this is the best way to reform Hindu society. It is, of course, good that public opinion is elicited, but my hon. Friend ought not to have specified any particular date for that purpose."

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thought at least in regard to this Bill my hon. Friends of the Muslim League would have reserved their energy. I think that in this matter they might have reserved their opinion. Their first objection was, that they did not understand what is meant by 'Hindu.' One might as well imagine, we do not understand what is meant by 'Muslim.' Sir, we have had dissertations on 'Hindu' and 'Muslim' day after day in this Assembly and outside and their objection to the impossibility of defining the word 'Hindu' seems to be somewhat unconvincing. Secondly, I think the comments made by some of them might not be very useful on this occasion. What this Bill purports to do is that where polygamous marriages occur the Hindu community has been trying to see if the same could not be avoided. My hon. Friends of the Muslim group whose religion permits four wives, want to give us advice by saying that we should follow them. Sir, in certain sections of the Hindu community no divorce is permitted and in view of the feeling that should there be divorce, there should also be a remedy and that under limited conditions, this Bill has been brought forward and it is proposed to circulate it for public opinion. My hon. Friend's advice on this matter comes with bad taste. So far as my hon. Friend's religion is concerned, you see how easy divorce is and you have only to pronounce 'Talak, Talak, Talak,' and straightway the marriage is dissolved. So any advice coming from such a party

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comes only with ill-grace. Sir, we do not believe in divorce and there should be safeguards to a limited extent and to ask our learned friends of the League to tender us advice for whom divorce is so easy, is, I think a thing in which their advice would not be either useful or convincing. Left to myself, Sir, in many respects I would accept the hon. Mr. Varadachari's comments with regard to the Bill but one has to note the change of times. Educated members of the Hindu community and ladies are pleading for such restrictions with regard to polygamous marriages and also with regard to permitting divorces under particular condition. In this respect we have to note the change of times. We cannot stop it altogether. It was found that marriages under the Civil Marriage Act with particular privileges for divorce given there were not quite sufficient for Hindu society as a whole and that there should be provisions also under the Hindu law without seeking aid of Civil Marriage Act for divorce and that is why a Bill of this kind has been brought up.

"With regard to this Bill, however, the hon. Member who introduced it might possibly have also considered certain other points. For instance, in section 5 there are two clauses, one relating to the wife and the other relating to the husband. In the case of wife section 5 (1) (b) says 'that the other party, if a wife, is a concubine of any other man or leads the life of a prostitute, or' there is provision for the husband to bring a petition for divorce. Then with regard to the wife's right to obtain a divorce 'if a husband has any other woman as a concubine' alone is mentioned. I am afraid because my friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, belongs to the other section, the male section, he has not introduced a corresponding clause. This word 'concubine' has a very definite connotation. It means a person kept as a concubine for some time, or more period. If a man might have been guilty of two intercourses, it is adultery. This word should be added to the conditions which you impose in the case of a woman seeking divorce for a husband's misconduct. When we are introducing a Bill like this there should not be marked distinctions like this. Then again with regard to the question 'that the other party has, without just cause, deserted the petitioner for a continuous period of not less than three years immediately preceding the presentation of the petition, or' it is not good merely to use the word 'deserted.' The word has been defined by very many definitions and clauses. What is meant by the word 'desertion'? One may possibly have to explain that also. In the clause relating to 5 (f) providing for divorce when the other party has been suffering from a virulent and incurable form of leprosy and so on, venereal disease and any other form of incurable disease which could be relied on in England for a divorce could have been added. Now that the Bill is only in the stage of circulation for eliciting public opinion, I request the hon. Member to take note of these things."

"With regard to the Hindu Code when opinion was called for a large number of the judges, practically amounting to nearly 80 per cent of the judges of the Calcutta High Court, gave a

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conservative opinion against the Bill. One thing I may say is this. There is no doubt a certain percentage of persons in whose case it is necessary to give some form of divorce or other. And on the other hand there is the case of people who know that they are indissolubly linked together for life. Human nature is such that to a large extent such people find an amount of adaptability and try to put up with things which they would not otherwise put up with. On the other hand, if you always give a tendency for easy divorce there is the danger that one might be tempted to have recourse to divorce much earlier than the circumstances warrant. Therefore, in a matter of legislation like this, it is better that we consider whether the time is quite ripe enough for this because trouble might be caused by bringing in such a Bill when the country is not ripe. We have to consider when dealing with questions of social legislation whether while giving a small, infinitesimally small proportion of the people, relief by introducing such a legislation we should not avoid the coming into existence of unhappy divorces. We have seen how in the other countries where divorces have been granted, how a number of marriages are also easily put an end to. I request the hon. the Mover of this Bill for circulation to keep all these things in mind before they introduce this Bill in this Assembly."

KUMARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—

"Sir, I welcome this Bill. It has come none too early and many in this part of the country have held strong views in support of this Bill. If it is not possible to bring such a legislation before the Legislature immediately, it is probably because, Sir, it is thought that it is better to give more time to the public to give support to this. I think to-day, Sir, there is a great volume of public opinion in favour of this Bill. I can assure my hon. Friend the Mover of the Bill, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, who though an old and venerable Member is a very great enthusiast in matters of this kind and we are very happy that he has taken the trouble of introducing this Bill. Though there may be some delay when the Bill is referred to public opinion, he and many others who support this Bill will have, I am sure, the great satisfaction of getting the support of a large number of people in a couple of months' time. Supposing the Government accepts this Bill, it will be passed immediately. Now that the Bill is referred to public opinion, I am sure the result will be very very encouraging. In that view, Sir, I welcome the move to refer the Bill to public opinion and I am sure there will be only a small portion of the community who will be opposed to this. I hope, Sir, that when the Bill is referred to public opinion, the public and many jurists and many legal brains of this part of the country will help us with their technical knowledge about the legal way in which the Bill could be improved. Sir, I would be very happy if Government would sponsor a Bill like this now that a Member of this House has brought it. As my distinguished friend, Mr. Varadachari, remarked, the Hindu society is most tolerant and we are expansive in our views and we are very charitable. We are people who would like to go with the times. I think to-day times are

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such that the Hindu feels that he should in no way lag behind such social reforms. I am very glad, Sir, that at this opportune moment such a legislation has been brought forward. If the Muslim League members have offered any remarks against anything it is not against the measure. They are only trying to say that certain points mentioned in this Bill are in line with democratic principles of Islam. Now that they also approve of this, I hope the House will give its unanimous support to this measure. With regard to the Hindu reforms and the Hindu society many legislations have been brought forward like the Temple Entry Bill, uplift of the Harijan community and many other backward communities. But, if there are some religious defects and social habits which we have to get rid of, I think this is just the time to do it. When we are now on the threshold of getting freedom, we should not lag behind any other country in the world in matters of social life."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"I support the motion moved, Sir, by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, and for circulating this Bill. There is no necessity in this connexion to glorify or criticize Hinduism. I believe, Sir, most of us are aware of the ideal literature of the Hindus in Sanskrit. It deals only with the ideal conditions written by sages or poets. There is another aspect, Sir, the realistic picture. This is also found in the ancient literature and in the scientific works and in the political works, still extant in Sanskrit. One of them and the most authoritative is the Kautilya's 'Arthashastra'. It describes the real condition of society in the 3rd century B.C. and the 4th century B.C. also. There we find in the chapter about marriages, I am not speaking of the smritis generally taken note of in modern times and which form the authority for the modern law administered by courts. These modern smritis are rather an idealistic version of the real law which prevailed about 2,000 years ago in Hindustan. There are chapters about these marriages, about the rights of the individuals in household life and the sexual relationship between the husband and wife. There we find, Sir, that the woman has equal right with man in household life and in conjugal rights. In the matter of divorce the facility for a husband is not greater than that of a wife. A wife can divorce her husband, ask for dissolution of the marriage as easily as or for the same reasons as the husband. Even greater facilities I should say are given for the wife who is neglected and who is left at home. These aspects are generally forgotten. This is not a place for defining Hinduism or a Hindu and a Mussalman. Practically I am afraid I do not know why the members of the opposite side should be irritated when they find the word 'convert' to Hinduism is used in the Bill. Hinduism may be a proselytising religion or may not be but anyone who professes a religion professes it by conviction. He is convinced of the truth of the religion and then he becomes a convert to it and probably they are afraid that Hinduism may absorb all Mussalmans. Hinduism may not have real definitions. Hinduism need not be changing, as my

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hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari eloquently alleged and pointed out, century by century. The fundamentals are all the same but the practices may change. This is not a place to talk about all these things. This is not a council meant for that. I wish to emphasise the fact that any one who professes to be a Hindu is a Hindu and he must be treated as a Hindu. He must be so treated even if he be a convert from any other rigid religion. I believe that there is nothing in that proposition to be taken objection to.

"On the question of divorces, while giving facilities for divorce, the existence of polygamy among the higher classes 1 p.m. although scarce must be considered and there are many among them who have only two wives. They must be well provided for. And no forcible divorce contemplated. It should be taken note of, Sir. This is a permissive Bill and it must be made known to the public. I believe that any Hindu cannot be really against this Bill. Practically most of the Hindus are monogamous and the Hindus of this province and all over this country do permit divorces. With these words I close my remarks."

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—"అధ్యక్షా, శ్రీ కాశ్యప రావు గారు ప్రవేశ పెట్టదలచిన ఈ సంస్కరణమును నేను హృదయ పూర్వకముగా జలపరచుచున్నాను. హిందూ స్త్రీలు చాలా పనితీరులను పాటించి యున్నారు. హిందూమతము, హిందూధర్మము ప్రపంచమునకు అదర్శ పాఠములను నేర్పించుచున్నది. వనియు మనవారు చెప్పుచున్నారు. వీటిని ఎవరు కాదనరు కాని ఒక విషయం నేను మనవి చేస్తాను. మన హిందూ ధర్మములలో స్త్రీల స్వాధీనత్వము విషయములలో కొన్ని లోపములు కలవు. హిందూ ధర్మములలో పురుషులకు సర్వవిధముల సంపూర్ణమైన స్వేచ్ఛను కలిగి ఉన్నారు. కాని స్త్రీలకు అట్టి స్వేచ్ఛగాని స్వాధీనత్వముగాని లేవు. మనవారు శ్రీరామచంద్రమూర్తి యొక్కయు నీతాదేవియొక్కయు ఉదాహరణలు చెప్పుచున్నారు. పురుషులు ఆ శ్రీరామచంద్రమూర్తి వలె వికపత్నీవ్రతులై ఉన్నట్లే, దేవీమూర్తిని స్త్రీలందరూ నీతాదేవివలె పతివ్రతగిరిమలులై ఉండవలసి చెప్పుచున్నాను. కాని ప్రస్తుతము పురుషులు ఆ శ్రీరామచంద్రమూర్తివలె వికపత్నీవ్రతులై ఉన్నారా అనే విషయము లోచించవలసియున్నది. ఇట్టి వికపత్నీవ్రతము పురుషులలో లేవని నా అభిప్రాయము. పురుషులకు ఈ విధంగా బహుభార్యలను కలిగి ఉండుటకు హక్కు ఉన్న కారణంచేత చాలా మంది స్త్రీలకు అన్యాయము జరుగుచున్నదని చెప్పుచున్నాను. దీనివల్ల కొందరు పురుషులలో అవినీతిపెరుగుచున్నది. అందువల్ల హిందూ ధర్మము అవినీతిపాలుగాకుండా చూచుటకుగాను ఇట్టి సంస్కరణను చేసి హిందూ ధర్మమును, పురుషులను, స్త్రీలను మిక్కిలి పవిత్రమైనటువంటి వారినిగా చేయవలసిన మనవి చేయుచున్నాను.

"హిందూ స్త్రీలకు విడాక లభింపు (డైవర్సు) హక్కు నిచ్చుట వల్ల, హిందూ స్త్రీల పతివ్రత్యమునకు భంగమనియు, హిందూ ధర్మము చెడిపోవుననియు, కొందరు వ్యతిరేకముగా మాట్లాడుచున్నారు. వారు స్త్రీలకు డైవర్సు చేయుటకు హక్కు ఇచ్చినట్లైతే, ఇట్టి విడాకులు చేసుకొనుట ప్రబలిపోవుననియు, హిందూ స్త్రీల గౌరవము తగ్గుననియుకూడా చెప్పుచున్నారు. స్త్రీలకు ఈ డైవర్సుచేయు హక్కు ఇచ్చినంత మాత్రము చేసినే వారు వారికిష్టములేనప్పుడు వారి భర్తలతో విడాకులు చేసుకొంటారని నేను అనుకొనును. హిందూ స్త్రీలు ఇట్టిపనులు చేయరని గట్టిగా చెప్పుచున్నాను.

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அதனால்தான் மறு விவாகம் செய்துகொள்ளலாம் என்று சட்டம் வந்தது. அதனால் ஆடவர்கள் 1, 2, 100, 300, 400 ஸ்திரீகளை கல்யாணம் செய்து கொண்டும் முக்கியமாக இராஜாக்கள் இவ்விதம் கல்யாணம் செய்துகொண்டு இருந்ததை நாம் சரித்திரத்திலும் சாஸ்திரத்திலும் படித்திருக்கிறோம். இஹேனேயே உலகத்தில் கதைகளும் சரித்திரங்களும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த விதமாக அநேகம் கல்யாணங்களை ஆடவர்கள் செய்துகொண்டு எவ்வளவோ கஷ்டங்கள் அடைந்திருப்பது நாம் எல்லோரும் அறிந்த விஷயம். ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது புத்திரர்கள் இல்லாமல் பாழ் நரகத்தில் விழுந்து பிறவோமோ என்பதை யோசிக்கவேண்டாம். இப்பொழுது உலகத்தில் புத்திரர்கள் பிறக்காமல் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பது எல்லோருடைய பிரார்த்தனை. இப்பொழுது ஜாஸ்தியாக உற்பத்தியாகாமல் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் எல்லோருடைய பிரார்த்தனையாக இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது உற்பத்தி சங்கியை பார்த்தால் நாளுக்குநாள் விருத்தியடைந்து கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. 30 கோடி, 40 கோடி, இப்பொழுது 40 கோடியிலிருந்து 50 கோடியாகிறது. இதில் பார்த்தால் இஸ்திரீகளின் சங்கியை ஜாஸ்தியாகிக்கொண்டே இருக்கிறது. இந்தமாதிரி குழந்தைகள் ஜாஸ்தி பிறக்காமல் இருக்க வழி தடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிற காலத்தில் ஒரு பெண்பாட்டியே இருப்பது நல்லது. ஒரு பெண்பாட்டியுடன் இருந்து, அவர்களுடைய தினசரி சாப்பாட்டிற்குக்கூடத் திண்டாட்டமான காலமாகிவிட்டது.

“அடுத்தபடியாக சொத்தை பரிபாலனம் செய்ய குழந்தைகள் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது நூறுக்கு 99 பேருக்கு, அன்று சாப்பிடுவதற்கு கூட கிடையாது. Estate-ஐ காப்பாற்றுவதற்கு சந்ததிகள் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கின்றார்கள். Estate இருந்தால் அல்லவா சந்ததி வேண்டும். இப்பொழுது ஜமிந்தார்களுடைய Estateகள் கூட Court of wards-ஆல் பரிபாலிக்கப்பட்டு வருகிறது. பிள்ளைகள் இருந்தும் பரிபாலனம் செய்வதற்கு சக்தி இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறது. இந்தமாதிரி இருக்கிற காலத்தில் 2, 3 பெண்டாட்டிகள், கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பது கூடவே கூடாது. புருஷர்கள் 2, 3 பெண்டாட்டிகள் கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொண்டால் சுகம் இருக்கிறதா? அவர்களுக்கு நிம்மதி கிடையாது. ஒரு பெண்டாட்டியை கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொண்டு சிரமப்படுகிற காலத்தில் (பலத்த சிறிப்பீட காகோஷம்) இரண்டு பெண்டாட்டிகளை வைத்துக்கொண்டால் தற்கொலை செய்துகொண்ட மாதிரி அவர்களுக்கு ஏற்படும். இவ்வளவு இருந்தும்சுட அவர்கள் ஏன் இரண்டு மூன்று பெண்டாட்டிகள் கல்யாணம் செய்துகொள்கிறார்கள் என்றால் பிச்சை எடுத்துப்போட்டாவது காப்பாற்ற தங்களுக்கு பிள்ளை குழந்தை பிறக்க வேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் அவர்களுடைய அந்திய காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு சாப்பாடு போடுவதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு குழந்தைகள் வேண்டுமென்றும் இவர்களைக் காப்பாற்ற வேண்டுமென்பதற்காகவும் இம்மாதிரியெல்லாம் அந்தக்காலத்தில் இவைகள் சரியாக இருந்தது. நாளுக்குநாள் மாறிக்கொண்டு வருகிறகாலத்தில், இப்பொழுது ஸ்திரீகளை சமமாக வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்கிற காலத்தில் இது அவசியம் இல்லை. ஸ்திரீகள் இரண்டு பேர்கள் சேர்ந்து ஒருவருக்கொருவர் பொருளையாக இருந்ததாகவும் நாம் கேள்விப்படவில்லை. ஆகையால் Mr. Speaker asked her to finish it soon. (To Mr. Speaker.—இந்த பில்லில் கூட நாங்கள் தாராளமாக பேசக்கூடாதா?) (A Voice—தாராளமாக பேசலாம்.) ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது ஒரு ஸ்திரீயைத்தான் கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொள்ளவேண்டும் என்று நாம் சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியம்தான். மற்ற மதத்தில் கூட முக்யமாக கிருஸ்தவ மதத்தில் இதை ரொம்பவும் சிலாக்கியமாக ஒப்புக்கொண்டு அதன்படி நடக்கிறார்கள். அம்மாதிரி நம்மால் இருக்க முடியும். இந்த விவாக ரத்து வேண்டுகிறவர்கள், சொல்லுகிறார்கள், ஆடவர்களுக்கு ஸ்திரீகள் சரியாக நடந்து கொள்ளாமல் போனால் அல்லது அவர்களுக்கு வியாதி ஏதாவது, அதாவது குணமாகாது வியாதி வந்துவிட்டாலும் அவர்கள் சேர்ந்திருக்கமுடியாது என்று சொல்லிவிட்டாலும் விவாகத்தைரத்து செய்துகொண்டு வேறு கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொள்ள அனுமதியிருக்கவேண்டும் என்பதாக சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அம்மாதிரி தான் ஸ்திரீகள் ஒரே புருஷனை கல்யாணம்

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1-15 p.m. பண்ணிக்கொண்டு லாப நஷ்டத்தை அனுபவித்துக்கொண்டு இது நான் வரை இருந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி ஆடவர்களும் ஏன் இருக்கக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன். ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது ஒரு ஸ்திரீயைத் தான் கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பதை மாதிரும் வைத்துவிட்டு விவாக ரத்து என்பதை இன்னும் சில காலம் ஒத்திப்போட்டு எல்லோருடைய அபிப்பிராயங்களையும் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பதுதான் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம். இப்பொழுது ஒரு ஸ்திரீயைத்தான் கல்யாணம் பண்ணிக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமென்பதை அமுலுக்கு உடனே கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். ஸ்திரீகள் ஏற்கனவே கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுடைய நிலைமை எப்பொழுது உயரும் என்றால் ஒரு புருஷன் ஒரு ஸ்திரீயைத்தான் கல்யாணம் செய்துகொள்ள வேண்டுமென்று வரையறுப்பதிலிருந்து. அப்பொழுதுதான் அவர்கள் சுகமாகவும் சந்தோஷமாகவும் வாழ முடியும் என்று சொல்லி இந்த மசோதாவை நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன்.”

*SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—“ அப்படி, ఈ సంస్కరణ విషయమై చుట్టீకి చాలా మంది గౌరవనీయ సభ్యులు మాట్లాడినారు. నేను ముఖ్యముగా దీనిపై కొందరు సభ్యులు చేసిన విమర్శలకు సమాధానము చెప్పదలచుకున్నాను. ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ If the hon. Member would be brief, I will call somebody from the Treasury Benches and I will then ask the mover to reply so that the question might be put to the vote of the House.”

*SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—“ నేను 3, 4, విషయములు మాత్రమే మాట్లాడి సూచించాను. ”

“ నాకు ముందుగా మాట్లాడిన కొంతమంది సభ్యులు కొన్ని విమర్శలు చేసి యున్నారు. వాటిలో ముఖ్యమైనటువంటిది విమర్శగా, “ ప్రస్తుత పరిస్థితులలో దేశమును ఎదుర్కొన్న ప్రాముఖ్యమైనటువంటి విషయములనేకము కలభు, దేశము నుండుగా భాగ్య శృంఖలములలో నుంచి యెటు పడవలగును, దేశము స్వాతంత్ర్యము పొందవలయును, ఈవాతనే ఈ సాంఘిక సంస్కరణలను చూచుకొందాము. ” “ ఇటువంటి సంస్కరణలను తీసుకొనివచ్చుట ఇప్పుడు చాలా (premature) అనగా ఇప్పుడు కాలము అనుగుణముగా లేదని ” చెప్పుచున్నారు. కాని వారిలో నేను ఏకీభవించను. రాజకీయ విషయములు పేరు, సాంఘిక విషయములు పేరు అని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. దేశము స్వాతంత్ర్యము పొందువరకు ఇటువంటి సాంఘిక సంస్కరణలు అంగీకరింపరాదు అని వారు భావింతు. దేశము స్వాతంత్ర్యము పొందునప్పటికి మన సంఘములో ఉన్నటువంటి ఇట్టి దురాచారములను సంస్కరించుట చాలావరకు, మంచి దని వారికి తెలియజేయుచున్నాను. ఉదాహరణగా “ హిందూ దేశములో వివాహ మతములవాదము, వారిలో వారికి విశిష్టము లేదు. వారిలో మత ద్వేషములు, అసూయలు, జాత్యహంకారములు కలవు. వారికి ఈ పరిస్థితులలో స్వాతంత్ర్యము ఇచ్చినట్లు, తే వారికి చాలా వ్యతిరేకము, వారికి స్వాతంత్ర్యమునకు అడ్డంకలేదు ” అని ఎవ్వరైనను తనవలె మనము చెప్పుకొనుము. ఎవరైనను మనమును, దేశ స్వాతంత్ర్యముకొరకు మనము ఎంతైనను కష్ట పడుచున్నామో, ఎంతైనను త్యాగములచేసి, సంపాదించుకొన నిశ్చయించినాము. ఆ విషయముగానే ఎవరైనను విమర్శలు చేసినను మనము తెక్కవేయ హిందూ మతములో ఉన్న ఇటువంటి దురాచారములను తొలగించి, హిందూ ధర్మమును సంస్కరించి, చిరస్థాయిగా నిల్వనట్లుగా చేయుట మనవి అని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను ఈ విషయముల పన్నిటినీ మనమునుంచుకొని, ఇట్టి సంస్కరణను తెచ్చుకొనునను, బిల్లును ప్రతిపాదించిన శ్రీ శాలేశ్వర రావుగారిని అభినందించుచున్నాను. ”

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“ హిందూ స్త్రీలకు భర్తలతో విడాకుల నిమ్మ అధికారము ఇచ్చినచో, స్త్రీలలో అవినీతి ప్రబలుననియు, హిందూ ధర్మముయొక్క గౌరవము, పవిత్రత తగ్గుననియు కొందరు విమర్శించుచున్నారు. ఈ వాదము సమంజసము కాదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. ”

ఇట్టి హక్కు ఇచ్చినంత మాత్రము చేతనే హిందూ స్త్రీలు అవసరం వరకు లను గుర్తించక, విడాకుల నిమ్మదరనే అధికారము పొందాము వారికి అవ్వబోయే ఈ హక్కుకు ఏ యే పరిస్థితులలో వారు ఉపయోగించుకొనవలయునో బిల్లులోని 5 వ సెక్షనులో చక్కగా ఉదహరింపబడియున్నది. అట్టి పరిస్థితులలోనే వారు ఈ హక్కును ఉపయోగించుకొనెదరనియు, హిందూ స్త్రీలు సాత్వికత ప్రాముఖ్యతను ప్రపంచమునకు బాటేదరనియు గట్టిగా నమ్ముచున్నాను. మన ముస్లిం సోదర సభ్యులు కూడా ఈ సంస్కరణకు వారి ఆమోదమును తెలిపినందుకు వారికి నా కృతజ్ఞతను తెలుపుచున్నాను దీనిపై విమర్శలు చేసిన సభ్యులను వారికి సాగి ఈ బిల్లుయొక్క సదుద్దేశములను, ఉపయోగములను, పరిశీలించి, ఇట్టి చక్కని సంస్కరణ తీసుకొనివచ్చినందులకు వారి ఆమోదమును తెలియపరచవలసినదిగా వారిని ప్రార్థిస్తూ, విరమించుచున్నాను. ”

* SRIMATHI A. V. KUTTIMALU AMMA :—“ Mr. Speaker, I am glad that such a Bill as this is being considered. It is a very necessary and desirable change in the Hindu law. A number of cases can be quoted where women are suffering very great hardship. I am proud to say that I come from a part of the province where divorces have been in vogue both for men and women from time immemorial and where the law does not allow a man or a woman at one time to have more than one wife or one husband since 1933. But I can say also that neither man nor woman is going in for divorces very easily. We have had such a law for nearly fifteen years and divorces as far as I can see have been very few. There is no need for husbands to fear that under this Bill all wives will go in for divorces and wives need not fear that their husbands will divorce them. This is only a very necessary change in the Hindu law and I support the Bill.”

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. Speaker, this is a very simple measure. But at the same time, I would remind my hon. Friend for Bezwada that there is a measure of this kind before the Central Legislative Assembly where the Hindu Code as a whole is going to be modified. But as Bombay has passed this Bill, my hon. Friend, as a zealous social reformer, wants this done by this Assembly as well. I entirely sympathize with him and I would like to point out that my hon. Friend the Muslim Member for Kurnool talked about the definition of the Hindu; the definition is found in the Act itself. He wants to know why Jains and Sikhs are included. The simple answer to that is that they have agreed to be included because even in the Bombay Bill which has become law, my hon. Friend will find the same definition finds a place. All that the hon. Member wants is circulation of the Bill for public opinion. I do not think there need be any objection on this matter. When the bill comes up with the opinion of the public we may be then in a position to

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find what exactly is wanted and what are the amendments that may be necessary. Therefore, I feel that this motion need not be objected to by any member of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the Opposition wants to say a few words by way of personal explanation towards the attitude of his party. He is not making a speech."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I want to make clear that we on this side, the members of my party are not concerned with this Bill. It is left entirely to our Hindu brethren to decide and make up their mind as to what they should do regarding this Bill. My hon. Friend only wanted to know and I also raise the same point of information and I want to know what is meant by a 'convert to Hinduism'. Our anxiety was that it should not create confusion in the province and it should not open the flood gates of litigation as a result of this Bill. One of our objections has been answered in a way—it is only in a way—by the Hon. the Leader of the House. He said that the term Hindu includes Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and all that and he also said that Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists have been included by their consent. We do not know how their consent has been obtained. They are not represented in this House and therefore, it was that my friend was anxious that there should be no confusion as to the definition of the word 'Hindu'. My hon. Friend Mr. Pattabhiramayya suggested whether . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"After the Government Member replies, speech on the part of any Member is not allowed. I have only allowed the Leader of the House to say a few words by way of personal explanation."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I submit that the Hon. Minister was not giving a reply because he is not the mover of the motion. He is a Member of the Government and he has participated in the debate. After the mover of the motion has spoken, then I suppose the Speaker can rule that no Member can speak after that. But as a matter of fact, the hon. Mover has not yet replied."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has been in the House for a very long time and he knows that the Leader of the House has spoken on behalf of the Government; then the mover of the motion has a right to speak. Then I am going again to call on the Minister to reply and that is the procedure that is followed in the House of Commons. I was going to suggest to the Leader of the Opposition to be brief so as to allow the Bill being disposed of before we rise."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend was saying that Hindus should be defined as those professing Hinduism. We, on our part, do not want to do anything which will obstruct the passage of this Bill or even to help it. It is entirely left to our Hindu Members. The only thing we wanted to say was that the matter dealt with by this Bill may be

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clear and we do not want on this occasion to say anything about Islam or expatiate on a comparative study of Hinduism with any other religion. With these words, I think, I have made our position clear. Let not any hon. Member of this House be under the impression that we are interfering in this matter and that we are either obstructing or even helping—even that we do not want to do because I have again and again said that it is entirely a matter to be left to our Hindu brethren to decide."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall sit for five more minutes and finish off." 1-30 p.m.

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, . . ."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"On a point of order, Sir. Generally, in countries where such reforms are introduced, there is lot of commotion. For instance in Russia after the revolution . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is it on a point of information?"

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"After the revolution many men were weeping in the streets for losing their dearest wives, and many women were weeping in the streets for losing their dearest husbands because there were mass scale divorces. Thus, you see there was commotion. After this Bill goes into circulation, there may be some commotion in the country. And who knows what will happen to these members if after going home their wives should non-co-operate? (Laughter). There must be some protection for them, Sir."

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I do not want to be long in the reply. I am very thankful to the Leader of the House as well as to other members who have supported my motion to circulate the Bill. The hon. Member from Kurnool, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, stated that the Bill did not define the term 'Hindu.' I did not want to define 'Hindu' because this Bill was after all a small Bill. It does not touch the general Hindu Law, usage and custom. All those things are there in the Hindu Law. The codes have already defined what is a 'Hindu,' and who all are included in the term 'Hindu.' Therefore, if I go into that matter, it will only confuse the issue. Therefore it is, that I purposely left out the definition. I mention that, so that it may be specifically understood that others like Brahmos and Arya Samajists and converts to Hinduism could come under this. With regard to this also there is a lot of law and there are decisions in the Courts. Therefore, I need not go into that."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Why did you mention it separately, then?"

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"So that it may include. The hon. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar gave some detailed criticism of some of the provisions relating to divorce under clause 5. I wanted to be stringent so that it may not be said that I have made divorce an easy matter under this Bill. If any new provisions are

[Sri A. Kaleswara Rao] [23rd April 1947]

to be added to the Bill, I say they all can be considered at the select committee stage. The hon. Kutti Ammal has spoken the correct thing when she said that though divorce was provided in the Malabar Marriage Act no divorces had practically taken place. The genius of Hinduism, the genius of Hindu women and also of Hindu men is not to resort to courts to leave their husbands or wives. However, there should be a provision for divorce when we prohibit bigamy by law and when we make it an offence punishable under the Indian Penal Code, and when we make bigamous marriages void for all legal purposes—no property goes to the children of that marriage—we should make provision for divorce under exceptional, extreme and unfortunate circumstances. Therefore, Sir, I have made provision for divorce, and I once again thank all the members for having supported it. I hope the House will unanimously pass the motion that I have moved."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Not for complete divorce!"

The motion that the Madras Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill, 1947, be circulated for eliciting public opinion and that the opinion be collected before the end of June 1947 was then put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House till to-morrow 11 a.m."

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

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 618 asked by Sri K. Rajaram at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd April 1947, page 912 supra.]

Statement showing the districtwar particulars of revenue derived from Commercial Taxes during 1945-46.

	Sales tax.	Motor spirit tax.	Entertainments tax.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1 Vizagapatam	27,89,949	1,05,147	1,54,915
2 East Godavari	19,76,091	81,453	1,93,456
3 West Godavari	15,68,454	1,005	79,90
4 Kistna	23,28,74	60,852	2,22,669
5 Guntur	23,98,014	21,875	1,45,144
6 Nellore	9,56,083	18,88	54,197
7 Kurnool	10,95,583	3,733	47,614
8 Bellary	10,91,746	19,945	63,615
9 Anantapur	8,39,106	13,797	48,690
10 Cuddapah	7,06,600	4,928	17,630
11 Chittoor	7,20,310	16,151	77,331
12 Ching'elput	9,29,300	68,295	2,31,926
13 Madras	1,08,39,974	36,92,403	9,46,741
14 North Arcot	18,90,980	69,665	1,97,577
15 South Arcot	13,32,076	37,556	1,06,504
16 Tanjore	2,51,074	25,381	1,66,532
17 Trichinopoly	20,39,476	72,016	2,37,707
18 Madurai	39,50,445	3,287	3,34,028
19 Ramnad	24,06,149	9,404	1,36,107
20 Tinnevely	28,51,531	13,07	1,47,750
21 Salem	20,68,444	34,321	1,70,683
22 Coimbatore	45,67,465	2,32,925	4,03,349
23 Malabar	60,28,27	1,19,986	1,82,568
24 South Kanara	17,38,663	47,211	75,299
25 The Nilgiris	6,01,976	48,115	1,21,321
	5,79,82,470	48,67,354	45,62,928

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 59 asked by Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd April 1947, page 931 supra.]

Name of taluk.	Extent under irrigated paddy cultivation.	Extent under unirrigated paddy cultivation.	Extent of waste remitted in holdings.	Extent of waste punja lands.
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Shiyali	69,314	1,198	..	20,012
Mayavaram	129,753	601	69	25,103
Kumbakonam	112,271	87	1	19,678
Nannilam	145,465	25	..	15,147
Negapatam	98,390	4,577	12	22,261
Tiruturaipundi	97,888	49,780	..	70,034
Mannargudi	147,635	291	..	38,110
Pattukottai	170,380	7,374	48	46,501
Aranthangi	60,140	2,200	801	5,859
Tanjore	136,669	4,377	184	93,444
Papanasam	120,729	126	..	24,880
Total	1,288,634	70,636	1,113	381,029

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 66 asked by Sri N. Govirdaswami Nayudu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd April 1947, page 934 supra.]

NEW WELL-SUBSIDY SCHEME.

The new Well-subsidy Scheme came into force from 1st March 1947. It supersedes all the earlier schemes and applies to all the districts in the province, except the Nilgiris and Madras.

In the districts of South Kanara and Malabar, not only wells but also tanks used for irrigation purposes, will be eligible for subsidies. In one respect the new scheme differs from the existing accelerated scheme, as no assistance under it will be granted in respect of repairs to existing sources. South Kanara and Malabar will, however, be exceptions to this rule also, and subsidies will be granted there for repairs to tanks as well.

The scheme offers a subsidy of half the cost, subject to the maxima mentioned below:—

South Kanara and Malabar .. Rs. 300 for new wells and
Rs. 500 for tanks, new
or old.

Ceded districts Rs. 500 for new wells.

Other districts Rs. 300 for new wells.

In the case of tanks (new and old) in South Kanara and Malabar, however, if the cost exceeds Rs. 1,000, the Collector will have discretion to sanction an amount equal to half the cost, up to a limit of Rs. 1,000; and the Board of Revenue will have similar powers, up to a limit of Rs. 2,000. The maximum subsidy will be only Rs. 2,000 in any case.

It is also proposed to raise the maximum subsidy for wells to Rs. 500 in areas where conditions similar to those in the ceded districts exist.

Under this scheme, prior approval of the site of the well or tank is necessary. The proposed well or tank should have an ayacut of at least one acre. Except in the ceded districts and other areas where similar conditions exist, wells costing more than Rs. 2,000 each will not be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

The usual condition regarding the growing of food crops for three years will be imposed. Food crops will include vegetables and such other crops as may be approved by the Collector.

The amount of subsidy will not, as before, be given as a free grant in the first instance. It will be advanced as a takkavi loan at first and will be treated as subsidy only if the work is satisfactorily completed by 30th June 1948. Under no circumstances will this time for completion be extended. The disbursement of subsidies will stop on 31st March 1948.

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The loan, if it is not subsequently treated as subsidy, will be repayable in five equal annual instalments. It will, however, be free of interest for the first year and repayment will start only after three years.

Wells for which subsidies have been sanctioned under the earlier schemes, but have not actually been paid, will be treated as coming under the new scheme.

Well-works for which subsidies have been granted under the Accelerated Scheme and the Ceded Districts Scheme will also be allowed the time prescribed in the new scheme, i.e., up to 30th June 1948, for completion, provided that some part of the work, not necessarily a substantial part, has already been done.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 67 asked by Sri K. Shanmugam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 23rd April 1947, page 935 supra.]

Statement.

Post.	Name of the officer.	Community.	Years.
Secretary	Mr. A. R. C. Westlake, I.C.S.	European ..	1933-36
	" F. R. Brislee, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1936-38
	" S. Venkateswaran, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1938-41
	" S. Y. Krishnaswami, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1942-43
	" R. Galletti, I.C.S.	European ..	1943
	" T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1943-44
	" R. Galletti, I.C.S.	European ..	1944-45
	" G. Venkateswara Ayyar, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1944-46
	" K. N. Anantaraman, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1946
	" T. M. S. Mani, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1946-47
Joint Secretary	Mr. M. K. Vellodi, I.C.S.	Non-Brahman.	1933-36
	" D. I. R. Muir, I.C.S.	European ..	1936-39
	" B. A. Gopalaswami, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1939-40
	" K. P. Krishnan Nair ..	Non-Brahman.	1940
	" S. Y. Krishnaswami, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1940-41
	" F. W. A. Morris, I.C.S.	European ..	1942
	" M. A. Kuttalalingam Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1942
	" R. Galletti, I.C.S.	European ..	1942-43
	" M. A. Kuttalalingam Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1943
	" R. Galletti, I.C.S.	European ..	1943-44
	" S. Virupaksha Chetti ..	Non-Brahman.	1944
	" S. M. Hassan, I.C.S.	Muslim ..	1945
	" J. C. Griffiths, I.C.S.	European ..	1945
	" K. N. Anantaraman, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1945-46
	" Abdul Sattar Sahib ..	Muslim ..	1946
Additional Joint Secretary.	Mr. C. A. Ramakrishnan, I.C.S.	Brahman ..	1946-47
	" T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1936-38 (Post abolished.)
	" T. S. Swaminathan, I.C.S.	Do. ..	1945-47 (Post created.)
Assistant Secretary (Land Revenue).	" K. K. Dass, I.C.S.	Christian ..	1947
	Sri V. Ponnuswami Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1936
	" K. Rangaswami Mudaliyar ..	Do. ..	1936-37
	" S. Raghava Ayyangar ..	Brahman ..	1937-38
	Mr. Muhammad Azmatullah Khan.	Muslim ..	1938-39
	Sri R. C. Ratho ..	Brahman ..	1939-42
	" S. Virupaksha Chetti ..	Non-Brahman.	1942-45
	Mr. G. Abdul Sattar Sahib ..	Muslim ..	1945-47

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Post.	Name of the officer.	Community.	Years.
Assistant Secretary (Irrigation).	Sri L. Lakkaraju	Brahman ..	1936-38
	" K. P. Krishnan Nair ..	Non-Brahman.	1938-41
	" M. A. Kuttalalingam Pillai ..	Do.	1941-42
	Mr. R. D. Paul	Christian ..	1942-44
	Sri N. Vaidyanatha Ayyar ..	Brahman ..	1944
	" E. Virabhadra Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1945-46
	" N. Subrahmanya Ayyar ..	Brahman ..	1946
Assistant Secretary (Court of Wards).	" C. Vivekanadamurthy ..	Do. ..	1946-47
	Sri P. V. Subba Rao	Do. ..	1938-41
	" N. Raghavendra Rao ..	Do. ..	1941-43
	" M. S. Jagannayakulu Nayudu ..	Non-Brahman.	1943-45
	" N. Vaidyanatha Ayyar ..	Brahman ..	1945-46
(Abolished from 1st July 1946.)			
Assistant Secretary (Commercial Taxes).	Sri P. V. Narasimha Raju ..	Non-Brahman.	1942-45
	" T. Gajapathi Rao Nayudu ..	Do.	1945
(Abolished and a post of Additional Joint Secretary created instead.)			
Assistant Secretary (Post-war Reconstruction).	Mr. N. C. Thomas	Christian ..	1944-46
(Post since transferred under the Development Commissioner.)			
Post.	Name.	Community.	Years.
Superintendent	Sri V. Sankaran	Brahman ..	1937-42
	" K. Gopala Acharya ..	Do. ..	1937-47
	" N. Srinivasan	Do. ..	19 7-47
	" K. Narasimhacharya ..	Do. ..	1937-46
	Mr. S. C. Henry	Christian ..	1937-47
	Sri S. Krishnamurthi Rao ..	Brahman ..	1937-47
	" R. Vedam Ayyar	Do. ..	1937-38
	" N. Subrahmanya Ayyar ..	Do. ..	1937-38
	" M. Jagannayakulu Nayudu ..	Non-Brahman.	1946-47
	" N. Adiseshan	Brahman ..	1937-47
	" N. Srinivasa Ayyangar ..	Do. ..	1937-47
	" M. Srinivasan	Do. ..	1937-47
	" K. O. Govindaswami Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1937-47
	" M. Ratnam	Christian ..	1939
	" T. R. Lakshminarasimha Ayyar ..	Brahman ..	1937-42
	" R. Sadayappa Pillai	Non-Brahman.	1939-45
	" C. V. Ramachandran	Brahman ..	1939
	" P. R. Sankaranarayana Ayyar ..	Do. ..	1939-40
	" K. Ramaswami Ayyangar ..	Do. ..	1939-47
	" S. S. Narayanan	Do. ..	1940-42
	" R. Munuswami Udayar ..	Non-Brahman.	1940-47
	" S. Panchapakesan	Brahman ..	1940-47
	" E. K. Srinivasa Ayyar ..	Do. ..	1941-47
	" K. V. Gopalan Nayar ..	Non-Brahman.	1941-47
	" R. Rangasayee	Brahman ..	1943-46
	" N. Seshadri	Do. ..	1943-47
	" N. Venkataraman	Do. ..	1943
	" E. P. Ramanathan	Do. ..	1943-47
	" N. Varadarajan	Do. ..	1943-47
	" T. N. Thiagarajan	Do. ..	1943-45
	" K. S. Nagaracharya	Do. ..	1943
	" L. Dandayuthapani Ayyar ..	Do. ..	1943-47
	" M. Anjaneyulu	Do. ..	1944-47
	" N. S. Raman	Do. ..	1944-47
	" M. Ramakrishna Pillai ..	Non-Brahman.	1946-47
	" A. T. Sundaravardan ..	Brahman ..	1945-47
	" N. Srinivasachari	Do. ..	1944-47
	" G. Rangaraja Rao	Do. ..	1945
	" V. Balasubramanya Tevar ..	Non-Brahman.	1945-47
	" K. Natesa Nadar	Do. ..	1945

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Post.	Name.	Community.	Years.
Superintendent	Sri S. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar ..	Non-Brahman...	1936-38
	" S. Vijayaraghavan	Brahman ..	1946-47
	" S. Ramakrishnan	Do. ..	1946
	" R. Jeevarathnam	Non-Brahman...	1946-47

'N' Section. (Survey Administrative Section).

Sri V. C. Ra'ogapala Ayyangar ..	Brahman ..	1937-43
" D. Menakshisundaram Ayyar ..	Do. ..	1943-46
" G. Srinivasacharya	Do. ..	1946-47

B ard of Revenue (Excise Branch).

Post.	Name.	Community.	Remarks.
Assistant Secretary.	P. K. Ramunni Menon	Non-Brahman	
	C. Raghavan	Do.	
Superintendent	S. M. Hamilton	European	
	G. P. Tharyan	Christian	
	M. A. Kareem Sahib	Muslim ..	(Continues)
	P. Ra. agopalacharya	Brahman ..	
	K. S. Venkataraman	Do. ..	
	T. R. Lakshminarasimha Ayyar ..	Do. ..	
	R. Gopala Ayyangar	Do. ..	
	N. Anantakrishnan	Do. ..	
	S. Ra. agopalan	Do. ..	
	G. Varadachari	Do. ..	
	P. Srinivasacharya	Do. ..	(Continues)
	T. K. Radhakrishna Nayudu ..	Non-Brahman	
	S. Venkatasubramanyam	Brahman	
	S. Sanjeevi Nayudu	Non-Brahman	
	E. Martyn	Christian ..	(Continues)
	G. Venkataraman	Brahman ..	(Continues)
	M. Somasundaram	Non-Brahman.	(Continues)
	T. Thambiah	Do. ..	(Continues)
	N. Bhaskaran Pillai	Do. ..	(Continues)

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 68 asked by M. A. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 23rd April 1947, page 935 supra.]

*Functions of the Chief Engineer
(Electricity).*

*Functions of the Chief Electrical Inspector
to Government.*

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|---|--|
| <p>(1)</p> <p>1. The Chief Engineer (Electricity) is the head of the Electricity Department which consists of two functional branches—Operation and Power Development each in charge of a General Superintendent.</p> <p>2. The Chief Engineer co-ordinates the work of the two General Superintendents and directs their activities and is responsible to Government for the efficient administration of the whole Department.</p> <p>3. He recommends to Government transfers and postings of Superintending Engineers and Divisional Electrical Engineers.</p> | <p>(2)</p> <p>1. The Chief Electrical Inspector to Government is an independent head of a minor Department, viz., Electrical Inspection Department and is directly under Government.</p> <p>2. He is in charge of the work relating to the administration of (i) the Indian Electricity Act and Rules, (ii) the Indian Cinematograph Act and Rules, (iii) The Electricity Duty Act and Rules and (iv) the Madras Local Authorities Electrical Engineers service.</p> <p>3. He is the Electrical Inspector to Government for works and areas in the presidency other than those covered by the Government undertakings.</p> |
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Functions of the Chief Engineer (Electricity). *Functions of the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government.*

(1)

(2)

4. He corresponds direct with Government on the following matters :—

Licences, tariffs, conditions of supply, power generation and other subjects of importance both to the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government and the Chief Engineer (Electricity). This is however subject to the following two conditions :—

(i) that the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government should consult the Chief Engineer (Electricity) on important subjects, purchase of licensees' undertakings, licences, etc., in which matters of policy are involved ; and

(ii) that he should keep the General Superintendent, Operating Systems, informed of changes in licensees' tariff policy, etc.

5. The ministerial establishment of the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government is continued as a separate unit and is controlled by the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government without reference to the Chief Engineer for Electricity.

6. The technical establishments, viz., members of the Madras Electrical Service, the Madras General Service and the Madras Electrical Subordinate Service are borne on the same unit as the corresponding staff of the Electricity Department. The appointment, promotion and transfer of such staff is controlled by the Chief Engineer (Electricity) but in consultation with the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government.

7. Compliance with the terms of the power agreements with the licensees, with reference to the distribution of profits, dividends, provision for depreciation, etc., is watched by the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government.

8. The Chief Electrical Inspector to Government prepares and submits direct to Government budgets and similar returns relating to establishments in his department and the budgets in respect of revenue and expenditure. He is expected to split the budgets of revenue and expenditure between the Chief Engineer for Electricity and the Chief Electrical Inspector to Government based on the revenue and expenditure in the respective areas.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 24th April 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Annamalai Halli tank, Dharmapuri taluk, Salem district.

* 588 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether Annamalai Halli tank in Dharmapuri taluk is in disrepair for a long number of years;

(b) whether petitions were made a number of times and if so, on what dates;

(c) what are the difficulties in executing the repairs and restoring the tank;

(d) whether it is a fact that the ayacutdars were asked to deposit a certain amount and if so, why they were asked to do so; and

(e) whether the Government propose to take on hand the work of restoring the said tank?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes. The Annamalai Halli tank which is otherwise locally known as ‘Balamaneri’ or ‘Padmaneri’ is in disrepair for a number of years.

“(b) Yes. Petitions were sent to the Government, the Executive Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and the Collector of Salem on the following dates:—

Government	15—8—46, 23—8—46 and 16—9—46.
Executive Engineer	13—8—10, 4—2—15 and 5—11—28.
Superintending Engineer	13—12—23.

Collector of Salem. 20—6—33 and 9—9—46.

“(c) There is no technical difficulty in executing the work but the reasons for not doing so are:—

(1) the scheme was found unproductive in the first instance; and

(2) the ayacutdars failed to keep up their promise to pay their half contribution.

“(d) The ayacutdars were never asked to deposit any amount, but they came forward of their own accord, and made an initial deposit of Rs. 2,000 with a promise to meet half the

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cost of the scheme. After investigation, the cost of the scheme was in 1933 estimated at Rs. 10,500. The ryots were then willing to pay a total contribution of Rs. 6,590. The estimate however had to be revised thereafter and an estimate amounting to Rs. 17,360 was prepared in 1934 but the ryots were not in a position to deposit the remaining amount of the half share. The scheme was, therefore, dropped and the initial deposit of Rs. 2,000 was refunded to the ryots.

“(e) The Chief Engineer has promised to submit a report in the matter. Soon after it is received, the Government will consider the question of the restoration of the tank.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Mr. Speaker, in view of the long answer, may I request the Hon. the Minister to print the answer and place it on the table of the House to-morrow or day after?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“To-morrow is the last day and so it is not possible for the Government to print the answer and place it on the table of the House, because, I have got a number of questions the answers for which have to be placed on the Table to-morrow. If the hon. Member wants, he can put a number of supplementary questions.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“I was not able to hear the Hon. Minister. As it is a very important matter, I would like that the answer is communicated to me so that I may put further questions in the matter.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have no objection to ask the Hon. the Minister to read the answer once again. I request the Hon. the Minister to read the answer once again.”

[The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam read the answer once again.]

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the scheme may be taken up under the ‘Grow More Food Campaign’ work?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“The suggestion will be considered after the report that has been called for is received.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Arising out of the answer to clauses (c) and (d), in which it was stated that the work was dropped because it was found unproductive and that the ryots were not willing to give half the contribution, may I ask if this policy still persists with this Government?”

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

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether under the ‘Grow More Food Campaign’ scheme, any percentage of return is expected?”

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“We do not have any percentage standards in regard to the ‘Grow More Food’ scheme.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister what is meant by an unproductive work? If it means that it is financially unproductive, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether unproductive works will also be undertaken?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“When we incur expenditure on a work and if there is to be no return by way of any additional revenue from that undertaking, then we call it an unproductive scheme.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Is it the intention of the Government to bring such unproductive schemes under the ‘Grow More Food Campaign’? If so, may I know, Sir, what will be the percentage of share that the concerned ayacut-dars have to bear?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“That will depend on each scheme.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“Is it not a fact that the Government of India are prepared to contribute fifty per cent on such schemes and that the Provincial Government and the concerned ryots have to make up the other fifty per cent?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“It was the intention of the Government of India under this ‘Grow More Food’ scheme to contribute fifty per cent of the cost and that the other fifty per cent should be shared between the ryots who benefit and the Provincial Government.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, that if the so-called unproductive works will help the ‘Grow More Food’ scheme, whether Government will consider the question of undertaking such repairs?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“We have already been considering that question, Sir.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the contribution from the ryots is still insisted upon?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“That is done according to the scheme of the Government of India, Sir.”

Transfer of land granted to Sri Krishnarajendra Mining Syndicate, Guntur.

* 628-A Q.—SRI M. VENKATARAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) what extent of land was granted to Sri Krishnarajendra Mining Syndicate, Guntur, at Kondapalli for mining purposes with the date on which the grant was made;

(b) whether any application was received by the Government for transfer of the above mining lease and if so, when and to whom;

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(c) what consideration was received by the transfer for the same and whether the lease has been recognized by the Government and if so, on what date and the reasons for the same; and

(d) whether the Revenue Board has recommended the transfer?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) Sri V. V. Punayya, Partner, Sri Rajendra Mining Syndicate, Guntur, was granted mining leases for chromite in Kondapalli reserved forest over two plots of 140.00 acres and 98.95 acres in July 1940 and in July 1944 respectively. It is presumed that the Syndicate of which Sri Punayya is a partner is the same as that referred to by the hon. Member.

“(b) On an application submitted by Sri Punayya to the Collector of Kistna the Board sent up proposals to the Government in July 1946 for the sanction of Government for the transfer of the two leases referred to in clause (a) above in favour of Messrs. The Buckingham and Carnatic Company, Limited, for the unexpired periods of the leases.

“(c) No additional income has accrued to Government on account of the transfer. No information is available for what consideration the lessee transferred the leases in question to The Messrs. Buckingham and Carnatic Company, Limited. The Government have permitted the transfer of the leases in question as it was recommended that better working of the mines could be secured by allowing the transfer.

“(d) The answer to this clause is in the affirmative.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the question of cancelling this transfer in view of the fact that the transfer has been made for the advantage of a foreign vested interest, and of taking over the mining area for itself?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Sir, when a contract is entered into, it cannot be cancelled on such grounds as my hon. Friend suggests. The question of cancellation cannot arise on the ground that it is a foreign or Indian firm but the whole question has to be viewed from the point of view of its usefulness. The reason which weighed with the Government in making the transfer was that a better working of the mines will be secured by allowing the transfer.”

MOHAMAD RAFEEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Government aware, Sir, that the rates of royalty on Mica mines were fixed quite a long time ago and in view of the increased prices of mica and also in view of the huge profits that the miners are making, will the Government seriously consider the enhancement of the rates of royalty upon mica mines?”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“It is possible that the rates of royalty are low and the suggestion of my hon. Friend will be considered.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that some of the rich mica-owners apply for permits and get the permission and then they make a transfer at a very short notice and thus they make up large sums of money?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I take the information from the hon. Member; I hope the hon. Member will help the Government in seeing that such things do not happen.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, whether the royalty on mica is not fixed *ad valorem* as so much percentage on the value of mica?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I take the information from my hon. Friend.”

Allotment of houses to Muslims.

* 628-B Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) how many petitions were received by the Collector of Madras in 1946-47 from non-Gazetted Government Officials for allotment of residential buildings in City Municipal limits;

(b) how many of them were from Muslims; and

(c) how many of such petitioners were actually allotted houses?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a) Seven hundred and sixty-four.

“(b) Fifty-eight.

“(c) Five.”

Death of a boy in a car accident at Villupuram.

* 628-C Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Consul-General at Pondicherry was responsible for the death of a boy in a car accident at Villupuram on 7th February 1947; and

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

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a) It is a fact that an accident occurred on 7th February 1947 at Villupuram in Pondicherry road resulting in the death of a boy. The British Consul-General was driving the car at the time.

“(b) A case under section 304-A was registered by the police in Crime No. 26 of 1947 and investigated. The case was referred by the police as a mistake of law on 1st March 1947. The District Magistrate, South Arcot, is looking into the matter.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the question of paying any compensation to the deceased person? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The question of compensation will not arise till the examination by the District Magistrate is finished. "

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Since the death has occurred already, may I know why the question of compensation does not arise for the simple reason that the District Magistrate has not finished his enquiry? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Question of compensation will have to be considered on a finding of all the facts and circumstances of the case. If, for instance, it is found that the boy was negligent and more or less invited the accident, it is more or less a case of suicide. Then obviously the question of compensation will not arise. "

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—" May I know what is meant by mistake of law? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mistake of law is mistake on a point of law. "

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether it is not a fact now, that the Government are not going to take any steps to prosecute the British Consul-General? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" That depends on the findings of the District Magistrate of South Arcot. "

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Since the District Magistrate is making enquiries, is it not proper that this British Consul-General should be arrested so that he may not tamper with the evidence before the District Magistrate? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" That is a matter which should be left to the discretion of the local authorities. "

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Will the Government consider the question of recommending to the District Magistrate the question of arresting the British Consul-General? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" The Government do not propose to issue such instructions. "

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—" How do the Government explain that in most cases where Europeans are involved, the offenders go invariably scot-free, even without police investigation? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Government cannot agree with the suggestion of my hon. Friend. "

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Fire accident to a Tram Car.

* 628 Q.—M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether at about 7.45 p.m. on the 11th February 1947 when tram car No. 27 was plying towards Mylapore, just opposite the tram shed on the Royapettah High Road, the rear portion of the tram caught fire all of a sudden;

(b) whether at that time there were more than 250 passengers in the tram, both standing and sitting;

(c) whether immediately after the fire was observed, in the effort of the passengers to get out of danger, there was a stampede, in the course of which a small boy of eight years was crushed and a girl of about 18 years was trodden over until she became unconscious;

(d) whether the injured girl was taken to the Royapettah Hospital and given first aid;

(e) whether Government propose to take any steps and see that the Tramway company pays compensation in respect of the passengers who suffered damage;

(f) whether the Government propose to put more well-conditioned tram cars and in the meanwhile consider the question of introducing more buses or lorries in the City to relieve traffic congestion;

(g) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to correspondence that has been appearing in the newspapers and especially the leader in the Hindu a few days ago; and

(h) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal for arranging, as a temporary measure, for the transport of Government servants employed in the Fort St. George by means of jeeps or other Government vehicles till such time as the proposed Government buses are run?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) No such accident was reported either at Royapettah or Mylapore police stations or at the Central Traffic station.

" (b) There is no information.

" (c) No case of stampeding was reported.

" (d) No case was reported at the Royapettah Hospital on 11th February 1947.

" (e) In view of the reply to the above clauses of the question, this does not arise.

" (f) Owing to the difficulty in obtaining spare parts and the lack of skilled labour during the war period, which still continues, the Madras Electric Tramway Company have not been in a position to maintain their tram cars in a satisfactory condition. Since 1945, three new tram cars have however been built with materials available locally. A continuous programme of reconstructing all small cars is also being carried out. New sets of electrical equipment and air brake

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equipment are being installed in bogie cars and 73 cars have been re-wired for lighting and special head lamps in front of the drivers' platform. All possible steps to run well-conditioned tram cars are being taken by the company.

"As regards the latter part of the question, the hon. Member is referred to the answer to Legislative Assembly Question No. 232 (Starred) delivered on the floor of this House.

"(g) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(h) The answer is in the negative."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, as there are several rotten tram cars running in the City, will the Government take steps to see that these cars are not allowed to ply in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The choice is between rotten cars and no cars."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the great congestion in the City traffic, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider the question of diverting all the State buses along the Marina, so that Government servants in the Fort St. George may take advantage of them for going to and from it?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The question of transport facilities for the City is a very big problem and I think Government have to undertake a long-term programme. The question of running an electric railway along the Marina to San Thome, Adyar and Saidapet, the question of running a trolley system of buses and the question of co-ordinating the bus traffic and the introduction of State buses for swift traffic between the railways and trolley buses, all these schemes together with the question of the removal of the Central and Egmore railway stations to the suburbs of Madras are being considered. Meanwhile, the Government are running a number of State buses, I think ten in number, from Mylapore to Parry's Corner during peak hours over the Marina and during other hours along the regular route."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government realize that they should straightway announce the time when they are going to purchase these concerns or that they are going to allow so many years for these companies to run so that this tramway company and the other transport companies may put better and well-equipped vehicles on the road to serve the needs of the public?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"A meeting of the Transport Nationalization Sub-Committee is to take place on the 29th of this month and that Committee will go into the question suggested by the hon. Member and come to a decision."

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M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister just now, namely, the choice is between rotten cars and no cars, is it the idea of the Minister that the public should travel in rotten cars and endanger their life?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"My ideals are great but my practical resources are short."

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government exercise any supervision or inspection to find out the road-fitness of the tramcars which are now running?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"While I admit that these tramcars are not ideally fit, I believe they are road-worthy."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that a conference would be taking place shortly to decide the question of nationalization of transport, may I request the Hon. Minister to see that at least at this conference the Government will make up their mind once for all as to whether they are going to nationalize the transport or not, so that the transport companies may know where they stand and the public may not suffer any more on account of the uncertainty of the Government as to what they propose to do in the matter of nationalization of transport?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Nothing in this world of human beings can be done once for all. Still on the 29th the Transport Cabinet Sub-Committee will go into the question and arrive at a conclusive decision as they can possibly arrive at subject to the approval of the Cabinet."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether within the short time the Hon. Minister has been in charge of this portfolio, he has thought of a long-range policy in regard to this matter?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"If the hon. Member had listened to me, he would have realized that I have in view a long-range policy."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, whether the Hon. the Minister had ever travelled in the trams in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Quite often."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Will the Hon. the Minister consider the desirability of appointing a non-official advisory committee consisting of the representatives of this House?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"This is a question which may have to be considered by the Transport Nationalization Committee."

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Resignations of Ministers.

* 629 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state why the Ministers for Education, Public Works Department, Agriculture, Local Administration and Information have resigned?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The correspondence relating to the resignations of the Ministers has already been released to the Press."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that these Ministers have resigned on account of the agreement they had entered into with Kamaraj Nadar as was evident in the correspondence which appeared in the Press?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"As far as I know, I do not think there was any agreement of any kind."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether he has not seen the letter written by Mr. Bhashyam in which he has placed his resignation at the feet of Kamaraja Nadar?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am glad to be given this information."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Such an important thing as this has to be taken by hon. Members from the Press. May I know why a statement was not made on the floor of the House on this matter?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"This is a thing which happened long ago and the present Prime Minister is not responsible for what happened at that time."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I take it that if these Ministers had not resigned, they would not have occupied the Treasury Bench now?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The hon. Gentleman is very wrong in his presumption."

Inclusion of Harijans in the Cabinet.

* 630 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the reasons why Harijans are not included in the Cabinet though they form one-fifth of the population of the Province?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"A member of the Harijan community has since been included in the Cabinet."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the hon. Member think that one Member of the Harijan community on the Cabinet is enough?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is a matter of opinion."

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the Member of the Harijan community now sitting on the Treasury Bench was elected by the Harijans themselves?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"There is no question of election of any Member sitting on the Treasury Bench, because the Cabinet is formed by the Leader who enjoys the confidence of the majority in the House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In the absence of the Prime Minister, may I ask the Hon. the Leader of the House whether he will not soon take two more Harijan Ministers in the Cabinet?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is not a question which I can easily answer."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Leader of the House satisfied that all the interests in this Presidency are represented in this Cabinet?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, all the interests that are prepared to co-operate with the Government are included in this Cabinet."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the present strength of the Cabinet is final or it will go on changing?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not prepared to answer that question."

Re-employment of retired men.

* 631 Q.—SRI D. KADIRAPPA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are still adhering to the policy of not re-employing retired persons in the various departments: (1) in gazetted services and (2) in subordinate services; and

(b) if there have been re-employments of retired men, in which of the cases the Government acted on the advice of the departmental chiefs and in which of the cases on their own initiative?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes, except in cases where the continuance of retired officers already re-employed or the re-employment of new retired officers becomes a matter of administrative necessity.

" (b) In all but eight cases, re-employment was sanctioned on the advice of Heads of Departments. In one of the eight excepted cases the appointment was made by His Excellency the Governor in his discretion and in the remaining seven cases, the initiative was taken by the Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the special qualification of these very old gentlemen who are not even able to work in their offices such as in the Textiles department that they are retained even after they have retired and after the adumbration of the Government's policy that re-employment will not be encouraged?"

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not accept Mr. Hameed Khan's premise that these are old and incompetent. Their very employment shows that they are quite competent people."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does not this policy of the Government stand in the way of junior and more energetic and better men being employed for those posts which require energy and better wisdom?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, if the Government had such officers available, then there would not have been re-employment of these individuals."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does it mean that there are no proper men in the departments that the Government has gone after these retired people, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I can understand the hon. Member's excitement but at the same time I want to point out that we feel that these people are able to carry on the work and there are not others who can easily be replaced and that is why they have been re-employed."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to calmly think over this question and keep himself informed about conditions so far as these services are concerned and whether there are not people who on the plea of exigencies of service are re-employed and that it is time to send them away?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I may assure the hon. gentleman that I always calmly deliberate on anything that I wish to come to a conclusion about."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"In view of the injustice that has been caused to many subordinates will the Government take courage in both hands and put an end to this re-entertainment once for all?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Government do not lack courage in any instance whatever."

Order against Harijans taking water from public tank.

* 632 Q.—SRI P. KAKKAN: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Harijans residing in Uthukadu village, Conjeeveram taluk, Chingleput district, have been served with a notice under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the Sub-Magistrate of Conjeeveram, without any proper enquiry objecting to their drawing drinking water from a public tank;

(b) if it is a fact, what steps have been taken by the Government to cancel the order under section 144 and to permit the Harijans of the locality to take water from the said tank; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any suitable steps against the Sub-Magistrate if it is true?

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement made by the Hon. the Prime Minister on the subject in the Assembly on 20th March 1947.

" (c) It is not considered that any action is necessary against the Sub-Magistrate."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that some of the present Ministers have refused Harijans as peons in their houses?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, if the hon. Gentleman will give me information I shall have an enquiry caused to be made in this matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Sub-Magistrate of Conjeeveram has issued section 144 against the Scheduled Caste members from drinking water from the well?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, Sir, that is the case."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether it is not mere prestige alone that prevents the Government from taking any action against any officers?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Not at all, Sir. The hon. Gentleman is entirely mistaken."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware of the fact that most of the orders under section 144 being issued by the District Magistrates and Sub-Magistrates are of this nature only?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not understand what the hon. Gentleman means by 'this nature only'. They issue such orders when they think that it is necessary to issue them in the interests of public peace."

Co-operative-cum-Consumers' Societies in East Godavari district.

* 633 Q.—S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of co-operative-cum-consumers' societies registered in East Godavari district during his recent visit to that district; and the share capital of each society;

(b) whether any representations were made to him by the people regarding reduction of the value of the shares from Rs. 25 to Rs. 10; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any action in that respect;

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) Eighteen societies were registered by the ex-Hon. Minister for Food during his tour in East Godavari district. The information regarding the share capital of each society is given below:—

Name of the society.		Amount of share capital at the time of registration.	RS. A. P.		
1 Vetlapalem ..	Cocanada taluk.	1,00,458	12	0	
2 G. Mamidada ..	Do. ..	1,04,258	0	0	
3 Velangi ..	Do. ..	1,09,559	12	0	
4 Cocanada ..	Do. ..	1,29,165	8	0	
5 Biccavole ..	Ramachandra-puram taluk.	94,263	8	0	
6 Anaparthi ..	Do. ..	1,07,428	12	0	
7 Vedurumudi ..	Do. ..	1,00,642	12	0	
8 Alamuru ..	Do. ..	1,17,866	12	0	
9 Mandapeta ..	Do. ..	1,13,110	0	0	
10 Ramachendrapuram.	Do. ..	1,02,884	4	0	
11 Magam ..	Amalapur taluk.	1,12,251	8	0	
12 Mammidivaram ..	Do. ..	90,394	4	0	
13 Ananthavaram ..	Do. ..	1,10,732	4	0	
14 Amalapuram ..	Do. ..	1,12,236	4	0	
15 Ambajipeta ..	Do. ..	1,01,303	0	0	
16 Manepalli ..	Razole taluk ..	98,591	0	0	
17 Razole ..	Do. ..	1,00,779	0	0	
18 Mori ..	Do. ..	1,00,516	12	0	

“(b) Yes.

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

S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the Press Note issued to-day that the procurement has been handed over to the millers in Northern Circars may I know whether the Government has under consideration the re-revision of this policy of handing over the task of procurement to millers?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The hon. Member if he had seen the Press Communiqué will find answer for this question, Sir. It says clearly that the procurement agency has been transferred to the millers.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Do the Government propose that these societies should not handle retail shops also?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“That does not arise out of this question.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know Sir, whether the Government are aware of the fact that the people in the four districts of Andhra Desa are against handing

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over the procurement to the millers who are themselves black-marketers and are willing to give it back to the co-operative societies by rectifying the mistakes that are existing in the present day co-operative societies?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question before the Government is this, Sir. They are interested in the procurement of the target figure of paddy that is required for food purposes. Any delay in the procurement means starvation and famine. Therefore for securing paddy they employ the quickest and surest agency so that within the specified period of time the required quantity of food may be got for the people. That is the object.”

SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that the policy regarding these Co-operative-Cum-Consumers' societies formed an independent item in the budget statement of the Finance Minister and that this matter was discussed and debated upon and Demands were voted upon by this House, by reason of the sudden change of policy I would like to know whether the Government propose to bring the matter before the House?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question of what is to be done with regard to these societies is still under the consideration of the Government, Sir.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Now that the Government has abandoned the procurement through these producer-cum-consumer societies will the Government apply the same principle to other districts where these societies have been organized?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question is confined only to the Circar districts, Sir.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have before them a representation from the secretaries of the East Godavari district producer-cum-consumer co-operative to the effect that they had not failed in the procurement of the quotas allotted to their societies and that therefore the Government should not think of changing over the agencies to the millers?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The Government have acted on the figures of procurement that is at their disposal, Sir, and therefore it is not a question of opinion whether the target figure was not attained. There is no question of opinion in the matter except that the procurement has not been secured during the time when it was required.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“Are the Government aware that the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies in East Godavari have done wonderful work and have been able to show a net profit of 2½ lakhs of rupees with a capital of Rs. 40 lakhs in transactions covering only two months and that this result does not in any way indicate that these societies have failed at all and on the other hand they have proved a beacon light to the Government's policy of distribution?”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question before the Government was not the profit-earning capacity or the successful working of these societies. The question was how quickly the procurement of paddy for the season could be had and that is the point on which the Government have based their action, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that it is not only in East Godavari but in many other districts, such as, Kurnool and other districts where procurement has failed on account of the fact that the procurement was handed over to these societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given that the reason for changing over to the millers was due to the fact that the target figures were not attained by the previous societies, do the Government propose to use these millers for procuring the target figures and then send them into the wilderness?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is no question of sending anybody into wilderness."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the procurement in the district of Malabar is much less than what it was under the former system and therefore, in view of that fact that this system of co-operative societies has miserably failed in these Andhra districts, will the Government consider the advisability of scraping these societies so far as procurement is concerned in the district of Malabar also?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The question at issue does not concern Malabar but as this has been raised on the floor of the House I should say that these societies have done very good work in Malabar and therefore the question of procurement being sufficiently satisfactory, the Government do not think it is necessary to interfere with the work of these bodies."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I know Sir whether the Hon. Minister is aware that in some of the Telugu dailies of Madras it has been stated that the Hon. Minister accused Professor Ranga for the less procurement in Guntur district and if it is a fact, what action he is going to take on Professor Ranga?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The statement is absolutely wrong and false."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"In view of the fact that the Government are in favour of handing over procurement to the millers, I ask, Sir, whether the short period that these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies have worked is sufficient to enable the Government to come to a conclusion about the utility or the futility of these societies, at this stage?"

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"In the question of procuring food, time factor is everything, Sir, and therefore the Government have no other alternative. Apart from the question of success or failure of these societies, the fact that procurement has got to be made within a specified period of time when food is available comes into great importance and the Government cannot allow people to starve by awaiting the results of the working of these societies."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister for Food to a previous question, I wish to ask whether he has received representations as to the failure of procurement in the district of Malabar and in view of that representation, would not he consider the modest request for instituting an enquiry into the working of these societies in Malabar?" 11-45 a.m.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Yes, Sir, the Government have received certain representations and they are now in communication with the Collector of Malabar on the issues raised in the representation."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—"May I bring to the notice of the Minister that procurement in the districts of Kurnool, Cuddapah and Anantapur is very unsatisfactory and ask whether he is going to adopt the same policy as he has done with regard to the Circars?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The main question is about East Godavari. If the Hon. Minister is in a position to answer that question, he can answer. Otherwise, a separate question will have to be put."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"This question does not arise with regard to the Ceded Districts which are not surplus districts. Government are concerned with the process of procurement in the surplus districts."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it true, Sir, that at the time of the Ministerial crisis, the Anti-Prakasamites canvassed support saying that if they come to power they will cancel the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member's imagination is very, very fertile, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Are the Government aware that procurement in Guntur district failed because the black-marketers offered higher prices for paddy and they bought them and hoarded them?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Regarding Guntur, I shall allow the hon. Member to put separate question afterwards."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, which of the two things is he laying emphasis on? Whether it is to procure food somehow or to maintain these societies merely for the sake of prestige?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have more than once reiterated the position of the Government."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know whether the Government have passed orders to the effect that individual producers are permitted to export more than one ton of rice and that this affected procurement by these societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to consider the proposal of the hon. Member Sri Prakasam that six-rupee bonus should be given for every bag procured in the Andhra area?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Certainly not."

SRI P. GOVINDA MENON:—"In answer to the supplementary question put by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Minister stated that certain representations to the effect that the societies were not working properly, had been received. May I know, Sir, if the authors of these representations are interested parties, namely, the wholesalers, who were engaged in procurement before the system of procurement by co-operative societies was put into force?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not the question as to who the parties concerned are. Certain issues have been raised in the representations and it is the duty of the Government to conduct enquiries on the objections received and that is what is being done."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Are the Government satisfied with the present policy of procurement through the millers?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If they had any difficulty, they would not entrust the work to the millers again."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"Are the Government aware that the reason for the failure of procurement in East Godavari was want of rolling stock in time and the Government trying to throw the blame on the co-operative society for the inefficient procurement is like a bad workman quarrelling with his tools?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The responsibility for the work of procurement is essentially that of the co-operative society; whatever may be the reason for the failure, it is the society that is responsible and not the Government."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATA SUBBAYYA:—"May I ask if any responsible officer was recently deputed to enquire into the working of these societies and if so, whether a copy of his report will be made available to the members of this House?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"There is already a statement about Guntur laid before this House which is as a result of the deputation of the special officer who was appointed to enquire into the matter and the Government have taken action on it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already given enough time to this question. We shall now pass on to question No. 634."

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Appointment of Executive officers of panchayat boards as Inspectors of ration depots.

* 634 SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether executive officers or special officers of panchayat boards (major) are appointed as Inspectors of ration depots;

(b) if so, whether they are paid for this job anything in addition to their salary and allowance, and if so, what they are paid per mensem;

(c) the nature of work assigned to them in this behalf;

(d) whether there are any other departments from which people are taken and paid for the additional work in this behalf; and

(e) if not, why not?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Executive Officers as well as Special Officers of Panchayats in all the districts except Malabar have been permitted to serve ex-officio as Rationing Inspectors in their respective areas in addition to their regular duties.

" (b) They are allowed a special pay of Rs. 15 per mensem for the additional work.

" (c) The Rationing Inspectors check the various registers maintained in connection with rationing, scrutinise indents for the supply of foodgrains presented by retailers, sanction ration permits for establishments, inspect ration shops, dispose of applications for additional ration and do overall supervision over rationing work.

" (d) No.

" (e) As they were considered most suitable for the work and as the arrangement was also economical, Executive Officers and Special Officers were appointed as ex-officio Rationing Inspectors. The Government have ordered the discontinuance of this arrangement as it has since been found possible to entrust this work to the Firka Supply Officers."

Strike in Coimbatore Mills.

* 635 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have tried to ascertain who is responsible for the strike in the Coimbatore mills;

(b) whether it is a fact that the employers refused to agree to the terms proposed by the Government and the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee; and

(c) what steps the Government contemplate taking with a view to prevent such strikes in future?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The General strike in the Coimbatore Textile Mills was organized by the Coimbatore Textile Workers Union, Singanallur.

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“(b) No, Sir.

“(c) The Government propose to utilize fully the legal machinery available for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“In reply to clause (b) of my question, the Government have stated ‘No.’ I should like to know what the terms are which were proposed by the Government.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question is whether it is a fact that the employers refused to agree to the terms proposed by the Government and the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee and the answer is in the negative, namely that it is not a fact. Therefore, the question does arise.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government do not hesitate to give recognition to Congress-controlled labour unions without giving recognition to the Communist-controlled labour unions and that is the cause for the strike here?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question does not at all arise.”

“Government have nothing to do either with Congress-controlled or Communist-controlled unions. They are all controlled by the Trade Unions Act and many other regulations and therefore, Government have nothing to do either with the one or the other.”

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government will adopt the same procedure that was taken at Coimbatore to settle the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills at Madras?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Wherever anything is found useful and serviceable, it will be done.”

SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI:—“Are the Government aware that the Periyarayanpalayam Mills have not given two months’ extra bonus according to the award of the Government?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The question is about Coimbatore Mills. This question does not follow necessarily from that question.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware of a statement made by the last Minister for Industries and Labour at Coimbatore that all the Labour Unions are controlled by Communists and that Congressmen should do their best to capture all these labour unions?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I am not aware of any such thing. He might have said so.”

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SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—“Are the Government aware of the fact that the Periyarayanpalayam Mills in Coimbatore and the Pullikar Mills in Tiruchengode have not accepted the Government award to give five months’ pay as bonus?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I am not aware of it. If intimation is given to me, I shall take it.”

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—“Is it not a fact that the Government revised the award in the matter of the Coimbatore Mills strike and enhanced the bonus because they were convinced that the award was not satisfactory?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As far as the Government are aware, the award has been accepted by the mills and the workers and the strike has been called off. I do not know whether there was any further dissatisfaction with regard to the award.”

Construction of a railway line between Pattukkottai and Tanjore.

* 636 Q.—SRI M. MARIMUTHU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the construction of a railway line between Pattukkottai and Tanjore has been sanctioned by the Central Government; and if so whether it is proposed to construct the railway line this year?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“The Tanjore-Pattukkottai line has tentatively been included in the programme for the development of Railway communications in this Province. Its construction has not yet been sanctioned by the Central Government. It is also not known whether it will be taken up this year, as execution can commence only after sanction is accorded.”

SRI M. MARIMUTHU:—“பதிலை தமிழில் சொல்லும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“இந்த மாகாணத்திலிருந்து ரயில்வே கம்யூனிகேஷன் திட்டத்தில் தஞ்சாவூர், பட்டுக்கோட்டை line ஐ தாக்காலிகமாக சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தாரால் அது இன்னும் sanction செய்யப்படவில்லை. இந்த வருஷத்தில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படுமா என்பதை இப்பொழுது நாம் சொல்வதற்கு இல்லை. ஏனென்றால் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தார் sanction எப்பொழுது கிடைக்கும் என்று தெரியவில்லை.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“What about the Arantangi-Kariakudi line, Sir?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question is about Pattukkottai-Tanjore line. A separate question may be put.”

Major and minor irrigation schemes in Dharmapuri Revenue Division.

* 637 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any major or minor irrigation schemes for execution during the next five years in the Dharmapuri Revenue Division (Dharmapuri and Harur taluks);

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(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative the cost of each of the schemes and the time by which each of the schemes will be completed and brought into working condition; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the negative whether the Government propose to reconsider the schemes that were examined between the years 1937 and 1946 with a view to their implementation at an early date?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) & (b) No irrigation scheme has been sanctioned so far for execution during the next five years in the two taluks in question though some schemes in these taluks have been listed in the short, middle and long term plans under the Grow More Food Campaign drawn up by the Chief Engineer. The Grow More Food (Irrigation) programme as a whole is under the consideration of the Government and there is as yet no definite information as to whether all or any of the schemes relating to the two taluks will be allowed to remain in the final programme for 1947-52, what each of the schemes will cost and the time by which each will be completed and brought into working condition.

“(c) No such schemes.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know whether the famine works will be included in the Grow More Food scheme?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I would like to have notice.”

Electric service connexions for agricultural pump sets.

* 638 Q.—SRI P. R. KANDASWAMI GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received for Electric service connexions for agricultural pump sets during the years 1945-46 and 1946-47 upto date in the Pollachi and Udamalpet taluks;

(b) how many applicants among them were actually granted the service connexions applied for;

(c) why the request of the remaining applicants was not complied with;

(d) what action the Government propose to take for the speedy grant of service connexions to these agriculturists; and

(e) whether it is a fact that there are corrupt practices in the Electricity Department at Pollachi and Udamalpet?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—

(a)	1945-46.	1946-47
Pollachi taluk ..	35	1044
Udamalpet taluk ..	48	746
(b)		
Pollachi taluk ..	24	9
Udamalpet taluk ..	38	27

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(c) It does not mean that the requests of the remaining applicants have been actually refused. In a few cases, however, extensions are not economically feasible. Various factors are involved and the delay in complying with the request of other applicants is due to one or more of the following causes:—

(i) A large number of applications from Pollachi and Udamalpet taluks is covered by major extensions proposals costing over Rs. 20,000 each, the investigation of which is pending the employment of necessary additional staff. Proposals for employment of the additional staff required for the purpose have been received from the Chief Engineer (Electricity) and are under the consideration of the Government.

(ii) Parties are not ready with pump-sets, pipes, fittings, etc., though sanction for extension of supply has been accorded and though the Government Electricity departmental portion of work completed.

(iii) Shortage of materials in the Government Electricity Department especially steel and H.T. insulators which are to be imported from abroad.

(iv) Under the Electricity Restriction and Control Orders now in force sanction has to be obtained from the Government or Chief Engineer (Electricity) or General Superintendent, Operating System, or Superintending Engineer as the case may be, for giving electric supply.

(d) Bulk orders for materials have already been placed. The construction work will be accelerated when the materials indented for are received and the necessary additional staff required becomes available. The question of sanctioning the employment of the additional staff required for the work and for investigation of the major schemes is under the consideration of the Government.

(e) No case of corruption at Udamalpet and Pollachi has so far come to the notice of Government. Necessary instructions have already been issued in April 1946 to the officers of the Government Electricity Department to be on the look-out and report promptly cases of corrupt practices, if any, for disciplinary action. The consuming public have also been requested by the Chief Engineer (Electricity) through printed notices to co-operate with the Government in the matter.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the agricultural electric connexions, are entrusted to Special Supervisors and Junior Inspectors to examine and report?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I am unable to understand the question, Sir.”

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SRI K. SUBBA RAO:—"In this connexion, may I know, Sir, what has happened to the scheme which was intended to supply electricity to the towns of Tanuku, Narsapur, Bhimavaram and other places in West Godavari district?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Notice."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Harassment of ryots by landholders in Mandasa.

* 640 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the ryots of Mandasa are being harassed by the landholders with the help of the revenue and police authorities and that their properties including agricultural implements, etc., are being illegally and forcibly taken away; and

(b) what steps are being taken by the Government to protect the cultivators of this area and for ensuring better production there?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) No.

" (b) Does not arise."

Agricultural loans granted by Government.

* 641 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the rate of interest charged on agricultural loans granted by Government; and

(b) whether the question of reducing the same is being considered by the Government?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) The current rate of interest charged on agricultural loans granted by Government is $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum.

" (b) Yes."

Labour school buildings in South Kanara.

* 646 Q.—SRI K. ISHWARA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Government Labour School Buildings in the South Kanara district;

(b) the number of rented buildings; and

(c) what was the total rent incurred per year?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" (a) Seven.

" (b) Thirty-seven.

" (c) Rupees 2,160 per annum."

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Cases of political demonstrations against I.N.A. trials.

* 647 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALARAM: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government for the withdrawal of certain cases filed against Congress workers in Madura for alleged unlawful assembly and rioting in connexion with the political demonstrations against the I.N.A. trials;

(b) when was this representation received;

(c) what action has been taken in this matter;

(d) if no action has been taken, what is the reason for the delay; and

(e) whether it is a fact that during this delay some accused who are very young boys have been actually convicted and sent to jail?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) May 1946.

" (c) & (d) The matter was under the consideration of the Government but by the time a decision was arrived at, the Court pronounced its judgment.

" (e) In C.C. No. 181 of 1945 on the file of the Additional First-class Magistrate, Madura, 10 persons were charged and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 10 each. In C.C. No. 197 of 1945 on the file of the Additional First-class Magistrate, Madura, 36 persons were charged and all were acquitted."

Stocking of paddy beyond requirements by jenmis.

* 648 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have seen press reports or received representations from Malabar to the effect that, while cultivating peasants are not allowed to keep their rations but are asked to hand over their whole produce minus seed to the co-operative stores, the jenmis are allowed to receive huge quantities of paddy in the form of rent, to keep them in their granaries, to deduct their own ration from their stock and hand over only the balance to the stores;

(b) whether the Government have gone into the truth or otherwise of the reports or representations mentioned above; and

(c) if facts are as stated above, what steps the Government propose to take to stop stocking of paddy beyond requirements?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Government have received representations that the requirements of the tenants in Malabar for their own and their family consumption should be made the first charge on the produce of the lands they cultivate. Under the Procurement Regulations, a landholder is required to pay the landlord or any other person

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who is entitled to it, the rent due to him in kind and to keep in his own safe custody, the balance quantity of the foodgrain harvested from the lands under his cultivation. From the balance, he is required to deliver to the Government Purchasing agent, the surplus, if any, after keeping enough for his own cultivation expenses, seed requirements and requirements for his and his family's consumption. The landlord or other person receiving rent in kind has likewise to keep the quantity of grains received by him as rent in safe custody and sell the quantity surplus to requirements. No preferential treatment is thus accorded to the jenmi.

“(b) The question whether the tenants should be given any further relief is under Government's consideration.

“(c) In view of the answers to clauses (a) and (b) above, this question does not arise.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Urgent needs of Muslim education in Malabar.

69 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received a representation from the late Sultan Abdur Rahiman Ali Rajah, M.L.A., Raja of Cannanore, as the President of the Malabar Muslim Educational Association, setting forth the various urgent needs of Muslim education in Malabar;

(b) what were the demands made in that representation;

(c) what action was taken by the Government on that representation, and when; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take about those recommendations on which no action has been taken?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) to (d) A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table of the House.

Reserve forest adjoining residential quarters of certain villages in Tinnevely district.

70 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kudiraimoliteri Reserve Forest in Tinnevely district whose northern boundary runs within one-eighth of a furlong to the south of the residential quarters of Neivelai, Punnaiyadi, Kachchanavelai, etc., villages is a source of trouble and annoyance to the villagers and that the trouble has been aggravated by the introduction of Tinnevely-Tiruchendur Railway line which runs between the village and the forest;

* Printed as Appendix I on page 1053-1054 infra.

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(b) whether the Government in consultation with the District Forest Officer, the Collector, the Conservator of Forests and the Chief Conservator ordered to disforest a belt of this forest half a mile in width adjoining the village in 1924;

(c) if so, why the above order was not given effect to;

(d) whether Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai, M.L.A., the then Minister for Forests, the Chief Conservator, the Conservator of Forests and the District Forest Officer visited the place again in 1938;

(e) whether it is a fact that as a result of the above inspection and after thorough investigation, the Government finally decided to lease the lands under reference to ryots for long periods on easy terms and to consider the question of permanent grant only of the area that has been planted properly over a period of years;

(f) whether it is a fact that, in view of the above decision, the Government were pleased to lease out some area in 1943 on the recommendation of the then District Forest Officer;

(g) whether it is a fact that petitions from many ryots of the locality for similar lease of lands were rejected by the Government in July 1946 on the recommendation of the present District Forest Officer, Tinnevely;

(h) if so, what special reasons the District Forest Officer had to recommend the refusal in direct contravention of G.O. Ms. No. 1286, Development, dated 16th May, 1939;

(i) whether the Government propose to forward all those petitions again for investigation through the Revenue Department and the Director of Agriculture;

(j) whether it will not be advantageous to lease these lands which are practically of no use to the department to ryots who are prepared to cultivate foodcrops and plant fruit-bearing trees at their own cost, during these days of acute famine;

(k) whether it is a fact that the present District Forest Officer, Tinnevely, with a view to prevent their lease to ryots has planted casuarina trees in the area specifically reserved for Harijans as per paragraph IV of G.O. Ms. No. 1286, dated 16th May 1939, and paragraph (d) of G.O. Ms. No. 2169, dated 8th September 1943, of the Development Department;

(l) the total expenditure incurred by the department in planting casuarina in the above forest, and the extent that has been brought under casuarina plantation;

(m) whether it is fact that the entire plantation of casuarina trees has been a thorough failure and the District Forest Officer is still spending public money on that enterprise;

(n) whether it is a fact that in spite of the Agricultural Department's suggestion that the area was fit only for cultivation of foodcrops and growing of fruit-bearing trees and that it is not suitable for casuarina plantation, the District Forest Officer carried on plantation of the latter;

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(o) whether a report will be called for from the Revenue or the Agricultural Department as to the present state of the casuarina plantation in the above forest; and

(p) whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of not permitting District Forest Officers to serve more than three years in one district at a time?

A.—(a) The Kudiraimoliteri Reserve Forest adjoins Neivelai, Punnaiyadi, Kachchanavelai, etc., villages and the Tinnevely-Tiruchendur Railway line runs between these villages and the Reserved Forest. No representations to the effect that the Reserved Forest is a source of trouble and annoyance to the villagers have recently been received.

(b) Two belts of land measuring 1,936 and 16 acres in this Reserved Forest were disreserved in 1924.

(c) The two belts of land in question were disreserved mainly to provide grazing grounds, land for assignment for cultivation and room for the movement of cattle. It was subsequently found that the purpose for which the disreservation was ordered was not fulfilled as no assignments for cultivation were made and as there was no real grazing, that the area was being denuded of its tree-growth which was established at considerable public expense and that the neighbouring reserve, where systematic planting was being undertaken, was being threatened with sand drifts from the disreserved portion as a result of the soil covering of the latter being removed by indiscriminate hacking and goat-browsing, etc. The Government therefore re-reserved the whole area except an area of 350 acres which was set apart for communal purposes.

(d) The answer is in the affirmative.

(e) In 1939, the Government ordered that if the demand for land for cultivation was genuine, leases of forest land should be given for long periods on easy terms renewable at the option of the lessee and that if the land so leased was cultivated properly over a period of years, the question of granting it permanently to the lessees might be considered.

(f) The answer is in the affirmative.

(g) The answer is in the affirmative.

(h) The special reasons given by the District Forest Officer against the leasing of the reserve forest are—

(i) that the Kudiraimoliteri Reserve Forest is a vast stretch of sand dunes where south-west monsoon wind carries the shifting sand from one locality and deposits it in another thus endangering the safety of cultivated and cultivable lands and the supply of water in the big Kadamba tank;

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(ii) that in order to arrest the flow of these shifting sands, the Forest Department after several trials had succeeded in afforesting nearly half a mile fringe of the sandy tract by growing *Dalbergia multiflora*, *Acacia planifrons*, etc., species; and

(iii) that if the lands are leased or assigned, the afforestation work so far executed by the Forest Department will be undone.

(i) As the question of leasing lands in this Reserved Forest area was considered in detail recently, the Government do not propose to reopen it now.

(j) The Government consider that it will not be advantageous to lease these areas for cultivation as such cultivation will lead to serious erosion and the sand-casting of thousands of acres of cultivable land which lies to the leeward side of the reserve.

(k) In 1939, the Government agreed to the leasing of a small bit of land to the north of the Railway line to the Harijans. But it could not actually be leased to them as they declined to take the area on lease. It was therefore lying waste until the Working Plan of the Division was taken up for revision by the Working Plans Officer, who found the land suitable for planting casuarina and prescribed it to be done in that area.

It will be observed therefore that it was not with a view to prevent the leasing of the area to the Harijans that this area was planted with casuarina departmentally but that it was planted only after a considerable lapse of time and after the ryots had definitely stated that they did not require the land unless granted on patta.

(l) An extent of 40½ acres was planted with casuarina from 1941 to 1945 in this Reserved Forest and the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 10,128.

(m) The entire plantation has not been a thorough failure but the plantations are not growing as well as had been expected. No planting of casuarina was done in 1946 and no further planting is anticipated.

(n) No such suggestion by the Agricultural Department has been communicated to the Forest Department.

(o) The Government consider that it is not necessary to call for a report now as the Forest Department has already decided to stop further planting of casuarina in this locality.

(p) Under the existing orders of the Government, the District Forest Officers are ordinarily liable to transfer from one station to another once in three years or earlier, if necessary.

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Preference to local people in filling up posts.

71 Q.—SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether for service under the Government or local bodies preference is given to local people in filling up posts in villages, taluks and districts;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) whether it is proposed to pursue such a policy in future?

A.—(a) to (c).—The services under this Government are divided mainly into two divisions—Provincial and Subordinate. Recruitment to the Provincial Services is made on a provincial basis. However, care is taken to post, as far as possible, officers with a knowledge of the language of the area in which they are to serve. In regard to Subordinate Services, recruitment is usually made on a district basis and in some cases on a circle or division basis. As regards clerical services, every candidate is allowed to give his preference in the matter of the district in which he would like to be employed. The candidates' wishes are complied with to the extent possible and consistent with public interest. It can generally be taken that the majority of clerks and other low-paid staff employed in a district belong to that district. A hard and fast rule confining appointments in a district to persons belonging to that district will almost be unworkable in practice.

Appointments to most of the posts in the service of local boards and municipal councils are made by the local authorities. It is open to these authorities to appoint local persons to such posts, provided that the candidates possess the prescribed qualifications.

Mussalman Wakf Act of 1923.

72 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Mussalman Wakf Act of 1923 was brought into force in the Madras Presidency;

(b) if so, when;

(c) in which district courts in the Presidency were properly audited accounts filed by Muthavallis according to the Act;

(d) how many such accounts were filed by the Muthavallis in the various courts;

(e) in which years were the accounts filed;

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(f) whether and which courts took action against Muthavallis for failure to submit initial accounts or file accounts in subsequent years; and

(g) what rules have been framed for this Presidency under the Act?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) 1st January 1932.

(c) to (f).—Information is not available, but has been called for.

(g) Rules under the Act were framed and published in June 1931.

Persons detained under Public Safety Ordinance.

73 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of persons who have been detained under the recent Public Safety Ordinance;

(b) the number of persons with their names and addresses who have been released subsequently; and

(c) the reasons for such release?

A.—(a) 148.

(b) Seven persons as shown Below have been released subsequently:—

(i) Sri Mohanrangam Naidu, Kallakurchi, South Arcot district.

(ii) Sri Tanikella Venkatachalapathi, Manager, Bhimavaram College, Bhimavaram, West Godavari district.

(iii) Sri K. Muthusami Vallatharasu, President, Ramnad District Congress Kisan Sabha.

(iv) Sri K. V. Sethu Ramachandran, Joint Secretary, Ramnad District Congress Kisan Sabha.

(v) Sri K. Raman, General Secretary, Ramnad District Congress Kisan Sabha.

(vi) Sri G. Narayanasami Naidu of Mayavaram, Tanjore district.

(vii) Mrs. Kamala Ramasami, Trichinopoly junction, Trichinopoly.

(c) The Government were satisfied that their detention was no longer necessary for the maintenance of public peace and order.

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Construction of a overbridge across 'Cheyyar' in the North Arcot district.

74 Q.—SRI P. R. RAMANUJULU REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to construct an overbridge across 'Cheyyar' very near Thiruvattipuram, North Arcot district, instead of a causeway;

(b) whether any representation has been received about the scheme; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Government in the matter.

A.—(a) No. There is at present no proposal to construct an overbridge in the place of the existing causeway.

(b) Yes. A representation has been received from the hon. Member.

(c) The matter is under examination by the Chief Engineer (Highways).

Scales of pay of teachers.

75 Q.—SRI P. R. RAMANUJULU REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been made by the South Indian Teachers' Union to reconsider the scales of pay of teachers;

(b) whether the Government have considered their grievances on an equal footing with that of the non-gazetted officers; and

(c) why there should be a difference in the scales of pay between the teachers working in the Government schools and local boards?

A.—(a) to (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to starred question No. 546 answered on 17th April 1947.

Collective fines during 1942 political movement.

76 Q.—SRI P. R. RAMANUJULU REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the collective fines collected from the following villages in North Arcot district during 1942 political movement were refunded—

(i) Vallam village, Wandiwash taluk;

(ii) Thimiri village, Walaja taluk;

(iii) Panapakkam village, Arkonam taluk; and

(b) if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b).—The District Magistrate, North Arcot, has directed the Tahsildars concerned to refund the collective fines in these villages.

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Abolition of rural rationing in rice-surplus areas.

77 Q.—M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Governments have received any communications from the District Officials and Food Committees—District, Taluk and Village asking the Government to abolish the informal rural rationing in the surplus districts; and

(b) whether the Government propose to consider the desirability of abolishing informal rural rationing in the surplus districts.

A.—(a) The question was first raised by the Collector, Tanjore. Thereupon the Government themselves took up the question of discontinuing the rural rationing scheme in the rice-surplus areas in the Province for consideration some time in September last. After consulting the concerned Collectors, the question was then dropped and it was decided to take up the question again after the main harvest was over and the prospects for the crop year 1946-47 were clear. The question was accordingly taken up again in February last. After careful examination the Government decided to drop the matter for the present as the overall stock position in the Province was still unsatisfactory and the prospects of outside assistance are getting weaker and as it was unwise to discontinue the scheme in any part of the Province until the position was safe for the entire Province.

(b) In view of the above answer, this question does not arise.

Scales of pay of teachers under Labour Department.

78 Q.—SRI GOVINDA DAS: Will the Hon'ble Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the scales of pay for teachers working in schools under the Labour department and the scales of pay obtaining in schools under District Boards vary;

(b) whether it is a fact that teachers in Labour Schools are better paid than the teachers under District Boards;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to abolish such distinction in the scales of pay; and

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to supply free midday meals to Harijan students in District Board schools?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer to starred question No. 546 answered on 17th April 1947.

(d) Yes; the question is under consideration.

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

II.—STATEMENT RE FAMINE IN GUNTUR DISTRICT.

12 noon.

MR. SPEAKER:—“The House is aware of the fact that the statement of the Hon. Minister for Food is before the House now. If anybody wants any information, they can put one or two questions.”

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Without going into the merits of the question, Sir, I say here is a case in which there is a definite change of policy. The societies were sanctioned with the approval of this House, and it was an important item of debate. Demands were made. The ministry resigned on the 21st. Within five days the machinery of procurement has been given up. In the statement circulated on the 22nd, it was stated that decision was to be taken in respect of other districts. This morning we have read in the papers that in all the four districts, the agency has been changed. A crore and odd of rupees have been invested. In view of these, I would ask, Sir, whether Government propose to allot some time for discussion of this important matter. Otherwise, I would appeal to you for allowing a debate under rule 14 of the Assembly Rules.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Rule 14 allows debate for half an hour only. Instead of that Government can allot a day.”

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“In view of the importance of this question, it is for the Government to take this House into confidence. Starvation of people is a matter of great importance. From the statement itself one can see that there must be a great deal of starvation with whomsoever the fault may lie—whether it is the societies or other people or the black-marketers. It is admitted by the Government that there is black-market going on in that district, and that rural rationing has failed. The Collector says that there is no starvation. It is very difficult to believe that. I have heard from persons who have come from Guntur that the price of rice there is something which the ordinary man cannot buy at all. Therefore, it is a question of change of policy. It is up to the Government to allow special time for debate. As you, Mr. Speaker, rightly said, a debate under rule 14 is a feeble thing.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“The Government have placed all the facts of the working of these societies in their press communiqué and in the statement that has been laid before this House. If hon. Members would ask questions, if there are any doubts, of course Government are prepared to answer them. With regard to the question of having a debate on that, I have got to say that the Government are now tackling the question of deficit of food, and they are taking in hand measures to secure all the paddy and food that may be available from the surplus districts in as short a time as they can so that the deficit districts may not starve. I do not support the proposition put forward

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by the hon. Gentleman that food is not available. Food is available. But it is not available to the poor people according to the rationing scheme because procurement has gone down. I have also stated that since making the statement we have had information from the Collector of Guntur that procurement has progressed very favourably, that ration shops are all fully provided, and that food is available for those who want to purchase it. That there is still some defect, I can understand. The machinery has failed only to the extent of procurement till the time of the issue of this communiqué. But measures taken subsequent to it have brought in more food in the pool, and procurement is progressing satisfactorily. I do not want to make any further statement. A day can be allotted, for this question of policy, this question of budget, and things of that sort. But not now. Government are aware of the huge capital involved and the amount of transactions that have been done by these societies. The intention of the Government is not to close down these societies nor to wind them up. We are instituting a special enquiry into the working of these societies. We soon expect to appoint a commission of enquiry. Their report will be awaited for discussion that may take place in this matter. Therefore, till we are in possession of that report, we cannot undertake to open a discussion just now. But this Government are willing to have a discussion after the recess. As soon as the enquiry is over, we will have a discussion.”

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“If it is going to be a debate before we break up for the recess, it will be of some use. But a debate after two months . . .” (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“To-morrow, being Friday, we will adjourn at 1 p.m.”

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“There is no use of a discussion after two months. We are going to discuss the present situation and the measures now taken—not any long-term policy. If Government decide not to allow a discussion, I can only crave the indulgence of the Chair.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Then, I allow a debate, under rule 14, at 5 o'clock.”

III.—STATEMENT RE SPINDLES AND TEXTILE POLICY.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“As mentioned to the House yesterday, the Hon. Minister in charge of Planning will make a statement on the spindles and textile machinery.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister is going to make a statement regarding the textile policy of the Government. In future if Government want to make a statement, it is better they print it and lay it on the table of the House. In future let them do so.”

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I wish to make a statement, Sir, not on the general question of textile policy, but only on the question of surrender of spindles,

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"The controversy about the textile policy of this Government started with the decision of the Government to surrender to the Government of India the 352,000 spindles allotted to this Province under the Post-war Development Plan. While on the one hand it was considered that this surrender of the spindles already allotted was not in the interests of this Province and that it was not consistent with the cloth requirements of this Province, it was maintained by the former Ministry that this must be done in the interests of the development of Khadi. In order to appreciate the problem fully, I shall recapitulate the history of the textile policy.

"In 1945, the Government of India called for applicants from those interested in textile mills for the registration for import of textile machinery. The Government of Madras then informed the Government of India that as this Province was comparatively undeveloped in the textile industry, they desired to be consulted before applications from this Province were accepted. Both the Government of India and this Government were interested in the development of textile industry on a rational basis. The applications received by the Government of India were therefore sent to this Government and certain recommendations were made. On the basis of these recommendations, the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, informed this Government in April 1946 that a quota of 352,000 spindles, of which 152,000 were of fine and 200,000 were for coarse yarn, were allotted to this Province. The Government of India issued necessary permission for raising capital and import licences to promoters of textile mills. The net result of the scheme was that nine existing mills were to be expanded so as to be raised into economic units, and twenty-five new mills were to be started. The allottees proceeded with the floatation of companies raising capital, starting construction of buildings and placing orders for the necessary machinery. The Ministry then assumed charge of the affairs of this Province and decided on an intensive scheme of Khadi development. The details of the scheme have already been placed on the table of the House. It was felt that, in order to implement fully the Khadi scheme, competition from mills should be avoided as far as possible. Consequently, the Government decided to surrender the spindles allotted to this Province and addressed the Government of India accordingly. The Government of India, however, did not agree to this surrender and informed this Government that the cancellation of the permits already issued would be a breach of faith and would lead them into litigation which they wanted to avoid. The Government of Madras, however, were not satisfied with this reply and after having obtained competent legal advice again approached the Government of India and informed them that as neither the Government of India nor the Government of Madras were aware, at the time of the allotment of spindles, of the Khadi scheme, there was every reason why the proposed surrender of spindles should be accepted by the Government of India. But the Government of India did not agree with the opinion put forth by this Government and they reiterated that they were not prepared to face

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possible litigation and that the opinion of this Government ignored the moral obligations arising from the fact that the Government of India on the advice of the Madras Government had issued licences to individuals who had involved themselves in heavy expenditure and would suffer greatly and most unfairly if those licences were cancelled. The Government of India in their reply further stated that they could not accept the legal point made out in the communication from this Government that the adoption of the Khadi scheme would constitute a reason of State justifying the Government in resiling from its commitments. The Government of India therefore were not prepared to accept the attitude assumed by the Government of Madras and would not withdraw the licences already issued. This reply was received on the 15th of March 1947 and was considered by the last Ministry who did not however take a decision on it. We have therefore to take a decision on the subject and have decided that in the circumstances we should not pursue the question further with the Government of India. I wish to make it clear that there is no difference of opinion on this side of the House in regard to the need for going forward with the Khadi scheme. The Khadi scheme that was already approved by the Government and is being worked in the district will be vigorously pursued. We also propose to implement effectively the resolution passed by the All-India Spinners' Association at its meeting in Delhi on the 9th of October 1946 for the extensive development of Khadi. The intensive part of the Khadi scheme has already been introduced in seven selected firkas. The extensive part of the scheme will be introduced shortly in twenty-seven other firkas.

12-45
p.m.

"I wish to reiterate there will thus be no deviation from the policy so far pursued regarding the development of Khadi. Just as the previous Ministry had agreed to permit the import of necessary spindles for replacement of the existing machinery, this Ministry has decided to accept the spindles already allotted for this Province in the circumstances pointed out above."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a matter of clarification, Sir. By this statement, an impression has been created that this Government have accepted spindles owing to the pressure from the Central Government. May I know whether the spindles have been accepted due to pressure, or to any change of heart in the Government."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"It is not pressure from the Government of India, but on the attitude this Government took that they have accepted the spindles."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I respectfully submit, Sir, these statements are made because hon. Members would like to know the policy of Government on different matters. If you are going to insist that they should be printed and placed on the table of the House, then the course which Government will have to take is to issue them in the form of a communique, and hon. Members of this House will come to know of it even as the public would come to know of it."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Why I say, they should be printed is, we are speaking in a strange language, in a foreign tongue, and it is not possible for all to follow when it is read, probably because the pronunciation may not be good or the voice may not be clear, and so it is much better to have them printed and circulated beforehand."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the statements are to be printed and circulated beforehand, then I fear Government will have to revise their policy of making statements."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then I also know how to deal with the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Am I to understand, Sir, that hereafter such statements should be printed and circulated to the Members of the House simultaneous with the reading of the Minister?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, that is my ruling."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether these spindles have been accepted in accordance with the promises given by the previous Ministry before the ministerial crisis?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I am not aware of any such promises."

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE TUNGABHADRA PROJECT (PREVENTION OF SPECULATION IN LAND) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 13 OF 1947).

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the report^a of the Select Committee on the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in land) Bill, 1947, and move that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration. The Select Committee has made one or two important changes in this Bill. As will be seen from their report, the most important change is about the right of Government to acquire project lands in certain cases. The Bill as originally introduced did not make particular provisions for taking away land that was speculated in after a particular period of time. In order to safeguard public interest and to penalise those who wanted to speculate, a new clause, clause 3 has been introduced by the Select Committee. Under the rules the permission of His Excellency the Governor has been obtained subsequently for the insertion of this clause. This new clause runs as follows:—

'3 (1) If at the commencement of this Act, any person owns more than fifty acres of project land purchased after the 1st October 1944, he shall, on demand made by the Provincial Government by notice in writing within three years from the

^a Printed as Appendix II on pages 1055-1060 *infra*.

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commencement of this Act, be bound to sell to them the excess over fifty acres, at the price or prices for which the land was purchased by him.

(2) If any project land which the Provincial Government are entitled to purchase under sub-section (1) is alienated in any manner within the period of three years aforesaid, they shall have the same right against the alienee as they would have had against the alienor under that sub-section.

(3) The Provincial Government may dispose of any project land purchased by them under this section, in any manner they think fit.

"Thus, you will see, Sir, this is a new section. It seeks to take away from the purchaser such land as was purchased by him over fifty acres after 1st October 1944. That is the date on which the foundation-stone for the Tungabhadra Project was laid, and that date has been accepted by the Select Committee as the suitable date. In section 9 the period has been changed from 10 to 15 years; that means a person who is in possession of land shall not dispose of it for a period of 15 years after water is supplied to him so that alienation may not be subject to speculation. Sir, the other changes are consequential changes. Hence, I request the House to take the report of the Select Committee into consideration and pass the Bill into law."

* SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBIAH:—"Sir, I rise, of course, to support the Bill. There are several important facts which have to be placed before this House and this Government so that what happened regarding speculation in the areas already notified under the Schedule may not be repeated with regard to the new area that is also proposed to be brought under the purview of this Act. I refer to the villages that are proposed to be published in the Schedule under the High Level Channel. The Tungabhadra Project was first conceived fifty or sixty years ago, when the terrible famine of 1876-77 broke out. The Famine Commission reported about the loss of human lives then and it was placed before the Government. Since then we have been agitating for the construction of the project. But unfortunately, because Rayalaseema was not properly represented in the Government that project did not materialize early enough. In 1902-03 the Indian Irrigation Commission inquired into and drafted its report and in which it laid repeated emphasis on the fact that these famine-stricken districts should be protected by irrigation projects. Unfortunately those recommendations did not materialize again as Rayalaseema was not sufficiently represented in the Government. Subsequently the project went through a number of changes, and finally as it emerged some time in 1934-35, it was found that only a very small project was meant to be executed. Over this, there was a hue and cry and the general feeling of the people of Rayalaseema was one of disappointment and mistrust. In 1937, some M.L.As. voiced their feelings on the floor of this House, and it was generally believed that in the

[Sri Nivarthi Venkatasubbiah] [24th April 1947]

original scheme, Gooty, Pattikonda, besides taluks of Bellary district would be included. I must here take the opportunity of expressing my regret that these taluks are not brought under the purview of the present project. You know, Sir, the Tungabhadra Project was put forward before the people of Rayalaseema as a panacea for their ills. Other projects, equally promising, though small in comparison, were all shelved, because we were told that the Tungabhadra Project was sufficient to remove all the sufferings of the Ceded Districts from famine. But if you go into the statistics, you will find that while there is ample scope for a much bigger project than the present one, I am sorry that that big project is not being undertaken at present. I am asking why the bigger project has been shelved. The volume of storage of water that is contemplated under the present project, limited though it is, is 336 thousand million cubic feet. But the project takes into account, I do not know why,—only engineers or Government must tell,—only 200 thousand million cubic feet of water. But even this entire water is not proposed to be utilized. Only 115 thousand million cubic feet is proposed to be stored. You will see therefore 85 thousand million cubic feet is unnecessarily left out. There is a report, to which I have had access as a member of the Ceded Districts Economic Development Board, from which I gather that all this water is kept in reserve for being utilized in the Kistna delta. While in the upper reaches we are suffering from famine, starvation and pestilence. I do not know why Government should reserve the waters of the Tungabhadra for the use of the Kistna delta. You know, Sir, across the Bezvada Anicut only 10 per cent of the water is being used for canals. Ninety per cent of it runs waste into the sea. Therefore, the proper course will be to utilize the water there. I would therefore take this opportunity to emphasise that the water available in the Tungabhadra Project must be used for the project areas only. That is why I have suggested in the Select Committee that other areas which come under the high level channel should also be included in the Schedule. I would suggest that the Government should examine this question sufficiently early so that the villagers affected by the high level channel may not be misled and exploited as was done in the case of those who are now brought in the Schedule of the Bill. I trust Government would accept my suggestion and the high level channel scheme would become an accomplished fact and the waters which are now wasted or unnecessarily held in reserve would be made available for the famine-stricken Ceded Districts where they are needed."

12-30 P.m. * M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, in supporting the Bill in principle, I want to say a few words with regard to the time of applicability of this Bill. The Hon. the Revenue Minister has stated that he has been preparing a comprehensive legislation with regard to land, with a view to abolish the zamindari system and absentee landlordism and with a view to create economic holdings and lowering the rents or kists payable to the Government. If these measures are adopted soon,

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I think they will be made applicable to the area covered by this project also. There may arise cases of transfers and retransfers and that means unnecessary worry for the people. I suggest therefore that the Government may postpone the application of this measure to a certain future date if the comprehensive legislation will be brought within a short space of time. If that comprehensive legislation takes a long time, then I can understand this measure being made applicable. But if the comprehensive legislation is to be passed within a short period, then this is unnecessary. Already a warning has been given in the Gazette that such transfers will not be recognized by the Government and that Government will pass legislation giving preference to the ryots resident there with regard to the land covered by the project. Under these circumstances, I only place this consideration before the House whether the application of the Act may not be postponed to a future date."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that a Bill has been brought forward to control speculation in land in the Tungabhadra area. When in the year 1944, at a meeting of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee, I enquired of the then Advisers' Government as to whether they were taking any steps to control speculation in land in the Tungabhadra area I was informed by that Government that they would undertake legislation for this purpose. The Advisers' Government should have undertaken immediate legislation in regard to this matter, but they did not do so. They allowed this question to drift and failed to legislate in regard to this matter just as they remained indifferent about undertaking legislation in regard to the extension of the provisions of the Hindu Women's Right to Property Act to agricultural land, which vitally affects the interests of womanhood. Thus years rolled on without any restrictions having been imposed on speculation with the result that in the Tungabhadra area people came from distant parts of the country and purchased lands for speculative purposes.

" Mr. Speaker, speculation has been rampant in this country of late not merely on the stock exchange but in other fields as well. The spirit of speculation is akin to the spirit of gambling and it is very desirable that this spirit should be curbed. I am therefore glad that the Government have brought forward a Bill of this nature and to note that it has been provided in the Bill that no one should acquire more than 50 acres of land without a permit. It is also gratifying that the Government consented in the Select Committee to make the provisions of the Bill have retrospective effect from the 1st October 1944. But in regard to the grant of permits I must enter a note of warning. No doubt the Government should have the right of granting permits in certain special cases. But in enforcing the rules and in issuing permits, it is very necessary that the Government should exercise the utmost precaution and see that permits are granted only to those who are deserving and to those who have farming interests in the area and not to absentee landlords.

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"Moreover, Sir, it has been stated in clause 14 which gives the Government power to make rules that they may fix the maximum extent of land which may be acquired by a person in pursuance of a permit granted to him under the Act. In this connection I should like to suggest that the maximum extent should be prescribed not merely for a person but also for a family, because very often land is purchased not in the name of the individual himself, but in the name of his wife or children. A family may be defined as consisting of the man, his wife and minor children, but not the major children, because on the attainment of majority the children should be regarded as different entities. I hope my suggestion that the maximum limit may be prescribed not merely for the individual but also for a family will be borne in mind when the rules are framed.

"Mr. Speaker, I am glad that a legislation of this nature which has been long overdue has been brought forward. I welcome this measure but I hope the Government will exercise due precautions in the working of the Act."

* SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—"అధ్యక్షా, నేను ఈ బిల్లు విషయమై నా అభిప్రాయములు చాలామందికి తెలియజేయుటకై ఇంగ్లీషులో మాట్లాడవలయునని అనుకొనినాను కాని నేను తెలుగులోనే మాట్లాడవలయుననే నిబంధనలుంటున్నచేత నేను తెలుగులో మాట్లాడుటకు నిశ్చయించినాను. నేను ఏ రాష్ట్రంలో మాట్లాడినను, నా సూచనలను ప్రభుత్వమువారు జాగ్రత్తగా పరిశీలించెదరని నమ్ముచున్నాను.

"మన రెవెన్యూ మంత్రిగారు ఇప్పుడు ఈ బిల్లును ప్రవేశపెట్టినందుకు వారిని అభినందించుచున్నాను ఈ బిల్లును ప్రవేశపెట్టుటలో ఇప్పటికే చాలా అలస్యమైనది. ఇటువంటి అత్యవసరమైన బిల్లును ఇంతకాలము అలస్యముచేసిన కారణముచేత రాయలసీమలోని రైతులకు కొంతవరకు అన్యాయము జరిగినది. ఈ తుంగభద్ర Project వచ్చునని తెలిసినకొందరు ఆ తాలూకాలలో పెద్దలు పెద్ద భూభండములను తక్కువ ధరలకు కొన్నారు. వేద రైతులు ముందు జరుగజూపు సంగతులు తెలియక వారి భూములను చాలా తక్కువ ధరలకు అమ్మివేసినారు, అనగా ఈ భూములు కష్టపడి పెంచుకొని వ్యవసాయముచేయు రైతుల చేతులలోనుంచి, యద్ధకాలములో వుండిన ఎక్కువ ధరలవల్లను, blackmarket వల్లను ఎక్కువ లాభములను, సంపాదించిన వర్తకులకు, మిల్లి యజమానులకు, పెద్దపెద్ద absentee landlords కున్న పోయినవి. ఇటువంటి అన్యాయములను రూపుమాపుటకే మన కాంగ్రెసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ బిల్లును తీసుకొనివచ్చినారు.

"శ్రీ మా రామపాదసాగర్ (Ramapadasagar) Project విషయంలోనూ ఇటువంటి అన్యాయములు జరుగకుండా చూడవలసినదని గవర్నరు మెంటువారిని కోరుచున్నాను. అప్పుడే అనేకమంది ధనికులు, వృక్షులు ఈ రామ పాదసాగర్ Project కు ముందు విర్బడబోయి కాలవలు వివిధ ప్రాంతములలోనుంచి వెళ్లవో, ఏ ఇంజనీరు దగ్గరనుంచో, మరోవిధముగానో, భోగట్లా తీసి ఆ ఆగ్రామ కులలో చాలా భూములను కొనుచున్నట్లు నాకు తెలియవచ్చినది.

"ఈ కారణముచేత, ఇటువంటి భూములు కొనే వేలంపై land speculation ని తొలగించుటకై ప్రభుత్వమువారు తగిన జర్యను తీసుకొనవలసిన warning ప్రకటించవలసిన మునిచేయుచున్నాను. ఎవరైనను భూములు కొనేటప్పుడు, జేగం

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అమరుద్దీన్ గారు చెప్పినట్లు, కొంత limited భూమి మాత్రమే కొనవలయునని ఒక కుటుంబవారి (family unit) పరిమితిని విర్వరకవలయును. లేనిచో ఈ భూములన్నియు, భూమి అంత విమిట, వ్యవసాయమున విమిట తెలియని భూస్వాముల చేతులలోనికి, ధనికులగు వర్తకుల చేతులలోనికి పోవును. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ సూచనల సన్నిటిని గమనించి ఎవ్వరెవ్వరు ఎంతెంత భూములను కొన్నారో లెక్కలు చూచి, ఎక్కువ భూములు కొన్నవారివద్దనుంచి ఆ భూములను గవర్నరు మెంటువారు తీసుకొనవలసినవిగా మనవిచేయుచు ఇంతటితో విరిమించుచున్నాను."

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"Sir, this is a most opportune measure, is certainly very urgent and should be passed as early as possible. It is overdue since October 1944, when a lot of speculation in the purchase of land in the Tungabhadra Project area came into existence. This was thought of even by the Advisers' Government. I welcome this measure not merely because speculation in land should be stopped, which is a very good principle recognized everywhere, but also because we want to settle on the land sturdy peasant proprietors. The Bill recognises one fact: whatever may have been the case prior to 1st October 1944, after that date, no man shall acquire more than 50 acres. If this rule of 50 acres is put into force, there will come into being a number of peasant proprietors and the question of absentee landlordism will be solved. In this view I welcome this measure, request the House to take it into consideration and pass it.

"There is one fact which I want to mention. Clause 10 says that if there is any contravention of the rules, if any acquisition of land has been made by a person without obtaining a permit, where one is required under this Act, then the transaction shall become null and void. I do not know whether it means that the property will revert to the seller who also must have acted in contravention of the rules. If the property reverts to him, and if he has also the benefit of the purchase money, then he would be doubly benefited. I do not know if that is the intention of the Ministry. As a matter of fact, in such cases, the land should be forfeited to the Government. The Government should be in a position to do what they like with reference to the land bought or sold in contravention of the provisions of this Act. This will be in consonance with the amendment made by the Select Committee to clause 3 of the Bill, by which the Government are given the power to purchase land from any person who has got more than 50 acres of land. The Government will have more land in their hands and they can distribute it according to the principles they have laid down with a view to settle a class of peasant proprietors owning not more than 50 acres of land each. I support the motion that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

SRI K. SUBBA RAO :—"అధ్యక్షా, నేడు మన మదరాసు ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఇట్టి బిల్లును శాసన సభలో ప్రవేశపెట్టుట చాలా అభినందిత తగినది. సమ ధర్మవాదమున కనుసగునట్టి భవనముల దుశాకరమును అపునట్టి ఇట్టి అత్యంత ప్రాముఖ్యమైన శాసనమును తయారుచేయుట మన మదరాసు రాష్ట్రములో యిదే ప్రథమము.

[Sri K. Subba Rao] [24th April 1947]

“ నేలకు కమిటీవారిచే ఆమోదింబడిన యీ బిల్లులో రెండు ముఖ్యమైన సూచనలు గలవు. ఇందు మొదటిది ఏ వ్యక్తి ఈ కుంగభద్రా Project క్రింద సాగు భూములను 50 ఎకరములకన్న ఎక్కువగా కొనకూడదనునది ఈ సూచన అంగీకరింపబడినది. కాని, బేగం అమిరద్దీన్ గారు చెప్పినట్లు నేను ఈ సూచనను కొంత సవరణను సూచించుచున్నాను. బిల్లులో సూచించినరీతిగా ప్రతి వ్యక్తికి 50 ఎకరముల భూమిని కొనుటకు ఏమి కలిగిన, ఒక కుటుంబములో పండ్రి పేరున 50 ఎకరములు, పల్లి పేర 50 ఎకరములు, కుమారుని పేర 50 ఎకరములు ఈ విధముగా ఒక కుటుంబములో ఎందరు వ్యక్తులు కలరో అందరి పేర భూములను కొనుటకు ఏమి కలుగును. ఈ కారణములచేత ప్రభుత్వమువారు బిల్లులో ఉపహరించిన ‘person’ (వ్యక్తి) అనే పదమునకు బదులు ‘family’ (కుటుంబము) అని మార్పు చేసి మండల లాభకరముగ నుండునని చెప్పుచున్నాను. కాన ఈ సవరణను అంగీకరింపవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వమువారిని కోరుచున్నాను. లేదా నియమాల్లో వివరించవలెను.

“ రెండవది, ప్రభుత్వమువారు 50 ఎకరములకు మించిన భూమిని కొనకూడదనునది. శ్రీ ప్రకాశం పంతులుగారు అమాత్యులుగా నున్నపుడేర్పరచిన ట్రాను నివారణ committee వారు కాయలసీమ ట్రాను నివారణకు కుంగభద్రా ప్రాజెక్టు అత్యంత అవసరమని తెలిపియున్నారు. ఈ విషయమునే దౌతీ ఇంటిసీరుగాని వారి report లోని ఒక కలంలో ఉపహరించియున్నారు. ఆ Project పల్లి కలిగే ఫలితమును దౌతీ నుండలములలోని పేద రైతులే అనుభవించునట్లు చేయవలయునని చెప్పుచున్నాను. ఈ కారణములచేత ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ మండలములలో కొనబోని భూములను కాయలసీమలోని ట్రాను పీడితులగు రైతులకే ఇచ్చెదరని ఆశించుచున్నాను. ఈ భూములను ఇతర ప్రదేశములలోని ధనికులకు సర్వక్రిమింపకుండజేయుట ప్రభుత్వము వారికర్తవ్యము. ప్రభుత్వమువారు ఈ సూచనల శ్రద్ధగా పరిశీలించి, చిత్తు చట్టములో ఏర్పరచబడిన వాటిని చెర్చవలసినదిగా ప్రార్థనచేయుచున్నాను.”

12-45
p.m.

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“ I congratulate the Government on not including this in the list of those measures of the previous Government to which they want to apply the axe. I am glad that adequate safeguards have been provided in the Bill against exploitation of one kind. I wish to draw the attention of the House to another kind of exploitation that may result even in spite of these safeguards. Our province has not till now chosen to provide land for the large number of landless, who are a menace to the peace of this province. Even in the interest of the landed magnates themselves, it is necessary that they should provide land to the landless. How can we provide land except by setting apart large tracts of land under the new projects for the exclusive benefit of the landless? The Tungabhadra Project, the Ramapadasagar Project, and the Sangameswaram Project which is perhaps under investigation, are supposed to be huge projects which are going to bring under cultivation several lakhs of acres of land. It has been estimated that the number of landless people in this province is in the neighbourhood 50 to 60 lakhs. These people have been put to great hardship, and famine and pestilence have always taken a heavy toll among them. Whether it is the producer-cum-consumer societies or any other measure, these are things which affect the richer classes. There is no use

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of simply wringing one's hands, crying hoarse against Communism, and saying that they will use the police whenever they could get them. To-day the police may be with you; to-morrow they may be against you. Cases are not wanting where the police have suddenly turned turtle, refused to obey the orders of Government, and caused headache to several governments. It is certainly of no use in depending upon force to create contentment. The best way of removing discontent is by satisfying the underdog. Which other class of people in this country can be called the real underdogs than the large mass of landless people? According to very correct computation, at least one-fifth of the total population of India are landless labourers. They are tied to the land, enslaved there, with absolutely no option but to serve at the mercy of the landlords and on the wages dictated by them. Even at this late stage, I suggest to the Government to set apart several lakhs of acres of land. If there is private land, let the Government purchase it. If there is Government waste land, let them form colonies for Harijans and labourers to settle. Let loans, sometimes free of interest for a number of years, be given, so that the settlers may pay off any debt incurred for the reclamation of the land. Let all the agricultural implements and other facilities for improving the land be given to them. That is the only way of improving large tracts of land, and it will help the Grow More Food campaign, because it is only the hungry man who knows how to deal with the soil. The dumb soil responds to the language of the equally dumb labourer. We may satisfy ourselves, even glorify ourselves in having passed several measures. Prohibition, repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, colonies for the landless and reclamation work—these things are going to stand us in good stead and bring credit to the Government. Under the policy launched by the ex-Premier, this province has become accustomed to think in terms of crores. Never in the history of this province did any government think in terms mighty projects costing 10, 20, 50 or 60 crores. Madras was a puny creature; it was afraid to think in terms of crores and was satisfied only with lakhs. It was given to this province, under the aegis of a popular Premier, to think in terms of crores for all time. It will not be extravagant and I therefore urge this Government to straightway purchase large tracts of lands to be benefited by the Tungabhadra Project and reserve them for the exclusive use of the landless labourers, Harijans, and the Criminal Tribes. The same thing can be done with regard to lands under the other projects also. Such an act will be a God's act and will stand this Government in good stead for all time to come.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is indeed gratifying that at least in the year 1947, it has been possible for the Government to come forward with a legislation like this. This does not speak very highly of the land well-known for its saintly people, religious people, people who have shun the world and people who believe in service

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and not in exploitation. Human nature being what it is everywhere, exploitation of the poor by the rich has got to be guarded against by legislation. It is commonly understood that the people who took the earliest opportunity to buy lands in the project area are those who knew even in the first instance about the execution of the project. I understand that large acres of land were purchased by the highest government officials who knew how and when this project would materialize.

"The Bill does not go far enough. I wish that it had affected lands purchased even long before 1st October 1944. I know that people who knew that the project would come into being purchased lands even in 1943, 42, 41 and 40, and exploited them for their benefit.

"The Bill provides that the maximum land that any person can own is fifty acres. Instead of providing that the land in excess of fifty acres will immediately and automatically vest in Government, a maximum period of three years has been provided for selling the excess land to Government. According to the wording of the section, discretion is vested in the Government either to take over the excess land or not. The Government should have so amended the section as to provide that the owner of more than fifty acres of project land purchased after the 1st October 1944 shall be automatically dispossessed of the excess land. That has not been done.

"Power is taken by Government to dispose of any project land purchased by them in any manner they think fit. The land can be disposed of according to the whims and fancies of the Government. The Government can make a distinction in favour of one class of people or another in the disposal of lands.

"Provision for permits is one of the most dangerous things included in the Bill. The permit system is a most pernicious system, and it should be removed from the Bill altogether. Under no circumstances should a permit be given to any individual or family except for purposes required by the Government in the public interest."

1 p.m. "We are against permits being given. As long as you give permits to individuals, it will certainly be exploited. No such permit should be given. If poor people and owners of small extents of land are to be benefited, the extent of land that is allowed to remain in the hands of individuals—namely 50 acres—ought to be considerably reduced. This Government should act in accordance with the times. We know how times are changing. The Hon. Minister, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, who is in charge of this Bill is seeking very soon to abolish the zamindaris. What is the object of allowing 50 acres of land to remain in the hands of one individual, when you are seeking to abolish zamindaris of small extents. Is it simply because they are known as zamindaris or governed by the zamindari land system? If any individual owns 50 acres of land and more which is worked on the zamindari

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system, you want him to retain the land. Times have changed. The poor man must come into possession of land so that he may be able to live. You want any number of people having no knowledge of land to retain 50 acres each in this fertile area, in an area which is going to become more fruitful after the Tungabhadra Project becomes an accomplished fact. I would ask the authors of this Bill to reduce the minimum extent of land to be owned by one individual from 50 to 10 acres. I hope the Hon. Minister will accept an amendment to that effect. If he is not able to do so, I hope he will postpone the consideration of this Bill and bring forward another Bill which will be suitable to the conditions obtaining in the country to-day. The present Bill is antediluvian in its outlook."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We should finish the discussion of this Bill before lunch. Hon. Members will please be brief."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I shall take only a few minutes. As is usual with this Government, there is haste in trying to dash forward this legislation and the net result is the Bill before the House is full of faults and God only knows where this Bill is going to lead the public of this Province. On a previous occasion I have taken exception to the vesting of vast and reserve powers in this Government. Such a provision in the Bill has not been amended. Even after such criticisms were levelled against the Government last time, the Government have not learnt any lessons from those criticisms. On the other hand, they have retained all obnoxious clauses in the Bill and they have come forward without feeling shy to ask such powers. I shall refer to particular clauses. Sub-clause (3) of clause 3 reads as follows: 'The Provincial Government may dispose of any project land purchased by them under this section, in any manner they think fit.' I do not think even Caesar or Hitler would have gone to their Legislatures asking for such vast powers as these. Here is a Government calling itself a People's Government, taking so much time for drafting Bills and coming to this Assembly asking for vast powers. They want to buy as much land as they please and they want to dispose it as they like and in a manner which will be very suitable for them. Is not the Government ashamed to come forward with such a provision as this? I am sure there must be something underlying for the Government to come forward before this Assembly asking for such powers. I do not say and contend that the Government has got some motives. Members of the Party in power have got some motives to ask for these powers as they like. People may have misgivings. It is not enough if Caesar's wife is told to be, but must be above suspicion. It is not wise for any Government to ask for such vast powers. In the past this Government has not behaved well. It does not deserve powers of this sort being given to them. When such questions have been raised in the past, Members of the Treasury Benches have simply replied that the allegations are wild and that they are not substantiated. I have with me material enough to show that this Government has not in the past behaved properly. They have

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misused the powers given to them. For instance, I give one instance. In the Chingleput district, permits to run buses have been granted by the present Government . . .

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"I wish to know how discussion of permits is relevant to this Bill."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend has experience of only forests, hay and other things as he was for some time Parliamentary Secretary for Forests. By this Bill the Government wants to take permission from this House to give permits, to buy lands as it pleases and to dispose them in any manner it likes. Such unhampered power to be given by any Legislature to any Government is very bad. The Government—whether it is the present Government or the past Government—has not behaved in such a way as to deserve our support and giving it such vast powers. For example I take the Chingleput district. Permits have been granted to run buses to members of Congress Committees and to members of the Constituent Assembly. I have got material enough to show to this House, to the Government or to any tribunal who will enquire into this matter. The Government has been failing in its duty to appoint committees to enquire into such matters. I have got material enough . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's contention is that similar permits will be issue in this case also. He need not say much about other permits, beyond what he has done already."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is essential to mention about this point as this House has to consider the question of granting vast powers. Why should not the Government appoint a tribunal to grant permits instead of asking us to give previous permission to issue permits as the Government please and to buy lands as they please. Should not they have the sense enough to see that they should appoint a District Judge or a District Collector or have a machinery? Have they no imagination to draft proposals to set up a machinery, so that people may not doubt the intentions of the Government and so that people's rights may be safe. In season and out of season this Government have been preaching that they would introduce good reforms. When they are in power, they want to have these vast powers. Is it right, and is it proper that this Party which has been preaching big things, should ask for power to dispose of valuable land in any manner they like? Is it not proper on their part to set up a machinery and to state the procedure to be followed by people who apply for permits? People will then know where they stand, instead of allowing members of the Constituent Assembly or any relatives of Ministers to apply. Otherwise, anybody can apply and the Government can give permits to anybody they like. The Government themselves are giving scope for people in the streets asking for permits. Wealthy people and those who have nothing to do with that area may purchase lands. The Government must be above suspicion. They must be beyond all possibility of suspicions or corruptions. Hence I say they should revise the draft Bill and come forward with a provision for setting up a machinery to grant permits."

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* **SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:**—"Sir, I rise to point out two or three things which I consider important in connection with this Bill. The Tungabhadra Project is unlike other projects in that it provides not for wet crops in all areas but for the production of dry crops in some areas—mostly black-cotton soil—and for wet crops in other areas. This is the peculiar feature of this Project. Considering this, we should so make our arrangements that we might make the maximum use of this Project by ensuring that only economic holdings are permitted and by also ensuring that all the research done in the Siruguppa farm is not wasted, but is really taken advantage of by all owners of land under the Project. I understand, Sir, that that is the main purpose of this Bill. If people have purchased land I do not take it that all of them have done so for speculation. I certainly agree with my hon. Friends opposite that speculators should be kept out. If a man knew that such legislation would be passed, and if he buys land and is willing to invest his capital on land, I, for one, would welcome such purchase. In fact it is an advantage that people with resources should also be in possession of land in order to make the land yield its best results. Speculation is one thing and large-scale farming is quite another. I am not one of those who would discourage large-scale farming under the Tungabhadra Project. I would welcome it for more than one reason."

"I would point out another aspect of this question which is equally important. The Tungabhadra Project as at present conceived and as it would work out when the high-level channels also are complete, would result in considerable increase of population in the area of the Project land. I would plead with the members of the Ceded districts not to insist that Ceded districts men alone should be given land. In the absence of proper men fit to make use of the land, they must say that even those outside who may intend to settle on the land can be given land subject to the condition that they will make use of their talents in the field of farming, for the purpose of raising extra food under the Tungabhadra Project."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"By staying in Madras."

* **SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:**—"My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib, is ignorant of Agriculture and of Projects. He stays in Madras. We do not stay in Madras."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In Triplicane."

* **SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:**—"It is not in Triplicane as I shall presently point out. I do not know whether Mr. Salam Sahib has any idea of farming. I possess some knowledge of farming which I will make use of if I acquire land under this project. But I do not desire to. What I wish to point out is that the increase of population which will flow from this project will have to be met by proper measures by erecting new homesteads for the movement of enough labour to work on the land. This is a very important thing and it should not be forgotten."

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1-15 p.m. " My hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, talked about permits. I shall confine myself only to permits in respect of lands under the Tungabhadra Project. May I point out to Mr. Salam that the permits referred to here are not like the permits issued in connexion with the export of this or that product, but these are permits to sell lands which are at present owned by particular individuals to others under certain definite conditions. These permits, Sir, are very different from the permits contemplated in other cases and even while speaking on the last occasion I said that the Government would do well to set up a machinery for this purpose entrusting them with all powers, and if possible, powers to the effect that even in the case of future irrigation projects, lands should be made alienable only under certain definite conditions and that a Land Board should be constituted for the purpose of issuing permits. Having made this clear, I am sure my hon. Friend now understands my objection to raising a general discussion on permits.

" Sir, I am one of those who stand for free trade, and I wish that the policy of the Congress Government should, in every department of its administration, be to relax controls as early as possible, including the control over cloth. Perhaps the control over food, especially paddy, will have to be the last to go. But all other controls will have to go as speedily as possible.

" Having said that, I am sure, my hon. Friend Mr. Salam will now understand why permits are necessary under this Bill and the purpose underlying the issue of these permits, which are not to any man in the street, or to any member of the Assembly, or to any other imaginary friend or foe, but to the present owner of the land wishing to part with that land in favour of some other person who may apply for more than 50 acres under the Tungabhadra Project.

" Now, Sir, let me stress one more point and finish. I would advise the Government to start straightway two State farms, one in the Bellary and the other in the Kurnool district in order to make it possible for the public to understand the extent and the value of the research already carried on in the Siruguppa farm. The idea behind the suggestion is this. Government have now acquired power to purchase land. They have the option which they can exercise within three years to purchase land, which are already in their hands or from certain owners. Let them take up convenient blocks or preferably one whole block of 1,000 acres so that there might be no dispute and so that the farming operations could be carried on smoothly and with advantage to all. These State farms should be centres not merely for training, but they should also be run on commercial lines. They should be both centres for training, training landlords and tenants and even labourers who work on the farms. Sir, I trust that hon. Members will agree with the picture I have drawn and this suggestion I have made about the Tungabhadra Project lands will be carried out as early as possible in order to show to the common man the advantages of introducing better farming methods in the Tungabhadra Project lands."

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* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, when speaking on this Bill, I should like to invite the attention of the House only to some of the important points raised by members of this side of the House. The first is the question of issue of permits. I am not disputing the principle of issuing permits under this Bill. Permits may be issued, but what I want to submit is, that the Government should not take unto themselves the supreme authority of distributing the permits. In this connexion I would call the attention of the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill to the procedure adopted by the Tennesse Valley authorities in America. They have got a separate quasi-judicial authority and they are in charge of distributing these permits and I really do not understand why the Minister should take upon himself the odium of this patronage. If only ten hon. Members on his side join together and threaten the Minister that if permits are not granted for the purchase of those lands, they would see that the Minister is sent out of office, naturally he would be made to issue those permits. In order that he might escape that odium, I would request him to see that the issue of these permits is entrusted in the hands of a quasi-judicial authority. Of course, he can have the executive authority over it and can assist this judicial authority if he wants. In this manner only could he avoid all the odium and all the corruption that might creep in under this Bill. Therefore, Sir, I wish that the Government revise their views in the light of the remarks I have just made, because if permits are going to be issued to whomsoever they pleased, then any number of people may get them. My hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari might be able to get a permit even from here, and might organize his farms in those distant places. Therefore, Sir, in order to eliminate corruption the Government should follow the example of Governments who have had similar schemes under them and adopt the methods and procedure followed by those Governments in the matter. That will be the only way of administering the Tungabhadra Project lands to the best interests of the people of this Province and to the maximum happiness of the people around that place. Sir, with these words, I resume my seat."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have much to speak on this Bill except to make one or two general observations. I was hearing with great interest to the very good speech of my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari. It is very unfortunate that the party in power has not made good use of the knowledge which he possesses regarding agriculture. However, Sir, I might suggest to the Hon. Leader of the House and the Hon. Premier, although they are not here now, that at least when the time comes for changes to be made in the Ministry, this matter might be given due consideration, so that his knowledge of agriculture might not be lost to the Government.

" Now, Sir, coming to the subject, both the Government as well as the Opposition have been agreed as to the urgent necessity and

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importance of this Bill and therefore we wholly welcome this measure, though I may say, incidentally, that it ought to have come earlier. The whole point of the Opposition is this. When you are bringing forward such a good measure with a definite purpose that the poor people of Rayalaseema are benefited, you should see that these poor villagers for whom you are going to spend this large sum of money in connexion with the Tungabhadra Project, are not exploited by the rich who are already there and who will come in immediately the project is taken on hand. It is common knowledge that whenever controls are introduced, there are always people with money to exploit the situation and to exploit it at the cost of the poor people for whom the control is intended to benefit. It is not my purpose to repeat all the things that have happened in the past when schemes of a similar nature were taken up, for even as early as, when the Poondi Reservoir was thought of, people of Madras began purchasing lands at the expense of the poor people living in the villages nearby. Therefore, our whole point is that in bringing forward this measure, the Government should see that there are no loopholes in the Bill which would allow unscrupulous people to take advantage of such loopholes and exploit the poor people.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Salam, has taken very great objection, particularly with regard to permits. After all, permits to us—Muslims—are an anathema. But the main contention of Mr. Salam and those who spoke on behalf of our party is that the permits issued in the past have been misused in many ways, and a timely warning or caution is given to Government that they should take special steps to prevent such abuses of permits issued under this Bill.

"Sir, as far as I am concerned, I know what the ultimate fate of this Bill will be. I know it is going to be passed, without even a single word being changed. It is therefore no use member after member from our party speaking on the Bill and criticizing its provisions. I hope that rules will be made under this Bill to carry out its intention and let me at least appeal to the Hon. Minister for Revenue, that when these rules are framed, they will be framed in the light of the criticisms we have made, so that the powers under this Bill may not be misused.

"As regards the Bill itself, I should like to refer to clause 3 of the Bill, which gives powers to Government to acquire the project lands under certain conditions. The question arises as to what they are going to do after acquiring the lands, and how they are going to dispose them of, after they have been acquired. You may prevent certain persons now from acquiring them, but then, it may be possible that the Government might themselves be tempted to sell them and some undesirable persons might come in and purchase them. While I am sure that the Hon. Minister for Revenue would have no inclination to accept any amendments or changes at this stage, I hope that when the rules are framed, he will bear in mind the criticisms made by the Members

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of the Opposition. There is also one other thing that I would like to suggest. When such rules are framed, I wish the Hon. Minister for Revenue could give an opportunity to the Legislature to go through the rules and express its views in the matter, so that in the result, the people of Rayalaseema might get the maximum benefit from the project and that others are not allowed to exploit them."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have closely followed all the criticisms that have been levelled against the Report of the Select Committee. Let me start, Sir, by saying that the hon. Member Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan who was a Member of the Select Committee absented himself on that day when the Select Committee sat and now he wants to take advantage of it in this House and begins to make new criticisms. (An hon. Member: 'He was in Kurnool on that day.') I don't know the details, Sir. But his name was put in the Select Committee when he was present in the House; anyhow, he was not present on the day when the Select Committee met. It would be a good thing, if hon. Members whose names are put in the Select Committee come there and discuss across the table any difficulties or points they may have, and arrive at some decisions, or get them rectified even at that stage, instead of coming to the House now and raising the same difficulties and same points. But after we have come to the open House with a Bill ready for being passed, if hon. Members begin proposing amendments not only to certain clauses but also to the terminology and the whole purpose of the Bill itself, it will be very hard indeed to accept such amendments at that stage. Then hon. Members begin levelling charges against the Government saying that they have not accepted the amendments and that it was useless for them to speak in this House and so on like my hon. Friends, Mr. Raza Khan and Mr. Salam. But leaving that alone, I should like to answer some of the criticisms that have been levelled against this Bill.

"The first is the criticisms of Mr. N. Venkatasubbayya. He was speaking about the Major Tungabhadra Project. I am sure, the idea of the Government is that in the event of the high-level channel scheme coming into effect at any future date, the application of this Act should be extended beyond the districts of Bellary and Kurnool. As a matter of fact, this point was raised by the hon. Member at the Select Committee and we have accepted his suggestion and have accordingly amended clause 1 of the Bill giving effect to it.

"Then, Sir, with reference to riparian rights he said one or two words which perhaps he did not mean. It is true that the present Tungabhadra Project could impound only a certain amount of water that annually flowed through the river. He asked, why should people who are at present enjoying water facilities down the stream be deprived of it. The object of the present scheme is to take the water to places which have been

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suffering from frequent famines. He should understand that by getting supply to one particular area, instead of this area coming under the famine areas, there will be another area which will have to suffer famine conditions. It is a matter of distribution of water which is limited. Simply because you are sitting at the head of the stream, you cannot claim all water for yourself. That is not a good proposition. I think my hon. Friend did not mean what he said."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister can continue his speech after lunch."

"The House will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Revenue Minister will now continue his speech."

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, on a point of personal explanation. Before the House rose for lunch, the Hon. Revenue Minister replying to the various criticisms, said, with reference to me, that I was insisting on the riparian rights of the Ceded districts people for the waters of the Tungabhadra as against the needs of the Kistna delta and that I wanted all the waters to be used for these districts without letting any quantity down the Tungabhadra for the use of the Kistna delta. I am sorry, Sir, the Hon. Revenue Minister has not caught my point at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member is reading from something. May I know what he is reading from?"

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"I am not reading anything except a few figures which I have noted down on this piece of paper. I think, Sir, the Hon. Minister did not either catch my point or he has thoroughly misunderstood me. I never raised the question of the riparian rights of the Ceded districts people. All that I said was if out of the available waters, after satisfying the needs of all the concerned people, there would still be left over nearly fifty thousand million cubic feet, it could as well be utilized for the famine-stricken Ceded districts. I was driving at the point that the high-level channel scheme could immediately be taken up. The question of riparian rights was never raised by me at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the point has now been made clear."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I say a word, Sir, on a point of personal explanation?"

"I am sorry I was not here when the Hon. Minister for Revenue spoke about my not attending the meetings of the Select Committee. Sir, as for those meetings of the Select Committee, I came to know I was also one of the members of that committee,

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but then the Select Committee meeting was fixed at a time when it was not possible for me to be in Madras. I had to go away to Kurnool in connexion with the opening of a college there, and in my absence meetings of not one committee, but of two committees were held, perhaps as usual with the present Government to hold meetings at short notice and also without giving to members an opportunity to make it possible for them to be here to attend the meetings. Sir, I could not attend the meeting, but that does not mean that I have neglected to discharge my duty. That is perhaps the complaint that my hon. Friend made. I do not think he can very well say that on this side of the House we are neglectful of our duties. We have been very anxious to discharge our duties satisfactorily, and if opportunity is not given to us by the way in which legislation, as I have always complained, is rushed through . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The thing is that the hon. Member was not present during the Select Committee meetings. He has answered that point now; let him not speak about other things."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I am glad that my hon. Friend Sri Venkatasubbayya has spoken about the riparian rights question. I am very glad he has done so; I should also state that I am very much in favour of impounding all the available water if it comes to it, in the Upper regions of the Tungabhadra, so that the needs of the famine areas might be served. I have already mentioned on the floor of this House my idea, which I have repeated also to my Hon. Colleague the P.W.D. Minister, that the waters of the Godavari, the Kistna, the Tungabhadra and the Pennar can very well be utilized for a number of co-operative and co-ordinated schemes for the development of irrigation."

"Then, Sir, about the other points raised, the most important one only I would like to deal with now. One point raised was about the 50 acres limit being made a family unit as suggested by the hon. Lady Member in the opposition. This point I would like to consider when we frame the rules under this Bill."

"The hon. Member Sri Ramaswami wanted me to convey a warning to other places also where there is a prospect of these projects coming into operation. Well, Sir, I shall gladly do so; I warn from my place here all those who want to speculate in the purchase of lands simply for selling them later on at higher prices, whether they come under the Ramapadasagar scheme or the Sangameswaram scheme, not to do so, because harsher Bills will be coming in, in the days to come, to prevent them from acquiring such rights."

"Then I have to answer one or two points raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Salam. He has got a hallucination. He thinks that everybody here wants to do something as a favour to somebody else. Speaking personally, Sir, nobody, neither friend nor foe, has charged me till this moment with any such thing. (An hon.

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Member: Question.) Well-wishers will always question. He was criticising about the word 'permit'. We have to judge that word according to the circumstances, according to the terminology and according to the Act in which that word is defined. Here in regard to the Tungabhadra project, what was the need for a permit? There is a general misunderstanding on his part; he thought a permit was needed from this Government for those who wanted to purchase land over and above 50 acres and the Government would extend patronage and would abuse such 'patronage'. I would like to state that this permit is to be used for a particular kind of control, not for giving a licence to any one to purchase anything. Suppose a person has got 40 acres of land; he wants to purchase a few more acres; and if he can straightway purchase any extent we may not know anything about it, and if there is not this control system, he will purchase probably three instead of two. In order to prevent such abuse, this system of permits has been introduced here; it is not for distributing any kind of patronage to any one. If they want to distribute patronage really, why should the Government bring in this Bill at all?

"Then it was complained that people have gone there to purchase lands in the years 1942 to 1946; but let me mention on this occasion, as I mentioned on the first day of the debate, that some gentlemen of Bellary district who are reputed millionaires acquired thousands of acres; I can also quote a list of names which I have in my hand. (An hon. Member: 'Officials'?) As regards officials, Sir, the other day Mr. Salam mentioned it; and to-day Mr. Hameed Khan mentioned it. I will take all disciplinary action to the utmost extent the Government can take—if any one name is given. Mr. Salam did not mention any name; I would now request Mr. Hameed Khan to mention names; and if he gives me the names, I will do whatever is possible to dispossess such people of the lands they have purchased, if it is found that it was speculation in the sense in which we know it.

"Then, Sir, I will assure my friend Mr. Raza Khan and my hon. Friend Mr. Salam that they can rely upon me and the Government that we will not allow anybody to take a permit to acquire lands as such. We are not at all interested in it; as a matter of fact, it is only to prevent such a kind of thing that this Bill is introduced. Sir, I also take the hint from the hon. Member Mr. Raza Khan and shall consider the procedure he suggested when we frame the rules. His idea was that in the grant of these permits, the Minister or somebody in the Government should not take a hand; if they do, they would be influenced in the working of this Act in these modern democratic days, that all people would go to the Minister, including himself, and would exploit their position and get a permit. Sir, he need not be under any such misapprehension; because we will take all precautions to see that permits when once granted are granted in a public manner, as a public business, in a public way. And if hon. Members find us abusing our power in the matter of the alienation of these permits, they can find fault with us at that

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stage. But I can assure them once again that we will try to make a provision in the rules that the agency which will allocate these permits, apart from what is defined in the Act, would be a public officer like a District Collector or other officer appointed by the Government. The hon. Member Mr. Salam was asking 'why not a judicial officer; why not a deputy collector.' The Bill does not actually say who the officer should be, but if the hon. Member wants even a non-official to be included in the list, I have no objection.

"Sir, with reference to the suggestion of Mr. N. S. Varadachari that state-farming should be started I want to say that that was the reason why we have made a provision to acquire all land owned by any person in excess of fifty acres purchased after October 1944. Under clause 3 of this Bill, such land will be purchased by Government at the first auction at the price or prices for which the land was purchased originally. It is only to introduce the system of state-farming that we want to get possession of all those lands, and if there are any big holdings, we will start state-farming or co-operating farming. That will really be a new experiment in a dry area on dry crops. I accept the suggestion that we should try to experiment on it as far as possible.

"Finally, Sir, I must say that there is nothing unusual in this Bill and it need not frighten anybody. This Bill is merely intended to control the ownership of land and we are also going to adopt improved methods of agriculture.

"Lastly, let me say one word, Sir. The other day, my hon. Friend, Mr. Karanth said that I did not mention a word about the efforts and the labour that the previous Government had put in bringing this Bill. As a matter of fact, the fact that we have brought forward this legislation will show that it is really a beneficial Bill. When introducing this Bill, I had left mentioning about the work of the previous Government in this matter because I thought I could do so at the proper stage. Certainly I would have done it. None the less, as it has been pointed out, let me say one word in this connexion. It is for the fathers to acquire things and it is for the sons to enjoy them. So also, the members of the present Ministry should also be given a chance to enjoy the fruits of the labour of their predecessors. If Mr. Karanth has framed this Bill, then he would certainly allow his friend Mr. Kala Venkata Rao in getting the credit for getting it passed. Therefore, I would request all hon. Members not to oppose this measure but to pass it unanimously."

The motion that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, I will take the Bill clause by clause. I will take clause 3 first."

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Clause 3.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan has given notice of two amendments to this clause. Mr. Hameed Khan will now move his amendments."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move the two amendments of which I have given notice. I have mentioned both of them in my remarks on the motion for consideration. The first is that in line 2, of sub-clause (1) of clause 3, substitute the word 'ten' for the word 'fifty'. Sir, my object in reducing fifty acres to ten acres is to make it possible for a large number of people to own land in that area which is going to be very fertile after the project comes into being. As I said earlier, fifty acres possessed by one individual is too extensive. It is necessary for us to divide such lands amongst a large number of landless people belonging to various communities and particularly to the backward communities who have not even an idea of what ownership of a piece of land means and who have not been able to enjoy the benefits of the land. So, in order to enable them to own and cultivate lands, it is necessary for us to reduce the extent from fifty to ten acres. In the place of one person having fifty acres, we can give that land to five persons so that they can put their individual effort in cultivating these lands for the benefit of the country and for the benefit of themselves. Living as we do under present conditions, it is necessary for us to make it possible for a large number of people not only to own lands but also to cultivate them. The present tendency on the part of large owners of land is to allow other people to cultivate the land instead of themselves making an effort in that direction. It also creates a class of what are called absentee landlords. People, sitting in the City practising as very big lawyers and getting large sums of money are also owners of big lands and they do not know what is happening in their land. What they know is that at the end of the year they get the produce from the land, the benefits derived from the land.

"Sir, there is another class of people, the labourers belonging to the backward communities. They belong mostly to scheduled class or backward communities. If we are going to raise the extent of land to fifty acres, then these poor people will be deprived of the benefit of owning and cultivating land.

"Sir, the other amendment of which I have given notice is that the words 'within three years from the commencement of this Act' shall be omitted. I want these words occurring in sub-clause (1) to be deleted because my view is that it would be possible for the Government to bring into execution the provisions of this Bill, and particularly this clause, immediately as the project begins to function and that Government would not wait for three long years. This is my object. If these words are taken away, then the Government can call upon the owners of land possessing more than fifty acres—and ten acres if my previous amendment is accepted—and then they can sell the

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land in excess over the prescribed figure at the price for which the land was purchased immediately the project comes into existence without waiting for three years. So, Sir, I believe that this amendment is necessary because Government cannot wait for three long years even after the Project comes into existence. I do not remember the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill having told us that such a period is necessary for administrative purposes. I am not able to see what exactly is the object of this long period between the execution of the Project and the compulsion on the part of the Government on the owner of the land to sell away his excess land to the Government. I hope, Sir, that these two amendments will be accepted by the Government. If I were able to attend the Select Committee meeting, I would have suggested these amendments, but my hon. Friend, Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, should have himself thought about it. I thought he belongs to a party, a democratic party, which wishes to free itself from all suspicion. If the Hon. Minister wants to divide the land among a large number of people, then why should he seek to keep the figure so high and leave such an extent of land in the hands of one individual or one family?

"Then, Sir, of course, there are other provisions in the Bill which have been explained by my hon. Friend. In his reply to the debate, the permit system was also referred to by him. I hope, Sir, that it would be possible for the Hon. the Minister in charge of this Bill to accept these amendments, namely, to reduce the extent of land to be owned by one individual to ten acres and secondly to make it compulsory on the part of the owner to sell away the excess land to the Government immediately the Project comes into being. Under this clause, Government are also expecting the person to sell his land at price or prices for which the land was purchased by him. That is a very wholesome suggestion, but I could easily see that this particular clause could be circumvented in many ways when the time for sale comes because, later on, when the Government buys this land from such individuals, Government may not be in a position to know the exact price or prices for which the land had been purchased by the individual. I know that the persons concerned will resort to so many devices to circumvent the provision contained in this clause. So, in order to prevent such a circumvention on the part of the individual, I think it is safe for the Government to call upon the owners of this excess land to sell that land to the Government immediately after the project has been executed. With these words, Sir, I move my two amendments."

N. M. ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendments."

* SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, I consider that this clause is a very important clause in the whole Bill because I find that with this clause, this Government can introduce the thin end of the wedge of Socialism. There may be difference of opinion as regards the extent a man can own. I can understand

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that a person could own and cultivate fifty acres or forty acres or ten acres. It all depends upon local circumstances, the fertility of the soil and various other factors. In considering the question as to what extent a man can be allowed to possess under this project, we have to take into consideration the main object with which the Tungabhadra Project is being executed. It must be remembered, Sir, that this is a Project in which very little wet irrigation is permitted. The real extent of wet land under this Project will be only about ten or fifteen per cent of the total area and the rest of the land comes under dry irrigation. So, Sir, with this point of view, we have to consider whether fifty acres is enough. I say, Sir, that fifty acres is necessary. We have been crying hoarse against subdivisions and fragmentation of holdings. So, in a dry area like Bellary and Kurnool, where the rainfall is scarce and precarious, where famine is an oft-recurring evil, it is absolutely necessary, that if a man wants to get on with agriculture on an economical basis, he cannot have less than fifty acres. Therefore, to reduce the extent of land owned by a person on some ideological principle or some ideological grounds from fifty to twenty or ten, is, I think, wholly wrong. Such a suggestion should not be taken into consideration at all in the present day conditions. The Project is intended after all for dry-farming in an area where rainfall is insufficient and precarious. It is a different matter if we organize on a radical and totally different basis socialist or communist. I am glad, however, to note that my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan is trying to get into the Socialistic attitude. I wish he keeps it up uniformly and consistently and not simply air such views because he wanted to move an amendment to reduce the extent of land from fifty acres to ten acres. As a man belonging to that district, I know that farming of less than fifty acres of dry land is very uneconomic. I, therefore, think, Sir, that fifty acres is absolutely essential. I see there are also certain other points which are implied in this clause, which if given effect to will go a long way to organize agricultural farming and agricultural colonies in the Ceded Districts. They could take over all land over 50 acres acquired by speculators and support the poor landless labourers who form probably more than 70 or 80 per cent of the population in the unfortunate districts, and the Government can build up new villages on modern lines. If we go into the statistics relating to holdings in those areas, we find that the average holding. . . .

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let the hon. Member be brief."

* SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"In that area, there are only eight acres per family. If we want to make agriculture economic and profitable, we must see that the small owners of land are given more land and Government can certainly give them more land from the lands acquired by them in order to improve their economic prosperity."

* SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Sir, with regard to the 50 acre average on which my hon. Friend was speaking, I wish to

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associate myself with the views expressed, namely, in dry areas like the Ceded Districts, 50 acres would be not too big an area and that has been provided in the Bill. Again, reference was made to the three years' period. Sir, three years referred to in the Bill is from the commencement of the Act and not three years from the completion of the project. The project may even take five or six years. It is because Government have to make up their mind in regard to all acquisitions and work out the cost, the period of three years has been fixed in the Bill. I think that is quite reasonable."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to the two amendments moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, my hon. Friends, Karanth and Venkatasubbayya have answered both the points. The point here is, the question of 50-acre limit is not with reference to all the agricultural property owned either under the Tungabhadra area or in the whole of this Presidency. The legislation which will come off later will have to deal with this question of ryotwari pattadar, because there will be no zamindaris in the future and what is the limit which an agriculturer will own has got to be defined with reference to the irrigational facilities and other facilities that are available and what is the quantum of land that can be allotted to each with regard to circumstances of each. If that Bill comes up it will then be time for my hon. Friends to put in a plea with regard to the poor man in regard to what the maximum limit will be."

"Now, with reference to the other point, my hon. Friend, Mr. Karanth, has already explained. As soon as the Bill becomes law, we shall try to work out the figures. Here the Bill sets a limit of three years, because we cannot make fresh claims later on and therefore we should act quickly now. With reference to the value of the land, I can tell my hon. Friends that the purchase price is ranging between Rs. 5-15-0 per acre to Rs. 50 per acre. There cannot be any manipulation in this matter also. Therefore, I would request my hon. Friend to withdraw his amendments."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I withdraw, Sir."

The amendments were by leave of the House withdrawn.

Clauses 3 to 9 were put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Sri K. Bhashvram who has given notice of an amendment to this clause is not in his place and so his amendment falls through."

Clause 10 was put and carried.

Clauses 11 to 16 were put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

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SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to say something about this clause."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Clause 2 has already been passed and now I am on clause 1."

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I move—
'that the bill be passed into law.'

"In this connexion, I thank all hon. Members for the suggestions that they have made at the Select Committee and in the discussion that took place in this House on the Bill."

* SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, I wanted to speak on clause 1 of the Bill but having lost that opportunity of doing so, because I could not keep pace with the speed of the Hon. Speaker, I wish to take a few minutes to say something now about the high-level channel. Hon. Members here who belong to other districts may not know what the high-level channel means. To us, the famine-stricken people of the Ceded Districts, it is a great boon. They may not understand all its implications. They may not understand what hope of economic prosperity this high-level channel holds out for some of the villages in Kurnool, Pattikonda and certain other taluks. It is therefore that I want to take this occasion to impress on the attention of this House the need for the early execution of the high-level channel. I was interested in getting this amendment carried in the Select Committee and included in this clause the words 'or any other district'. Those words did not occur in the original Government Bill as it was published. The implication of these words is that villages which come under this high-level channel the speculation of lands in those villages, should be prohibited. That is the meaning of the amendment which I gave notice of and which the Select Committee approved. There are also certain other implications in it which I wish to emphasize here. Just now, a small misconception arose about the availability of the Tungabhadra waters but it has fortunately been removed. I said that making allowance for all the needs of the waters of the Tungabhadra for existing irrigation whether in Bellary, Kurnool, or Kistna, on the basis of facts and figures—these facts and figures are based on the authority of the report drawn up by the highest Engineering official of the Province, who was specially deputed for investigation of this project—about 50 thousand million cubic feet of water will still be available after meeting the needs of the Kistna delta. That means this 50 thousand million cubic feet of water can be used for the high-level channel. It may of course be stated that this construction of the high-level channel has not begun and when I raised the question when it would be constructed

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I am sorry that no definite answer was forthcoming. For the information of the House, I shall read a few lines from the official report and crave your indulgence, Sir:

"The present project is only for a partial utilization of 115 thousand million cubic feet of available supplies. The total available supplies are estimated to be 336 thousand million cubic feet. After mentioning the needs of the existing irrigation which err on the side of safety, viz., Kurnool—Cuddapah, Kistna delta, Mysore, Bombay and Miscellaneous, the Report continues:

"The balance 100 thousand million cubic feet available for new irrigation at the final sharing. This would mean about 50 thousand million cubic feet each.

There is no reason why Thungabhadra should contribute towards Kistna new schemes when the available supplies in Kistna are so large that major part of it goes to sea now. And Hyderabad gets half of Thungabhadra whatever may be the available supplies in the river for utilisation. Nobody loses in this."

"These are the extracts which I am quoting from a report on the Tungabhadra Project published by the Government, though it is only for official use. I suppose all these things are not confidential. Since I was a member of the Ceded Districts Development Board I had access to it and so I think I can use it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Let not the hon. Member read at length from the report."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"One or two more lines only, Sir, and it is this:

"So a further 100 thousand million cubic feet may be considered available for future Tungabhadra Project development at 50 thousand million cubic feet each. The probable area of irrigation for the partial scheme has been worked out on very conservative lines. It will be possible to bring more areas under command if water is available for them without any very large outlet on higher gates or on the canal system."

"That is my point. I think I have proved my case on the basis of facts and figures from the official report. I therefore appeal to the Government to do their best to take up the high-level channel.

"Sir, there is another point which I want to make clear. It is in regard to speculation and if it is to be effective we should cut at the root. We are trying in this Bill to counteract speculation at a late hour with retrospective effect. When this Bill was introduced, I pointed out that this Bill has come very late. I want this Government to guard themselves against any part of the villages that come under this high-level channel being subject to speculation. Therefore in section 1 of clause 2, sub-clause (b), I want that all the villagers that will be affected by the high-level channel should be brought under the schedule by a definite notification at a very early date. It is stated that for this proviso requiring the approval of both the Houses of Legislature my hon. Friend Mr. Karanth was responsible. It says "Provided that no such notification shall come into force, unless it is approved by both the Chambers of the Provincial Legislature." I wonder whether there is need for this provision. But, since it has been put in and cannot be removed at this late hour, I request the Government to see that this notification comes up immediately before both the Chambers of the

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Legislature, so that any delay may not occur and all these villages also may be protected against speculation by timely prevention."

3-15 p.m. * SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Sir, I would like to explain the object of this amendment which is proposed to be made. It is to make this Act applicable to other areas in other districts and other villages which have not been mentioned in the schedule to this Act. That will affect a series of alienations for a very long period. People in these districts and villages will not know that this Act will even apply. Therefore, Sir, when the Government have the power of introducing this Act by any notification and to apply the law with retrospective effect to those areas, it is only fair that such a notification is placed before the House so that objections if any by interested parties may be brought forward to the notice of the House and of the Government."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, no fresh points have been raised in the course of the debate on the third reading of the Bill. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatasubbayya, sought to bring it to the notice of the House the need for the early implementation of the scheme to have a high-level channel for the Tungabhadra Project. I can assure him that the Government would do all that is in their power to get that object achieved. With reference to the other clause, Mr. Karanth has already explained the implications and I would request the House to pass the Bill into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE MALABAR IRRIGATION WORKS (CONSTRUCTION AND
LEVY OF CESS) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 14 OF 1947).

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I beg to present the Report" of the Select Committee on the Malabar Irrigation Works (Construction and Levy of Cess) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1947) and move that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

"The Select Committee has made very few changes in this Bill. I invite the attention of the House to two or three of those changes.

"In section 6 (2) they have raised the rate of compensation from 10 times to 15 times. The argument was the acquisition is to be under the terms of the Land Acquisition Act which comes at the present market rate of interest to about 25 times the assessment or the value. Therefore as a compromise 15 times has been introduced in the place of 10 times in the original Bill after due discussion.

"Then, Sir, clause 7 (1): The implication was that a retired judge may be appointed. Now we have changed it so as to mean that only an active District Judge in service can be appointed.

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"Then, Sir, there is clear provision in sub-clause (4) of section 7 that the opinions of the assessors shall be taken into consideration before the Judge pronounces judgment.

"With regard to clause 9, formerly there were appeals provided by the High Court for lands of over 2,000 acres. That limit is now taken away because it is a question of rights and granting of compensation for them. Anybody who feels aggrieved can carry his appeal to the High Court.

"Then, Sir, another important clause is section 20, clause (3). 'All such rules shall be laid before both the Chambers of the Provincial Legislature.' This suggestion came towards the end of the discussion and the Select Committee unanimously agreed that some such provision is needed in the case of rules and we have made a start in that direction.

"I would request the House to pass the Bill without further delay."

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in speaking on this Bill I have to invite the attention of this House to the great neglect to which Malabar has been subject in the matter of irrigation. As has been said in the objects and reasons of the Bill, Malabar has been practically having no irrigation and while more than Rs. 2,150 lakhs has been spent on the rest of the Presidency for irrigational purposes only, a paltry sum of Rs. 3,000 has been spent on Malabar all these years on irrigational schemes. In fact, in Malabar there are no Government irrigation projects at all and the main difficulty or the sole difficulty which was pointed out by the Government in venturing on irrigational projects was that Government had to interfere with private rights and unless Government were enabled to take powers to acquire lands and irrigational resources and channels they would not be successful in launching on irrigation works. That difficulty is now sought to be removed by the Bill and the people of Malabar will be certainly vying with one another in welcoming this legislation which will empower the Government to start useful irrigational projects. They should not rest content with this useful enactment as a substitute for meeting the just and legitimate irrigational needs of the people of Malabar. My request to them would be to re-examine the whole question of irrigation in Malabar and useful irrigational projects be started in all the taluks of the Malabar district. Though Malabar is second in population only to Vizagapatam according to the census of 1931 and, I believe, the first according to the latest census report, is depending upon agriculture. The district has always remained a deficit district in the matter of rice and they have been depending upon the wherewithal for their food on Burma and districts outside Malabar with the result that very often they are subject to great hardships in the matter of their food. So if irrigational facilities are extended to this district, this state of affairs will certainly change and the people will be in a much better and prosperous position and will be able to feed their teeming millions in the district. We are now really half-starved for want of adequate foodgrains.

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"One thing which I have to submit in this connection is that in spite of the recommendation of the Select Committee regarding the appealability of the decisions of the Special Court, I find the amendment carried out appears to be rather defective. According to me it appears that the amendment would tend to restrict the appeals only to the quantum or the amount of the compensation allowed and its apportionment. Suppose a matter involving title of the person who is entitled to compensation or questions of law, like the question of limitations, where the decision which makes the party aggrieved does not relate to the amount of compensation awarded or the method of apportionment, would not the section be a bar to appealability when the decision rests on such questions? Clause 9 (1) says 'From every decision of the Special Court as regards the amount of compensation or its apportionment, an appeal shall lie to the High Court.' Here only two matters are mentioned, the amount of compensation and the apportionment of the same. What I respectfully submit, Sir, is that the section may be made comprehensive so that from every decision of the Special Court irrespective of the points decided an appeal shall lie to the High Court. In the Select Committee a suggestion was made to this effect. It was left to be incorporated in the Act by the Legal Secretary and in the Act of incorporation, I am afraid, the scope of the Bill has narrowed down and practically failed to meet the object of a suggestion that was made at the Select Committee.

(At this stage Madam Deputy Speaker took the Chair.)

"Madam, I hope that soon after this enactment becomes law, it must be followed by useful irrigational projects in Malabar which would make the people of Malabar prosperous and free from the threatened starvation which now faces them."

* M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, I congratulate the present Ministry rather than the old Ministry or the Government, for having at last taken up this matter now. You know, as my learned friend, Mr. Seethi Sahib has said, Malabar was a territory hitherto neglected in almost all matters of advancement, industrial and agricultural. But now I hope and believe that we are not going to stop with this legislation and that the Government would consider the real measures beneficial to the people of my land.

"Now, Madam, Deputy Speaker, I wish to draw the attention of this House to some of the important and some of the salient features of the present legislation which affects the people of Malabar. Now you know there are various provisions relating to the collection of water-cess in this Bill. The Bill also says it is to provide for the construction of irrigation works and the levy of water-cess in the district of Malabar but I am really surprised that this Bill also provides for some regulating the relationship of the landholder and tenant in Malabar. My submission to you is that clause 14 is unnecessary in this legislation. That is a matter of defining the rights and liabilities of the landlord and tenant in Malabar which need not have been gone into in

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this piece of legislation. Then, again, Madam, Deputy Speaker, I should like to refer to some other clauses, for example, clause 6. Now clause 6 relates to compensation, compensation payable to the people who are to be affected by the Government's intention to erect reservoirs and other necessary improvements to the properties where they intend to establish water tanks and other necessary machinery to implement agriculture. It is undisputed that most of the lands are in the possession of tenants in Malabar. The janmis very rarely cultivate the land and now whatever compensation you pay, that compensation goes not mostly to the janmi but to the tenant.

"What is the compensation that you would give to the tenant? In one case it is fifteen times the annual yield and twelve times in the other. It has been conceded by the Hon. Minister that according to the Land Acquisition Act, the compensation payable to the proprietors is twenty-five times. I would like to bring to the notice of this House that there have been several decisions of the Madras High Court that so long as the value of the pledged securities stands high, the compensation payable may be even 33½ times. If that were so, I request you to consider whether this requires revision. If you really intend to benefit the tenants in Malabar, you give them as much compensation as possible and unless that is done the tenants in Malabar will not be satisfied. I do not speak for the landlords; but anyhow they have been shut out of all benefits under the improved system of agriculture. At least in cases where compensation is payable, would you not give them the same compensation to which they are entitled under the Land Acquisition Act?" 3-30 p.m.

"Now, I come to clause 13 which says that the water-cess payable will be the first charge upon the person's interest in the land and the crops raised thereon. This clause is sufficient in cases where the tenants themselves are cultivating; but in cases where the landlord is the actual cultivator, that the provision made is insufficient. You know under section 41 of the Malabar Tenancy Act whatever rent is payable by a tenant to the landlord is a charge and again the revenue payable by the landlord also is the first charge. In the case of revenue, the difficulty does not arise because he himself as the pattadar is the defaulter and he has to pay to the Government. The difficulty arises when it is the landlord who has to pay the revenue and the tenant has to pay the water-cess. The landlord's interest can either be sold under the provisions of the Revenue Recovery Act or under this Act, but I put it to you which will be given priority. There is no provision by which the water-cess is to be collected here. It may be a matter for rules and even there, it does not find a place among the items in respect of which Government have taken powers to frame rules. If it is a matter for sale, I put it to you that the entire clause has to be recast and the provision has to be modified to suit the convenience of all persons concerned. There is another difficulty. Under section 41 of the Malabar Tenancy Act, arrears of rent and renewal fees are a charge on the interest

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of the person in the holding. Under section 13, if the tenant makes a default and the Government brings his rights to sale, what is the position of the landlord? The landlord would have to recover his portion of the rent and what is the provision you have made? There is no provision to meet such a contingency.

"I come to clause 14. As I have already stated this clause is unnecessary. That is a clause which regulates the relationship between the landlord and the tenant; it lays down that the landlord is not entitled to any increment by way of rent with regard to excess produce from the land. But what have you stated about the position of the tenant? Can I take it from the same clause that the tenant is to be benefited. I am afraid that the Government have not fully considered this provision because they are silent about the rights of the tenant. No doubt, the landlord is not allowed to have enhanced rent; but what are the rights of the tenant? Are you going to allow him to enjoy all the benefits that he derived from the money spent from the common fund? Certainly not. If that were your intentions, you would have stated them here. On the other hand, this is a policy of robbing Peter and paying Paul. You do not give anything to the landlord and at the same time, I am afraid, you will be collecting every pie from the tenant of every benefit that he derived from it on the ground that he derived so much by the improvements effected by Government. If that were so, the tenant is not at all going to be benefited. Under this clause, it is stated that it does not affect the provisions of the Malabar Tenancy Act in so far as fixation of fair rent is concerned. I tell you there is a lot of difficulties in working out this clause. You know that fair rent is to be fixed according to clauses 5, 6 and 7 of the Malabar Tenancy Act. In those cases, you have to find out the average yield for three years immediately preceding the date on which you fix the rent. Where you give additional facility for agriculture and when the fair rent of that land is to be fixed how are you going to calculate the fair rent of the land on this basis which has been benefited by improved water facility? There have been cases where the tenants would have been benefited equally without the Government's supply of water, namely, by means of rainfall. These would be cases where the tenants would have been benefited to the utmost and the landlord would have been entitled to a portion of that benefit also in fixing fair rent. Can you say how much of accretion and how much of increased produce is due to the water supplied by the Government and how much for the water obtained from natural sources. Unless you are going to define and demarcate, it is impossible to fix fair rent under this clause. There are other clauses of the Malabar Tenancy Act which governs the fixing of fair rent, the application to be made by the tenant and other things. In those cases, you feel the difficulty. As I told you clause 14 is not necessary at present. You leave it and amend the sections of Malabar Tenancy Act.

"Then I come to the last clause, the clause relating to the rule-making powers of the Government. The Government are going to make rules and place them on the table of the House.

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I wish to ask whether we shall have a voice in the framing of the rules. I feel that rule-making is a thing which you should do only after consulting this House because it is an intricate matter relating to the levy of the cess and the relationship between the landlord and tenant. I feel that these are matters which require great thought and calm deliberation. In view of the fact that the tenants in Malabar are to be benefited and the legislation is intended for their benefit, I would request a modification of this clause.

"One more point and I have finished. I come to clause 5. This clause vests the rights in the river-beds and water-channel in the Government. I do not know how far we will be entitled to legislate in this matter, matters of accretion, property rights and title in navigable rivers—I do not know if it falls within our purview. It has been stated that the entire water-course in which the irrigation work is constructed including the water in the tributaries and branches thereof, shall be the property of the Government. There is no reason for claiming water which does not feed or is not intended to feed the said irrigation work. From the irrigation work up to the sea, there is no necessity for the Government to legislate. This is a point which you had better leave to private individuals to settle among themselves. Let me take the example of the Bharatha river. It starts from Palghat. You may require reservoir or some construction in one portion of the river. But when you come to Ponnani town which is the place where the river enters the sea, there are lands belonging to individuals. Are you going to take away the rights of these people also by means of this clause? So also you have the Feroke and Kallai rivers where big saw mills and tile factories are being run by private individuals. It will be too much for you to take in possession of all these areas as well in case you want to erect reservoirs. Therefore, my suggestion to you is that from the place where the reservoir is put up up to the sea, please do not claim any rights in those areas. These are some of the suggestions that I wish to make. I have also some amendments to the Bill and I will be speaking about them when they come up for consideration."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Madam, the Gentleman that spoke before me has raised a number of points regarding the clauses of the Bill. I am very glad that Mr. Seethi Sahib has accepted the principle and the need to have a legislation of this type. As a matter of fact they said it was rather late. Nonetheless the previous Government thought of this measure, and have framed it. Now, it is before the House after the Select Committee stage. Hon. Members, Mr. Seethi Sahib and two other friends from Malabar, and another from South Kanara were in the Select Committee. They have gone through the Bill and aided us in wording the clauses of the Bill. Now, Sir, the objection, *seriatim*, is to clause 6 that under the Land Acquisition Act the landlord is entitled to get even 33 times, and that we have limited it to 15 times. The reason is apparent that the landlord also will get a benefit out of the new irrigation work, and therefore, a portion of the allotted compensation is to be cut

3-45
p.m.

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off. These are days when things are expropriated in other countries. In this country we are still in the stage of giving compensation, and when giving compensation, if we should think of higher amounts, I do not think we will get popular approval. As a matter of fact, the compensation proposed in the original Bill was only ten times. The hon. Member, Mr. Karanth, said 12 times, and now it is changed to 15 after a lot of discussion and compromise, and I do think that there is any reason why that figure should be increased. He was very particular about clause 14. He says that the relationship between the landlord and the cultivator will be disturbed. We have no idea. This Bill does not confer any more rights than those that exist nor does it take away any rights that exist. With reference to the ownership of the water-courses that are passing through, or the tenancy rights of the land appurtenant to these works, Government do not seek to interfere in any way. In clause 15, it is said that the benefit of the improvement should rest with the tenant and not with the janmi. The reason here also is apparent. The money is spent by the Government and the improvement is made. Why should somebody who is not cultivating the land get it? The actual man that cultivates it—whoever it is—will get it. If it is the janmi he also will get it. It is not taken away from him. But if it is the tenant that actually cultivates it, he will get it. It is not open to the janmi to impose fresh conditions increasing the rent simply because the value of the produce is increased. The margin of benefit, as will be apparent from clause 14, will remain with the actual cultivator, let him be verumpattamdar or janmi. Therefore, my hon. Friends need not have any apprehensions that anything drastic is being done in this matter.

(At this stage Mr. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

“The question of permanent legislation regarding janmi, verumpattamdar, kanamdar and others will be determined in a fresh legislation that will be brought before this House. As a matter of fact, I have already issued invitations to hon. Members from Malabar on this side and opposite for a discussion tomorrow with reference to the Malabar Tenancy legislation. With reference to the present measure, I assure hon. Members that they need not have any apprehensions. Regarding the rule-making powers to which also he made a reference, he knows that these powers are taken in almost all the Bills that come up before the legislature. He should thank the Select Committee who agreed to place the rules to be framed under this Act on the table of both the Houses. As I said in the beginning, formerly the Government would publish the rules and then keep quiet. But now the Government have brought it to the legislature. The reason is very clear. We want to have the opinion of the Members so that due attention can be given. There may be a stage at which a rule is needed when the legislature is not in session. Government cannot afford to wait before another session is called. At any time when rules are published, six weeks' time is given for Members to send in their objections. The rules are placed in their hands at various stages.

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I may also inform my hon. Friends who have raised objections to-day—I now repeat my original charge—that for three months and odd they kept quiet. The Bill was published in January, and it is introduced in April. Not even one objection has come from Malabar so far. But to-day when actually the select committee's report is placed in their hands, many objections are raised by hon. Members. In the working of the Act, we do feel all the defects mentioned by them and amendments will be brought in if necessary. The clauses are put there with a particular object. Therefore, I would request my hon. Friends to withdraw their criticism, and thus help me in getting this Bill passed into law.”

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What about clause 9?”

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“I understand that it has been so framed as to prevent every kind of appeal going to the High Court. The main purpose with regard to that is regarding compensation and apportionment, and that is provided for.”

* K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of information, Sir. May I just state for the information of the Hon. Minister that even in the minutes of the Select Committee, it is mentioned. My point was that provision should be made for appeals being filed in the High Court even on questions of law irrespective of the amount of compensation. That is my point. That is now shut out by the clause as it now stands. Only on the amount of compensation and apportionment can you take a matter to the High Court on appeal. Irrespective of the amount and mode of compensation . . .”

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“The hon. Member may bring in an amendment. We will consider it.

“The motion that the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration was put and carried.”

M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, I understand that nobody except myself has given notice of amendments to this Bill, and as directed by my Party, I am not moving any of my amendments.”

Clauses 3 to 20 were put one by one and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“I beg to move, Sir,—

‘that the Bill be passed into law.’

“I thank the hon. Members of the Opposition and also on this side for having given almost unanimous support for the safe passage of this Bill, and I do hope that Malabar will have a large number of irrigation works in the years to come.”

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* M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is our anxiety to see that good, elaborate irrigation projects are made in Malabar for the benefit of the agriculturists, and that has forced me not to move any of my amendments. As I have already stated in the beginning, clauses 5, 13 and 14 require the attention of Government. Some amendments are to be effected to confirm the benefits to the tenants in general. I hope Government would consider these aspects immediately, and along with them take up the matter of constructing the reservoirs and making necessary arrangements for better agriculture in Malabar.

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Government for having brought forward this measure which affects the life of Malabar. For a long time it has been the cry, whenever we were pleading for some irrigation projects in Malabar, that land tenures in that part of the Province were very peculiar, and therefore, Government were helpless in the matter. Now that this measure is going to be passed into law, I hope, Government will take the earliest steps to introduce and make irrigation projects in that district so that the catastrophe that we experienced about two or three years ago by which we had to lose about 50,000 people will not repeat itself again. What I want to impress upon the Government is that unfortunately that part of the Province has been neglected not only in this respect but in many other respects, and this peculiar feature of neglect is due to the fact that in the Governments here we had not our say. That is another reason, Sir, that we demand separate existence, however small the unit of administration it may be. We have a different culture, different habits, different nature, in that part of the country. Therefore, I point out to the Government the necessity of partitioning that district so that we may develop our own culture and our own ways of life in whatever way it may suit us. I would request this Government to expedite matters so that Malabar may not experience another catastrophe, and make that district self-sufficient as far as food is concerned. I hope the Minister for Food, the Minister for Public Works and the Minister for Revenue will put their heads together and see that we have a self-sufficient district very soon."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I have already answered the criticisms. I have only to say that Government will administer the Bill in such a manner as to bring all benefits to the poor agriculturists of Malabar."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(3) THE MADRAS SHOPS AND ESTABLISHMENTS BILL, 1947.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Shops and Establishments Bill, 1947 and I move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. I will announce later the personnel of the Committee."

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* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, I wish this measure had been brought by the Congress Government in 1937. But all these years, and particularly in 1937, the Congress Government never cared to bring in any labour legislation worth mentioning. Now, after a period of ten years, it is bringing this legislation. Of course, if you go into the details for this Bill, you will find there is nothing extraordinary to bring any credit to the Congress Government. Most of the provisions of the Bill, particularly in regard to the number of hours of work, leave with pay, etc., are merely copied from the Central Act. Another provision from the Payment of Wages Act has been added only to see that the employees in the shops are punished with fine and other things. There are many other features in the Bill, which have to be objected to. This Bill was published four or five months back, and from that date Government have been postponing this Bill till now, and it is only to-day they have brought it forward before this House, and we have only one hour to-day and one hour to-morrow to discuss this measure. How can such an important measure be discussed in two meagre hours?

"As regards the hours of work the Bill fixes it at 48 hours a week. Most civilized Governments have fixed the hours of work from 40 to 42 hours a week. The League of Nations Committee on Labour have recommended 40 hours of work a week. But our Congress Government, the so-called civilized Government now comes forward with a Bill and fixed the hours of work at 48 hours a week? If you go to the branches of several shops you will see that they are making the employees work for fifty and sixty hours a week, though it would be made to appear they are working only for lesser hours. This is an objectionable feature and I have given notice of amendments. As regards overtime, people are made to work overtime. It is to prevent people from working overtime, the Central Government have fixed the prohibitive at double the ordinary rate. But this Government fixed it at $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the rate. In the Punjab, Sind, and Bengal, you will find overtime work is paid at double the rate. I do not know what makes the Congress Government here fix it at $1\frac{1}{2}$ times. Since the very principle is to discourage overtime work, the rate of payment should be high. I hope at least in the select committee stage this defect will be rectified. If the Government want to enjoy the confidence of the shop assistants several objectionable features should be removed.

"As regards holidays with pay, in the Factory Legislation passed by the Central Government, it has been fixed at ten days' leave with pay. Every labour organization including the All-India Trade Union, the only representative organization of the working classes in India, have strongly protested against this enactment and have demanded one month's casual leave and sick leave with pay. But nowhere do we find any care and consideration paid to the opinion of labour as to that of capitalists. When a demand comes from the capitalists the Government shake in their boots and run immediately to change their policy. That is what has happened in the Central Government very recently in

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the Profits Bill. But when a cry comes from labour, it has to yield to the suppression and oppression of the capitalist. If the Congress Government is to command the confidence of the shop assistants it should respond to their request. Even with regard to holiday with leave Bengal Government have made much progress. It is up to this Government to take lesson from them. What does it matter if a Muslim League Government prevails there. Every progressive legislation should be copied, no matter from where it comes. In Bengal you will see shop assistants are given 14 days' privilege leave, and also, apart from that, ten days' casual leave with half pay. I know this Bill has been drafted by a great leader of labour, while he was in power. But unfortunately he did not respect the views of the All-India Labour Organization. I hope Government will pay some heed to the views of labour organizations and accept their recommendations.

"As regards fines, a chapter has been added in the Bill. This Bill will give an incentive to the employer to fine his employees. I want the entire chapter to be deleted. Unless this is done this measure will not have any acceptance outside. Perhaps, by your steam-roller majority, by hook or crook, you may get a majority to pass this Bill here. (The Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao: Where is crook?) If you want public support for this measure, the entire chapter on fines should be deleted.

"As regards hotel employees, there is already the Weekly Holidays Act, which so many employers have not given effect to. There are no holidays in the meals section of hotels. And then what about single hotel-keepers?

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p.m.

"Then as regards assistants employed by individuals, particularly by the richer section of the population, like Europeans and others, where is the protection for them? Till now no protection has been given to them, by any legislation. I expect some changes in the present Bill to be made for the sake of these people. At night they have to sleep in our houses leaving their family elsewhere. It is here the acid test of whether you really represent the people comes in. You do not find the people's voice reflected in the Bill. It is high time for the Congress Government to rectify this defect.

"Then as regards employees of co-operative societies, the Government particularly the Hon. Dr. Rajan is anxious to scrap all co-operative societies."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can deal only with general principles."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"These are only general principles, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is going into details."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"These co-operative societies, particularly the banks employ a large number of employees. They are all managed by private individuals. What are their working conditions and what are their wages? Have the Congress Government gone into them? If they

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had done so, they would have made some provision for these in this Bill. All classes of persons who do not come under the Non-power Factories Bill must find a place in this Bill. Minimum living wage is the most important of all the items, but that is not found here. The Hon. Minister for Labour thinks that the Central Government will bring in legislation for minimum wage, but that will not be for this labour. That is for another kind of labour. It will affect only a minute section of the population. In any labour legislation, if the Government want to satisfy the demands of the people, the question of minimum wage must be determined. Because it has not been done, we find so many troubles. You find the workers of Buckingham and Carnatic Mills have been on strike since 11th March last and you find the mill-workers being lathi-charged and it has become a regular feature of Madras City to the disgust of . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is side-tracking the issue."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"There is so much discontent among the policemen and among the peons who are standing here before us. If the Bill is a thorough one, there must be provisions to safeguard all the interests of the toiling people. With these words, Sir, . . ."

* M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I support measures like this which provide social security and social amenities. But this measure before us only touches the fringe of the problem agitating the whole world to-day. It only relates to the fixation of daily and weekly hours of work, intervals of rest, prohibition of employment of children, securing the safety and health of the staff and prompt payment of wages. But it does not relate to any measure of social security such as health insurance, creation of out-of-work donation fund or unemployment insurance or old age pension. These are four vital problems agitating the workers, and the shop-assistants. Therefore the Ministry should devote some more attention to these social security measures also and in the near future bring forward a comprehensive legislation giving all these social facilities and amenities and security for all the shop assistants. With these words, Sir, I support the Bill."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, since this Bill is being referred to a select committee. . ."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Sir, I want to speak on this subject and I request I may be given an opportunity."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member had stood up, I would have called him. He may speak on the next stage. I have now called the Minister to speak."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"I stood up, Sir, but I did not catch your eye."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member might have drawn my attention by calling me 'Mr. Speaker'."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, most of the points raised by the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, and other hon. Members may be fully discussed when the Bill goes through its second stage. In the meanwhile I have proposed as inclusive a Select Committee as possible consisting of all the labour representatives in this House, the Communist member and also some members of the Opposition. This representative Select Committee will go into the Bill and all the recommendations made here. I hope to place a report before the House expressing the views of the various sections of the House. The following are the Members proposed for the Select Committee:—

- (1) The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.
- (2) Sri M. Kauniappan.
- (3) Sri N. Govindaswami Nayudu.
- (4) Sri B. S. Mallikarjuna Rao.
- (5) Sri R. Kuppaswami Nayudu.
- (6) Sri A. Kameswara Rao.
- (7) Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu.
- (8) Mr. W. J. Fernandez.
- (9) Sri K. T. Kosalram Nadar.
- (10) Sri T. Viswanatham.
- (11) M. S. Abdul Majid Sahib Bahadur.
- (12) P. K. Moideen Kutty Sahib Bahadur.

"The motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the above members was put and carried."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under rule 78, I appoint the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan as Chairman of the Select Committee. When is the report to be presented? Next session?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"As soon as possible, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The report will be presented as soon as possible."

(4) THE MADRAS NON-POWER FACTORIES BILL, 1947.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Non-power Factories Bill, 1947 and move that it be referred to a Select Committee"

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, as I said before, this Bill also is a copy of the Central Government legislation on factories with some of the features favourable to labour dropped out in the interests of the capitalists. It is clear that it has been purposely changed. I do not know to what purpose it has been done. There must be an explanation from the Government why those features have been changed. After all it is in these small factories intensive work is carried on, the employer is always sitting over the neck of the workers and the workers are made to do intensive

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work and they are at a greater disadvantage compared to factory labour. In the factory labour legislation the hours of work have been fixed at 8 hours a day, whereas it has been fixed at 9 hours a day here. I do not find any reason for this, why the Congress Government should make this change and act as the representatives of the capitalists instead of as representatives of the people. The provisions of this Bill fall far short of the development in this matter throughout the world. The All-India Trade Union Congress, the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress and the Andhra Provincial Trade Union Congress and all the labour organizations have submitted reports suggesting the necessary changes in the interests of labour. I hope all this will be taken into consideration by the Select Committee, and that they will be accepted by the Congress Government.

"Moreover, Sir, provision is made here for only ten days' leave with pay. It must be increased and greater facilities given to labour. I do not find that in the present Bill and it has to be modified in a comprehensive manner."

"I do not find anything regarding minimum living wage in this Bill. Every labour legislation must contain a provision regarding minimum living wage. If the Government is anxious to avoid labour troubles, first and foremost it must fix a minimum living wage. Unless Government includes a chapter on minimum living wage in this Bill the problem of labour will not be solved. The Hon. Dr. Rajan's and Dr. Subbarayan's Police may lathi-charge the workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills but it will not solve the labour problem. Unless the Government takes a more conciliatory attitude towards labour the problem of labour will never be solved."

* SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Sir, I welcome this Bill for one reason, namely, that by passing this legislation we will be incidentally tackling the very problems that are confronting us to-day in the present labour troubles. Mostly, the clauses of the Bill make provision for hours of work, leave, accommodation, labour facilities, overtime and similar matters and these are the problems which confront us in the labour disputes. By this legislation, I wish the Government will set an example to be copied not in the case of merely non-power factories but also those coming under the Factories Act. These big industrial concerns also will have to copy the precedent set up in this Bill. I wish that this legislation is so formulated that it is an example to bigger concerns also. We have to congratulate on this occasion the ex-Minister of Labour, Mr. Giri, to whom the credit for formulating this Bill goes. The Factories Act is an old enactment. The provisions are intended to be applied to non-power factories also, but all the provisions there need not be applied to non-power factories. The present Factories Act is an out-of-date enactment and there is so much which has got to be modified. The purpose of the Non-power Factories Bill is to safeguard the interests of the voiceless sections of labour working in small concerns. In the case of big concerns, no doubt we have trade unions who can make their voice felt effectively. There are thousands of workers well organized

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for the purpose of getting their demands granted. But in the case of non-power factories, you find small concerns where 20 or 30 workers are working such as in foundries, carpentry shops, saw mills, cigar manufactures and tobacco concerns, etc. This Bill has been introduced to safeguard the interests of the labour there and so we have to compliment and congratulate the present Government for bringing forward this legislation. This should be a model legislation for others. In that view I would say that certain modifications have to be made, because as it is, it is merely a copy of the old factory legislation. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, pointed out, we have to modify the working hours system. It is put at 9 hours a day. When to-day people are clamouring for 42 hours a week, this is not even 48 hours a week. It should be at 8 hours a day. This Bill should be modified in that direction, so that to-morrow these people may not go to the length of agitating for that again. Moreover wages for overtime work have got to be fixed, as has been conceded by the Central Government in the Tripartite Conference at double the rate for a normal working hour. This is really humanitarian piece of legislation and it is necessary that a worker, who is overworked for the benefit of the employer, should be paid decently and adequately.

"The other features for which, I feel, provision should be made in the Bill are old age pensions, provident fund, and more liberal leave rules. Provision has been made for ten holidays in a year. This is inadequate. The labourers are demanding 15 days' casual leave and 15 days' privilege leave. That is the universal demand in all industrial and labour disputes, and the Labour Department by this time must be aware of it. I do not see any reason why it should not be conceded, since it is conceded in very many Government departments. That much of leave is absolutely necessary for the maintenance and recuperation of a worker's health and for carrying on his other pursuits than the drudgery work in the factory. There should be no grudging with regard to making such a provision when we are legislating for the welfare of the labour, and the workers should not be made to fight with the employers.

"I wish to submit one more thing. Provision has been made that the working hours for women workers will be between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. I feel that 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. will be more suitable, and that also completes eight hours of work. It is absolutely necessary to fix the hours of work for women in such a manner as to enable them to do their work and reach home in day time and to attend to cooking, looking after children and other domestic work. There should be no grudging in fixing more convenient hours of work for them.

"Provision should be made for fixing a standard wage in respect of these factories, so that there may not arise in any disputes in future. It is necessary that this Bill should also provide a machinery for settling disputes between the employers and the

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workers, so that the parties may refer them to the specified tribunal or authority without the workers resorting to strike and embarrassing the society and the Government.

"I request that the suggestions that I have made may be taken into consideration by the Select Committee to which this Bill is going to be referred."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—Mr. Speaker, Sir. On behalf of my party, I welcome some of the principles embodied in the Bill. It brings relief to several of the labourers working in small cottage industries. But at the same time I feel that there are certain provisions which, if applied, will paralyse these cottage industries. So far as beedi industry is concerned, it is in most cases managed by big capitalists. Because there is no Factories Act governing them they are not treating the labourers working in their factories in the manner they ought to treat them. I know several beedi manufacturing places where, without light and air, the workers are working like animals. Even the wages paid are not reasonable. But unfortunately, capitalists, thinking that an Act of this type may come in, have almost given up the control of their factories. To-day they are being managed by small branch managers having ten to fifteen labourers. These branch managers are very poor people and if the provisions of this Bill are applied, they will find it difficult to adapt their factories to the requirements of this Bill. There are several small cottage industries like basket-making and coir-making in which very poor and illiterate people are employed. Under this Bill, these poor people have to get licences. The Factory Inspector will inspect the place where these poor people are plying their trade. If they cannot provide sanitary and other facilities to the standard required, the Inspector will refuse licence, and the small cottage industry will come to a stand-still. The Members of this Honourable House can readily realize the hardships to which these poor workers in the cottage industries will be put to. I hope the Select Committee will consider the case of these small cottage industries and provide for the protection of the people employed therein. As I have already said, most of the people employed in these cottage industries are ignorant and poor, and they have not got the facilities and the means to organize their factories on the model which this Bill stipulates. At the same time, there are also cottage industries like the beedi industry and the handloom industry. These are sometimes managed by rich people who can afford to provide all the facilities that this Bill requires them to provide. This Bill will readily bring relief to the people working in such factories. But the House must also consider the case of thousands and thousands of poor and illiterate people engaged in small cottage industries like carpet-weaving, basket-making and several others. You know, Sir, that the Province of Madras is almost the home of cottage industries. While trying to improve the industries and give relief to the people engaged in them, it must be the duty of the Government to see that the Bill does not work hardship on these small people. Therefore, from the list in the schedule, you can easily eliminate several industries. I suggest that the Government may consult the Director of Industries.

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as to the industries which can be eliminated from that list. Otherwise, small people depending for their daily existence upon the products that they turn out in these industries—and they are a very large number in this Province—will be adversely affected.

“With these words, I support the Bill.”

* M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“While supporting the principle of this Bill, I want to strike a note of warning to the Government. There is an undesirable tendency inherent in the whole Bill itself. As my friend, Mr. Majid, said, the schedule embraces almost all cottage industries. If the Bill is approved, I am sure that persons of modest means will be thrown out of employment, and capitalists will take their places and thrive. Power is taken in the Bill to prescribe a standard ventilation, lighting, provision of latrines and urinals, water facilities, precautions against fire, means of escape and other facilities on the model of the All-India Factories Act. In prescribing the rules also, the Government will follow the rules made under that Act. If a man of modest means employed in fibre manufacture is required to erect a big building and get a licence, naturally he cannot command the necessary capital and other facilities. Therefore he has to go to the capitalist or the capitalist will have to come to his aid by taking over the fibre manufacturing industry. Naturally, it will throw these petty traders out of employment. So I suggest that the Select Committee should make provision for distinguishing between industry and industry and for prescribing various standards of facilities so that they may be applied with reference to local conditions and the nature of the industry.

4-45 p.m. “With these words, I support the Bill.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Sir, the Government will certainly take note of the criticisms so far made. They will also see that these points are fully dealt with in the Select Committee that is going to be appointed just now. I propose the following members to be the members of the Select Committee:—

- (1) The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan.
- (2) Sri M. Kanniappan.
- (3) Sri N. V. Govindaswami Nayudu.
- (4) Sri B. S. Mallikarjuna Rao.
- (5) Sri R. Kuppuswami.
- (6) Sri P. Venkateswarlu.
- (7) Sri K. R. Karanth.
- (8) Sri P. Natesan.
- (9) Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju.
- (10) A. K. Kader Kutti Sahib Bahadur.
- (11) Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
- (12) Sri K. T. Kosalarama Nadar.”

The motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the above members was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—“Under rule 78 of the Assembly Rules I appoint the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan as the Chairman of the Committee. I wish to know when he is going to submit the report of the Select Committee.”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“As early as possible.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I wish to move that the hon. Member, Mr. A. E. Thompson, also be appointed a Member of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Shops and Establishments Bill, 1947.”

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—“We have got 15 minutes more. It is 4-45 now. If the House and the Hon. Leader of the House are willing, we will take up the half-an-hour debate now.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, when names of hon. Members were asked from the Muslim League Party for being appointed to the Select Committee on the Madras Non-power Factories Bill, we were told that the total number of Members would be 10. Now the number has been increased to 12. The representation given to us is only two. It is proper to tell us at the beginning itself as to what the total number of Members is going to be, so that we can have the proportionate number.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Sir, I beg to move that the name of Mr. Mohamad Abdul Salam Sahib be added to the names of hon. Members who constitute the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Non-power Factories Bill, 1947.”

The motion was put and carried.

V.—DEBATE ON FOOD SITUATION IN GUNTUR DISTRICT.

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is now 10 minutes to 5 p.m. With the consent of the Hon. Leader of the House, I propose that the House may take up the half-an-hour debate. Before taking it up, I wish to point out that I have got discretion to extend the time. But it is not possible to do so. I have already allowed a number of questions to be answered by the Hon. Minister. I will do one thing. I will call upon the hon. Member Mr. Prakasam to speak first. I shall allow him 20 minutes. Then I shall ask an hon. Member of the Muslim League to speak; I shall ask the Hon. Minister to conclude the debate. Hon. Members, I know, desire to have a longer debate. There was an opportunity to do so, if the motion of the hon. Member Mr. Mohamed Salam Sahib had been accepted by the House. It was rejected. At the pleasure of the Chair I am allowing this debate now. Simply because I wish to give hon. Members an opportunity to discuss this matter I am allowing this debate.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I think the debate may be allowed to go on till 5-30 p.m.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That means 40 minutes. I understand that my hon. Colleague, the Hon. Sri Ramakrishna Raju, is

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having a tea party and group photo at 5-30 p.m. to-day. (Deputy Speaker: 'Not to-day, but to-morrow.') I shall allow ten minutes more."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know under what Rule we propose to have this debate. Rule 14 of the Assembly Rules gives the right to hon. Members to ask for a debate for half-an-hour. You have already allowed hon. Members to ask questions. Is there going to be a debate now?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member was not present here this morning. The hon. Member, Mr. Karanth made a request for half-an-hour debate under rule 14. I said I would allow a debate. I have already said that any hon. Member can ask for such a debate. I have received the opinion of the Speaker of the House of Commons on this matter. I have read it to the House. Any hon. Member can ask for such permission."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, the Hon. Food Minister was rather annoyed when Prof. Ranga approached him and talked to him, as I understand from the Press Communiqué. I do not know what exactly happened between Prof. Ranga and the Hon. Food Minister. Prof. Ranga seems to have made a mistake in approaching the Hon. Food Minister perhaps believing that he was speaking to the old Dr. Rajan before he became the Food Minister. There must have been some such thing. Otherwise he would not have given so much offence to the Hon. Food Minister. Evidently the Food Minister resented it. He has omitted to mention this incident in the statement that he has placed before this House. I did not expect the Food Minister to make so much of what Professor Ranga told him. This is a very delicate matter. Professor Ranga came from Delhi. He was in the district perhaps for one or two days. He ran up to Madras. We never met; he never saw me. He sees nobody other than those in office with whom he believes he can have a word with a view to influence officers, Hon. Ministers or others for the purpose of getting some relief for those for whom he would be talking. That is his method. To say that Professor Ranga threatened Civil Disobedience and follow it up and say the law would take its own course and that the Government would not be afraid was not right. It was not expected from the Food Minister. We all know Satyagraha; we all know the consequences of practising Satyagraha and of breaking laws or rules. The matter was very delicate. Professor Ranga tried to put the position before the Food Minister with a view to get some relief. Professor Ranga would not have given any room for any offence. So much need not have been said about Satyagraha and its consequences. If Professor Ranga was arrested or imprisoned, everybody knows what would follow in the country and how many Rangas would follow him. How many people would follow him everybody knows. Not only those outside, those inside the House also may follow him if such a thing as I have stated happens in the present circumstances. The matter is very serious. Those of us who are in office in any capacity

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should not be so much offended; we should not put it in the form of a statement declaring to the world that law is no respecter of persons. What for have we come to this House after practising satyagraha year in and year out for 26 or 27 years? When we are in charge of office and discharging duties at a very delicate moment, somebody would come and say something. This point need not have been stated. I am very sorry that the matter was put in that form. What is the position now? Who is responsible for the position in the Guntur district?

"When I was making the statement after resigning office, I avoided giving names of persons who formed into groups and who carried on their work as members of groups for the purpose of achieving their own ends. What is the result? Everybody understands in the country how the group system brought the Congress Party into conflict, how the elections were fought and how the elections ended. After that, Sir, I was expecting the group system to disappear. Until that date, the groups were functioning in the districts. Particularly in the Guntur district terrible propaganda was going on on the group basis before the election of the Leader. A Special Officer who had done good work in Malabar was deputed to start work in the Circars and he started work. Circars were different from Malabar. In Malabar, the opposition was only or mainly, if any, from the Members of the Muslim League. Even they were so good as to adjust themselves to conditions and circumstances and to place all their difficulties, all their complaints before the Government with a view to get them redressed. When the grievances were redressed, it became an accomplished fact. We must thank this Government for having spared Malabar societies so far. We have thought over that matter. I hope there will be no danger in that area hereafter.

"In these four districts there was considerable opposition not from the general public, Sir, but from those leaders of groups. These gentlemen have been questioning every time the actions of the Government. I can say without fear of contradiction that I have been expecting that this state of things would come about if the group system was allowed to continue and I have been avoiding as far as possible bringing matters to a crisis. It will be known in due course how the group system has been working, and what are the acts they have done. Those are not matters of mean importance, but they are of greatest importance. I have been anxious that this should not interfere with the policy of Government and I have been avoiding things coming to this stage. If things are now forced and if they come to that stage when they could be suppressed no longer, then everybody will know, those who now question and those who do not question—everything about the doings of the groups and the consequences that will ensue therefrom.

"Now, I should like, within the short time allowed to me, to say who is responsible for this state of affairs in the Guntur district. Agitation was carried on in various ways against the

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introduction of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies and opposition was engineered from all quarters. Individual efforts were made, individual canvassing was carried on and even in other districts there were some attempts made, but they were feeble. In East Godavari, there was an attempt made to discredit these societies at the beginning, but those, who realized the importance and usefulness of these societies, stood aloof and did not fall into the hands of these group leaders. Similarly, there were agitations in Kistna and West Godavari, but the opposition was strongest only in Guntur. I could even give the names of the agencies who carried on this work of agitation against these societies, opposing them at every stage. It was in that manner that things went on, even before these societies were established. All the details regarding the difficulties we have had to encounter with, before getting these societies into being, are contained in the reports now in possession of the Government. You may imagine, Sir, how this agitation has affected the people. I quite understand opposition from certain quarters with regard to the establishment of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. Opposition, there will be in every country and in every place, so long as human beings are there. But, on such an important matter as this, I did not expect opposition even from those who differed from the previous Government, either as a Government, or as members who have been occupying certain offices under that Government. I did not expect that things would be carried to such a stage. There must be a distinction drawn between public work and private work, and also feelings of individuals against public workers and against private individuals. We must develop a habit of divesting ourselves of personalities, and eschew personal considerations, so that we would be able to get on. We have not reached that stage yet. It is because of that, Sir, that this difficulty has arisen. Before we resigned and before the new Ministry took up office, that was the state of affairs in the country. As hon. Members of this House know, when the selection of the Ministers was in the air, there was the ranging of parties, against this group and that group; and the whole atmosphere was buzzing only with the talk of the coming elections and about the old Ministry going out of office and the new Ministry coming into office. That one factor should have been sufficient to shake the confidence of the public as well as the market, when you are dealing with the conduct of such societies involving lakhs of rupees. I have explained it clearly in one of my first Press Notes which I issued at the time with regard to this matter. It was very delicate matter. Sir, the confidence of the people must be maintained at all costs. But, if people were going about saying all sorts of things like this, what will be the state of people in the country-side? Those who have invested money in these co-operative societies are not very rich people. Only very few are rich and they came in with a view to help the societies. Otherwise, how could it be possible to collect more than a crore of rupees from individuals at the rate of one share per each member? So many people have put in their money and in the Guntur district alone, so many lakhs were collected for

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the establishment of these societies. What would be the state of feelings among these people who have invested their money in the societies, when these group gentlemen have been going on preaching and declaring that the present Ministry were going out to-morrow? They said 'We are coming into office to-morrow and we are going to scrap these societies; why do you go into this sort of thing and put your money into it?' This was the sort of propaganda that was carried on all the time. Just imagine, Sir, what would be the state of feeling in the country.

"Well, Sir, within five days after the assumption of office by the new Ministry, the whole work of these societies was taken away from them and handed over to the millers and wholesalers. The system that we wanted to establish in this Province of ours is not on the model of the British system of centralization of concentrating all things in one place, getting in all offices such as the Fort St. George, the Revenue Board and all other offices in one place, collecting revenues from all places and spending them out from one place and thus conducting the whole administration from this place. We are not for this centralized administration. After we came into office, it was our object to decentralize the whole thing and transfer power to the people as far as possible. With regard to a beneficial movement like this, in particular, it was our policy to transfer power to those people who really run the societies and work them out for the benefit of the people in the villages. It was for that purpose we established these societies. What happens now, you can imagine. One group leader, who was not here, but who was regulating his business from Delhi through his friends and followers here, happened to come here on the 6th and issued a statement through the Press. Probably, you must have read that statement and you must have forgotten it also. What was the language used by him? How did he deal with the Madras Government which undertook this difficult task? In what manner did he describe their work? I don't want to take your time and the time of the House. Sir, within the short time allowed to me, by reading out what he has stated. But we have survived many of these attacks and we have been working in spite of such things. But then the group leader who has had no knowledge of things and had no experience of administration, with a view to discredit the Madras Congress Ministry, comes here and says all this nonsense."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May we know, Sir, the name of that gentleman?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allowed the hon. Mr. Prakasam only 20 minutes. If the hon. Member interrupts him, he will not be able to finish his speech in time."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That, you must leave me to state at the end. I will give the names of these group leaders this time. I feel that things have come to a stage when I should give their names also."

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"Well, Sir, the statement I was referring to ought not to have come from that gentleman who is a good old friend of mine. One ought to have known one's business and he must indeed be a superman who could understand things without experience—before he came out and said that we were all children here, we were undertaking such a difficult task and that we ought not to have launched on such schemes, etc., and thus throw dust on the eyes of the public. With one jump, he attacked the scheme and policy of the Government, and what happened, you see it to-day in this House from the note circulated here. Members of the Legislature, members of the Congress party and members who are his followers, went on saying that the old Government was going out and a new Government was coming in."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already taken the time allotted to him. I shall allow 5 minutes more, but then I will not allow anybody else to speak."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Prakasam might be given 10 minutes more, Sir. There was no opportunity given to the House to discuss this matter till now."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House had an opportunity last time, but the Members refused to support the adjournment motion."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the importance of the subject, you may allow some more time, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall allow only 5 more minutes to the hon. Mr. Prakasam."

SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Let me state before the House that Members of the Legislature thought that the old Government had gone and that new Government had come in and that they were free to do anything they liked, say anything they liked, and some actually gave it in writing that these societies should be scrapped. We reached that stage and what would happen under such circumstances? For this group, Sir, the head was a doctor. For another group, the head, although he was not here, was also another doctor, and he was functioning from Delhi. The doctor who was actually in charge of a group here was kind enough to say openly 'I am regretting for committing infanticide of these societies.' At least, I expected that he should have some feelings that he should not put his hand on the throat of this infant child and kill it at this stage. I was at least hoping that such a thing would not happen in this matter, but that proved only temporary. This killing of these societies outright has taken place within a few days of the assumption of the new Ministry. That is why I wanted to speak on this matter to-day. You may take away the life of one grown-up man but when all these societies, which are intended for the benefit of the people, are in their infant stage, you must see that they are carefully nursed and must wait patiently till they have grown and began to function. But with one stroke of the pen, the whole thing was suspended. What is happening in the country? I was obliged to issue a statement asking the people not to get into panic, not to be afraid, and told them that I would go there

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soon after I returned from Delhi and see how we could improve things. That is the position, Sir. When did all this start? It started long ago, as I stated in my statement before this House, more than a year ago. I did not give the name then of the persons—of the person who went there to the top to get influence to one side, to make two groups combine and defeat me, the single man, myself. Unless all others combine, I could not be defeated. I do not think so much effort was necessary on behalf of anybody, because when the Congress President came here and asked for my resignation, without examining the whole position, I gave him my resignation. One thing more; the gentleman who went over there as special messenger to bring about that union against me is now the Finance Minister here; and the gentleman who joined him in sending up a telegram asking the top leader 'save us, we are in danger here, the whole thing is going down, unless you give your message, there will be trouble.' That leader is Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya—I am giving you the name now. These are the names of persons who started the whole thing in March 1946, and it has been continuing till now. In every measure that was undertaken, this kind of thing has been going on. Life is not worth living, this House will not be worth anything if this state of affairs is to go on continuing. Friends may say 'we have been admiring you, we have been worshipping you for the past 25 years'; but this is the sort of thing that has been going on. These infant associations have been strangled to death as it were. I feel so much in the matter; I am anxious that these societies, whether the Government want them or not, should be maintained by the people. It is the people who started the whole thing; they paid for these societies as much as Rs. 1½ crores of their money. The Government did not give any money at all. They gave only their moral support. As regards the principles of working these societies, give some more time to the people. You may remove the leaders here from leadership and do all those things; but what have the people done who have paid for the running of these societies?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am afraid the hon. Member must resume his seat."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the unfortunate dissensions and bickerings in the Congress party should not cloud the issue and should not prejudice the judgment of this House with reference to the consumer-cum-producer societies which is now the subject-matter of discussion in this House. I have been maintaining and the people of Malabar, whom I represent, have been maintaining, from the very inception of these producer-cum-consumer societies that they were destined to failure and their forecast and their prophecy have unfortunately turned out to be absolutely true. All the misery that the people of Malabar were subjected to was sought to be repeated in Andhradesa, and, rightly enough, the public took objection to the perpetuation of that misery in other parts of the Province and their objections have been heeded to by the present Ministry who have earned the gratitude of the public by the

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courageous action which they have taken in counteracting the evil efforts of the working of these societies. My hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam, for whom I have great respect, was really guided along a wrong path by some people in Malabar. He was given a rosy picture of what was in store for the people of Malabar by the introduction of these societies. What I should tell him respectfully is: his case with reference to these societies is a case of tragedy, of excellent intentions, but self-defeated as was said about another person in this House. It is really a case of good intentions. I agree; he and his Ministry thought that these societies were going to bring great relief to the people. I hold no brief for anybody; I have not been a merchant myself, and I do not hold any brief for any merchant; but from my experience of the societies, I have to tell him, he was absolutely wrong in his expectations of these societies. In fact, several were the charges that were laid at the door of the merchants; but some of the charges now laid at the door of these societies were not laid at the door of the merchants at the time they were in charge of procurement and distribution. From an answer given by the Government to a question put by an hon. Member from Malabar, it was brought out that procurement of foodgrains in Malabar by these societies resulted in a shortage by 2,000 tons for the whole district. It is not a case of failure in Guntur alone; it was a case of uniform failure in other districts also. In fact, Malabar started it and Malabar was responsible for the trouble that was sought to be extended to other districts also. Malabar should certainly protest against the certificate and the testimonial given to these societies, because that testimonial is ill-deserved if not undeserved. These societies were not working successfully in the matter of procurement and in the matter of distribution, they were much worse. There were several cases where ration card-holders were not getting their rations because of the failure of these societies to get their quota in time and for two or three days and even for a week, there were villages where people could not get their rice."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Is the discussion going on with regard to the Guntur situation, Sir, or . . ."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Of course on the Guntur food situation, but my hon. Friend cannot monopolise all rights of discussion to himself."

[Sri A. Kameswara Rao stood up to speak.]

MR. SPEAKER:—"We are all speaking in a Legislative Assembly. The hon. Member is replying perhaps to one or two words which fell from Mr. Prakasam. (Seeing the hon. Member was still standing in his seat) I request the hon. Member not to continue to stand when another hon. Member is on his legs. As I said, Mr. Seethi Sahib is replying to Mr. Prakasam who referred to this matter."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend's impatience justifies my argument that Mr. Prakasam was wrong in his calculations; he is thinking of groups and nothing else."

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"Well, Sir, as regards these co-operative societies, they were an absolute failure in Malabar with reference to procurement. In the matter of distribution, there were several places where the societies could not serve the people for whom they were intended. There have been instances of corruption and malpractices which are now engaging the attention of the Collector of Malabar and even violation of the rules of rationing practised by the ration shops maintained by these societies. It is not, therefore, a case where the Muslim Leaguers are taking objection to these societies but a case where the people of the whole district are . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told the hon. Member that we are now on the question of famine conditions in Guntur. I have had no objection to his saying one or two words about Malabar, because Mr. Prakasam said something about it; but let him now continue his speech on the Guntur situation."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, when the hon. Mr. Karanth wanted a debate and you allowed it, the understanding was that the main question to be debated was about these producer-cum-consumer societies."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No; only about the Guntur famine situation."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"So far as the work done by the official who is responsible for the situation is concerned, I respectfully submit it was anything but good and it was a bright day of peace for Malabar when that officer left that district. Mr. Prakasam himself knows the feeling in Malabar, how that officer interfered with the cordiality and the peaceful life of the district when he was there. What I respectfully submit is, if Guntur is suffering, it is suffering on account of the defects inherent in the system of these societies, and these defects are present in societies wherever they are, whether in Malabar or Guntur; and these defects are really subjecting the people to great hardships and misery. I would respectfully submit to the Government that they must have courage enough to extend the abrogation of these societies to Malabar and other districts too where these societies are now working and they should not be under the delusion that things are rosy in Malabar and that these societies are a success, which is not correct, either in truth or in fact."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"May I submit that nothing about the Guntur position has actually been discussed so far?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I may tell the hon. Member there was an opportunity for him to discuss the matter, but he voted against that resolution then. I am sorry he cannot speak on it now. The Hon. Dr. Rajan."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I shall not keep the House very long. I had hoped for a reasoned debate, for a statement of facts and reasons; but, unfortunately, my hon. Friend started on with something which had no relation to the subject-matter of the discussion. He started off with Dr. Ranga and

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reference to him was not made by me in this House except to quote what he said, from a report in the *Indian Express*. Nothing beyond that was ever said by me in this House. I would draw your attention, Sir, to the statement printed in it stating that, even so recently as the 16th of this month, Dr. Ranga is reported in the *Indian Express* to have advised the ryots, if necessary, to resort to satyagraha by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it to be acquired by force, that then Dr. Rajan, the Food Minister, would be forced to fly to Delhi and plead for an increase in the paddy prices. Sir, this was reported in the *Indian Express* and I took an extract from it; because, in my reasons, I have explained what were the forces that were at work. It is not as if I said it myself because I have no business to make a statement about it here. But I may say for the information of this House, because the matter has been referred to, that I received Dr. Ranga, an old friend of mine, very cordially in my house one day when he came so late as 9 o'clock with a few of his friends. What he told me was simply this: 'You must now increase the paddy price to Rs. 15; it is being sold at Rs. 15. The producers want Rs. 15; if you do not accept Rs. 15, I would suggest to these people not to yield their stocks.' That was his statement; I was taken aback, but still I simply told him—I simply laughed at it—'What have you got to do with it?' He said: 'Look here, I am the President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, you are the Food Minister, do you know?' I said 'Yes, I know.' Then he said 'What are you going to do now?' I said I could not do anything; and he replied: 'So, you do not help me?' I said 'you take it in whichever way you like, for I have no time to speak about it now.' Then he walked out of my house. This is what actually happened. I would not care to report all these things to the House but for the fact that all this has been dragged unnecessarily into the debate. That is all; I do not want to say a word more about it. I am not concerned with what happened in Delhi or anywhere else or what was done by some people whose names were fully divulged or insinuated; it is not my business now because it has no relation to the subject-matter under discussion.

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"Sir, the failure was caused because there were no proper facilities, such as godowns for the working of these societies. Secondly, there was not enough capital. Again, there was not enough staff to conduct it properly. These are all the main causes of the failure and it is no wonder that the scheme started off with very great disadvantages just immediately after the harvest and when procurement became absolutely imperative and a matter of necessity and at a time when the country was going to be faced with famine and when the stocks at the disposal of the Government have been gradually dwindling down. Just at this time, a grave situation in Guntur has arisen.

"Sir, I have been faithful in my duties. I have got my own ideas of procurement of stocks in order that I may save the people from starvation. Sir, in response to a letter which the Hon. Mr. Prakasam wrote to me about the situation in Guntur, I was

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anxious to meet him and to explain to him the position and so, I wrote to him asking him to discuss the matter with me. But, unfortunately, Sir, I did not receive any reply. I gave him an opportunity to discuss this matter with me and also to convince me if I were wrong. But, that was not done and the question of procuring food cannot wait for any discussion with anybody.

"Sir, my only concern was that the food that was required for these starving people should be reserved and duly transported in time to places where it is required and it has been my earnest endeavour to secure all the stocks possible and to transport them to places where they are so badly required. Sir, the Collector of Salem wrote to me a frantic letter the other day about low stocks prevailing in that district. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, visited Coimbatore recently and he gave me grave stories of the impending famine in that district. That is the same position in the Nilgiris district also. Even in the City of Madras, I hear that stocks are going down and are disappearing. I would like the House to imagine a picture of a food famine in the City of Madras and in the districts. If a situation like that arises, can anyone imagine that I would continue here in Government as the Minister for Food? What is the use of my continuing here as Food Minister if I cannot take quick action in respect of these matters? But, I find that my action is not only not being welcomed and sympathetically supported but criticized by insinuations which have no bearing on the question. I was only concerned with facts and the statement that I have given contains nothing but facts with regard to the food situation. Any amount of argument cannot be contrary to facts and I have placed the whole case before the House. I am not concerned with parties and groups. I have got to go on in the spirit and in the light that is given to me in the interests of the public to serve whom I am here. The food question is not a question to be trifled with either by party considerations or group considerations. What we really want is straight work, honestly done, to relieve a difficult situation. In this connexion, I am thankful to the hon. Mr. Prakasam who had recently appealed to the people of Guntur who hold stocks to release them for the benefit of the poor. I warmly welcome such a suggestion and I do appreciate the same. It is a spirit of co-operation of that kind which would help me in carrying on my work. At this juncture, the question of food is the vital question that must be immediately tackled. I am not concerned with people who are suffering from group phobia and I am not also concerned with infantile mortality. Fortunately, I am now concerned with giving food to the starving people and so, the question of mortality does not come in at all. Certainly an infant is likely to die if it starves and if proper food is given to the child, the child would not die. I am simply trying my best to get that food.

"Again, Sir, it is said that I am trying to kill these producer-consumer co-operative societies. I may at once state, Sir, that Government is going to examine the question after the food

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position eases to a certain extent. We are not going to ask the people who have invested about one and a half crores of rupees to throw away that large sum and to dissolve the amount which they have collected with great strain. We will go into the question carefully and when the time comes, we will certainly consider their possibilities. We will examine their utility under more peaceful conditions. But, we must be allowed some breathing time. In due course, we propose to take up these questions. Certainly if the hon. Gentleman gets back with ten tons of food, I welcome it. I would also welcome all assistance under the inspired leadership of Mr. Prakasam that would enable Government to get the amount of paddy required for that area. If such an assistance is forthcoming, then I will have no quarrel with him. But, unfortunately, the time is so short and so difficult that many people are starving and they want food immediately. I am here and I have got to be here to do what I can to the starving people. These people have to wait in long queues and groups at the ration shops. They want food immediately and they cannot be waiting until I go to Delhi and come back. Sir, I have taken up this duty conscious of the criticism and also conscious of the volume of opinion that may be up against me. I have only one thing in justification, Sir, and that is that the poor and the famishing people of this land are my only consideration and I am trying my best to see as to how best these starving and famishing people can be provided with food immediately. That is my only concern, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I now adjourn the House till eleven o'clock to-morrow."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 25th April 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 69 asked by K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on Thursday, the 24th April 1947, page 986 supra.]

(Muslim education—Representation from the late Sultan Abdur Rahim Ali Rajah, Rajah of Cannanore.)

Demands made in the representation of late Sultan Abdur Rahim Ali Rajah:	Action taken or proposed to be taken.
(1) Posting of a Muslim as one of the District Educational Officers in the Malabar district.	No Muslim officer who knows Malayalam is available at present for being posted as one of the District Educational Officers of Malabar. When an officer who does not know Malayalam has to be posted to the district the question of posting a Muslim will be given consideration.
(2) Posting of Muslim Officers to Muslim ranges and institutions.	All the posts of Senior Deputy Inspectors of Schools intended for Mappilla in the Malabar district are held by Mappilla Officers. The post of headmasters and school assistants in the Government Secondary Training School, Malappuram and Government Muslim High School, Kasargod, except four in the former are held by Muslims.
(3) To set up a convention to appoint a Muslim as the Personal Assistant under non-Muslim District Educational Officers and a Hindu as the Personal Assistant under Muslim District Educational Officers.	It is not possible to establish this convention owing to the non-availability of suitable Muslim Officers. Steps will be taken to post Muslims in these posts whenever they become available.
(4) Objection to the posting of a Muslim Officer to a Hindu Range.	At present no Mappilla Officer is working in a non-Mappilla range, but this cannot be accepted as a principle.
(5) Creation of a post of Special Educational Officer for Muslim Education under the District Board, Malabar.	The interests of Muslim Education in the district are sufficiently well protected and there is no need for the creation of the special post.
(6) Posting of a Muslim as the District Educational Officer of the District Board, Malabar.	It is not possible to spare the services of any Muslim Officer for this appointment at present.
(7) Provision of a large number of ordinary and residential scholarships in the Government High School for Muslim Children.	The number of residential scholarships has been increased from 124 to 150 and the value of each scholarship from Rs. 3 and 6 to Rs. 7-8-0 uniformly with effect from the school year 1945-46.

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Demands made in the representation
of late Sultan Abdur Rahim
Ali Rajah.

Action taken or proposed to be taken.

- (8) Provision of substantial scholarships to Mappilla girls studying in colleges. The question of instituting scholarships for this purpose in the Government Muslim College for Women, Madras, was considered and dropped as there were no Mappilla girls studying in that college at present.
- (9) Complaints against non-receipt of scholarships by Muslim pupils in secondary schools. It is not possible to provide scholarships for all the Muslim students who apply, as the sanctioned number is limited. The scholarships are awarded to deserving pupils only. If there is a real cause for complaint it may be taken to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction.
- (10) Opening of additional schools for Muslim girls and boys. There are Government High schools specially intended for Mappillas one for boys at Malappuram and the other for girls at Tirur with special and residential scholarships for a large section of the pupils. Mappilla boys and girls are freely admitted into all general schools and there has been so far no complaint of any difficulties experienced.
- (11) Supply of periodicals to schools. The Government High School for Mappillas, Malappuram and the Government M. pilla Girls' High School, Tirur, have been supplied with periodicals. If any more are required they will be considered as and when the application is made by the school authorities.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide item IV (1) on page 998 supra.]

To .

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Bill, 1947 (L. A. Bill No. 13 of 1947), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 24th January 1947.

3. The Committee was appointed on the 17th April 1947.

4. The Committee met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, on Friday, the 18th April 1947 at 6-15 p.m. and considered the provisions of the Bill.

5. The following are the more important changes effected by the Select Committee:—

Clause 1.—The Committee thought that it was advisable to extend the application of the Bill to areas lying beyond the districts of Bellary and Kurnool in the event of the High Level Channel scheme coming into existence.

Clause 1 (2).—The Committee considered it necessary that any notification under this sub-clause should become effective only after approval by both Houses of Legislature.

Clause 8.—The period of ten years during which any land acquired under the permit should not be alienated, should be extended to fifteen years.

6. The Chairman was authorised to get the Bill amended in accordance with the suggestions approved.

7. The Committee considered that it was not necessary to republish the Bill and authorised the Chairman to sign the Report.

8. A copy of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee is annexed.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th April 1947.

KALA VENKATA RAO,
Chairman.

ANNEXURE.

[Note.—The changes made by the Select Committee are shown in clarendon type and the portions omitted are shown by dots.]

L.A. BILL No. 13 OF 1947.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

A Bill to prevent speculation in land in the Tungabhadra Project area.

WHEREAS the Provincial Government have commenced the execution of the Tungabhadra Project in order to conserve and utilize to the best advantage the waters of the Tungabhadra river;

AND WHEREAS considerable purchases of land which are of a speculative character have been made in the area which is likely to be irrigated when the Project is completed;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to prevent speculation in land in the area aforesaid;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Act, 1947.

(2) (a) It extends to the villages in the Bellary and Kurnool districts which are specified in the schedule.

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position eases to a certain extent. We are not going to ask the people who have invested about one and a half crores of rupees to throw away that large sum and to dissolve the amount which they have collected with great strain. We will go into the question carefully and when the time comes, we will certainly consider their possibilities. We will examine their utility under more peaceful conditions. But, we must be allowed some breathing time. In due course, we propose to take up these questions. Certainly if the hon. Gentleman gets back with ten tons of food, I welcome it. I would also welcome all assistance under the inspired leadership of Mr. Prakasam that would enable Government to get the amount of paddy required for that area. If such an assistance is forthcoming, then I will have no quarrel with him. But, unfortunately, the time is so short and so difficult that many people are starving and they want food immediately. I am here and I have got to be here to do what I can to the starving people. These people have to wait in long queues and groups at the ration shops. They want food immediately and they cannot be waiting until I go to Delhi and come back. Sir, I have taken up this duty conscious of the criticism and also conscious of the volume of opinion that may be up against me. I have only one thing in justification, Sir, and that is that the poor and the famishing people of this land are my only consideration and I am trying my best to see as to how best these starving and famishing people can be provided with food immediately. That is my only concern, Sir."

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24th April 1947]

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(b) The Provincial Government may, by notification in the "Fort St. George Gazette"—

- (i) remove from the schedule any village or portion of a village ;
- (ii) extend all or any of the provisions of this Act to any village or portion of a village in the said districts or any other district, subject to such modifications as may be specified in the notification :

Provided that no such notification shall come into force, unless it is approved by both Chambers of the Provincial Legislature.

- (3) It shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, appoint.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

- (1) "permit" means a permit granted under this Act ;
- (2) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act ;
- (3) "project area" or "area" means the area consisting of the villages or portions of villages specified in the Schedule as modified from time to time ;
- (4) "project land" or "land" means land in such area.

3. (1) If at the commencement of this Act, any person owns more than fifty acres of project land purchased after the 1st October 1944, he shall, on demand made by the Provincial Government by notice in writing within three years from the commencement of this Act, be bound to sell to them the excess over fifty acres, at the price or prices for which the land was purchased by him.

- (2) If any project land which the Provincial Government are entitled to purchase under sub-section (1) is alienated in any manner within the period of three years aforesaid, they shall have the same right against the alienee as they would have had against the alienor under that sub-section.

- (3) The Provincial Government may dispose of any project land purchased by them under this section, in any manner they think fit.

Acquisition of land in project areas to be made only on permit if it exceeds fifty acres.

4. (1) Save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, no person shall acquire project land without a permit :

Provided that a person who has not acquired any land after the 1st October 1944 or who has acquired less than fifty acres after that date, may acquire land, without a permit, up to a maximum of fifty acres or up to such an extent as will bring his acquisitions after that date up to a maximum of fifty acres.

- (2) In computing the fifty acres aforesaid, land devolving on a person under the law of intestate succession or under any gift which is valid under section 5 shall not be taken into account, but land acquired after the 1st October 1944 and subsequently disposed of shall be taken into account.

- (3) In the case of a Hindu undivided family, any acquisition made in the name of any member thereof with family funds shall be taken into account in computing the maximum of fifty acres which the family can acquire under sub-section (1).

- (4) Where any land is acquired with funds belonging to two or more persons whether jointly or as tenants in common or as members of any association or partnership, the share of each of them in such land shall be taken into account in computing the maximum of fifty acres which he can acquire under sub-section (1).

5. No gift of project land, whether made by will or by an instrument *inter vivos*, shall be valid unless it is made in favour of an individual or individuals or of a Hindu undivided family and unless the extent of the land comprised in the gift is within such maximum as may be prescribed.

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6. Except in the case referred to in sub-section (3) of section 4, where any project land is acquired in the name of a person in pursuance of a permit granted to such person, no suit shall be maintained against such person by any other person in any Court of law on the ground that the acquisition was made on behalf of the plaintiff or on behalf of some other person through whom the plaintiff claims.

7. (1) Any person who desires to obtain a permit shall apply in the first instance to the Collector of the district in which he ordinarily resides, or to such other officer as may be appointed by the Provincial Government in this behalf, for a certificate of eligibility. The certificate shall contain such particulars as may be prescribed.

- (2) The Collector, or the other officer so appointed, shall thereupon made or cause to be made such inquiry as he may think fit and may, in his discretion, either issue or refuse to issue the certificate of eligibility.

8. (1) A person who has obtained a certificate of eligibility may apply to the prescribed authority for a permit, and such authority may, in his discretion, either grant or refuse to grant the permit.

- (2) Every permit shall specify the maximum extent of land which the holder thereof may acquire and the time within which the acquisition shall be made and shall contain the condition referred to in section 9 and any other conditions which may be prescribed.

9. It shall be a condition of every permit that any land acquired in pursuance thereof shall not be alienated until the expiry of a period of fifteen years from such date as may be notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* by the Provincial Government as the date on which water from the Tungabhadra Project is made available for the irrigation of the land ; and any alienation thereof made before the expiry of such period shall be null and void :

Provided that the prescribed authority may, on application, if satisfied that there are sufficient grounds for doing so, permit the land to be alienated before the expiry of the period aforesaid on such payment and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—The expression "alienation" with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions shall not include a lease for a term not exceeding five years or a mortgage without possession.

10. Any acquisition of project land made by a person without obtaining a permit, where one is required under this Act, shall be null and void.

11. Any person aggrieved by any order passed, or proceeding taken, under this Act by the District Collector or any authority prescribed or appointed under this Act, may, within the prescribed time, appeal to the Board of Revenue ; and the Board shall, after giving the parties an opportunity of being heard, pass such orders on the appeal as it may think fit.

12. The Board of Revenue may at any time, either *suo motu* or on application, call for and examine the records relating to any order passed, or proceeding taken, under this Act by any authority or officer subordinate to it, for the purpose of satisfying itself as to the legality, regularity or propriety of such order or proceeding, and may pass such order in reference thereto as it thinks fit.

Nothing in this section shall apply to the orders or proceedings of any Court or Magistrate.

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13. (1) No suit or other proceeding shall lie against the Provincial Government for anything done or purporting to be done under this Act or any rule made thereunder.

Bar of certain proceedings.

(2) No suit, prosecution or other proceeding shall lie against any officer or servant of the Provincial Government for any act done or purporting to be done by such officer or servant under this Act or any rule made thereunder, without the previous sanction of the Provincial Government.

(3) No officer or servant of the Provincial Government shall be liable in respect of any such act in any civil or criminal proceeding, if the act was done in good faith in the course of the execution of duties or the discharge of functions imposed or authorized by or under this Act.

14. (1) The Provincial Government may make rules to carry out all or any of the purposes of this Act and not inconsistent therewith.

Power to make rules.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for—

(a) all matters expressly required or allowed by this Act to be prescribed;

(b) the maximum extent of land which may be acquired by a person in pursuance of a permit granted under this Act;

(c) the opening and maintenance of a common register for the project area, showing the ownership, and changes in the ownership, of lands therein, and any other particulars which may be deemed necessary;

(d) the penalties which may be imposed for a contravention of the conditions of a permit and the authorities which may impose such penalties, provided that no penalty shall exceed one thousand rupees;

(e) generally regulating the procedure to be followed and the forms to be adopted in proceedings under this Act and fixing the time within which such proceedings shall be initiated.

(3) The power to make rules conferred by this section shall be subject to the condition of the rules being made after previous publication.

(4) All rules made under this section shall be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and upon such publication shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

15. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act the Provincial Government may, as occasion may require, by order, do anything which appears to them to be necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

Power to remove difficulties.

Savings.

16. Nothing in this Act shall apply to the acquisition of any land—

(a) by or on behalf of the Crown; or

(b) at a sale held by any Civil Revenue or Criminal Court in execution of a decree or order; or

(c) at a sale conducted under any law for the time being in force for the recovery of any revenue due to the Crown or of any sum recoverable as an arrear of such revenue; or

(d) by exchange in accordance with any scheme made or approved by the Board of Revenue;

Provided that in cases falling under clause (b) or clause (c), the Court which, or the officer who, ordered the land to be sold, may, of its or his own motion or on the application of any party to the proceedings, set aside the sale, if the Court or Officer is satisfied that the sale was a collusive transaction or was made with a view to defeat or evade the provisions of this Act.

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THE SCHEDULE.

[See Section 1 (2).]

List of villages in the Bellary and Kurnool districts, constituting the project area.

BELLARY DISTRICT.

Siruguppa taluk.

1 Agasanur.	29 Halekota (64).	57 Motusuguru.
2 Akkathangarahalu.	30 Halumuruveni.	58 Motradinne.
3 Alabanur.	31 Havinahalu.	59 Muddatanur.
4 Arliganur.	32 Hirekallu.	60 Mudenu.
5 Bhagavadi.	33 Hirehal.	61 Naganga.
6 Bairagandinne.	34 Honnarahalli.	62 Nadivi.
7 Balakundi.	35 Hosahalli.	63 Nagapuram.
8 Basaravalli.	36 Ibrahimapuram.	64 Nagarahalu.
9 Bevinamarada Sugur.	37 Itikahalu.	65 Nittur.
10 Bairapuram.	38 Kallukitakinahalu.	66 Ramapuram.
11 Bhadrachalu.	39 Kanchagarabelagal.	67 Ravavi.
12 Biravalli.	40 Karchiganur.	68 Ravihal.
13 Bogguru.	41 Karur.	69 Saliganur.
14 Bommalapuram.	42 Kenchanaguddam.	70 Sanavasapuram.
15 Buduguppa.	43 Kesarakoni.	71 Seedaragadda.
16 Chanakanur.	44 Konchigeri.	72 Sirigeri.
17 Chinna Bellary.	45 Kotehal.	73 Sugur.
18 Darur.	46 Kothalachintha.	74 Talur.
19 Dasapur.	47 Kudadarahal.	75 Tondehal.
20 Jakkalakota.	48 Kuriganur.	76 Tsallakudlur.
21 Devalapuram.	49 Kuruvalli.	77 Udegolam.
22 Gajiginahalu.	50 Mailapur.	78 Uluru.
23 Gosubal.	51 Malapuram.	79 Upparahosalli.
24 Gubbihal.	52 Manjinahal.	80 Uttanur.
25 Gundiganur.	53 M. Sugur.	81 Vathumuruveni.
26 Hatcholli.	54 Manur.	82 Venkatapuram.
27 Hagalur.	55 Matur.	83 Poopannahal.
28 Halekota (25).	56 Mittesugur.	84 Siruguppa.

Hospet taluk.

1 Arlehalli.	5 Hirejajiganur.	9 Kampli.
2 Belagoduhal.	6 Hampadevanahalli.	10 Guddapuram.
3 Chikkajajiganur.	7 Ittigi.	11 Maddapuram.
4 Devasamudram.	8 Jowku.	12 Sanapuram.

Alur taluk.

1 Amrutapuram.	11 Honnur.	21 Nagarakanivi.
2 Bapuram.	12 Ingaledahal.	22 Peddagonahal.
3 Ballur.	13 J. Hosahalli.	23 Pacharahalli.
4 Chinnaharivanam.	14 Kuruvalli.	24 Suluvali.
5 Chintakunta.	15 Kogilathota.	25 Siddapuram.
6 Chinnagonahal.	16 Naddilingadahalli.	26 Sammatagiri.
7 Gulyam.	17 Muddatamagi.	27 Virupapuram.
8 Gaggihalli.	18 Marlamadiki.	28 Vandavagali.
9 Holagundi.	19 Nitravatti.	
10 Hebbatam.	20 Naganathahalli.	

Bellary taluk.

1 Bommanhal.	14 Genikihal.	27 Masudipuram.
2 Banapuram.	15 Gotur.	28 Nalludi.
3 Byradevanahalli.	16 Handihal.	29 Oravai.
4 Bennikal.	17 Hirehadagalli.	30 Patanasoragu.
5 Basarkodu.	18 Jalihal.	31 Sonalapuram.
6 Chanahal.	19 Kurugodu.	32 Sindhavalam.
7 Changanur.	20 Kaggal.	33 Sindigeri.
8 Chitiginahal.	21 Kar chedu.	34 Tambarahalli.
9 Dammur.	22 Karikeri.	35 Virapuram.
10 D. Nagenahalli.	23 Kallukitakinahal.	36 Vanenur.
11 Guttiganur.	24 Kyadigahal.	37 Yemmigandur.
12 Gududur.	25 Mustigatte.	38 Yerragudi.
13 Gonahal.	26 Moka.	

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BELLARY DISTRICT—cont.

Adoni taluk.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Arlebanda. | 44 Itsalahel. | 87 Peddakadaburu. |
| 2 Agsaladinne. | 45 Jumaladinui. | 88 Poolachinta. |
| 3 Belagal. | 46 Jampapuram. | 89 Parpalli. |
| 4 Bompalli. | 47 Jalavadi. | 90 Ponakaladinne. |
| 5 Budur. | 48 Johrapuram. | 91 Parmandoddi. |
| 6 Banavasi. | 49 Katriki. | 92 Peddakothiliki. |
| 7 Basapuram. | 50 Kambaladinne. | 93 Pesaladinne. |
| 8 Badnehal. | 51 Kosgi. | 94 Puttakunta. |
| 9 Bapuram. | 52 Kaggel. | 95 Rachumari. |
| 10 Bhatakunta. | 53 Kallukunta. | 96 Rowdur. |
| 11 B. Bommalapuram. | 54 Kankavedu. | 97 Ralladoddi. |
| 12 Baladur. | 55 Kolugotla. | 98 Rayachoti. |
| 13 Agasanur. | 56 Kadimetla. | 99 Ratsamarri. |
| 14 Chirtapalli. | 57 Kuntanahal. | 100 Sulekeri. |
| 15 Chudi. | 58 Kamavaram. | 101 Sathanur. |
| 16 Chagi. | 59 Kotekal. | 102 Sajjalaguddam. |
| 17 Chirtanakal. | 60 Kattedoddi. | 103 Soganur. |
| 18 Chinnatumbalam. | 61 Kowtalam. | 104 Santhekudlur. |
| 19 Chilakaladona. | 62 Kambadahal. | 105 Sugur. |
| 20 Chetnihalli. | 63 Karni. | 106 Sowlehalli. |
| 21 Duddi. | 64 Kadavagudu. | 107 Singarajanahalli. |
| 22 Dayyaminne. | 65 Kalludevakunta. | 108 Sardarpuram. |
| 23 Dombaladinne. | 66 Kachapuram. | 109 Thimmapuram. |
| 24 Devarabetta. | 67 Kaddidoddi. | 110 Tsallakudlur. |
| 25 Diddanadoddi. | 68 Kambalanur. | 111 Teamalagudur. |
| 26 Donapuram. | 69 Malapalli. | 112 Tumbiganur. |
| 27 Enigabala. | 70 Malkapuram. | 113 Urukunda. |
| 28 Erigeri. | 71 Matsapuram. | 114 Upparahal. |
| 29 Edavalli. | 72 Manchalu. | 115 Vallur. |
| 30 Endapalli. | 73 Mugathi. | 116 Vandavagali. |
| 31 Gudikambali. | 74 Madhavaram. | 117 V. Kondapuram. |
| 32 Gudikal. | 75 Madire. | 118 Yemmiganur. |
| 33 Gangavaram. | 76 Myalaginur. | 119 Basapuram. |
| 34 Gurjala. | 77 Mallanahatti. | 120 Kandakur. |
| 35 Garladinne. | 78 Marali. | 121 Lingalinni. |
| 36 Gothalahadoddi. | 79 Magaladoddi. | 122 Veeraladinni. |
| 37 Halvi. | 80 Mitteserapuram. | 123 Podalakunta. |
| 38 H. Muruvani. | 81 Nandavaram. | 124 Gurralladoddi. |
| 39 Halaharvi. | 82 Nagaladinne. | 125 Thippaladoddi. |
| 40 Harivanam. | 83 Naranapuram. | 126 Chinnakothiliki. |
| 41 Hanaval. | 84 Nyalakosgi. | 127 Sunkeswari. |
| 42 Ibrampuram. | 85 Nad khyrvadi. | 128 Kamanadoddi. |
| 43 Irangal. | 86 Paldipadu. | |

KURNOOL DISTRICT.
Pattikonda taluk.

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|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 Alvala. | 4 Iranbanda. | 7 Peddanelatur. |
| 2 Gonegondla. | 5 Kulamala. | 8 Vemugodu. |
| 3 H. Khurvadi. | 6 Peddamaradi. | |

Kurnool taluk.

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|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Amadaguntla. | 20 Kodumuru. | 39 Pulakurthi. |
| 2 Anugonda. | 21 Kondapuram. | 40 Pusalur. |
| 3 A. Gopalapuram. | 22 Kothalapadu. | 41 Pylakurthi. |
| 4 Bollavaram. | 23 Kothakota. | 42 R. Khanapuram. |
| 5 Basavapuram. | 24 K. Nagalapuram. | 43 Rematla. |
| 6 Bastipadu. | 25 Laddagiri. | 44 Salkapuram. |
| 7 Belagal. | 26 Lanjapolur. | 45 Sunkesula. |
| 8 Brahmanadoddi. | 27 Mamidalapadu. | 46 Uchala. |
| 9 Budidapadu. | 28 Munugala. | 47 Varakur. |
| 10 Burandoddi. | 29 Mungalapadu. | 48 Edurur. |
| 11 Chanugondla. | 30 Mudamalagutti. | 49 Julakal. |
| 12 Errandoddi. | 31 Nidjur. | 50 Mallapuram. |
| 13 Gopalasingavaram. | 32 Palukudoddi. | 51 Malesompuram. |
| 14 Gudipadu. | 33 Pandipadu. | 52 Markapuram. |
| 15 Gudur. | 34 Parla. | 53 Ponakal. |
| 16 Gundrevula. | 35 Peddapadu. | 54 Ramadur. |
| 17 Gorantla. | 36 Peddatakur. | 55 Asudapuram. |
| 18 Kalluru. | 37 Penchakalapadu. | |
| 19 Kambadahal. | 38 Polukallu. | |

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide item IV (2) at page 1024 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
MADRAS.

The SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to consider the Malabar Irrigation Works (Construction and Levy of Cess) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1947), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th February 1947.

3. The Committee was appointed on the 17th April 1947.

4. The Committee met in the Committee Room, Fort St. George, on Saturday, the 19th April 1947 at 9-30 a.m. and considered the provisions of the Bill.

5. The following are the important changes effected by the Select Committee:—

(1) *Clause 6 (2) (i)* as regards compensation which was increased from twelve to fifteen times.

(2) *Clause 7 (2)* regarding the appointment of a Judge that he should be a District Judge.

(3) *Clause 9 (1)*.—There was no limit placed in case of compensation for purposes of appeal to the High Court.

(4) *Clause 20 (2)*.—The Select Committee decided that a new sub-clause (d) should be added enabling the Government to levy a court fee on applications under the Act.

6. It was also decided that the rules framed under this Act should be placed on the table of both Houses of the Legislature.

7. The Select Committee authorized the Chairman to incorporate proper amendments in the Bill for carrying out their decisions.

8. The Select Committee considers that it is not necessary to republish the Bill.

9. A copy of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee is annexed.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th April 1947.

KALA VENKATA RAO,
Chairman.

ANNEXURE.

[Note.—The changes made by the Select Committee are shown in clarendon type.]

L.A. BILL No. 14 OF 1947.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

A Bill to provide for the construction of irrigation works and the levy of water-cess by the Government in the district of Malabar.

WHEREAS the Government propose to undertake the construction of large and important irrigation works in the district of Malabar;

AND WHEREAS the Government should have power to construct irrigation works and regulate the supply of water therefrom notwithstanding that such construction or regulation may interfere with private rights in watercourses;

AND WHEREAS it is also necessary that payment of water-cess should be made obligatory in respect of lands the irrigation of which is permitted under this Act, whether water is actually taken for the cultivation of such lands or not;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Malabar Irrigation works (Construction and Levy of Cess) Act, 1947.

Short title, extent and commencement.

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(2) It extends to the whole of the district of Malabar.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, appoint.

2. In this Act unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

Definitions.

(a) "cultivator" means a person who cultivates lands solely by his own labour, or with the help of the labour of the members of his tarward or family or of hired labourers or of both;

(b) "Government" means the Provincial Government;

(c) Irrigation work includes—

(i) all canals, channels and reservoirs constructed, maintained or controlled by the Government for the supply or storage of water for purposes of irrigation;

(ii) all dams, embankments, weirs, sluices, groins and other works connected with such canals, channels and reservoirs;

(iii) all supply, escape or drainage channels connected with such canals, channels and reservoirs;

(d) "permit" means a permit issued under this Act;

(e) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act;

(f) "watercourse" means a river, stream, natural channel, lake or natural collection of water and includes any tributary or branch of any river, stream or channel.

3. It shall be lawful for the Government on any land belonging to them or acquired by them for the purpose, to construct an irrigation work of any kind, for utilizing the water in any watercourse for the purpose of irrigation, notwithstanding that such construction may interfere with the right of any person or persons to take water from such watercourse for the purpose of irrigating his or their lands, or for any other purpose.

Construction of irrigation works.

Central Act I of 1894. Acquisition of lands for construction of irrigation work.

4. All lands required for the construction of an irrigation work shall be acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, subject to the following modifications:—

(1) It shall be open to the Government to make and publish a declaration under section 6 of the said Act without following the procedure laid down in sections 4 (1) and 5-A of that Act.

(2) On the publication of a declaration under clause (1), it shall be lawful for any officer either generally or specially authorized by the Government in this behalf and for his servants and workmen, to do all or any of the acts specified in section 4 (2) of the said Act.

(3) If any land acquired is or forms part of the bed of a watercourse, the compensation to be awarded for such land under the said Act shall not exceed the value of an equivalent extent of land on either bank adjoining the land acquired and situated within such limits as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—For the purpose of this clause, the expression "land on either bank" shall not include land covered by buildings or structures.

Consequences of construction of irrigation works.

5. (1) Notwithstanding any law, custom or usage to the contrary, whenever the Government construct an irrigation work for utilizing the water in a watercourse—

(i) all the water in such watercourse and all tributaries and branches thereof shall become the property of the Government and the Government shall be entitled to utilize and distribute such water in any manner they think fit;

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(ii) it shall be lawful for the Government to lead the water for the purpose of irrigation through such watercourse or through any other watercourse with which it is or may be connected, although the bed of either watercourse may not belong to them;

(iii) no person shall, without the sanction of the District Collector or any officer authorized by him in that behalf, do anything which obstructs or interferes or is likely to obstruct or interfere with the flow of water in such watercourse or in any other watercourse with which it is or may be connected;

(iv) no person shall, except in accordance with the provisions of this Act, take water for the purpose of irrigation from any such watercourse or any other watercourse with which it is or may be connected.

(2) The provisions of sub-section (1) shall also apply to any watercourse utilized by the Government for leading water for purposes of irrigation from a tank constructed by them.

6. (1) Any person who, by reason of the construction of an irrigation work or exercise of the powers conferred on the Government

Compensation.

by or under this Act, is deprived of the right which he had of taking water from a watercourse for the purpose of irrigating his land or any other purpose, or suffers material diminution in the supply of water which he has been accustomed to get for any such purpose, shall be entitled to compensation for such deprivation or diminution, as the case may be.

(2) The compensation payable under sub-section (1) shall be assessed—

(i) in case water was being used for the purpose of irrigating a land, at fifteen times the reduction in the net annual profits of the land caused or likely to be caused by such deprivation or diminution;

(ii) in case water was being used for any other purpose, at twelve times the net annual loss suffered by such deprivation or diminution.

(3) Every claim for compensation shall be preferred in the prescribed form, to such authority, as the Government may direct—

(a) in the case of deprivation of the right referred to in sub-section (1), within one year from the date on which a notification is published in the District Gazette intimating the completion of the irrigation work;

(b) in the case of diminution in the supply of water, within one year from the date thereof.

(4) Such authority shall place the claim before, or forward it to, the Special Court constituted under section 7.

(5) The Special Court shall inquire into the claim and if it finds that compensation is payable, assess the same in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2). If two or more persons are interested in the amount of the compensation so assessed such amount shall be apportioned in such manner as the Special Court may determine.

7. (1) The Government shall constitute a Special Court for the disposal of claims for compensation preferred under section 6 and appoint a District Judge as Judge of that Court

Constitution of the Special Court and appointment of assessors.

(2) The Judge of the Special Court shall conduct the inquiry with the aid of two assessors appointed by the Government for the purpose, either generally or for any particular case.

(3) One of the assessors shall be an officer of the Revenue Department not below the rank of Deputy Collector and the other shall be an officer of the Public Works Department not below the rank of Executive Engineer.

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(4) The assessors appointed under sub-section (2) shall attend throughout the inquiry. At the conclusion of the inquiry, the Judge shall ascertain and record the opinion of the assessors. **He shall after taking into consideration the opinions of the assessors pronounce his decision, but he shall not be bound by their opinions.**

(5) If, in the course of the inquiry with the aid of assessors, any assessor is prevented from attending the inquiry or absents himself and it is not practicable to secure his attendance, the inquiry shall proceed with the aid of the remaining assessor. If both the assessors are prevented from attending or absent themselves, the inquiry shall be held with the aid of fresh assessors appointed by the Government.

Central Act V of 1908. 8. (1) The Special Court shall have the same powers as are vested in a Civil Court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, when trying a suit in respect of the following matters:—

- (i) enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (ii) compelling the production of documents; and
- (iii) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses.

(2) The Special Court shall also have such further powers as may be prescribed.

(3) Every inquiry by the Special Court shall be deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code.

Central Act XLV of 1860. 9. (1) From every decision of the Special Court as regards the amount of compensation or its apportionment, an appeal shall lie to the High Court.

(2) Subject to the decision of the High Court in cases in which an appeal is preferred under sub-section (1), the decision of the Special Court shall be final and shall not be liable to be questioned in any Court of law.

Permits. 10. (1) Permits shall be issued in respect of all lands the irrigation of which is allowed by or under the orders of the Government from any irrigation work.

(2) Every such permit shall be issued by such authority and shall be in such form and subject to such conditions, as may be prescribed; in particular, the permit shall specify the period in every fasli during which the land may be irrigated and the source from which water may be taken for irrigation thereof:

Provided that where the Government, by notification in the district gazette so direct, a permit shall not be issued under this sub-section in respect of any land after the date fixed in that behalf in the notification, except on payment of such fee, by such authority, and on such terms, as may be specified therein.

(3) Every permit shall be served on, or tendered to, the cultivator of the land in respect of which it is issued, in such manner as may be prescribed.

(4) The cultivator may, within two months from the date of service or tender of the permit, apply to the Revenue Divisional Officer for the cancellation or modification of the permit on the ground that it is not advantageous for him to use the water for irrigating his land or any specified portion thereof. The Revenue Divisional Officer may, after such inquiry as he thinks fit, by order in writing, cancel or modify or refuse to cancel or modify the permit.

(5) Against any order of the Revenue Divisional Officer under sub-section (4), the cultivator may, within two months from the date on which the order is served on, or tendered to him, appeal to the District Collector who shall, after giving him an opportunity of being heard, pass such order on the appeal as he thinks fit.

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(6) The cultivator shall not be entitled to call in question the permit issued to him except in the manner provided for in sub-section (4) or sub-section (5).

(7) Any authority empowered by the Government in this behalf may, at any time, for reasons to be recorded in writing, by order, cancel or modify the permit.

(8) Every permit issued under sub-section (1), with such modifications, if any, as may be made therein under the foregoing provisions, shall remain in force until it is cancelled under this section and be binding on the cultivator for the time being of the land.

Power to cut off or restrict supply of water. 11. The grant of a permit shall not confer any enforceable right against the Government and they may, if circumstances so require, cut off or reduce the supply of water or restrict the extent of the land which may be irrigated with such water.

Levy of water-cess. 12. It shall be lawful for the Government to levy every fasli, water-cess on all lands in respect of which a permit has been issued under this Act and is in force, in accordance with such conditions and at such rates, as may be prescribed, whether the lands are actually irrigated from the irrigation work or not.

Water-cess to be a first charge. 13. The water-cess payable by any person under this Act shall be a first charge upon his interest in the land and the crops raised thereon.

Enhancement of rent or renewal fee prohibited. 14. Any increase in the yield of the land or in the extent of land, cultivated by reason of the supply of water from any irrigation work shall not entitle a landlord as defined in the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1929, to claim any enhancement of the rent or renewal fee payable to him nor shall such increase be taken into account in determining "fair rent" under that Act.

Levy of water-cess under Madras Act VII of 1865. 15. Where any water is taken or used otherwise than under and in accordance with the conditions of a permit in force issued under this Act, the Government may levy water-cess under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1865.

Control of navigation. 16. The Government shall have power to prohibit or regulate by licences or otherwise, navigation in any watercourse to which section 5 applies.

Power of entry, inspection, etc. 17. (1) Any officer of the Revenue department not below the rank of Revenue Inspector or of the Public Works department not below the rank of Supervisor, may, with or without assistants or workmen, enter upon any land in order to make any inspection, test, examination, survey or measurement for the purpose of executing any work in connection with the construction or maintenance of an irrigation work.

(2) In case of any damage to an irrigation work due to accident or otherwise or in case of apprehended danger to any such work, any officer aforesaid may, with or without assistants or workmen, enter upon any land adjacent to such work and execute works necessary for the purpose of repairing such damage or the prevention of danger to the irrigation work.

(3) In every case in which action is taken under this section, the officer aforesaid shall tender compensation to the proprietors or occupiers of the lands concerned for all damage done to the same. If such tender is not accepted, the officer shall refer the matter to the District Collector who shall proceed to award compensation for the damage as though the Government had directed the temporary occupation of the lands under section 35 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

Madras Act XIV of 1930.

Madras Act VII of 1865.

Central Act I of 1894.

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18. (1) Whoever does any act in contravention of clause (iii) of sub-section (1) of section 5 or that clause read with sub-section (2) of that section shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.

(2) Whoever contravenes an order of the Government prohibiting navigation in a watercourse or does any act in contravention of a rule regulating navigation in a watercourse shall be punished with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees.

19. (1) No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Government, at the instance of any person—

(a) in respect of any act done or purporting to be done under this Act, or

(b) on the ground that an irrigation work interferes or is likely to interfere with his rights in any manner :

Provided that the liability of any person to pay water cess under this Act may be questioned in a Civil Court on the ground that he is not the cultivator of the land in respect of which the cess has been levied.

(2) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any officer or servant of the Government for anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any rule made thereunder.

20. (1) The Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, make rules to carry into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision, such rules may provide for—

(a) any matter required or allowed by this Act to be prescribed ;

(b) regulating the practice and procedure of the Special Court ;

(c) regulating the navigation in watercourses, the grant of licences for navigation and the levy of fees therefor ;

(d) the fees to be paid on applications under this Act.

(3) All such rules shall be laid before both Chambers of the Provincial Legislature.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 25th April 1947.

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

I.—STRIKE SITUATION IN THE BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS.

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ To-day being the last day, I have placed before the House 61 questions and they should be finished within an hour. I hope hon. Members will not put a number of supplementary questions.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ To-day being the last day of the session, may I request the Hon. the Leader of the House or the Hon. Minister for Food, to take the House into confidence with regard to the strike situation in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills? ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is going to make any announcement in regard to the matter? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I shall make a statement after question time.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ After questions are over, I thought of asking another question, Sir. That is, to let us know whether the reported improvement in procurement and in the food situation in Guntur was kept up and what is the present situation in Guntur? ”

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Textile Inspecting Officers.

* 639 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether any of the assistant textile inspecting officers have been appointed;

(b) if so, how many have been appointed;

(c) whether they are from service or recruited direct; and

(d) if they are direct recruits what are the qualifications of the persons employed and what are their native districts?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ **(a)** & **(b)** Nine-teen Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners were appointed recently.

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"(c) Out of the nineteen Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners appointed, three were appointed from the Officers already in service and the remaining were recruited direct.

"(d) The information is furnished in a statement^a placed on the table of the House."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether these appointments were made directly from outside and not from the services and whether only members of the Congress party were taken to these appointments?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"May I submit to you, Sir, that this question has been raised more than once on the floor of this House and several answers were given and I have nothing more to add to what had already been said on this matter."

Fodder scarcity in the Presidency.

* 642 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is proposed to make a statement on the fodder scarcity in the Presidency, and the measures taken to relieve the same;

(b) whether the Government have investigated the economics of fodder and hay collection;

(c) what it costs to collect a ton of hay from the reserved forests and bring it to a depot;

(d) what it costs to collect a ton of hay in the Hosur Cattle Farm Hay Collection Centre;

(e) how many acres produce a ton of hay in various parts of the Presidency;

(f) whether the cost of collection of hay from reserved forests is very high; and if so, why;

(g) what is the total quantity of hay which the Government are handling;

(h) what the Government's loss in the transaction is likely to work up to, during the last and the current fasli; and

(i) what action the Government propose to take on the question of systematizing and economizing the fodder collection?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" (a) to (i) The information^b asked for by the hon. Member is laid on the table of the House."

Dental School in Madras.

* 643 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether a dental school has been established in Madras; and

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(b) if the answer is in the affirmative—

(i) under whose supervision it is;

(ii) where it is located;

(iii) the number of staff in that school; and

(iv) the number of students that have been admitted in the institution?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government have sanctioned the opening of a dental school to be attached to the Madras Medical College and the Government General Hospital, Madras. It has not yet been opened as qualified officers are not available for the purpose. The school will be in charge of a Professor of Dental Surgery. He will have three Assistants, namely, two of the grade of Civil Assistant Surgeons and another non-medical graduate. In addition there will be two mechanics. In the beginning eight non-medical students will be admitted annually. If there is a great demand for admission the question of increasing the number of admissions will be considered."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether instead of a dental school, the Government will establish a dental college?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government propose to begin with a school first and even in regard to the school, they have not been able to secure men with suitable qualifications?"

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the Government of India recently convened an All-India Conference and came to some conclusions on this matter?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Notice, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government will import the necessary staff from outside the Province for a dental college? May I inform the Hon. Minister that there are already Dental Colleges in other Provinces, namely two in Bombay, one in Calcutta and one in Lahore?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"A non-medical assistant has been selected and he is now undergoing training in the College of Dentistry in Lahore and the Government have also asked the Service Commission to select two candidates for foreign training."

Recognition to Medical College, Madura, by the University.

* 644 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Medical College at Madura has received recognition from the University; and

(b) if the answer is in the negative, the reason therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Sanction has been accorded by the Madras University for the admission of fifty students of the Madura Medical College to the pre-registration course

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 1123 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix II on pages 1123-1124 infra.

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in the Stanley Medical College, Madras, commencing from July 1946. The University's sanction for the admission of students to the pre-clinical and clinical classes will be obtained as and when necessary."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government have abandoned the scheme for the construction of a Medical College at Madura?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"No, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know then, Sir, when the building will be ready?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Land acquisition proceedings are going on and plans and estimates for the building are being prepared."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I know whether it is a fact that for the Medical Colleges at Madura and Guntur there are no good professors though qualified people are available in the districts and as such the students are suffering?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"No, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know whether the Guntur Medical College has not been recognized and that it is undertaffed and there is no equipment also?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"This is a question about the Madura Medical College, Sir."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is no land in Madura for building a college?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, there is land there."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Then may I know why it is stated that acquisition proceedings are going on?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Acquisition proceedings will take its own time."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I point out to the Hon. Minister that the land is already there ready for building construction?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member gives the information that land is already there and is it not necessary for the Government to undertake construction of the building instead of going on with acquisition proceedings?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I have already said that the acquisition proceedings have to be completed. Construction work can be taken up only after that is done."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Is it not a fact that the professor posted to the Madura College has refused to go there and take charge?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Notice, Sir."

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SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask what steps the Hon. Minister is taking for the continuance of the Madura and Guntur Colleges particularly in view of the difficulties experienced by the two Universities of Madras and Andhra regarding the question of proper equipment, staff, building, etc.?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Government propose to call shortly a conference of the Surgeon-General, the Vice-Chancellors of the Madras and Andhra Universities and other persons to consider this matter."

SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the Madura Municipal Council has already given its consent for the construction of the Medical College? If so, will the Government be pleased to expedite the construction work, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The Government will soon consider how construction work can be speeded up, Sir."

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"In view of the comparative backwardness and the negligence shown to the northern parts of the Presidency, will the Government be pleased to take ample care to see that in future at least medical and educational facilities flow continuously more and more towards the north than towards the south?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can put a separate question on it."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to see that at least in the case of the professorship of physiology, a proper person is appointed to the Guntur Medical College?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Yes, Sir."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer that the Government is likely to call for a conference and decide these matters, are the Government aware of the fact that the Guntur Medical College students are suffering very much for want of accommodation, equipment and professors?"

THE SPEAKER:—"We are now in a question which relates to the Madura College and therefore a separate question may be put regarding Guntur Medical College."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the University Commission inspected the proposed site and raised some objections and, if so, what those objections are?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Notice, Sir."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to know from the Government definitely whether the land is there and they will build the college or whether the acquisition proceedings are going on?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"I will look into the question, Sir. I want notice."

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Men and women Medical Officers in Stanley Medical College.

* 645 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of (i) men medical officers and (ii) women medical officers in the Stanley Medical College; and

(b) how many of the above (i) men medical officers and (ii) women medical officers are paid and how many are honorary?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) Excluding six part-time appointments twenty-six men and three women are employed in the College.

“(b) One officer in the Men's Branch is Honorary and the rest are paid.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I request the Government to see that the number of women, particularly paid women medical officers in this institution is increased? There are only three women doctors employed there now.”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“If such appointments are considered necessary, it will be examined, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will the Government consider the necessity of paying these Medical officers adequately to remove the necessity of their expecting very large fees from even poor patients?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“That is a question which will have to be considered separately.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is there any proposal Sir, before the Government to abolish honorary medical officers and appoint only paid officers?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“There is no such proposal as far as I am aware.”

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—“May I know Sir, what is the policy of this Government in regard to continuance of the appointment of honorary Medical Officers in various hospitals in this Presidency?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The previous policy is being continued.”

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—“May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister, Sir, that in so many mofussil hospitals this system has been abolished and paid men have been appointed?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“I take the information from the hon. Member, Sir.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, do the Government recognize the desirability of appointing more and more women to such medical institutions, and if so will they appoint more women officers as soon as possible in this college?”

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“As I have already stated, Sir, if there is necessity for such appointments and if qualified women are available, the question will certainly be considered.”

Government servants required to do other than Government work.

* 648-A Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government servants employed in the Provincial Textile office are required to do duties other than Government work?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“No, Sir.”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“Textile ஆபீசிலுள்ள பழுன்களை வீட்டில் வேலை வாங்கி வருகிறார்கள். உண்மை இல்லை என்று சொன்னால் அதை ஒப்புக்கொள்ள முடியாது.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister is aware that these Textile Officers have been collecting donations and selling tickets for benefit performances and that has been proved in a recent case in the High Court and the High Court recommended to the Government that these men should be removed from service?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the question. There are no rules prescribed by the Government asking the Provincial Textile Officers and their employees to do work other than Government work. That is the answer, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If there are no rules prescribed, are not the heads of the departments wrong in asking their employees to do work other than Government work and this fact of their having done so has been proved in Court of law?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Sir, if they have done so, I do not know about it as only Government duties are required of them.”

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—“இந்த புகார் சம்பந்தமாக ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை அரசாங்கத்தார் எடுத்துக்கொள்வார்களா?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“If the hon. Member brings to my notice specific cases where such a thing has happened, I shall take action in the matter.”

Professorship in Arabic and Islamic History in Muslim Women's College.

* 648-B Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Professorship in Arabic and Islamic History in Muslim Women's College is vacant;

(b) if so, whether the Government have advertised this in dailies calling for applications; and

(c) if so, the names of the dailies?

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) There is no post bearing the designation of “Professor in Arabic and Islamic History” in the Government College for Muslim Women. The hon. Member apparently refers to the post of Lecturer in Arabic, Persian and Urdu in the College. This post has been remaining vacant.

“(b) The Government did not advertise the post, themselves, calling for applications. They asked the Madras Public Service Commission, in October last, to select candidate for appointment by direct recruitment and, with reference to that request, the Commission advertised the vacancy.

“(c) Information about the names of the dailies in which the advertisement was published by the Public Service Commission is not available with the Government.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the Muslims Women's College will be opening new classes in the next academic year and hence it is necessary that these posts should be filled up. Will the Government instruct the department that deals with this matter to advertise for the post not in the local dailies but in the North Indian papers because there are not suitable candidates available in this province?”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes, we will advertise in the Hyderabad papers.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“I would request, Sir, the Hon. Minister to have the post advertised in the United Provinces and Punjab newspapers also.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“Yes, Sir.”

Mr. Justice Byers joining duty.

* 648-C Q.—**SRI T. VISWANATHAM:** Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Hon'ble Mr. Justice Byers is to join duty on the reopening of the High Court; and

(b) whether in view of the feeling among the members of the Bar and of the public against him, the Government will take steps to see that he is not allowed to do so?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I cannot answer this question immediately because according to the Secretariat procedure, His Excellency the Governor has to see the answer and give his consent and as he is not back in headquarters, I am not in a position to answer this, Sir.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to issue a stay order till the matter is brought before the Assembly?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“May I invite the attention of the hon. Member to the fact that the High Court is not under the control of the Legislative Assembly

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and it is entirely His Majesty's pleasure in these matters and even the Government cannot interfere with anything that is done with regard to the High Court.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the reply given by the Hon. Minister may I ask the Government to send a recommendation of this Assembly to the Government concerned or to the proper quarters showing our feelings in this matter, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I cannot give any assurance to the hon. Member. I can however assure the hon. Gentleman that the Government will do the best they can.”

Alleged harassment by Police of certain piecegoods merchants of Georgetown.

* 648-D Q.—**SRI P. NATESAN:** Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 10th April 1947, Police officers in mufti called on certain piecegoods merchants in Georgetown and asked them to accompany them to the North Beach Police station;

(b) whether it is a fact that these merchants were made to wait at the Police station until 9 p.m. when they were told that they were under arrest;

(c) whether it is a fact that they were kept in the lock-up till 11 a.m. the next day when they were produced before the Magistrate;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Police declined to accept sureties for their release; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Police strongly opposed the grant of bail until the evening of the 11th April?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Sir, this question cannot also be answered due to the fact of His Excellency not having come back.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to be good enough to issue instructions to see that these merchants are not harassed unnecessarily?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“There is no question of harassment, Sir. The merchants who came to see me told me that they are not at all being harassed by the police.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I understand that arrests are taking place in other districts like Madura and Salem. Will the Government issue necessary instructions and see that no action is taken till the Government examine the question, Sir?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“May I point out, Sir, that this question relates to merchants in Godown street about which I had given answer. If hon. Members are going to have a travel round the whole province and raise questions relating to other places, I am not in a position to say anything.”

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College for Indian Medicine.

* 648-E Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government issued an Order on 10th March 1947 regarding the opening of a College of Indian Medicine at Madras?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The answer is in the affirmative.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“In view of the fact that a duplication of staff, building and equipment is involved in implementing this Government Order, will the Government reconsider the whole matter and see that an independent College of Indian Medicine is not established but that the present school is raised to the status of a college?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“What is proposed to be done is, Sir, fresh admissions to the existing School of Indian Medicine will be discontinued in July 1947 and the first year class of the College will begin from next July and so the conversion will go on from year to year. Arrangements will be made for the continuance of the students who have already been admitted in the school. After all the students of the school pass out, the College will take place of the school.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I then take it, Sir, that the same procedure will be followed as was adopted in the case of the Stanley Medical College, Veterinary College and the Agricultural College which were raised to the status of a college from that of a school?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“That will be the procedure.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“Will the Government state whether this Indian School of Medicine serves any useful purpose at all?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“Because it serves a useful purpose it has been decided to be raised to the status of a College.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, is it a fact that the Government seeing the great demands and also the great potentialities of this Indian School of Medicine have come forward with a scheme of opening a College for the purpose?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“Yes, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Since the Government will be converting the existing school into college may I point out, Sir, that the sum of Rs. 2,66,000 that has been budgeted this year under the head ‘College of Indian Medicine’ is unnecessary as only an amount of Rs. 50,000 would be required for this purpose? Will the Government, therefore, see that public funds are not wasted and that the balance amount is utilized for hospitals and for research activities?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“I can give this assurance that no public funds will be wasted.”

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SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know what sort of qualifications would the professors or the teachers of this College have?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—“May I know whether, in the new Ayurvedic College, they are going to confine themselves to Ayurveda or other systems of medicine as well?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This question has been answered on the floor of this House a number of times.”

Reports on Sangameswaram and Somasilla projects.

* 648-F Q.—SRI V. RAGHAVIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the preliminary reports of the specialists employed on the Sangameswaram and Somasilla Projects are ready;

(b) if so, whether the Government will place them on the table of the House;

(c) what is the rough estimate of the acreage that can be brought under cultivation;

(d) what districts will be benefited by these projects; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take next in the investigation of these projects?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) No specialists have been employed on the Sangameswaram and Somasilla Projects. If the hon. Member has in view the American Engineers who have been engaged as Consulting Engineers in connection with the Ramapadasagar Project, the Chief Engineer has consulted them on the Sangameswaram and Somasilla Projects mainly with reference to the previous records and sent up their opinions to the Government.

“(b) The Government consider that there is no special advantage by adopting the course.

“(c) to (e) Government are examining the question and any further information on the projects can be given only after the preliminary investigation is made.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“In view of the prevailing impression, in the Andhra districts particularly, that all these big schemes are mostly planned for the Andhras but actually programmed by others, may I know whether the Government will take earnest and immediate steps to clear that impression?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I am unable to comprehend the question.”

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“May I know whether the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has been consulted in the matter and if so, what was the result?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“We are awaiting the report from the Chief Engineer.”

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SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“ Will the Government take the trouble of consulting the Members of the Legislature representing districts likely to be served by the Sangameswaram scheme and of considering their suggestions.”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I am always ready and willing to take the opinion of hon. Members.”

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ May I know, Sir, whether this scheme will benefit five or six districts? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I rather think so.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Will the Hon. Minister place the report of the Chief Engineer on the table of the House? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I have answered that the Government consider that there is no special advantage in doing so.”

SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Are the Government aware that the scheme will irrigate about 25 lakhs of acres in the five districts served by the scheme? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ The Government are aware of the large possibilities at this project.”

Ramapadasagar Project.

*648-G Q.—SRI A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the short note published in *Andhra Patrika* that Mr. Govindaraja Ayyangar, the Special Chief Engineer to the Government of Madras, is understood to have sent a report to the Government of Madras that the Ramapadasagar Project is not a feasible one and that the Madras Cabinet is considering the report;

(b) if so, whether there is any truth in that note;

(c) if so, what the correct position is;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Interim Government of India have offered a loan of about 82 crores to this Government for that project; and

(e) whether the Interim Government have offered any grant to this Government to carry out that project?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) The Government have not seen the note in the *Andhra Patrika* referred to by the hon. Member and the Special Chief Engineer has not sent any such report. But the hon. Member has drawn my attention to a cutting from the newspaper.

“ (b) Does not arise.

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“ (c) The correct position is that investigation is still proceeding.

“ (d) & (e) The Government of India have promised financial assistance, but the exact nature of the assistance is still under consideration.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ May I know what is the amount of grant promised by the Government of India? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ I have already answered that Government have not yet decided about the amount of the grant.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“ Is it a fact that Special Engineers are sent to America to finalize the scheme? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ Yes, Sir; not Special Engineers but our own Engineers are being sent to America to make further study with reference to the investigation that is going on.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH :—“ Are the Government aware that Dr. Terzaghai and Savage who had occasion to visit the Ramapadasagar project recently at the instance of the previous Cabinet gave the opinion that the project is perfectly possible and that the difficulty which has been put forward till now are merely illusory? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ Our Engineers have not raised any difficulties. The Government are aware that the report that has been submitted by the experts who have been asked to inspect the site and make a study of it, has been quite favourable.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know on what basis the discussion between the Government of India and Madras has been going on in order to finance the scheme, whether it is on the basis that the Government of India should meet the entire expenditure or only a part of it? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ Not the whole expenditure but only a part of it in view of the ‘ Grow More Food ’ possibility of the scheme.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether the Government have assured themselves that the extent of lands to be irrigated by the scheme will be commensurate with the amount of money that is expected to be spent on this project? ”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ Certainly so, Sir. The Government have already assured themselves about that matter.”

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that due to the apathy and the indifference shown by the Special

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Engineer in action and speech, there is a fear among the Andhras that the Ramapadasagar project which has been promised for them would be given the go-by?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I am very sorry this is an unfounded aspersion on the Special Engineer who has been very enthusiastic about this matter and has been doing his best."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that because of such rumours, though unfounded, there has been an insertion in the papers also?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Neither the Ministry nor the Special Engineer can be responsible for such rumours appearing in some papers."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"Because of these things, will the Hon. Minister make a categorical denial about this on the floor of the House?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I have already done so in my answer to hon. Members on this question."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know what the Government have decided with regard to the expenditure, the grant and also getting loans from the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"That is a matter under the consideration of the Government of India and, therefore, it is too early for this Government to come to a decision on the question of grants."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"May I know at what stage the negotiation with the Hyderabad Government stands?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"We are thinking of appointing an arbitration to decide certain outstanding questions relating to this. Otherwise, no negotiation is now proceeding."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware that there is skilled and technical opinion in the country which holds that this is a project which will not be useful to the extent to which the amount spent upon it would warrant?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The Government are not aware of any such skilled, technical or non-technical or unskilled opinion to that effect."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"In view of this question, may I request the Hon. Minister to place the report of the American experts regarding the possibility of this scheme on the table of the House?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Government do not think it advisable to place the report at this stage on the table of the House."

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SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether it is true that 25 lakhs of acres will be irrigated annually besides other crops which will be irrigated under this scheme?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice of that question."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Is it not a fact that the water from this scheme will supply four or five districts?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Perhaps so, Sir."

Schemes under Grow More Food in Nellore.

* 648-H Q.—SRI V. RAGHAVIAH: Will the Hon. Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any schemes have been planned for the current year under Grow More Food Campaign in Nellore district;

(b) what are they;

(c) what projects will be taken up for completion within five years in Nellore district;

(d) at what stage is the enquiry into the Sangameswaram project;

(e) have the Engineers expressed themselves in favour of the success of the project;

(f) what are the districts benefited by it; and

(g) cost and acreage benefited by it?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The schemes included under the Grow More Food Campaign in 1947-48 in the Nellore district are the following:—

(1) Providing irrigation facilities for lands under Chouthaputhedu, etc., villages under Pyderu Sangam delta.

(2) Providing irrigation facilities to certain lands under Raju Calva from Labur Branch channel.

(3) Extension of irrigation under Nallappacalva.

(4) Extension of Chejarla irrigation channel.

(5) Extension of irrigation under Virur spring channel.

(6) Providing irrigation facilities to Yellamanchipad shrotriyam lands from Kanigiri reservoir.

(7) Restoration of abandoned tank of Guvadi.

(8) Forming a tank at Nandipad.

(9) Forming a reservoir across Choutapallivag near Baira-varam.

(10) Upputeru scheme—Renabala Sayapeta tanks.

(11) Rellapad first stage anicut and channel.

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“(c) The schemes under contemplation are—

1947-48—Schemes mentioned in the answer to clause (b).

1948-49—(1) Karedu scheme supply channel from Upputeru.

(2) Paleru scheme.

(3) Kampasamudram Tank Improvements.

(4) Formation of new tanks in Nellore district.

(5) Kanupur scheme.

(6) Forming a reservoir across Kaverivagu.

(7) Ramanaidupalli anicut restoration and improvements to supply channel.

(8) Gandipalem Project.

1949-50—(1) Improvements to Kanigiri small tank.

(2) Improvements and repairs to Kothakunta cheruvu in Kothakunta village.

(3) Formation of new tanks in Nellore district.

“(d) The Chief Engineer has submitted his preliminary report on the project which has been slightly modified and is now called the Kistna-Pennar project and also the opinion of the American Engineers based mainly on the previous records. He is examining the question as to what steps should be taken next in regard to Samasila reservoir comprised in the bigger project.

“(e) Their opinions are generally encouraging.

“(f) & (g) The Government are examining the question and any further information on the project can be given only after the preliminary investigation is completed.”

SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—“In view of the visit of the Food Member of the Government of India to this Presidency very soon, will the Government be pleased to approach him for a grant as well as for a loan to carry out the Sangameswaram Project?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I do not know whether there will be occasion to discuss that matter with the Food Member of the Government of India.”

Re-opening of Natarajapuram Railway Station in Ramnad district.

* 648-1 Q.—SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have made any representations to the Central Government to re-open the Natarajapuram Railway station which is situated between Karaikudi and Sivaganga stations in Ramnad district, which was closed in the year 1942 sequel to the destruction of the station by fire?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“No.”

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Are the Government aware of the fact that the South Indian Railway authorities are refusing to re-open this railway station for the reason that that station was burnt during the political agitation of 1942?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I take the information from my hon. Friend.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to recommend to the Central Government to re-open this station immediately as the people in that area are experiencing great inconvenience for a very long time?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“We shall examine and consider the suggestion.”

[* 649 Q.—Hon. Member was not in his place and the question was ordered to be printed in the proceedings.]

Opening of training centres for spinners.

* 649 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to open training centres for spinners in the Province;

(b) if so, what are the centres;

(c) the total number of applications received;

(d) how many of them have been selected and to what communities they belong;

(e) what are their qualifications; and

(f) whether it is a fact that two Harijan women of Kistna district were rejected and Brahman women were preferred?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to paragraph 11 of the pamphlet on the ‘Madras Government’s Khadi Scheme’, copies of which have already been laid on the table of this House.

“(b) The training classes in handspinning will be conducted in the following 10 centres:—

- (1) Tuni.
- (2) Masulipatam.
- (3) Tadpatri.
- (4) Madanapalle.
- (5) Chidambaram.
- (6) Peraiyur.
- (7) Shermadevi.
- (8) One centre in Salem district (yet to be fixed).
- (9) Payyanur.
- (10) Maippadi.

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“(c) The total number of applications received is 5,400.

“(d) Three hundred and twenty applicants have so far been selected for the first batch of training in eight out of ten centres. The communities to which the selected candidates belong are:—

Brahmans	79
Non-Brahmans	193
Christians	12
Muslims	11
Harijans and other classes	25

“(e) The minimum educational qualifications prescribed for admission to training centres is a pass in the examination for VIII standard in the case of men and ability to read and write in the languages of the area in the case of women.

“(f) The answer is in the negative.”

Appointments in all subordinate services to Harijans possessing minimum qualification.

* 650 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether Harijan candidates possessing S.S.L.C. qualifications may be appointed in all subordinate services; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration by the Government to cancel the age-limit in the case of Harijan candidates having minimum qualification of School Final?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.”

Detention of Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu under Public Safety Ordinance.

* 651 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) for what reasons one, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, member, Tamilnad Provincial Congress Committee, was detained under Public Safety Ordinance;

(b) whether it is a fact that he was seriously ill at the time of his arrest;

(c) whether the Government received any representations requesting his release;

(d) the grounds on which he was released; and

(e) whether the Government propose to consider the release of detained persons arrested for similar reasons?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) With a view to preventing him from acting in a manner prejudicial to the maintenance of public order.

“(b) No.

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“(c) Yes.

“(d) As the Government were satisfied that his detention was no longer necessary.

“(e) Yes, if the Government are so satisfied.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know for how many days this gentleman was detained and what are the changed circumstances that satisfied the Government that detention was no longer necessary.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Government felt that he will not be a danger to the peace of the district.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“My question has not been answered by the Hon. Minister. My question was for how many days he was in detention and what were the reasons for the change in the Government's mind to think that detention was no longer necessary.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“I am not sure of the number of days he was detained but the Government felt after he was arrested that he would not be a danger to the peace in the district.”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are satisfied that even at the very outset there was reason for apprehension that there would be a danger to public peace, and whether his arrest was justified or not?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Evidently they felt so at the time the arrest was made.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, if the Government will consider the question of release of persons detained for similar reasons?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Whenever occasion arises, the Government will consider.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that he has been released, may I ask whether the Government are not in a position to say that the arrest was wrong?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“When he was arrested, the Government had certain apprehensions, Sir. But afterwards, they found that those apprehensions were unfounded.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, if the Government will place the charge-sheet against this gentleman on the table of the House?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“No Sir; that cannot be done.”

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SRI V. RAGHAVIAH:—"In view of the unlimited nature of the detention, will the Government consider the necessity and advisability of giving suitable grants to the families of those detained?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think it arises out of this question. This question specifically refers to Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether this gentleman has been released because he is a member of the Tamilnad Provincial Congress Committee, and others are not released even though they are accused of similar charges, because they belong to other parties?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not grant the hon. Gentleman that premise. This gentleman was released apart from his being a member of the Tamilnad Provincial Congress Committee."

Persons arrested in Madura for agitating for the release of I.N.A. prisoners.

* 652 Q.—SRI R. S. MANICKAM: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that mahazars and representations have been received by the Government to release those who were arrested in Madura in connection with the agitation for the release of the I.N.A. prisoners, Shaw Nawaz Khan, Dillon and Seghal, in Madura town in November 1945;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that out of 46 people who were originally arrested in connection with this agitation in Madura, 36 were released and 10 including Mr. Subbiah were convicted and fined Rs. 10 each in the Court of the First-class Magistrate, Madura; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal before the Government to refund these fines?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The matter was under the consideration of the Government but by the time a decision was arrived at, the Court pronounced its judgment.

" (c) Out of 46 persons charged, 36 were acquitted and the remaining ten were convicted and fined Rs. 10 each.

" (d) No."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Will the Government consider the advisability of refunding the fine, Sir, if applied for?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think so, Sir."

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Cases of corruption in the Police Department.

* 653 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases of corruption reported last year in the Police Department; and

(b) the number of the cases in which punishment was given (i) through Courts; and (ii) through the Department itself?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) The total number of cases of corruption reported in the Police Department in 1946 is 38.

" (b) (i) Nil.

(ii) Action has been completed so far in 35 cases. These have been dealt with departmentally."

Alleged refusal to receive salaries by police constables in the City.

* 654 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the police constables in Madras City refused to receive their salaries for the month of February 1947;

(b) if so, what the reasons are; and

(c) what steps the Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" (a) A majority of the constables in Madras City did not take their salary for the month of February payable on 1st March 1947. They have since drawn their pay.

" (b) The refusal to draw pay was mainly on the ground that there was no adequate increase in the revision of pay and allowances sanctioned as a result of the recommendations made by the Salaries Sub-Committee.

" (c) In February the Inspector-General and Commissioner of Police had made proposals to revise the pay of Police Subordinates. The Government have since passed orders on those proposals sanctioning revised scales for Police Subordinates generally."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether the revised scales of pay are applicable only to the constables in the City or in the whole Province?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"If the hon. Gentleman had read the communiqué, he would have found that it is a general revision of salary of all constables under the Police Department in the Province of Madras."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"Will the Government so amend the Police Act as to give an opportunity to police constables also the right to form their own unions as in the

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case of other Government servants in order to enable them to represent their grievances such as inadequate salaries and other things?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Hon. Gentlemen opposite and behind must realize that the police force is a semi-military force and trade unionism in forces of that kind will lead to dangers that they cannot apprehend at the present time."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, why the Government have succumbed to the pressure of the Police, while, even though the demand of the teachers was more reasonable, they have not accepted their request?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I greatly resent the use of the word 'succumb'. There is no question of succumbing at all. Government felt that in order to get proper discipline from the force and to get the work done, they deserved an increase of pay. That is why it has been given."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Arising out of the answer to Mr. Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, may I know what was the danger and to whom—either to the British Imperialism or to our country or to the Madras Government?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Well, the hon. Gentleman must realize what is meant by security. I meant danger to security."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the police constables are still dissatisfied, with the salaries they are receiving?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Evidently the hon. Member thinks so; but I hope they are not."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"அதிகப்படியான சர்வீஸில் இருக்கக்கூடிய போலீஸ்காரர்கள் சம்பளத்தை உயர்த்துவதில் ஏதாவது யோசனை உண்டா?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"An increase of salary in consonance with the finances of the Government and the discipline of the services has already been given. If hon. Members want to keep them more discontent, it is their lookout and not that of the Government."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"அதை தமிழில் சொல்ல வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"இப்பொழுது கொடுத்திருக்கும் சம்பளம் போதுமான அளவு உயர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பது அரசாங்கத்தின் எண்ணம்."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Leader of the House has cast a very grave reflection on an hon. member of our party by saying 'gentlemen of his type'. Is not that unparliamentary, Sir. It is so revolting, and it is a question of privileges of the Members of this House. I want your ruling, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister denies it."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The official report can be referred to, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I want a translation of the question and answer, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not possible to translate every question."

Reinstatement of 52 victimised workers of Buckingham and Carnatic Mills.

* 655 Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) what action was taken on the representation made by the Madras Labour Union to the Commissioner of Labour in regard to the reinstatement of 52 workers of the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills who were victimised for a strike at the time of the August struggle; and

(b) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to nationalise the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) The matter has been referred to the Court of Enquiry appointed to enquire into the dispute between the workers and management of Buckingham and Carnatic Mills.

"(b) No, Sir."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"தயவு செய்து தமிழில் சொல்ல வேண்டும்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) இந்த விஷயம் Court of Enquiry-ல் ஒப்படைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த முதலாளிகளுக்கும் மிஸ்திரி வேலை செய்கிறவர்களுக்கும் உள்ள தகரார்களை Court of Enquiry விசாரணை செய்கிறது.

"(b) இல்லை."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"இதை அவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொண்டார்களா?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"அவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொண்ட விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி பிற்பட்டு சொல்வேன்."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"As this is a political question, will the Government straightaway ask the management to reinstate these 52 labourers as they have done in the case of village officers and other Government servants."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government do not consider this as a political question."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"As per the recent statement issued by the Government of Madras, the efforts of the Government have failed to settle the dispute. May I request the Government to release Mr. Anthoni Pillai and appoint a non-party committee to go into the matter and settle the dispute?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"This question does not arise."

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MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ ఈ గవర్నమెంటుకు ఈ ప్రశ్నలకు సమాధానం చెప్పాలి. ముఖ్యంగా ‘B and C’ స్ట్రైక్?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member knows English. It is better he puts it in English.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ You have allowed us to put questions in any language, Sir. It is not fair . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ On the other hand, it is not fair on the part of the hon. Member to put questions in Telugu.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ When questions are put and answered in Tamil, other members of the House were patient. Now, when a question is put in Telugu, the same courtesy must be shown, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ But the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition himself does not know Telugu. (Laughter.) The thing is Mr. Salam knows English.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ He has forgotten it, Sir.” (Laughter.)

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Are the Government aware that they are not able to settle all these disputes due to the prejudice they have towards workers' organisations, because they are all manned by Communists?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ It is an insinuation quite unwarranted, Sir.”

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of introducing the profit sharing scheme between the managements and the workers in industries in order to avoid labour disputes?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ That question does not arise.”

SRI R. KUPPUSWAMI:—“ 1942-ம் வருஷ இயக்கத்தில் கோயம்புத்தూர் strike-ல் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவர்களை Court of Enquiry-க்கு விடாமல் வேலைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொண்டார்கள் அதைப் போல் ஏன் இந்த B and C strike-ல் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவர்களை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாது.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ I want a translation, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ It is not possible for me to translate.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ இப்பொழுது 1947-வது வருஷத்தில் நாம் இருக்கிறோம் என்பதை நான் ஞாபகப்படுத்துகிறேன்.”

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government have summoned about a thousand police men from other districts to maintain peace and order, and that the Government propose to collect this amount from the mill owners?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“ That question does not arise.”

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Repair of Papangal channel in Tenkasi taluk.

* 656 Q.—M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Muhammad Hussain Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether proposals are pending with the Government for the repair of Papangal-channel in Tenkasi taluk, Tinnevely district;

(b) if so, for how many years;

(c) whether it is a fact that a former Zamindar of Uttumalai (M. Subbayya Tevar) and the zamin ryots were agitating for immediate repairs to the said channel;

(d) whether it is a fact that the repairs are being postponed everytime on account of the ownership of the channel vesting with the Government, mittadars and inamdars and the refusal of the latter to give contributions; and

(e) whether the Government propose to undertake the immediate repair of the channel and decide upon the question of contributions later on under Section 140 of the Madras Estates Land Act?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“ (a) No such proposals are pending with the Government. Some repairs of flood damages to the channel and the work of strengthening its bund which were sanctioned in the years 1945-46 and 1946-47 are in progress.

“ (b) Does not arise.

“ (c) There was no such agitation and certainly none from the Zamindar of Uttumalai. The Uttumalai Zamin ryots do not get any direct benefit from the channel. Only petitions from inam and ayan ryots under the channel, praying for repairs to the channel were received in 1940, but the repairs suggested therein were not executed, since the Superintending Engineer considered that the channel being an uninvestigated one, comprehensive repairs should not be undertaken without a detailed investigation on Tank Restoration Scheme lines.

“ (d) No. Repairs to the channel were executed in 1941-42 and 1943 without waiting for the recovery of the contribution from the mittadars. Further urgent repairs to the channel are also under execution in anticipation of recovery of contribution from them.

“ (e) Does not arise.”

Memorandum regarding irrigation works in North Vizagapatam district.

* 657 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the Government by the North Vizagapatam District Congress Committee, Chicacole, in respect of Irrigation Works in North Vizagapatam district;

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(b) if so, what are the works mentioned therein;

(c) how many of them have already been investigated and what are they;

(d) how many of them the Government intend to take up in the current year; and

(e) how many still require investigation and what are they?

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

“(b) (1) The Vamsadhara Project;

(2) The Singidi Project;

(3) The Padigam Project;

(4) The Mahendratana Project;

(5) The Hamsareli Project;

(6) The Gona Marigedda Project;

(7) The Bundigedda Project; and

(8) The Bahuda Project.

“(c) All are under various stages of examination by the officers of the Public Works Department.

“(d) None at present. Whether any can be taken up later in the year will depend upon the reports the Government expect to receive from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and the Board of Revenue.

“(e) All the eight works referred to in the answer to clause (b).”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“Sir, in view of the answer of the Minister, may I ask him, that as a similar condition prevails, that is, lack of irrigation schemes, in many districts in the Province including my district, Ramnagar, may I suggest to him to chalk out certain irrigation schemes for those districts where there are no irrigation schemes?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may put a separate question. (After a pause) It is now twelve o'clock, and if the House approves, no supplementary questions should be put, then I will ask the Hon. Minister to read the answers to the remaining questions. Otherwise it will be necessary to print the answers in the proceedings without being read here.”

The House agreed to answers being read without any supplementary questions being put.

Supply of electricity to Vedaranyam Panchayat area.

* 658 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representation to extend the supply of electricity to Vedaranyam Panchayat area (Tanjore district);

(b) if so, what steps were taken by the Government on the representation; and

(c) when the work will be completed?

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

“(b) The South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., were asked to examine the feasibility of extending the supply of electricity to the panchayat board and to report the approximate cost of extension, return anticipated, and the return required to make the scheme remunerative. The Corporation have reported that the estimated capital expenditure on the extension works out to Rs. 3,29,000 with an anticipated gross revenue of only Rs. 8,000 per year, which will not even pay for the interest on capital. The company is also faced with acute shortage of essential line materials even for the various small extensions coming up in areas, where mains have already been laid. In view of this, the Government have informed the panchayat board that extension of electric supply to Vedaranyam is not feasible at present.”

“(c) Does not arise.”

Smallpox in Queen Mary's College, Madras.

* 659 Q.—SRI M. A. EASWARAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any case of smallpox in the Queen Mary's College, Madras;

(b) if so, how many students are attacked with smallpox;

(c) whether they have been receiving medical treatment; and

(d) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to check the further spread of smallpox in the Queen Mary's College, Madras?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the Queen Mary's College Hostel and not the College proper. There has been no case of smallpox in this hostel.

“(b) to (d) The questions do not arise.”

Proposals for the opening of new hospitals in North Arcot district.

* 660 Q.—N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what proposals the Government have in view for the opening of new hospitals and improvement of the present hospitals in North Arcot district;

(b) how soon each one of these hospitals will be ready for use; and

(c) the number of maternity homes and child-welfare centres to be opened in North Arcot district; and when they will be opened?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) & (b) According to one of the post-war plans of the Government, eight bed rural dispensaries will be established throughout the Province. The question how many such dispensaries should be opened and when they should be opened in North Arcot is under the consideration of the Government. The question of improving the hospitals in North Arcot together with the hospitals in other districts is being considered on a provincial basis.

“(c) There is no proposal to open maternity homes in North Arcot. As regards maternity and child-welfare centres, the question of opening them at the following places is under consideration:—

Arni, Ranipet, Polur, Kaveripauk, Cheyyar, Arcot, Mel-seshamangalam, Vallam and Sembedu (Gururajapet).”

Proposals for the opening of five new hospitals in Chittoor district.

* 661 Q.—MUHAMMAD *RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to open five new hospitals in Chittoor district; and

(b) if so, which are the places in the districts, where these hospitals are to be opened?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative. But one of the post-war plans of the Government provide for the opening of village centres or eight bed rural dispensaries throughout the Province. The question how many such centres should be established and when and where they should be located is under consideration and in that connexion the case of the Chittoor district will also be considered.”

662 Q.—

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the importance of the question, supplementary questions may be allowed, Sir, on this question.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If one hon. Member is allowed, every other hon. Member will ask for the same.”

M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, this question may be put on the next meeting day as I want to put some supplementary questions.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“In that case the hon. Member will have to renew his question, as it may be several days before the Assembly meets. Meanwhile, as the answer is ready, the Hon. Minister may read the answer.”

(The Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan then read out the answer.)

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Property statements of Government servants.

* 662 Q.—M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is the practice to take a property (wealth) statement of Government servants when they are entertained, especially in the gazetted ranks; and

(b) whether such a statement is taken from the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries as and when they enter and leave office?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The hon. Member apparently refers to rule 10 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, under which every Government servant or candidate for Government service should, subject to the provisions of any general or special order of the Government, make to the Government through the usual channel a declaration of all immovable properties in India from time to time held or acquired by him or his wife or by any member of his family living with, or in any way dependent upon him. The declaration should state the district or the State in India within which the property is situated and should contain such further information as the Provincial Government may by general or special order require.

“(b) The answer is in the negative.”

Temples thrown open to Scheduled Castes.

* 663 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number and description of the major and minor temples thrown open to the Scheduled Castes in the Province after the present Ministry took office?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“A list* of temples is placed on the table.”

Interests of Andhras separated by the formation of Orissa Province.

* 664 Q.—S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government of Madras have taken any steps to safeguard the interests of those Andhras who are separated by the formation of Orissa Province; and

(b) if not, whether it is proposed to take up the question of amalgamation of the two districts of Ganjam and Koraput into Madras Province in consultation with the Central Government?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The answer is in the negative.

“(b) The Government await a decision on this question by the Constituent Assembly. They do not propose taking separate action now.”

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Recruitment of constables.

* 665 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHY (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of constables recruited for the last three years district-war;

(b) how many of them are Harijans; and

(c) how many applications were rejected; and for what reasons?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 424. Separate figures for the last three years are not available.

“(c) The Government have no information.”

Curtailment of expenditure on Police.

* 666 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHY (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa): Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of curtailing the expenditure on Police was considered by the Government; and

(b) if so, with what result?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) & (b) The question is under consideration as a part of the wider question of effecting retrenchment in expenditure in all Government departments.”

Amalgamation of Porto Novo and Cuddalore Ports.

* 667 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken into consideration the mahazars given by the various sangams, etc., during his visit to Porto Novo, regarding the amalgamation of Porto Novo and Cuddalore ports; and

(b) whether a separate Landing and Shipping Fees Committee is proposed to be constituted for the purpose of administering the fund for those ports?

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

“(b) There is already a Landing and Shipping Fees Committee for the port of Cuddalore. The question of constituting a Landing and Shipping Fees Committee for the port of Porto Novo is under the consideration of the Government and a report in the matter is awaited from the Presidency Port Officer, Madras.”

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668 Q.—

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Sir, this is a very important question, and so I suggest it may be taken up at the next meeting as I want to put supplementary questions.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If the hon. Member wants to put supplementary questions, he may put a separate question. Now the answer is ready, and the Minister will read it.”

(The question was answered by the Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi.)

Scheduled Caste students who appeared for the S.S.L.C. Examination.

* 668 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste students who appeared for the S.S.L.C. Examination in each of the districts and how many of them have been declared eligible; and

(b) whether any special fee is being collected from the Scheduled Caste students?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) A statement^a furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

“(b) No.”

Drainage scheme for Salem Town.

* 669 Q.—M. S. ATAULLAH SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the year in which the drainage scheme for Salem Town was sanctioned;

(b) the year in which the work was commenced;

(c) in how many wards the work has been completed;

(d) in how many wards it has not been taken up;

(e) when the whole scheme is likely to be completed; and

(f) what are the reasons for the delay?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The scheme was sanctioned for execution in instalments in the year 1928.

“(b) Work was commenced in 1929–30.

“(c) Drains have been constructed in fifteen wards. Work is in progress in two wards.

“(d) In nine wards.

“(e) It is not possible to state when the whole scheme will be completed in view of the present inadequate staff position in the municipality.

“(f) Difficulty in obtaining materials for the work has stood in the way of the speedy execution of the work so far. The need for an experienced and qualified staff for the preparation of plans and estimates for the seventh instalment of the scheme is being felt by the municipality.”

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Communal representation in Public Health department.

* 670 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the number of Muslims, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, Christians and Scheduled Castes in the Public Health department in

(a) the gazetted ranks; and

(b) non-gazetted ranks?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“A statement ^a is placed on the table.”

Protected water-supply to Salur, Vizagapatam district.

* 671 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how long since the major panchayat board of Salur of Vizagapatam district has been agitating for protected water-supply;

(b) how much money the board has collected already for the said purpose;

(c) whether the Vizagapatam District Board has contributed anything for the said purpose;

(d) whether the Government have sanctioned the scheme;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) what steps the Government propose to take to see that the scheme comes into force immediately?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a), (d), (e) & (f) Proposals were received in 1936; but the question of incidence of cost took a long time to settle. Sanction was accorded in 1940 for the preparation of plans and estimates, and the panchayat board was asked to place at the disposal of the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence) the requisite amount for the purpose. Plans and estimates have been prepared for the scheme by the Sanitary Engineer and they are now under the scrutiny of the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence). The scheme will be taken up for execution in the second year post-war plan according to the first five-year programme of the Post-War Development plan.

“(b) Rs. 30,974-14-0.

“(c) The Government have no information.”

Protected rural water-supply scheme.

* 672 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of wells sunk this year under protected rural water-supply scheme in the Province;

^a Printed as Appendix V on page 1129 infra.

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(b) the amount allotted for the purpose for 1946-47;

(c) the amount spent out of the allotment for sinking wells this year;

(d) the number of wells sunk for the Harijans in the Harijan cheris; and

(e) whether the Government will provide wells for villages irrespective of the number of population?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) Information is not immediately available. Collectors have been asked to furnish the figures.

“(b) Rs. 25,66,870 (including the cost of maintenance, establishment, etc.).

“(c) Actuals are available only for the period from April to December 1946. The amount spent is Rs. 11,41,041. The estimated expenditure from January 1947 to March 1947 is Rs. 13,41,393.

“(d) Figures are not yet available. They will be called for, if desired.

“(e) Yes. But the sanction of the Board of the Revenue is necessary in cases where the population of a village or hamlet is less than 300. The relaxation is sanctioned as and when Collectors apply for it.”

Improvements to Government Hospital at Chicacole.

* 673 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what steps the Government propose to take to increase the number of beds and equipment such as surgical instruments, medicines; X-ray apparatus, operation theatre, staff, etc., in the Government Hospital at Chicacole;

(b) whether there are any lady doctors working in the hospital and, if not, why not; and

(c) when the Government propose to appoint a lady doctor there?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The question of improving and expanding the hospital is under the consideration of the Government.

“(b) & (c) A lady doctor has been posted to the hospital.”

Appointment of Secretary to Madras City Improvement Trust.

* 674 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an advertisement was published in the newspapers inviting applications for appointment as Secretary, Madras City Improvement Trust;

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(b) whether it was mentioned in the advertisement that possession of a Law degree would be considered as an additional qualification;

(c) if so, how many law graduates responded to the advertisement and how many of them were Muslims;

(d) how many of such law graduate applicants were interviewed; and

(e) which of them was appointed as Secretary, Madras City Improvement Trust and from what date?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) It is a fact that it was mentioned in the advertisement that possession of a Law degree would be considered as an additional qualification for appointment of a candidate to the post. But it was also mentioned that he should have previous experience in an administrative capacity of the working of local bodies in the Province, and that preference would be given to candidates possessing knowledge of the law relating to local Government in the Province.

“(c) Out of the 70 law graduates who responded to the advertisement, 4 were Muslims. One of them was 51 years old as against the prescribed age limit of 45 years.

“(d) Out of the 12 candidates interviewed, 6 were Law graduates, one of whom was a Muslim.

“(e) The person selected, namely, Mr. A. Raghava Reddi, Deputy Inspector of Local Boards, is not a Law graduate. His appointment will take effect from the date of his joining duty.”

* 675 Q.—

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“Sir, the answer is a very long one; is it necessary to read it?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If it is not to be read, then I will say it will be printed in the proceedings. It is better to read the answer so that hon. Members may know what the answer is.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Since we are not in a position to put supplementary questions, no purpose will be served by reading the answer.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I wish to inform hon. Members, if the answers are not to be read here but only to be printed in the proceedings, it will take a month or two for hon. Members to know what the answer is. So I would request hon. Ministers to read the answers.”

(Then the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan read the answer.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“I wish to inform the House once again that if it is the desire of the House that the answers may be printed in the proceedings, I have no objection. One advantage in asking the Ministers to read the answers is that hon. Members can hear them now; otherwise, it will take two months for the answers to be printed and the hon. Members to know the answers.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“It is better that the answers are read out today so that hon. Members might hear them and they may also appear in the Press. Otherwise it will take a long time if these questions and answers are to be printed.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I am also of that view and I hope hon. Members will listen to the advice of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.”

Producers-cum-Consumers Societies in West Godavari district.

* 675 Q.—SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of producers-cum-consumers societies registered in West Godavari district and the share capital collected for each society;

(b) the basis for starting these societies and whether they have got sanction of a competent authority;

(c) the object of the Government in opening those societies hardly a month or two after the Village Food Committees have come into existence;

(d) whether the Government have got expert opinion of the Co-operative Department about the actual working of these societies;

(e) what is the policy involved in making the nominations instead of allowing the shareholders to elect directorate (Executive);

(f) whether it is the aim and object of the Government to eliminate the middlemen, millers and black-marketers, and whether many of these nominated for some societies are either millers or interested merchants, and whether for instance, one, against whom there is a case pending enquiry for malpractices, was nominated to Palacole Society;

(g) whether it is a fact that when the society covers about 10 or 15 villages, a village has got 2 or 3 persons nominated as Directors, while even bigger villages have no representation at all; and whether the Government propose to rectify these unjust and undemocratic acts of the local nominating officials;

(h) the reasons of the Government in not consulting the local legislators and not taking them into confidence while previously they were being consulted in the case of Village Food Committee; and

(i) whether complaints have been received from the public about the prevailing unrest and confusion of the Revenue Department and Rationing Department in adopting these novel methods of forcible collections?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) The number of producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies, registered in West Godavari district and the share capital collected for each society is as follows:—

Serial number and name of society.	Amount collected on 25th March 1947.
(1)	(2)
RS.	
<i>Tanuku taluk.</i>	
(1) Tanuku Society	1,10,266
(2) Penugo da Society	1,03,878
(3) Peravali Society	1,03,116
(4) Manchili Society	1,02,232
(5) Penumantra Society	1,06,605
(6) Undrajavaram Society	5,853
(7) Itampudi Society	51,585
(8) Attili Society	51,757
<i>Kovvur taluk.</i>	
(9) Nidadavole Society	1,10,047
<i>Narasapur taluk.</i>	
(10) Narasapur Society	89,546
(11) Mogalur Society	56,637
(12) Palacole Society	1,49,083
(13) Lankalakoderu Society	53,132
(14) Jinjur Society	1,00,270
(15) Kavitam Society	1,04,814
(16) Elamanchili Society	62,924
(17) Achanta Society	50,888
(18) Kodamanchili Society	75,952
<i>Bhimavaram taluk.</i>	
(19) Bhimavaram Society	1,03,250
(20) Undi Society	1,01,858
(21) Yendagandi Society	67,569
(22) Veeravasaram Society	78,783
(23) Andalur Society	72,039
(24) Akividu Society	60,572
(25) Palakollu Society	51,500
(26) Kopalli Society	57,340
<i>Tadepalligudem taluk.</i>	
(27) Pentapadu Society	1,04,475
(28) Tadepalligudem Society	1,17,350
(29) Navabpalem Society	72,550
(30) Pippara Society	50,975
(31) Ungutur Society	72,150
(32) Chebrole Society	66,725
(33) Ganapavaram Society	1,12,225
<i>Ellore taluk.</i>	
(34) Ellore Society	2,18,501
(35) Bhimadole Society	1,34,506
(36) Pedapadu Society	1,13,450
(37) Kovvili Society	67,725

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“(b) The special scheme of procurement by the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies in the Circars districts was sanctioned by Government in G.O. No. 1034, Food, dated 20th November 1946.

“(c) The object of Government informing these societies is quite different from their object in constituting Village Food Committees. The latter are primarily advisory bodies in regard to matters of common welfare and of a non-business type whereas the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies are business organizations which collect share capital and carry on business.

“(d) The Co-operative Department was consulted by the Government before the scheme was sanctioned and they acted only on the expert advice.

“(e) In view of the large membership it would have taken a long time to organize and conduct an election. The procurement season had advanced and the societies had to start work quickly. Further in the early stages of a new venture of this kind it was necessary to ensure that the first set of Directors, were efficient. It was therefore decided to nominate the first set of Directors. Under the bye-laws, the Government have the power to make nominations for a period of two years but they decided to confine the period to one year.

“(f) The aim and object of the Government in organizing these societies was to eliminate the middlemen and the black-marketers in the business transactions so that the consumer may get foodgrains and other essential articles at fair prices. They had also necessarily to eliminate the millers as procurement agents, but they are allowed to continue as millers to the new societies. The Directorship is open to all alike and no class of persons is specifically excluded. A few merchants and a few persons who have shares in some mills have been nominated.

“As regards the nomination to the Palacole Society, it is presumed that the reference is to Sri P. Venkata Varadarajulu. The nomination of this gentleman was made on 15th January 1947 and on 31st January 1947 it was reported that the police seized large quantities of mill cloth from his house and the matter is under investigation. If the charge against him is proved in a Court of Law, steps will be taken to secure his resignation. It may be stated in the connexion that this Director had been the President of a Panchayat Board for the last six years. It may also be stated that the Chairman of the Palacole Municipality and Sri Addeppalli Satvanarayana, a prominent industrialist, are on the Board of Directors, and are President and Vice-President of the Society.

“(g) Nominations can be made only from among the shareholders. There may be several villages which have not contributed anything at all or have contributed only a small amount. The maximum number of Directors is only 7

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and at times there may be 8 to 11 villages within the limits of a society. It may not therefore be possible to give representation to every village though an effort has always been made to give representation to all villages consistent with the number of share-holders and the amounts subscribed by them.

“(h) The local M.L.As. were consulted while making nominations to Village Food Committees but a Co-operative Society is a body of share-holders and M.L.As. would naturally be consulted if they were share-holders and took active part in the formation of the society.

“(i) There was no such unrest or confusion. The fact that societies were organized within two months and are now in working order shows that no such confusion prevailed and the work could be carried on in an orderly and systematic manner. The collection of share-capital was done on a voluntary basis and not under coercion as alleged.”

Pay of Sarishtadars of the District Courts.

*676 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) why no increase in pay has been granted to the Sarishtadars of the District Courts, beyond making the biennial increment of Rs. 20 into an annual increment of Rs. 10; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reconsider the revision of the Sarishtadars' pay and restore to them their old scale of pay namely, Rs. 180—10—240?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) No arithmetical formula, such as percentage increase over existing scales was followed by the Cabinet Salaries Committee in making its recommendations for the revision of pay scales. The Committee examined each case *de novo* on its merits taking into account the present high cost of living, qualifications, duties and responsibilities attached to the various posts and the state of Provincial Finances. In cases, where it is held that the existing scales were high, it even recommended a reduced scale, and its recommendations were finally accepted by the Government. The case of Sarishtadars of District Courts was also duly considered by the Committee in accordance with these principles and the revised scale, viz., Rs. 150—10—210 sanctioned for them is based on its recommendation.

(b) There is no proposal to reconsider the case of Sarishtadars of District Courts.”

Buses running in the districts.

* 677 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to lay a statement on the table of the House showing the number of buses that are running in each district under private management, under State management and under the management of local bodies?

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“A statement^a showing the particulars required is laid on the table of the House.”

Limited concerns in which the Government have taken shares.

* 678 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the limited concerns in which the Government have taken shares; and

(b) the registered capital of the company, the number of shares taken and the value of each share for the last ten years?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) & (b) Printed copies^b of a statement giving the information required by the hon. Member are placed on the table of the House.”

Construction of steps in the Mettur Canal.

* 679 Q.—SRI M. MARIMUTHU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction of steps in the Mettur Canal near Kamakshi Nayudupalayam for the benefit of the Harijans of West Street, Pattukkottai, has been sanctioned; and

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to construct them this year?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) There is no proposal to construct steps in the Mettur canal near Kamakshi Nayudupalayam. Hence no estimate has been sanctioned.

“(b) The question does not arise.”

Repairs to the damaged bridge at Kalahasti.

* 680 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the bridge at Kalahasti over the Swarnamuki river in Chittoor district, has been damaged during the recent floods;

(b) if so, what the extent of the damage is; and

(c) when the repairs will be undertaken?

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

“(b) The three-end spans and abutment of the bridge on the Kalahasti temple side have been damaged. The cost of restoring the damaged portion of the bridge is estimated at Rs. 1,25,000.

“(c) The Chief Engineer (Highways) has submitted an estimate for the immediate reconstruction of the damaged spans of the bridge. It is under consideration. Pending the restoration of the bridge, a diversion road is being formed across the bed of the river.”

^a Printed as Appendix VI on page 1129 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix VII on page 1130 infra.

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Industrial concerns getting State aid.

* 681 Q.—SRI B. S. MURTHY (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the number and name of the industrial concerns with their location to which State aid was given for the last ten years and the amounts given and the progress companywise?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“Printed copies of a Statement^a giving the information required by the hon. Member are placed on the table of the House.”

Co-operative societies in the Madura district.

* 682 Q.—SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) the number of co-operative societies (including stores) in the Madura district on 31st March 1946;

(b) the number of such new societies from 31st March 1946 till to-day;

(c) the number of Sub-Registrars, Senior Inspectors and clerks who have been appointed to cope up with the additional work, from 31st March 1946 till to-day;

(d) how many such societies remained not registered on 10th March 1947, though they had applied for registration long before and when the applications for registering these societies were sent to the Deputy Registrar;

(e) whether it is a fact that the above societies were not registered for want of supervisory additional staff;

(f) whether the Government propose to sanction the necessary additional staff; and

(g) whether there is any Deputy Registrar, Sub-Registrar, Senior Inspector or Inspector who is a Muslim in the Madura district; if there are, who are they; and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“(a) The number of co-operative societies (including stores) in the Madura district on 31st March 1946 was 867.

“(b) The number of the new societies started from 31st March 1946 till 12th April 1947 is 126.

“(c) One Junior Inspector-clerk was appointed from 12th September 1946 to cope with the additional work. No Sub-Registrar or Senior Inspector was appointed for the purpose.

“(d) Thirty-nine societies were pending registration on 10th March 1947. A list^b of these societies with the date of receipt of applications for registration is laid on the table of the House (vide list I).

“(e) The delay in registering these societies is largely due to the rush of applications for stores societies. Careful preliminary investigation has to be made before registration.

^a Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 1130–1132 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix IX on page 1133 infra.

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“(f) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is examining the question of appointing additional staff. The Government will sanction additional staff, if found necessary, on receipt of Registrar's proposals.

“There is no Muslim Deputy Registrar, or Co-operative Sub-Registrar in Madura district.

“A list^a showing the number of Muslim Senior and Junior Inspectors is laid on the table of the House (vide list II).”

District Panchayat Officers and Municipal Commissioners in the Province.

* 683 Q.—SRI A. RAYAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of District Panchayat Officers and Municipal Commissioners employed in the Province; and

(b) how many of them are natives of Rayalaseema?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—“(a) The total number of District Panchayat Officers and Municipal Commissioners employed in the Province is 25 and 81 respectively.

“(b) Two of the District Panchayat Officers are natives of Rayalaseema. Information regarding Commissioners is not available and has been called for.”

Additional trains between Dindigul and Pollachi.

* 684 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people of Palni have made any representation to Government that additional trains should be run in the day-time between Dindigul and Pollachi; and

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) The Government have received a copy of the representation, dated 14th February 1947, addressed to the Traffic Superintendent, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly, by the President, Town Congress Committee, Palni, in which the necessity for the running of an additional train either way in day-time on the Dindigul-Coimbatore section of the South Indian Railway has been pointed out.

“(b) The matter was referred to the General Manager, South Indian Railway, who has now reported that, for want of engines and rolling stock, it has not been possible to comply with the request and that every endeavour will be made to introduce the proposed additional trains from 1st May 1947, when a general revision of train services is expected to be taken up.”

^a Printed as Appendix IX on page 1133 infra.

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Pumping sets for the Calicut Municipality.

* 685 Q.—P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) when the application for priority to purchase pumping sets for the water-works of the Calicut Municipality was received by the Government;

(b) how many municipalities, who made similar applications later than the Calicut Municipality, have already received their sets; and

(c) when the Calicut Municipality can expect to receive the pumping sets?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) No such application was received by the Government. The Chief Engineer called for tenders for the supply of pumping sets and the tender of Messrs. Crompton Engineering Company was accepted. On a request from the firm, the Chief Engineer has also addressed the Deputy Chief Controller of Imports, Calcutta, to arrange to get them an import licence for obtaining the pumping sets from the United Kingdom.

“(b) No such applications were received from other municipalities; but tenders were called for in the case of Mettupalayam and Salem Water-Supply Schemes. The tender in the case of the former has been accepted and in the case of the latter the tenders are still under consideration. Pumping sets have been received in the former case but have not been erected.

“(c) Messrs. Crompton Engineering Company anticipate some delay in the supply of the pumping plant in view of the unsettled conditions of labour and materials in England, but have promised to do everything possible to expedite the supply.”

Speculation in respect of quotations for cotton.

* 686 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what steps, if any, the Government have been taking to effectively check and eradicate the evil of gambling or speculation in respect of quotations for cotton in the American market;

(b) whether the existing law has been adequate to put down this pernicious habit that is rapidly spreading among the poorer classes of the people; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to amend the existing law suitably with a view to take stronger and more effective measures to eradicate this evil?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The Madras Gaming Act, 1930, was amended in 1946 by the Madras Gaming (Amendment) Act, 1946, to put down this form of gambling.

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(c) This question does not arise.”

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Status of the Legislature Secretariat.

* 687 Q.—H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state in what stage the proposal to raise the status of the Legislature Secretariat referred to in Legislative Assembly Question No. 486 answered on 29th March 1947 stands now?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The matter is still under the consideration of the Government.”

Juveniles arrested in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike.

* 688 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of juveniles arrested in connexion with the South Indian Railway strike and sent to the Reformatory School at Chingleput;

(b) the number of juveniles still remaining there;

(c) whether Sreemathi Ammani Ammal, wife of the deceased Raju (one of the victims of the Police firing on 5th September 1946 at Golden Rock) was in Trichinopoly sub-jail when her husband was shot dead in Golden Rock on 5th September 1946; if so, whether she was permitted to see her husband's corpse or to attend the funeral;

(d) whether the Sub-Magistrate, who convicted the ladies arrested in connexion with the South Indian Railway Strike at Trichinopoly allowed any defence to the accused in spite of the fact that their defence counsel appeared in time; and

(e) the number of children sent to Trichinopoly sub-jail with their mothers on the above occasion?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) Two.

“(b) Two.

“(c) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the question of permitting Sreemathi Ammani Ammal to see the corpse of her husband did not arise in the following circumstances:—

The Golden Rock Colony was a deserted place on the 5th and 6th September as all able-bodied strikers had abandoned the place for fear of arrest. Conditions were very abnormal. The post-mortem of the deceased was held on the night of 5th September 1946. In spite of best endeavours to secure persons who could identify the corpse, no person interested in the deceased person came forward to do so. It was got identified by certain workers working in the same workshop as the deceased. It was not known then or even till the evening of 6th September 1946 when the corpse was despatched after the post-mortem examination in the Golden Rock Colony, that the wife of the deceased was in jail.

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“(d) It is not true as suggested that the defence counsel was present in the Court but was not allowed to put in his appearance and defend the ladies charged before the Court.

“(e) The number of children admitted with their mothers was six.”

Places where section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, has been promulgated.

* 689 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the names of places where section 144 has been promulgated since the Congress Ministry assumed office and the reasons for taking such action and how long it will be in operation?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answer to clauses (a), (b) and (c) of Question No. 484 answered on 29th March 1947.”

Police shooting on 24th December 1946 at Madura.

* 690 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of killed and wounded in the alleged clash between the two rival labour groups in Madura on 24th December 1946 which led to shooting by the Police;

(b) how many of the dead and wounded belong to each group;

(c) whether the Police have arrested any; and if so, how many from each group;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the report of the District Magistrate about the incident;

(e) the number of persons till now remanded in custody in connexion with the labour troubles on 24th December 1946;

(f) how many of them are non-residents of Madura; and

(g) whether Messrs. P. Ramamurthi (Madras), M. R. Venkataraman (Madras), P. Balachandra Menon (Madras), Balasubramaniam, Advocate, Dindigul, Sivanandam, Railway Guard, Madura, and Andi Thevar, Railway keyman, Madura, are among those remanded in custody in this connexion; and if so, whether any warrants have been issued to arrest them?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“(a) The incident took place on 21st December 1946 and the following days. The casualties are: Killed—One; wounded—25.

“(b) One—dead; 17—wounded of Madura Labour Union; and 8 wounded of Communists.

“(c) Yes. Forty-six of Madura Labour Union; 159 of Communists.

“(d) No.

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“(e) Seventy-three (in connexion with the disturbances that occurred on 21st December 1946 and the following days).

“(f) Of the persons in custody, one is a non-resident of Madura.

“(g) These persons were among those who were remanded to custody on or after 8th January 1947 in connexion with the Communist conspiracy case. But all except P. Ramamurthi were left off in this case on 8th March 1947 when the final charge-sheet was filed as there was no sufficient evidence against them. No warrants were issued to arrest them as it was done in the course of investigation.”

Muslim Superintendent in the Public Works Secretariat.

* 691 Q.—SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI S. A. F. IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any Muslim Superintendent in the Public Works Secretariat and in the Chief Engineer's Office, Public Works Department?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“Two in the Public Works Secretariat. None in the offices of the Chief Engineers, Public Works Department.”

Palar and Perunthalar Anicut Scheme.

* 692 Q.—SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation was received from the people of Palni regarding the scheme of Palar and Perunthalar anicut;

(b) whether the Hon. the Minister has visited the spot; and

(c) if so, what is the intention of the Government regarding the scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes. A representation was received from the Palni Congress Committee.

“(b) Yes. The Hon. Minister (Public Works) visited the Perunthalar Project site on the 19th October 1946.

“(c) The scheme has been examined by the Superintending Engineer, and a report is awaited from the Chief Engineer. The Government may, on receipt of the Chief Engineer's report, direct that the detailed investigation of the scheme be taken up as early as possible.”

Repairs to the Tinnevelly channel.

* 693 Q.—K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tinnevelly channel is one of the oldest works of irrigation in the Thambaraparni system in the Tinnevelly district;

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(b) whether it is a fact that the lands under the irrigation of the said channel are double-crop ryotwari wet lands of nearly 6,000 acres in extent;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said channel has been in a very bad state of disrepair for a long time;

(d) whether it is a fact that year after year the concerned ryots have been petitioning in vain the Public Works Department and the Collector to repair the channel;

(e) whether it is a fact that the said ryots petitioned even the Hon. Minister for Public Works and Irrigation during his visit to the Tinnevely district last year;

(f) whether it is a fact that in the last kar season there was a failure of crops resulting in a loss of nearly 10,000 (ten thousand) maunds of paddy and that the failure of kar crops has become a normal feature in that area; and

(g) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to restore this old channel to a state of complete efficiency and ensure the ryots the fullest benefit from those lands?

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

“(b) The total ayacut under Tinnevely channel is 6,294 acres. Of this, an extent of 471 acres is single crop wet land and the rest is double-crop area. Of the total extent, 6,014 acres are ryotwari wet lands and the remaining inam or private.

“(c) No. Minor repairs are being attended to every year. However, the necessity for remodelling the channel has been felt and the preliminary investigation for this work has just been completed.

“(d) No. Some ryots submitted petitions for expediting the work of remodelling the channel only this year and the last.

“(e) Yes.

“(f) There was a drop in cultivation during the last kar season but full information regarding the failure of crops is not available. The petitioners referred to above got supply to their tank late during the last season after the tank in the higher reaches had been supplied and hence they could not cultivate kar crop. Similarly under the Rayavallipuram tank fed by the channel the kar crop was restricted to 10 per cent of the total ayacut. Owing to non-availability of supply, cultivation of kar crop over an extent of about 1,000 acres under the tail end was not taken up. This was not entirely due to the state of the channel but mainly due to the scarcity of supply in the Thambraparni river during the kar season. Full information relating to the failure of crops has been called for from the Board of Revenue and is awaited.

“(g) The proposed remodelling of the channel will restore the channel to full efficiency and ensure to the ryots the maximum benefit. Suitable action will be taken on receipt of the Chief Engineer (Irrigation's) report on the preliminary investigation of the work.”

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Cultivation of lands in the Kudiraimoliteri reserve forest.

* 694 Q.—SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the area between forest cairns Nos. 59 to 66 of the Kudiraimoliteri reserve forest in Tinnevely district reserved for Harijans of Kachchanaveli, has been granted to them on long lease with easy terms as contemplated in G.O. Ms. No. 1286, Development, dated 16th May 1939;

(b) if not, why not; and

(c) whether it is a fact that many applications for grant of lands in the above forest on lease for cultivation of food crops by local ryots were rejected by Government in July 1946?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“(a) The answer is in the negative.

“(b) They declined to take the area on lease.

“(c) Thirty-two applications for the lease of lands (of Kudiraimoliteri reserve forest) other than the portion mentioned in clause (a), were received. The applications were rejected for the reasons—

(i) that the Kudiraimoliteri reserve forest is a vast stretch of sand dunes where south-west monsoon wind carries the shifting sand from one locality and deposits it in another thus endangering the safety of cultivated and cultivable lands and the supply of water in the big Kadamba tank;

(ii) that in order to arrest the flow of these shifting sands the Forest department after several trials had succeeded in afforesting nearly half a mile fringe of the sandy tract by growing *Dulbagia multiflora*, *Acacia planifrons*, etc., species; and

(iii) that if the lands are leased or assigned the afforestation work so far executed by the Forest department will be undone.”

Procedure for conducting enquiries in the interests of Harijans.

* 695 Q.—SRI M. MARIMUTHU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Development be pleased to state whether the officers who make enquiries in the interests of the Harijans go to the cheris themselves and make enquiries if petitions, etc., are submitted to the higher authorities regarding the hardships, loss, etc., of the Harijans and whether he proposes to cause such enquiries to be conducted in the cheris themselves?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“As far as my knowledge goes, the officers concerned generally do not go to the Harijan cheris for visits. They only go to the caste people's village and get the Harijans to caste people's quarters generally to village munsif's house. Government will see that the officers concerned visit the Harijan cheris in future.”

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Improper distribution of agricultural implements, etc., in South Arcot district.

79 Q.—SRI A. DEVANAYAGA IYAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to investigate into the complaints made against the District Agricultural Officer and Demonstrators in South Arcot in regard to the improper distribution of cakes, iron implements and seed grains;

(b) whether the Government propose to issue permits to ryots for purchasing cakes and seeds, direct, from the producers themselves, wherever possible, instead of their being made to purchase the same from the Demonstrators at an additional cost;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Agricultural Officer, South Arcot, directed the depot-keeper to reserve 70 bags of oil cakes for a friend of his, from the Kurinjipadi depot in Cuddalore taluk;

(d) whether it is a fact that that particular friend, for whom this reservation was made, has lands in the next taluk;

(e) whether there is any provision or order of any superior officers for such reservation, for a considerably long period; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the District Agricultural Officer told the ryots that there was no stock available while he was having a stock at Kurinjipadi?

A.—(a) Whenever specific complaints are received, the Government have been taking suitable action.

(b) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government for issuing permits to ryots for the purchase of groundnut cake and improved seeds direct from producers. Both cake and seed are sold by the Agricultural department on a subsidized basis by not including in the sale price the overhead charges up to 10 per cent of the cost in the case of manures and 12½ per cent in the case of seeds and the entire establishment charges. There can therefore be no additional cost to ryots by purchasing from Agricultural Demonstrators at Agricultural depots.

(c) & (d) The District Agricultural Officer did not issue instructions to the depot-keeper, Kurinjipadi, to reserve 70 bags of oil cake for a friend of his. But he arranged for the supply of 70 bags to a landholder of Vriddhachalam on the orders of the Director of Agriculture. No reservation was made by the District Agricultural Officer as alleged, but it is reported that the bags sold to the landlord were actually delivered after about a month.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The answer is in the negative.

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Shifting of the anicut at Uttiramerur head-sluiice.

80 Q.—SRI P. R. RAMANUJALU REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal pending since 1938 for shifting the anicut at Uttiramerur head sluice to a place near Tandarai, Cheyyar taluk (North Arcot district);

(b) whether any representation has been made by the mirasdars of Mamandur for the immediate of the above execution scheme; and

(c) what the Government propose to do with regard to it?

A.—(a) There is no anicut at the head sluice of the Uttiramerur tank supply channel in the Conjeeveram taluk of the Chingleput district. The question of constructing an anicut across the Cheyyar at Uttiramerur was considered several times before but was dropped. The proposal was reconsidered in 1937. In that connexion, it was suggested that the proposed anicut might be shifted to about 15 miles upstream of Tandarai village in the North Arcot district. The proposal was, however, dropped in 1939, as it was considered that the proposed anicut would affect established irrigation lower down the anicut. A separate proposal to construct an anicut at the head of the Uttiramerur tank supply channel has been sanctioned recently at an estimated cost of Rs. 4,55,360.

(b) Yes.

(c) The representations are under examination by the local Public Works Department officers. Suitable orders will be passed on receipt of the results of the examination.

Major water-supply scheme of Tiruvattipuram Panchayat Board.

81 Q.—SRI P. R. RAMANUJALU REDDIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to investigate the major water-supply scheme of Tiruvattipuram Panchayat Board, Cheyyar taluk, in North Arcot district;

(b) whether the panchayat board is prepared to pay the investigation fee of Rs. 4,800; and

(c) if so, what action the Government propose to take?

A.—(a) & (c) The water-supply scheme for the Tiruvattipuram Panchayat is estimated to cost roughly Rs. 2 to Rs. 2½ lakhs to install. The panchayat board has been asked to report how it proposes to meet its half share of the capital cost of the scheme. The receipt of the panchayat board's reply which

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has been sent through the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards is awaited. Only after that is received and considered, a decision regarding the investigation of the scheme will be taken, in its due turn under the priorities already fixed.

(b) Yes.

MR. SPEAKER:—"For this session we received 1,330 questions. Of these, 695 have been answered and the remaining 635 have lapsed. The House is going to be prorogued to-day and if hon. Members want answers to questions which have lapsed, they must renew notice. Regarding the next item . . ."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, on a matter of personal explanation. The hon. Member Mr. Salam evidently misunderstood what I said. What I said was that if questions like that were raised, security would be affected. That was all I wanted to say."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, when answering in Tamil a question put by the hon. Members, the Hon. Leader of the House is said to have made a remark 'that if gentlemen of his type want a particular thing to be done, the Government was not responsible.' That was the phrase that was taken exception to."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the fact that the Hon. the Leader of the House denies he meant any such thing, it is not necessary to pursue it."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The official reports can be referred to, Sir."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I did not expect that what I said would be misunderstood. I only said that security would suffer."

(Some hon. Members rose to pursue the matter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of what the Hon. the Leader of the House has said, it is not right on our part to press the matter further."

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

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE FOOD SITUATION.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu, has given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. I shall read his notice:—"

"I hereby give notice for an adjournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, the food situation caused by handing over the procurement to greedy black marketers when producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies are functioning. It has been done on the plea that these societies have failed to procure. But the Government have failed to understand the fact that the failure of the procurement even through these societies is due to the black-marketers to whom procurement has been handed over today. To discuss the situation arisen by handing over the procurement to the blackmarketers instead of taking over the procurement by the Government through co-operative societies and thus created a situation where procurement is bound to fail and fam, in invited, I move for an adjournment of the House."

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[Mr. Speaker]

"Before I give my ruling, I wish to remind the House that yesterday I gave an opportunity to discuss this matter and if I remember aright, the Hon. Minister informed the House that the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies were being tried as an experiment only in one or two districts and that they have not introduced it in other districts. I think that was the answer given by the Hon. Minister for Food."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The debate was on the food situation in Guntur and it was confined to the situation in Guntur. A press communiqué was issued yesterday to the effect that the scheme has been extended to three other districts as well."

MR. SPEAKER:—"They are making an experiment, I think."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government have extended it to three other districts also."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, yesterday, while discussing the food situation in Guntur, the hon. Member from Guntur was not allowed to speak on the matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarlu, should know that we adjourn for lunch at 1 o'clock, to-day being Friday. We cannot encroach on the prayer of the Muslim Members. I have got great respect for their prayers. In view of that I think, Mr. Venkateswarlu, will not press his motion. We will consider the matter afterwards when we meet again next time. (After a pause) the hon. Member is not pressing it."

"Regarding the other items on the agenda, we have got one Bill and three resolutions. It is not possible for us to take the Bill. May I know what the Hon. the Leader of the House has to say?"

IV.—MOTION UNDER RULE 15 (3) OF THE ASSEMBLY RULES.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I move, Sir, that the consideration of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee may now be taken up."

The question that the consideration of the report of the Public Accounts Committee be taken up was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to inform the House that the last time when the House discussed the report of the Public Accounts Committee was in 1936. This report relates to the Advisers' regime. No hon. Member has given notice of any amendment. The House may have a general discussion."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about the situation in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills? The Minister promised to make a statement."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"At the beginning of question time I put a question on a point of information. My question was whether the food situation in Guntur was improving and whether the present method of procurement was being kept up."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have answered yesterday that there has been improvement. Therefore it has not only been kept up. In the press communiqué, it has been intimated to the public that this method has been extended to three other districts."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know whether the Government have received any report to-day confirming the improvement reported yesterday."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

V.—STATEMENT ON THE STRIKE SITUATION IN BUCKINGHAM AND CARNATIC MILLS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Can the Hon. Minister give any information regarding the Mill strike? If he is able to give, let him give; if not, let him say he is not in a position to give any information."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Sir, I may make a small statement for the information of the House. I am not committing the Government or anybody concerned in the issues under dispute. The Government permitted two of the strike leaders and the vice-president of the union to proceed to Rajahmundry day-before-yesterday to enable them to interview the strike leader now in detention at Rajahmundry. Both of them went to Rajahmundry, had an interview with the leader there in Rajahmundry jail, have come back and met the Government. The first discussion was held yesterday evening and it has been continued even to-day and the final interview will be at six o'clock to-day. This is all the statement I have got to make. I must here state that the Government are very happy to note that the strikers have been very patient and their conduct during the strike has been exceptionally good, although there has been aberrations of temper during the course of this long-drawn dispute. It is only in a peaceful atmosphere that the Government can carry on negotiations. I hope it will be successful and very soon the labourers will be back at their work."

(At the request of Sri N. Govindaswami Nayudu, the Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan gave a gist of his statement in Tamil.)

"இந்த Strike சம்பந்தமாக Strike தலைவர்கள் இருவர் இராஜமுத்திரி ஜெயிலுக்குச் சென்று அந்தோனி பிள்ளையைக் கண்டு பேசி, இவர்கள் திரும்பி வந்து, நேற்றையதினம் சாயங்காலம் முதற்கொண்டு கவர்ன்மென்ட் டென் பேச்சு வார்த்தைகள் நடத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள் அநேகமாக கூடிய சீக்கிரத்தில் முடியக்கூடும்."

VI.—REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR 1944-45.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Finance Minister will now move the motion on the Public Accounts Committee Report."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I now, move, Sir, that the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts of this Province for the year 1944-45 and the Audit Report, 1946, be taken into consideration."

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"It was in November 1936 the House discussed the Public Accounts Committee Report and since then for various reasons, the Report of the Public Accounts Committee and the Audit Report could not be placed before the House. Now, Sir, this Report pertains to the period 1944-45 when there was the Advisers' administration. We all know that it was a period when the country was mobilizing its resources for increasing the war effort and swing the tide towards the Allies. The Madras Government had also incurred a lot of expenditure on civil defence and other items so that the people may not suffer by air bombardment."

SRI B. S. MURTHY:—"May I point out, Sir, that it was not the country but the various Governments in the country that were mobilizing the resources. It was the various Governments but not the country."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I stand corrected, Sir. (Laughter.)"

"All the members of the Public Accounts Committee took great pains to scrutinize the accounts for the year 1944-45 and the 12-45 Audit Report of the Accountant-General issued some time in 1946. P.m. I take this opportunity to thank all those members. Sri N. S. Varadachari, Sri K. A. Nachiappa Goundar and the late lamented Abdul Rawoof also served on the Committee, and all of them took great interest in scrutinizing the accounts."

"Here, I may state that in England there is a convention that a Member of the Opposition should be the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. In moving that the report of the Public Accounts Committee be taken into consideration last time, the then Finance Member, the Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken said that, under the Government of India Act, 1935, the Public Accounts Committees would serve a very useful purpose in advising Government as to how best to maintain accounts, to make reappropriations, etc. If the Opposition are prepared to take the responsibility and allowance of their members to be the Chairman, the Government will consider the matter. The rules may be suitably amended so that perhaps by next year a member of the Opposition can be elected Chairman of the Committee. He can thoroughly scrutinize the expenditure and call for any records that he requires. As it is a matter for the Opposition, I would like to have their guidance."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Hon. Leader of the Opposition wants to say anything, he can say."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The suggestion made by the Hon. Minister for Finance at the end of his speech is welcome, and it is a very good and salutary suggestion. We shall give it our due consideration. We are prepared to co-operate with the Government in the matter and nominate a Member of the Opposition to be the Chairman of the Committee when the time comes."

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* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I would like to speak on the Appropriation Accounts for 1944-5 and the Audit Report 1946, although I am not quite sure whether the Hon. Minister for Finance will be in a position to explain matters. Yet, when so many things are going on in Government, somebody has got to explain.

"We find in the Audit Report that the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has reported that the initial accounts maintained by the Agricultural department in respect of State Trading Schemes under the control of the Director of Agriculture did not reveal any serious irregularities. . . . I am sorry I have missed the correct page. As I was just looking into the report, I thought I must ask for information on a particular point.

"Apart from that, I wish to remind the House that there has been a heavy loss under the State Trading Schemes, which the Government have no reason to incur. On page 271 we find that the decrease in the value of stocks of firewood in the Government Firewood Depots in the City of Madras on account of dryage and pilferage during the period from 5th February 1944 to 31st January 1945 was Rs. 3,37,311. I want the Hon. Finance Minister to explain why there has been a loss of as much as Rs. 3,37,311 within a period of one year. There are losses on other items also, though they are small. The total of these losses is as much as 4,00,000. Although the Finance Minister cannot give an explanation just now, I would like him to see if losses cannot be avoided at least in future.

"There is another very important thing. On page 282, we find that the turnover of the Cinchona Department in 1943-4 was Rs. 15,26,214, and the net profit earned during the year was Rs. 5,47,252. In 1944-5, the turnover was Rs. 23,74,273 and the profit earned was only Rs. 6,74,588. The net profits seem to be absolutely disproportionate. Of course, we find the explanation that the working of the department during the year under review showed a net profit of Rs. 6,74,588 as compared with a net profit of Rs. 5,47,252 in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 1,27,336 in profit was mainly due to the increase in the quantity sold and the sale of new drugs. My point is that the turnover is fifty per cent more but that the profit has not been adequate.

"Again, take the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut. The figures are dull, but still I would like the hon. Members to listen to them. The turnover in 1943-4 was Rs. 6,35,329, and the profit Rupees 1,13,939. Whereas the turnover in 1944-5 was Rs. 11,32,939, the profit was only Rs. 1,30,670. Here again I say the profits are disproportionate to the turnover.

"Apart from that, I want to say how disappointed the mercantile community is to hear from the Hon. Minister for Food that the procurement scheme has failed. That is what the mercantile community has been warning.

"I want the Government to see that they do not incur such heavy losses. On account of dryage and pilferage of firewood, a loss of Rs. 3,37,311! Is the ratepayer simply to be told that

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[Sri P. Natesan]

this amount has got to be written off? I do not know how much the Government have lost under the procurement scheme. That is why I am referring to it. It is very important that the Government ought to behave better and handle the ratepayers' money properly, because they are the custodians of public finance. It is no good the Government coming forward and saying that merchants are blackmarketers. Merchants can take care of themselves."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"The fact remains that the merchants are blackmarketers."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I want to show that the merchants can look after their own business. They may be blackmarketers as much as any Congressman here is a blackmarketer. (Cries of Order, Order.) I do not want to use unnecessary words. But when somebody on the other side provokes me by saying that the merchants are blackmarketers, I wanted to come to the rescue of the mercantile community.

"Blackmarketing exists all over the world. It is not peculiar to Madras alone. It is an anti-social act. Many a gentleman who has been able to purchase a motor car for Rs. 10,000 has sold it away for Rs. 14,000. Do you think I can get evidence for this? It is impossible. It is no good making allegations, particularly from the Government side, when they themselves have not handled the procurement scheme properly. That is my point."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"I want to know whether my hon. Friend, is pleading for the blackmarketers of this Province."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"It is not for us to support the blackmarketer. I am only saying that the Government must look after the finances on behalf of all the people. They are supposed to be a people's Government.

"With these words, I resume my seat. I am sorry that I blundered at the very beginning because I could not get at the page that I wanted."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am very thankful to the hon. Member representing the Southern India Chamber of Commerce for his very valuable criticism. I have nothing to say about blackmarketers and all that. With regard to State Trading Schemes, every care will be taken by the Government to see that they do not incur any wasteful expenditure. It must also be remembered that these schemes are not meant for profiteering. They came into existence at a time when extraordinary conditions were prevailing in the country, and when the Government had to undertake supplies to civilian population. Sometimes we purchase things and sell them at a discount to civilian population. Some things are sold at cost price, the rest of the expenditure being borne by the Government. So, these State Trading Schemes should not be looked at as though some private enterprise has

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undertaken the business. These serve a definite purpose, and I am sure they have served a very useful purpose during abnormal times. As I said in the beginning, every care will be taken to see that these schemes do not involve Government in any unnecessary expenditure. With these words, I request that the motion be adopted."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Regarding such motions, the procedure is this. When amendments are moved, they will be put to vote. There is no amendment in this case. The main motion will not be put to the vote of the House. I will simply say 'The motion is adopted'."

VII.—MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will read the message from His Excellency the Governor which I have received to-day:—

'In pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 62 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby prorogue this session of the Madras Legislative Assembly with effect from the conclusion of business on 25th April 1947.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, GUINDY,
Dated 25th April 1947.

ARCHIBALD NYE,
Governor of Madras.

"The House is prorogued."

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 639 asked by Sri G. Venkata Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1068 supra.]

Statement showing the names, qualifications and districts to which inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners who were recruited direct belong.

Serial number and name.	Qualifications.	Native district.
1 Sri N. Ramachandra Rao ..	LL. B. ..	Guntur.
2 " V. L. Sastri ..	B.A. ..	East Godavari.
3 " P. Srinivasan ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Madura.
4 " G. K. Somayajulu ..	M.A. (Economics).	East Godavari.
5 Mr. G. M. Kuraisy ..	B.A. ..	Madras.
6 Sri C. Prabakara Menon ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Malabar.
7 " K. Subbarao ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Vizagapatam.
8 " T. Prakasarayudu ..	M.A. ..	West Godavari.
9 " K. L. Narasimha Rao ..	B.A. ..	Kistna.
10 " Y. Venkanna Dora ..	B.A., B.L. ..	East Godavari.
11 " M. Muthukrishnan ..	B.A., B.L. ..	North Arcot.
12 " N. Kesavan Chetti ..	M.A. ..	Chingleput.
13 " G. Narayanamurthi ..	L.M. & S. ..	Vizagapatam.
14 " P. V. Avadhani ..	M.A. ..	West Godavari.
15 " S. R. Sampath Thatham ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Trichinopoly.
16 " R. Kulandaivelu ..	B.A. (Hons.).	Coimbatore.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 642 asked by Sri N. S. Varadachari at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1068 supra.]

(a) Fodder scarcity was very acute in parts of Bellary and Anantapur districts. A statement regarding the relief operations undertaken by the Government to meet fodder scarcity in these two districts was made in the monthly Press Note on the seasonal conditions in the affected areas in the two districts. With the improvement in the seasonal conditions in the two districts, the issue of the monthly Press Note was discontinued. It is not proposed to make a further statement now.

(b) Not fully.

(c) The average cost of collection and transport of fodder up to the supply depot inclusive of overheads in Anantapur and Bellary districts is Rs. 64-10-0 per ton.

(d) The cost of production of a ton of hay in the Hosur Cattle Farm is estimated at Rs. 13 exclusive of charges of land assessment, supervision by the superior staff, depreciation of tools and machinery and interest on capital outlay.

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(e) No such data have so far been collected either in the Agricultural or Forest department regarding the outturn of hay per acre, but approximate figures for certain typical areas are furnished—

Yield of hay per acre of fodder grass lands.

- (1) Kurnool Nallamalais One ton.
- (2) Kurnool Yerramalais Half ton.
- (3) Bellary district One-third ton.
- (4) Anantapur district One-fourth ton.
- (5) Coimbatore district, Talaimalai range 1,750 lb.

(f) The cost of collection in forests is very high because of the long lead through unhealthy localities involving transport by headload and then by railway. Secondly, as good edible grass does not grow pure in any area, its selection involves labour and time.

(g) The total quantity of hillgrass handled by the Government for the season was 10,000 tons for Bellary and Anantapur.

(h) It is not possible to give correct figures as the entire stock has not yet been disposed of. The loss by way of subsidy is about Rs. 5,60,000.

(i) The question of devising measures for relieving fodder scarcity in the Province is under the consideration of the Government.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 663 asked by H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1095 supra.]

LIST A.

List of temples (major) thrown open to the excluded classes in the Province after the present Ministry came into power up to and inclusive of 12th February 1947.

Description of temples.

Serial number and taluk. (1)	Village. (2)	Temple. (3)
West Godavari district		
1 Tanuku	Pali	Sri Malleswaraswami.
2 Tadepalligudem	Minavilluru	„ Visweswaraswami.
Vizagapatam district—		
3 Bobbili	Bobbili	Sri Venugopalaswami.
4 Do.	Do.	„ Ramalingaswami.
5 Do.	Sitanagaram	„ Venugopalaswami Varu.
6 Palakonda	Sitarampuram	„ Sitaramaswami.
7 Do.	Rajam	„ Rajagopalaswami.
8 Do.	Do.	„ Ramalingaswami.
Cuddapah district—		
9 Rayachoti	Rayachoti	Sri Varabhadraswami.
Guntur district—		
10 Bapatla	Ponnur	Sri Bhavanarayanaswami.
11 Do.	Mamillapalli	„ Agastheeswaraswami.
Nellore district—		
12 Nellore	Nellore, Ranganaya-kulupet.	Sri Talpagiri Ranganadhaswami.

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Serial number and taluk. (1)	Village. (2)	Temple. (3)
Nellore district—cont.		
13 Nellore, Moolapet	Nellore, Moolapet	Sri Moolasthaneswaraswami.
14 Do.	Do.	„ Venugopalaswami.
15 Do.	Do.	„ Krishnadharmarajaswami.
16 Kovur	Peddaputtadu	„ Chennakesavaswami.
17 Do.	Do.	„ Sidheswaraswami.
18 Do.	Gandavaram	„ Udayakaleswarar,
		„ Venugopalaswami and
		„ Lakshminarasimhaswami.
19 Kalahasti	Kalahasti	„ Kalahasthiswaraswami.
South Arcot district—		
20 Vriddhachalam	Vriddhachalam	Sri Vriddhagiriswarar.
21 Do.	Thittagudi	„ Vaidyanathaswami.
22 Do.	Vasistapuram	„ Ranganadhaswami.
23 Do.	Pennadam	„ Pralayakaleswaraswami.
24 Chidambaram	Chidambaram	„ Thillaiamman.
25 Tindivanam	Mailam	„ Subrahmanyaswami.
26 Tirukoyilur	Tirukoyilur	„ Trivikramaswami.
27 Cuddalore	Tiruvathigai	„ Verateeswarar.
28 Do.	Tiruppapuliur	„ Pataleswarar.
North Arcot district—		
29 Vellore	Vellore	Sri Lakshminarayanaperumal.
30 Do.	Virinchipuram	„ Margabandhuperumal.
31 Do.	Vellore Kosapet	„ Sundareswaraswami.
Tanjore district—		
32 Shiyali	Shiyali	Sri Sattanadhaswami.
33 Do.	Thirumailadi	„ Sundareswaraswami.
34 Do.	Vaitheeswarankoil	„ Vaithinathaswami.
35 Do.	Kahalpuram	„ Sivalogathiagarajaswami.
36 Do.	Tirumullavasal	„ Mullavanadhaswami.
37 Do.	Tiruvengad	„ Swetaranyaswami.
38 Nannilam	Srivanchiam	„ Vanchinadhaswami.
39 Do.	Peralam	„ Swayambunathaswami.
40 Negapatam	Tiruvarur	„ Thiagarajaswami.
41 Do.	Sikkil	„ Navaneetheswarar.
42 Do.	Kivalur	„ Akshayalingaswami.
43 Do.	Negapatam	„ Kayarohanam and Neelaya-
		thakshiamman.
44 Do.	Puducheri	„ Nadeeswaraswami.
45 Do.	Pulivalam	„ Venkatachalapathi.
46 Do.	Tirukuvalai	„ Thiagarajaswami.
47 Do.	Negapatam	„ Naganadhaswami.
48 Do.	Kilayur	„ Ranganathaperumal.
49 Do.	Do.	„ Arunachaleswarar.
50 Pattukottai	Pattukottai	„ Nadi Amman.
51 Mayavaram	Vilanagar	„ Thuraihattumvallalaraswami.
52 Do.	Parasalur	„ Veerateswarar.
53 Do.	Tirukkadayur	„ Amrithagateswarar.
54 Do.	Dharmapuram	„ Dharmapuriswaraswami.
55 Do.	Mayavaram	„ Kasiviswanadhaswami.
56 Do.	Vallalarkoil	„ Vadhaneeswaraswami.
57 Do.	Kuttalam	„ Ukthavedeswaraswami.
58 Do.	Manakudi	„ Sundareswaraswami.
59 Do.	Karunguyil	„ Sakthipuriswaraswami.
	Nathampettai.	
60 Do.	Tirunanriyur	„ Lakshmiapuriswaraswami.
61 Do.	Korukkai	„ Veerateswaraswami.
62 Do.	Talanayar	„ Kutrampruthiswaraswami.
63 Do.	Akkur	„ Thanthoniswarar and Raja-
		gopalaperumal.
64 Kumbakonam	Tirubuvanam	„ Kumbahareswaraswami.
65 Do.	Tirupanandal	„ Arunajateswaraswami.
66 Do.	Tirupirambiam	„ Sakanadhaswami.
67 Tanjore	Tiruvadi	„ Panchanadheswarar.
68 Tirutturaippundi	Palayangudi	„ Agastheeswaraswami.
69 Do.	Karambiyur	„ Kalahastheeswaraswami.
70 Do.	Muthupet	„ Soundareswaraswami.
Madura district—		
71 Madura	Tiruparankunram	Sri Andavar Subramaniaswami.
72 Periyakulam	Veerapandi	„ Gowmariamman.

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Serial number and taluk. (1)	Village. (2)	Temple. (3)
Madura district—cont.		
73 Dindigul	Dindigul	Sri Abiramiamman and Kalahas- thiswarar.
74 Do.	Do.	„ Srinivasaperumal.
75 Melur	Natham, Kovilpatti ..	„ Kailasanathaswami.
Trichinopoly district—		
76 Karur	Karur	Sri Kalyanapasupathiswarar.
77 Kulittalai	Kadambarkoil	„ Kadambavaneswarar.
78 Trichinopoly	Srirangam	„ Ranganadhaswami.
79 Do.	Trichinopoly Rock, Fort.	„ Thayamanaswami.
80 Do.	Woraiyur	„ Panchavarneswarar.
81 Do.	Palayambazaar	„ Balasubrahmanyaswami.
82 Musiri	Tirunarayanapuram ..	„ Vedanarayanaperumal.
83 Lalgudi	Bikshandarkoil	„ Uthamarkoil.
Ramnad district—		
84 Sattur	Sattur	Sri Venkatachalapathi.
85 Do.	Tirutangal	„ Karunellinadhaswami.
86 Do.	Do.	„ Nindranarayanaperumal.
87 Do.	Sivakasi	„ Viswanadhaswami.
88 Do.	Do.	„ Venkatachalapathi.
89 Do.	Do.	„ Badrakaliannan and Mari- amman temples.
90 Srivilliputtur	North Srivilliputtur and Mariamankoil street.	„ Periamariamman.
91 Do.	Rajapalayam	„ Mayurnadhaswami.
92 Do.	Srivilliputtur	„ Nachiyar devasthanam and sub-temples.
93 Do.	Madavarvilagam	„ Vaidyanadhaswami.
94 Tirupattur	Kunnakudi	„ Anjukoil devasthanams at Kunnakudi comprising of Priannamalai, Tirupattur, Kunnakudi, Tirukkolakudi, and Thenakshiamman temple and sub-temples, Chadur- vedamangalam.
Tinnevely district—		
95 Srivaikuntam	Tuticorin	Sri Sankararameswarar.
96 Do.	Kandiswaram	„ Ekandalingaswami.
97 Do.	Srivaikuntam	„ Kallapiran.
98 Do.	Perur	„ Renganadhaswami.
99 Do.	Perungulam	„ Mayakoothar.
100 Do.	Tuticorin	„ Vaikuntapati.
101 Do.	Perungulam	„ Tiruvaluthiswarar.
102 Do.	Thenthirupperai	„ Mahara Nedumkuzhaikathar temple.
103 Do.	(1) Thirupuliyangudi. (2) Nattam	„ Kasiniventhaparumal. „ Vijayasthaparumal.
104 Do.	Karungulam	„ Marthandeswarar, etc.
105 Do.	Kongarayakurichi	„ Virapandiswarar.
106 Do.	Manakkarai	„ Navaneethakrishnaswami, etc.
107 Do.	Sethunganallur	„ Varadarajaperumal.
108 Koilpatti	Koilpatti	„ Poovanadhaswami.
109 Tiruchendur	Tiruchendur	„ Subrahmanyaswami.
110 Do.	Alwartirunagari	„ Athinadhalwarar.
111 Do.	Tirukallur	„ Vaithamanithiperumal.
112 Tinnevely	Tinnevely	„ Nelliapparaswami.
113 Sankarankoil	Sankarankoil	„ Sankaranarayanaswami.
114 Do.	Vasudevanallur	„ Chintamaninadhaswami.
115 Do.	Karivalamvanda- nallur.	„ Palvannathar.
116 Ambasamudram	Vikramasingapuram ..	„ Papavinasaswami.
117 Do.	Ambasamudram	„ Kasinadhaswami, etc.
118 Do.	Do.	„ Krishnaswami, etc.
119 Do.	Sermadevi	„ Ammanadhaswami and Ramaswami.
120 Do.	Do.	„ Vaidyanadhaswami.

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Serial number and taluk. (1)	Village. (2)	Temple. (3)
Tinnevely district—cont.		
121 Tenkasi	Illanji	Sri Illanji Kumarar.
122 Do.	Panpoli	„ Tirumalaikumarar.
123 Nanguneri	Kalakad	„ Varadarajaperumal.
124 Do.	Do.	„ Satyavabhiswaraswami.
125 Do.	Karivelankulam	„ Soundarapandiswarar and Kumarar.
126 Do.	Pangudi	„ Ramalingeswaraswami.
127 Do.	Radhapuram	„ Varagunapandeswarar and Kalyaniammal.
Coimbatore district—		
128 Avanashi	Karamadai	Sri Ranganadhaswami.
129 Bhavani	Bhavani	„ Sangameswaraswami.
130 Coimbatore	Coimbatore	„ Pettaivisweswaraswami.
131 Do.	Naickenpalayam	„ Palamalai Ranganadhaswami.
132 Gobichettipalayam ..	Satyamangalam	„ Venugopal swami.
133 Erode	Kodumudi	„ Maguteswaraswami.
134 Do.	Do.	„ Malaianman.
135 Pollachi	Pollachi	„ Subrahmanyaswami.
Salem district—		
136 Salem	Salem	Sri Sukavaneswaraswami.
Nilgiri district—		
137 Coonoor	Coonoor	Sri Vinayagar.
Malabar district—		
138 Ponnani	Panangal	Sri Narayanapuram.
139 Kurumbranad	Menunda	„ Lokamalyarkavu.
South Kanara district—		
140 Mangalore	Bappanadu	„ Durgaparameswari.

List B.

List of temples (minor) thrown open to the excluded classes in the Province after the present Ministry came into power up to and inclusive of 12th February 1947.

Description of temples.

Serial number and taluk. (1)	Village. (2)	Temple. (3)
Tinnevely district—		
1 Ambasamudram	Vikramasingapuram ..	Sri Sevandiappar.
2 Srivaikuntam	Nadikarai	„ Subrahmanyaswami.
3 Do.	Vittalpuram	„ Kailasanathar.
4 Do.	Srivaikuntam	„ Chockalingaswami.
5 Do.	Avarupannai	„ Nangai Muthamman.
6 Do.	Muthulankurichi	„ Laxminarayanaperumal.
7 Koilpatti	Kayatar	„ Vittaleswaraperumal.
North Arcot district—		
8 Tirupattur	Vaniyambadi	„ Thoondivinayagar.
		„ Varadarajaperumal.
		„ Veerapandiswarar, etc.
		„ Kothandaramaswami.
		„ Muthukrishneswarar.
		Sri Vinayagar.
		„ Gangaianman.
		„ Anjaneyar.
		„ Thandariamman.
		„ Subrahmanyaswami.
		„ Arasamaran Mariamman
		„ Vania Vaisiyakula temples.

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APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 668 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1097 supra.]

SECONDARY SCHOOL-LEAVING CERTIFICATE PUBLIC EXAMINATION, 1946.

Statement showing the number of Scheduled Caste candidates taking University subjects examined and the number declared eligible for courses of studies of the Universities.

Number and district.	Number examined.	Number declared eligible.
1 Vizagapatam, North	2	1
2 Vizagapatam, South	14	3
3 Godavari, East	61	20
4 Godavari, West	79	20
5 Kistna	51	16
6 Guntur	63	41
7 Nellore	25	8
8 Kurnool	16	9
9 Bellary	1	..
10 Anantapur	10	2
11 Cuddapah	7	1
12 Chittoor	8	5
13 Arcot, North	22	6
14 Madras	31	16
15 Chingleput	13	4
16 Arcot, South	10	3
17 Tanjore	28	9
18 Trichinopoly	37	16
19 Madura	30	12
20 Ramnad	13	6
21 Tinnevely	31	12
22 Salem	22	4
23 Coimbatore	23	5
24 The Nilgiris	7	1
25 Kanara, South	9	..
26 Malabar, South	5	1
27 Malabar, North	10	7
28 Pudukottah	..	..
29 Bangalore	4	3
30 Coorg	..	..
31 Orissa Province	..	..
Total	625	231

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APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 670 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1098 supra.]

Name of service and post.	Number employed in the Public Health Department.				
	Muslims.	Brahmins.	Non-Brahmins.	Christians or Anglo-Indians.	Scheduled castes.
1	2	3	4	5	
I Madras Public Health Service—Gazetted ranks.					
(i) Director of Public Health	..	4	2	1	1
(ii) Assistant Directors of Public Health.	..	..	..	1	..
(iii) Assistant Directors of Public Health (Maternity and Child welfare).	1	31	17	8	..
(iv) First Class Health Officers	..	..	..	..	..
II Madras Public Health Subordinate Service (Non-gazetted ranks).					
(i) Second Class Health Officers	..	45	35	6	Nil.
(ii) Health Inspectors	20	185	189	30	2
(iii) Entomological Assistants	1	8	7	3	Nil.
(iv) Chemical Assistant	..	..	..	1	..
(v) Laboratory Assistants	1	..	1	..	..
(vi) Laboratory Attendants	1	1	1	..	..
(vii) Trained Attenders (Guineaworm Control).	..	..	2	..	..
III Madras Ministerial Service	4	28	43	13	3
IV Madras General Subordinate Service.	..	2	6	1	..
V Madras Inferior Service	2	..	18	4	4

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 677 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1105 supra.]

Statement showing the number of buses that are running in each district and also in the Madras City under private management.

Vizagapatam	150	South Arcot	90
East Godavari	120	Tanjore	217
West Godavari	169	Trichinopoly	205
Kistna	199	Salem	223
Guntur	159	Madura	280
Nellore	132	Ramnad	190
Cuddapah	80	Tinnevely	253
Anantapur	76	Coimbatore	293
Bellary	86	Nilgiris	48
Kurnool	88	South Kanara	114
Chittoor	138	Malabar	219
Chingleput	230	Madras City	189
North Arcot	275		

NOTE.—There are no buses managed by local bodies in this Province. Only six buses run under State management in the Province. They are all running in the City.

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 678 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1105 supra.]

Statement showing the names of the concerns in which Government have taken shares, the number of shares, etc., during the ten years 1937-46.

Serial number and names of concern.	Registered capital of the concern.	Number of shares taken.	Value of each share.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.		RS.
1 Kollegal Silk Filature, Limited, Kollegal.	3,25,000	1,750 ordinary shares at 10 each and 350 deferred shares at 100	10 each.
2 Ramaraju Surgical Cotton Mills, Limited, Rajapalam.	3,00,000	75 ordinary shares at 100	100
3 Radio and Electricals, Limited, Madras.	50,00,000	20,000	10
4 Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore, Limited, Trivandrum.	5,00,00,000	2,00,000	10 each.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 681 asked by Sri B. S. Murthy (on behalf of Sri S. Nagappa) at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, page 1106 supra.]

Statement showing the number, names of industrial concerns, amount of State aid given and their progress from the years 1937 to 1946.

Serial number and name of concern to which aid was given.	Amount of aid given.		Progress of concerns and remarks.
	Loan or subsidy.	Subscription of shares or overdraft.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.		
1 Sri Ramaswami Chettiyar, Proprietor, Swadeshi Button Works, Pannapatti, Omalur taluk, Salem.	L. 200	..	Understood to be working satisfactorily.
2 M. Arunachalam Pillai, Proprietor, Karthikeyan Button Works, Keerakara Street, Salem.	L. 200	..	Do.

L = Loan.

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Serial number and name of concern to which aid was given.	Amount of aid given.		Progress of concerns and remarks.
	Loan or subsidy.	Subscription of shares or overdraft.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
3 T. G. Natesam Pillai, Proprietor, N. G. Moorthy and Brothers, Swadeshi Button Manufacturers, Keerakara Street, Salem.	L. 200	..	Understood to be working satisfactorily.
4 M. Doraikannu Pillai, Proprietor, S. D. Krishna and Company, Swadeshi Button Works, Salem.	L. 300	..	Do.
5 The Andhra Pharmaceutical Works, Limited, Bezwada.	L. 20,000	..	Do.
6 The Metal Industries, Limited, Shoranur.	L. 25,000	..	Loan discharged.
7 The Andhra Scientific Company, Limited, Masulipatam.	L. 14,000	..	Do.
8 The Puttur Taluk Co-operative Beekeeping Honey Production and Sale Society, Limited, Chokkadi, South Kanara district.	S. 100	..	Term of years for repayment not fixed by Government as it is a loan granted under section 16 of the Act.
9 P. C. Munuswamy Naicker, Muttam village, Tiruttani, Chittoor district.	L. 500	..	Loan discharged.
10 The Industrial Engineers and Merchants, Limited, Bezwada.	L. 35,000	..	Do.
11 Sri Hari Nagesh Bhat, Proprietor, Kohinoor Industries, Kallianpur, South Kanara.	L. 500	..	Overdraft of Rs. 25,000 (guarantee of overdraft of Rs. 25,000 with Imperial Bank of India) for one year from 22nd December 1939. Overdraft repaid.
12 The Santhapet Basket Makers' Co-operative Society, Limited, Chittoor—Non-recurring ..	S. 192	..	Non-recoverable subsidy.
13 The Madras Enamel Works, Limited, Madras.	L. 25,000	..	Loan discharged.
14 The Quilandy Artisans Co-operative Society, Limited, Quilandy, Malabar district—Non-repayable non-recurring.	500	..	Reported to be working satisfactorily.
Recurring subsidy ..	10 per mensem for one year.	..	Do.
15 M. Ramalingam Pillai, Melachaval, Tinnevely.	L. 16,800	..	Loan discharged.
16 Sri M. Rathnam, Rathnam, Industrial Works, Vepery, Madras.	L. 1,000	..	Reported to be working satisfactorily.
<i>Associated Home Industries.</i>			
17 A. Dharmaraju, Vizagapatam.	L. 1,000	..	Loan discharged.
18 S. T. David, Proprietor, Bone Mill, Ennore.	L. 3,000	..	Borrower defaulted. His Mill was auctioned and steps are taken to recover the balance due through Court of Law.

L = Loan.

S = Subsidy.

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Serial number and name of concern to which aid was given.	Amount of aid given.		Subscription of shares or overdraft.	Progress of concerns and remarks.
	Loan or subsidy.	Rs.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
<i>Associated Home Industries.</i>				
19 Sri G. Changanlal Damodar, Envelope Factory, Madras.	L. 6,500	..	..	Reported to be working satisfactorily.
20 G. V. Venkataratnam Industrial and Scientific Works, Coimbatore.	L. 800	..	..	Loan discharged.
21 Sri Mitadeddi Rama Rao, Nellore.	L. 2,000	..	..	Do.
22 S. L. Venkatachalapathy, Gold Thread Manufacturer, Kumbakonam.	L. 6,500	..	..	Do.
23 M. Raghurama Raju, Courtallam.	L. 400	..	..	Do.
24 The Button Manufacturers' Co-operative Production and Sale Society, Limited, Tirupanadgadu, North Arcot district—Non-repayable subsidy.	108	..	..	Recovery of subsidy directed to be waived under section 16 of the Act.
25 K. Subbarayulu, Toy Maker, Kondapalli, Kistna district.	L. 350	..	..	Loan discharged.
26 K. V. Rathnam and Brothers, Rajahmundry.	L. 1,500	..	..	Reported to be working satisfactorily.
27 The Gandhi National Training and Shoe Making Co-operative Purchase and Sale Society, Limited, Ellore—Non-repayable grant.	600	..	..	Non-repayable grant.
28 V. V. Ratnam and Brothers, Rajahmundry.	Overdraft	..	..	..
29 The Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travancore, Limited, Trivandrum (Ammonium Sulphate Factory at Alwaye).	Rs. 500 subscribed for 200,000 shares of Rs. 10 each (Rupees 20,00,000 outside the Act.)	..	..	It is understood that the construction of factory is about to be completed.
30 Radio and Electricals, Limited, Madras.	20,000 shares of Rs. 10 each. Shares Rupees 2,00,000.	..	..	The Managing Agents resigned and one of the Government Directors is in charge of the Company. The Company is understood to be taking steps to see that the business is started as announced originally in the prospectus.
31 Ramaraju Surgical Cotton Mills, Limited, Rajapalayam.	Subscription of shares Rs. 7,500.	..	..	The concern is working at a profit.
32 Kollegal Silk Filatures, Limited, Kollegal.	(75 shares) shares of value Rs. 17,850.	..	..	Certain movable and immovable properties of the Company were acquired under the Defence of India Act. The Company is challenging the validity of the acquisition and the matter is pending in the High Court.

L—Loan.

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APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 682 asked by Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi S. A. F. Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 25th April 1947, pages 1106–1107 supra.]

I

List showing the names of societies pending registration on 10th March 1947 in Madura district and the date of receipt of their applications for registration.

Serial number and names of societies.	Date of receipt of application.
1 Sethvarpatti Stores	5th August 1946.
2 G. Nadupatti Stores	30th August 1946.
3 Tirumangalam Students' Stores	14th September 1946.
4 G. Kallupatti Stores	8th October 1946.
5 V. Mangammalpatti Agricultural Improvement Society.	8th November 1946.
6 Melakkal Stores	2nd December 1946.
7 Chekkanurani Milk Supply Society	7th December 1946.
8 Patchalur Co-operative Stores	10th December 1946.
9 Sengulam Co-operative Stores	18th December 1946.
10 Puduthamarapatti Stores	7th January 1947.
11 Gullapuram Stores	13th January 1947.
12 Hanumanthanpatti Stores	20th January 1947.
13 Elumalai Stores	Do.
14 Madura Dhal Preparing Society	23rd January 1947.
15 Ambathurai Stores	28th January 1947.
16 Pudur (Dindigul)	Do.
17 Mullipadi Stores	Do.
18 Vellalore Stores	Do.
19 Alagapatti Stores	Do.
20 Pudur (Nilakottai Stores)	29th January 1947.
21 Kenchampatti Stores	Do.
22 Thummalapatti Stores	31st January 1947.
23 Komur Stores	Do.
24 Vedapuruthiyur Stores	5th February 1947.
25 Melakkottai Stores	8th February 1947.
26 Shanbaganur Stores	Do.
27 Sinnamanur Stores	Do.
28 D. Gudalur Stores	11th February 1947.
29 Uthapuram Stores	Do.
30 Kurugal Stores	14th February 1947.
31 Kodaikanal Students' Stores	17th February 1947.
32 Sandanelti Valasu Stores	Do.
33 Alambadi Stores	Do.
34 Silaipatti Stores	18th February 1947.
35 Mahalapatti Stores	19th February 1947.
36 Periakulam Egg Production and Sale Society	20th February 1947.
37 Rasingappuram Co-operative Stores	24th February 1947.
38 Nallamaram Stores	28th February 1947.
39 Kottampatti Stores	Do.

II

List showing the number of Muslim Senior and Junior Inspectors of Co-operative Societies in Madura district.

Senior Inspector ..	D. Babukhan Sahib.
Junior Inspectors ..	(i) Khadir Mahidin Sahib.
	(ii) Md. Alauddin Sahib.
	(iii) Syed Yacoob Shah Sahib.
	(iv) C. M. Hussain Sahib.
	(v) Md. V. Abbu Bucker Sahib.
	(vi) A. Abdul Kasim Sahib.

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