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THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

Official Report

VOLUME V, 1948

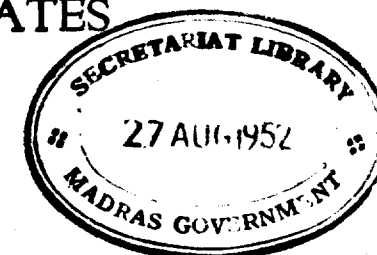
(6th April to 9th April, 1948)

SECOND SESSION

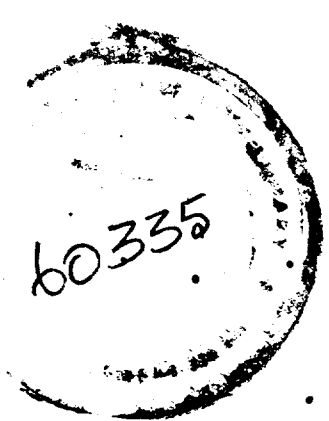
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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

1948



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DOMINION LEGISLATURE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

The Speaker

The Honourable Mr. G. V. MAVALANKAR.

Panel of Chairmen

Mr. HOSSAIN IMAM, M.C.A.

Pandit THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA, M.C.A.

Shri K. SANTHANAM, M.C.A.

Shrimati AMMU SWAMINADHAN, M.C.A.

Secretary

Mr. M. N. KAUL, Barrister-at-Law.

Assistants of the Secretary

Mr. A. J. M. ATKINSON.

Mr. N. C. NANDI.

Mr. C. V. NARAYANA RAO.

Committee on Petitions

Mr. HOSSAIN IMAM, M.C.A.

Shri K. Santhanam, M.C.A.

Mr. R. K. SIDHA, M.C.A.

Shrimati DAKSHAYANI VELAYUDHAN, M.C.A.

Shri B. Das, M.C.A.

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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Tuesday, the 6th April, 1948

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS

The following member made the declaration under Rule 2C:
Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi (West Bengal: Muslim).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

DECONTROL OF FOODGRAINS IN U. P.

1236. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state whether control in respect of movement and prices of all food-grains was withdrawn from the 7th January, 1948 in the United Provinces and whether from February 1st ration was guaranteed to people with an income of Rs. 100 p.m. in certain cities in the United Provinces?

(b) What were the prices prevailing after 7th January, say on the 31st January, 1948 of such decontrolled foodgrains in the United Provinces?

(c) Is it a fact that the Honourable Minister of Food in his statement to the Press on the 7th January, 1948 stated that "Mahatma Gandhi's opposition to control had made it increasingly difficult for the Government to continue their present policy and the Government were not getting the necessary co-operation from tradesmen and people in the administration of control"?

(d) Is it also a fact, that he replied in an emphatic "no" when asked as to whether Mahatma Gandhi's recent statement that decontrol has brought down the prices of commodities was applicable to the United Provinces?

(e) If so, do the Government of India propose to take necessary steps to ask the tradesmen of the United Provinces to so behave as not to embarrass the Government of the United Provinces?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes.

(b) The prices of foodgrains in the United Provinces on 26th January, 1948 were as follows:

Wheat—Between Rs. 17-11-5 and 19-10-11.

Gram—Between Rs. 14-3-0 and 15-0-4.

Barley—Between Rs. 10-9-7 and 11-12-5.

Rice—Rs. 16-15-2.

Maize—Rs. 11-10-0.

Jowar—Rs. 9-9-8.

Bajra—Rs. 10-9-1.

(c) The Minister for Food made no such statement. The Honourable Member is probably referring to statements made by the Food Minister of U. P. at a Press Conference.

(d) When the U. P. Food Minister said that decontrol had not brought down prices he said this in relation to control prices then prevailing.

(e) Government would render all help possible in regard to the attitude of trade, if the U. P. Government required it.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Arising out of part (b) of the question, in reply to which it has been stated that the price of wheat was between Rs. 17-11-5 to 19-10-11 and price of rice Rs. 16-15-2, may I know by how much were the prices higher than the controlled prices at that time?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: These prices are higher than the controlled prices but under decontrol the prices are falling at any rate in the U. P.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What are the prices ruling at present? The prices which the Honourable Minister has given are January prices.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The average of prices for the 20th March have not been calculated in the report from the Province but I will give you the figures for Kanpur, which is one of the important centres.

20th March

Rice—Rs. 16-10-9 as compared with Rs. 17-1-0 in January.

Jowar—Rs. 7-2-3 as compared with Rs. 9-9-3 in January.

Bajra—Rs. 6-13-3 as compared with Rs. 10-9-1 in January.

The prices have been falling gradually all over the United Provinces.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What was the price of wheat?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There have been variations from centre to centre. I have got the figures for the 6th March for about 6 centres:

Hapur Rs. 20 on 6th March has risen to Rs. 21-8-0 on 20th March. I have not got the rate for Kanpur for 20th March.

Chandausi on 6th March it was Rs. 20-4-0 and on 20th March it has fallen to Rs. 19-12-0.

Bahraich on 6th March it was Rs. 16 and on 20th March it has fallen to Rs. 15.

In certain centres of trade where the stocks are high the prices began to fall, but where the stocks are low the prices began to rise and to a certain extent the internal transport movement also does affect the prices. Where the movement was free the prices began to fall. Then there is also an inter-provincial ban. Therefore the price in Raipur is probably about Rs. 11 for wheat and at Kanpur it is Rs. 16.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What is the position of the stocks in Kanpur?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I could not give you the exact figures or even the approximate figures.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if the Honourable Minister is aware of the fact that gram has been supplied from Delhi in large quantity to Madras at an average rate of Rs. 8 and some annas per maund recently?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, that is so.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Whether it is a fact that the price of gram in East Punjab is still lesser?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, that may be so. As I said, first of all you must remember that free movement of various foodstuffs is not possible. Due to factors over which we have no control there is a difference in prices between various parts of the country.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: In view of the fact that Delhi and the East Punjab for purposes of rationing are one unit may I know if the Honourable Minister has taken any steps to remove these artificial barriers between Delhi

and East Punjab on imports of cereals, etc., so as to bring prices in both these areas to the same level?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: A suggestion has been made that U. P., Delhi and East Punjab may be made into one region and decontrolled. The suggestion is under consideration.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is there any hoarding on the part of tradesmen in the U. P.?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think there is a certain amount of hoarding in some parts of the country and possibly also in the U. P. I could not say definitely.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Do Government intend taking any steps to see that it does not take place?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government is contemplating taking some suitable steps. The matter is being very seriously considered. But with regard to intervening in certain provinces, we will have to consult the provincial Governments.

SLAUGHTER OF CALVES IN MILITARY DAIRY FARMS

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I submit, Mr. Speaker, that there seems to be a typographical error in regard to part (c) of my question. My question relates to calves, while it appears as 'cows' here.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This is evidently a mistype; I will answer about calves also.

1237. ***Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether calves are slaughtered in Military Dairy Farms?

(b) If so, what is the number slaughtered in the year 1947?

(c) Do Government propose to issue orders prohibiting slaughtering of cows in the interest of the cattle wealth of India?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) No, not now.

(b) During 1947 a total of 192 unwanted male calves were slaughtered to provide meat for troops and meat offal for Military poultry farms.

(c) The Government of India have appointed a mixed Committee to consider the question of slaughter of cattle in all its aspects and to recommend a comprehensive plan of action which can be put into effect for preserving the cattle wealth of the country and for promoting its development. The question of prohibiting the slaughter of cattle will be considered in the light of recommendations of that Committee.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not fact that in spite of the age limit fixed by the Government for the slaughter of these calves and other cattle that is never adhered to and even cattle of that age which according to law cannot be slaughtered are being indiscriminately slaughtered even now in various Provinces?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware of that; but if my attention is drawn to specific cases and places I will go into the question.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know by what time the report of this Committee will be out?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The next meeting of the Committee, I think, is due in about a month's time and that I can say is that the desire is to expedite the report of the Committee. But much will depend upon the Members, themselves.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: With reference to part (a) of the question the Honourable Minister gave a reply in the negative, that is, that calves are not slaughtered in Military Dairy Farms now. Am I correct in understanding that in all India in the Military Dairy Farms no calves are now being slaughtered?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No calves are now being slaughtered in any Military Dairy Farm.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact that the calves immediately after their birth are disposed of by these Military Dairies?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware of that.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question may I say that the slaughter of these calves was done under the British administration for giving food to the British troops and in view of the British troops now having been sent off may I know whether Government intend to continue the policy of giving beef to our troops also?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That would not be a matter for my Department to answer.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Throughout the war years were calves of tender age and heifers slaughtered in much larger numbers than in previous years?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid I have not got the figures for the earlier years. In the course of supplementaries if questions relating to earlier years are asked I cannot straight-off deal with them.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Will the Government be pleased to accept the statement from me that 30,000 calves were being killed every day on the first day of their birth during the war; and if Government confirms this fact may I know whether any steps would be taken by way of precaution in future years and also whether steps will be taken to promote the cattle wealth in view of the last disaster?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Coming from a man like Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya I must accept the statement, and the suggestion he has made will be considered.

Shri H. V. Kamath: In 1947 who were more the victims, the bull calves or the buffalo calves?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I have no information about that.

SUBVENTIONS TO PROVINCES FOR 'GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN' DURING 1947

1238. **Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the amount of subvention given to each province for 'Grow More Food Campaign' during the year 1947?

(b) Have the provincial Governments spent any money from their own funds?

(c) Have they utilised the subvention given by the Government of India for the particular purpose? If so, in what way?

(d) What was the net result of this campaign?

(e) What is the increased production of food during the last year under the 'Grow More Food' scheme as compared with the previous years?

(f) Do Government propose to continue this subvention?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement (No. I) giving the required information is placed on the table of the House.

(b) According to the present basis of financial assistance the Central and Provincial Governments make equal contribution towards the cost of 'Grow More Food' schemes except in the case of Assam and Orissa where the Central Government's contribution amounts to two-third.

(c) The subvention given by the Central Government has to be utilised for the particular purpose for which it is given. A statement (No. II) showing the type of schemes usually sanctioned under the 'Grow More Food Campaign' is placed on the table.

(d) and (e). A target of 9,00,000 tons of additional foodgrains had been planned for the year 1947-48 for all Provinces except East Punjab and West Bengal. The agricultural years ends in June whereafter the reports on the progress of various schemes to be executed by the Provincial Governments and their result are usually received. It may not be easy to assess the exact increase in production of food due solely to the scheme as compared with the previous years for differences in rainfall and other seasonal factors affect the crops.

(f) It is proposed to continue these grants up to 1951-52 for the present

Statement

Showing the details of Loans and Grants sanctioned to Provincial Governments and Local Administrations, during 1947-48 or 'Grow More Food Campaign'

S. No.	Name of the Provinces.	Irrigation Facilities		Land Clearance and Development.		Measure Distribution	
		Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Ajmer-Merwara	1,54,500	2,32,931	...	...	20,500	37,000
2	Assam	...	14,457	...	...	...	40,464
3	Baluchistan	...	74,451	...	...	...	...
4	Bengal	...	1,69,250	...	...	...	5,85,963
5	Bihar	...	2,78,125	...	46,710	...	45,450
6	Bombay	...	1,88,033	...	10,76,700	...	8,16,784
7	C. P. & Berar	49,71,250	1,20,042	2,79,125	22,408	24,13,125	13,58,643
8	Coorg	...	33,563	...	65,493	...	38,672
9	Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Madras	...	3,83,811	...	31,900	...	91,283
11	N. W. F. P.	...	51,941	...	...	...	...
12	Orissa	10,55,000	5,63,210	12,40,000	31,941	...	25,000
13	Punjab	...	51,44,645	...	...	...	2,68,335
14	Sind	...	...	...	...	...	...
		...	28,31,890	...	...	...	...
		61,80,750	101,16,579	15,19,125	12,75,152	24,33,623	23,07,684

S. No.	Name of the Provinces	Seed Multiplication and distribution		Fish Production		Fruit Schemes		Dairy Schemes	
		Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Ajmer-Merwara.	1,50,000	93,400	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Assam	...	1,62,713	...	...	...	227,770	...	...
3	Baluchistan	...	5,470	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Bihar	...	...	...	21,390	...	8,300	...	...
6	Bombay	...	9,08,745	...	97,174	...	...	...	21,00,000
7	C. P. & Berar	22,27,000	4,94,000	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Coorg	...	727	...	...	...	...	...	29,680
9	Delhi	50,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Madras	...	5,517	...	80,450	11,198	...	...	...
11	N. W. F. P.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	Orissa	1,32,500	14,852	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	Punjab	...	...	...	6,175	...	...	...	...
14	Sind	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	United Provinces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,000
		20,09,500	16,35,424	...	2,05,189	...	2,47,268	...	21,52,680

S. No.	Name of the Provinces	Poultry Schemes		Livestock Schemes		Miscellaneous Schemes		Total	
		Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	Ajmer-Merwara.	...	...	...	...	...	23,265	3,25,000	4,17,196
2	Assam	...	...	...	...	...	2,00,594	...	6,46,018
3	Baluchistan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	10,463	...	7,65,676
5	Bihar	...	...	...	33,300	...	93,308	...	5,26,283
6	Bombay	...	...	...	1,73,170	...	7,05,628	...	60,66,234
7	C. P. & Berar	...	...	...	11,597	...	3,66,553	98,90,500	13,73,243
8	Coorg	...	...	3,73,250	1,20,750	...	15,549	3,73,250	3,04,434
9	Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	50,000	...
10	Madras	...	...	...	10,600	...	1,78,354	...	7,92,113
11	N. W. F. P.	...	...	...	...	...	43,700	...	1,00,641
12	Orissa	...	...	...	...	5,22,500	35,081	30,00,000	6,70,084
13	Punjab	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54,19,855
14	Sind	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	United Provinces	...	...	...	80,125	...	...	...	28,85,015
		...	...	3,73,250	3,79,542	5,22,500	16,77,195	1,36,38,750	290,46,713

1 36 crores say 2 rores

Statement II

Showing the schemes financed under the Grow More Food Campaign

1. Construction and improvement of Surface Percolation wells.
2. Construction of Tubewells.
3. Pumping Installation.
4. Construction and improvement of Tanks and Channels
5. Land development works including drainage, bunding and reclamation.
6. Purchase and distribution of manures.
7. Purchase and distribution of improved seeds.
8. Purchase and distribution of improved implements including mechanical equipment.
9. Protective foods such as development of Fisheries, Live-stock, Poultry and Fruit, etc.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Arising out of part (c) of the question, my question was whether the Provincial Governments have utilised the subvention for this purpose. May I know whether they have utilised the quota given to them by the Government of India for the purpose of the Grow More Food campaign or abused it in any way?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I cannot say; Government would have to make enquiries.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Will the Honourable Minister please supply the information after making enquiries?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I will supply the information.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that his predecessor Rajen Babu has given an assurance to this House that he would get the information collected as to how these funds are being spent and place a report on the way in which they have been utilised, and the results thereof, on the table of the House?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The reports are usually expected soon after June. When the reports are received all information as to the purposes for which the grant was used, and the results of the use of the grant, would be available and would be placed before the House.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know if the payment is made outright to the Provinces without finding out from them whether they have actually spent the money and have contributed an equal amount?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: My impression is that they spend the money and later on take the due grant from us.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Is not the Honourable Minister in possession of figures as to how much the Government of India has disbursed by way of subventions during the past year?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I won't be able just now to give the figures.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know whether the position that no report is available as to the utilisation of these grants relates only to the current year or the year before or to all the years from which these grants were made to Provincial Governments?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It relates to figures for grants given from 1947-48.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know whether any report previous to that period is available as to the utilisation of these sums of money by the Provincial Governments?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: These figures can be placed on the table; but they are not with me at present.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: In view of the statement made by the Honourable the Food Minister that the 'Grow More Food campaign' has failed in the past, has the Central Government made enquiries from the Provincial Governments as to what were the causes of that failure; and what further steps have the Central Government taken to see that these causes are removed?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: When I was talking of the 'Grow More Food Campaign' I was not talking of the period before the new Government took charge; I am talking of the Grow More Food Campaign as planned by my predecessor from 1947-48 onward. The report of the first year of this campaign is yet awaited. When we get the report and find what exactly has been at fault, then will be the time for us to discuss the matter.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Has the Honourable Minister no information or even estimate in terms of percentage allowing for margin of error, in regard to increased production during the year in which this Government was in charge?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As I said, we are waiting for the report and we cannot give the figures straight-off.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: May I invite the attention of Government to the fact that one of the main causes of the failure of the Grow More Food Campaign has been the want of correlation between the duties of one Department of the Government and another, namely, Food, Agriculture, Finance, Co-operation and Industry; and may I know whether Government will take any measures by way of advice or suggestion to the Provincial Ministries to improve conditions in this matter?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That possibly is one consideration. But as I said, the proper time for going into this question and dealing with it effectively will be when the first year's report is with us when the whole matter can be comprehensively dealt with probably more satisfactorily.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether the Honourable Minister is satisfied that the amount of subvention given by the Government of India to the provincial government has been utilised for that specific purpose and whether he is also satisfied that the provincial government has used an equal amount under the terms of the agreement?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As I said, Sir, the year is not yet over. We are expecting the annual report in the month of June.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What about last year?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I cannot say about last year at all.

Shri C. M. Poonacha: Is it a fact that the allotment in this respect in Coorg could not be drawn at all because of the failure on the part of the Government of India to give administrative sanction in time for the payment of moneys to the beneficiaries in Coorg.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware of that. It may be a matter for enquiry.

Mr. Speaker: I believe we have sufficiently discussed this. We will go to the next question.

SCHEME FOR PRIZE BONUS TO GROWERS OF MORE FOOD

1239. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government contemplate setting aside three crores of rupees as prize to growers of more food during the current year?

(b) If so, have Government consulted Provincial Governments on this subject?

(c) Has any specific scheme been prepared for the prize bonus? If so, do Government propose to lay a copy of the same on the table of the House?

(d) What steps have Government taken to see that the money so given is not wasted?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) and (c). Government have under consideration the suggestion that some special stimulus of a competitive nature would materially increase the production of food. No particular scheme has yet been framed. It is therefore too early to say what amount would have to be set aside.

(b) and (d). Do not arise.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have Government received a scheme sent up to them by Mr. Santhanam and supported by myself?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, it has been received and is being considered.

Seth Govinddas: Have Government received any suggestions from provincial governments in this respect?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: My question was 'If so, have Government consulted Provincial Governments?' Do Government intend to consult provincial governments if the scheme is under consideration?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Certainly they will consult the provincial governments because without their co-operation the scheme will not work.

USE OF WILLINGDON AERODROME FOR COMMERCIAL AVIATION

1240. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Willingdon Aerodrome at New Delhi is not open for commercial aviation?

(b) If so, for what purpose will the said aerodrome be used in future?

(c) Is it a fact that landings and takings off of all commercial planes take place from Palam Aerodrome only?

(d) Are Government aware that the unloading of the luggage of passengers at Palam aerodrome takes a long time?

(e) What is the number of porters and luggage carriers employed there?

(f) Do Government propose to take steps to call upon the licensees to provide adequate staff for unloading personal baggage?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) The Willingdon aerodrome is open for commercial aviation.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir; both Palam and Safdarjung aerodromes are used by civil aircraft for commercial air transport operations.

(d) No such complaint has been received.

(e) Of the two Indian air transport companies operating at Palam, one has 22 porters, and the other 10. It is understood that eight to ten porters attend each aircraft on arrival.

(f) No, Sir; in the absence of any specific complaint the numbers are believed to be adequate.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: If the Willingdon aerodrome is open for commercial aviation, may I know why I.N.A. uses the Willingdon aerodrome for Dakota planes and why Air Tatas use the Palam aerodrome for the same type of Dakota planes?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The arrangement is that all Dakota planes use the Willingdon aerodrome and the bigger planes use the Palam aerodrome.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: The Palam aerodrome is reserved for Viking planes and the Willingdon aerodrome for Dakotas. May I know why the same type of Dakota planes should have to use the Palam aerodrome, thereby putting passengers to great inconvenience in view of the distance?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: As I said the Willingdon aerodrome is used for Dakotas and Palam for Vikings. Sometimes it happens that Vikings are not available and Dakotas are allowed to use the Palam aerodrome in cases of emergency.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I submit that Viking planes do not go there at all and every time Dakotas go to Palam? Will the Honourable Minister make enquiry into the matter?

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF PADDY IN ORISSA SINCE 1942.

1241. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state what was the total annual yield of paddy in the Province of Orissa since 1942?

(b) How much of these has been exported out of the province, year by year since 1942?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement (No. I) showing the production of rice for the years 1942-43 to 1946-47 is laid on the table of the House.

(b) A statement (No. II) showing the exports of rice during the years 1942-43 to 1946-47 is laid on the table of the House.

Statement I

Showing the production of rice in Orissa since 1942-43.
(In 000 tons)

	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Rice	1,247	1,349	1,337	1,294	1,401

Statement II

Showing the exports of rice from Orissa since 1942-43.

Year	Export. (In 000 tons)
1942-43	133
1943-44	66
1944-45	89
1945-46	85
1946-47	125

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that the Government do not have complete statistics of the total amount of rice produced, and that neither the Orissa Government nor the Government of India have been able to get all the surplus rice that is available on the Jeypore estate (which is very high on the hills) because of want of adequate communications?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not able to say definitely about it.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government make enquiries and find out whether any steps are needed in order to tap all the surplus rice produced on the Jeypore estate?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: So far as I could gather from the Premier of Orissa who was recently here, he said he would be able to recover rice from all the parts of his province and states associated with his province. That was his statement.

Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: Is it a fact that the aboriginals do not get to eat the rice which they produce in Koraput district?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I suppose that will be a matter for the provincial government to reply.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF INDIAN PEOPLE'S FAMINE TRUST

1242. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state who are the members of the Board of Management of the Indian People's Famine Trust?

(b) What is the total amount of money now in the Trust?

(c) How is the money disbursed province-wise?

(d) How much money, province-wise, has been distributed during the last ten years?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The list of members of the Board in 1947 is placed on the table.

(b) Rs. 34,51,500.

(c) Grants for the relief of distress are made in accordance with rules 8 to 11 of the Rules and Bye-laws of the Indian People's Famine Trust.

(d) A statement is placed on the table.

PERSONNEL OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE'S FAMINE TRUST, 1947.

Appointed by the Governor General in Council

1. The Member of the Interim Government in charge of the Department of Agriculture, the Honourable Sri Rajendra Prasad,—*Chairman*.

2. The Honourable Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, Finance Member.

3. The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar, President, Indian Legislative Assembly.

4. The Honourable Mr. Abu Abdullah Syed Hossain Imam, President, Council of State, (Hussain Manzil, Gaya).

5. Sir Bertie Staig, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Auditor General of India,—*Honorary Secretary*.

Appointed by the Government of Madras

6. The Honourable Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar (The Palace, Chettind, Madras).

Appointed by the Government of Bombay

7. Mr. N. V. Gadgil, M.L.A. (419 Shanwar Peth, Poona 2).

Appointed by the Government of Bengal

8. Mr. J. N. Talukdar, I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Department of Co-operation, Credit and Relief.

Appointed by the Government of United Provinces

9. Mr. Kurshed Ahmad Khan, C.I.E., I.C.S., Commissioner, Jhansi Division, Jhansi.

Appointed by the Government of the Punjab

10. Mr. Ram Chandra, C.I.E., M.B.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Revenue Punjab.

Appointed by the Honourable A. G. G., Rajputana

11. Mr. L. C. L. Griffin, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to H. E. the Crown Representative

Appointed by the Honourable the A. G. G., Central India

12. Diwan Bahadur Sir Khanderao Nadkar, Diwan and President of the Council Administration (retired), Dhar State, Central India.

Appointed by His Highness the Maharaja of Jaipur

13. Rai Bahadur Pt. Amar Nath Atal, Finance Minister, Jaipur.

Statement
Showing grants made to Provinces during 1938 to 1947

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bom	...	10,000	...	...	...	30,000	...	...	...	...
Madras	30,000	...	9,000	...	20,000	40,000	...	...	1,00,000	...
Bengal	...	...	...	60,000	...	80,000	...	50,000	50,000	...
United Provinces	45,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central Provinces	...	...	...	...	30,000	...	...	...	...	...
Bihar	25,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Punjab	40,000	25,000	...	30,000	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	25,000	...	...	20,000	...	...	...	...	...	50,000
Orissa	...	...	...	...	...	30,000	...	...	...	...
Delhi	...	20,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ajmer-Merwara	...	15,000	12,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What action has so far been taken by Government on the resolution passed by this House during the last session on this particular matter of establishing an All-India Famine Commission for taking suitable steps in that direction?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As soon as the Assembly is over, the matter will be gone into properly.

Seth Govinddas: Are the members of this Board changed from time to time or are they permanent members?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: They are permanent.

Seth Govinddas: Is there any election or appointment from time to time by the Government?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: These are nominees of various provincial governments and various bodies. It is open to them to change them. So long as they do not change them, they are there.

Shri H. V. Kamath: When was the Trust constituted? In which year?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think about 1900.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is the money spent for the treatment of famine after it sets in or for its prevention?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This is for relief of distress. Naturally it will be spent when the distress is visible.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Who puts money into the Trust? Is it the Provincial Government or the Central Government, or both?

Mr. Speaker: It is better that the Honourable Member reads the Trust Deed.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I know a little more than what the department seems to know about this.

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter contained in the Trust Deed.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: It is not a question of the Trust Deed. My question is 'Who is contributing money to the Trust?'

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Originally some donors gave money. The Maharaja of Jaipur gave about 10 lakhs. The Trust is registered under the Charitable Endowment Act.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Is it the same Famine Trust that was started by Lord Curzon in 1903?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This seems before that, the first donation being in 1900.

TINNED ARTICLES OF FOOD ACQUIRED BY DISPOSALS DEPARTMENT

1243. *Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what tinned articles of food the Disposals Department acquired?

(b) What were their weight, number and value?

(c) When were they obtained and for how much?

(d) When were these tinned articles sold giving the dates of disposals in each case?

(e) What was the price obtained?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The following categories of tinned articles of food were reported surplus: (i) Bakery products and confectionery, (ii) Beverages and soups, (iii) Cereals, (iv) Fats and oils, (v) Fruits and fruit juices, (vi) Meat, (vii) Poultry, fish and eggs, (viii) Sugar, syrups, jams and jellies, (ix) Vegetables, and (x) Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco.

(b) and (c). About 80,400 tons of foodstuffs, of the book value of about Rs. 10,03,44,700, were reported for disposal from June 1945 onwards.

(d) They have been sold in many separate transactions. I regret it is impossible for me to repeat in the House all these dates.

(e) Rs. 3,71,21,235.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are we to understand that Government have lost Rs. 7 crores in these transactions?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I believe so.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Has Government enquired whether there was any justification for the sustainment of this loss—for having purchased the goods, at Rs. 10 crores and sold them for Rs. 3 crores?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: During the war large quantities of food-stuffs were purchased. When the war terminated, naturally they had to be disposed of. In some cases buyers were not available. Quite a lot of food-stuffs had to be rejected as unfit for human consumption.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is it not a fact, Sir, that large quantities of jam, jellies and cheese were disposed of as decomposed? Has Government made enquiries with a view to finding out whether they were decomposed before they were disposed of?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There is a system of periodical checking of food-stuffs at the Army laboratory at Kasauli. Those stuffs which are declared to be unusable are not sold; the rest are disposed of.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is there any more stock of these provisions, jams, jellies and cheese, available for disposal?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I cannot say, Sir, about jams, jellies and cheese, but about 4,800 tons of food stuffs, valued at Rs. 40,00,000 remain undisposed of. The entire American stocks have been sold off; the rest have not been.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In view of the fact that quite a considerable quantity of these food-stuffs are tinned milk, and also in view of the shortage of milk for infants and nursing mothers in this country, was any attempt made to make over this milk to the appropriate department to be given by the methods of priorities to those who needed it, and if not, why not?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Up till October 1947, the distribution of these food-stuffs remained the responsibility of the Food Ministry and that Ministry certainly took good care to see that the first priority was given to the institutions and individuals to whom the Honourable Member was referring.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: May I ask the Honourable Minister if, in view of the fact that large quantities of food-stuffs was found unfit for human consumption, has Government considered the possibility of putting it to some other form of industrial use, or for the manufacture of compost.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Will Government be pleased to consider the advisability of instituting occasional check-ups with a view to verifying that the transactions of the Departments in the matter of disposal are

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Up till October 1947, the disposal was the responsibility of the Food Ministry. For the past six months it has been in charge of my Ministry and we are having occasional check-ups.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to draw the attention of the Food Minister to this matter and also bring it to his notice that so much of good and valuable food-stuffs have been spoilt due to the negligence of one Department or the other.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I do not think, Sir, a lot of good food-stuffs have been wasted. In fact the priority lists are there. We circularise Governments and institutions and whenever there is a demand we give them first preference.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the Honourable Minister aware that there are huge stocks of these tinned food-stuffs lying all over the country and that they are deteriorating day after day?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: If there are no purchasers Government cannot help it.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not a fact, Sir, that this situation has arisen because Government was not quick enough to offer these for sale.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: In view of the loss of about Rs. 7 crores in these food-stuffs transactions, will Government kindly make enquiries with a view to inform this house, what were the reasons that led to Government incurring this heavy loss.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The position is that there are certain reserve prices fixed and Government has to sell them to the highest bidder. If no persons are available to purchase the stuffs, Government is helpless.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Was all the stuff purchased from the United States of America or a part from the United Kingdom as well?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The total quantity of food-stuffs which came from America was 57,900 tons valued at Rs. 8,38,44,700. The total quantity of food-stuffs that we got from His Majesty's Government and the Indian Stores was 22,500 tons and the book-value was Rs. 1,65,00,000.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: May I know from the Honourable Minister why there is so much of tinned milk available in the ordinary bazaars, if priority of supply had been given to infants and nursing mothers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I cannot say what the reason is.

DENUDATION OF INDIA'S FOREST WEALTH DURING 1939-45 AND CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

1244. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how much forest wealth India was denuded of during the war years 1939 to 1945, on account of timber and other accessories; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take for forest conservation, planting or regeneration?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Information given by the Provinces indicate that demands of war were met mainly by making advance fellings against the prescribed yields of working plans and to a small extent from fellings in unclassified forests not under working plans. The advance fellings amount to some 4 to 6 annual yields of timber or about 6 million tons. As regards fuel producing forests, advance fellings were also made of about the same order as for the timber forests.

(b) An extract from the recommendations of the Policy Committee No. V on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (held at Simla from the 26th to 30th June, 1944) is placed on the table of the House. These recommendations were accepted by the provinces and steps to implement them are being taken by the Provinces through their post-war forest plans. The progress made so far, however, has not been satisfactory.

Extract from the recommendations made by the Policy Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries at its meeting held at Simla from the 26th to 30th June, 1944

VII.—WHEREAS

- (1) * * * * *
- (2) Over 35 per cent. of the area of India is not at present under either cultivation or forests;
- (3) Forest management, especially in head-waters areas, is the most effective land management as an insurance against the disastrous effects of floods and erosion;
- (4) The existing forest resources of India are inadequate in extent and unsuitably distributed to supply the needs of the population, especially the village population, in fuel and small timber;
- (5) The provision of fuel is necessary to release farmyard manure for use as fertilizer;
- (6) Unregulated grazing has been responsible for much forest devastation;

THIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT—

- (i) the reserved forests be immediately examined and working plans revised or prepared to ensure the conservative management that will be necessary for a few years to repair the damage done by advance fellings during the war;
- (ii) * * * * *
- (iii) each Province and State should aim at having not less than 20 per cent. and if possible 25 per cent. of its total area under forest and so distributed that the villager may be enabled to satisfy his requirements of agricultural timber and fuel within a reasonable distance of his home;
- (iv) as a basis for the extension of forest areas and especially village forests and forests in areas of low rainfall, a classification should be undertaken forthwith of uncultivated land to determine the areas in which timber can be grown or forest management should be introduced;
- (v) Soil Conservation Circles should be formed in each Province and State to deal with land management, the regulation of grazing with due regard to the needs of the cattle population and the growing of trees whether as a protection against floods, erosion or degradation or to supply the needs of the rural population;
- (vi) * * * * *
- (vii) for the conservation and extension of the forest resources of the country, powers should be taken by Government to exercise control of privately-owned forests, up to the extent of full management if necessary;
- (viii) steps should be taken for the development of industries for the utilization of minor forest produce which will provide avenues of employment for the growing population in forest tracts;
- (ix) steps should be taken as early as possible to train forest staff of the necessary grades so that the personnel may be available to carry out the foregoing.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Was much timber exported abroad during the war years?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware; probably so.

Shri H. V. Kamath: In view of the fact, Sir, that animals and beasts play a vital part in jungle economy, do Government propose to restrict shikar in the interest of our forest development?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That suggestion will be considered.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know, Sir, what was the extra quality of timber which was felled during the war years over the pre-war average?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I have not got the figures with me.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, in view of the fact that the manufacture of fuel gas has added greatly to the denudation of our forest wealth, will Government consider the advisability of reserving, to some extent at least, a portion of our forests for the manufacture of charcoal used for the production of fuel gas.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That suggestion will be considered.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know if any afforestation schemes have been taken up?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know if the Ministry of Agriculture has any idea of instituting any census of the forest wealth of India.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No such scheme is at present before Government. But the suggestion of the Honourable Member will be considered.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Is the Honourable Member aware that the denudation of our forests is still going on for purposes of supplementing the fuel resources of the country.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware of that.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, do the development grants proposed to be given to Provincial Governments by the Central Government also include assistance from the Central Government to the Provincial Government for the purpose of developing or improving our forest wealth?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not know.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Will the Report of the Committee be made available to the members of this House?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think it is in the Library, but still copies can be given to any members who are interested.

TRANSPORT OF SUGAR AND COAL ACCUMULATING AT FACTORIES AND COAL MINES

1245. ***Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether Government are aware that large stocks of coal and sugar are accumulating in coal mines and sugar factories respectively, due to lack of transport and that some of the owners of collieries and sugar mills are thinking of closing these down as they cannot afford to pile up any more of their stock?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to relieve the situation?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accumulation of pithead stocks of coal was largely the result of transport difficulties during the second half of 1947 due to reasons which are well known. A Committee has since been appointed to keep the transport position under constant review and to make suggestions for improvement. The situation is gradually improving, but for sometime to come the disparity between available transport and disposable coal is likely to remain. A Committee consisting of representatives of the E.I.R., the B.N.R., the Coal trade, and the Coal Committee relatively to available transport and the grant of assistance to collieries overstocked with coal. Concrete proposals are shortly expected.

As regards sugar, the stock position of each sugar mill is kept constantly under watch and special movements are arranged in cases in which excessive stocks are accumulating. Sugar is now in class 2(a) of the railway priority schedule along with other non-sponsored foodstuffs, but to speed up transport, all movements from sugar factories on the E.P. and S.S. Light Railways to Bombay, Bombay Area and Ahmedabad have been temporarily up-graded. The

allotment of a special wagon quota for the movement of sugar on the O. & F. Railway is also under consideration.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what were the sugar stocks before decontrol and at present held by different factories?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I am sorry I have not got the comparative figures.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that the high price level of sugar fixed by Government is artificially being maintained and that sugar is selling almost in every big city below this price?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Well, the price does depend upon the quantity available.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that the prices of sugar prevailing in the Bombay Province particularly are lower than what they are in Bihar and U. P.?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That may be; that will depend on the quantity which has been moved to Bombay Presidency. But as I have just explained, the Transport Ministry, the Food Ministry and my Ministry are discussing this matter together and trying to make improvements as quickly as possible.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Do Government realise that the factories in U. P. and Bihar are put to a great disadvantage under the present arrangement inasmuch as the price of sugarcane fixed by Government at Rs. 2 per maund goes in favour of the factories working in Bombay Presidency as they have got their own Sugarcane farms to which they credit the cost of sugarcane at that rate and there being no income-tax on agricultural produce make a big saving which may amount to crores of rupees whereas U. P. and Bihar factories pay for the sugarcane which they get from the farmers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That scheme was initiated and approved by the industry itself.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: In view of the obvious and insurmountable difficulties in regard to transport, will the Ministry take suitable advice with any other Ministry concerned and concert measures for the development of navigation so as to convey these goods by canals?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: In fact a scheme is already under preparation for movement of coal by sea and we have been able to export an additional quota of about 20,000 tons per month from Calcutta so as to give some relief. Further, there is already a reserve of about 40,000 tons which has been carried from the coal areas to Calcutta and as soon as ships are available we shall be able to work on the coastal areas. Only two days ago I was informed that four more steamers are going to be placed at our disposal so that movement should start immediately. Here the movement has become more restricted because we are getting food grains by sea.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Can the Honourable Minister supplement his information by further information regarding navigation by canal by connecting if possible the Ganges with the Cauvery by canals?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Also, I have asked the Provincial Government to put up their schemes so that we can send goods by river.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: Is it a fact, Sir, the rise in price of sugarcane, the rise in levying cess and the consequential rise in the price of sugar has resulted in efficiency of industry?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is a matter of opinion.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister consider the desirability of dissolving the Sugar Syndicate which is responsible for maintaining artificially the high price of sugar?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: This is a matter which will be dealt with by the Food Ministry.

RE-ORGANISATION OF POSTAL DEPARTMENT IN ORISSA

1246. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the representation made by the Secretary, Oriya People's Association, on the 25th February, 1948 regarding the re-organisation of the Postal Department in Orissa?

(b) Do Government contemplate locating the Headquarters of a Postal Circle in Orissa including the various Divisions and Sections of the Railway Mail Service?

(c) Are Government aware that since the merging of the Orissa States in the Province of Orissa, there is a larger area, a larger population and consequently larger postal transactions?

(d) Do Government propose to have the Headquarters of the Railway Mail Service N. Division at Cuttack or any other place suitable for the purpose?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) A representation dated the 22nd February 1948 has been received.

(b) The headquarters of the Additional Postmaster-General, Orissa, who functions as a Head of a Circle in all postal matters, are in Puri. It is not possible to locate the headquarters of the R.M.S. 'N' Division and all its Sections in Orissa.

(c) Yes.

(d) The headquarters of the R.M.S. 'N' Division are at Howrah. They have been placed there as the mail routes from different parts of India for Orissa converge at Howrah. The question of locating some of these Sections in Orissa is, however, being examined.

METHOD OF RECRUITMENT IN INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

1247. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state the method of recruitment for posts in the Indian Meteorological Department?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Recruitment to Class I and Class II posts in the India Meteorological Department is made through the Federal Public Service Commission by the Government of India and the Director General of Observatories respectively. Recruitment to the higher grades in Class III posts, viz., Professional Assistants, Meteorological Assistants and Scientific Assistants is made by the Director General of Observatories with the aid of a Selection Committee after due advertisement in all the approved newspapers. Recruitment to the grades of Upper Division Clerks, Senior Observers, Observers and Lower Division Clerks is made on a regional basis by heads of sub-offices of the Department, viz., Deputy Directors General and Directors whose offices are located at Poona, New Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Nagpur, Madras and Kodai kanal.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: May I inquire of the Honourable Minister if he is aware that there has been a very large number of vacancies in the Meteorological Department due to the opting of the Muslim employees to Pakistan. If so, why are these vacancies not filled? Do Government propose to reorganise this Meteorological Department?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Qualified persons for all those posts are not immediately available, but attempts are being made to fill posts that are vacant now.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: I am asking, Sir, that the Government called for applications for filling these vacancies and a very large number of applications reached the Honourable Minister's Department: I want to know whether the Government have got in contemplation immediately any scheme of reorganisation so as to set this Meteorological Department in proper working order, in view of the fact that a large number of people have already left the Department.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: As I said, Sir, the position is being examined and I think all posts will be filled. If there is any reorganisation necessary, it will be done.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government making any arrangements at all for training some people?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: That is always being done.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Is the Honourable Minister aware that towards the close of the last War, a very large quantity of valuable scientific apparatus was brought into this country which could not be used? Would he kindly keep in view that these apparatus, now lying idle, are fully utilised by the Meteorological Department?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I am not aware of it, but I will look into the matter.

IMPORT OF MUSTARD OIL AND MUSTARD IN WEST BENGAL FROM OTHER PROVINCES

1248. *Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantities of mustard oil and mustard imported into West Bengal from other provinces of the Dominion; and

(b) what priority is given on railways for the transport of mustard and mustard oil to West Bengal from other provinces?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The annual import of mustard oil and mustard seed is approximately 6,00,000 maunds and 40,00,000 maunds respectively.

(b) Mustard seeds, when consigned to oil mills, move in priority class II(c), otherwise as non-priority traffic. Mustard oil gets priority class II(a) but when sponsored by Government it gets class I(b).

MACHINERY FOR FIXING FAIR RETURNS ON CAPITAL EMPLOYED IN INDUSTRY

1249. *Shri C. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether any machinery has been constituted to fix a fair return on capital employed in industry?

(b) If so, what is the nature of the machinery and what are the terms of reference to it?

(c) If not, do Government propose to set up any machinery in the near future?

(d) Do Government propose to fix a uniform fair return for all the industries or to fix the return according to the nature of the industry concerned?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a), (b) and (c). Not yet, Sir. The whole matter, however, is under active discussion between the appropriate Ministries of Government and a decision on the actual nature of the machinery is likely to be taken in a matter of weeks. When decisions are reached, the papers will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The question has not yet been taken up; but the case of all the industries will come up for consideration as soon as machinery is established.

Shri H. V. Kamath: In view of the re-orientation of our industrial policy, will Government take steps to see that the profits in industry are diverted not so much to paying fat dividends on capital giving better wages to labour in industry, so that they may have life and have it more abundantly?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I think the Honourable Member can put forward his viewpoint tomorrow on the Industrial Policy.

Mr. Hussain Imam: May I ask the Honourable Member if the Government propose to consult the industries concerned before they finally take a decision on this matter?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Certainly, the industries will be consulted.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Were they not consulted the other day in the Industries Conference?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

PRODUCTION OF STEEL, CEMENT, TEXTILE AND SUGAR IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY OF 1947 AND 1948.

1250. *Shri C. Subramaniam: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House a statement giving the figures of production in the main industries namely steel, cement, textiles and sugar in the months of January and February 1948 and the figures for the corresponding period in the year 1947?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

showing the production figures of certain important Industries during the months of January and February of 1947 and 1948.

Name of Industry	1947		1948		
	January	February	January	February	
Steel	84,850 (tns)	74,730 (tons)	78,100 (tons)	72,700 (tons)	
Cement	1,14,159 (tons)	1,05,989 (tons)	1,15,897 (tons)	1,25,377 (tons)	
Textile	Yarn (lbs)	108,479,000	106,237,000	113,459,000	98,000,000
	Cloth (yds)	323,328,000	311,788,000	343,585,000	301,000,000
	† 2,37,877	† 2,27,997	† 2,44,038	† 2,41,826	

* The figures are provisional and exclude the production of 23 mills in the case of yarn and 19 mills in the case of cloth which are not yet available.

† Production including factories now in Pakistan.

‡ Production of Factories in Indian Dominion only.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Is there any improvement in production in the various industries after the Industrial Truce?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: So far as textiles are concerned, in November the production of yarn was about 105 million lbs. In December it rose to 119 million lbs. In January it was 113 million lbs. The February figure is 98 million lbs. only, but it appears that in February mills were closed for about 5 days. In November, the figure for cloth was 304 million yards. In December, it was 359 million yards. In January, it was 343 million yards. The February figure was 301 million yards. Here again, in February, for about five days the mills did not work. So apparently there has been some increase in production since the Industries Conference met.

With regard to others, I have placed the statement on the Table of the House. In some cases, increase is visible, but of course very slight.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Were these figures compared with corresponding figures for the corresponding months of the previous year, otherwise they might give a wrong impression?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Yes, the figures have been compared. In fact, the statement which I have laid on the Table gives the House figures for January and February 1947 and January and February 1948. I have also detailed comparative figures ready from January 1946 to February 1948.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Does the Honourable Minister propose to fix any targets of production in the near future?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is what we propose to do.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Do Government propose to award any bonus for reaching the target production or for production in excess of the target, to be distributed among the workers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: If the Honourable Member exhausts all his points today, he will have nothing to speak tomorrow.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: How do the figures for January and February 1948 given by the Honourable Minister compare with the figures for January and February 1947?

Mr. Speaker: He has included that in the statement.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: I wanted to know whether the production in the last year in these two months is the same or higher than the production in this year.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have given the figures in the statement.

Textiles, yarn was 108 million lbs. in January 1947 and 113 million lbs. in January 1948. Cloth was 323 million yards in January 1947 and 343 million yards in January 1948. Yarn was 106 million lbs. in February 1947 and 98 million lbs. in February 1948. Cloth was 311 million yards in February 1947 and 301 million yards in February 1948.

I could not get the figures for about 29 mills in the case of yarn and about 19 mills in the case of cloth.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister kindly state the reasons for the closing of factories for five days in February?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: One reason is, February unfortunately has 29 days. Thereby we lost 2 days. Then, for two or three days, I believe after Mahatma Gandhi's death, the factories were closed in some places.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: In regard to the production of textiles, may I enquire of the Honourable Minister if the Government of India has sent any directive to the textile industry to confine the manufacture of cloth only to certain specified varieties and not to go in for infinite varieties as they used to do before?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The standardisation scheme which was approved by Government is still there but of course, the mills have been given latitude. What we have said is this: We want more production and if any particular mill is satisfied that by following its own method it can give us more, we shall not stand in the way. In fact, in a day or two, I am meeting the Textile Advisory Committee and shall discuss this and other matters with them.

Shri K. Santhanam: With reference to the Honourable Minister's remarks about the month of February, does the Honourable Member suggest that in 1948 the days in February were less than in the month of February in 1947?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That was not so. But of course, there were two days less.

Shri K. Santhanam: But when comparing the production of 1947 and 1948 February, he suggested as one of the reasons the reduction in the number of days.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Comparing January and February I gave that figure.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister state whether there is any connection between the variation in production and the labour troubles in the country during the last so many months?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Labour troubles certainly constitute one factor.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Has there been any definite indication that the fall in production was due to labour troubles in the country during the last few months?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Just now nearly 30 mills in Coimbatore are not working due to labour troubles.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: And they are going slow elsewhere!

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

MEDICAL OFFICER AT VIZAGAPATAM PORT.

1251. ***Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is a post of a Medical Officer at Vizagapatam Port?

(b) Have the Bengal Nagpore Railway who administer the Vizagapatam Port recently issued a letter to the Medical Officer to the effect that a part of the medical fees collected by the Port Medical Officer by way of private practice should be credited to Government?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, how much amount has so far been credited?

(d) Is the Port Medical Officer allowed to have shipping practice?

(e) How many patients attend the Port dispensary on an average daily?

(f) Has the Medical Officer of the Port been engaged by any shipping Firms?

(g) Does this practice prevail in any other Port?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

- (e) 150, on an average.
 (f) No.
 (g) Government have no information, but enquiries are being made.

RESEARCH TO IMPROVE CULTIVATION YIELD OF COFFEE AND TEA.

1252. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any research work is in progress to improve the cultivation and yield of coffee and tea in our country;
 (b) whether coffee and tea plants are subject to attacks of any pests; and
 (c) if so, the steps taken by Government so far to prevent such attacks?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes. As regards Coffee, a statement giving a brief account of the main items of research work conducted by the Research Department of the Indian Coffee Board, is placed on the table.

Research work on Tea is carried off at present at the Tocklai and Nellakota experimental stations in North and South India maintained by the Indian Tea Association and the United Planters Association of Southern India respectively. These stations are engaged on general breeding and production of new varieties of tea besides suggesting measures for counteracting attacks by pests.

(b) Yes.

(c) In respect of coffee, intensive research work is carried out for the prevention and control of pests and diseases at the Coffee Research Station Balehonnur (Mysore State), run by the Indian Coffee Board. This research is in two directions: (i) breeding of disease and pest-resistant varieties, which is a long-range problem, and (ii) direct control methods designed to control or mitigate the effect of these pests and diseases.

As regards Tea, the industry is well organised and has itself been able to take the necessary steps.

Statement

showing brief accounts of the main items of research carried out by the Coffee Research Station, Balehonnur (Mysore State).

Item

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| 1 Manurial requirements of arabica and robusta Coffee. | (a) To determine the optimum combination of principal plant foods for increase of yield.
(b) To study the relative merits of bulky organic manures and artificials (Fertilizers). |
| 2 Soil Survey of coffee growing tracts. | To classify soils in accordance with their plant food contents and for remedying deficiencies. |
| 3 The role of cultural operations | To study the extent of leaching of plant foods.
To study the conditions required for maintaining soil tilth for optimum growth. |
| 4 The place of shade in coffee. | To study the behaviour and utility of various species of shade trees and their management. |
| 5 Breeding of better strains of coffee. | To obtain strains which combined in them such characters as disease resistance, yield and quality produce and to distribute these strains to growers. |
| 6 Vegetative propagation of coffee. | To multiply existing selections rapidly and supplying such material to growers for multiplication in order to start new clearings or replacing uneconomic plantations. |

7. Control of leaf disease by direct and indirect methods. To obviate the ill effects of leaf-disease which is the most important limiting factor in production of arabica coffee.
 8. Control of white borer of arabica coffee. By direct insecticidal and indirect cultural methods.
 9. Control of weeds. Utilisation of weedkillers.

BRIDGE OVER BETWA RIVER BETWEEN JHANSI AND LALITPUR ON DELHI-NAGPUR TRUNK ROAD.

1253. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a bridge over the river Betwa between Jhansi and Lalitpur on the Delhi-Nagpur Trunk Road;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, how the Betwa river is negotiated by road traffic in fair weather, during the monsoon and in high floods; and

(c) whether Government propose to construct a permanent road bridge on the Betwa for the convenience of road vehicles?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) No.

(b) Information regarding present day conditions has been asked for from the Province concerned and will be laid on the table of the House when received.

(c) A bridge at the site has been included in the National Highway programme.

DELIVERY OF CORRESPONDENCE RE-DIRECTED FROM PAKISTAN POST OFFICE, FOR FIRMS MIGRATED TO INDIA

1254. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the principals of the firms and business houses in West Pakistan who have migrated to India, are receiving no correspondence re-directed from the Pakistan Post Offices, despite intimations duly given, no money order values or V. P. P. values for the parcels despatched by them and no registered articles or parcels, intended for them and addressed to them?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps do Government propose to take in this connection?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Some complaints have been received by Government to this effect. All articles received, after redirection from Pakistan, for delivery in India are ordinarily delivered at the revised address furnished without any delay.

(b) Enquiries are in progress with the Pakistan Post and Telegraph Administration. If refugees register their revised address with the Post Office, articles received on redirection from Pakistan would be delivered without any delay.

MR. JUSTICE RAJADHYAKSHA'S AWARD ON RAILWAY DISPUTES

1255. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Mr. Justice Rajadhyaksha's award on the Railway dispute will be accepted by Government?

(b) If so, whether 79,000 new hands in Railways are proposed to be taken?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) The recommendations made by Mr. Justice Rajadhyaksha in his award are at present under the consideration of the Government and I would not like to anticipate the decision of the Government in the matter.

(b) Does not arise.

RECRUITMENT OF KORAPUT ABORIGINES FOR ASSAM TEA GARDENS BY AGENTS OF TEA DISTRICT LABOUR ASSOCIATION ON FALSE HOPES

1256. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that in the district of Koraput in Orissa there is a Tea District Labour Association of the Railway?

(b) Are Government aware that the Agents of the Tea District Labour Association are recruiting the aborigines of Koraput for Assam tea gardens by giving them false hopes?

(c) Is it a fact that these agents are remunerated according to the number of aborigines that they can thus recruit?

(d) Do Government propose to hold a thorough enquiry into the condition of recruits and make a statement about it?

(e) Do Government propose to take steps to stop emigration of aborigines from the Koraput District to Assam and elsewhere?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) No. Government are advised that there is a Labour Association in Koraput which recruits labour for the tea districts; this Association is not connected with Railways.

(b), (c), (d) and (e). Does not concern the Ministry of Railways, vide answer to portion (a) above.

REVENUE FROM DESPATCH OF ORDINARY AND EXPRESS TELEGRAMS FROM INDIA.

1257. *Shri B. Shiva Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to lay a statement on the table of the House giving:

(a) the number of telegrams, ordinary and express, despatched from all telegraph offices in India in the years 1946-47 and 1947-48; and

(b) the revenue from each of these two classes of telegrams separately in each of these two years?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) and (b). Figures for the whole of the year 1947-48 are not available. A statement furnishing the information for the periods 1st April to 14th August for both the years 1946-47 and 1947-48 is laid on the table of the House. Statement for the whole of the year 1946-47 and up to 30th November 1947 for the year 1947-48 are also placed.

Statement

Showing number of telegrams and revenue

		1st April to 14th August			
		1947-48		1946-47	
		Number	Revenue	Number	Revenue
<i>Inland</i>			Rs.		Rs.
Ordinary		4,694,300	56,66,452	4,619,093	65,21,895
Express		5,085,491	1,43,56,348	4,263,778	1,52,17,755
		1946-47			
<i>Inland</i>				Number	Revenue
Express and other priority telegrams				12,863,808	4,17,90,992
Ordinary				13,831,234	1,75,63,724
		1947-48 (From 1-4-47 to 30-11-47 only)			
<i>Inland</i>					
Express and other priority telegrams				8,035,223	2,33,41,053
Ordinary				7,567,152	91,67,377

RAILWAY BENEFIT FUND AND EXPENDITURE ON WELFARE OF EMPLOYEES OF VARIOUS RAILWAYS

1258. *Shri Upendranath Barman: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the policy regarding the administration of the Railway Benefit Fund;

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred for the welfare of the Railway employees (and their children) of the East Indian, Bengal Nagpur, Bengal Assam and Great Indian Peninsula Railways in the year 1947-48?

(c) whether Government give any grant to any non-Railway schools where more than 30 per cent. of the students are the children of poorly paid clerks and labourers working under the Railway Administration; and

(d) if so, what is the total number of such schools and what is the amount of grant paid to each of them?

The Honourable Dr. Jehn Matthai: (a) I presume the Honourable Member is referring to the policy regarding the objects of the Fund. I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to Chapter XII of the State Railway Establishment Code Volume I, a copy of which is available in the Library of the House, which gives all the information in connection with the Staff Benefit Fund.

(b) to (d). I have called for information and will lay a statement on the table of the House in due course.

PURCHASE OF TRACTOR BY GOVERNMENT

1259. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that agricultural tractors are being purchased by Government in their own account; and, if so, whether Government propose to lay a statement on the table of the House for the period 1947-49 showing (i) the names of firms from whom tractors have been or are proposed to be purchased; and (ii) the names of firms whose offers were rejected or who were asked to approach the India Supply Mission with reasons for this differential treatment?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It is a fact that agricultural tractors have been and are being purchased by Government on their own account. It is presumed that the Honourable Member is referring to the purchases made in 1947-48 or proposed to be made in 1948-49; and, if so, a statement has been laid on the table showing (i) the names of firms from whom tractors have been or are proposed to be purchased; and (ii) the names of firms whose offers were not accepted.

The reasons for preferring the offers of certain firms and not accepting those of the others are also given in the statement.

Statement

Names of firms from whom tractors have been or are proposed to be purchased.

Reasons for purchase.

1 M/s. Marshall Sons & Co. (India), Calcutta.	Delivery in India was required to be completed by May 1948 and these were available for despatch ex-stocks. Delivery of 95 tractors is to be completed by end of May 1948 and further 15 Nos. will be supplied by June 1948. The firm has adequate Servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts.
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Name of firms from whom tractors have been or are proposed to be purchased	Reasons for purchase
2. M/s. Construction Equipment Co., Bombay.	These tractors were offered for immediate shipment before March 1948 which would enable their being received in the country before the end of May 1948 as required by the Ministry of Agriculture. The firm has adequate servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts.
3. M/s. Buckwell & Co., Ltd., New Delhi.	These tractors were offered for delivery in India by end of May 1948 as required by the Ministry of Agriculture. The offer was for very well known and tried tractors and the firm has adequate servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts.
4. M/s. Volkart Bros. Bombay.	These tractors were offered for delivery in India by end of May 1948 as required by the Ministry of Agriculture. These tractors are very popular in this country and the firm has adequate servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts.
5. M/s. Mineopolis Moline Tractors purchased through India Supply Mission, Washington.	These tractors were offered for immediate shipment which would enable their being received in the country before the end of May 1948 as required by the Ministry of Agriculture. These are well known and tried tractors.
6. M/s. Johan Fowler & Co., Madras.	This firm has offered to supply in India by May 1948 10 Field Marshall Diesel Tractors which are very well known and are of a special type. These have been offered to Govt. as a special case and it is proposed to purchase these tractors for experimental purposes. This firm has adequate servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts. These tractors are run on Diesel oil and not on petrol and kerosene oil as in the case of the other makes. Hence it is probable that the running cost will be much less.
7. M/s. Ateliers de Constructions Mecaniques de Vevey, Switzerland.	These tractors are of a special type and three such tractors have been ordered through D.G. I.S.D. Blackpool for test and demonstration on the recommendation of the Joint Secretary Ministry of Agriculture who had seen them in operation while he was in Switzerland.

Statement

Names of firms whose offers were rejected or who were asked to approach the India Supply Mission, Washington.	Reasons for rejection
1. M/s. Sinex Corporation (I) Ltd., Bombay. Represented by M/s. Kapurthala International Corporation, New Delhi.	This firm offered 'Leader' tractors. The Ministry of Agriculture and India Supply Mission, Washington stated that these tractors had not passed the "Nebraska" tests which are considered to be standard all the world over. There was also no authorised agent for these tractors in this country and as such difficulties with regard to servicing arrangements and availability of spare parts was envisaged.
2. M/s. Pashabhai Patel & Co., Bombay.	This firm offered has only 10 tractors for immediate shipment whereas the Ministry of Agriculture insist that they would accept tractors in lots of not less than 25 Nos. to facilitate operation and maintenance. Although this firm also offered more tractors for shipment in June 1948 this would have meant that the tractors would have arrived in India about July or August 1948 whereas the indenter required delivery to be completed by the end of May 1948.

Names of firms whose offers were rejected or who were asked to approach the India Supply Mission, Washington.	Reasons for rejection
3. M/s. Bhatnagar & Co., Delhi.	The "Moto Mule" tractors offered by this firm had not been set in production and consequently deliveries offered by the firm could not be depended upon. Being an untried make the offer was passed over. No satisfactory explanation with regard to servicing arrangements or stocks of spares were forthcoming from the firm.
4. M/s. Nanavati & Co., Bombay	This firm quoted for "Skoda" tractors and deliveries were to begin in May 1948 and completed by end of September 1948. In view of the uncertain position which turned out to be fairly bad later on, these tractors were not purchased. Moreover the delivery did not suit the Ministry of Agriculture.
5. M/s. Swekissendass Daulal, Calcutta.	Offers from these firms were received much later after tenders had already been opened and orders placed.
6. M/s. Ramkay and Co., Ludhiana	
7. M/s. B. K. Khanna & Co., New Delhi.	
8. M/s. Agriculture Farms Limited Madras.	

Note.—The indenter in all these cases is the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and all purchase actions have been taken in close consultation with them.

TENDERS FOR PURCHASE OF TRACTORS ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT

1260. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that tenders for tractors opened on the 29th December, 1947 were accepted from firms who quoted higher rates and who did not even quote the horse-power of the tractors; and, if so, whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House a comparative statement of the tenders received with reasons for preferring the tender of these firms and rejecting others and giving the following information:

(i) whether guarantee for replacement against bad workmanship or construction existed in the tender form; and

(ii) whether any encouragement is given to new comers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It is a fact that some of the tenders for tractors, opened on the 29th December 1947, were accepted from firms who quoted higher rates. Government had, however, full information of the specifications, including the horse-power of all tractors offered by the different firms. A comparative statement of the tenders received, giving reasons for passing over certain offers and accepting others as asked for, has been laid on the table.

The reply to (i) is 'yes' and to (ii) is also 'yes,' if they offer a quality product backed by test reports and have facilities for service and spare parts.

Comparative statement of the tenders received together with the information asked for

Note.—The indenter in all these cases is the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, and all purchase actions have been taken in close consultation with them.

No. of enquiries issued 21
No. of tenders received 8

Names of tendering firms	Model	Horse Powers of the tractors	Port of entry prices	No. & Model ordered	Remarks
1. M/s. Buckwell & Co., Ltd., Now Delhi, for 'Johan Deere' tractors from U.S.A.	'G'	36 38	Rs. 7,763 8,156	25 (Model 'G')	The offer was accepted as delivery was offered by end of May 1948 as required. The offer was for a very well known and tried tractor and the firm has servicing facilities both with regard to technical personnel and spare parts.
2. M/s. Construction Equipment Co., Bombay, for 'Massey Harris' tractors from U.S.A.	Model 30K	21	5,870	42	The order was placed for 42 tractors for immediate shipment before March 1948, which would enable their being received in this country before end of May or beginning of June, 1948. This is also a very well known make and well tried out in India. Same remarks with regard to servicing as against (1).
3. M/s. Marshall Sons & Co. (I) Ltd., Calcutta for 'Fordson Major' tractors from U. K.	Model 'For. dson Major, Row Crop	28.5	6,356	10	These were available for despatch ex-stocks and delivery is expected to be completed in India by end of May 1948, excepting for 15 Nos. which will go over till June, 1948. These are also very well tried makes for which complete spares and service arrangements are available.
4. M/s. Volkart Bros., Bombay for 'McCormick Deering' tractors from U.S.A.	Model W-6 Model W-9	30 42	8,427 1,1294 nett	20 5	In this case deliveries have been offered for completion by end of May 1948 in India. The Agriculture Deptt. were keen on ordering these 'McCormick Deering' tractors which are very popular in this country even though the costs were higher. They felt that experience should weigh more than extra prices which these tractors were costing. The extra price was also due to the fact that these tractors were equipped with special fittings.
5. M/s. Pashbhai Patel & Co., Bombay, for 'Allis Chalmers' Tractors from U.S.A.	Model W.C	30	4530	Nil	The Ministry of Agriculture insisted that they would accept tractors in lots of not less than 25 Nos. This firm at the time of tendering had offered only 10 Nos. for immediate shipment. More they could arrange shipment in June 1948, which would mean that they would have arrived in India only about July or August 1948; while the indenter was keen to get the major portion of his supplies by the end of May '48.
6. M/s. Bhatnagar & Co., Delhi for 'Cooper's Moto 'Mule' tractors from U.S.A.	30 to 35		6232	Nil	This firm's price was based on the purchase of a lot of 303 tractors. The Agriculture Deptt. informed the Ministry of I. & S. that the 'Moto Mule' tractors offered by this firm had not been set in production and consequently they advised us not to depend upon deliveries offered. Being an untried make the offer was passed over. No satisfactory explanation with regard to servicing arrangements or stocks of spares were forthcoming from the firm.
7. M/s. Sinex Corporation (I) Ltd., Bombay, for 'Leader' tractors from U. S. A. represented by Kapurthala International Corpn., New Delhi.		35	6689	Nil	This firm offered 'Leader' tractors. But the Ministry of Agriculture stated that they had not passed the tests of the Deptt. of Agriculture, U. S. A. at Nobgaska. All over the world the tests carried out at Nebraska are considered to be standard, and only these tractors which have passed these tests are accepted as reliable. It was also confirmed by the I.S.M. Washington that these tractors had not passed the necessary tests. There were also no authorised agent in this country and as such difficulties with regard to servicing arrangements and availability of spare parts was envisaged.
8. M/s. Nanavati & Co., Ltd., Bombay for 'Skoda' tractors from Europe.	...	25 to 29	11347	Nil	This firm quoted for 'Skoda' tractors and deliveries were to begin in May and end in September. In view of the uncertain position which turned out to be fairly bad later on these tractors were not purchased. Moreover the delivery did not suit the indenter. Price was also high.

FACTORIES FOR PRODUCTION OF POWER ALCOHOL

1261. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets that have been fixed for the production of power alcohol;
- (b) the location of the proposed factories and their expected output; and
- (c) whether the necessary technical manpower is available and if not how Government propose to acquire them?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) In January 1947 the target was contemplated to be fixed at 25 million gallons per annum but no final decision has yet been reached.

(b) It is proposed to consult the Provincial Governments in deciding the location and output.

(c) Government do not have precise information about the availability of necessary technical manpower but the process is well known and is in use in this country. Government are ready to afford such reasonable assistance in this behalf as industry may stand in need of.

SALE OF SURPLUS STORE AND SALVAGE DURING LAST FINANCIAL YEAR

1262. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the book value and the sale price of the surplus store and salvage sold during the last financial year?

(b) Is it a fact that before 15th August, 1947, a large quantity of serviceable material was sold as junk?

(c) What precautions are Government taking to see that good material is not sold as obsolete?

(d) Who is the final authority to declare these articles as obsolete?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) A statement giving the required particulars is placed on the table of the House.

(b) No, Sir; not to my knowledge.

(c) Lists of surplus stores are circulated to Government Departments and their requirements are met before sales are made to the public.

A Technical Advisory Committee was appointed in March last to ensure that surplus stores, useful for industrial production or similar purposes, are put to the most appropriate and expeditious use. It is at present inspecting various Depots, and is expected to finish its work in about two months time.

Government have also decided to set up Survey Parties consisting of representatives of various Ministries concerned, to go round the Salvage Depots in the country to see what stores already set aside for disposal, can be brought to use. Pending a survey by these parties, instructions have been issued that no stores which are *prima facie* serviceable be sold as scrap. Air Headquarters themselves are re-examining the Salvage stores previously set apart for disposal with a view to utilizing whatever may be found useful.

(d) The decision as to whether a particular store is absolute according to Military standards rests with the Defence Services. Such decisions are usually recorded on the declaration forms at the time these stores are declared surplus.

statement

Showing the book value and the sale price of Surplus stores and salvage sold during the financial year 1947-48 (March 1947 to February 1948 figures for March 1948 not available yet)

Surplus Stores.	Book Value.	Sale Price.
	Rs.	Rs.
HMG/Indian/Local Land Surplus Stores	46,74,62,311	20,38,59,376
American Surplus Stores	*Not available	5,44,20,000
American Foodstuffs	2,08,94,309	54,13,015
Salvage.		
1,23,220 tons	Book values are not known in the case of Salvage Stores.	5,48,99,33

*Separate figures, year by year, of the book value of American surplus stores disposed of are not available. It may, however, be stated that from the time disposal of American surpluses began, i.e., June 1946, upto February 1948, the book value of stores disposed of is about Rs. 169.09 crores, against the sale value of Rs. 31.57 crores. (The latter figure is inclusive of customs duty).

POST WAR PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DYESTUFF INDUSTRY

1263. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what are the post-war plans of Government for the development of the Dyestuff Industry?

(b) Are Government aware of the shortage of coaltar dyes and alizarin dyes in the country, and if so, what steps are being taken to meet this deficit?

(c) Has a survey for the necessary raw materials for the manufacture of these dyestuffs been carried out and if so, with what result?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) and (c). A Dyestuffs Explanatory Committee was set up under the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research in 1940, to make a survey of necessary raw materials for the Dyestuff industry and to consider ways and means for the manufacture of Synthetic dyes in India. The final report of the Committee was submitted in August 1945. A copy of the report is placed on the table of the House.

This report contains a plan for the establishment of an Indian Dyestuff industry for the manufacture of all the dyes in substantial demand in the country together with all the necessary intermediates within a period of 15 to 20 years at a total cost of about Rs. 25 crores. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee, some schemes of research are now in progress under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The Government consider that this is one of those industries in which the state will not hesitate to step in, if found necessary.

(b) There is a shortage of only specific items of fast coal tar dyes, such as Greens, Blues and Purples. Every possible assistance is being given to importers for obtaining supplies of these items from Germany, Italy, France, Holland and Czechoslovakia.

Alizarin, a derivative of coal tar is not in short supply. At present, available stocks are actually in excess of demand.

*Not printed in the day's Debates. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House.—Ed. of D.

DECREASE IN DISTILLATION OF COAL-TAR

1264. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- the tonnage of coal-tar distilled in the pre-war days;
- the tonnage distilled during the last financial year; and
- the reasons for the decrease, if any, in the quantity distilled?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) 1933-34—26,500 tons. 1935-36—30,000 tons, 1937-38—44,700 tons, 1939-40—46,200 tons.

(b) The latest financial year for which information is available is 1943-44. The tonnage distilled in this year was 33,700.

(c) The fall in distillation is due to the fact that the Indian Coal Tar is not eminently suitable for distillation to recover useful by-products unless it is mixed with imported coal tar containing richer amounts of by-products. At present, the import of coal tar from foreign sources has fallen off considerably due to shortage in exporting countries and, consequently, the Indian tar is being used to a greater degree for producing road tars and for other similar purposes.

DIFFICULTIES TO SECOND CLASS PASSENGERS IN SECURING RESERVATION OF BERTHS

1265. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the difficulties experienced by the second class passengers in securing reservation of berths?

(b) Are Government aware that in the list maintained by the railway authorities the names of fictitious passengers are given in the books?

(c) Is there a list of precedence for second class passengers' reservation?

(d) Are any seats reserved for tourist agencies on railways?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Government are not aware of any special difficulties in the way of Second Class passengers securing reservations of berths, except on occasions when demand exceeds the accommodation available.

(b) and (c). In the register of reservations, Railways have been strictly instructed to make entries in order of application and on the production of journey tickets. Cancellation of reservation involves forfeiture of the reservation fee and 10 per cent. of the fare paid. There is, therefore, ordinarily little chance for the insertion of a fictitious name in the list of reservations made. It is now the practice also that on most railways a waiting list is maintained showing the names and addresses of passengers who have been refused reservation. This list is in the order of refusal and ensures the allotment of any additional accommodation becoming available later, being made in the order of application.

(d) This is so only on the Assam, B. B. and C. I. and the M. and S. M. Railways.

INDIA'S APPROACH TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT FOR SUPPLY OF WHEAT

1266. *Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state whether any approach has been made by the Government of India to the Soviet Government for the supply of wheat?

(b) If so, what was the result?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes.

(b) Negotiations with the Soviet Union are proceeding.

POST OF CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER, INDIA COFFEE BOARD

1267. *Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the post of the Chief Marketing Officer, India Coffee Board, has been filled up;

(b) if so, whether the new incumbent is an Indian; and

(c) if not, why it is that a non-Indian is preferred.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a), (b) and (c). Dewan Bahadur M. V. Vellodi, the permanent Chief Coffee Marketing Officer fell ill in November 1947 and resigned. The Director of Propaganda, Rai Sahib M. J. Simon, who was appointed to officiate as Chief Coffee Marketing Officer died suddenly on the 7th March, 1948. In the absence of a suitable officer under the Board who could be asked to take charge of the work, it was felt essential to make some temporary arrangements for the day-to-day administration of the Coffee Board pending the selection of a successor. Mr. Ivor Bull who has been a member of the Coffee Board and its Marketing Committee since its inception has been appointed as an honorary Chief Coffee Marketing Officer as a purely temporary measure. In the meantime, a suitable Indian is being selected to fill the post on a permanent basis.

ISSUE OF VEHICLE PERMITS BY PROVINCIAL TRANSPORT AUTHORITY, DELHI

1268. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Transport be pleased to state the factors that are taken into consideration by the Provincial Transport Authority of Delhi Province, while issuing vehicle permits?

(b) Are the refugees from Pakistan given any preference?

(c) Is it a fact that only one permit for a taxi was issued to ten refugees (taxi owners and drivers) from Karachi, on the 10th February, 1948?

(d) Can such cases be re-considered by the Provincial Transport Authority?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Honourable Member's attention is invited to Sections 47, 50 and 55 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, but the permit was granted in response to a joint application made by some Sindhi refugees at a meeting of the Provincial Transport Authority held on the 7th and not on 10th February.

(d) Yes.

CLASSIFICATION OF MATRICULATE AND NON-MATRICULATE DRIVERS ON O. AND T. RAILWAY

1269. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that matriculate and non-matriculate drivers on the Oudh and Tirhut Railway are called upon to shoulder the same responsibilities; and

(b) whether Government propose to abolish this classification and if not, why not?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) and (b) I have called for information and will lay a statement on the table of the House in due course.

INDIA'S PARTICIPATION AT U. N. F. A. O. CONFERENCES FOR PROCUREMENT OF RICE, ETC.

1270. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have sent any Delegation to the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation Conference held towards the end of February, 1948 and in which South-East Asia countries were participating for considering questions relating to fisheries, rice and nutrition?

(b) If so, has any delegation been sent for similar conferences in the previous years?

(c) If so, what advantages have been achieved by Government in regard to procurement of rice in India from such delegations?

(d) Have any schemes been prepared and accepted by Government on the basis of their knowledge acquired from these conferences?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes.

(b) A Nutrition Conference was held in May, 1946 at Singapore in which India participated.

(c) The recent Rice conference at Baguio in the Philippines was not intended to allocate rice quotas to various countries but to set up an International Machinery for convening technical and other conferences and providing for the study of problems relating to the production, processing and distribution of rice.

(d) No particular schemes have been prepared so far.

1271*—1273*. [Withdrawn.]

ACQUISITION OF GOODS THROUGH DISPOSAL BELONGING TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF UNITED KINGDOM AND U. S. A.

1274. *Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement containing the following information:

(i) the nature, quantity and value of goods that came into the possession of Government through Disposals;

(ii) how much of this belonged to Government and how much came to Government from (i) the U. K. Government and (ii) the Government of the U.S.A.;

(iii) what was the total cost incurred by Government;

(iv) what percentage of these was disposed of upto 15th March, 1948;

(v) the names of persons to whom the articles and goods were sold;

(vi) the nature and quantity of articles sold to each with the prices paid by each?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (i) and (ii). Two statements are placed on the table of the House, showing the information desired in respect of American surpluses and other surpluses. Statistics are only maintained under these two heads, and the statement relating to declarations of H. M. G. and others contains items originally financed from Indian account, which would be very small.

(iii) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the statement tabled in reply to part (iii) of his question No. 1152 of 1st April 1948.

(iv) A statement (No. III) is tabled which shows sales effected up to February 1948 as a percentage of total arising in so far as surplus stores other than American surpluses are concerned. As regards American surpluses, all the foodstuffs, and 70 per cent. of the remainder, have been disposed of.

(v) and (vi). To compile such a mass of material would, I fear involve an unjustifiable waste of time and effort. If the Honourable Member is interested in any particular categories of stores, I will try to collect the relevant information.

Statement I.

Showing the book value of declarations of H. M. G. and others and lend lease surplus stores received by D. G. Disposals during the period October 1944 to February 1948 by sub-heads (Excluding American Surplus).

Classification	Arisings		
	H. M. G. and others	Lend Lease	Total
1	2	3	4
I. Clothing and Textiles.—			
1. Clothing (Serviceable made-up garments)	6,34,07,981	2,29,588	6,36,37,569
2. Textile Material (Piece-goods) of cotton, wool and silk.	14,72,16,024	1,29,256	14,73,45,280
3. Textile material and manufacture of jute, sisals, ramie, coir and other fibres.	7,74,31,117	40,22,950	8,14,54,067
4. Cordage and Twine	1,02,90,328	..	1,02,90,328
5. Garniture	68,04,509	..	68,04,509
6. Heavy Textile articles	5,65,36,863	3,276	5,65,40,139
7. Other Textile articles	4,23,45,638	50,299	4,23,95,937
Total	40,40,32,460	44,35,369	40,84,67,829
II. Leather and Leather goods.—			
8. Footwear	1,11,26,220	74,056	1,12,00,276
9. Harness and Saddlery and Leather	40,36,958	..	40,36,958
10. Equipment.	63,96,497	..	63,96,497
11. Other Leather Goods	24,28,771	..	24,28,771
Total	2,39,88,446	74,056	2,40,62,502
III. 12. Tentage and Connected store's.—TOTAL	1,75,94,976	..	1,75,94,976
IV. Machinery and Plant.—			
13. Hand tools	2,98,64,742	8,81,173	3,07,45,915
14. Machine tools	1,37,96,798	41,75,095	1,79,71,893
15. Engineering workshop and constructional machinery and plant.	1,64,39,570	1,03,03,300	2,67,42,870
16. Electrical Machinery and plant	1,06,23,200	9,37,134	1,15,60,334
17. Internal combustion Engines, other than MT Aero and large Marine Engines.	13,83,187	9,74,709	23,57,896
18. Other Plant and machinery	3,62,66,182	25,41,096	3,88,07,278
Total	10,83,73,679	1,98,12,507	12,81,86,186
V. Metals.—			
19. Ferrous including unfabricated steel	14,76,37,594	2,51,41,331	17,27,77,925
20. Non-ferrous	5,13,88,968	58,109	5,14,47,077
Total	19,90,25,562	51,99,440	22,42,25,002

1	2	3	4
VI. Vehicles and spare.—			
21. Lorries, Trucks and Armoured Vehicles	10,77,71,351	8,81,39,024	19,59,10,375
22. Heavy and light cars	1,10,55,204	1,62,73,470	2,73,28,674
23. Trailer	44,52,540	5,14,016	49,66,556
24. Motor cycles	67,95,305	6,00,861	73,96,166
25. Spare parts and fittings	1,07,51,267	7,21,986	1,14,73,253
26. Tyres and Tubes	56,37,773	..	56,37,773
27. Bicycles, Carts, etc.	31,92,088	..	31,92,088
Total	14,96,55,528	10,62,49,357	25,59,04,885
VII Transportation stores.—			
28. Decauville track and rolling stock	1,12,30,730	6,46,104	1,18,76,834
29. Locomotives	3,85,352	10,54,42,514	10,58,27,866
30. Other rolling stock	43,79,405	11,83,31,938	12,27,11,3432
31. Rails and fittings	63,05,765	1,62,86,936	2,25,92,701
32. Bridges and heavy constructional material	1,97,72,562	..	1,97,72,562
33. Other railway and transportation equipment except cranes	11,14,925	..	11,14,925
Total	4,31,88,739	24,07,07,492	28,38,96,231
VIII. Building material, Furniture and Miscellaneous engineering stores.—			
34. Structural steelwork	2,21,97,735	..	2,22,97,735
35. Timber	5,32,14,379	6,437	5,32,20,866
36. Building Materials, Cement, Asbestos Masonite, etc.	2,28,24,392	..	2,28,24,392
37. Sanitary fittings (including water-supply fittings).	3,88,50,116	20,71,531	4,09,21,647
38. Furniture	1,00,75,486	..	1,00,75,486
39. Typewriters and Office machinery	5,93,737	5,52,963	11,46,700
40. Electric wire, cable and fittings	3,78,49,505	19,31,344	3,97,80,849
41. Stationery stores	39,94,892	3,64,535	43,59,427
42. Bolts, Nuts, rivets and Washers	3,74,01,676	3,44,799	3,77,46,475
Total	22,71,01,918	42,71,659	23,13,73,577
X. Communication stores.—			
43. Radio Equipment	80,14,860	13,95,208	94,10,068
44. Telephone Equipment excluding Batteries, Cells and Wires.	15,51,189	17,433	15,68,622
45. Telegraph Equipment	1,23,33,401	2,59,946	1,25,93,347
Total	2,18,99,450	16,72,587	2,35,72,037

1	2	3	4
X. Scientific Instruments other than aircraft Instruments.—			
46. Survey and Optical Instruments	43,15,313	45,927	43,61,240
47. Photographic and Cinematographic Equipment.	17,37,260	46,600	17,83,860
48. Searchlights, Floodlights and Signalling lamps.	14,17,932	32,206	14,50,138
49. Other instruments	5,32,278	18,241	5,50,519
Total	80,02,783	1,42,974	81,45,757
XI. 50. Antigas Stores, A. R. P. firefighting Equipment.—			
TOTAL	1,46,26,195	11,512	1,46,37,707
II. Arms and Ammunition—			
51. Small Arms	16,50,130	..	16,50,130
52. Guns and Equipment	21,15,835	..	21,15,835
53. Ammunitions	38,13,763	..	38,13,763
Total	75,79,728	..	75,79,728
XIII. Medical and veterinary stores—			
54. Drugs and Chemicals	8,06,21,398	22,46,681	8,28,68,079
55. Dressings and Bandages	2,03,15,375	..	2,03,15,375
56. Surgical and Dental instruments	4,55,29,838	9,86,437	4,65,07,275
57. Other Stores	45,70,099	..	45,70,099
Total	15,10,27,710	32,33,118	15,42,60,828
XIV. 58. Acids and Chemicals—			
Total	2,72,50,328	5,49,304	2,77,99,632
XV. 59. Paints, Varnishes and Enamels—			
Total	71,75,153	84,522	72,59,675
XVI. P. O. L.—			
60. Petrol, kerosene and Fuel oil	69,41,290	2,06,891	71,48,181
61. Lubricating oil	12,19,118	3,21,13,615	3,33,32,733
62. Other petroleum oil products	9,95,199	2,51,541	12,46,740
Total	91,55,607	3,25,72,047	4,17,27,654
XVII. Foodstuffs.—			
63. Canned Goods	1,73,11,460	..	1,73,11,460
64. Other foodstuffs	1,99,90,725	..	1,99,90,725
Total	3,73,02,185	..	3,73,02,185

1	2	3	4
XVIII. Containers.—			
66. P. O. L. Drums and Cans used and un- used.	1,93,25,880	31,103	1,93,56,983
67. Others, unused including Boxes and Bottles.	1,30,42,033	7,80,000	1,38,22,033
68. Others used	25,29,457	35,100	25,64,557
Total	3,48,97,370	8,46,203	3,57,43,573
XIX. Aero stores.—			
69. Airframes, engines and spares	57,37,787	67,123	58,04,910
70. Aircraft instruments	18,18,018	47,721	18,65,739
71. Parachutes and fittings	6,45,38,407	61,42,098	7,06,80,505
72. Stores not elsewhere provided for	71,81,610	4,75,000	76,56,610
Total	7,92,75,822	67,31,942	8,60,07,764
XX. Naval craft and parts.—			
73. Boats	8,05,81,455	1,43,44,881	9,49,26,336
74. Ships stores not otherwise provided for	36,04,886	6,67,826	42,72,712
75. Victualling stores other than clothing and foodstuffs.	3,69,501	...	3,39,50
76. Armament stores other than guns and ammunition.	81,618	...	81,618
77. Other RN Stores.	7,14,617	...	7,14,617
Total	8,53,52,077	1,50,12,707	10,03,64,784
XXI. 78. Amenity Stores.—			
Total	3,80,460	...	3,80,460
XXII. 79. Other Miscellaneous Stores.—			
Total	2,83,55,186	89,288	2,84,44,474
XXIII. Animals and Livestock.—			
80. Remounts	75,97,320	...	75,97,320
81. Farms	59,05,639	...	59,05,639
Total	1,35,02,959	...	1,35,02,959
XIV. Land and Buildings.—			
84. Buildings	36,29,295	...	36,29,295
85. Land and Buildings	13,89,82,813	...	13,89,82,813
Total	14,26,12,108	...	14,26,12,108
XXV. Installations.—			
86. Factories and Industrial Units	1,61,00,264	5,50,000	1,66,50,264
87. Installations, Hospitals, etc.	97,71,643	...	97,71,643
88. Others	8,17,838	...	8,17,838
Total	2,66,89,745	5,50,000	2,72,39,745

1	2	3	4
XXVI. Bulk Reports.—			
89. Bulk sales general	54,24,375	...	45,24,375
90. Bulk Sales Engineering	88,75,689	...	88,75,689
91. Bulk sales Mixed Stores	17,40,072	...	17,40,072
Total	1,51,40,136	...	1,51,40,136
XXVII. 92. Minor surplus, direct reports to regions.—			
Total	33,43,909	10,053	33,53,962
GRAND TOTAL	1,88,65,30,219	46,22,56,137	2,34,87,86,356

Statement II.

Showing the figures of Categories of American Surpluses including Foodstuffs, their quantity and book value.

Serial No.	Store	Quantity	Book value
1	Vehicles	43,000 Nos.	Rs. 240 crores approximately.
2	Engineering Stores	500,000 Tons.	
3	Medical Stores		
4	Subsistence Stores		
5	Signal Stores		...
6	Ordnance Stores		...
7	Quartermaster Stores		...
8	Chemical Warfare Stores		...
9	Miscellaneous stores (including Salvage, Spare Parts etc.).		...
	Foodstuffs	57,900 Tons	Rs. 8,33,44,700 approximately.

Statement III.

Showing progress of disposals of surplus stores for the period October 1944 to February 1948 by sub-heads (excluding American Surplus).

Main and sub-heads	Book Value		Sale	
	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others
I. Clothing and Textiles.—				
1. Clothing (Serviceable made-up garments).	4,32,44,286	1,33,945	4,33,78,231	2,94,93,937
2. Textile Material (piece-goods) of cotton, wool and silk.	11,57,61,549	..	11,57,61,549	11,27,67,737
3. Textile Material and manufacture of jute, sisals, ramie, coir and other fibres.	7,31,48,486	38,57,757	7,70,06,243	4,00,84,053
4. Cordage and Twine	64,39,760	..	64,39,760	30,41,314
5. Garniture	42,19,48	..	42,19,748	8,31,592
6. Heavy Textile Articles.	3,35,47,375	..	3,35,47,375	59,96,885
7. Other Textile articles	1,42,82,774	..	1,42,82,774	70,37,817
Total	29,06,43,978	39,91,702	29,46,35,680	19,92,53,335
III. Leather & leather goods.—				
8. Footwear	59,46,715	..	59,46,715	35,50,612
9. Harness & Saddlery & Leather Eqpt.	20,14,380	..	20,14,380	3,22,671
10. Other leather goods	8,75,462	..	8,75,462	3,71,146
11. Leather	11,29,872	..	11,29,872	10,82,208
Total	99,66,429	..	99,66,429	53,26,637
III. 12. Tentage and connected stores.—	28,04,964	..	28,04,964	12,73,257
IV Machinery & Plant.—				
13. Hand Tools	1,42,47,215	6,44,989	1,48,92,204	48,39,416
14. Machine tools	45,83,004	19,61,621	65,44,625	41,98,794
15. Eng. workshop and constructional machinery and plant.	77,53,617	50,61,948	1,28,15,565	54,73,482
16. Electrical Machinery and Plant.	53,63,635	3,33,000	56,96,635	42,04,684
17. Internal combustion Engines, other than M. T. Aero and large Marine Engines.	9,75,661	8,15,940	17,91,601	9,62,147
18. Other Plant & Machinery	1,29,52,365	13,94,332	1,43,46,697	88,62,652
Total	4,58,75,497	1,02,11,830	5,60,87,327	2,85,41,177
V. Metals.—				
19. Ferrous including unfabricated steel.	4,44,55,422	82,71,944	5,27,27,366	3,31,17,957
20. Non-Ferrous	2,10,59,575	31,070	2,10,90,645	1,73,36,664
Total	6,55,14,997	83,03,014	7,38,18,011	5,04,54,621

Value of sales		Closing Balance		Percentage of	
Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	Disposals
43,384	2,95,37,321	2,01,63,695	95,643	2,02,59,338	68.1
..	11,27,67,737	3,14,54,475	1,29,256	3,15,83,731	78.5
25,68,625	4,26,52,678	42,84,631	1,65,193	44,47,824	94.4
..	30,41,314	38,50,568	..	38,50,568	62.5
..	8,31,592	25,84,761	..	25,84,761	62.0
..	59,96,885	2,29,89,488	3,276	2,29,92,764	59.3
..	70,37,817	2,80,62,864	50,299	2,81,13,163	33.6
26,12,009	20,18,65,344	11,33,88,482	4,43,667	11,38,32,149	72.1
..	35,50,612	51,79,505	74,056	52,53,561	53.0
..	3,22,671	20,22,578	..	20,22,578	49.8
..	3,71,146	55,21,035	..	55,21,035	13.6
..	10,82,208	12,98,399	..	12,98,399	46.5
..	53,26,637	1,40,22,017	74,056	1,40,96,073	41.4
..	22,73,257	1,47,90,012	..	1,47,90,012	15.09
4,17,068	52,56,484	1,56,17,527	2,36,184	1,58,57,711	48.4
12,23,320	54,22,114	92,13,794	22,13,474	1,14,27,268	36.4
43,81,816	98,55,298	86,85,353	52,41,352	1,27,305	47.9
3,26,582	45,31,266	52,59,565	6,04,134	58,63,699	49.2
7,80,260	17,42,407	4,07,526	1,58,769	5,66,295	75.9
9,39,357	98,02,009	2,33,13,817	11,46,764	2,44,60,531	36.9
80,63,403	3,66,09,530	6,24,98,182	96,00,677	7,20,98,859	43.7
81,55,938	4,12,73,895	10,31,81,172	1,68,69,387	12,00,50,559	30.5
72,078	1,74,03,742	3,03,29,393	27,039	3,03,56,432	40.9
82,28,016	5,86,82,637	13,35,10,565	1,68,96,426	15,04,06,991	32.9

Main and sub-heads	Book value		Sale value	
	H.M.G. & others	Lease/Land	Total	H.M.G. & others
VI. Vehicles and Spares—				
21. Lorries, Trucks & Armoured Vehicles.	7,17,74,912	3,22,09,348	10,39,84,260	4,95,78,417
22. Heavy and light cars	61,44,594	1,42,85,936	2,04,30,530	35,04,428
23. Trailer	8,93,060	4,09,061	13,02,121	9,16,223
24. Motor Cycles	48,69,166	1,32,620	50,01,786	40,77,927
25. Spare parts & fittings	33,63,786	2,31,705	35,95,491	14,87,387
26. Tyres and Tubes	26,40,503	..	26,40,503	30,45,065
27. Bicycles, Carts, etc.	13,88,060	..	13,88,060	4,01,533
Total	9,10,74,081	4,72,68,670	13,83,42,751	6,30,10,980
VII. Transportation Stores—				
28. Decauville truck and rolling stock	43,85,270	..	43,85,270	35,16,284
29. Locomotives	2,37,272	10,27,65,327	10,30,02,599	3,44,071
30. Other rolling stock	38,58,688	9,05,73,677	9,44,32,365	36,24,600
31. Rails and fittings	58,85,942	1,36,56,737	1,95,42,679	54,85,629
32. Bridges and heavy constructional material	90,63,477	..	90,63,477	56,52,680
33. Other railway and transportation equipment except cranes.	5,31,255	..	5,31,255	8,47,195
Total	2,39,61,904	20,69,95,471	23,09,57,645	1,94,70,459
VIII. Building material, furniture and miscellaneous engineering Stores.—				
34. Structural steel work	1,25,01,901	..	1,25,01,901	73,58,881
35. Timber	3,00,67,135	2,580	3,00,69,715	2,38,93,510
36. Building Materials, Cement, Asbestos, Masonite, etc.	1,57,12,505	..	1,57,12,595	78,63,651
37. Sanitary fittings (including water supply fittings).	57,60,012	..	57,60,012	37,22,953
38. Furniture	18,17,295	..	18,17,295	8,67,281
39. Typewriters & Office machinery.	2,85,973	2,46,712	5,32,685	1,75,935
40. Electric wire, cable & fittings.	2,71,28,254	7,13,038	2,78,41,292	1,41,10,661
41. Stationery stores	22,90,184	3,52,304	26,42,488	10,19,840
42. Bolts, Nuts, Rivets & Washers.	1,38,57,583	1,87,238	1,40,44,821	1,12,92,152
Total	10,94,20,842	13,01,872	11,09,22,714	7,03,04,914
IX. Communication Stores—				
43. Radio Equipment	44,30,692	9,48,201	53,78,893	26,96,296
Telephone Equipment excluding Batteries, Cells & Wires.	3,04,474	2,500	3,06,974	2,92,731
45. Telegraph Equipment	27,29,746	..	27,29,746	2,56,437
Total	74,64,912	9,50,701	84,15,613	32,45,464

Closing Balance					Percentag
se/Lend	Total	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	Disposals
1,63,73,396	6,59,51,813	3,59,96,439	5,59,29,676	9,19,26,115	53.0
74,70,582	1,09,75,010	49,10,610	19,87,534	68,98,144	74.7
5,05,905	14,22,128	35,59,480	1,04,955	36,64,435	26.2
73,395	41,51,322	19,26,139	4,68,241	28,94,380	67.6
75,966	15,63,353	73,87,481	4,90,281	78,77,762	31.3
..	30,45,065	29,97,270	..	29,97,270	46.8
..	4,01,533	18,04,028	..	18,04,028	43.4
2,44,99,244	8,75,10,224	5,85,81,447	5,89,80,687	11,75,62,134	54.0
4,54,17,839	35,16,284 4,57,61,910	68,45,460 1,48,080	6,46,104 26,77,187	74,91,564 28,25,267	36.9 97.3
2,67,01,547	3,03,26,147	5,20,717	2,77,58,261	2,82,78,978	76.9
1,04,43,046	1,59,28,675	4,19,823	26,30,199	30,50,022	86.4
..	56,52,680	1,07,09,085	..	1,07,09,085	45.8
..	8,47,195	5,83,670	..	5,83,670	47.6
8,25,62,432	10,20,32,891	1,92,26,835	3,37,11,751	5,29,38,586	81.3
2,580	73,58,881 2,38,96,090 78,63,651	97,95,834 2,31,47,244 71,11,887	.. 3,907 ..	97,95,834 2,31,51,151 71,11,887	58.07 56.42 69.45
..	37,22,953	3,30,90,104	20,71,531	3,51,61,635	14.88
..	8,67,281	82,58,191	..	82,58,191	18.2
1,50,040	3,26,025	3,07,764	3,06,251	6,14,015	46.49
6,81,988	1,47,92,649	1,07,21,251	2,18,306	1,09,39,557	71.7
44,282	10,64,122	17,04,708	12,231	17,16,939	60.6
1,24,516	1,14,16,668	2,35,44,093	1,57,561	2,37,01,654	3.72
10,03,406	7,13,08,320	11,76,81,076	27,69,787	12,04,50,863	47.9
6,65,88	33,62,177	35,84,168	4,47,007	40,31,175	57.1
2,500	2,95,231	12,46,715	14,933	12,61,648	19.55
..	2,56,237	96,03,655	2,59,946	98,63,601	21.68
6,68,381	39,13,845	1,44,34,538	7,21,886	1,51,56,424	35.65

Main and sub-heads.	Book Value of sale			Sale
	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others
X. Scientific instruments other than aircraft instruments.—				
46. Survey and optical instruments.	5,01,233	..	5,01,233	1,22,605
47. Photographic and Cinematographic Eqpt.	8,41,364	..	8,41,364	1,25,941
48. Searchlights, Floodlights, and Signalling lamps.	82,433	..	82,433	34,989
49. Other instruments	53,634	..	53,634	17,645
Total	14,78,664	..	14,78,664	3,01,180
XI. 50. Antigas stores, ARP, and firefighting Eqpt.—				
Total	69,78,944	8,250	69,87,194	15,45,129
XII. Arms and Ammunition—				
51. Small Arms	3,05,752	...	3,05,752	3,21,984
52. Guns and Equipment	2,98,205	...	2,98,205	13,742
53. Ammunition	3,13,396	...	3,13,396	50,297
Total	9,17,353	...	9,17,353	3,86,023
XIII. Medical and Veterinary Stores.—				
54. Drugs and Chemicals	2,14,20,430	6,45,091	2,20,65,521	77,55,536
55. Dressings and Bandages	1,63,66,440	...	1,63,66,440	1,08,71,659
56. Surgical and Dental instruments.	1,72,43,469	...	1,72,43,469	58,02,739
57. Other Stores	6,61,894	...	6,61,894	3,44,040
Total	5,56,92,233	6,45,091	5,63,37,324	2,47,72,974
XIV. 58. Acids and Chemicals Total				
	76,37,888	3,15,583	79,53,471	62,40,212
XV. 59. Paints, Varnishes and Enamels.—				
Total	43,15,198	...	43,15,198	31,57,711
XVI. P. O. L.—				
60. Petrol, Kerosene and Fuel Oil.	5,32,109	2,06,250	7,38,59	5,30,381
61. Lubricating oil	11,16,202	3,09,27,174	3,20,43,466	9,15,427
62. Other petroleum and oil products.	6,16,451	1,75,375	7,91,826	5,22,493
Total	22,64,852	3,13,08,799	3,35,73,651	19,68,301

Value of sales.		Closing Balance		Percentage of	
Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	Disposals
..	1,22,605	38,14,080	45,927	38,60,007	11.7
..	1,25,941	8,95,896	46,600	9,42,496	47.0
..	34,989	13,35,499	32,206	13,67,705	5.68
..	17,645	4,78,644	18,241	4,96,885	9.73
..	3,01,180	65,24,119	1,42,974	66,67,093	18.15
4,000	15,49,129	76,47,251	3,262	76,50,513	47.53
..	3,21,984	13,44,378	..	13,44,378	18.53
..	13,742	18,17,630	..	18,17,630	14.06
..	50,297	35,00,367	..	35,00,367	8.18
..	3,86,023	66,62,375	..	66,62,375	12.2
2,46,451	80,01,987	5,92,00,968	16,01,590	6,08,02,558	26.61
..	1,08,71,659	39,48,935	..	39,48,935	80.22
..	58,02,739	2,82,77,369	9,86,437	2,92,63,806	37.08
..	3,44,040	39,08,205	..	39,08,205	14.48
2,46,451	2,50,20,425	9,53,35,477	25,88,027	9,79,23,504	36.34
2,73,015	65,13,227	1,96,12,440	2,33,721	1,98,46,161	28.6
..	31,57,711	28,59,955	84,522	29,44,477	59.43
1,28,750	6,59,131	64,09,181	641	64,09,822	10.32
1,77,62,613	1,86,78,040	1,02,826	11,86,441	12,89,267	95.93
1,68,114	6,90,607	3,78,748	76,166	4,54,914	63.35
1,80,59,477	2,00,27,778	68,90,755	12,63,248	81,54,003	80.51

Main and sub-heads.	Book value of sale			
	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others
XVII. Foodstuffs.—				
63. Canned Goods	35,33,659	...	35,33,659	20,01,345
64. Other foodstuffs	65,96,933	...	65,96,933	54,93,386
Total	1,01,30,592	...	1,01,30,592	74,94,731
XVIII. Containers.—				
66. P. O. L. Drums and Cans used & unused.	1,02,27,362	...	1,02,27,362	34,37,661
67. Others, unused including boxes & Bottles.	1,08,32,432	...	1,08,32,432	21,48,978
68. Other used.	7,42,120	...	7,42,120	4,72,310
Total	2,18,01,914	...	2,18,01,914	60,58,949
XIX. Aero Stores.—				
69. Airframes, engines and spares.	45,44,983	19,700	45,64,683	9,31,214
70. Aircraft instruments	17,25,032	180	17,25,212	16,28,817
71. Parachutes & fittings	6,40,86,647	51,92,097	6,92,78,744	2,87,62,101
72. Stores not elsewhere provided for.	11,37,436	2,38,333	13,75,769	8,92,315
Total	7,14,94,098	54,50,310	7,69,44,408	3,22,14,447
XX. Naval Craft & Parts.—				
73. Boats	5,55,79,732	96,11,866	6,51,91,598	2,20,54,142
74. Ships stores not otherwise provided for.	12,05,499	6,67,646	18,73,145	9,40,662
75. Victualling stores other than clothing and foodstuffs.	...	...	...	...
76. Armament Stores other than guns and ammunition.	27,739	...	27,739	942
77. Other R. N. Stores	41,929	...	41,929	19,837
Total	5,68,54,899	1,02,79,512	6,71,34,411	2,30,15,583
XXI. 78. Amenity Stores.—Total	32,087	...	32,087	13,982
XXII. 79. Other miscellaneous store —Total	1,72,92,583	4,878	1,72,97,461	91,40,050
XXIII. Animals and Livestock.—				
80. Remounts	75,97,320	...	75,97,320	77,7,044
81. Farms	59,05,639	...	59,05,639	62,46,893
Total	1,35,02,959	...	1,35,02,959	1,39,73,937

Value of Sales		Closing Balance.		Percentage of	
Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	Disposals
..	20,01,345	1,37,77,801	..	1,37,77,801	20.4
..	54,93,386	1,33,93,792	..	1,33,93,792	33.0
..	74,94,731	2,71,71,593	..	2,71,71,593	27.15
..	34,37,661	90,98,518	31,103	91,29,621	52.72
..	21,48,978	22,09,601	7,80,000	29,89,601	77.93
..	4,72,310	17,87,337	35,100	18,22,437	28.82
..	60,58,949	1,30,95,456	8,46,203	1,39,41,659	60.9
19,700	9,50,914	11,92,804	47,423	12,40,227	78.43
180	16,28,997	92,986	47,541	1,40,527	87.1
51,92,097	3,39,54,198	4,51,760	9,50,001	14,01,761	97.93
2,38,333	11,30,648	60,44,174	2,36,667	62,80,841	17.96
54,50,310	3,76,64,757	77,81,724	12,81,632	90,63,356	89.36
23,23,411	2,43,77,553	2,50,01,723	47,33,015	2,97,34,738	68.6
1,60,500	11,01,162	23,99,387	180	23,99,567	43.8
..	..	3,69,501	..	3,69,501	..
..	942	53,879	..	53,879	33.9
..	19,837	6,72,688	..	6,72,688	5.8
24,83,911	2,54,99,494	2,84,97,178	47,33,195	3,32,30,373	66.8
..	13,982	3,48,373	..	3,48,373	8.4
3,557	91,43,607	1,10,62,603	84,410	1,11,47,013	60.8
..	77,27,044	..	..	..	100.0
..	62,46,893	..	..	..	100.0
..	1,39,73,937	..	..	..	100.0

Main and sub-heads.	Book Value of sales		Sale Value of sales		Closing Balance.		Percentage of	
	HMG & Other	Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & others	Lease/Lend	Total	HMG & Others	Lease/Lend
XXIV. Land and Building.								
84. Buildings	25,17,051	...	25,17,051	18,60,213	..	18,60,213	11,12,214	..
85. Land and Buildings	13,81,92,143	...	13,81,92,143	1,45,21,758	..	1,45,21,758	7,90,670	..
Total	14,07,09,194	...	14,07,09,194	1,63,81,971	..	1,63,81,971	19,02,914	..
XXV. Installations.								
86. Factories and Industrial Units.	1,03,31,359	5,00,000	1,08,31,359	67,63,315	1,25,000	68,88,315	57,68,905	50,000
87. Installations, Hospitals etc.	33,67,967	...	33,67,967	10,84,843	..	10,84,843	64,03,676	..
88. Others	...	...	...	...	..	...	8,17,838	..
Total	1,36,99,326	5,00,000	1,41,99,326	78,48,158	1,25,000	79,73,158	1,29,90,419	50,000
XXVI. Bulk Reports.								
89. Bulk Sales General	25,78,217	...	25,78,217	21,97,826	..	21,97,826	19,46,158	..
90. Bulk Sales Eng	4,35,097	...	4,35,097	2,57,417	..	2,57,417	84,40,592	..
91. Bulk Sales Mixed Stores	60,521	...	60,521	55,084	..	55,084	16,79,551	..
Total	30,73,835	...	30,73,835	26,10,277	..	26,10,277	1,20,66,301	..
XXVII. 92. Minor surpluses, direct reports to regions—TOTAL.								
	1,88,723	...	1,88,723	2,35,122	..	2,35,122	31,55,186	10,053
GRAND TOTAL	1,07,47,92,946	32,77,35,953	1,40,25,28,899	59,92,40,581	15,42,87,612	75,35,28,193	81,17,37,273	13,45,20,184
							94,62,57,457	59.7

1275. *Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

- when the Survey Research Institute was started;
- what its pay bill is;
- the different branches in which it is carrying on Research Work;
- when the present President of the Research Institute took charge;
- what his salary is; and

(f) how many research papers have been published and on what subjects; (i) before he took charge of his present office; and (ii) after he took charge?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) It was started in 1943 under the name "War Survey Research Institute. The word "War" was dropped with effect from 2nd December 1946.

(b) Rs. 19,000 monthly. (approximate).

(c) In carrying out the Regular programme of Geophysical and Mathematical work of the department this Institute is required to undertake from time to time research work in connection with the following:—

(i) Geodetic Triangulation, observation, Computation and Adjustments, Levelling, Deviation of the vertical standardisation of tapes for geodetic and other base measurements, etc.

(i) Prediction of Tides.

(iii) Magnetic.

(iv) Geophysical (Gravity).

(d) 2nd December 1946

(e) Rs. 1,850 plus dearness allowance.

(f) (i) Nine papers as follows:

4—on rapid position fixing by astronomical methods.

1—on magnetic declination.

1—on triangulation.

1—on magnetic anomalies.

1—on standards of measurements.

1—on Map projecting.

(ii) Six papers as follows:

1—on Levelling.

1—on Tidal work.

3—on Geophysical work.

1—on Geodetic work (in press).

ACCOMMODATION FOR LABORATORIES AND STAFF OF INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FRUIT TECHNOLOGY SHIFTED FROM LYALLPUR

1276. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Indian-Institute of Fruit Technology was shifted from Lyallpur (West Punjab) during August, 1947?

(b) Have any arrangements for accommodating the laboratories and the staff of the institute been made so far? If not, why not?

(c) Do Government propose to close down the institute now?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, how do Government intend to make good this deficiency to the fruit growing and preservation industry?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The Research Section relating to Fruit Preservation which was attached to the Agricultural College at Lyallpur was shifted from there to Delhi in August, 1947.

(b) No satisfactory arrangement have so far been possible. The question of providing satisfactory accommodation is under consideration.

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

GLIDING CLUBS IN PREMIER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA

1277. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state what steps are being taken to make the younger generation of students Air-minded?

(b) Have Government considered the possibilities of instituting Gliding Clubs in the premier educational institutions of the country?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) The following measures have been taken or are under the consideration of the Government of India to make youngmen air-minded: (i) Model Aeroplane Clubs in Colleges, (ii) Aviation Societies in Colleges, (iii) Extra-curricular instruction at certain University Centres and in Schools by means of Instructional Films etc., (iv) Publication of historical-technical material in Secondary School text-books, and (v) The formation of a National Cadet Corps which will *inter alia* provide opportunities for Indian youths to train themselves in flying.

Actual Flying Training is provided at Flying Clubs. Government have been substantially subsidizing and supporting the activities of these Flying Clubs. There are seven Clubs at present at Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Patna, Bhubaneswar and Lucknow. It is proposed to start three more Clubs during 1948-49.

The Aero Club of India, which is also subsidized by Government has for one of its principal activities the popularisation of flying. The Club has included in its plans the organisation of Air Sports meetings and similar activities.

(b) The Government of India's general intentions relating to Gliding are outlined in para. 6 of the Pamphlet on "Postwar Planning—Aeronautical Training and Education" a copy of which is in the library of the House. Gliding is basically a sporting activity and the initiative must come from those who are interested in it. Government are prepared to extend support to organisations to foster gliding, established on the basis of local initiative.

EXPORT PERMITS FOR ROSE-WOOD AND SOFT-WOOD

1278. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the quantity of rose-wood and soft-wood for which export permits were granted in the last financial year and the countries to which they were exported?

(b) Are Government aware that the Indian building industry is suffering owing to such unrestricted exports?

(c) Is there any committee to advise Government on these questions?

(d) If not, do Government propose to consider the appointment of an advisory body to examine the whole question of export of such commodities?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Licences were issued during the last financial year for the export of 3240 tons of Rose-wood, mainly to Italy and France. No licences were issued for the export of soft-wood.

(b) Rose-wood is an ornamental variety of timber chiefly used for furniture making and not for building purposes. Its export is restricted to ceiling limits fixed after taking into consideration the internal demands of the country.

(c) No.

(d) The value of such a Committee, in the present context is not very apparent, but if the Honourable Member will develop his idea further, I am prepared to consider the question.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

REHABILITATION OF NON MUSLIM KARACHI PORT TRUST EMPLOYEES

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at the time of partition, the Karachi Port Trust employees were asked to fill the questionnaire forms as to whether they opted to serve in India or Pakistan?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, why was the option denied to them on a later stage?

(c) Why have not Karachi Port Trust employees been treated on par with Government servants?

(d) What steps have been taken to rehabilitate the non-Muslim employees of the Karachi Port Trust, who have been uprooted from their homes and jobs due to the disturbances in Karachi on 6th January, 1948?

(e) Do Government propose to give an assurance regarding the rehabilitation of 2000 non-Muslim Karachi Port Trust employees?

(f) Are Government aware that a large number of these are trained persons who should be highly useful for the development of Indian shipping?

(g) Do Government therefore propose to take immediate steps to rehabilitate them and afford them employment?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The option to serve in Pakistan or India at the time of partition was given only to Government servants. The Karachi Port Trust employees are not and have never been considered as Government servants and it was through an unfortunate misunderstanding on the part of the Chairman of the Port Trust that they were asked to indicate whether they chose to serve in Pakistan or India. The mistake was corrected as soon as it came to the notice of the Government of India and the position was explained to the employees by the Chairman.

(d) With a view to finding employment for refugee employees of the Karachi Port Trust: Government have issued instructions to Major Port Authorities to consider sympathetically and applications for re-employment received from any such employees and to absorb as many of them as possible without attaching undue weight to the restrictions of age etc forestry into the Port Service

[Dr. John Matthai]

or any tests prescribed for fresh recruits. Besides, non-muslim employees of the Karachi Port Trust are eligible for registration at the Employment Exchanges of the Ministry of Labour. The representatives of the employees in question who approached Government in the matter have also been told that the claims of the latter on account of leave salary, contributions to Provident Fund, Gratuity etc. for the period of their service under the Karachi Port Trust may be registered with the authority appointed by the Central, Provincial or State Government of the area in which they have settled down for the registration of property left or lost in Pakistan.

(e) The Government are unable to give an assurance regarding the rehabilitation of all non-muslim employees of the Karachi Port Trust as this will depend on the employment opportunities available. They, however, hope that the facilities stated in the reply to part (d) will render possible the rehabilitation of a large number of these employees.

(f) Government have no definite information regarding the qualifications and training possessed by the refugee employees of Karachi Port Trust. Some of them have probably qualifications for the development of Indian shipping.

(g) Attention is invited to the reply to part (d) of the question.

• **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** May I know, Sir, whether the officer in charge of the actual employment of these servants at the Bombay Port Trust is an Indian or an Englishman?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The question of appointment is in the hands of the Chairman of the Port Trust, who is a very senior Indian member of the Bombay I.C.S.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is he assisted by any Britisher or an Englishman, Sir?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: There are, I believe, European employees on the staff of the Port Trust, but whether in this particular matter the Chairman is assisted by a particular officer is not a question to which I can give an answer, but the matter is finally in the hands of the Chairman.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is it not a fact that the representatives of the Karachi Port Trust labour, which is 2,000, applied to the Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust to employ them in the vacancies that had occurred and they have been refused and the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to that fact?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Certain complaints were made to me as regards that matter and we have reiterated our instructions and the latest figures that I have seen show that a few hundreds have already been employed.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is it not a fact that a letter has been written by me to the Home Ministry and the Home Ministry have said that the letter has been sent to the Transport Ministry for immediate consideration? If so, what steps the Transport Ministry have taken in this direction?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: We have repeatedly reminded the Chairmen of the various Port Trusts of the importance of making every effort to provide employment for these refugees.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Is the Government aware that they have got the same responsibility to provide employment for these people as they have towards Government servants, even though they are not full fledged Government servants and are Port Trust Employees?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The Honourable Member's point is that in the matter of providing for the transfer of the employees of the Port Trust they should be put on the same footing as Government servants. Is it the point that the Honourable Member is raising?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Yes.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is a matter which is now under consideration; it raises certain difficult questions of policy, but the matter is being actively pursued.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Do not Government consider it an urgent matter in view of the plight of these people?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Yes, it is an urgent matter and we are trying to speed up a decision.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: The Honourable Minister stated that the Chairman of the Port Trust, Karachi through an oversight made a mistake in asking the staff whether they would like to opt out. Is it a fact that the Chairman, Karachi Port Trust, notwithstanding the mistake having been made, came personally to New Delhi and persuaded the Government to take these men up because he wanted these non-Muslims not to remain there?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: What really happened was that the Chairman of the Karachi Port Trust misunderstood the instructions issued from here and as soon as the matter came to our notice, we explained the position to him; he decided to come here for a personal discussion and we reiterated our position.

Shri Biswanath Das: From the replies that have emanated from the Honourable Minister, it is seen that the Government of India have taken a very sympathetic attitude. May I know the result of the sympathetic attitude so taken by the Government of India in securing the number of jobs for people up to date?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is a point to which I made a reference just a little while ago. I have seen the figures with regard to the Bombay Port Trust a few days ago, which showed that already a little over 200 people have been employed from among these Karachi Port Trust employees and I am going to see that wherever possible opportunities will be provided for the ex-employees of the Karachi Port Trust.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I ask whether Government intend to call for weekly reports from the Bombay Port Trust as to the number of the staff that may be taken?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid these are now suggestions for action and argument.

STATEMENT ON THE INDUSTRIAL POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA—LAID ON THE TABLE

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (Minister for Industry and Supply): I beg to lay on the table the statement on the Industrial Policy of the Government of India.

An Honourable Member: As the discussion is taking place tomorrow, shall we be supplied with copies of this statement?

Mr. Speaker: Copies will be distributed as early as possible.

Statement re Industrial Policy of the Government of India

The Government of India have given careful thought to the economic problems facing the country. The nation has now set itself to establish a social order where justice and equality of opportunity shall be secured to all the people. The immediate objective is to

provide educational facilities and health services on a much wider scale, and to promote a rapid rise in the standard of living of the people by exploiting the latent resources of the country, increasing production and offering opportunities to all for employment in the service of the community. For this purpose, careful planning and integrated effort over the whole field of national activity are necessary; and the Government of India propose to establish a National Planning Commission to formulate programmes of development and to secure their execution. The present statement, however, confines itself to Government's policy in the industrial field.

2. Any improvement in the economic conditions of the country postulates an increase in national wealth: a mere redistribution of existing wealth would make no essential difference to the people and would merely mean the distribution of poverty. A dynamic national policy must, therefore, be directed to a continuous increase in production by all possible means, side by side with measures to secure its equitable distribution. In the present state of the nation's economy, when the mass of the people are below the subsistence level, the emphasis should be on the expansion of production, both agricultural and industrial; and in particular on the production of capital equipment, of goods satisfying the basic needs of the people, and of commodities the export of which will increase earnings of foreign exchange.

3. The problem of State participation in Industry and the conditions in which private enterprise should be allowed to operate must be judged in this context. There can be no doubt that the State must play a progressively active role in the development of industries, but ability to achieve the main objectives should determine the immediate extent of State responsibility and the limits to private enterprise. Under present conditions, the mechanism and the resources of the State may not permit it to function forthwith in Industry as widely as may be desirable. The Government of India are taking steps to remedy the situation; in particular, they are considering steps to create a body of men trained in business methods and management. They feel, however, that for some time to come, the State could contribute more quickly to the increase of national wealth by expanding its present activities wherever it is already operating and by concentrating on new units of production in other fields, rather than on acquiring and running existing units. Meanwhile, private enterprise, properly directed and regulated, has a valuable role to play.

4. On these considerations the Government have decided that the manufacture of arms and ammunition, the production and control of atomic energy, and the ownership and management of railway transport should be the exclusive monopoly of the Central Government. Further, in any emergency, the Government would always have the power to take over any industry vital for national defence. In the case of the following industries, the State—which, in this context, includes Central, Provincial and State Governments and other Public Authorities like Municipal Corporations—will be exclusively responsible for the establishment of new undertakings, except where, in the national interest, the State itself finds it necessary to secure the co-operation of private enterprise subject to such control and regulation as the Central Government may prescribe:

- (1) Coal (the Indian Coalfields Committee's proposals will be generally followed).
- (2) Iron and Steel.
- (3) Aircraft Manufacture.
- (4) Shipbuilding.
- (5) Manufacture of telephone, telegraph and wireless apparatus, excluding radio receiving sets.
- (6) Mineral Oils.

While the inherent right of the State to acquire any existing industrial undertaking will always remain, and will be exercised whenever the public interest requires it, Government have decided to let existing undertakings in these fields develop for a period of ten years, during which they will be allowed all facilities for efficient working and reasonable expansion. At the end of this period, the whole matter will be reviewed and a decision taken in the light of circumstances obtaining at the time. If it is decided that the State should acquire any unit, the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution will be observed and compensation will be awarded on a fair and equitable basis.

Management of State enterprise will, as a rule, be through the medium of public corporations under the statutory control of the Central Government, who will assume such powers as may be necessary to ensure this.

5. The Government of India have recently promulgated a measure for the control by the State of the generation and distribution of electric power. This industry will continue to be regulated in terms of this measure.

6. The rest of the industrial field will normally be open to private enterprise, individual as well as co-operative. The State will also progressively participate in this field; nor will it hesitate to intervene whenever the progress of an industry under private enterprise is

unsatisfactory. The Central Government have already embarked on enterprises like large river-valley developments, which are multi-purpose projects of great magnitude, involving extensive generation of hydro-electric power and irrigation on a vast scale, and are calculated in a comparatively short time to change the entire face of large areas in this country. Projects like the Damodar Valley Scheme, the Kosi Reservoir, the Hirakud Dam, etc., are in a class by themselves and can stand comparison with any of the major schemes in America or elsewhere. The Central Government have also undertaken the production of fertilizer on a very large scale, and have in view other enterprises like the manufacture of essential drugs, and of synthetic oil from coal; many Provincial and State Governments are also proceeding on similar lines.

7. There are certain basic industries of importance, apart from those mentioned in paragraph 4, the planning and regulation of which by the Central Government is necessary in the national interest. The following industries whose location must be governed by economic factors of all-India import, or which require considerable investment or a high degree of technical skill, will be the subject of Central regulation and control:—

- (1) Salt.
- (2) Automobiles and tractors.
- (3) Prime Movers.
- (4) Electric Engineering.
- (5) Other heavy machinery.
- (6) Machine tools.
- (7) Heavy chemicals, fertilizers and pharmaceuticals and drugs.
- (8) Electro-chemical industries.
- (9) Non-ferrous metals.
- (10) Rubber manufactures.
- (11) Power and industrial alcohol.
- (12) Cotton and woollen textiles.
- (13) Cement.
- (14) Sugar.
- (15) Paper and newsprint.
- (16) Air and Sea Transport.
- (17) Minerals.
- (18) Industries related to defence.

The above list cannot obviously be of an exhaustive nature. The Government of India, while retaining the ultimate direction over this field of industry, will consult the Governments of the Provinces and States at all stages and fully associate them in the formulation and execution of plans. Besides these Governments, representatives of Industry and Labour will also be associated with the Central Government in the Industrial Advisory Council and other bodies which they propose to establish, as recommended by the Industries Conference.

8. Cottage and small-scale industries have a very important role in the national economy, offering as they do scope for individual, village or co-operative enterprise, and means for the rehabilitation of displaced persons. These industries are particularly suited for the better utilisation of local resources and for the achievement of local self-sufficiency in respect of certain types of essential consumer goods like food, cloth and agricultural implements. The healthy expansion of cottage and small-scale industries depends upon a number of factors like the provision of raw materials, cheap power, technical advice, organised marketing of their produce, and, where necessary, safeguards against intensive competition by large-scale manufacture, as well as on the education of the worker in the use of the best available technique. Most of these fall in the Provincial sphere and are receiving the attention of the Governments of the Provinces and the States. The Resolution of the Industries Conference has requested the Central Government to investigate how far and in what manner these industries can be co-ordinated and integrated with large-scale industries. The Government of India accept this recommendation. It will be examined, for example, how the textile mill industry can be made complementary to, rather than competitive with the handloom industry, which is the country's largest and best organised cottage industry. In certain other lines of production, like agricultural implements, textile accessories, and parts of machine tools, it should be possible to produce components on a cottage-industry scale and assemble these into their final product at a factory. It will also be investigated how far industries at present highly centralised could be decentralised with advantage.

The Resolution of the Industries Conference has recommended that Government should establish a Cottage Industries Board for the fostering of small-scale industries. The Government of India accept this recommendation and propose to create suitable machinery

to implement it. A Cottage and Small-scale Industries Directorate will also be set up within the Directorate General of Industries and Supplies.

One of the main objectives will be to give a distinctly co-operative bias to this field of industry. During and before the last war, even a predominantly agricultural country like China showed what could be done in this respect, and her mobile industrial co-operative units were of outstanding assistance in her struggle against Japan. The present international situation is likely to lessen to a marked degree our chances of getting capital goods for large-scale industry, and the leeway must be made up by having recourse to small-size industrial co-operatives throughout the country.

9. The Government, however, recognise that their objective, viz., securing the maximum increase in production, will not be realised merely by prescribing the respective spheres of the State and of private enterprise in industry: it is equally essential to ensure the fullest co-operation between labour and management and the maintenance of stable and friendly relations between them. A Resolution on this subject was unanimously passed by the Industries Conference which was held in December last. Amongst other things, the Resolution states:

"The system of remuneration to capital as well as labour must be so devised that, while in the interests of the consumers and the primary producers, excessive profits should be prevented any suitable methods of taxation and otherwise, both will share the product of their common effort, after making provision for payment of fair wages to labour, a fair return on capital employed in the industry and reasonable reserves for the maintenance and expansion of the undertaking."

Government accept this Resolution. They also consider that labour's share of the profits should be on a sliding scale normally varying with production. They propose, in addition to the over-all regulation of industry by the State, to establish machinery for advising on fair wages, fair remuneration for capital, and conditions of labour. They will also take steps to associate labour in all matters concerning industrial production.

The machinery which Government propose to set up will function at different levels, central, regional and unit. At the Centre, there will be a Central Advisory Council, which will cover the entire field of industry, and will have under it Committees for each major industry. These Committees may be split up into sub-committees dealing with specific questions relating to the industry, e.g., production, industrial relations, wage fixation, and distribution of profits. The regional machinery under the Provincial Governments will be Provincial Advisory Boards which, like the Central Advisory Council, will cover the entire field of industry within the province; they will have under them Provincial Committees for each major industry. The Provincial Committees may also be split up into various sub-committees dealing with specific questions relating to production, wage fixation and industrial relations. Below the Provincial Committees will come the Works Committees and the Production Committees attached to each major industrial establishment.

The Works Committees and the Production Committees will be bi-partite in character, consisting of representatives of employers and workers only, in equal numbers. All other Committees will be tri-partite, with representatives of Government, employers and workers.

Government hope that the machinery proposed will substantially reduce the volume of industrial disputes. In the case of unresolved conflicts, Government trust that management and labour will, in their own interests and in the larger interests of the country, agree to settle them through recognised channels of conciliation and arbitration, which will be provided by Government. The Industrial Relations Machinery, both at the Centre and in the Provinces, is being strengthened, and permanent Industrial Tribunals are being established for dealing with major disputes.

The Government of India are also taking special steps to improve industrial housing as quickly as possible. A scheme for the construction of one million workers' houses in ten years is under contemplation, and a Housing Board is being constituted for this purpose. The cost will be shared in suitable proportions between Government, employers and labour, the share of labour being recovered in the form of a reasonable rent.

In order to ensure quick decisions on the various matters arising out of the Industrial Trade Resolution, Government are appointing a special officer.

10. The Government of India agree with the view of the Industries Conference that, while it should be recognised that participation of foreign capital and enterprise, particularly as regards industrial technique and knowledge, will be of value to the rapid industrialisation of the country, it is necessary that the conditions under which they may participate in Indian industry should be carefully regulated in the national interest. Suitable legislation will be introduced for this purpose. Such legislation will provide for the scrutiny and approval by the Central Government of every individual case of participation of foreign capital and management in industry. It will provide that, as a rule, the major interest in ownership, and effective control should always be in Indian hands; but power

will be taken to deal with exceptional cases in a manner calculated to serve the national interest. In all cases, however, the training of suitable Indian personnel for the purpose of eventually replacing foreign experts will be insisted upon.

11. The Government of India are fully alive to their direct responsibility for the development of those industries which they have found necessary to reserve exclusively for State enterprise. They are equally ready to extend their assistance to private or co-operative enterprise in the rest of the industrial field, and in particular, by removing transport difficulties and by facilitating the import of essential raw materials to the maximum possible extent. The tariff policy of Government will be designed to prevent unfair foreign competition and to promote the utilisation of India's resources without imposing unjustifiable burdens on the consumer. The system of taxation will be reviewed and re-adjusted where necessary to encourage saving and productive investment and to prevent undue concentration of wealth in a small section of the population.

12. The Government of India hope that this elucidation of their intentions on fundamental aspects of industrial policy will remove all misapprehensions, and they are confident that a joint and intensive effort will now be made by labour, capital and the general public, which will pave the way for the rapid industrialisation of the country.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai (Minister for Communications):
Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) attached to the Ministry of Communications, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) attached to the Ministry of Communications, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen."

The motion was adopted.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF WORKS, MINES AND POWER

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha (Bihar: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve until the end of the financial year 1948-49 on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects concerning the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power vice Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve until the end of the financial year 1948-49 on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects concerning the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power vice Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (Minister for Railways and Transport):
I move:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Transport (other than Roads), until the end of the financial year 1948-49 vice Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Transport (other than Roads), until the end of the financial year 1948-49 vice Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform Honourable Members that the following dates have been fixed for receiving nominations and holding elections, if necessary in connection with the following Committees, namely:

	Date for nomination	Date for election
1. Standing Committee for the Ministry of Communications.		
2. Standing Committee for the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power.	7-4-48.	8-4-48.
3. Standing Committee for the Ministry of Transport (Other than Roads)		

The nominations for these Committees will be received in the Notice Office upto 12 Noon on the date mentioned for the purpose. The election, which will be conducted by means of the single transferable vote, will be held in the Assistant Secretary's room (No. 21) in the Council House between the hours 10-30 A.M. and 1 P.M.

ELECTIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEES FOR MINISTRIES OF HEALTH AND DEFENCE

Mr. Speaker: I have also to inform the Assembly that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Standing Committees for the ministries of Health and Defence, one nomination in each case was received. As there is only one candidate for a vacancy in each case, I declare the following members to be duly elected:

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Health

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha.

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Defence

Dr. B. V. Keskar.

BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND MADRAS PORT TRUSTS (CONSTITUTION) (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the constitutions of the Port Trusts of the major ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the constitutions of the Port Trusts of the major ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras."

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): Sir, may I know if it is intended to move for the consideration of this Bill during this session?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That does not seem to be likely. It depends of course on the legislative programme which is pretty heavy.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD BILL

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (Minister for Industry and Supply): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the development under Central control of the raw silk industry and for that purpose to establish the Central Silk Board.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the development under Central control of the raw silk industry and for that purpose to establish the Central Silk Board."

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

ESTATE DUTY BILL

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty (Minister for Finance): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty in the provinces of India, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri K. Santhanam, Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Prof. N. G. Ranga, Shri Satyanarayan Sinha, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad, Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao, Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose, Mr. R. K. Sidhva, Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, Shri Ram Sahai, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao, and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the last day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

Sir, it is not necessary to go at this stage into any details regarding all the provisions of this measure. The House is invited by this motion to accept the principle of the levy of a death duty in the provinces of India. Death duties in one form or another are a permanent feature of all taxation systems in the progressive countries of the world. In fact as early as 1925 the Indian Taxation Inquiry Committee recommended the levy of such a duty. On account of the then impending constitutional discussions the matter was not immediately taken on hand. At a subsequent stage when the Government of India intended to introduce a measure of this kind it was found that under the constitution it was not clear whether it was competent for the Central legislature to enact a measure levying such a duty. This difficulty was subsequently removed by an appropriate amendment of the Government of India Act passed by the British Parliament. Under this amendment the Central Government and the Central legislature are empowered to enact legislation for the levy of an estate duty on all property except agricultural land; it will be open to the provinces to enact corresponding legislation to apply to agricultural land.

The social justification for this measure is the fact that it is one of the inevitable measures necessary for removing the disparity in the wealth among the various sections of the community and to bring about a more equitable distribution of wealth amongst our people. The economic justification for this measure is the need for additional revenue by the provinces for all the great schemes of expansion and development in various fields. The measure now before the House empowers the Central Government to levy the duties and collect them and hand over the proceeds to the provinces. The actual rate of duty is not mentioned in the Bill nor is the proportion in which the proceeds ought to be distributed among the provinces mentioned in this measure. These are matters which will be decided later on in consultation with the provincial Governments after the measure has been placed on the statute book. I hope, Sir, the House will not find any difficulty in accepting the need for placing on our statute book a measure of this kind and that it will agree to my motion to refer the Bill to Select Committee. Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved;

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty in the provinces of India, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri K. Santhanam, Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Prof. N. G. Ranga, Shri Satyanarayan Sinha, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad, Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao, Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose, Mr. R. K. Sidhva, Shri R. N. Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Monan Lal Saxena, Shri Ram Sanai, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao, and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the last day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C. P. and Berar: General): Sir, this Bill is a very welcome measure although it will probably be opposed by sections who are likely to be most directly affected. In my view this is a legislation which was long due and it is somewhat unsatisfactory that in spite of the delay, the Honourable Minister should not have prepared and laid before the House the rates at which the estate duties would be charged.

Sir, there are many advantages, some of which have been pointed out by the Honourable Minister in his brief speech that he made while making his motion. The great advantage that we will derive in India is not only to get hold of the superfluous money that is in the hands of a few capitalists, but it will also lead to a better social order. The present circumstances are responsible for creating in the country, and especially among the masses, a very bitter sense of dissatisfaction, because the disparity between our well-to-do people and those who are poor is very great. That evil has got to be cured if we are trying to establish social justice and want to provide for social security.

So this measure would be useful not only for the purpose of obtaining larger revenues for the centre by getting hold of the surplus in the hands of the richer elements of people but will also serve as a kind of restriction on the accumulation of wealth by inheritance with the next generation and the generations after. It would also lead to better social justice, inasmuch as it will serve to correct the mal-distribution of wealth in the country.

Very often we find a complaint made that the inflation in the country has gone up. Sometimes we find responsible people making statements which are not quite correct. For instance, it was long being urged that giving higher prices to agriculturists would increase inflation and prices of food grains were forcibly kept down. I have also heard it said that the fact that people are prepared to buy sugar at black market prices shows that masses have gone richer. It is also believed that the agriculturists have got much more money at the present moment than he ever had, and that he is much better off and happier. In making these statements these persons forget that although the number of rupees the agriculturist gets may be more than before, actually he is far poorer than he was at any previous time in the history of India. Whatever be the number of rupees in his hands the necessities of life that he has to buy exhaust them all. The fact is that in many cases he is not in a position to meet the ordinary daily needs of his family. Inflation is really due to the fact that a small body of persons, not more than about 2,000 holds nearly 75 per cent of the inflated currency of the country. I do not know how far my figures are correct, but I remember having read an article in the *Modern Review*, pointing out that nearly 90 per cent of the inflated currency lies in the hands of a very small group of capitalists in the country, and if that money, instead of being allowed to be retained by them for further exploitation of the masses was in the hands of the nation for the country's development, industrial and otherwise, the nation would have prospered far better and the masses would have also benefited.

I do not wish to go into the details of the Bill. I only wish to say that it is high time a Bill like this was brought forward. I welcome it and I hope before the Select Committee reports upon it to the House, we will have definite rates

at which the duty will be charged, and any consultations that may be necessary between the Provincial Governments and the Central Governments would be completed by them. The members of this House would certainly like to have a precise idea of the benefit the State and this free nation of ours is going to derive out of this measure.

I hope, Sir, the Honourable Members who do not like the bill will realise that in passing this Bill we are doing nothing very original or out of the way. If we look at the history of this legislation, we find that as early as 1753 in England there were legacy duties and probate duties, and it was in 1848 or even earlier i.e. over a century ago that the Estate Duties Bill was imposed. It has been in operation ever since with its rigours increasing every few years. Since we are serious about industrialization and early nationalization of industries it is necessary and desirable that further accumulation of excessive wealth in few hands should be restricted and progressively reduced and the same be made available to the nation for more rapid and all sided development of the nation.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): This new innovation at first sight appears welcome to almost all people because everybody has a grouse against the rich man. But in our country when we take into consideration the important fact of the law of inheritance amongst the Hindus, particularly in the Mitakshara where the unborn male baby in the womb is entitled to an equal share with the born sons, we see that the law of inheritance is a socialistic law which always tends to break up the corpus so that no man can accumulate for generations. If we will only remember that this is the law of inheritance in our country, we can then at once understand the conditions, grave and economic, and the references to those conditions, as they prevail in a country like England and in India. In England where the law of primogeniture in respect of private property rules and the younger sons are let loose upon the Empire—the first son becomes a commercial magnate, a managing director, a millowner, a proprietor and the Peer of the realm, here on the contrary all power of property is so distributed that if I have 100 acres my five sons get 20 acres each and in less than two generations the accumulated property tends to be broken up and divided. Therefore the dangers of accumulation are not inherent in the laws of inheritance and the social laws or civic institutions of the land as in England. All the socialist measures in England are the antidotes to the economic conditions and the capitalist laws prevalent in that country. There they have created evils and are finding remedies for them. The whole of western civilization is a process of generating evils and finding remedies for them. They create a motor car, and raise a cloud of dust. The man that drives in that motor car is happy to leave a trail of dust penetrating into the eyes, ears, nose and tongue of the people left behind. He does not care a bit as to what happens to those whom he leaves behind. He progresses and progresses at break-neck speed and he considers his good fortune alone as progress and prosperity, much to the detriment of those whom he leaves behind.

And this analogy of the motor car applies to every one of the conceptions, social, civic and economic of the western countries, and when members of this House with facile ease quote examples of England and say how centuries ago the estate duties were contemplated, I say that from very early years our society had laid down laws which made it impossible for property to accumulate in the hands of one family; and therefore, i.e. because of the incoming of the western nations and the establishment of western civilization in this country during the last few years, capitalistic endeavours have grown up. So let us not be obsessed and over-borne by the few examples of capitalism and capitalistic endeavour that are trying to submerge the poor in the vast gulf of poverty.

[Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya]

I would like to understand how the Estate duty would work. Luckily this Bill does not cover agricultural property but it is left to the provinces to make up for what it lacks and I am sure with this craze for money for Government and the distribution of functions as between the Central Government and the provincial governments, the provincial governments in their turn will come forward with their own bills. I might accumulate a small amount of 50 acres of Banjar land which is uncultivable and which I have not cultivated for the last 40 years because Government would not afford the necessary facilities by way of irrigation etc. or unless I paid Rs. 25 an acre as premium. If my sons have inherited it and you want your money in hard cash, not by claiming a share in the uncultivated land, my sons will be obliged to sell the property and instead of giving half of the estimated value they will lose the entire property. Of course it is one thing to say that no property should accumulate.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This is not applicable to agricultural property.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: I have just now stated that the provincial governments charged with the jurisdiction over land will in their turn come forward with their own Bills in this regard. I am just now telling you all the difficulties. If I have got some shares, the Bill applies to that equally. I have to part with a moiety of the share money and the shares do not sell. A number of people die and the shareholders put the shares for sale in the market. The market people know how to manipulate the shares in the market and immediately the share values go down. I suggest that Government become the residuary legatee and Government may deal with this property, whether it is shares or immovable property, in whatever way they like. It is impossible for the successors of a deceased person to render into cash the moiety of the estimated value of the property. The estimate is there but the cash value is not forthcoming. I am sure the Finance Minister is resourceful enough and experienced enough to understand all the difficulties, apart from his finance ministership, as a citizen and a wealthy citizen. He knows all these difficulties and I am sure as a wise man of the world, he will in the several stages of development of this legislation contrive means so as to eliminate the hardships that I am contemplating. Of course the Select Committee will doubtless go into it. In the present stage it is not for us to do more than just go into the broad outlines and the general principles upon which this Bill is based. I only wish to invite attention to the fact that Indian society, Indian law of inheritance, Indian civic institutions and social laws may have to be studied side by side with this imitation of western laws and western institutions.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): Sir I want to say a few words in regard to the motion before the House. If you will permit me I would like to move the amendment which I have given notice of. The amendment is of a formal nature. I would like to move:

"That the name of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar be added to the Select Committee."

The Honourable Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member may proceed on the assumption that the name is there.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: One is rather at a loss to make up his mind in regard to what the consequences of a Bill of this nature will be on our society and to some extent I share the scepticism of my Honourable friend Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, because in the nature of our society as it exists in this country, disintegrating as it is doing now, unfortunately the application of a tax measure of this nature is going to create a lot of complications. The Mover of this Motion has explained to us in the notes on clauses how this Bill will affect the Hindu joint family. To the extent that it will cut right across

all ideas of co-parcenary rights it will mean that it will hasten the disintegration of the joint Hindu family. Perhaps it is not a matter to be regretted. But in the light of the fact that this House itself is going to consider very shortly a bill to codify the Hindu Law I am afraid there seems to be a certain amount of inconsistency in introducing a measure of this nature at this juncture. I remember very well that in 1945 when a previous Finance Member brought an amendment to the Securities Act I had to fight rather hard to preserve the rights of the joint Hindu family in regard to transfer of securities, once the head of the family dies, on to the next surviving male member or members as the case may be. It was then said that the joint family was disintegrating and the removal of the concession was justified. My own feeling then was that so long as the joint family was there and was recognised by law, their rights must not be altered. All those things will now go. The rights that have been conceded by law so far as the surviving members of the joint Hindu family is concerned necessarily go. One thing that I would like people in this House and also outside to understand is that when we are passing this measure we are doing so with the full knowledge that we do not want the joint Hindu family the existence of which is dependent on the properties it holds to remain. Personally I attach much less value to property than probably many other people in the House and perhaps it is right that in the egalitarian society that we envisage in the future we should by legislative and other measures see to the diminution of property to such an extent that the craze for property will to a large extent be kept under check. (*An Honourable Member:* 'That is Utopian'.) It may be an Utopian fancy. That is why I would at the appropriate moment when we think of codifying the Hindu law suggest that we had better have a common civil code, that we have one common law with regard to succession, in which case the position of a Bill of this nature will become easy. As it is I only see any amount of litigation, any amount of dispute and evasion arising out of this measure becoming law and the net result of it all will be perhaps that for quite a long time to come until people get reconciled to the existence of this particular measure on the statute book and in course of time lose their fear of it, transfers will take place, perhaps much earlier than the three years that this particular Bill envisages and about that I would also like to say a few words.

One of the points to which I would like to draw the attention of the House in regard to this Bill is that part which relates to exceptions in clause 19. The clause deals with foreign property and excludes it from the scope of the bill. I am quite sure in my mind that the set up of the Indian Union which is rapidly undergoing a change will ultimately resolve itself into a form where there will be no part of the country where property situated can be treated as foreign property. Assuredly with this snowball movement going on the States will come into the Indian Union and they will all be treated in the same manner as the provinces are being treated under this particular measure. But in the face of the possibility of even a few states still remaining. I would like to ask the House to read section 19 carefully. It says:

"There shall not be included in the property passing on the death of the deceased immovable property situate outside the provinces of India."

The Honourable Minister himself knows that one of the most fruitful avenues of evasion happens to be the Indian States, in which so many of our capitalists have got properties, immovable properties and probably also movable properties secreted away. I am not quite sure whether we could legislate in regard to foreign property as such perhaps we could. But if that list of exception remains as it is, my feeling is that quite fifty per cent of the possible revenues from this particular source will evaporate. What will the Select

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari] Committee do about it. The eminent lawyers who constitute the Select Committee will undoubtedly deal with this provision and taking into consideration the particular set-up in which we are now placed and will be placed at the time when the Bill becomes law they might perhaps enlarge the scope of what constitute the province of India so that any property in India may not be treated as foreign property.

Another factor which I would like to mention is this. I have not had the time to delve into a field to which I am unfamiliar, namely legislation in this regard in U.K. and U.S.A. But as I understand, the legislation in U.K. as it was originally introduced, had only a twelve months' limit in regard to transfer of property before the death of the owner which would be considered as void. It might conceivably happen that I might like to make a gift of my property in the full hope that I would live for fifteen or twenty years thereafter. On the other hand some accident or something might happen in the next eighteen months and I might die. I do not see why that restriction should be enlarged in the case of this measure, namely, that in regard to gifts and transfer of property within three years, if death intervenes within that period the property will be treated as the property of the person who is dead and assessed accordingly. I think that is unfair because one year is sufficiently long if a person feels he is going to die and has courage enough to divest himself of his property in favour of his children or some other relative. People rarely do it. Where there is life there is hope and they cling to their property in the remote hope of living instead of attempting to save some money for their own heirs. The natural factors are against it, and I do not see why the particular Bill should make it more rigorous than what it was at any rate when a similar measure was thought of in another country where it has now become so fruitful as a source of revenue. I hope the Select Committee would pay careful attention in regard to the position of Hindu joint families—not that I want them to allow loopholes. If you are allowing loopholes in regard to the joint Hindu family, practically the Bill becomes useless. I believe that was the difficulty that Government was feeling all along ever since 1924 when the Taxation Enquiry Committee reported and had recommended this step. I also understand that the Government of India had a special officer on this particular measure going round the various provinces sometime between 1938 and 1939. Though the report of the special officer is not available my information is that that officer was in grave doubt as to the feasibility of this measure, particularly as it would affect Hindu joint families and especially the tarwads of Malabar. This problem is a serious one and I hope the Select Committee will pay very careful attention to it and also recognize the fact that this is not the final word we are going to say in regard to a measure of this kind. Let us start in a manner that people will get accustomed to the existence of this measure. As years pass and we are accustomed to this taxation measure it can be tightened up. Let people get accustomed to something which is absolutely novel so far as the joint Hindu family is concerned. The son or sons now automatically get into possession of the property once the senior member of the family dies. If the Government are prepared to take courage into their hands and at one sweep make this country have one single personal law, automatically all the difficulties which are envisaged in this Bill both in the explanation in regard to the clauses and the various hedges put in regard to assessment will evaporate. Have one common Succession Act and the matter becomes simple. I would suggest to the Select Committee to examine that prospect. If opinion is not sufficiently educated in this country we can bring in being a common Succession Act even though there may not be a common single Civil Code. I hope these suggestions will engage the consideration of the Select Committee.

I would also like that when the Bill comes back from the Select Committee the Honourable the Finance Minister should give us some idea of how he is going to start this measure. This is as it is more or less a blank cheque—the other provisions in regard to minimal limits, the range of taxation etc. will be by means of a separate Act; perhaps the Act will be changing from year to year. But we want to know how the beginning is going to be made. It is always the beginning which makes us either reconcile ourselves to the existence of a measure of this nature or resist it—I do not mean to say by myself or by members of this House but the vast majority of the people in this country. If the rates are going to be very high, if the rates are not going to be such as will be negligible for the time being, there might be, as there was in the case of the Sarda Act, quite a large number of people trying to defeat the purpose and transfer their property straightway in the hope that they will live for the next three years and their heirs will not be paying the estate duty. That kind of thing is possible because propertied people are prone to be scared by such measures than anybody else. I would therefore like the Honourable Minister to tell us when he presents the report of the committee how he proposes to start it, to set the thing going, what will be the minimal limits, what will be the rates at which the duty would be levied and what will be the different slabs.

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That the name of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar be added to the Select Committee."

Shri Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General): Sir, in regard to this measure I have got no courage to congratulate my Honourable friend the Finance Minister. In our society there is a class of people who are called (Kantahas or Mahapatras or Mahabrahmans. A Kantaha is never invited for any feast or any such functions by anybody. His presence is regarded as so very inauspicious that nobody calls him even for a feast. But as soon as a death occurs in any family a Kantaha has to be invited because much of the funeral ceremonies depend upon the Kantaha. On this occasion the Kantaha has to be invited; he has to be fed and given gifts and many other things according to his demand. I feel sorry from the bottom of my heart, that our national government is going to be a Kantaha government in the country. No attempt has hitherto been made by this Government to reduce the expenditure of the administration or to reform the corrupt administration. And Bill after Bill is coming for taxation. What is this? There is no scheme for development and expenditure. I do not think there is any want of money anywhere. Then why this Bill? Now an appeal has been made by our leaders to contribute towards the Gandhi Memorial Fund and crores will be coming forward. Why? Because people are generous and they want to pay towards a good cause. But even after the inauguration of our national government the people in this country feel that any money given to the Government is a waste. That has been their feeling till now and even now they feel like that. They feel why any money ought to be paid to the Government. I think our Government and the Finance Minister and all of us should try our best to so create an atmosphere in the country that people may feel it a virtue to pay to the Government, and people may feel it a sin to evade any taxation. That attitude ought to be created in our society. That will be done only if the money will be well spent by the Government and all the people engaged in the administration will be getting only that much as is required for their maintenance and not to hoard money at the cost of the taxpayers.

Sir, it has been said that in every advanced country this kind of tax has been imposed. Is the country so advanced? Are we in a position to follow Soviet Russia or Britain? Well, Sir, I am not going to say much on this point, but everybody knows that law is nothing but the will of the people expressed

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in terms of law. I think if this Bill be circulated for opinion throughout the country, including every village, it will not be supported. There is no will of the people in this matter. Death is the worst calamity in the world. When a person dies—the near and dear ones will be shedding tears, they will be beating their breasts, and the Kantaha portion of the government will be haunting at the door so that it could get a proper share. I ask, Sir, in all seriousness and sincerity that the Government and the Finance Minister should see their way to withdraw this measure. We have a new born freedom. Our Government is new. There is no want of money. What is the need for such an inauspicious measure, a Kantaha, method to get money from the people?

With these words, Sir, I advise the withdrawal of the Bill by the Government and the Finance Minister.

Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa: General): Sir, the motion for consideration of this Bill brings to my mind a sad reflection of the fact that we have been going on following Western customs and systems ceaselessly despite the fact that western culture has in its operation swept away all the good institutions that we had. The joint family institution was a great institution devised by the Hindu society. The operation of the income-tax law has practically smashed and brought out of existence by a slow process the Hindu joint family system. Such of the families like those of mine who resisted the operation of the Act, preferring to pay tax rather than suffer division of the family, persisted very long and in the fifth generation we had to be crushed rather than stand to oppose the system of taxation devised to break up the Hindu joint family system. This is another legislation which crushes once and for all the joint Hindu family system and puts it out of existence altogether. Sir, let it not be understood that I am opposed to taxation. On the other hand my complaint is that taxation has not come as it ought to come so that Government will have enough money and the benefits of the government action flow to the underdog to the fullest extent. I am one of those who always realised the wise sayings of Bhishma laid down in Mahabharata where the economic ideal was taken to its highest pitch and expounded to Yudhishtira to be followed in his administration—how the Finance Minister of the State has to so adjust the taxation system so that the benefits first accrue to the citizen and the citizen gets himself properly established, and conserve his energy and direct his attention and energies to courses of action which leads to greater production, and having done that, the State comes in at the final stage to collect its share. That is how the ancient system of taxation was devised and carried on to the benefit not only of the producers but also of the State and of the citizens. Sir, all that is being given up, and a course of action known to western society and culture has been introduced into our society, with the result that the joint Hindu family system, which was the backbone of our society, is going to be crushed once for all. Having stated so far about the operation of the Bill after it becomes law on the joint Hindu family system, I come to the Bill itself. Sir, I must complain about the way in which the Bill is sought to be justified. The Honourable the Finance Minister, in his Statement of Objects and Reasons, states that in spite of war time taxation, enormous private fortunes have been made during the war aggravating the great inequality which already existed. Is that the real aim of the Bill? If it is so, I would rather implore him to do away with this Bill and straightaway face the financial situation as it is today in our country. You have got a currency in circulation to the extent of 1240 crores without any backing. Why not demonetize? Why not do away with the existing paper currency and turn out a new leaf? Let the Government of India make a declaration to do away with the existing currency notes and begin its own so that all the moneys that have been accumulated will cease to exist. That will be the straight course. France has already begun it. Many other countries have already been thinking of the course of

action that I suggest. If you really desire to fight inflation, the only proper and straight course would be to do away once and for all with the vast accumulations of paper money that have been made by unscrupulous people by means fair or foul. Instead of taking a straight course, this would be a dubious and doubtful course. I do not know how far this will benefit the State.

Again, the entire picture is not placed before us; we do not know the rates of taxation. Sir, while I was looking into the income and the death duty that was imposed on the estate of Ford, I was surprised to see that about two-thirds of the whole estate was consumed by death duty and succession duty. That is welcome; that is certainly fighting against inequality. But my Honourable friend does not give us any idea as to the pitch of taxation that he would like to have in the operation of the duty.

Secondly, he says that the proceeds of this tax have to be divided between the Centre and the Provinces and that the question of the share of Provinces has yet to be determined and that all these have to be done by legislation. If that is so, I should have thought that the whole thing should have come in one legislation; that would have given a correct picture of the whole question so as to enable the Assembly to come to correct decisions. Piecemeal legislation, however good it might be, is never desirable nor is it fair to the House. Therefore, I should have liked that all the bits that constitute this legislation should have been placed before this House so as to enable us to make up our minds.

Sir, the Government have, I believe, enough material at their disposal on each of the questions that I have just now discussed. A Committee was appointed by the Government in 1925—the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee—presided over by a Madras civilian. The Committee had on it very influential members and monied people, I mean zamindars, merchants and the like. This Committee has recommended this measure; that means that the monied people who are the main contributors to this taxation have agreed to the purpose and necessity of such a measure. We should have liked to know why, under the circumstances, a Bill such as this was not brought before the Legislature so long as between 1927 when the Committee's Report was published and 1948; that means a period of about 21 years. A little explanation in this regard would have been certainly useful and helpful to us.

Sir, I am thankful to my Honourable friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari for giving us the information that the Government of India appointed a Special Officer in this regard to collect further data. I should have expected the Honourable the Finance Minister to place at least a gist of the enquiry and of the recommendations of this Special Officer on each of the points that he was called upon to report and the views that were expressed in the Report. Such information, also, I feel sure would have been very helpful to the members of this House.

I would refer Honourable friend to clause 19 of this Bill which is enough to take away a very important slice out of the expected proceeds of the duty. The clause exempts from assessment certain cases. It says:

"There shall not be included in the property passing on the death of the deceased—

(a) immovable property situate outside the provinces of India;

(b) movable property situate outside the provinces of India at the time of the death except—

(i) in the case of settled property of which the deceased was a life tenant, if the settler was domiciled in any province of India at the time the settlement took effect;

(ii) in the case of any other property, if the deceased was domiciled in any province of India at the time of his death."

It means to say that certain exceptions have been made so far in the body of the Bill, namely that the property situate in Indian States will not come under

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the operation of the Bill. This is a very important one. This means that people just before their death, could easily get away into Indian States, or at least repatriate their movable property into Indian States. Added to this I am afraid that the Bill with such exceptions as these will create an incentive for Indians to own properties or to purchase shares in States other than India in order to escape this form of taxation. I would beg of the Finance Minister as also the members of the Select Committee to consider this aspect of the question and minimise the possibilities I have mentioned.

I would come again to the question of the joint Hindu family. This system was practically functioning as a social corporate body in the Hindu society. They are dwindling in numbers, but still there are families, I know, who since generations, five, six or seven generations, have been living together under the same roof in tens and dozens of numbers. I would beg of the Finance Minister to make some provision regarding these joint families whereby the operation of this Bill may be kept within special limitations so that its operation may not be very hard on families who want to pay some tax and yet live together.

With these words, Sir, I appeal to the Honourable the Finance Minister and to the members of this Select Committee not to be very hard on the joint Hindu family. Secondly, they should see that necessary provisions are made in the Bill so that repatriation of movables may not be allowed into Indian States who still have not merged in the Provinces, and thirdly that strict provision be made in law so that incentive may not be created for Indians to acquire movable property in States other than India.

Shri Khurshed Lal (U.P.: General): Sir, in spite of the very moving speech by my Honourable friend Shri Ramnarayan Singh, I must confess that I still am inclined to congratulate the Honourable the Finance Minister for bringing this measure. There is only one aspect of the question, to which I would like to draw the attention of the Select Committee. It is well known that it is the first instinct of every middle-class Indian to build a house for himself. I am not concerned with those who make a large number of buildings for business purposes or for earning rents out of them, but with people who make only one house for themselves. Their lot is going to be made very hard unless some modification is made in this Bill. Now, Sir, before the war, if an ordinary, average middle-class man built a house, say, after a life time of working and saving a sum of Rs. 15,000 or 20,000, that usually is his only property. Due to inflation during the war, that same house, if it is to be valued at market rates today, although before the war it was built for Rs. 15,000, 20,000 or 25,000, it will be worth now a lakh of rupees. That man, if he dies, the only property that he leaves for his children would probably be this house, and if that house is to be valued at one lakh of rupees or 80,000 or 90,000—although it was built for Rs. 15,000 or 20,000 before the war—then the result of this measure would be that the only belonging—the house—which the children inherited from the father is to be lost to them, because they would not be able to pay the duty without selling the house.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: They will get three houses in its place!

Shri Khurshed Lal: I would therefore suggest that the Select Committee may consider the advisability either of exempting one house or some such measure from this tax. I do not know, Sir, what is the limit which the Honourable the Finance Minister proposes below which this duty will not be levied.

An Honourable Member: One lakh.

Shri Khurshed Lal: I am sorry. It is my mistake. In any case I would suggest that this aspect of the matter may be taken into consideration; otherwise many people are going to be hit very hard.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty (Minister for Finance):

It might save further discussion if I intervene at this stage, it would be worth while, Sir, my doing it in view of the heavy programme that still remains and has to be gone through. I only wanted to assure Honourable Members that it is not my intention to rush this legislation at all. As a matter of fact, by executive order the Bill was circulated and we have got a lot of public opinion already received. I will place all these matters before the Select Committee, and if it is found that it is not possible to report within the time fixed, I will not hesitate to come before the House to ask for an extension of time. I am fully alive to the fact that especially in the case of the Hindu undivided family, the matter requires very serious and very careful attention, because under the Mitakshara law of the Hindu undivided family, as soon as a male child is born in a family, it acquires property rights.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Not as soon as it is born; as soon as it is conceived.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: As soon as it is conceived even. Well, let us take it, to be a little more precise, as soon as a male child is born, it acquires a share in the property and if the next day it dies, perhaps the duty will have to be paid, and if another woman in the family gives birth to a child the next day, the share is again reduced. Therefore, these are all serious complications in the Hindu family and they will require very careful consideration. So, if the Honourable Members are satisfied that it is not my intention to rush this Bill through, perhaps we might save the time and agree to the motion for reference to the Select Committee.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras: General): I want to say something on this, Sir. I find the Law Minister when he presides over the Select Committees—and I have had some experience about five or six Select Committees—if we suggest any amendment, he at once says “This is not your work. You ought not to touch this. This was referred to me.” He considers many a matter as a change of policy and in spite of our earnest requests to him and appeals that we can change certain things, and if necessary, regulate and recast, and that he should accept them, he is not usually agreeable. I wish to place this matter before you, Sir, after Lunch, because I find this is a serious handicap. In regard to this particular duty, Sir, it may be an Estate Duty or it may be a Succession Duty. Nobody has till now studied what the differences are. The purpose is of regulating the wealth; and not allowing the concentration of wealth in the hands of an individual. That purpose can be served both by an Estate Duty and a Death Duty or either by an Estate Duty or Succession Duty. I would like to place this matter before the House, because if I were to raise it in the Select Committee, ten to one, I will be hushed into silence by the Law Minister.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): Yes, you will be.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I do not want that to happen. I want the House to know the implications. We must know and find out whether it would not be a better method, having regard to the seriousness of the measure, to have a succession duty. Each man who leaves a lakh of rupees or over a lakh of rupees, it is in the hands of the heirs and that will be liable to duty. Irrespective of the question whether a man may have ten sons—in which case, the property when divided would come to only 10,000 rupees—as opposed to a man who has only son and all the property goes to him. Thus it is not an equal sacrifice. Therefore, there is a vital difference in this matter. Of course, I may be changing the structure of the measure. I would like to have an opportunity to speak on this matter after Lunch if you are not prepared to sit now.

Mr. Speaker: I propose to adjourn now, but the Honourable the Law Minister would be requested to be present in the afternoon, because I believe, as *ex-officio* Chairman of every Select Committee, it is better that he is present.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: It is better you request him to be present on all Bills.

Mr. Speaker: I will convey through the Honourable the Finance Minister the request that the Honourable the Law Minister may be present.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: On an earlier occasion also, the same difficulty arose.

Mr. Speaker: We shall see to it now.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: This Estate Duty is intended to render social justice. During the war, as will appear from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, large fortunes have been accumulated by various persons and the concentration of wealth is in the hands of a few individuals. The wealth of the individual while alive is taxed so as to reduce the income to a level which is consistent with the safety of society and it would not make that man absolutely corner all the wealth of the world. So after his death in spite of taxation, large surpluses might be accumulated and over and above all to give his children a start over the others his property is also taxed. That is the object of this Bill. In addition by these taxes the revenues of the Provinces is also sought to be augmented. That is the secondary purpose of the measure.

Now, Sir, my feeling so far as all these measures are concerned is that these measures adopted in foreign countries cannot apply automatically to our country irrespective of the circumstances in which we live. Whatever might be said, large fortunes have not been made by more than a few persons in this country, and the majority of the people are poor. If the estate individually is taxed, irrespective of the number of children which the individual leaves, the very purpose of rendering social justice will be denied. There would not be that kind of equality of sacrifice. Let us take the case of a person who leaves behind him Rs. 2 lakhs as property. But he leaves only one son, whereas another man with a lakh of rupees property leaves behind ten children. The ten children will divide this property as ten among themselves or Rs. 10,000 each whereas one boy will get Rs. 2 lakhs. Now Rs. 2 lakhs are no doubt taxed, but one lakh is also taxed whereas one lakh is to be distributed over ten children. Once again instead of this imposition of the Estate Duty there will be an enormous difference between man and man in regard to wealth. I am therefore of opinion that instead of an Estate Duty of this kind where the property is taxed and is left by the deceased the property received by the various heirs or successors may not be taxed and then it is possible to adjust the rates of taxation and also give exemptions to a particular limit. Instead of giving a lakh of Rupees now we might then reduce from a lakh to Rs. 50,000 in the case of each individual. So far as I am concerned, I do not want this measure to be defeated and request that the Honourable the Finance Minister should withdraw this Bill and bring in another Bill. I would certainly do so; I myself have not thought about it in full. I also would like that the members of the Select Committee along with the Honourable the Finance Minister would have greater opportunity to consider this measure in the Select Committee. If perchance we come to the conclusion after discussing the various methods of adjusting or equalizing incomes of various persons in this country and so as to avoid concentration of wealth in particular hands, that it is better to have imposed a succession duty in the place of an Estate duty as envisaged

in this Bill, there ought to be no difficulty for us in the Select Committee to send it back with that recommendation. I see the Honourable the Law Minister is here; he has been finding very great difficulty in the various Select Committees; objections used to be raised that a particular thing that was suggested, however, good it might be and even in some cases where the Finance Minister was himself prepared or other Ministers were acceptable to that course there was difficulty felt as to whether that measure was not disturbing the nature or the spirit of the Bill and enlarging its scope altogether. He felt that difficulty. Therefore, it is necessary even now for the House to give direction to the Select Committee that in case an alternative method is suggested that it was open to the Select Committee to enquire into that alternative method also. My own belief is that I disagree in this matter from the opinion of the Honourable the Law Minister that it is open to a Select Committee to discuss various other methods, and then suggest to the House that the alternative method might be accepted in which case it may go into the official gazette. That is what we have been accustomed to do, but the Law Minister has been taking in some cases a different view. I would like you, Sir, also to kindly enlighten us as to what our scope is so that if it is possible as we have been doing till now to suggest other methods so that our combined object might be achieved in the Select Committee and there may be no difficulty at all. If perchance it is not so, we will issue directions from the House from time to time. That is my first point regarding this Bill.

I do not want to go into the details as to whether a reference to the Select Committee has not been made and whether this measure had not been before the House for some time. Sir Archibald Rowlands was then the Finance Minister who introduced this Bill. I believe, Sir, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan also introduced this Bill or promised to introduce this Bill and as the Honourable the Finance Minister has said this has been agitating us for over 20 years. We have been accustomed to this and people are expecting that it may not be suitable to our country but other methods might be devised. If we say all this, we will be immediately put down as reactionary. I therefore do not want to go into the matter, but will try to convert this into a measure which may not be controversial and carry out the object for which it is intended. There ought to be a clause for exemptions here, because that was referred by my Honourable friend the Finance Minister. If a child is born in a joint Hindu family, the son by birth is entitled to his property, but if he dies the next day, there will be such a disturbance. If a new child is born to some other person there is a provision here which says in suitable cases exemption may be made, but it is true that all these matters have to be thrashed out because they have far-reaching consequences. The limit of three years, I do believe, might be there and so far as the transitory provision is from the date of the coming into operation of this Bill, three years will be too long a period. It will have to be reduced to one year because nobody may have come to a settlement within three years and nobody would have contemplated that the Act would come into force. Therefore as a transitory measure three years may be reduced to one year and in general the provision may be kept in the Bill exempting or bringing within the scope all dispositions made within a period of three years. And beyond a period of three years *bona-fide* settlements alone should be accepted.

There are a number of other ways in which estate duty may be evaded. There is now a practice going about of issuing bearer bonds, and no one can possibly know who is in possession of those bonds. I think it has been stopped by an Ordinance, I do not know exactly what the position is, but some steps have been taken. If such measures of avoiding this kind of taxation ought also to be thought out I am sure the Finance Minister will himself come forward with some proposals and, if necessary, incorporate them in the Bill. Otherwise I am in favour of the Bill only with the latitude that we may, if necessary,

[Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar]
after it into a succession duty Bill in the Select Committee. Sir, I support the motion

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Sir, it was in 1860 that the Income-Tax Act was passed, and from that time the Hindu undivided family has been treated as an individual. During 87 years of taxation in this way the Hindu undivided family has been put to great loss and also to great harassment. This Income-Tax Act has resulted in the disruption of many Hindu undivided families. Now the present trend is that the Hindu undivided family may be liquidated. In 1947 when I referred to clauses 6 and 12 of this Bill the then Finance Member stated that these principles are not applicable to the Hindu undivided family. Even the last time when I referred to the question of the Hindu undivided family the Honorable Finance Minister was kind enough to say that he would sympathetically consider the case; but when it came to action he did not do anything. After having hit the Hindu undivided family in this manner for 87 years, when it comes to realising tax such family is being treated differently. In the year 1924 when the Taxation Inquiry Committee was on the question was debated; and when the question of levying court-fees or succession fees came before the Committee they were of the view that for the purpose of levying court-fees the Hindu undivided family should be treated as if it was separate. If you look at clauses 6 and 12 of this Bill you will come to the conclusion that though death as a matter of fact and legal theory is of no consequence so far as the continuance of the Hindu undivided family is concerned, now it will play a very important part. There is a certain meaning given to "property passing on death." According to the legal conception of the Hindu undivided family no property passes on the death of any particular person, but according to the provisions of this Bill the Hindu joint family is being treated as a unit in which death will have all the consequences which it should have in families which are not Hindu undivided families.

Now, Sir, since I have been advocating in this House and submitting for the consideration of the Finance Minister time and again that the Hindu undivided family should not be treated for the purpose of income-tax as an individual but should be treated as separate, it does not lie in my mouth now to say that the Hindu joint family should be treated in a different way; and I do not want it to be treated in a different way. All that I wish to say after going through the provisions of this Bill is that the Hindu joint family will be allowed to exist any longer. I do not desire at the same time that the Hindu joint family should be allowed to continue any further as it has outlived its usefulness. But it is quite a different thing that by propaganda or otherwise we may say that the Hindu joint family may not exist any further. But to enact a law which will harm and kill the undivided family in a different manner is quite a different thing.

Sir, the Hindu Code is coming up for discussion in a day or two and it would appear, when the provisions of that Code are examined in this House, that the scheme underlying that Code also is that the Hindu joint family will not be allowed to exist any longer. Sir, we have read Maine's Ancient Law and we know that the archaic forms of society countenanced institutions like the Hindu joint family which was not only tolerated but held sacred and allowed to be continued. Now with the changed conditions I for one do not care if the Hindu joint family does not survive this impact of different forces. But we should at the same time understand fully that if the provisions of this Bill are to be applied to the Hindu undivided family, we must understand full well that we are sounding the dirge of the Hindu undivided family. I cannot conceive how the principles of this Bill will be fitted into the texture of the Hindu undivided family. Either death is of no consequence or it is of all conse-

quence. Looking at clauses 6 and 12 I cannot understand how in future any person born in a Hindu undivided family will be regarded as a person with an undefined share. Now also in certain parts of India this old conception is as a matter of fact dying away. In the Punjab a person is not born with a share in the family he has no right to get a partition made and the conception is always changing. I therefore submit that, so far as legal objections are concerned, it will be very difficult to reconcile the conception of the Hindu joint family and the conception of taxation underlying this law; we shall have to change one of them.

Now, Sir, as regards the utility of this measure and as regards the time appropriate for its enactment, I am rather doubtful if this time is appropriate for the enactment of such a measure. This measure was brought in the year 1946 and then it was allowed to lapse. Now from the speech of the Finance Minister I come to the conclusion that this legislation will not be rushed through. I would have wished that after the new elections the new House had debated this measure and adopted or rejected it, because the effect of this Bill on society in general will be much more than one expects. In the first place, in my humble opinion this is a revolutionary Bill from one aspect, and if we want a real revolution to come let us face the consequences. We want that Government should take up the establishment of a national militia in this land, we want that they should be responsible for free and compulsory education, we want industrialisation raising of standard of life and many other things. We have just received a note on the policy of Government in regard to industries. The country wants money and wants it very badly; I cannot understand how we shall be able to tackle all these various problems which result from these new policies and new ideals unless we get a good amount of money from the country. The provinces will certainly be in very great need of money; but then it should be for the provinces to find money and not for the Central Government. Now to start with, a distinction has been introduced in regard to properties, agricultural and otherwise. In regard to agriculture this Bill says that this shall not apply to agricultural lands, and it has been left to the provinces to see whether it will be advisable to enact measures which would apply to agricultural land. It means that in regard to the incidence of taxation a distinction will be introduced between those people whose main property is landed and those who have urban immovable property to depend upon.

Then again, Sir, there is absolutely no indication in this Bill as to how it will be worked and what will be the incidence of taxation. As regards the minimum I would very humbly suggest to the Select Committee that they should exempt at least one dwelling house of each person. After all every economic unit of the society should have a house to live in, and that house should be exempted. Secondly, I want that the taxable minimum should be placed at such a limit that the ordinary middle class man is not touched by this Bill. After all the idea behind this Bill is that large accumulated wealth is to be tapped, and not the resources of the ordinary man. Therefore I should think that every person who will inherit something like one lakh of rupees should not be touched at all. If those who inherit more are to be touched, then so much should be taken in a graduated manner as will not leave much more with them.

Now, Sir, I should have liked that this Bill, instead of going to Select Committee, should have been circulated for public opinion because it is a Bill having such consequences as will effect the people in general. When I think of the manner and the mode in which this Bill will be put into execution, I will not hesitate to say that I am full of grave doubts as to how far its provisions will succeed in that designed effect. People will contract fictitious debts. They will bury their treasures or their gold and silver underground. They may convert their moveable property into diamonds and put it underground so as to elude the reach of the Finance Minister. There will also be many other ways in which people will try just to see that the fiscus does not take away from

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in which people will try just to see that the fiscus does not take away from them what they may not wish to be taken away.

Even today there is a large amount of wealth in this country which can be tapped by ordinary means for the purposes for which I have already mentioned—furtherance of compulsory primary education and the establishment of a national militia and industrialisation of the country. Crores of rupees—if not hundreds of crores—are lying with the people by way of Dharmadhas and no one has touched those Dharmadhas. If this money can be realised by taxation all these purposes can be fulfilled. But the difficulty is that no ways and means are devised to capture this amount and if the ways and means are devised they are not fully utilised for the purpose. Even the income-tax, as it exists, if it is rightly assessed and proper steps are taken for its collection. I have no doubt that a very great amount of money can be collected. The penal provisions of the Income-tax Act are not fully utilised nor have they been sought to be strengthened. I would therefore submit, Sir, that it would be better to see that the provisions of this Bill are broadcast all over India and the opinions of all kinds of people are taken before we enact this measure, because it is a measure of a revolutionary character. At the same time, I am not, and I do not want to say that I am opposed to it. If the country wants money and wants to revolutionize all things, then this is the only way. Without money Government cannot work in the way we desire it to work. So if we want Government to take all these measures the only way is that we must submit to be taxed in the manner in which other countries have been taxed. I would say that we do not want to imitate the bad things of other countries. But in good and beneficent measures we should follow them. We want a state of society in which people will not be very excessively rich and therefore we should adopt measures in which the extra wealth of the people might be taken by the State. I therefore support the principle of the Bill which is that the extra wealth of the people should be taken away from them for beneficent measures calculated to benefit the nation.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I have really nothing to say by way of reply. I have no objection to the course suggested by Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar for the consideration of this Bill in Select Committee, unless there is any technical objection to that course.

So far as I can see, the principle of this Bill is to devise some measure for a better distribution of wealth and to prevent the accumulation of wealth in a few hands. If for that purpose it is better in our state of society to introduce a Succession Duty rather than an Estate Duty, I certainly will have no objection. Therefore, subject to these observations, I would be prepared to examine all the implications of the Bill in Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Just to clarify the whole position: accepting the principle of the Bill as stated by the Honourable the Finance Minister, I take it that the House will give the Select Committee the liberty of considering the various alternatives. On that understanding, I am putting the motion to the House now.

I will first put the amendment. The question is:

"That the name of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar be added to the Select Committee."

The motion was adopted.

Mr.-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty in the provinces of India, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri K. Santhanam, Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Prof. N. G. Ranga, Shri Satyanarayan Sinha, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad, Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao, Shri Surendra

Mohan Ghose, Mr. R. K. Sidhva, Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, Shri Ram Sahai, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao, Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the first day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

The motion was adopted.

ATOMIC ENERGY BILL

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (Leader of the House, Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations):
Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to provide for the development and control of atomic energy and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Unfortunately, the first use that atomic energy has been put to has somewhat clouded the other manifold uses that it is likely to be put to in the future. Most people probably think of atomic energy in the sense of something producing atomic bombs for the destruction of human beings. But probably, even the great destruction of that atomic bomb will be forgotten, while the use of atomic energy may in future powerfully influence the whole structure of the world. No one can say when that use will be perfected or brought into the common life of man. But the tempo of change and progress is so great nowadays, that it is quite possible that within our life-time we may see the whole world change because of the use of this enormous power being released for human purposes. Therefore, it is not from the point of view of war that I am placing this Bill before this House but rather from the point of view of the future progress of India and the Indian people and the world at large. If we do not set about it now, taking advantage of the processes that go towards the making of atomic energy, and join in the band of scholars and researchers who are trying to develop it, we will be left behind and we shall possibly only just have the change to follow in the trail of others. That is not good enough for

any country, least of all to a country with the vast potential and strength that India possesses. Fortunately for India we have most of the material that is needed—the minerals that are essential and the human material, which is perhaps even more essential. All that is necessary is that we should put them together and the State should give every facility for this development.

Now because of this association of atomic energy with war inevitably the matter has become a highly secret matter and most of the countries advanced in research are jealous that the results of their research should not be known to others, unless of course there is some kind of mutual exchange. We have therefore ourselves proceeded somewhat cautiously, that is to say, in the sense that our research work cannot be as public as normal scientific research or scientific work ought to be. Firstly, because if we did that may be the advantage of our research would go to others before even we reaped it, and secondly it would become impossible for us to co-operate with any other country which is prepared to co-operate with us in this matter, because it will not be prepared for the results of their research to become public. Therefore this Bill lays down that this work should be done in privacy and in secrecy. There is no other way of doing it. It is not that we desire secrecy and privacy. We would rather that all scientific work and scientific research were public and that the world could take advantage of it. I am entirely opposed to any secrecy in science, just as I am entirely opposed to the pernicious system of patent medicines that has spread, whether they are the Western type of patent medicines or Unani or Ayurveda or any other. I think secrecy in science or

[Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru]

in the art of cure is a dangerous thing. So it is not our desire to keep these processes secret but we are compelled by circumstances to proceed along these lines: otherwise there can be no progress at all.

So this Bill gives certain powers to the Atomic Energy Board that we have already got subject of course always to the supervisory and superintending power of the Government, to carry on these researches in a non-public and secret way and to concentrate more or less all the researches in it and bring them more or less together into its own domain.

There is a tendency, and that tendency might perhaps increase, for individual researchers to do work separately. They are welcome to do so. Nobody wants to come in the way of any individual doing any research work. But atomic energy research, if it is to be effective and successful, must be on a big scale. Individuals can do research work in a petty way on the theoretical aspect of it: nobody comes in the way. Fortunately we have some very eminent scientists who are acknowledged to be very eminent in regard to theoretical physics and even in the study of cosmic rays and atomic energy. But when you come to the practical side of it it is just impossible for any individual to do it without pooling all the resources that we have and without the aid of the State. This Bill provides for that being done, the pooling of their resources and the aid of the State for which we shall have to provide later on.

A number of amendments have been moved. I should like the movers of those amendments to bear two or three facts in mind. One is that this work must be of a secret character. It cannot be done publicly. Therefore to have advisory committees and the like will defeat the purpose of this work. There is an Atomic Board: I forget what the exact name of it is—a Board for the study of this problem and the execution of any projects that we may have. It consists of very eminent scientists. That is the advisory board for Government and the Board will presumably carry out the schemes. That the Board may be added to is a different matter. But if we have other boards and advisory committees it would be impossible for that Atomic Energy Board to function with any privacy or secrecy.

Secondly, there is a certain amount of urgency about this matter, not that we are going to produce any great results immediately but we have to preserve our mineral deposits, those that might be used for this purpose and already there is a hungering for them and there might be misuse, so that we cannot delay this matter. And if we are to enter into any co-operative terms with other countries engaged in the production of atomic energy we have to guarantee them secrecy on this thing. We cannot talk to them till we have some such Act on our statute book and some Board appointed under the Act. There is a proposal that there should be an Advisory Committee and secondly that this Bill should be circulated for public opinion and be brought again at the next session. I submit that this delay would not be good and we might lose valuable time.

As for the other amendments and there are many, some are rather verbal and some of them I propose to accept but those which infringe these fundamental provisions I would rather not accept, because I do not want to weaken this measure. It is not a measure of course applying to the people in general: it applies to a very limited number of persons who might be interested in or who might be working for the production of atomic energy and if in this particular case, for the safety of the State we apply rather stringent rules to them, I do not think any person has a right to complain. Ultimately of course it will be for the Government and beyond that for Parliament here to determine what we should do or what we should not do. The ultimate authority will inevitably remain with this House. Apart from that we should give them sufficient

authority to carry on their work in secrecy and effectively without what might be called governmental or other interference. Sir, I beg to move.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the development and control of atomic energy and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सभापति जी, मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ। इस बिल में जहाँ तक इस उद्योग का सम्बन्ध है और उसके लिए खनिज पदार्थों की आवश्यकता है, दोनों के राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की बात कही गई है। यह सर्वथा उचित है। हम इसे किसी की व्यक्तिगत सम्पत्ति नहीं बनाना चाहते। जहाँ तक वैज्ञानिक खोज का सम्बन्ध है वहाँ तक यह बात माननी होगी कि यह सब से नई ओर सब से महत्वपूर्ण वैज्ञानिक खोज है। विज्ञान में नाश और निर्माण दोनों करने की शक्ति रहती है। अभी तक नाश का कार्य अधिकतर किया गया है परन्तु अब विज्ञान को निर्माण का कार्य भी करना है। और जब हम इस दृष्टि से इस विषय को देखते हैं तब हमें मालूम होता है कि इस कार्य को हमारा देश ही सब से अधिक कर सकता है। अभी माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने यह बतलाया कि हमारे यहाँ पर जो जनसमूह की शक्ति है और हमारे देश में जो खनिज पदार्थों की उपलब्धि है दोनों दृष्टि से इस कार्य में यह देश एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। और वह यह है कि जहाँ तक हमारे दर्शन (Philosophy) का सम्बन्ध है, उस दृष्टि से भी कदाचित् हम इस दिशा में संसार से एक नया कार्य करेंगे। हमने स्वतंत्रता भी अहिंसा के मार्ग द्वारा स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त की है जो संसार के किसी भी देश ने आज तक नहीं किया। अहिंसा द्वारा स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त करके हमने सारे संसार को एक नया मार्ग दिखाया है। उसी अहिंसक दार्शनिकता के कारण परमाणु-खोज और उसका उपयोग भी हमारा देश निर्माण की दिशा में ही करेगा। हमारा देश इस खोज को इस दृष्टि से करेगा कि जिसका अनुसरण सारा संसार करेगा।

हमारी स्वाधीनता के पश्चात् हमारी इस स्वतंत्र धारा सभा में यदि यह बिल पेश नहीं किया जाता तो एक आश्चर्य की बात होती। अन्य देशों में यह खोज यथेष्ट रूप से आगे बढ़ चुकी है और हमें यह देखना है कि हम वह सब ही न करते रहें जो अब तक अन्य देश कर चुके हैं। यदि जो दूसरे देश अब तक कर चुके हैं वही हम करते रहें तो जब तक हम उस स्थिति तक पहुँचेंगे जिस स्थिति में आज दूसरे देश हैं तब तक अन्य देश हम से बहुत आगे बढ़ जायेंगे और हम इस दौड़ में पीछे रह जायेंगे। सब से आवश्यक बात यह होगी कि हम अन्य देशों से इस सम्बन्ध में विचार विनिमय करें, कार्य विनिमय करें। जहाँ तक वे अब तक पहुँच चुके हैं वहाँ हम उनके सहयोग से पहुँचें। और आगे की दौड़ में परस्पर सहयोग और

[सेठ गोविन्द दास]

परस्पर सहायता से साथ साथ आगे बढ़ें। इस काम के हमारे पास इतने खनिज पदार्थ मौजूद हैं कि उनके प्राप्त करने के लिए ये देश भी हमारे सहयोग के लिए आतुर हैं। इस कार्य में हमें काफी धन लगाना होगा। अमेरिका और दूसरे देशों में काफी धन इस दिशा में लगाया गया है। इस कार्य में बहुत अधिक धन लगता है।

हम यह आशा करते हैं कि हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार जिस के हाथ में इस खोज का और इसके नियंत्रण का सारा अधिकार रहेगा ठीक प्रकार के वैज्ञानिकों का बोर्ड बना सकेगी और इस कार्य में यथेष्ट धन भी लगा सकेगी।

मुझे एक शब्द वैज्ञानिकों के सम्बन्ध में कहना है। हमारे देश में सभी क्षेत्रों में बहुत बड़े व्यक्ति पैदा हुए हैं। विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में भी हमने अनेक महापुरुष उत्पन्न किये हैं। परन्तु हमारे देश में एक दोष रहा है और वह यह है कि आपसी मतभेद बहुत रहा है। उन आपसी मतभेदों से हम जितना लाभ इन महापुरुषों से उठा सकते थे उतना हम नहीं उठा सके। वैज्ञानिकों में सारे संसार में मतभेद है। जहां तक हमारे देश का सम्बन्ध है वहां तक वैज्ञानिकों में यथेष्ट मतभेद है। हम यह आशा करते हैं कि जो वैज्ञानिक इस कार्य को करेंगे और जिन्हें सरकार इस कार्य के लिए नियुक्त करेगी वह एक मत के होंगे। वैज्ञानिकों का मतभेद ऐसे किसी भी कार्य को आरम्भिक स्थिति में ही समाप्त कर देता है। इसलिए हमारी सरकार को इस बात का ध्यान रखना होगा।

मैं अन्त में इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूं और आशा करता हूं कि हमारे यहां इस सम्बन्ध में जो कुछ होगा वह प्रलय का कार्य न करके सृष्टि का कार्य करेगा।

(English translation of the above speech)

Seth Govinddas (C. P. and Berar: General): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this Bill. It seeks to nationalise industry and the development of minerals. This is perfectly all right. We do not want to give a monopoly to any individual.

As regards scientific research, we must admit that this is the latest and the most significant research work. Science can both destroy and create things. Uptil now it has mostly been utilised for destructive purposes. But henceforth it will have to be harnessed for constructive work. If we look at it from this angle we will find that of all countries India is most suited to do this work. Just now the Honourable the Prime Minister told us that from the point of view of manpower and supply of mineral required for this work India commands an important place in the world.

Another thing which I want to say is this. From the point of view of philosophy also we shall be making a new achievement. We have won freedom by non-violent means which has no parallel in the history of the world. By achieving independence through non-violence we have shown a new path to the

world. On the basis of this very philosophy of non-violence our country will forge ahead with atomic research and use it for constructive work. India will carry on this research work with such ends in view as may become ideals for others to follow.

It would have been a matter of surprise had this Bill not been presented to this free legislative assembly after the dawn of freedom. Other countries are already much ahead of us in research. We have therefore to see that we do not waste time on experimenting on work what has already been done by others. If we spend time in finding out what has already been discovered by other countries, we will only reach the point where other countries are today. By that time others will have gone much ahead leaving us far behind in the race. It would be necessary in this case to seek help and consult other nations in this work. Let us have their co-operation in reaching the stage at which they are today. Let us advance with mutual co-operation and assistance. We have large supplies of minerals for this work and other countries are anxious to seek our help. We will have to spend a lot of money over this work. The U.S.A. and other countries have spent enormous sum of money over it. This is a work which requires a huge amount of money. We hope our national government, who will have the right to control and regulate this research work, will be able to constitute a board of worthy scientists and spend enough money on the work.

One word about the scientists. Our country has produced eminent men in all walks of life. We have given many famous scientists to the world of Science. But we have been suffering from one drawback, viz., we have never been unanimous in our views. Our differences have never permitted us to take the maximum advantage of these great men. Scientists differ all over the world, and they are not an exception in India. We hope the scientists who are set on this task and who are appointed by the government for this work, will be unanimous. The difference of opinion among scientists can strangle the work in its inception. Our Government must therefore take a note of this.

In the end I welcome this Bill, and I hope the work done here in this connection will be constructive and not destructive.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): Sir, I only want to make a very few observations about this Bill. The chief merit of this Bill in my view is that it puts the development of atomic energy from the very inception in an organized manner. We do not want the intrusion of any kind of private interest in this field. At present it is still rather uncertain as to how far atomic energy will be useful for industrial purposes, especially for medium and ordinary large-scale industries. But whatever may happen, it is essential that in this field at least, the whole thing from the beginning to the end should be exclusively a state monopoly. We cannot afford to let private interest meddle with an energy of such explosive nature and such vast possibilities as atomic energy. I would rather have that atomic energy should not be exploited at all in this country than that it should get into unregulated, private, reactionary hands. Therefore I welcome this Bill and I hope that in the years to come we shall endow the Atomic Board or Commission with more and more powers to see that this energy is utilised for the good of the country and that even for the sake of the Government it is not utilised for destructive purposes. It is only because I think that for the good of this country and of humanity it should not be allowed to be tampered with by extraneous hands—and not so much that there is a great possibility of our exploiting that power for industrial purposes in the near future—that I welcome this Bill.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C. P. and Berar: General): Mr. Speaker throughout the long and chequered history of humanity on this globe there has hardly been any age which has not thrown its own challenge to the mind and spirit of man.

[Shri H. V. Kamath]

Right from the stone age, from the palaeolithic and the neolithic age, down to the atomic age in which we live today, every age has offered its own challenge to man living on this earth. But at every time, in all times and all climes the spirit of man has risen triumphant; the Spirit has triumphed over Matter. When a few centuries ago gun-powder was invented it was thought that it was a very destructive force and man was hard put to it as to how to counter it, how to withstand it, and how to conquer this menace. But the resourceful mind and the ever-expanding spirit of man found an antidote, a remedy, to gun-powder. Then came the steam age and later on the electrical age; and we now find ourselves landed willy-nilly in this atomic age. This age is setting its own problem to the world and to mankind. A vast fund of energy has been released which can be used for creation or for destruction. The Honourable the Prime Minister in moving the Resolution rightly said that unfortunately enough the atomic energy, because of its association with the first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, has been misunderstood and also perhaps been condemned in various quarters. But this energy is a limitless energy. Our seers and sages four thousand years ago, perhaps in 2000 B.C., said something about this energy which scientists today are propounding in 2000 A.D. What was said by our sages four thousand years ago? It is enshrined in one of the finest slokas in Sanskrit:

"anoraniyam mahato mahiyan atma guhayam nihitosya jantoh."

In the infinitesimal as well as the infinite, in the atom as well as the universe resides the one *shakti*—the cosmic *shakti* to which the Honourable the Mover referred. The *shakti* of the atom and the *shakti* of the *atman* are the same *shakti*. It all depends to what ends this *shakti* is directed and into which channels it is canalised. As the Honourable the Prime Minister put it in his broadcast to the U.S.A. the other day, the challenge of the day is this very challenge of the atom and the human spirit—of the atom and the *atman*—"In the multitude of crisis, political and economic, that face us, perhaps the greatest crisis of all is that of the human spirit. Till this crisis of the spirit is resolved it will be difficult to find a solution for the other crises that afflict us. I have become convinced more and more that so long as we do not recognize the supremacy of the moral law in national and international relations we shall have no enduring peace." And the finest words of his broadcast are, "Gandhiji" showed us that the human spirit is more powerful than the mightiest of armaments," in short, Sir, that the *atman*, the *atomic* spirit or *shakti* the spiritual *shakti* of man is more potent or powerful than even the atomic bomb. Sir, this age, as I said, has given us the atom, and has also warned us against this atom bomb. Research in the atomic nucleus started over 50 years ago, towards the end of the last century. When I was a student, research in the atom had hardly advanced to just the outer fringe of the atomic nucleus. Sir C. V. Raman, one of the biggest scientists that our country has produced said over 22 years ago that "when we get to know the heart of the atom, we shall get to know God". That was how he concluded one of his finest addresses in Madras. Today Sir, famous scientists like Eddington and Sir James Jeans have come round to the same view which was propounded by our sages through their synthetic vision, *yogashakti* or *divyachakshu*. Modern scientists are coming round to the view that the same *shakti* resides in the atom as well as the universe. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is aptly stated that atomic science has provided us powerful tools for unravelling and understanding the processes of life. It is well said, because the analytic methods of science will bring us to the same view as was arrived at by the synthetic processes of our sages and seers. But, Sir, the menace, the threat, the danger involved in this atom bomb or energy should not be overlooked. Here the very well known Dean

of Canterbury—he is popularly known as the Red Dean because of his pro-Soviet views—has stated very recently—just a week ago—discussing the threat of the new war that is coming:

"Ignorance will not save us from the consequences of a new world war. A large group of scientists in the United States, after taking a leading part in the production of the atom bomb, tried desperately but without avail to stop its use when they saw how deadly was its destructive power. Dr. M. Hutchings, their Chairman, now tells the world in a widely-circulated U. S. journal that there is no defence against the atom bomb. He gives the U. S. S. R. three years before they too possess the bomb and two of those years have already gone."

Here, Sir, is the warning given to the world that unless you harness this energy of the atom for constructive purposes, humanity is doomed. Perhaps humanity deserves to be doomed if it misuses this *shakti* for destructive purposes, and not for creation: man then deserves to perish, and in place of man perhaps some finer race will arise. Sir, the energy latent in the atom, as I said, is perhaps one of the vast store-houses of energy in the universe. It can be applied not merely to move our engines, our railways, our steamships, but also for coming to the aid of the most ancient of occupations, that is, cultivation and agriculture. Here, Sir, is a report on certain researches conducted in connection with the utilisation of atomic energy as fertilisers in agriculture. It is a report dated Washington, March 21st:

"The Atomic Energy Commission and the Agriculture Department announced the forthcoming experiments. They said that reports of exceptionally good crops near Nagasaki (that was one of the places where one of the atom bombs fell in Japan in August 1945) where atomic bomb No. 3 was dropped, stimulated interest in the problem."

It goes on to say:

"Soviet scientists recently claimed their experiments showed radio-active fertilizer increased crop yields as much as 100 per cent."

Some French scientists also claimed substantial increase of yields. The Russian theory is that increased production is due to "kinetic energy" loosened by radiation."

I hope, Sir, that the Council of Scientists that will be set up by our government will direct their attention and their energies towards harnessing all atomic energy for constructive purposes. The genius of India, Sir, has always been throughout the ages of a constructive nature, and never of a destructive type, and it is in the fitness of things that we today take up this task of harnessing atomic energy. We shall make it clear to the world that we shall proceed to harness it for creative purposes and not for destructive ends. India has rarely trod the path of aggression or of war with other nations, and therefore it is but natural that our efforts should always move in the direction of creation and not of destruction: and though on the one hand we have got bullock carts and tumbled down huts, at the same time it is very well indeed, and indeed a happy augury for the future that we, in spite of these handicaps, these obstacles and difficulties, should be thinking of harnessing the biggest discovery of the age, that is atomic energy for constructive purposes, and for improving the lot of ourselves and of mankind too.

I would like to make one or two remarks and that is that as we are now functioning very effectively and actively in the U.N. Organization, the Honourable the Prime Minister and our representatives there, will do well to play an active role in settling this vexed problem of the use of atomic energy. It is very necessary for the future of mankind that there should be international control of atomic energy, and nothing would be a greater achievement, Sir, than if we, who are pursuing a very admirable role in our foreign relations, undertook this task and sought to persuade Member States of the United Nations to come round to this view, that in their own interests as well as in the interests of humanity, international control of atomic energy must come very soon unless mankind desires to perish in the next conflagration.

Then, Sir, there is the other aspect of the utilisation of this energy, and that is, if possible, Sir, we should outlaw atomic warfare. That is also bound

[Shri H. V. Kamath]

up with the control of atomic energy. — But Sir, this is a vital step that needs to be taken today. If outlawing of war itself is not possible today, certainly the outlawing of atomic warfare must be taken up and tackled at the highest levels through all the channels—political, diplomatic and also spiritual if need be. It is clear as day-light that a few scores of atomic bombs perhaps will destroy the whole of humanity. It is at this stage well to remember that before America produced its atom bomb, I believe she spent a few millions of dollars on its production. Had this money been utilised for constructive purposes, one can very well imagine how far man's welfare would have been advanced. We, of course, do not want to spend so much money on producing the atom bomb or on using the atomic energy for destructive purposes, but the very processes of science as regards the fission of atoms are very expensive and today with our finances strained to the utmost limit in dealing with the industrial and the refugee problems—there are many other problems too on hand—I do not know how much money we will be able to spare for research on atomic energy. But even if need be, because it is such a vital problem, I think a loan should be floated in this country; because of the implications of this atomic energy, because of the uses to which it can be put, because of the amenities it can offer to man in India and in the world, appeals should be made for a loan to further research on atomic energy.

One more word, Sir, and I have done. I would only say that this (Bill has come not a day too soon. What with the world moving in the direction of war and trying to exploit—I advisedly say “exploit”—atomic energy for war; it is nothing but exploitation, had they constructively utilised it, it were a different matter, but using it for war is exploiting the energy for an ignoble purpose. With the world moving as it is today it is high time that we with our ancient heritage of creative, of a constructive spiritual genius, should put our shoulders to the wheel, and show to the world the way of using this newest, this rarest, this greatest energy for the welfare of mankind. Let us hope, with the lead the Honourable the Prime Minister has given to this country and to the world, especially in his latest broadcast to the U.S.A., let us hope, with the harnessing of the atomic energy for constructive purposes, for creative purposes, that man will at no distant date have so much leisure at his disposal, because of the lightening of his manual tasks, he will have so much leisure for creative purposes, for cultural progress, for his intellectual advancement and for spiritual uplift. Let us hope that day will come very soon; and that the day is not distant when Man will enter into his own, his Divine heritage.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri K. Santhanam (one of the Panel of Chairmen).]

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, not much energy need be spent upon endorsing the principle of this Bill, but at the same time we cannot conceal from ourselves, while dealing with a Bill of this kind, the thought that rises uppermost in our minds, namely that it is with a feeling of regret, if not resentment, at least with a feeling of restraint, that we welcome this Bill if at all we should welcome it. I cannot speak with that gusto and gush of feeling with which some of my friends have welcomed it, for the principle of the Bill and the policy intended to be pursued therein throws us into a pensive mood not unmixed with a certain feeling of melancholy. After all are for the researches of science to be looked upon with a certain amount of suspicion and even fear much to the detriment of the age-long belief that knowledge is the property of mankind and science is the universal heritage? That comfortable belief has been rudely shaken by the progress and researches achieved in connection with atomic energy and one feels depressed that after all as science progresses we are destined to hide our lamp under a bushel instead of broadcasting the light with all its effulgence to the wide world abroad.

Hitherto, various discoveries have been made and I am rather doubtful as to whether we are not exaggerating the dangers of even this atomic energy. Every time a dangerous thing is discovered or invented, the same feeling overtakes a nation. Take for instance that very common product in the science laboratory, potassium cyanide or the hydrocyanic acid, the dose of which is 1/200 to 1/100th of a minim, and 100 minims of it is enough to kill a dozen people, being far more destructive than powder and shot. Perhaps when it was invented the same feeling of doubt and despair did overtake people and the scientists, and they were anxious to secure this medicine with the utmost care. But you can get it for the asking of it in the bazar and the wonder is that so few people choose to commit suicide with the aid of this medicine and prefer hanging or drowning. On this basis I am inclined to think that the dangers associated with and attaching to this atomic energy are perhaps being exaggerated—not that I underrate the destructive capacity of this new invention, but the dangers and the alarms that it is giving rise to are perhaps being exaggerated and one day we shall be accustomed so much to it as a matter of daily occurrence, as a matter of course, that we shall not think of it and we shall be laughing within our sleeves that our elders were so nervous about it that they had to pass a law in the Constituent Assembly of India on the 6th day of April making it a monopoly of the State.

Freedom is a thing which is purely relative, it cannot be absolute, there is no such thing as absolute freedom and our freedom ends where others' freedom begins as the famous story a London pedestrian has stated. We can enjoy freedom only in the measure in which those other countries with which we are associated, and with which we cannot help, being associated for various reasons, will permit us to enjoy. Without the help of forward nations like America and England, we may not be able to achieve that measure of research in this new domain which we are really capable of achieving provided we had all the facilities necessary for such progress. Unfortunately, as in the domain of industry we have not got capital machinery to make machines, turbines, engines, boilers and so forth, even so we have not got some of those instruments by means of which we can split the atom. And if we go and ask for it, those who sell the instruments to us possibly dictate to us terms which perforce we have to accept. Thus it is that our freedom is limited and thus it is that we have been obliged to take up this Bill in order to throw a certain restraint on the march of progress. Perhaps if it had been left open to anybody to make research in this new domain, it would have served to diminish the chances of war in the world much more than when it is kept as a monopoly and a secret. As things stand, each nation believes that it has a potent weapon in its hands which is far more destructive than the weapons known to its neighbours, and therefore I doubt very much whether after all this monopoly and this element of secrecy which is sought to be associated with progress in science is not destined to promote the war-spirit and preparation for war, more than of peace. I agree cent per cent with my friend who has preceded me, who has raised the problem through his speech, from the sordid depths of war to the exalted heights of the spirit. I do not know whether it is a case of great wits jumping together or genius being near allied to madness, but the fact is, I must say, that I have appreciated his speech greatly and I associate myself with all that he has said, and I do hope that after all this invention may, passing through all its vicissitudes at the hands of man, pave the way for that One World Government, about which our respected Premier was speaking to the American audience, so that we may have one Parliament, one Federation, one coinage and one postage stamp.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao (Mysore State): Sir, under this Bill, with hardly 16 clauses, the Central Government is taking very extraordinary powers and these powers will have very far-reaching effect on the nuclear research in India. I am certainly conscious of the seriousness of the subject. I think

[Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao]

no other discovery has shaken the world to its roots as this discovery has done. Certainly, State should have control and I am second to none that our Government should have such control, but I want to see that it does not stifle research in nuclear physics. It is with that object that I have tabled an amendment that this Bill be circulated for public opinion. It is also with that object that I have tabled certain amendments. I have got a copy of the Bill that was passed by the United Kingdom in 1946 and this Bill is in thorough contrast of the provisions of that Bill.

Sr, this power to harness atomic energy has got tremendous significance for good or for evil. I want to give just a few facts and figures. As regards the evils that this can do—in fact, we already know more about it—Prof. Oliphant said: "If 50 bombs are dropped strategically on England, it will be wiped out." Churchill in his Zurich speech in 1946 said: "This energy may mean the disintegration of the globe". Temperature might reach millions of degrees. Sand in the Mexican desert where this bomb was tried was turned into glassy lumps for miles. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of pressure are produced per square inch. It was only two bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The death roll was 100,000. The dust and smoke spread to an area of the size of Australia and created radio-activity. It is against this power—this destructive power—that there should certainly be strict control. But that can be done by international law alone.

As regards the good that it can do, of course, we know but little. Of late, during these two years, some advance has been made in America. It has been harnessed for medical use. I learn that there is a million-volt X-ray tube in St. Bartholomew Hospital. It can substitute oil. The French Premier Clemenceau said that a drop of oil is worth a drop of blood. Today a tiny particle of fissionable material may be worth many thousands of gallons of oil. Naval experts in U.S.A. envisage long thin pencil like vessels with knife-edged bows and sterns propelled by atomic energy with great speed. One kilogram (i.e. 2.2 lbs.) of matter, if converted into energy would produce 25,000 million kilowatt hours of energy equal to the generated power in America in two months running, whereas the same amount of coal when burnt gives only 8 or 9 k.w. hours. One ounce of matter transformed into heat energy would convert million tons of water into steam and Professor Oliphant has again said that a lump of these materials smaller than a Rugby football would give an explosive force of 20,000 tons of T.N.T. It can give us cheap fuel, cheap electricity, ships, aeroplanes, railways, etc. run by atomic energy. Recently the *Manchester Guardian* has said that in U.S.A. atomic energy is available at more than 25 per cent. of the power that can be got from coal. This has been one of the greatest discoveries. It depends upon man how he uses it. In fact, Sir James Jeans, comparing the age of the earth and the age of the man, compared the age of the earth to Nelson's Statue and the age of the man to the size of a postage stamp. Humanity is yet a child. Immediately after the dropping of atom bomb on Hiroshima, the famous world cartoonist, Low, produced a cartoon in which he depicted humanity as a child and depicted the atom bomb as a ball for the child to play with. He said: "Life or death". So it depends upon humanity how to use it.

Sir, it is an irony of fate that wisdom to control this power does not progress as quickly as knowledge does. And I certainly agree with the Honourable the Prime Minister that we should have all control so far as military purposes are concerned. But why should we have any control for peace purposes? In fact, I have compared this Bill with the English and the American Acts. The MacMohan Act in the U.S.A. was passed in the year 1946. There the wording used as regards the restriction against secrecy is: "It shall be a person who is intent to injure the United States or is intent to secure an advantage to any foreign nation". So it is entirely for defensive purposes

that such restrictions are provided. Again, in the U.K. Act, the control is for defence purposes only. I have read the proceedings of the Parliament on this Bill and the provision that the control should be only for defence purposes was accepted after the Second Reading of the Bill. I want to know, therefore, from our Prime Minister why when England and America—who are practically at the peak so far as atomic research is concerned—have not got such restrictions, and why we in India should have such restrictions on atomic research so far as peace purposes are concerned.

Then, Sir, I want also to raise another question and also give a few facts and figures in regard to that. Have we got the wherewithal to conduct atomic research? Till 1939, there was no such control on atomic research. In fact, this research has been the co-ordination of the scientists of all nations—Germans, Italians, Russians, Frenchmen, Americans and Englishmen. All of them have contributed to the atomic research. It is only when the atom bomb was dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima that this control was imposed both in U.S.A., Canada and England. Sir, in U.S.A. by 1939 they had spent 200 million dollars and by the time they produced atomic bombs they spent 2,000 million dollars and an army of 125,000 workers were working and today the American Bill for atomic industrial research and production of atomic energy is 2½ billion dollars and while moving the Bill in Parliament, the Prime Minister Mr. Attlee said that England had set apart 30 million pounds for atomic research and in the English Bill there is a provision that the Government will grant research to educational institutions, universities to provide research for harnessing atomic energy. At Manchester there is a betatron up to 20 million volts and at Trafford Park there is a betatron up to 200 million volts which is being built and at the California University there is a 184 inch cyclotron. I want to know from the Honourable the Prime Minister how many betatrons we have in India; how many cyclotrons we have in India; how many amplidynes we have in India; how many atomic power piles we have got in India; how many Cockcroft-Walton apparatuses we have got in India. Every worker that goes into an atomic factory is provided with instruments with pocket metres, concealed atomic signals. There are electric eyes which detect immediately when any man has been affected by radiation. Have we got the wherewithal for all this secrecy and research, I want to know. I wish the Honourable the Prime Minister will throw some light on that. I also want to know another thing. I submit when the United Kingdom Bill was brought in the Parliament for the second reading there was a lapse of five months. In fact one of the honourable members raised the objection why such a delay was made in bringing the Bill for the second reading and the reply that was given was that they wanted the opinion of eminent scientists, public opinion, the industrialists and even the workers, because in America, as I said, 125,000 workers are working in Clinton, Oakridge, Tennessee Valley. These Engineers, industrialists and scientists should have a voice in the production of atomic energy for industrial purposes. There research has never been controlled as envisaged under this Bill. Scientific research can never progress under the threat of the police baton. In fact this Bill provides only controls. The object of this Bill is the development and control of atomic energy. I am afraid, Sir, it deals only of controls. There is no indication, how the Government is going to develop this atomic energy at all. It gives power of inspection, compulsory acquisition of property, control of production, restriction of disclosure of information and penalties and the development entirely depends upon what the Government may or may not do and I have also tabled an amendment that Advisory Councils should be associated with the Government. Well, for that amendment, I have got the support of the action taken by the U.S.A. In the U.S.A. they have provided four checks. There is a five-man Commission; there is an

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advisory committee of 9; there is a Military Liaison Committee and lastly there is the Special Investigation Committee of Congress. In Australia again there is an advisory body of 5 scientists, technicians and engineers. In the United Kingdom there is the Anderson Committee and the members are eminent scientists consisting of Sir Henry Dale, Prof. Blacket, Sir James Chadwick, Sir George Thompson, the Director is Prof. Cockcroft, co-worker of Lord Rutherford. Now have we got any such advisory committee to advise Government on the extraordinary powers that they are taking under this Bill? These are some of the doubts that I have and I hope a born democrat that our Premier is, he will enlighten us how atomic energy is going to be developed and how he will safeguard that research will be carried on in our universities and how the radio-activity minerals and apparatus and material will be provided for our hospitals and for our industrial purposes if this sort of secrecy is clapped upon the research work. Of course, I do not know how many amendments the Honourable the Premier is going to accept, but I can only say that we are dealing with a very serious subject and much depends, as I said, upon how the Government helps the scientists in the matter of research. Personally, I feel there is no hurry to rush this Bill. I think it would be sufficient if we restrict the export of atomic minerals like uranium and thorium minerals from India, that would suffice our needs for the present. It would be better if we have the opinion of eminent research institutes, such as the Indian Institute of Science or the Indian Academy of Sciences and other scientific bodies of the country and the eminent scientists that are engaged in atomic research. If we are armed with their opinion and the opinion of the industrialists, certainly it could and would help us to pass a bill of this kind. The Honourable the Prime Minister said that secrecy is necessary in this matter so as to co-operate with other countries. In fact, it is only America, England and Canada that have got real knowledge about this atomic energy. In fact in the statement that was issued by the three Governments, U.S.A., Britain and Canada they say "On the other hand all useful information relating to production of atomic energy for three purposes, namely, defence, industrial and humanitarian purposes would be given by every nation possessing it the widest possible publicity" and that is also the statement that has been issued by the United Nations Commission. I do not understand why such secrecy should be imposed upon atomic research so far as peaceful purposes are concerned. These are some of the doubts that I have and I hope the Honourable the Prime Minister will enlighten us on these points. With these few remarks, I support the motion.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Sir, every member who has spoken has welcomed this Bill in a more or less degree; many of them have grown rather poetic envisaging the future that might develop through the use and exploitation of atomic energy to the human race. But the last speaker who spoke, Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao, while finally welcoming it, practically criticised every feature of the Bill and in fact thoroughly disapproved of it look, stock and barrel. I was amazed to hear that he was really supporting the Bill or was welcoming it. He attacked the provisions regarding secrecy. He said there was nothing constructive about it. He asked me to tell him what equipment we have proposed to have, how many cyclotrons and how many other things we have got in India, that there were advisory Committees elsewhere and so on and so forth. I am sorry I cannot provide a list here of various technical equipment that we have or might get. I have not got it. But the fundamental fact is that in regard to time, for instance, I should like this House to appreciate that time is an important element; I will go further and say that it is a vital element. And any one who raised the question of time, specially today, is singularly ignorant of what is happening all around us. It may be that a short while later it

may become impossible for us even to deal in such matters with other countries. It may be that in view of each country trying to get the best bargain in regard to materials and other things, if we do not take advantage of an opportunity when it comes our way, we may not have that opportunity for some time. It is not enough for us merely to say that our materials should not go out of India; we may want to send them out in exchange for something valuable. It is not quite enough to hold on to them as misers without profiting by them ourselves and not knowing how to profit by them, but just to hold them on merely for the pleasure of having some kind of wealth. These minerals have been here under the Indian earth for a few million years; the time and opportunity for exploiting them has come only now. We did not profit by them during all these years as the rest of the world did not profit by them. Now when the time comes, to sit back and think ourselves fortunate in possessing them seems to me an extraordinarily limited and narrow view of looking at things, especially in this vast changing world of today.

As for the secrecy part I should have thought that what has been said in the Statement of Objects and Reasons and further from what has been said by other Honourable Members after me, it is obvious that it is difficult to go ahead in this matter internally or externally without these provisions for secrecy. I believe there are these provisions of secrecy, may be in varying measure but more or less on these lines, in every country. Now it is possible and conceivable that these provisions might come in the way of some scientific research. On the other hand in scientific research of this kind what is more likely to come in the way is frittering away our energies and not concentrating them. As I mentioned earlier, it is impossible to do any experimental research of any major scale—theoretical research of course is open to everybody—except on a large scale, i.e., except on a scale which is helped by the State. I can conceive of no private scientists or individuals being in a position to do so; even if the State helps them separately, they cannot do so unless they co-ordinate their efforts. Immediately you arrive, when the question of co-ordination comes, at some central organisation or body where these scientists who are associated with it will do it with the help of the State. So I do not understand many of the criticisms that Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao has put forward. He asked us what equipment we have got,—cyclotrons and other things. I do not quite follow this line of argument,—that if we have not got the equipment we should not set about it and if we have got it we have got it. The fact of the matter is that we have very little equipment but we have some. My own interest in this business is not a very new interest. I think the first time the question came up before me was before the last war, and I was instrumental in helping one of the universities in India to get the first cyclotron machine into India. Unfortunately the war came and it was not easy to set it up fully because some parts had not come; but anyhow it had come. Since then I have been following this matter up. We have not got much in the way of equipment, we have some little things for theoretical work and for petty experiments. But the point is this: are we going to carry on in that petty, local, limited way or are we going to set up what is called a pile? A pile need not be a big pile; it may be a small pile. Nevertheless a pile is a big thing involving much expenditure, much preparation, concentration and effort and so on, and a great deal of secrecy. I do not know of a single instance anywhere in any country where this has been done without this erection of a pile and without all the concomitants of secrecy, concentration of work, etc. I may also point out that it is not true to say that there are only three countries indulging in this atomic research today. Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao mentioned the U.K., the U.S.A. and Canada. Undoubtedly these three countries are going ahead with this; but there are several other countries and several of them are pretty far advanced—perhaps more advanced who are also doing it. I am not for the moment referring to the U.S.S.R. about which we do not know much, except that I

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have no doubt that they are doing something to develop atomic energy. But many countries of Europe and even many small countries like Belgium and Norway and of course France are technically highly advanced. I do not wish to discuss individual countries, but in spite of their small resources they are quite advanced and sometimes more advanced than countries with higher resources, scientifically advanced and otherwise. They are setting up piles in small countries in spite of their relatively limited resources. So that at the present moment there is everything ripe for us and we can go ahead. What I mean is this that the main things that are necessary are the men or human beings trained to do it and materials. We have got them but we naturally want equipment, we want other facilities, we want many of them, but unless the pile comes we cannot set about doing it. The more you delay the Bill the more we simply cannot begin functioning in this new way; we cannot start doing it. Of course the passing of the Bill will not work wonders and nothing much will happen. You cannot produce atomic energy merely by setting up the machinery and men; but in course of time—not too long I hope—we shall be able to set up all the kind of plant that is required for this purpose. Therefore I will beg the House not to delay this matter but to give these powers to the Atomic Energy Commission.

Mr. Krishnamurthy Rao also spoke about the Advisory Committee and he mentioned some names. I am sorry I cannot say much about England, but when he was reading out the names I was rather surprised to notice that the names were of the very eminent scientists who formed the Atomic Energy Commission there, which he called the Advisory Committee, so far as I can make out. There are half a dozen or ten or more eminent scientists chosen for atomic energy research in England. We are just forming that atomic energy commission here too. The point is whether you are going to have an advisory committee to sit over the heads of these scientists, to advise them, to cross-examine them or to find out what they are doing. That I think would be undesirable. Therefore I think that in regard to this measure the changes suggested—either postponement or removal of secrecy or advisory committees, etc.—would be highly undesirable.

One criticism is that there is nothing constructive about it,—presumably referring to the giving of grants, etc. All that hardly comes within the scope of this Bill. Of course Government if it is interested, as it is bound to be, must develop scientific research in every way, in the universities, etc. The giving of grants to the atomic energy commission will of course be one concentrated effort to work out this business and for universities to carry on theoretical research work. That is an important function of Government or the Education Ministry, and I have no doubt that they will look after it.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know if secrecy is insisted upon even for research for peaceful purposes?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Not theoretical research. Secrecy comes in when you think in terms of the production or use of atomic energy. That is the central effort to produce atomic energy.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: In the Bill passed in the United Kingdom secrecy is restricted only for defence purposes.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know how you are to distinguish between the two.

Mr. Chairman: I think the Honourable Member had better wait till he comes to the clause itself and then he can discuss it.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the development and control of atomic energy and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): Sir, I move:

"That in part (a) of clause 3 of the Bill, for the words 'of a' occurring in line three, the words 'or' be substituted."

The words in the Bill are ".....transmutation of a radio-active decay....." It would now read:

".....transmutation or radio-active decay...." The amendment is purely verbal and seeks to improve the wording.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

"That in part (a) of clause 3 of the Bill, for the words 'of a' occurring in line three, the word 'or' be substituted."

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I accept it. It is a misprint. It ought to be there.

Shri H. V. Kamath: I think the wording is quite correct so far as scientific parlance goes.

The process "of natural transmutation of a radio-active decay....." is common with many radio-active Substances.

Mr. Chairman: The scientist who drafted the Bill said it is a printing mistake. Therefore, I do not think we need waste time over it.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I submit that if the amendment is passed, there are two different phrases will not make much meaning. As the clause stands, namely, ".....in any process of natural transmutation of a radio-active decay which is not accelerated etc....." if radio-activity takes place, there is transmutation of the radio-active decay. As far as my scientific knowledge goes, it is correct. (Interruption.) If the amendment is accepted it will not make much meaning. As it is, it is perfectly correct. I do not know if Dr. Bhatnagar has been consulted about this.

Mr. Chairman: Dr. Bhatnagar, I understand, has said that it is a printing mistake. At any rate ".....transmutation of a radio-active decay...." does not seem to have much sense. So I am putting the amendment to the vote.

The question is:

"That in part (a) of clause 3 of the Bill, for the words 'of a' occurring in line three, the word 'or' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

The question is:

"That Clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (f) of clause 6 of the Bill, for the word 'some' the word 'a' be substituted."

'Some' is vague and the word 'a' should be substituted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 6 of the Bill, for the word 'some' the word 'a' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 6 of the Bill, after the word 'document', where it occurs for the second time, the following be inserted:

'after giving a duly signed receipt for the same'."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 6 of the Bill, after the word 'document', where it occurs for the second time, the following be inserted:

'after giving a duly signed receipt for the same'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (4) of clause 7 of the Bill, after the word 'land', the words 'or property situate thereon', be inserted."

The amendment is self-explanatory and it does not need any further explanation.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I accept it.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (4) of clause 7 of the Bill, after the word 'land', the words 'or property situate thereon', be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in part (b) of sub-clause (1) of clause 8 of the Bill, all the words beginning with the words 'other than minerals' to the end be omitted."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (b) of sub-clause (1) of clause 8 of the Bill, all the words beginning with the words 'other than minerals' to the end be omitted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in part (b)(ii) of sub-clause (1) of clause 10 of the Bill, the words beginning with the words 'and not being' and ending with the words 'surface working' be omitted."

These words are superfluous.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (b)(ii) of sub-clause (1) of clause 10 of the Bill, the words beginning with the words 'and not being' and ending with the words 'surface working' be omitted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in the proviso to sub-clause (1) of clause 11 of the Bill, the following be added at the end:

'or research into any matters connected therewith'."

The last sentence reads like this:

"unless the information discloses that plant of that type is used or proposed to be used for the production or use of atomic energy."

and if these words are added at the end it will amplify the purpose of this law.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in the proviso to sub-clause (1) of clause 11 of the Bill, the following be added at the end:

'or research into any matters connected therewith'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 12 to 14 were added to the Bill.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Sir, I move:

"That after sub-clause (2) of clause 15 of the Bill, the following new sub-clause be added:

"(3) Proceedings in respect of an offence under Section 11 shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Advocate-General of India."

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Sir, I accept that.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That after sub-clause (2) of clause 15 of the Bill, the following new sub-clause be added:

"(3) Proceedings in respect of an offence under Section 11 shall not be instituted except with the consent of the Advocate-General of India."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 15, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 15, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I have three amendments and may I with your permission move all of them together. Sir, I move:

(1) "That in part (a) (iii) of sub-clause (2) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'land' occurring in line one, the words 'and the property situated thereon' be inserted."

This is merely an extension of what has been done in regard to clause 7 of the Bill.

(2) "That in part (a) (iii) of sub-clause (2) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'land', occurring in line three, the words 'and property' be inserted."

This is practically the same thing.

(3) "That in sub-clause (3) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'amount', occurring in line two, the word 'claimed' be inserted."

The clause would then read:

"An appeal shall lie to the High Court against an award of the arbitrator except in cases where the amount claimed thereof does not exceed an amount prescribed in this behalf by the Central Government."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

(1) "That in part (a) (iii) of sub-clause (2) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'land' occurring in line one, the words 'and the property situated thereon' be inserted."

(2) "That in part (a) (iii) of sub-clause (2) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'land', occurring in line three, the words 'and property' be inserted."

(3) "That in sub-clause (3) of clause 16 of the Bill, after the word 'amount', occurring in line two, the word 'claimed' be inserted."

The motion was adopted. ₹

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 16, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 16, as amended, was added to the Bill

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Sir, I move

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U.P.: General): Sir, I was surprised to hear some speeches on this Bill. I had thought that every one in the House would welcome this Bill warmly and pass this measure quickly. As the Prime Minister has pointed out if we do not take up this question of the control of atomic energy just now it may be too late to take it up afterwards. The world knows that we as a nation stand for world peace. Our great leader, and the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, will be remembered by the world as the Prophet of Peace. The world cannot forget his immortal message, and his inimitable life and example will shed eternal lustre on our great country. Therefore we can not be misunderstood by having this legislation on our statute book.

Science is power, both for good and for evil. The mere fact that we are going in for research in atomic energy does not mean that we shall use it for purposes of destruction. This energy has acquired a bad repute on account of its use in Hiroshima. But I think we can by developing this energy and using this power for constructive ends show to the world that it can be used for good purposes. If we have not got the knowledge and the ability to use this power, there is no virtue in our saying that we shall not use it for destructive purposes and that other people should not so use it. I therefore think that there is no reason whatsoever to say that in passing this Bill there should be some restraint. Besides, as a realist I must say that in today's world when the clouds of war hang all around us we cannot but prepare ourselves for our defence. It is also a fact that the respect that a nation enjoys is directly proportional to its armed might. We might not engage in war and we might do our best to stop war but the effective way of stopping war is only when we have got the means or power to have our might felt all over the world. Today although we are the second biggest nation in population we have not got a seat on the Security Council and we have the humiliating spectacle of our delegate withdrawing from the contest for a seat on it. I think if India which has been a slave country for the last two hundred years is to come unto her own she must very soon come in line with the great powers of the world; and for that we must develop our military potential. Only the other day on the Military

Budget debate I pointed out that our expenditure on Defence is 3 per cent of the U.S.A.'s expenditure on Defence and 11 per cent of Britain's expenditure on defence. We all know that atomic energy is today the most important scientific discovery. Unless we spend upon it lavishly and unless we use all our resources, both in men and in materials, for its development, we shall not be making the best use of our talents and materials. I therefore welcome the Bill very warmly. I hope the promptness and energy with which the Honourable the Prime Minister has brought the Bill before the House will also be followed in getting it executed. Although I do not find any appropriation in the Bill for the money which will be required for putting it into execution I hope that it is intended that all the money required will be forthcoming and that our Finance Minister will provide all the money required for this purpose.

For a country like India especially, this atomic energy is most important. We have got very slender resources of oil; we have got very small resources of coal. So if we are to be a great nation we should depend either on water power or on some other power; and that some other power can only be atomic energy. If atomic energy can be harnessed to industrial and other uses then India should be the foremost in the efforts to find out the ways to apply this energy for constructive purposes. Because our coal resources are exhausted and our petrol stocks are nil, atomic energy has got a special value for a country like ours. I therefore think that the Bill should be welcomed most warmly.

I was somewhat surprised to find that some people thought that the secrecy clause in the Bill was something which was not worthy of our nation. If all the countries of the world threw open their doors and came forward to exchange knowledge freely I think India will be the first country to reciprocate that action. But today that is not so. Even if we give them our knowledge freely, they will not do so. I do not think that will be fair to ourselves, and I think we, a country which is so backward cannot begin in this manner. I therefore think that we ought to have this secrecy clause and there is no objection whatsoever in keeping it in this Bill. When we are able to produce all the things which can be produced by atomic energy, both for constructive purposes and for warfare. I hope we shall be able to use the moral strength of our nation to see that the other nations also do not use the energy for warfare even by taking the bad in the matter. But unless we are in point of military strength a very big nation and unless we can have a say in world affairs I do not think we can make the world pacific. Our national genius being pacific I would then like to tell the world that we must ban the use of atomic energy for warfare and even outlaw war. But we cannot do it by preaching and by good wishes alone. Until we have the capacity to use atomic energy for destructive warfare it will have no meaning for us to say that we shall not use atomic energy for destructive purposes. If we have the capacity but do not use it then it will be a virtue. I therefore think that the Bill should be welcomed; it has come not a day too soon. I congratulate the Honourable the Prime Minister for bringing the Bill and I acclaim it.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: There is just one aspect to which I should like again to draw the attention of the House. Somehow we cannot help associating atomic energy with war. That is the present context of our lives. Nevertheless, the important thing today is that atomic energy is a vast source of power that is coming to the world and it is something even more important than the coming in of wars and the like. The wars may be forgotten. Even great world wars may come and go and bring enormous destruction in

[Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru]

their wake. But we are on the verge, I think, of a tremendous development in some direction of the human race. Consider the past few hundred years of history, the world developed a new source of power, that is steam—the steam engine and the like—and the industrial age came in. India with all her many virtues did not develop that source of power. It became a backward country in that sense; it became a slave country because of that. The steam age and the industrial age were followed by the electrical age which gradually crept in, and most of us were hardly aware of the change. But enormous new power came in. Now we are facing the atomic age; we are on the verge of it. And this is obviously something infinitely more powerful than either steam or electricity. While we are on the verge of the atomic age people talk of another source of power which is even bigger and vaster, that is, cosmic rays. It may be that this atomic age may merge into the cosmic age or the cosmic ray age, whatever it may be called. The point I should like the House to consider is this that if we are to remain abreast in the world as a nation which keeps ahead of things, we must develop this atomic energy quite apart from war—indeed I think we must develop it for the purpose of using it for peaceful purposes. It is in that hope that we should develop this. Of course, if we are compelled as a nation to use it for other purposes, possibly no pious sentiments of any of us will stop the nation from using it that way. But I do hope that our outlook in regard to this atomic energy is going to be a peaceful one for the development of human life and happiness and not one of war and hatred.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

NATIONAL CADET CORPS BILL

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh (Minister for Defence): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Cadet Corps, be taken into consideration."

In the beginning of last month, while announcing the decision of the Government on the Report on the National Cadet Corps, I gave an indication that it may be necessary to have separate legislation for this purpose. At present we have an Act which governs the University Training Corps. That Act is not useful for the National Cadet Corps. I had thought at first that it would not be necessary to have a new Bill and that we would be able to pull on with the existing Act. But the constitution and the terms of service and the requirements of the National Cadet Corps are quite different, and therefore it is necessary to have a new Bill.

The National Cadet Corps provides for the training of boys and girls of schools and colleges while the present Act relates only to the training of college-going students. Therefore it is necessary to have a separate Bill.

The provisions that are now made in the Bill cover the necessary requirements that were laid down by the Report of the National Cadet Corps. I do not think it is necessary for me to take the time of the House in explaining the details as this matter was fully explained when I made the statement before the House. The success of the present scheme mainly depends on the cooperation that we get from the public. It is primarily an educational matter and I have no doubt that the interest which this House has evinced in the scheme and the enthusiasm with which this House has been greeted by the public

leave no doubt that it would be a great success. Several amendments have been tabled and I propose to accept some of them; there are however one or two which I do not think are very important.

There is one point. This Bill provides for the training, also of boys who are not students of schools and colleges. This provision has been made under clause 7 and it will give an opportunity, if we find it necessary later on, to provide for the training of boys and girls who are not regular students of the college. With these words, I move.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Cadet Corps, be taken into consideration."

Shrimati G. Durgabai (Madras: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the scheme for organising a National Cadet Corps is one of the very few important pieces of legislation that we have undertaken during the present session. Sir, I welcome this Bill. It is right that we are piloting this Bill in the very first year of our freedom. Sir, the Bill lays the foundations for building up an organization to develop the personality of our young men and women. It is a very, and indeed most important part of our nation-building programme. As such I welcome this Bill. It is only a virile nation that can effectively defend itself and also that can build up an effective force which we today are so badly in need of.

Sir, the members of the Cadet Corps Committee seem to have been feeling diffident in certain matters. I would like to make some important observations in connection with that. They relate mainly to the provision relating to the Girls Division. In this connection I draw the attention of the House to the fact that in their report, the National Cadet Corps Committee expressed a fear that the number of girls who would take advantage of this organization and this training would probably be too small. It is natural that they feel so because I feel that we are not accustomed to tackle the problem of women in the right direction. Sir, it is regrettable to note that the Bill does not make provision for the training of those who are not regular students in a school or university. What about those who are receiving their educational training in institutions other than schools and universities? There are hundreds and thousands of these girls and women who are receiving their training outside the institutions in which they are not regularly registered as students. I know, and the Honourable Members of the House are aware, that there are thousands of social service organizations all over the country, women's clubs and women's sabhas who have taken upon themselves to provide training for these women, and also among whom we find many destitute women and also widows. But the Bill does not provide for these women. It completely puts these classes of girls and women out of the purview of the scope of the Bill. Sir, I invite the attention of the Honourable Minister to clause 2 of the Bill, wherein school is defined as:

"School" includes any institution recognised in this behalf by the Central Government or the Provincial Government."

So I say, and also I think it is open for the Honourable Minister to say, that it is in the hands of the Government and the Government has got powers to open this opportunity to any school, and also recognize any association as a school for this purpose. But it is a far-fetched interpretation because I find in paragraph 4 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons:

"That the National Cadet Corps Committee recommended that open units should be constituted to which recruitment will be made from amongst boys earning a livelihood and the object of clause 7 is to provide for such units."

Sir, Clause 7 says that:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the Central Government may, by notification, provide for the constitution of any other units of the Corps in any place and prescribe the persons or class of persons who may be eligible for enrolment therein."

[Shrimati G. Durgabai]

From this we see clearly that the intention of the Government is not to provide for the open units in the case of girls and women even in the future. Therefore I would like that the Honourable Minister should reconsider the matter and see that the scope and benefit of this training is thrown open to the organizations that are not today strictly called schools or universities. The Kunzru Committee felt, and I think rightly so, that women may not take advantage of this scheme. Therefore if only the Honourable Minister could be persuaded to throw open this opportunity and have open units for this class of women whom I have already mentioned, then the response will be very great and many people will be able to take advantage of it. Otherwise I am afraid that the scheme, so far as it relates to girls, is bound to fail.

There is another matter which I would like to emphasize in this connection, and that is this. There are some women's welfare Departments connected with the Government. I do not know about the other provinces, but in Madras there is one, and I think that in the other provinces also there are some departments. I wish the Government make arrangements to consult these departments also in organizing this work, and also the other organizations who are mainly interested. It is not the money. Money will come, but it is the people who are really interested in this work and who take a keen and lively interest in this matter, whose cooperation should be sought. Therefore I would request the Honourable Minister to see that the cooperation of these organizations is sought in this matter.

There is another fact to which I want to refer in this connection, and that is that not only the teachers regularly working in the schools and universities should be asked to work as officers in these Cadet Corps, but also those who have already had some training in organizations like the *Seva Dal*. They should be given an opportunity to serve as officers in these organizations.

There is yet another matter I would like to mention, and that is that, if the age is the criterion, then I wish that the age should be raised from 13 to 17. If really that is a matter of difficulty, I would request the Honourable Minister to constitute a special Senior Division for women.

Then as the Honourable Minister has already stated in this House that the Girls Division is mainly educational in character, I would request the Honourable Minister to put this department directly under the Education Department of the Government of India as per Kunzru Report.

There is one other matter I wish to mention. Clause 12 deals with the Advisory Committee, and in this Advisory Committee about seven officials and seven non-officials are put. I wish that members of the Legislature should be given an opportunity to associate themselves with the work of this Advisory Committee.

I again welcome this Bill and I also emphasize the fact that the Honourable Minister should see that the Bill is given effect to immediately. Since it is a very immediate need, he should take all steps that are necessary to see that the Bill is given a good start.

بلت تھاکرداس بھارگو [مشرقی پنجاب: جنرل]: جناب چھرمین صاحب امیں آنریبل مینٹس ملستر صاحب کا نہایت زور سے شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے فوراً ہی جبکہ ہاؤس نے نہایت کثرت کو کے متعلق اپنی رائے ظاہر کی اسکے بعد ہی فوراً اس بل کو پیش کر دیا اور اسکے لئے میں کوئی دیر نہیں کی۔ جہانتک شروعات کا سوال ہے میں اس کوشش کا جو اس بل کے ذریعہ کی گئی ہے خیر مقدم کرتا ہوں لیکن میں یہ ظاہر کئے بغیر نہیں رہ سکتا کہ دراصل یہ کوشش ہمارے اُمیدوں کے مقابلے میں اور اس دیکھ کی ضرورت کے مقابلے میں ہے۔ میں جانتا ہوں کہ اگر مینٹس

ملستر صاحب کو اختیار ہوتا تو وہ اس بل کو بہت جامع اور وسیع بنا دیتے۔ معلوم ہے کہ جہانتک انکی ذات کا سوال ہے وہ اس اہم سوال کو جو دیکھ کی حفاظت سے تعلق رکھتا ہے ایک دوسرے نکتہ نگاہ سے دیکھتے ہیں۔ انکے پاس اگر کافی روپیہ ہوتا تو وہ ضرور اس اسکیم کو چھوٹا کر کے نہ دیکھتے۔ یہ اسکیم کیا ہے؟ اس اسکیم کو بہت لمبا چوڑا بنانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ ابھی صرف ایک لاکھ ۷۰ ہزار لڑکے لڑکیوں سے اسکا تعلق رہیگا۔ اس اسکیم کا تعلق ان لڑکوں لڑکیوں سے رہیگا جو کالج اور اسکولوں میں پڑھتے ہیں اور یہ صرف ان لڑکوں لڑکیوں کی تربیت کے متعلق ہے۔ جہانتک Senior Division کا سوال ہے وہاں جناب! آپ ملاحظہ فرمائیں گے تو واضح ہوگا کہ اس میں ۳۲ ہزار ۵ سو کے متعلق انتظام ہے بقیہ Junior مد کا Girls Division کا حصہ ہوگا۔ ولایت میں جہاں ہمارے ملک سے بہت کم آبادی ہے وہاں ساڑھے تین لاکھ ایسے کثرت تعلیم پاتے ہیں۔ لیکن ہندوستان جہاں کی آبادی ولایت سے سات گنا زیادہ ہے اس کے لئے جو اسکیم پیش کی گئی ہے وہ ایک لاکھ ستر ہزار کی ہے۔ اسکے نامکمل ہونے پر کوئی اعتراض نہیں ہے بلکہ اسکی fundamental بات پر اعتراض ہے اور الفاظ "school اور college پونت پر اعتراض ہے۔ چنکا ذکر دفعہ ۲ میں کیا گیا ہے۔

جناب والا! اگر آپ صفحہ ۱۲ کو ملاحظہ کریں گے تو واضح ہوگا کہ سکول مجبوزہ کو پانچ شرطیں پوری کرنا ہونگی جس میں علاوہ تین دیگر امور کے قریب حال کا انتظام و باقی commitments بھی شامل ہیں۔ جناب والا! کتنے ایسے اسکول ہیں جو ان شرطوں کو پورا کر سکیں گے۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہ روول ایریز rural areas کے لئے ایسا انتظام سخت مشکل ہوگا کیونکہ ایسا انتظام شہروں کے واسطے جہاں قریب و قریب کا سامان ہے اور دوسرے کافی انتظامات ہیں وہیں ہو سکتا ہے لیکن غریبوں کے لئے اس بل میں کوئی provision نہیں ہے۔ اصل بات یہ ہے کہ آدمی کے افسران جملہ خاص characteristics کی کمی ہے اور جن میں کیرکٹر کی کمی ہے اس کیرکٹر کو پورا کرنے کے واسطے یہ اسکیم وجود میں لائی گئی ہے۔

جناب والا! جسوقت اس اسکیم کا آغاز ہوا تھا اسوقت اور آج میں اگر دیکھا جائے تو ملک کی حالت بدلی ہوئی ہے۔ آج ہمارے سامنے انڈسٹریل پالیسی پیش ہوئی ہے۔ اسکے صفحہ اول کی چوتھی لائن میں یہ درج ہے کہ دیہی میں انصاف اور ہمسری کا موقع دینے والا نظام سرکار قائم کرنا چاہتی ہے۔ یہ کئے سنہ ۱۹۲۹ ع میں اس زمانہ کے خیال و ضرورت کے مطابق بنائے گئے۔ اب وہ خیال پرانے و بوسودہ ہو چکے ہیں۔ آج جب Constitution بن چکا ہے اور اس کے پہلے ورق پر لکھا ہے کہ ہم equality of opportunity دیکھ کے ہر فرد کے لئے مہیا کریں گے تو اس دیکھ کے

[پلڈت تھاکر داس بھارگو]

تھیں کروڑ آدمیوں کے واسطے ایسے موقع پیدا ہوئے چاہئیں جس میں ہر ایک شخص یکساں طور پر ان سے مستفید ہو سکے اور صرف چند اشتیاق ہی اس سے فائدہ نہ اٹھا سکے۔

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, may I interrupt my Honourable friend? I have made it clear that this is only a beginning; there is absolutely no objection to extend this scheme if it is found necessary.

پلڈت تھاکر داس بھارگو: جناب والا! اس نکتہ نگاہ کو دیکھ کر کہ سردار صاحب کے دل میں جو کچھ ہے میں اس کو اچھی طرح سمجھتا ہوں میں نے شروع میں عرض کیا تھا کہ اگر ان کے پاس روپیہ ہوتا تو وہ کروڑوں کی تعداد میں خرچ کر دیتے۔ چونکہ یہ شروع کی اسکیم ہے اس لئے میں اس کا خیر مقدم کرتا ہوں اور یہ شروعات کے طور پر سکیم مان لینے کے قابل ہے۔

اس کے اندر جو دوسرا نقص ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ جو اسکول شہروں میں ہونگے ان کو recognize کیا جائے گا۔ لیکن میں عرض کروں گا کہ جو لوگ اور لوگھان اسکول اور کالجوں میں تعلیم نہیں پاتے ان کو اپنے دیہات کی حفاظت کے متعلق تعلیم و تربیت پانے و اس میں حصہ لینے کا اتنا ہی حق ہے جتنا ان لوگوں اور لڑکیوں کو جو اسکول اور کالج میں تعلیم پاتے ہیں ولایت میں اس قسم کا انتظام موجود ہے کہ جو لوگ ابتدائی تعلیم ختم کر لیتے ہیں اور مزدوری کرتے ہیں وہی cadet کے طور پر open units میں تربیت حاصل کرتے ہیں رپورٹ National Cadet Corps میں صفحہ ۲۴ پر حسب ذیل اندراج ہندوستان کے متعلق ہے :-

"In India too, open units may be expected to consist of boys who are earning their livelihood but would be glad to have an opportunity of preparing themselves to fulfil their duties as citizens. Just as in the beginning selected schools will be allowed to have Cadet units, so as to begin with, it will probably be desirable to allow open units to be raised only in cities where a popular demand for them exists."

اس کے معنی یہ ہیں کہ چند سال تک close unit پر تجربہ ہوگا پھر اس کے بعد open unit کی اسکیم ہوگی اور وہ بھی شہر کے لوگ اور لڑکیوں کے واسطے اور گوں والوں کے لئے یہ سکیم بھی ایک سہنا ہے۔ اس کے لئے میں نہایت ادب سے عرض کروں گا کہ آپ چھ ماہ لے لیجئے ایک سال لے لیجئے اس کے بعد آپ ایسا انتظام کیجئے اور آپ ہر ہندوستانی کو موقع دیجئے کہ وہ ہر سکیم سے مستفید ہو سکے اور حصہ لے سکے۔ جہاں تک open unit کا سوال ہے اس میں جو provision رکھا گیا ہے اس کو آپ compulsory کر دیجئے۔ جہاں تک دفعہ ۷ کا سوال ہے میں جانتا ہوں کہ سردار صاحب چاہتے ہیں کہ جتنا جلد ممکن ہو سکے اس پر عمل کیا جائے اس میں روپیہ کی بہت کافی ضرورت ہے۔ سردار صاحب کو finance کی فکر ہے۔ ابھی ہمارے فائنل منسٹر صاحب بہت ہوئے تھے وہ استیث ذہنی لانا چاہتے ہیں۔ پیشتر اس کے کہ Estate Duty آپ لائیں آپ اس سکیم کو sanction دے

دیں۔ اور جب National militia اور یہ تعلیم کی سکیم پاس ہو جائے تو گورنمنٹ اس ہاؤس کے سامنے آئے اور ہاؤس کل روپیہ مزید ٹیکس سے یا کسی دیگر نہج پر پورا کرے گا۔

جناب والا! میں نے ایک امداد ملت بھی بھیجتا ہے جس کی رو سے میں نے چاہا ہے کہ اس کیڈٹ کور کی کمیٹی میں ہاؤس کے دو ممبر بھی ہوں چونکہ باقی ساری کمیٹی nominated ہو گئی اس لئے میں اس پر مد نہیں کرتا کہ وہ الکشن سے ہی چلے جائیں لیکن میں یہ چاہتا ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ اس اصول کو قبول کر لے کہ ہاؤس کے دو ممبر اس کمیٹی میں ضرور مقرر کیئے جائیں۔

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Mr. Chairman, I warmly express my thanks to the Honourable the Defence Minister who as soon as the House expressed its opinion regarding the formation of National Cadet Corps, introduced the Bill in the House without a moment's delay. So far as the beginning goes, I, no doubt, welcome the provisions of this Bill, but I can hardly resist saying that this effort falls far short of our expectations and the needs of this country. I am sure if the Honourable the Defence Minister had the necessary power he would certainly have made the Bill self-contained and wider. I know that so far as he personally is concerned the Honourable Minister views this essentially important question of defence of this country from a different angle. If he had enough funds at his disposal, he would certainly not have presented a crippled scheme. The scheme is too small and requires to be expanded. As it is, its scope is confined to 1,70,000 boys and girls who receive education in various colleges and schools and will provide training for them. So far as the senior division is concerned it will be evident that it provides arrangement for 32,500 only and the rest relates to the junior division concerning girls.

In England, where the population is much less than in our country three lakhs of cadets receive training. But in India where the population is seven times more than that of England, the scheme that has been presented makes provision only for 1,70,000.

There is no objection to it for being incomplete but there is certainly an objection to the fundamental points and also to the words "School and college unit" mention of which has been made in section 2.

Sir, if you look at page 12 it will be evident that the proposed school will have to fulfil five conditions, two of which besides the other three are the provision for a drill hall and other such commitments.

Sir, how many schools are there which can fulfil these conditions? I am sure that in rural areas such arrangements will be very difficult to make. Such arrangements can only be provided in towns where equipment for drill and other facilities are available. There is no provision for the poor in the Bill.

The truth is that the scheme is meant to remove the defects in certain characteristics and the lack of character in the officers of the army.

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

Sir, if we consider the time when this scheme was initiated and compare it with the present time we shall see that the country has changed. Today the statement *re.* the industrial policy of the country has been laid before us. On the first page and in the fourth line it says that the Government desire to establish such an order of society in the country as shall rest on such fundamentals as justice and equality of opportunity. This committee was appointed in 1926 according to the circumstances and requirements of that time. Those ideas have now become obsolete and exploded.

Now that the Constitution has been framed and on its very first page is written that we will provide an equality of opportunity to each and every individual living in this country. Such opportunities then ought to be made available which shall equally benefit the thirty crores of people living in this country and not only a few.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, may I interrupt my Honourable friend? I have made it clear that this is only a beginning; there is absolutely no objection to extend this scheme if it is found necessary.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I fully understand what Sardar Sahib means. I have already stated that had he funds at his disposal he would not have hesitated to spend crores. As it is just the beginning of the scheme therefore, I welcome it and consider it worthy of being accepted as such.

Another defect in the scheme is that the schools situated in cities will be recognised but so far as the boys and girls who do not receive education in any school or college are concerned, I would point out that such boys and girls are as much entitled to receive education and training for the defence of their country, as the boys and girls who receive education in schools and colleges. In England there are arrangements for boys who have completed their basic education and are able to enter life for earning a livelihood are admitted into open units as cadets and receive training in them.

On page 24 of the Report of National Cadet Corps Committee the following regarding India is mentioned:

"In India too, open units may be expected to consist of boys who are earning their livelihood but would be glad to have an opportunity of preparing themselves to fulfil their duties as citizens. Just as in the beginning selected schools will be allowed to have Cadet units, so as to begin with, it will probably be desirable to allow open units to be raised only in cities where a popular demand for them exists."

This means that for a few years closed units will be tried and after that the scheme of open units will follow and that too for the benefit of the boys and girls of cities only. For village boys and girls this will virtually mean a dream. I will respectfully say that after trying it for six months or for one year the Government should make arrangement for each and every Indian to get opportunity of taking part and being benefitted by it.

So far as the question of open units is concerned it seems proper that the provision should be made compulsory. As for section 7 I am certain that Sardar Sahib desires to take action as soon as possible. It requires enormous funds to implement it and Sardar Sahib is anxious for finance. Just now the Honourable Finance Minister was sitting in the House. He wants an estate duty to be levied but before he proceeds to do so he may accord sanction to this scheme. When the schemes of National Militia and its training are passed the Government can approach this House with new demands and the House will supply the necessary funds by the levy of additional taxation or by some other means.

Sir, I have given notice of an amendment which seeks that the Cadet Corps Committee personnel should include, among other members, two members of this House. Since the remaining members of the committee will be nominated, I do not insist that they should be elected. But what I wish the Government to accept is the principle of appointing two members of this House on the Cadet Corps Committee.

Mr. Chairman: It has been suggested to me that if the Honourable Members wish to do so, we can sit for fifteen minutes more, but if a large number of members want to disperse, I do not want to stand in the way.

Some Honourable Members: Adjourn.

Mr. Chairman: The House stands adjourned till tomorrow at 10-45 A.M.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 7th April 1948.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Perhaps some further information might help.

Till 1930 there were no restrictions on the admission of Indians in Fiji. Certain amendments to the Immigration Ordinance of 1911 were made in 1945. They, however, did not seriously affect the position regarding the entry of immigrants into Fiji.

The United Kingdom Government forwarded to us in September, 1947, a copy of the proposed Immigration Ordinance, 1947, and invited our comments which were conveyed to them on the 10th October, 1947, especially regarding clauses 3 and 8. On the 5th November, 1947, Indian members of the Fiji Legislative Council informed us that Fiji Government had introduced a new Immigration Bill more stringent than the one previously published whereby all Indians, except Fiji-borns, would lose domiciliary rights if absent from Fiji for more than 12 months. We were not aware of this amendment until we received from the Fiji Governor on the 11th November, 47, further amendments to clauses 3 and 8. On 21st November, 1947, we requested him to clarify the import of the amendments proposed and pointed out that, owing to there being only one direct sailing between India and Fiji, it would be impossible for an Indian leaving Fiji to return to the Colony within 12 months. The Fiji Governor on 24th November, 1947, informed us that:

- (a) persons, who are domiciled in Fiji, can leave the Colony as long as they like without losing their right to return so long as they retain their Fiji domicile;
- (b) persons not domiciled but resident in Fiji for a period of 5 years are exempted from the Bill but lose their right of exemption as resident if absent for more than 12 months;
- (c) the Government of Fiji are keeping an open mind upon the question as to whether this period should be extended, if so, whether for 2 or 3 years until the view of all unofficial members have been obtained in the debate on the second reading of the Bill on the 24th November 1947.

On 26th November 1947 we asked the Fiji Government for information as to the tests of domicile in Fiji. The Secretary Fiji Government, informed us on 28th November, 1947, that the domicile in Fiji is governed by the common law of England and that under new Immigration Ordinance, the fact of domicile is a matter for decision by the Immigration Officer with an appeal to a Magistrate's Court and a further appeal to a Superior Court. Moreover, it was observed that under Clause 3 of the Ordinance read with the Fiji Governor's telegram of 24th November, 1947 an Indian born in the Colony of parents who at the time of his birth were ordinarily resident in the Colony will be exempt from the provisions of the ordinance.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Government of India have no direct representative of their own in this particular Island and that their High Commissioner in Australia is expected to look after the interests of our Indians also here and we have not had any one to act as High Commissioner because Mr. Paranjpye has given up his post and in his place nobody has been appointed?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: It is a fact that we have no representative in Fiji. I do not think the Government of India is at fault in that matter, because we proposed to send a representative about a year and a quarter ago and there was considerable delay in our getting the response from the Colonial office in London, because we had to deal through the Colonial Office in London in regard to Fiji. But their consent came eventually and I hope we shall be able to send someone there. As for the High Commissioner

in Australia, he had nothing official to do with Fiji. We suggested to him once that he might occasionally go to Fiji and Dr. Paranjpye did go once; I do not think his visit was welcomed very much; anyhow he went once. So the High Commissioner in Australia really cannot do very much except keep an occasional touch with the Fiji Government.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERATION OF WEST INDIES AND INDIANS INTERESTS

1280. *Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a move has been made in the countries of the West Indies, such as Trinidad and Jamaica, for establishing a Federation of the West Indies?

(b) Was any conference held there in this connection last year?

(c) Is it a fact that no representative from India was sent to the above conference and if so, why?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take to assure that the interests of the Indians are not jeopardized, if such a Federation comes into existence?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes. It was a conference of delegates from the British West Indian Colonies and the question of sending a representative from India did not arise. We, however, asked His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to furnish us with a copy of the proceedings of the conference so that we could offer our comments on the proposals resulting therefrom. Accordingly we were supplied with a copy of the resolution adopted at the conference.

(d) We have made suitable representations to the Government of the United Kingdom with a view to securing proper representation of the Indian community in West Indies on the Standing Closer Association Committee which will be constituted in accordance with a resolution adopted by the conference to submit, *inter alia* detailed proposals for a federation.

Seth Govinddas: With respect to clause (c) of the question, Sir, is it not a fact that the Fiji Indians had written to the Government of India for sending some representative of theirs in that Conference?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot say straight off, but it is not clear to me how the Government of India can send representatives to a Conference to which only local people are asked to come.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact that the Fiji Indians had written to the Government of India in this respect to approach the Fiji Government so that the representatives to that Conference may be sent from the Government of India?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not think it will be proper for the Government of India to do any such thing.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are Government aware of the fact that in recent years the relations between the Indians in Trinidad, Jamaica and all these islands and the local Negro masses have come to be very much improved?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I believe that is so.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact, Sir, that our Indian leaders have expressed themselves in favour of union with these people and not to demand for any separate electorates or for any separate interests?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot precisely say what they have asked for, but there is no doubt that the relations between the Indians and the others in these islands have been becoming progressively more co-operative and cordial.

Seth Govinddas: Are Government contemplating to send any Indian representative or a High Commissioner from India to the West Indies countries?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes. I said just that in answer to a previous question. We are thinking of sending a representative—he won't be a High Commissioner—to these islands.

Shri H. V. Kamath: So, at present, all our relations with these Islands, trade or otherwise, are through the United Kingdom and not directly?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, through the Colonial Office in London.

IMPORT OF CONTRACEPTIVES INTO INDIA

1281. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether any restrictions are placed on the import of contraceptives into India, and if so, what; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government propose to restrict or ban the import of such goods into our country?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, the import of contraceptives from abroad is prohibited.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are Government aware that there are lots of contraceptives coming from abroad into this country?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have nothing to add to what I have said.

CEILING PRICES FOR IMPORT OF CARS AND TRUCKS FROM DOLLAR AREA

1282. *Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state on what basis Government have fixed the ceiling prices for imports of cars and trucks from the dollar area?

(b) Is it a fact that the decision of Government to restrict imports of cars and trucks from the Dollar area, to knocked down units with a price ceiling of Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 4,000 respectively, was notified either in a Press Communique or in the Gazette Extraordinary dated the 12th December, 1947, in which Government announced their general import policy for the shipping period January-June 1948?

(c) Is it a fact that Government did not consult all the importers about their policy before adopting the same?

(d) Is it a fact that several importers of long standing, were not consulted as to their competence to import cars and trucks in accordance with the new policy?

(e) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to take steps to redress the grievances of such importers?

(f) Is it a fact that Government allocated the entire Dollar quota to a certain number of importers even before the publication of the Gazette Extraordinary dated the 12th December 1947, in which they enunciated their general import policy for the period January-June 1948?

(g) Did Government take any steps to verify if each one of the said importers was able to utilise the allocations, for the purpose of importing the particular makes of vehicles represented by them? If not, why not?

(h) Are Government aware that a certain number of importers with facilities for the assembly of C.K.D. units have not been allocated any quota at all? so, do Government propose to offer any relief to such importers?

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The ceiling prices were based on the F. O. B. prices of cars and trucks in the U. S. A. and were fixed with a view to permitting imports of a maximum number of cars with a limited amount of dollars.

(b) The decision in question was not notified either in a Press Communique or in the Gazette Extraordinary dated the 12th December 1947.

(c), (d) and (e). Importers were not consulted before the decision was adopted by the Government. But the position was duly brought to the notice of all the assembly workshops who were known to assemble cars and trucks and who were, therefore, eligible for quotas.

(f) Yes, Sir. This step was necessary to ensure that the production capacity of the assembly workshops is kept uninterrupted.

(g) Firstly, the licensees themselves have stated that they would be able to utilise their allocations in full. Secondly, the importers have been asked to furnish the Chief Controller of Imports with a monthly statement of the actual shipment of cars and trucks imported by them.

(h) Government are not aware of any other firm who has the necessary facilities to assemble cars and lorries, i.e. workshops, equipped with necessary plant and machinery, organisation and trade agreements with makers of component parts for their supply.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With reference to part (f) of the question, may I know whether there was any information available to Government that there have been several other firms—some of them being the biggest importers of motor cars—who had assembling arrangements even before the war broke out?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Government had information as supplied by the provincial Transport Officers and also by the parties concerned.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Are Government satisfied that the information supplied to them was correct?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: If it is found that there has been any mistake Government will surely stand corrected.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that one of the firms which was given a quota has not got the assembling plant even to this day?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Some such report has reached Government and inquiries are being made.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that one firm named Gujrat Motor House Ltd, Bombay, was given a quota without steps being taken to find out that the makes of the cars for which quota was granted, viz. Fraser and Kaiser, did not fall within the ceiling limit fixed by Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The list was really obtained by the Transport Ministry and forwarded to the Commerce Ministry, and it was on the basis of the information supplied by the parties concerned. But the Honourable Member will see that every licensee has to submit a monthly account, and if it is found that any information was supplied which was not correct, the licence will be immediately cancelled and proper steps will be taken.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Was any such information received by Government subsequently that the price of Kaiser and Fraser cars was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 15,000 whereas the ceiling fixed was Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000, and has the licence of this firm been cancelled since?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I shall look into that matter; I cannot answer off-hand.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: With reference to part (f) of the question, namely, that the entire dollar quota was given to a few importers even before the policy was enunciated, may I know on what basis the dollar quota was allotted to these importers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I can find out and let the Honourable Member know.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I know the names of these firms who were allotted these quotas?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I think in answer to a previous question Government said that it was not desirable that the names should be disclosed.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Why is it undesirable? Is it against public interest to disclose them?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I shall look into that matter and if it is found necessary that the names should be disclosed I shall be prepared to do so. But that is the answer which is now available before me.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if this firm to which I have referred before was allowed subsequently to change the quota in favour of Nash cars which were to be imported from America from Fraser and Kaiser, to bring them to the price level?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have no information to that effect.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that this firm is being allowed again to go back to Fraser and Kaiser and they are now trying to manipulate in a manner so that their price may fall within the fixed level?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I may assure the Honourable Member that if the licence was granted on information which is now found to be incorrect the licence will be cancelled.

Shri Ramnath Goenka: Is it a fact that there was a gentleman's agreement between the motor car importers and the Government of India and that only those firms who made a breach of that agreement were given the largest quotas?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I am not in a position to answer that question but if more details are given I shall get. In fact the Honourable Minister had a discussion with several Honourable Members of this House, and I was under the impression that the position had been sufficiently clarified. But if there are some further doubts to be clarified I shall be prepared to meet any Honourable Member who may wish to obtain further information.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I know whether the Transport Ministry took any steps to find out the assembling capacity of the various firms who have been granted import quotas?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Apart from the information given by the applicants themselves, information was also obtained from the provincial Transport Controllers.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether these firms which were given these quotas have been able to avail of the imported cars and have got sufficient arrangements to assemble them?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is due to be checked every month. I cannot say what exactly the latest report is.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable Minister give a definition of C. K. D.?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is, completely knocked-down condition and S. K. D. is semi knocked-down condition.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: But what is the really completely knocked down car as taken by Government? Is it a car which has got certain parts, as certain makes are trying to manipulate the prices of certain highly priced cars in such a manner that they fall within this price and they are called C. K. D. although they are not so. What is the Government's definition?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: In the books of Government the definition I believe, is,—completely knocked down condition.

REDISTRIBUTION OF DOLLAR EXCHANGE TO FACILITATE IMPORT OF VEHICLES OF VARIOUS MAKES

1283. *Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is permissible to utilise the quota granted to an importer for a particular make or makes of vehicles to be utilised for the importation of other makes of vehicles?

(b) If not, do Government propose to equitably re-distribute the Dollar quota which cannot be utilised by some importers for the importation of particular makes of vehicles for which the allocation was originally granted?

(c) Do Government propose to give separately the figures of Dollar and Sterling allocations given to the various importers of cars and trucks?

(d) Have Government reserved any Dollar or Sterling Exchange for the importation of cars and trucks from the Continent of Europe?

(e) If so, do Government propose to state the amount held in reserve for this purpose and the manner in which it is intended to be allocated to the various importers?

(f) Do Government propose to assure the House that in future, Government will define and circularise their proposed policy to all the importers, well in advance, so as to enable them to formulate their plans and adjust them to the policy of Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir, except in the case of licences for complete cars from the United Kingdom, where particular makes have been specified. In the latter case the licences are granted to accredited distributors of specific makes.

(b) Does not arise, in view of the fact that no licensee has so far stated that he is unable to utilise the licence for the importation of the specific make.

(c) I may invite the attention of the honourable member to the answer given to Starred Question Nos. 916 and 1026 on the 22nd and 30th March 1948 respectively.

(d) A balance of non-dollar exchange (amounting to Rs. 63 lakhs) earmarked for import of motor vehicles is yet to be allocated for the imports of cars from the continent of Europe and for further imports of cars from the United Kingdom.

(e) In making allocations of this amount to various importers, it is proposed to adhere to the maximum c.i.f. value of Rs. 6,250 per unit and to issue licences mainly to the authorised agents in India of the various makers of cars which conform to this limit.

(f) Owing to frequent changes in the exchange position, it may not always be possible to follow such a course.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With regard to the reply to part (a), may I know whether Government has itself taken any steps to enquire whether the quotas allotted to these firms have been utilised or not? Or are Government relying on the statements supplied by these importers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I said, Government usually rely on the statements given by the applicants and also the provincial transport authorities.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: In view of the fact that information has been given by certain members, will Government make enquiries and in case it is found that some of these firms have not used their quotas, those quotas will be allotted to those not consulted in the beginning?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We shall check up.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is there any correlation between this Ministry and the Finance Ministry in the matter of allocation of dollar exchange? Or is it that independently of his Ministry, the Finance Ministry goes on giving dollar exchange quotas to various individuals?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Obviously there is a correlation. The Finance Ministry has to tell us how much can be spared, after taking into consideration all the demands of the various ministries, and then the allotment is made by the Ministry concerned.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Then may I ask whether, in the matter of allocation of dollar exchange quotas to some of these firms even before his Department came out with this particular policy, there was a policy of giving away advance quotas to others?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have not here any material to answer that question. But I can check that up and see at what stage that was so.

Shri K. Santhanam: Is there a department of the Reserve Bank which watches over the manner in which these dollar quotas are utilised and supplies information to the Finance Department or the Industry Department?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: So far as my Ministry is concerned this is not the case. Whether it is so in the case of the Finance Ministry, I cannot say.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is there any advisory council or standing committee, whose business it is to scrutinise how these allotments are being made and also to advise these three or four departments interested in this matter?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There is no advisory committee consisting of outsiders, but mutual consultations among the Ministries concerned are held.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Mahtia: Is there any Cabinet sub-committee to scrutinise all these things?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I believe it is not possible for a Cabinet sub-committee to go into the question of individual licences.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are any steps taken at any stage—if possible at the ministerial level—to see that no undue or invidious discrimination is made between one firm and another and also that dollar exchanges are not being frittered away or wasted?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: In some cases allotments were made with the approval of the Honourable Minister himself, but I can tell the House that Government contemplate the setting up of a suitable machinery so that anyone who has any grievance regarding the working of the control system or the operation of any of these restriction systems, may come and put his grievances before such an authority.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I know whether there was any gentleman's agreement regarding the fixation of ceiling prices of cars?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There was some agreement with the Transport Ministry and with the manufacturers concerned.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I know whether any firms committed a breach of agreement thereof?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There have been allegations that some firms have sold at a rate higher than what was agreed upon.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I know whether the fact that they had committed a breach of the agreement was taken into consideration in making allocations of these quotas for imports?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The Honourable Member should bear in mind that there is no control price fixed now and what ever is done is done as a result of a mutual agreement. But what is now being done is this—and already a decision has been reached. In future when licences are granted, it will have to be stated whether the price structure follows the directions which may be issued by the Government from time to time. What has been done and in future there will be no possibility of the sort of case which has happened being repeated.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Will it not be desirable in the public interest to find out whether the firms allotted these quotas will be able to utilise them fully and whether they have assembly plants as has been reported?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I have said, the licence provides that every month information on the essential points has to be given. If it is found that they are not acting according to the conditions laid down, the licence shall be cancelled.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: My question is whether Government will take steps to verify whether the information supplied by the allocation authorities is correct? Is not it desirable in the public interest for the Government to take steps to verify that the information given by the allocation authorities is correct and, if not, to cancel the quotas at once?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: When the monthly returns come in this will certainly be done.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I wanted information about the particulars supplied of the assembly capacity of various firms. Have they the capacity that they said they have? Perhaps one firm does not possess any assembly plant. Will Government take steps to verify whether this particular firm or firms that have been allotted these quotas have the necessary assembly capacity which they have said they have?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Government will go further than that. What Government has said is this: If it is found that the number of cars which have to be assembled according to the conditions prescribed is not assembled, then whether there is capacity or not, the licence will be cancelled.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Will the Government take steps to see that under K. C. D. even those cars which cost more than Rs. 5,000 are not brought in two portions—one costing Rs. 5,000 and the other also costing Rs. 5,000—in order to defeat the restriction laid down by the Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We shall see that nothing is done to evade the policy of Government.

Shri Ramnath Goenka: May I know if it is within the knowledge of the Government that the gentleman's agreement for the fixation of prices has been broken by certain firms?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Information has reached Government that prices were charged at a higher rate. But as I answered a few days ago, the prices have now been revised.

Shri Ramnath Goenka: Since it has been brought to the notice of Government that the gentleman's agreement has been broken, will they consider the advisability of straightaway canceling the licences already granted?

Mr. Speaker: This is all by way of suggestions and arguments!

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is there any agency in his department to check up from time to time if the conditions in the licence and the understanding have been carried out?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There is no agency under the Central Government. Obviously we can proceed through the Provincial Government or the provincial Transport Authorities.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Is there any penalty attached to those who violated the conditions?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Withdrawal of the licence is sufficient penalty!

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: With regard to the reply to part (d) the Honourable Minister said that Rs. 63 lakhs had been earmarked for importing cars from the Continent of Europe and the United Kingdom. Will Government consider the desirability of allocating these quotas to firms which were unfairly treated in the beginning?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Well, we shall see that the licences are granted to persons who fulfil the conditions, but whether we shall make a special selection within a particular category it is difficult to say.

1284. *[WITHDRAWN]

RATES FOR BOARDERS IN VARIOUS VEGETARIAN AND NON-VEGETARIAN HOSTELS IN DELHI, AND NEW DELHI

1285. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether Government allow the committees of boarders in their hostels like the Eastern House, Pataudi and Kota houses to appoint their own caterers or to change their menus within the prescribed financial limits?

(b) Have Government fixed any rates to be charged from the boarders in the various vegetarian and non-vegetarian hostels in New Delhi and Delhi?

(c) If so, what are the rates for boarding and lodging in different hostels?

(d) Are Government aware that the hostel-keepers are not charging uniformly?

(e) If the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to take steps in the interests of the boarders?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: (a) House Committees have been formed only in three out of the five Government hostels in New Delhi. Caterers for hostels where House Committee exist are selected by the Estate Officer in consultation with the Committee after inviting tenders.

Changes in day to day menus within the prescribed standard menu are permissible subject to the restrictions under the existing rationing orders.

(b) Yes. There are, however, no Government hostels in old Delhi.

(c) A statement showing the rates in hostels in New Delhi is laid on the table of the House.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement Of Rents and Catering Charges in Government Hostels

Name of Hostel.	Rents of rooms per day.						Catering Charges per day				
	Single room hutments	Married room hutment	Family room hutment	Single room main Bldg.	Married room in Bldg. Main Bldg.	Family room Main Bldg.	For adults	Under 3 yrs.	For Children		
Western Court	—	—	—	*3-7-0 to 3-14-0	6-3-0	—	6-0-0	2-0-0	2-8-0	3-0-0	4-0-0
Pataudi House	2-0-0	3-0-0	5-0-0	—	3-0-0	5-0-0	6-0-0	2-0-0	2-8-0	3-0-0	4-0-0
Kota House	2-0-0	*3-0-0 & 5-0-0	6-0-0	*1-4-0 1-8-0 2-8-0 & 3-0-0	5-0-0	7-0-0 & 8-0-0	6-0-0	2-0-0	2-8-0	3-0-0	4-0-0
Aurangzeb Road	2-0-0	3-0-0	—	2-0-0	3-0-0	6-0-0	6-0-0	2-0-0	2-8-0	3-0-0	4-0-0
Constitution House	3-0-0	6-0-0	—	—	—	—	(1) 4-14-0 (2) 5-8-0	1-8-0 1-8-0	2-0-0 2-0-0	2-8-0 2-8-0	3-0-0 3-0-0

*According to sizes of rooms.

(1) This rate is for Members of Assembly.

(2) This rate is for all others.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Which are the two of the five hostels that are without House Committees?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: I am afraid, Sir, I cannot answer that question without notice.

Shri B. Das: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Western House which accommodates a large number of refugee girls has no House Committee, but is under a Lady Superintendent?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: That may be correct. I would like to make enquiries about it.

**RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF CONTROLLER OF PRINTING AND STATIONERY
THROUGH THE FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

1286. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the post of Controller of Printing and Stationery was advertised through the Federal Public Service Commission and if so, what were the qualifications stipulated for the post;

(b) whether the selection for the post has so far been made;

(c) whether the selected candidate possessed the qualifications, general and technical, as stipulated by the Federal Public Service Commission;

(d) whether any departmental officer competent to advise the Federal Public Service Commission regarding technical qualifications was present at the interview;

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, the reasons for not deputing such a competent adviser:—

(f) whether there were any trained officers in the Printing and Stationery Department who possessed the qualifications—general and technical—prescribed for the post of Controller;

(g) whether it is a fact that the post of Controller falls in the category of those to be filled through the Federal Public Service Commission;

(h) whether it was deposed before the Royal Commission on Labour in India (Whitley 1929) that the apprentices who were selected in the Printing and Stationery Department in 1922 for supervisory posts would in due course be appointed to the post of Controller of Printing and Stationery; and

(i) if the answer to part (h) above be in the affirmative, why such a course has not been adopted in the appointment to the post of Controller?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: (a) Yes. A statement showing the qualifications prescribed for the post is laid on the table of the House.

(b) Yes.

(c) The selected candidate complied with all the prescribed qualifications except educational qualification which the Commission was empowered to relax in the case of candidates who satisfied other conditions.

(d) The Secretary to Government in the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power was present at the interview.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes, except when the post is filled by some class I officer or an officer of Provincial Service or by promotion from Class II in an officiating capacity for less than one year.

(h) No.

(i) Does not arise.

Statement

Containing the qualifications prescribed for the post of the Controller of Printing and Stationery, India.

(a) Candidate should be a graduate of a recognised University in Arts or Science or should hold a degree in the Art of Printing and allied trades from a recognised institution in India or abroad. (b) Should possess wide experience to run big offices. An officer with strong personality and initiative will be preferred. (c) Considerable experience of purchasing stores (preferably stationery stores which include paper and paper products) or intimate knowledge of modern printing presses and their working. Experience of handling independently big concerns employing large labour force will be additional qualification.

N.B.—Qualification No. (a) may be relaxed in the case of candidates who satisfy other conditions.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Why is it, Sir, that the educational qualifications were not insisted upon?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: I shall, for the information of the Honourable Members read out the qualifications which were prescribed for the post of Controller of Printing and Stationery.

“(a) Candidate should be a graduate of a recognised University in Arts or Science or should hold a degree in the Art of Printing and allied trades from a recognised institution in India or abroad. (b) Should possess wide experience to run big offices. An officer with strong personality and initiative will be preferred. (c) Considerable experience of purchasing stores (preferably stationery stores which include paper and paper products) or intimate knowledge of modern printing presses and their working. Experience of handling independently big concerns employing large labour force will be additional qualification.

N.B.—Qualification No. (a) may be relaxed in the case of candidates who satisfy other conditions.”

Shri H. V. Kamath: What is the name of the new incumbent?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order, I cannot permit that question.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: What are the educational qualifications of the person who has been selected?

Mr. Speaker: I will not encourage questions regarding individual appointments.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: We want to know the qualifications of the new incumbent, because it was said that in this case the educational qualifications were not considered.

Mr. Speaker: He never said that they were not considered.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I mean there was a relaxation in this particular case.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, in view of the candidate's other qualifications.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Sir, on a point of order. May I ask you, Sir, if Government lays down certain conditions and qualifications for an appointment, but appoint a man who does not fulfil those qualifications, how are we to ascertain his qualifications without putting questions. I certainly bow to your ruling. But if a man who is absolutely unsuited to a particular job is appointed, is it not the duty of we members to bring it to the notice of the House?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I might as well make the position clear as to what is passing in my mind. I think this House would do well in not entering into the merits or grievances regarding individual appointments that are made. In all such cases, the best course would be for members of the House to approach

the Minister concerned. For one instance of that kind, I can well appreciate and imagine hundreds of instances in which allegations may be made by interested parties against the person appointed, through questions by members in this House. Looking to the balance of convenience and inconvenience, I do feel that, the less we discuss about the personalities of officers of the executive, the better it will be for the administration. Otherwise, the tone of the administration will go down. I am saying this with what little experience I have of the administration of the municipalities. Allegations come in, even against the best men for one reason or another. I do not mean to suggest that all these allegations are always false; some may not be. But the best course, to my mind, would be, to approach the Government, approach the Ministers and I am sure the Ministers are bound to satisfy the members. In case there is any injustice, even after representation to the Minister, it may be open to members to bring the question before the House. That should be the general policy. Otherwise, if every Honourable Member is going to interfere in the administration in respect of every appointment, I think there will be no tone at all left. The function of the House should be to lay down policy and watch the general working of the administration, rather than interfere in the day to day work. That is what is passing at the back of my mind and in dealing with questions from Members, I am guided by these general principles.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, I hope this will not be treated as a ruling, but as a kind of advice coming from the Chair, because, there is also the other danger of the Honourable Members of this House being turned into petitioners to get justice for this individual or that individual. And when we bring to the notice of the House any injustice done to a particular individual, it is something like a test audit. It is by the way in which Government deals with such complaints, that it stands or falls.

Mr. Speaker: I may tell Honourable Members, whether you call it a ruling or you do not call it a ruling, the allowance or disallowance of questions will have to rest with me and I cannot claim that I shall be exercising my judgment always correctly, though I can assert that, it will be always *bona fide* and in the best interests of the House. The lines which I lay down are the lines usually followed in the House of Commons. And, therefore, Honourable Members would do well in all such cases to approach the Ministers and in case they are not able to get satisfaction, or they feel that the injustice has not been redressed, it is perfectly open to them to come to me and explain the position, so that I may be in possession of the facts and may be in a better position to judge as to whether a particular question should be allowed or not.

Honourable Members will agree that many times even 'fishing' questions are put, based upon unreliable information. In short, the executive must be safe; provided they are acting properly, there should be no unwarranted charges or slings against them in the House.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: May I point out, Sir, that in this case the selection was made by the Public Service Commission and, therefore, the Minister does not come into the picture. The only information which the question seeks is whether any relaxation was made in the educational qualifications prescribed for the selection of candidates.

Mr. Speaker: That is exactly what I have pointed out—that we should not go into individual appointments. I have laid down the general policy and Members will do well to be guided by it.

Shri H. V. Kamath: With due respect to your ruling, Sir, does this post fall under the category of posts to be filled through the Federal Public Service Commission?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: Certainly.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it not a fact, Sir, that there were many other candidates who appeared before the Commission and who were educationally and technically better qualified?

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better go to the next question.

Shri H. J. Khandekar: May I know, Sir, whether the qualifications of candidates were relaxed in the case of Harijan candidates for this particular post?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: I cannot say; I will have to look into it.

EVICTED BY GOVERNMENT OF TIBBIA COLLEGE HOSTEL

1287. *Shri Damodar Swarup Seth: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state why the Government of India have so far not been able to vacate the Hostel of the Tibbia College?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: The Tibbia College Hostel building was vacated and returned to the College authorities in November, 1946.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the Honourable Minister is aware of the fact that since this building was vacated it is being misused and let out to a hotel and some other shops? Will Government now take steps to see that this college with which the name of a very big patriot is associated is not misused for the benefit of certain individuals?

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: Government might consider the suggestion made by the Honourable Member.

REPORTS OF INDIAN TRADE COMMISSIONERS ABROAD FOR 1945-47.

1288. *Seth Govinddas: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports for the years 1945, 1946 and 1947 from Indian Trade Commissioners stationed abroad have all been received;

(b) if not, reports in respect of which years and countries are still due;

(c) what method is adopted by Government to make these reports known to the public in general, and trade and industry in particular in India;

(d) whether it is a fact that only extracts from these trade reports are published;

(e) whether it is a fact that these reports are printed but are not available to the public on payment; and

(f) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of making the reports a priced publication and if not, why not?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) and (b). Annual reports for the year 1945-46 have been received only from the Trade Commissioners in Canada, Australia and East Africa. Reports for 1946-47 have not yet been received. Monthly reports are, however, being regularly received and published.

(c) Summaries of these reports are published in the Foreign Market Review and the Indian Trade Journal. The former circulates to trade and industry mainly through Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations and the latter which is a periodical priced publication, has a fairly wide circulation among the commercial public. Summaries of such reports are also released to the press for publication by the Bureau of Public Information.

(d) Fairly full extracts of monthly reports are reproduced in the I.T.J. As for annual reports, the Honourable Member is referred to the answers furnished to parts (e) and (f) of his question.

(e) and (f). Annual reports were printed in this part and made available for sale to the public by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. This practice was

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however, discontinued during war-time due to shortage of paper and printing facilities but is now being resumed.

Seth Govinddas: Will the Honourable Minister please state which are the countries from which no reports have been received since 1945?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: All those countries other than Canada, Australia and East Africa.

Seth Govinddas: Why was it that these reports had not been received from those other countries?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Apparently the system of sending reports was discontinued during the war and the officers themselves were not sometimes prompt.

Seth Govinddas: Will the Government now intimate to these Trade Commissioners that they should send these reports?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That has been done already.

Seth Govinddas: Why is it that from these countries monthly reports are being received but the annual report for 1946-47 has not so far been received?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I said, only a few months ago Government had circularised that annual reports should be sent. It has been felt that monthly reports now in the present conditions are more helpful than annual reports and monthly reports are being continued.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government consider the desirability of revising the price of these annual reports? They are very high at present.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I shall look into that.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Will Government consider the desirability of supplying these reports to the members of this House?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We shall certainly consider the desirability of supplying them to members either free or at a specially cheap rate.

POLICY RE TRADE BETWEEN EAST PUNJAB AND WEST PUNJAB.

1289. ***Seth Govinddas:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the policy of Government with respect to the trade between the East and West Punjab?

(b) Is it a fact that the trade between East Punjab and West Punjab is possible through the ports of Bombay and Karachi and not through the border towns of the East Punjab?

(c) Do Government propose to allow trade between the East and the West Punjab through the border towns of the East Punjab?

(d) Is it a fact that traders have often been arrested and detained under the Punjab Safety Act for trading through the East Punjab border towns?

(e) Do Government propose to lay on the table of the House the export and import figures, if any, in respect of trade with the West Punjab through the Amritsar border since 15th August, 1947?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Since the termination of the Standstill Agreement on 29th February 1948 trade between East and West Punjab is technically foreign trade and as such is subject to the import, export and other control regulations regulating such trade. In view however of the close economic bonds subsisting between the territories it has been agreed that the maximum assistance should be given to the free movement of goods from East Punjab to West Punjab. I would add for the Honourable Member's information that no restrictions have at present been placed on import of any

class of goods in East Punjab from West Punjab. Measures for further facilitating movement of goods between the two areas are also proposed to be discussed at an inter-Dominion Conference which it is proposed to convene shortly.

(b) The answer is in the negative. So far as the Government of India are concerned, there is no ban as such, on trade between East and West Punjab across the land customs frontier. Such trade would, however, be subject to import, export and other control regulations, and can pass through only certain specified routes and land Customs stations.

(c) Does not arise in view of the answer to (b) above.

(d) I have no information on this point.

(e) No, Sir, as the statistics of exports and imports requested are not available.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if it is a fact that whereas custom has been imposed on imports from Pakistan arrangements have not so far been made by Government to set up a machinery to guide the traders in respect of the duties levied on these imports and a good deal of commodities is lying in Delhi which could not be taken delivery of on account of arrangements not having been made by the Government so far?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I should be prepared to look into that. As a matter of fact so far as customs stations are concerned there are already 32 customs stations opened in the area concerned. But as regards the particular class of cases which the Honourable Member has referred to, if I get the details I shall certainly look into them.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: How many more places are there where such arrangements have not yet been made or yet to be made?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: So far as East Punjab is concerned customs stations have been opened in the Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepore districts and the total number comes to 32.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: The Honourable Minister has said that from East Punjab to West Punjab every effort is being made to facilitate the movement of goods. What is the Government's experience in regard to the movement from the other side, from West Punjab to East Punjab? Are they getting proper co-operation from the other Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: That is one of the matters which is proposed to be discussed at the Inter-Dominion Conference which will be held shortly. It will be to mutual advantage if these barriers can be reduced, but they must be of a reciprocal kind.

1290—1291. *[WITHDRAWN].

ALLEGED GOVERNMENT PLEDGES TO MAHATMA GANDHI RE REHABILITATION AND RE-SETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES.

1292. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government gave any pledges to Mahatma Gandhi, ere he met a martyr's death, in regard to the rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees in general and of refugees returning from Pakistan?

January 1948. These pledges given by the Peace Committee were endorsed on behalf of Government.

(b) Government are naturally anxious that any pledges given to the Father of the Nation and to the public generally should be favoured.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I draw the attention of the Honourable the Prime Minister to the answer which he gave to my supplementary question a few days ago to the effect that Government gave pledges to Mahatma Gandhi and that the policy of the Government in respect of this problem is moulded by these pledges: may I know whether the pledges were given by the Government or by the Peace Committee?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Both.

Shri B. Das: May I know how many Muslim refugees from Delhi have signified their intention to return to Delhi so far?

Mr. Speaker: That question had better be addressed to the Relief and Rehabilitation Minister. In any case how does it arise out of this?

Shri B. Das: It arises out of the pledge given to the Muslims so that they can come back to Delhi.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the policy of the Government always continue to be moulded by these pledges irrespective of the circumstances that may arise?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: The pledges are based on a principle. If the principle is good it should be valid irrespective of circumstances. But every policy is moulded by circumstances and by changing conditions. So when a question has to be considered it has to be considered in its fundamental aspect and in its varying aspect: both have to be taken into consideration. No policy can be said to be a permanent policy, because conditions change but the outlook or the principle governing it might continue to be the same, although other conditions changing it has to be applied differently.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Considering the fact that non-Muslim refugees returning from India to Pakistan are not treated as generously as Muslim refugees returning to India, do Government propose to secure justice to our nationals first before they show generosity to others?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I have not wholly understood the question but it would rather involve a lengthy argument if I attempt to answer the question. There is no question of generosity involved in it. It is a question of the outlook of the State. We have declared that ours is a secular state. The other state so far as I know is not a secular state. Now are we to fall in line with the other state and not see that our State is a secular state? I do beg the House to consider this matter not from the point of view, as has become rather usual, of Hindu or Muslim or something else. I know for a fact that quite a large number of Muslims are very loyal to the State here, and I know for a fact that a very large number of Hindus are disloyal to the State. It is not a question of Hindu or Muslim. It is a question, if you like, of persons who are loyal to the State. That I can understand. But the mere fact of a person's religion does not make a person loyal or disloyal to a State; and it is a very wrong way of describing a person or considering a question on those lines. At the present moment we have said that we would welcome people who had gone away from the city of Delhi to come back. Naturally, while we welcome them, the fact of their coming back, their numbers and their accommodation are governed by all manner of difficult factors. All these factors cannot be overlooked. Nevertheless, the fact is that because a person is a Muslim he is not kept out and is welcome to come back.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Am I to understand that the non-Muslim refugees returning from India to Pakistan are less loyal to Pakistan than Muslim refugees coming from Pakistan to India are loyal to India?

Mr. Speaker: I think this is entering into an argument.

REORGANISATION OF LEGAL SYSTEM OF INDIA

1293. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Law be pleased to state what action Government propose to take to re-organise the legal system of the country?

(b) Are Government aware that the system of law in the country is costly and beyond the reach of the common man?

(c) If so when do Government propose to consider the question of making legal remedies accessible to the poorest of citizens?

(d) Do Government propose to take up the question of delay in the administration of law which is a major problem for the litigant public?

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: (a) No such question is under consideration at present.

(b) Government is aware that this view is held by many people.

(c) and (d). Government consider that the proper way of tackling the question would be to set up a Committee on the lines of the Civil Justice Committee of 1924. They however think that the present moment is hardly opportune for the appointment of such a committee and the country will have to settle down to more normal conditions before extensive legal reforms of this nature could be undertaken.

LETTER IN *Blitz* re MISERIES OF INDIAN SAILORS SUFFERED IN BRITISH OWNED SHIPS

1294. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a letter that appeared in the *Blitz*, dated the 20th March, 1948 from an Indian seaman describing the miseries suffered by 700 of our sailors in British owned ships?

(b) Is the report that three of our seamen were frozen to death correct?

(c) Have Government taken any steps to improve the working conditions of these people?

(d) Do Government propose to take action to see that compensation is paid to the dependants of the deceased?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (a) yes, Sir.

(b) I am making enquiries.

(c) Yes, Sir. Provision exists in the Indian Merchant Shipping Act and in the terms of agreement regarding engagement of seamen prescribed under the Act to secure that reasonable conditions of service are given to the seamen. Government see that conditions are acted upto and also take any opportunity that occurs to effect any improvements that are possible.

(d) Yes, Sir; if enquiries indicate that such action is necessary.

Prof. W. G. Ranga: How long ago were enquiries made into the conditions of these seamen?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We shall expedite the enquiries; we shall see that no unnecessary delay takes place.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Are Government in a position to say that the ship by which these sailors were sent was found fit or not?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I have said, we have no information in the Government. We saw the press report and we have started making enquires.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I know if the Ministry has at its disposal adequate machinery to look after the comforts of the Indian Seamen in the various places in which they are employed?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I cannot say exactly whether any specific machinery exists in Delhi for that purpose.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Will he make enquires and see that adequate machinery is created for the purpose?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There may be necessary machinery already available.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know from the Honourable Minister whether a complete list of Indian Seamen is maintained?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The list is there; but whether it is complete and up-to-date I cannot say because a lot of persons have gone away to Pakistan.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know whether Government will take steps to see that the list is brought up-to-date?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Yes, we shall do it.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it not a fact that there are what are known as Seamen Welfare officers in every port?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Welfare Officers there are, but I cannot say off-hand whether there is any special organisation under the Government of India.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know what is the answer to part (b) of the question whether three of our seamen were frozen to death?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have already said that the matter is being enquired into. We saw the press report and immediately the enquiry was started.

REFUSAL OF IMPORT LICENCES FOR TRACTORS

1295. ***Shri Baldeo Swarup:** Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether Government are aware that people are being refused imports of items like tractors that are imperatively needed and if so, do Government propose to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the names of firms who were allowed or disallowed imports of tractors during 1947-48, with reasons for allowing or disallowing and also the facility proposed to be given to new comers?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Licences for importation of tractors are granted having regard to (a) the availability of foreign exchange; (b) availability of fuels required for operating the machines; (c) suitability of types proposed to be imported and (d) availability of workshop facilities and trained staff to service the machinery at the disposal of the importer. I lay on the table of the House two statements showing the names of firms who were granted and those who were refused licences for importation of tractors during 1947-48. While granting licences, no discrimination is shown against new-comers.

Statement

showing the names of the firms whose location for the import of Agricultural Tractors were refused in the year-1947-48 on the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Serial No.	Particulars of firms
1.	M/S. Sepulcher & Co., Ltd., New Delhi.
2.	" Rajkissen Radhakissen Mitter & Co., Calcutta.
3.	" Mata Lachmi Co., Bombay.
4.	" Anzel Ltd., Bombay.
5.	" Bhatnagar & Co., Delhi.
6.	" Bachhraj Factories Ltd., Bombay.
7.	" Gopal & Co., Madras.
8.	" Milkhiram (India) Ltd., Bombay.
9.	" Associated Industrial Promoters Ltd., Bombay.
10.	" B. L. Anantbhat, Bombay.
11.	" Associated Industrial Promoters Ltd., Bombay.
12.	" M. V. Raghvarao Naidu, Parlakimedi, Orissa.
13.	" K. Ramson & Co., (1916), Madras.
14.	" Ranjit Singh & Sons Ltd., Lucknow.
15.	" Ramson & Co., (1916), Madras.
16.	" Rustom K. Rustom, Bomba.
17.	" Spence Ltd., Calcutta.
18.	" Simpson & Co., Ltd., Madras.
19.	" S. C. Surdivall Gola Gakaram Nath, District Kheri.
20.	" India Collective Farms Ltd., Calcutta.
21.	" Vulcan Trading Co., Ltd., Bombay.
22.	" Bhatia Corporation, Jubbulpore.
23.	" Currinhoy Laljee Sajun & Co., Bombay.
24.	" The Industrial and Agricultural Engineering Co., (Mysore), Ltd., Bangalore City.
25.	" Primera Corporation, Bombay.
26.	" G. P. Shukal, Ahmedabad.
27.	" T. E. Thompson & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
28.	" T. M. Thakore & Co., Bombay.
29.	" A. V. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Alleppey.
30.	" United Machine Co., Calcutta.
31.	" Vasantrao & Co., Bombay.
32.	" Vithal Pattaram Desai, Bombay.
33.	" Jacob George & Co., Bombay.
34.	" Somani & Co., Bombay.
35.	" Shree Hind Vijay Co., Ltd., Bombay.
36.	" Garlick & Co., Bombay.
37.	" Innex Agency Ltd., Calcutta.
38.	" Impex (India) Ltd., Bombay.
39.	" Bengal Engineering Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
40.	" Reliance Engineering Co., Indore City.
41.	" Ralli Bros., Ltd., Calcutta.
42.	" The General Commercial Corporation Ltd., Madras.
43.	" Dandhi Bros., Bombay.
44.	" Govind Ram Bros., Ltd., Bombay.
45.	" Rahalal Makanjee Zaveri, Bombay.
46.	" Dharamaveer & Co., Madras.
47.	" Doshi Bros. (Bombay), Bombay.
48.	" Hindustan Industrial Creporation, New Delhi.
49.	" Faza'hoy Foreign Agencies, Bombay.
50.	" National Garage Ltd., Bombay.
51.	" National Trading Co., Calcutta.

Statement

showing the names of the firms to whom licences were granted for imports of Agricultural Tractors during 1947-48 on the recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Serial No.	Name of firms
1.	M/S. Tractors (India) Ltd., Calcutta.
2.	" Volkart Brothers, Bombay.
3.	" William Jacks & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
4.	" Buckwell & Co., Ltd., Lahore.

Serial No.	Name of firms
5.	M/S Punjab Hardware Stores, Lahore.
6.	" T. E. Thomson & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
7.	" American Seed & Machinery Co., Lahore.
8.	" The New Engineering Co., Calcutta.
9.	" Francis Klien & Co., Calcutta.
10.	" Dinanath Balmukand, Lyallpur.
11.	" A. S. Ahluwalia & Co., Delhi.
12.	" Hindusthan Tractor Co., Bombay.
13.	" Indian Mildura Fruit Farms Ltd., Montgomery.
14.	" M. A. Malim & Co., Bombay.
15.	" Narayan Das & Co., Karachi.
16.	" Irvch D. Engineer & Co., Bombay.
17.	" Dharmvir & Co., Madras.
18.	" Currimbhoy Laljee & Co., Bombay.
19.	" The United Provinces Commercial Corporation, Calcutta.
20.	" Empire Intdia & Ceylon Tea Co., Ltd., Bombay.
21.	" Gillanders Arbuthnot Co., Calcutta.
22.	" United Machine Co., Calcutta.
23.	" John Fleming & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
24.	" Supulchre & Co., Ltd., New Delhi.
25.	" The General Manager, Assam Railway Trading Co., Limited, Assam.
26.	" The British Trading Corporation, Lahore.
27.	" Impex (India) Ltd., Bombay.
28.	" Sone Valley Portland Cement Co., Ltd., Calcutta.
29.	" Pashabhai Patel & Co., Bombay.
30.	" Construction Equipment Co., Bombay.
31.	" Jhalani Bros., Delhi.
32.	" Anilesh & Co., Bombay.
33.	" Sanghi Bros., Jodhpur.
34.	" Venkateswar Motor & Radio Co., Nundal, Madras.
35.	" Industries Service Corporation, Bombay.
36.	" Ford Motor Co., (India) Ltd., Bombay.
37.	" Bhatnagar & Co., Ltd., Delhi.
38.	" Choudhry Akhtar Hyder Hussain, Ummidpur (U.P.).
39.	" Issac Penhas (India) Ltd., Bombay.
40.	" Comptroller of the Household of H. E. the Gaekwar of Baroda.
41.	" Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Bombay.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Was any effort made, Sir, to consult the Government of India's own Agricultural Engineer here in order to settle whether he is satisfied with the suitability of the types proposed to be imported?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We always act in consultation with the officers of the Agriculture Ministry.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that this particular officer who really is expected to discharge this function was never consulted at all but on the other hand it was, I think, the Agricultural Commissioner who has no technical qualifications for this that was consulted?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The Agriculture Ministry is asked to send its representative. Whether the particular representative sent by them is an expert or not is more than what I can say.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government enquire into this?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We cannot go into the bona fides of an expert sent by a particular Ministry unless the allegation is made that the officer knows nothing about the subject.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That is the point.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I am not prepared to agree that the expert who attended the meeting on behalf of the Agriculture Ministry knew nothing of the subject.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Government at least enquire whether the so-called Government expert who advises them that is the Agricultural Commissioner, has got the necessary technical qualifications or experience in order to give them advice as to the suitability of the types of tractors proposed to be imported into this country?

Mr. Speaker: Rather than asking one Ministry to enquire about another Ministry's Officer is it not better to put a question straight to the Agriculture Ministry as to whether the representative they sent was qualified on the subject or not?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: The difficulty is it came up only yesterday and we could not put supplementary questions. Today the Minister is not here.

Mr. Speaker: It can be done in the future.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if these tractors are purchased through the Supply Mission in America or directly through the importers to whom import licences are granted?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Through the supply Mission. What I did say was that Dr. Rajendra Prasad asked me that we might make some exception in the case of parties who might be able to bring us some useful information and we were prepared to relax the rule. Ordinarily it is got through the Supply Mission.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: In that case does it mean that all the orders for the import of the tractors have been given only to private agencies and none through the Supply Mission?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It is through the Supply Mission of course.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Was any exception made in favour of particular importers on the advice of Dr. Rajendra Prasad?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I do not think so. What I described was the policy and I said that the Industries Ministry was prepared to make an exception in order to meet the wishes of the then Agriculture Minister.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know how many tractors have actually been imported in 1947-48?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: So far as I remember, we have placed orders for about 220.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: How many have been received till now?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: They are due to arrive from April onwards. At least 80 per cent. of the lot is to be completed by June. The whole idea was that the ensuing season must not be lost.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: Is the Government aware that many tractors are already lying idle in the country because they do not get fuel for working them; and if so will they take steps to make the fuel available?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There has been difficulty with regard to the supply of diesel oil. But the very acute position which was in existence a few weeks ago has been altered now and we expect to get larger supplies of diesel oil.

Seth Govinddas: Are these tractors going to be distributed to various Provinces according to their needs or are they to be centralised in a certain place.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: They are going to be supplied to the different Provinces and a programme has been drawn up in consultation with the Provincial Governments by the Agriculture Ministry.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

IMPORT OF TRACTORS ON PERMISSION AND RECOMMENDATION OF MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

1296. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that imports of tractors (Agricultural) are permitted only on the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and if so, what is the estimate of the number of farmers who can afford to purchase and keep engaged big tractors; and

(b) whether it is necessary that all tractors should undergo Nebraska Test before they are landed in India and whether this question was raised in any case?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir; licences for importation of tractors are granted on the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture. Government have on information regarding the estimate of the number of farmers who can afford to purchase and keep engaged big tractors only those who possess large farms varying in size from 30 acres upwards will, however be able to use big tractors.

(b) It is desirable, but not essential, that tractors imported from the United States of America should have undergone this test.

Answer to second part of this question is in the affirmative.

DELAY IN DISPOSAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORT OF TRACTORS

1297. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several months are taken for disposal of applications for imports of tractors by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Chief Controller of Imports and if so, what action Government propose to take to avoid the delay and to minimise the difficulty of importers; and

(b) whether Government propose to fix certain specifications and horse-power for tractors which may not need import licence at all?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Due to the influx of applications for revalidation of licences and the general congestion resulting from partition, there was some delay in the final disposal of applications for imports of tractors during the July-December 1947 shipping period. I may assure the Honourable Member that all possible steps are now being taken to ensure prompt disposal of current applications.

(b) No, Sir, The need for regulating the foreign exchange commitments, makes it necessary to continue the present system of control over the importation of all types of tractors.

ABOLITION OF CONTRACT SYSTEM IN COAL-FIELDS.

1298. *Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the decision of the Conciliation Board appointed by the Government of India in March, 1947 regarding the abolition of the contract system in the coal-fields have been given effect to, and if not, what are the practical difficulties in the way of Government to do it?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The recommendation of the Board of Conciliation (Colliery Dispute) is being given effect to as speedily as possible and the contract system is being gradually abolished. The present position as regards state collieries is that the system has been abolished in all except the Bhurkunda, Bokaro, Kargali and Kurasia collieries. The Bhurkunda colliery is in its initial stages of development and a changeover to departmental working may be possible in the near future. The other collieries are among the very few big collieries in the country employing large numbers

of workers. Kargali and Bokaro collieries alone give an annual output of 2½ million tons. In their case it would be hazardous to replace the contract system by departmental working without first making adequate administrative and supervisory arrangements after obtaining an assessment of the financial effects of these measures. This preparatory work will take some time.

*CONCILIATION BOARD'S DECISION re DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FOR COALFIELD WORKERS

1299. *Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what were the decisions of the Conciliation Board regarding the dearness allowance to be paid to coalfield workers;

(b) whether it is a fact that the strikes at Bokaro coalfield in the months of October and December, 1947 and January, 1948 were due to the non-compliance of the decision of the Conciliation Board by the contractor, Sir Lindsay Parkin (India) Limited head office, Bermo; and

(c) whether the conciliation award has been fully implemented by the contractors and the other employers in the coalfields?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The Board of Conciliation recommended that all workers with a basic wage of Rs. 30 per mensem and under should be paid a dearness allowance equal to 150 per cent. of the basic wage and that the dearness allowance rates for those with a basic wage above Rs. 30 should be revised suitably. Though the Board did not specify the rates of increase for these groups, it was ascertained that its intention was to give the following increases:

Basic wage per mensem	Scale of dearness allowance : percentage of basic pay.
Rs. 31 to Rs. 50	100 per cent. with a minimum of Rs. 45.
Rs. 51 to Rs. 100	66 2/3 per cent. with a minimum of Rs. 50.
Rs. 101 to Rs. 300	40 per cent. with a minimum of Rs. 67.

(b) The strike in October 1947 was not due mainly to the non-implementation of the recommendations of the Conciliation Board. The second strike arose out of the demand of the workers' union that the whole of the consolidated rates of wages prevalent in the colliery, which included an element of dearness allowance, should be deemed to be the basic wage for the purpose of calculating dearness allowance on the scale recommended by the Board. The dispute was referred to an Industrial Tribunal under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and its award which has just been received is under consideration.

(c) The recommendations of the Conciliation Board have been implemented to a large extent in all collieries including State collieries. Officers of the Industrial Relations Machinery of the Central Government have been ensuring implementation of the recommendations through periodic inspections of the records of the collieries.

CONSUMPTION OF COAL IN 1946-47 AND LABOUR WELFARE COMMITTEE AT BOKARO BERMO COALFIELDS

1300. *Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total consumption of coal in the whole of the country in the year 1946-47;

(b) the amount of coal raised from the Bokaro Bermo coalfields during the same period;

(c) the total amount of money hitherto raised for the Labour Welfare Fund from the Bokaro Bermo coalfields;

(d) the total amount spent for the welfare of the workers of those coalfields;

(e) the present activities of the Labour Welfare Committee in the coalfields mentioned above; and

(f) what are the names of the labour representatives to the Labour Welfare Committee from those coalfields?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) 27,886,974 tons.

(b) 4,369,780 tons.

(c), (d) and (e). The details required are not maintained separately for different groups of collieries. So far as all the coalfields are concerned, a total sum of about Rs. 1,42,00,000 was collected for the Coal Mines Labour welfare Fund from the beginning of the Scheme up to the 31st December 1947. The total amount spent on all the coalfields up to the same date is about Rs. 55,00,000. On the basis of the output of coal the collections of cess from the Bokaro and Bermo coalfields may be assumed to be one-sixth of the total realisation. With regard to the activities of the Fund, I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to my replies to his starred question Nos. 724 and 240 answered on the 9th December 1947 and the 11th February 1948 respectively.

(f) Bokaro and Bermo coalfields are represented on the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee by Mr. Chapal Bhattacharya and the Superintendent, State Railway Collieries, Kargali, and on the Housing Board by Mr. Chapal Bhattacharya.

ALLOTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO REFUGEES IN DELHI PROVINCE

1301. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural land has become available for allotment in Delhi Province owing to the Muslim owners of such lands having migrated to Pakistan; and, if so, what is the total area of such land;

(b) to whom and in what manner it is proposed to allot this land; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the advisability of allotting such land to Government employees also who have been deprived of their land in the West Punjab, due to partition? If not, why not?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) Yes. 13,134 acres of land have become available for allotment.

(b) About 4,000 acres will be acquired by Government for new townships. The balance available will be allotted to refugees, special consideration being given to those who had been displaced when New Delhi was built and had gone to Western Punjab. Some land will also be allotted to local Harijans.

(c) Government employees who have been deprived of their land in West Punjab will be treated on the same basis as other refugees.

RESERVATION OF REFUGEE TOWNSHIP IN DELHI FOR REFUGEE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

1302. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to build four new townships near Delhi with a view to settling Refugees from the West Punjab and other areas of Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reserve one of the townships exclusively for allotment to the employees of the Government of India, who have been deprived of their houses and landed property in Pakistan; and if not, why not?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) Government propose to build three new townships near Delhi.

(b) The question is under consideration.

INCONVENIENCE TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES DUE TO CLOSURE OF MARKETS AND BAZAARS ON SUNDAY

1303. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to the staffs of Government and other public offices owing to the fact that most shops, bazaars and markets remain closed on Sundays; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to arrange for the closure of Government and other public offices on any day of the week other than Sunday, or in the alternative, to see that markets, shops and bazaars remain open on Sundays?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes. A few shops, however, remain open on Sundays and a limited extent of shopping and marketing is possible on these days.

(b) It is doubtful whether the closure of Government and other public offices on a day other than Sunday will result in greater shopping and marketing facilities to the staff. As Government have constantly to transact business with the Reserve Bank and the Imperial Bank, those Banks will have to remain open on the day on which Government offices remain open and close on the day they are closed. Other banks and the more important commercial and similar establishments will follow suit. Consequently shopkeepers are also likely to close their shops, with the result that the facilities available to the staff for shopping and marketing on the new day set apart for the weekly holiday may be no greater than what they are on Sundays at present. Government do not, therefore, think that any useful purpose will be served by changing the weekly holiday from Sunday to some other day.

As regards the alternative suggestion, shopkeepers are entitled, under section 3(1) of the Weekly Holidays Act, 1942, to specify the day of the week on which their shops will remain closed. Government have, therefore, no power at present to order that shops should remain open on Sundays and close on some other day. It must be left to the business instincts of shopkeepers to decide, subject to the requirements of the law, on which day their shops should be closed.

ANXIETY AMONG DELHI AGRICULTURISTS RE ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR PROPOSED REFUGEE TOWNSHIPS

1304. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the lands owned by agriculturists resident in Delhi will also be taken over by the authorities for building the four proposed suburban towns of Delhi?

(b) Are Government aware of the anxieties of the local agriculturists and the agitation which is going on against the acquisition of the lands owned by them?

(c) If so, do Government propose to announce that the lands belonging to the local agriculturists will not be acquired? If not, why not?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) Some of the lands owned by agriculturists resident in the Delhi Province will be acquired for the building of the three satellite townships proposed to be built near Delhi.

(b) and (c). No. The selection of sites for townships has been made on various considerations like the availability of water, easy drainage, adequate communications and favourable nature of the soil, etc. Land owned by persons other than evacuees could not, therefore, be entirely excluded from the scheme.

APPOINTMENTS OF SUPERINTENDENT AND ASSISTANTS-IN-CHARGE IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY AND IN EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES

1305. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the appointments of Superintendents and Assistants-in-charge in his Ministry and in the Embassies and Consulates etc. are made by his Secretariat officers, without reference being made to him?

(b) What is the total number of vacancies that fell vacant since 1947 in the above cadres?

(c) Do Government propose to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the names of the persons promoted to such posts, with their substantive pay prior to their promotion and the pay which they will be entitled to receive after promotion to the above mentioned posts, specially in the foreign countries?

(d) What steps do Government propose to take to do away with nepotism and favouritism in the selection of personnel?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes.

(b) 53 vacancies,

Superintendents—45.

Assistants-in-Charge—8.

(c) A statement is laid on the table.

(d) Does not arise as in filling the vacancies the regulations prescribed by Government are strictly observed.

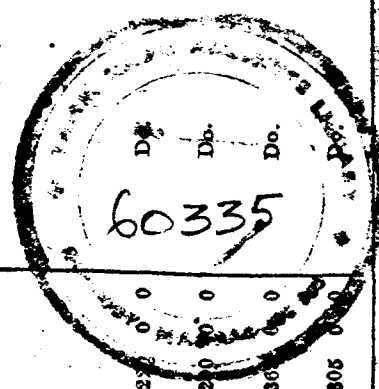
Statement

Serial No.	Name	Post held at present	Present pay	Substantive post held prior to promotion	Permanent pay	From where taken	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<i>External Affairs Wing—Embassies and Consulates</i>							
1	M. Mangli Parshad	Superintendent, Embassy of India at Kabul.	Rs. A. P. 530 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	Rs. A. P. 220 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.	
2	M. H. Zinjan	Registrar, Embassy of India at Cairo.	560 0 0	Superintendent (Sub. temporary).	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	Do.	
3	P. N. Sharma	Cypher Superintendent, Embassy of India at Cairo.	530 0 0	Assistant (Central Cypher Bureau).	230 0 0	Do.	
4	C. C. Everard	Cypher Superintendent, Embassy of India at Paris.	800 0 0	Superintendent	800 0 0	Do.	
5	S. C. Mukerjee	Registrar, Embassy of India at Paris.	600 0 0	Officiating Assistant Director (Accounts), Director General of Industries & Supplies.	520 0 0	Director General, Industries & Supplies.	
6	P. S. Krishnaswamy	Superintendent and Treasury Officer in the Embassy of India at Kathmandu (Nepal).	600 0 0 50 0 0 (Special pay)	S. A. S. Accountant, Posts and Telegraphs.	300 0 0	Ministry of Finance.	
					50 0 0 (Special pay)		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	M. P. N. Sareen	Cypher Superintendent, Embassy of India in the U. S. S. R. . .	Rs. A. P. 600 0 0	Assistant (Central Cypher Bureau).	Rs. A. P. 295 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.	
8	Inder Sain	Superintendent, Indian Liaison Mission, Tokyo.	600 0 0	II Division Clerk.	40 0 0 (Key men Special pay)		
9	K. D. Bhasin	Superintendent, Embassy of India in Iran (Tehran).	600 0 0	Registrar and Treasury Officer, Bahrain.	500 0 0	Director General of Industries & Supplies.	
10	W. E. Eling	Cypher Superintendent, Embassy of India in Iran (Tehran).	600 0 0	Assistant (Central Cypher Bureau).	295 0 0	Persian Gulf Residency.	
11	Rai Sahib K. G. Nair	Superintendent, Embassy of India in China, Nanking.	600 0 0 150 0 0 (Special Pay)	Assistant	375 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.	
12	Vajinder Singh	Superintendent, Embassy of India in China, Nanking.	530 0 0	S. A. S. Accountant	235 0 0	Ministry of Agriculture (late Education Health and Land Department).	
13	R. Subramanian	Superintendent, Indian Legation in Siam (Bangkok).	530 0 0	Assistant	220 0 0	Military Accounts Department.	
14	G. D. Seth	Superintendent, Indian Consulate General, Batavia.	680 0 0	Superintendent (Sub. temporary).	680 0 0	Director General of Posts & Telegraphs.	Ministry of Labour.

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No.	Name	Post	200 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	560 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
15	Mr. K. B. Krishnaswamy	Assistant-in-charge, Indian Consulate at Sogdiana.	200 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	560 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
16	" Dharma	Superintendent, India Delegation Office, New York.	560 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	560 0 0	40 0 0 (Special Pay)	800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
17	" Balkishan	Superintendent, Indian Legation, Berne (Switzerland).	800 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
18	" S. Krishnaswamy	Superintendent, Embassy of India in the U. S. S. R., Moscow.	530 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
19	" S. N. Basu	Superintendent, Embassy of India in Turkey.	680 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
20	" M. M. Gandotra	Superintendent, Embassy of India in Brazil.	530 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
External Affairs Wing (Secretariat).													
21	" Babu Ram	Superintendent	600 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
22	" J. L. Malhotra	Do.	530 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
23	" Dewan Chand	Do.	600 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.
24	" Kesar Singh	Do.	600 0 0		560 0 0		800 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	530 0 0	680 0 0	200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25	Mr. Mohan Lal Hazar	Superintendent	Rs. A. P. 600 0 0	Stenographer	Rs. A. P. 362 8 0 100 0 0 (Special pay)	Ministry of External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations.	
26	" K. G. Mathur	Do.	530 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	210 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Do.	
27	" P. L. Bhalla	Do.	600 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	280 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Do.	
28	" Sardari Lal Jain	Assistant-in-charge	275 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Assistant	275 0 0	Do.	
29	" Farhat Ali	Assistant-in-charge	275 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Assistant	275 0 0	Do.	Opted for Pakistan
30	" G. P. Mathur	Superintendent	530 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	220 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Do.	
31	" K. A. Extross	Do.	600 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	310 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Do.	
32	" V. G. Srinivasan	Do.	600 0 0	Assistant-in-charge	295 0 0 40 0 0 (Special pay)	Do.	

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33	" Kumer Singh	Do.	600 0 0	Superintendent	600 0 0	Ministry of Home Affairs (Intelligence Bureau).	Opted for Pakis- tan.
34	" S. A. Abdul Rahim	Do.	530 0 0	Assistant	210 0 0	...	
35	" Ramadorai	Do.	530 0 0	Superintendent	305 0 0	Ministry of States	
36	" B. B. Benjamin	Assistant-in-charge (Special pay)	305 0 0 40 0 0	Assistant	305 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Common- wealth Relations.	
37	" Ali Mustafa	Do.	...	...	...	...	Opted for Pakis- tan.
38	" S. J. Wilfred	Superintendent	530 0 0	Subordinate Accounts Service. Accountant in the Ministry of Food.	260 0 0 *45 0 0	Ministry of Food	* Special pay.
Commonwealth Relations Wing (Secretariat)							
39	R. S. K. S. Venkataram.	Do.	600 0 0	Stenographer	500 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs & Common- wealth Relations.	* Special pay.
40	Mr. P. S. L. Sarma	Do.	530 0 0	Assistant	*100 0 0 190 0 0	Do.	
41	" K. S. Sadiq	Do.	600 0 0	Do.	230 0 0	Do.	
42	" T. N. Gupta	Do.	600 0 0	Stenographer	300 0 0	Do.	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
43	Mr. S. D. Chatterjee	Superintendent	Rs. A. P. 530 0 0	Assistant	Rs. A. P. 200 0 0	Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations.	
44	" Harbans Lal	Do.	600 0 0	Do.	275 0 0	Do.	
45	" V. P. Lal	Do.	530 0 0	Do.	180 0 0	Do.	
46	" Shree Bhagwan	Do.	530 0 0	Do.	210 0 0	Do.	
47	" N. Subramaniam	Do.	530 0 0	Do.	220 0 0	o.	
48	" P. L. Gupta	Do.	580 0 0	Do.	210 0 0	Do.	
49	" N. S. Kain	Assistant-in-charge (Special pay)	210 0 0	Do.	210 0 0	Do.	
50	" R. S. Chavan	Assistant-in-charge (Special pay)	40 0 0	Do.	210 0 0	o.	
<i>Commonwealth Relations Wing—Posts Abroad</i>							
51	" S. K. Reddi	Superintendent, Office of the Representative of the Government of India in Malaya.	525 0 0	..	350 0 0	..	
52	" N. S. Sahni	Superintendent, Office of the High Commissioner for India in Canada.	600 0 0	..	290 0 0	..	
53	" S. V. Swami	Assistant-in-charge in the India Embassy in Burma.	Under consideration.	..	360 0 0	Was employed under the Burma Government.	

INDIA'S SHARE IN GERMAN REPARATIONS

1306. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Inter-Allied Reparations Agency at its last session in Brussels allocated German reparations to the various member States; and

(b) if so, what India's share was?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) and (b). Industrial equipment worth about 8,414,000 Reichs Marks was allocated among 15 member countries of the Inter Allied Reparations Agency during its last session held on the 19th March 1948. The value of India's allotment is about 184, Reichs Marks.

ACCUMULATION OF STOCKS AND IMPORT QUOTA OF BETELNUTS

1307. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the import quota of betelnut sanctioned for the current year;

(b) whether Government are aware that stocks of Indian betelnut have accumulated in wholesale centres; and

(c) whether Government propose to stop further imports this year so as to facilitate disposal of the accumulated stocks of Indian betelnut?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Imports during the current half year will be allowed from non-dollar areas at 25 per cent. by value of imports made during the year 1946-47. Import from dollar areas is not allowed.

(b) Stocks in South Indian markets are slightly above normal; whereas those in Calcutta market are low and prices are tending to rise. Information about Bombay market is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

IMPLEMENTATION OF YOUNG PLAN AND CONCILIATION BOARD AWARDED BY COLLIERY OWNERS, HAZARIBAGH AND MANBHUM COAL SYNDICATE

1308. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the colliery owners belonging to the Hazaribagh and Manbhumi Coal Syndicate have implemented the Young Plan of 1943 and the Conciliation Board Award of 1947; if not, who have and who have not;

(b) what steps Government propose to take against the colliery owners who have not done so, so as to secure implementation by them of the aforementioned Plan and the Award;

(c) how much money by way of Target Bonus was disbursed by Government to the owners for distribution among colliery labour during the years 1943-45; and

(d) whether Government have ascertained that bonus reached the workers for whom it was intended?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The information asked for by the Honourable Member is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the table in due course.

REFUSAL OF DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, MONTGOMERY TO RESTORE AN ABDUCTED HINDU GIRL IN POSSESSION OF A MUSLIM ZAMINDAR

1309. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 6th March, 1948, stating that the District Magistrate of Montgomery refused to restore a Hindu girl to the Deputy Liaison Officer

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of the Indian Dominion on the ground that he could not displease the Muslim Zamindar of the *ilaga* from whose custody the girl had been recovered, and that the girl was sent back to the Zamindar?

(b) If so, has any representation been made to the Government of Pakistan in the matter?

(c) What have been the results of such representation if made?

(d) Are Government aware that large numbers of young abducted Hindu and Sikh women are in the possession of Zamindars and other rich and influential men of Pakistan, and the Government of Pakistan are not taking action to restore them?

(e) Is it a fact that most of the abducted women who have been restored are old women?

(f) What steps do Government propose to take to get the release of these unfortunate women from the clutches of these rich and influential Zamindars and highly placed persons of Pakistan?

(g) Are Government aware of the intensity of feeling in the Indian Dominion on this question and do Government propose to give an assurance to the House that they will not hesitate to take any risk howsoever great, if necessary, to get every single abducted woman from Pakistan?

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: (a) to (d). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply to parts (a) to (c) and (e) of Short Notice Question No. 46 on the 2nd April, 1948.

(e) In some batches, the number of old women predominated, but figures for the months of January and February 1948 show that the different age groups have been spread out satisfactorily.

(f) There have been further inter-Dominion discussions on the subject and it is hoped that the machinery for the rescue of abducted women from Western Pakistan will be strengthened as a result of these discussions.

(g) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply to part (f) of Short Notice Question No. 46 on 2nd April, 1948.

ATOMIC RESEARCH IN INDIA

1310. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have so far taken towards the promotion of atomic research in India; and

(b) the progress achieved in that direction up-to-date, having regard to the constructive as well as destructive aspects of atomic energy?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the statement laid on the table of the House by the Honourable Minister for Education on the 25th November, 1947, in reply to starred question No. 283 by Dr. P. S. Deshmukh. As the Honourable Member is aware, a Bill for the control of atomic energy has been introduced in the Assembly recently. This Bill will facilitate pooling of knowledge and protection of our mineral wealth, which is useful for this work, as well as ensure secrecy wherever required.

Some progress has been achieved both towards the acquirement of the necessary knowledge and technique.

EXPORT OF COIR MATTING TO SOUTH AFRICA BY INDIAN FIRMS

1311. ***Seth Govinddas:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether Government have received any complaint with respect to some Indian firm exporting coir matting to South Africa?

(b) In view of the fact that we have applied economic sanctions against that country, what steps do Government propose to take to stop this export and to prosecute such Indian firms who have acted against Government orders?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) It has been brought to the notice of Government that an Indian firm has offered coir goods for sale to a South African firm.

(b) I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member in this connection to the Notification dated the 17th July 1946 issued by the Ministry of Commerce, a copy of which has been placed on the table of the House and which prohibits the export of goods to South Africa. In view of these instructions no special steps in the direction indicated by the Honourable Member are considered necessary.

PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS FOR ELECTIONS UNDER NEW CONSTITUTION

1312. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Law be pleased to state how soon Government will take steps to prepare the electoral rolls in time for the holding of elections under the new constitution?

(b) Is it a fact that some provinces have already begun this work?

(c) Do Government propose to see that other provinces also take up this work?

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: (a) In anticipation of the passing of the Constitution, preliminary steps have already been taken and the Constituent Assembly of India have addressed the various Provincial Governments and all member States.

(b) and (c). Yes.

INDIA'S IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE WITH U. S. S. R. DURING 1938-47

1313. ***Seth Govinddas:** Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to give the over-all figures of India's exports and imports to and from the U.S.S.R. during the years 1938-39, 1939-40, 1940-41, 1941-42, 1942-43, 1943-44, 1944-45, 1945-46 and 1946-47, and indicate the value in rupees of each of the commodities exported and imported?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Three statements giving the required information are placed on the table of the House.

Statement I

Showing the total value of trade of British India with the U. S. S. R. by sea on private account during the years 1938-39 to 1946-47.

Years.	Total value of imports into British India from U.S.S.R.	Total value of exports from British India to U.S.S.R. Rs.	Total value of re-exports from British India to U.S.S.R. Rs.
1938-39	20,03,719	37,70,718	...
1939-40	19,22,453	2,09,911	...
1940-41	8,079	...	...
1941-42	...	71,12,065	...
1942-43	28	86,18,376	3,95,193
1943-44	3,45,689	1,66,428	18,400
1944-45	1,43,487	61,60,748	1,40,40,068
1945-46	20,14,067	33,07,186	1,88,37,263
1946-47	1,51,000	3,47,89,584	...

Showing the Value of Imports from U.S.S.R. into British India.
(Based on Sea-borne Trade Accounts)

	1938-39 Value	1939-40 Value	1940-41 Value	1941-42 Value	1942-43 Value	1943-44 Value	1944-45 Value	1945-46 Value	1946-47 Value
1. Chemical & Chemical Preparations—Sodium compounds.	...	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Dyeing and Tanning substances	69	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Manures	777	1884	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Mineral Oils	903	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,93	...
5. Provisions & Oilman's stores canned and bottled provisions.	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Oilseeds, essential	18	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Tea Chests, wooden	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Wood & Timber—Logs and Timber for match making.	103	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(Value in '000 rupees)

	1938-39 Value	1939-40 Value	1940-41 Value	1941-42 Value	1942-43 Value	1943-44 Value	1944-45 Value	1945-46 Value	1946-47 Value
9. Instruments, Apparatus, Appliances, and parts thereof, Talking machines & accessories—Records	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
10. Cinema Talkie—Apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...
11. Cinematograph films—Raw films	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
Exposed films	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	77	49
12. Precious stones and pearls, unset—									
Diamonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	290	...
Other precious stones	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	196	31
Pearls (real or cutter)	...	...	...	...	...	337	54	125	54
13. All other articles of merchandise	56	3	...	...	...	8	...	4	4
TOTAL	2,004	1,922	8	...	...	345	144	20,14	1,51

Statement III
 Showing the value of exports from British India to U.S.S.R.
 (Based on Sea-borne Trade Accounts).

	(Value in '000 rupees)									
	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	
1. Hides & skins, raw	...	...	...	...	36	...	...	...	...	
2. Lac, Shell	142	44	...	1,548	1,597	...	...	2,10	35,40	
3. Tea, Black	49	17	...	...	620	...	9,37	44	40,70	
4. Textiles—										
Cotton, Waste	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Manufactures, Canvas	...	...	...	...	214	...	1,872	...	...	
Piecegoods	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	
5. Jute, raw	3,551	148	...	4,096	1,883	...	894	30,40	68,88	
Gunny bags, sacking	...	...	...	1,468	1,803	...	893	...	33,89	
Hessian	...	...	...	...	...	...	447	...	248	
Gunny cloths, hessian	...	...	...	...	233	...	...	12	262	
" Sacking	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	313	
6. Hemp, raw	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	
7. Jute, rope & twine	...	...	...	...	...	...	94	...	...	

	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
8. Cordage & rope of vegetable fibre (excluding jute & cotton)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	322
9. Spices & pepper	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,63
10. Tobacco, unmanufactured	...	...	...	...	311	...	1005	...	1,45,47
11. Drugs & Medicines	...	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...
12. Grain Pulse,	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...
13. Vegetable Oils, Linseed	...	...	...	...	...	66	...	...	...
14. Provisions & Oilman's stores	...	...	...	...	620	48	...	...	...
15. Rubber, raw	...	...	...	...	443	...	...	...	...
16. Oilseeds, groundnuts	...	...	...	...	637	...	...	...	...
17. Sugar	...	...	...	...	24	1	...	...	...
18. Wool, manufactures	...	...	...	...	84	...	...	...	...
19. All other articles of merchandise	1	1	...	...	22	51	19	1	2
TOTAL	3,771	210	...	7,112	8,618	166	6,161	3,307	34,790

[Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee]

The post of an Economic Adviser to Government has been in abeyance for some time. This question will also be considered at the same time as the formulation of the Planning Commission.

An Economic Sub-Committee of the Cabinet has been functioning for some time and the Economic Adviser located in the Finance Ministry functions as the Secretary of this Sub-Committee. A Consultative Committee of Economists is also in existence and important questions of economic policy are referred to this body before final decisions are taken by Government.

(b), (c) and (d). The Government attach great importance to the proper organisation of a statistical department. A proposal has already been made and is being considered for the creation of a Central Statistical Office. This was supported by the Advisory Planning Board. This Central Statistical Office will, no doubt, be in close touch with the proposed Planning Commission and with departmental statistical organisations.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

HUNGER STRIKE OF POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION WORKERS IN DELHI DISTRICT JAIL

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an Adjournment Motion. Before I read the text of the motion, I find from the report referred to by the Honourable Member in the press that, there are two distinct matters in the report which the Honourable Member is putting together in the adjournment motion. As the report says, a meeting of some representatives of trade unions "condemned the wholesale arrest of trade union leaders in the city and the ill-treatment of the arrested persons in jail." That is one part of the report. The second part deals with "communists who are reported to have gone on hunger-strike as a protest against their being put in class "C" and not being treated as political prisoners." So the ill-treatment obviously is restricted only to the trade-union workers. That is one part of it. The hunger-strike is the result of a dispute as to the classification of prisoners. The adjournment motion seeks to combine the two. It runs thus:

"That this Assembly do adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the ill-treatment in Delhi District Jail of political and trade union workers (by political I believe the honourable member means communists) recently arrested and detained and consequent hunger-strike undertaken by them for the last seven days as a protest against the said ill-treatment as reported in the *Evening National Call* of 6th April and in the *Statesman* and *Indian News Chronicle* of 7th April, 1948."

Obviously, there has been a confusion of the two. As it appears, from the Press report, there is no hunger-strike because of ill-treatment. It is entirely on a different issue; and the ill-treatment is restricted only to trade union workers and does not extend to political workers, as the report goes. I should like to have clarification of what the Honourable Member means by that, because, otherwise his motion will not be in order. He is mixing up two things. He must take up one definite issue.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra (Eastern States: Group I): In today's *Statesman*, the news runs as follows:

"Tuesday was the seventh day of the hunger strike of 22 detenues arrested in the recent round-up of communists in Delhi. They are on hunger-strike as a protest against their being treated as "C" class prisoners."

Mr. Speaker: It means there is no separate allegation of ill-treatment. Ill-treatment appears to be there because they are put in Class "C". That seems to be the point of the report.

What is the ill-treatment he is complaining of?

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Shri Yudhisthir Misra: These political prisoners have been supplied bad food inside the jail and they are not treated as detenus but as ordinary criminals, and have been put in "C" class.

Mr. Speaker: May I know from the Honourable the Prime Minister what the position is?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (Prime Minister and Leader of the House): As you, Sir, have pointed out, this motion contains a number of rather separate things. So far personally I was not aware of the fact that any person was undergoing a hunger-strike or there were any complaints about food. As soon as I heard of it this morning, I have immediately taken steps to enquire about what the complaints are about food or other ill-treatment, why there is hunger-strike apart from any political reasons, and I can give no further information to the House now except to say that I am enquiring into it and taking such steps as I can to remove any legitimate causes in regard to ill-treatment or food.

About the other matter, if you would like me to deal with that matter, that is a general question of arrests etc. I would submit, Sir, that a motion for adjournment on this question is not called for. It relates ultimately to a number of arrests that have been made in the city of Delhi. The arrests have been made, it so happens, of a particular group or party, and for, I hope, a relatively temporary period because it was considered a little dangerous by Government from the point of view of security services and such like services not to take such action at this stage. So that action was taken here and in some other places too, and I do not think it would be desirable or suitable for this House to consider it in the form of an adjournment motion.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra: In view of the assurance given by the Honourable the Prime Minister that he would look into this thing, I do not want to press the adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker: The matter need not be considered any further.

ELECTION TO STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the Assembly that the following members have been elected to serve on the Standing Finance Committee and the Committee on Public Accounts.

Standing Finance Committee: (1) Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose, (2) Prof. N. G. Ranga, (3) Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, (4) Begum Aizaz Rasul, (5) Shri B. Shiva Rao, (6) Shri Khurshed Lal, (7) Shrimati Renuka Ray, (8) Shri U. Srinivasa Malleyya, (9) Shri Bikramlal Sondhi, (10) Prof. K. T. Shah, (11) Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, (12) Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, (13) Shri Biswanath Das, and (14) Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth.

Committee on Public Accounts: (1) Shri B. Das, (2) Kazi Syed Karimuddin, (3) Shri Mohanlal Saksena, (4) Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma, (5) Dr. Bakhshi Tek Chand, (6) Shri Deshbhandu Gupta, (7) Shri Upendranath Barman, (8) Shri K. Santhanam, (9) Mr. R. K. Sidhva, (10) Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, and (11) Shri R. R. Diwakar.

ELECTIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEES FOR MINISTRIES OF COMMERCE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS

Mr. Speaker: I have also to inform the Assembly that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Standing Committees for the Ministries of Commerce and External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, one nomination in each case was received. As there is only one candidate for a vacancy in each case, I declare the following members to be duly elected:

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Commerce: Shri B. P. Jhanjhunwala.

Standing Committee for the Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations: Shri B. Shiva Rao.

MOTION RE INDUSTRIAL POLICY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the motion tabled by the Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (Minister for Industry and Supply): **Mr. Speaker,** Sir, I move:

"That the industrial policy of the Government of India be taken into consideration"

Sir, yesterday I presented to the House a statement on the industrial policy of Government, and it is not my intention now to cover all the points in detail which are mentioned therein. It is but natural that the demand should have been made from all quarters that Government should announce its industrial policy with the least possible delay. After the attainment of our political freedom, very grave responsibilities have to be shouldered by Government. Independence is not an end in itself. It is but a means to an end; and that end obviously must include the creation of a society in this great land of ours where equal opportunities shall prevail, where justice, social and economic, shall prevail, and where it will be possible for us, by taking practical and effective measures, to put an end to the era of exploitation. For 200 years our country had remained a subject nation. It is not my intension, Sir, to make any survey of the sufferings which were meted out to us when we were tied to the apron strings of an imperialistic policy which was intended to take the fullest advantage of the enormous raw materials obtaining in this country not for the benefit of the children of the soil, but for entirely other purposes. Today we have to lay down our policy. Not only shall we have to lay down our policy, but we have to take effective steps to see that the new order comes with as little delay as possible. As has been pointed out in the report of the Economic Committee appointed by the All-India Congress Committee, democracy must now extend from the political field to social and economic field.

I would ask the House to consider for a moment the enormity of the task that confronts us. It is not my intention to go into details, but it is useful for us to recall that our backwardness is of a staggering character. It is said that the resources of our country are great; no doubt potentially our resources are enormous, but what is the present position which faces the country today? Our population is great and is growing; we are still dependent for so many things on foreign support—things which are of a vital character, be they weapons for defence or means of transport, food, plants, machinery and some times even technical skill and advice.

As the House is aware, Sir, the standard of living in India is one of the lowest in the world, higher perhaps only than China. In 1946-47 wages of our unskilled labour varied from Rs. 8 to 12 per week for 48 hours, while in England it was £5/10/- and in U.S.A. it was over £10. Our yield per acre of rice is

one of the lowest in the world; the yield of countries like China, Formosa, Korea and Egypt is double than that of India; even in Japan it is three times in Italy it is four times. In wheat our yield is less than 25 to 40 per cent of countries like Australia, Canada, Turkey and Argentine. Regarding our clothing standard, per head we allot 11 yards; in Canada they give four times that, in Egypt it is at least twice. We consume salt about 12 lbs per head, which is the lowest in the whole world. Our per capita consumption of steel is 5 lbs per head; in U.K. it is 600 lbs., in U.S.A. 1,100 lbs. In cement our per capita consumption is 14 lbs; taking some other countries at random, in Turkey it is 29 lbs, Hungary 42 lbs, France 162 lbs, Great Britain 260 lbs. For coal ours is :07 tons against U.S.A.'s 4:7 tons. Railways—we have 40,000 miles running here; in U.S.A. it comes to 400,000 miles. I am not referring to petroleum or diesel oil or aviation fuel, where our position is almost hopeless. In literacy our record is 12 per cent. The death rate is 25 per thousand, higher than most countries in the world.

I am giving these figures, Sir, not for the purpose of sounding a note of alarm but for the purpose of calling upon every section of the people that all the resources that are available within the country must be pooled together and there must be a combined national effort for the purpose of translating our political freedom into some thing real and tangible which is going to touch the hearth and home of every son and daughter of this great country.

It is obvious, therefore, that any plan which is going to raise the standard of living of the common man must affect the activities of Ministries such as Health, Education, Agriculture, Works, Mines and Power, Transport and Communications. You will, therefore, find, Sir, that we have announced that Government will shortly appoint a National Planning Commission for the purpose of taking an all-round view of the paramount needs of the country and for going ahead with big schemes of expansion and development. In fact, vast materials have already been collected; pioneer work has been done under the aegis of the National Planning Committee; many of the publications of that Committee have seen the light of the day; a vast number of workers—experts in various fields of activity—have toiled for many months and years under the wise leadership of two of India's most patriotic sons, Netaji Subash Chandra Bose and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We have, Sir, in addition to the vast materials collected under the aegis of the National Planning Committee, the reports of nearly about thirty Panels, which were appointed by Government, dealing with expansion of almost every sphere of the industrial life of the country. We have also before us the recommendations of a large number of Commissions and Conferences, several Provincial plans, several big non-official plans—all these were referred to at the Industrial Conference held Delhi in December last. It is, therefore, not necessary for us to waste any further time in collecting materials. Materials are there, we have now got to set up a machinery which must act under a wisely directed policy of a National Government for the purpose of carrying out plans into execution.

The scheme, Sir, which I have presented to the House on behalf of Government deals with industrial policy alone. But I have given this background in order to impress upon the House and the country outside that our planning for industrial development must be correlated with the bigger planning which is going to affect various other important activities of the State essential for the purpose of an all-round development of the country's resources and of its national wealth.

Sir, this statement is not very spectacular in character. We have put it in a definite way as far as we could; nothing can be final, it is not intended that whatever we have said we shall have to stick to at any cost. India is passing through changing circumstances and times and the world is also passing through

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rapid changes, but we have indicated the broad lines of policy affecting the Legislature as also administration which it is the intention of the Government to push through in the course of the next few years. We hope, Sir—and this is one of our objectives—that this will not only harness all available energies, but will also succeed in removing uncertainties and misgivings, particularly with regard to private enterprise and also the position of labour in this country.

Our immediate problem, Sir, will be to see that production reaches to its maximum capacity in accordance with the present potentialities of the industry. It is a matter of deep regret that for some reason or other we are not producing all that we can, and if some bottlenecks are removed in the course of a year or so, it is possible to increase India's production by nearly 20 to 30 per cent., Government must obviously apply their mind to see that these bottlenecks are removed and we can get the maximum according to our existing capacity.

Obviously, Sir, the policy of the Government cannot be merely to advocate increased production unrelated to better distribution. It cannot be anybody's case that the wealth that is now being produced in India should be distributed amongst all, for then it will really mean distribution of poverty. It cannot mean either that we shall follow a policy which will lead to increased production but we shall not ensure that the benefit of that increased production goes to the common man. While, therefore, we shall earnestly strive for increased production, Government's policy must be so regulated as to ensure that there is better distribution, and whatever is available will not lead towards the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a handful of persons or create monopolies which are against the best interests of the State.

Sir, this scheme, which we have placed before the House, envisages a mixed economy. I am not here to discuss the values of *isms*. It is hardly necessary in the present context of things. But I would just ask the House to consider the general aspects of the scheme, particularly the portion which relates to the role of the State and private enterprise. We have divided this matter roughly into four parts. The first part relates to industries or activities which will be completely under the monopoly of the State. They include Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, Industries relating to Defence, production and control of Atomic Energy. The next class relates to those industries, the future development of which will be under State control and ownership. We have included six items there—Coal, Iron and Steel, Aircraft Manufacture, Shipbuilding, Manufacture of telephones, telegraph and wireless apparatus excluding radio receiving sets and Mineral Oils. Now, here, Sir, we have stated that it is not the policy of the Government to take over existing units of industry, but that the further development of these industries will be the function of the State. We have mentioned, of course, that even in future, in case of national emergency it will be open to Government to have any of these industries developed in the country with the help of private enterprise under such control and regulation as the Central Government may prescribe.

One question, Sir, which was of a very difficult nature and which Government have had to decide was as to the period of time which we should assure to those authorities who are controlling these industries during which they will be allowed to function undisturbed. Now, here, it is the inherent right of the State to acquire any industry that it chooses for national purposes. We have stated, however, that we do not propose to interfere with the existing units of these industries for a period of ten years. During this period, we shall expect that these industries will be efficiently run—not only efficiently run, but that they will be properly developed in accordance with our scheme of Central Planning. I hope, Sir, that the representatives of the industries concerned, some of whom are extremely powerful in this land, will properly reciprocate this gesture of the Government, which is made entirely in national interests. If it appears that any particular industry is not being run in accordance with

the plans and policy of the Government, then, of course, none will blame the Government if Government thinks it fit to acquire such industry and run it in national interests, but we have no desire to interfere with existing units, provided everything goes on well and there is a spirit of mutual co-operation. We have stated also, Sir, that when such acquisition will take place, the fundamental rights guaranteed under the constitution will be observed and compensation will be awarded on a fair and equitable basis. Obviously, we cannot go further than that at this stage.

Now, so far as the future development of these industries is concerned, I would pause here and say that Government are taking upon themselves a very great responsibility. Let the House analyse and see what are the undertakings, what are the big projects which Government propose to carry on their own shoulders during the next few years to come. Apart from big schemes of expansion, so far as the Railways and Communications are concerned, there will be the question of re-organising the Ordnance Factories which are entirely under the control of the State; the question of developing some of the essential industries with which are connected vital problems of Defence. We have the aircraft factory at Bangalore, which also requires development if we are going to achieve progress worth its name. We have taken up the big scheme for the Fertilizer Factory and more progress has to be achieved if production is to come by the end of 1949-50. We have schemes for the manufacture of telephones and that project is now under active consideration. We have taken upon ourselves the responsibility for undertaking big multi-purpose river project schemes, which I consider to be of a fundamental character. In fact unless this aspect of our activity makes rapid progress, other development in the industrial side will practically remain on paper. We have a scheme for establishing two steel factories; enquiries are also being made for the manufacture of synthetic oil, which, if successful, will lead to a venture which will be of a colossal character. We are also negotiating for the starting of factories for manufacture of Penicillin and sulph drugs and also for machines and tools.

Now, Sir, as I pass on to the next category of industries, you will find that we have included in the list at page 3, eighteen industries in all. This list cannot obviously be of an exhaustive character, but what is the exact significance of this part of our policy? These will be Centrally regulated industries, industries which we would like to see developed according to a well-planned policy and programme by which regional interests will be properly looked after and an all round development of the country's resources obtained. Now, so far as these industries are concerned, it is open to private enterprise to come and play its part in respect of any one of them, but these will be industries which will be Centrally regulated. In other words, if any private enterprise comes forward, it must properly correlate its activities with the policy and programme of the Government of India. We have not referred to the other list, the fourth category, namely industries not governed by these three which are open to private enterprise altogether, but there again Sir, it is not intended that Government will have no say in respect of vital matters concerning industries which are not mentioned in our statement at all. But, of course, private enterprise will be given full opportunity for developing such industries in accordance with the general industrial policy of the Government of India.

Now, Sir, comes the question of definition of the word 'State'. When we say that the 'State' will undertake certain industries—and here let me emphasize that nothing will debar the State from coming forward and starting any industry, if it is considered essential to do so, the State will not act through the existing machinery of the Government. The policy of the Government is to set up a statutory Corporation and it will be the business of that Corporation to manage a particular unit of industry just as a business.

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concern. In fact, it will be unfair for the State to suggest that the State will claim for itself privileges and facilities which will be denied to ordinary industries which are controlled by private enterprise. It is not intended, either, Sir, that only the Government of India will undertake the big ventures. When we say 'State', we include Provincial Governments also; we also include other statutory Corporations which may come forward and with the approval of the Government of India may like to start industrial ventures in accordance with the Government policy. Just as I have analysed that there will be a demarcation of line between State ventures and private ventures, similarly, there must be also clear and complete understanding between the activities of the Central Government and the Provincial Governments. Obviously, the Provincial Governments in many matters will act as agents of the Central Government. Industries which will be under a system of Central regulation will operate in Provinces in accordance with the All India policy which the Government of India may lay down. As you know, Sir, Industry is principally a Provincial subject, but under our Constitution, the Federal Legislature has the authority to declare the development of any particular industry as essential in the public interest and if that declaration is made by the Federal Legislature, then the power for developing such industry vests in the Central Government. I take it, Sir, that the Central Government will consult the Provincial Governments in very near future and lay down a policy and programme which will enable the Provinces to function and flourish without any let or hindrance to the best interests of the country as a whole.

In fact, Sir, it is intended that legislation will have to be passed by the Federal Legislature to give effect to many of the recommendations contained in the statement of policy, and I am hoping that Government will be in a position to come before the House during the next session of the Legislature and place the entire scheme before them for approval.

So much, Sir, for the development of large-scale industries. I now pass on to cottage and small scale industries. This, Sir, Government considers, is a vital matter. We have laid down our policy and programme for large-scale industrial development. There is no doubt that there is a vast collection of raw materials in this country, which if properly utilised may enormously add to the national wealth of the country, but there are difficulties also. One of our chief difficulties today relates to the absence of capital goods. Government will endeavour to obtain capital goods, plants and machinery from any part of the globe that it can. But there will be handicaps,—handicaps sometimes deliberately put in our way and sometimes inevitable. Now, are we going to sit and wait in the meanwhile and not do anything? We have put forward this scheme for the development of cottage and small scale industries, both for their intrinsic value as also for the possibility which they open up for adding to our national wealth during the period of emergency through which the entire world is passing today. When the Industries Conference met in Delhi in December last I was agreeably surprised to find that although this was a matter which fell within the purview of the provincial Governments, everyone including representatives of the provincial Governments suggested that there should be an all-India directive policy regarding the future development of cottage and small-scale industries, specially working through co-operative Societies. The recent exhibition held in New Delhi has given us some idea of the vast potentialities of well-regulated and properly developed cottage industries in this country. It is therefore the policy of Government to give full support to a scheme of well-coordinated activities which will be operated through an all-India Board which we are soon going to establish and to which—I am hoping—will also be attached an all-India Institute where every possible facility for research will be given so that we can go on increasing the standard of our productions.

Now, Sir, apart from the industrial aspect of the matter it will be realised that the development of our country has gone on during the last so many years mainly circling round our towns and cities. India with 95 per cent. of her population depending on agriculture with nearly about a million villages has grievously neglected the interests of the common man and has created social and economic problems which are almost of a baffling character. If therefore the problem of unemployment is to be solved, if a new social economy is to arise in this country, I am confident that we can secure both these objectives not entirely by depending on development of cottage industries but by correlating the activities of this section to the big industrial planning of the country which will lead to the progressive prosperity of the villages and rural areas.

Next I come to another vital part of our planning and that relates to the relationship between capital and labour. It has been recognised that things are not moving very satisfactorily in this direction. Sometimes the blame is thrown entirely on capital and sometimes entirely on labour. Government have to play a very important part in this matter. Obviously, if there is lack of co-operation between capital and labour whatever schemes and whatever policy we may enunciate, that will not lead to anything solid or substantial. This matter was discussed in detail at the Industries Conference held in Delhi in December last, and we arrived at certain unanimous conclusions which indeed was almost a phenomenon. We had representatives coming from all parts of India holding divergent viewpoints, but I found that all were actuated by one big motive power and that was that they must act courageously and unitedly after the attainment of political freedom and take positive steps which might ease the present tension and lead to national prosperity. I am not suggesting that by merely passing that Resolution we have been able to achieve any miracle, but we have found a way towards much better relationship between capital and labour. In the Statement we have indicated that so far as Government are concerned they accept the principle that the system of remuneration of capital and labour must be devised in a more satisfactory way. Excessive profits should be prevented by methods of taxation and otherwise and Government should appoint some machinery for the purpose of settling what amounts to fair wages to labour; a fair return on capital employed in industry and reasonable reserves for the maintenance and expansion of undertakings. We have further declared that the profit that remains after meeting all these items should be shared between capital and labour and that the share of profit which labour will have will naturally be on a sliding scale and allied to production. That, Sir, is also an important factor. If labour feels that it will have an increasing share in the profits of the concern depending on the total production, that will act as a great incentive, an incentive which may be absent from the circumstances existing today. Here Government will take steps for the purpose of setting up the necessary machinery and when that machinery is working Government will obviously consult representatives of industry and labour and try to come, if possible, to an agreed solution, failing which Government will have to decide the matter themselves which will be binding on all parties concerned. We have also laid down that labour must be more and more associated with the activities of industry. We want that the feeling of mere relationship between master and servant or employer and employee should not be the ruling factor. Both capital and labour must regard themselves as joint partners in carrying forward the undertaking which after all is going to benefit the people at large. I have no doubt that my honourable friend Mr. Ayyangar who was held as a typical representative of consumers at the Industries Conference will give the fullest support to this point of view when he speaks on the Resolution.

Government have also adopted a scheme for better housing arrangements, and the Honourable Finance Minister has already declared that this scheme

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will not be a paper scheme. We are going to evolve a system by which Government, industry and labour will make their contributions, and I have no doubt that in the course of 1948 the Labour Minister will be able to initiate a housing scheme which will ultimately go to benefit more than million workers in India.

Then comes the question about the employment of foreign capital. Here again I would submit that the policy enunciated by the Government of India is entirely realistic in character. My honourable friend Mr. Kamath need not open his eyes too wide when he reads paragraph 10 dealing with foreign capital. Obviously this matter will be decided by the Central Government. We will welcome the use of foreign capital in India in a manner which will redound to our interest. Now, Sir, we want capital goods. We want technical help and advice. It may not be possible for us easily to secure both in view of the existing circumstances obtaining in this country. We must evolve a scheme whereby when a company is functioning in India with foreign capital, the major interest in ownership and effective control remain in Indian hands. If in any case an exception is to be made, for which provision has been made, that will be done by the Government of India after taking into consideration the full circumstances of the case. We need not be afraid of foreign investment as such. If foreign investment comes to play its part in India it cannot and it will not be allowed to do so for political purposes. History will not repeat itself and the people of India are wide awake enough to see that history does not repeat itself. At the same time we cannot live in complete isolation. That is a factor which we have to bear in mind at every stage. The over-riding consideration should be the welfare of the country as a whole, and if that is secured we should not allow ourselves to be guided by mere emotion.

One point which we have emphasized here, and rightly so, relates to the training of technical experts. That is necessary. We are feeling this need almost every moment. I do not intend to take the time of the House, but I can mention several big units of industry which we wish to take over but which we cannot because circumstanced as we are, we are unable to produce the necessary trained Indian personnel able to take charge of it. It is not our fault. I know that for the last 100 years or so we were not allowed to develop in the manner which was suited to our national needs. But it is no use crying over things which are a matter of past history. We must plan out in a way best suited for our future national interests.

Sir, I shall not refer in detail to other points dealing with the import and export policy of Government, finance and the taxation structure. All these are matters of grave import. It is obvious that the import policy of Government has to be so regulated that we can get the fullest advantage of whatever we can get from abroad. It is intended to make a survey of the import policy of Government and we shall welcome any constructive criticism from industry, or from any other sources, so that we may act according to the best economic interests of the country. Obviously, the question of taxation structure will have to be considered, and it will be considered and reconsidered as circumstances may require, all aiming at one direction, and one alone, that we should like to take the fullest advantage of the country's resources and utilise them for the best advancement of our economic prosperity. There will be one question as to wherefrom all this finance will come, if India is going to embark upon big national ventures. That also is a matter which is now being considered by Government, and I have no doubt that at the proper time the Finance Minister will be in a position to announce the policy of Government which will make it possible for us to translate the Industrial policy of Government into as quick an action as is possible.

Sir, it is undoubtedly true that whatever we have outlined here can be brought into effect if there is general peace and security in the country. It is

undoubtedly true that we shall succeed in implementing our policy and programme if all interests concerned combine and give Government their helping hand. For sometime past there has been a lot of apprehension and unsteadiness in many spheres affecting capital and labour. It is the earnest hope of Government that the policy which Government have announced today, which Government claim is not dependent on any particular "ism" but is entirely related to the needs and welfare of the vast masses of the Indian people, will inspire greater confidence in the minds of those who have got to play their part in the rebuilding of new India.

I hope, Sir, that in the course of the next few weeks we shall be able to set up the necessary machinery which will bring the Central Government into close and direct contact with the Provincial Governments, with the representatives of the industries concerned, and also labour and others who are interested in economic expansion, so that we can plan out as regards our future lines of action.

As I said, Sir, this scheme which we have placed before the House is not of an undue spectacular character. But I claim that it gives the necessary directive policy which will be followed by the Central Government in the months and years to come.

It has been asked how far this policy which we have enunciated is at variance with the policy enunciated by the Economic Committee of the Congress. We have examined the scheme in relation to the Committee's programme also and Government maintain that there is nothing here affecting policy which is substantially inconsistent with what the All-India Congress Committee has laid down. There may be some matters which are not dealt with. Those matters also will have to be taken up. If necessary, further consultations may be necessary. But in any case, the policy which we have put forward is one which, if given effect to with the full and wholehearted co-operation of all interests concerned, will usher in a new era of peace, progress and economic freedom, which will benefit the common man of this country and strengthen the social and economic structure of our society. With these words, Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the industrial policy of the Government of India be taken into consideration."

I find that two different amendments are tabled.

Shri B. Das (Orissa: General): I will not be moving it as there is a party amendment.

Mr. Speaker: So the other amendment may be moved at this stage and then the discussion may begin.

I may point out that I have got a long list of names of 30 Honourable Members who wish to speak: besides there are also about half a dozen names which are not included.

Kazi Syed Karimuddin (C. P. and Berar: Muslim): Will you be guided by the list?

Mr. Speaker: The lists are there. But it is left to my discretion as to who shall be permitted, or called upon, to speak. But it is impossible to satisfy all the 36 and judging from the chits that are coming to me, the number may swell to 40. A time-limit has therefore, to be fixed and I propose to fix a time-limit of 15 minutes. As I have very often said, I believe in speeches which make real points rather than short speeches, in which no point can be made out. Therefore I am fixing the time limit at 15 minutes but it is perfectly competent for Honourable Members to limit themselves to ten minutes. I will not insist that any member should speak for 15 minutes!

Maulana Hasrat Mohani (U. P.: Muslim): Sir, I want to oppose the motion.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member can do so if and when I call upon

him. Meanwhile Mr. Santhanam will move his amendment.

SRI A. SANTHANAM (Madras: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"That the industrial policy of the Government of India as set out in the statement of policy laid on the table on the 6th April, 1948, be approved."

Sir, I have invited the House to approve the policy. At the same time, I am under no illusions as to the character of the statement which has been laid before us. The Honourable the Minister for Industries has himself admitted that the document is not specially spectacular. It is certainly not an inspiring document and it has not set the Jumna on fire. But I believe it was not the purpose of the Government to place before us something spectacular or exciting. I believe their object was more to give something in the nature of a sedative, in view of the many apprehensions under which the various agencies engaged in production all over the country were suffering. In certain respects, it may even act as a bucket of cold water on many heated imaginations.

During the recent months and perhaps during recent years there has been the most confused thinking regarding Socialism, Nationalisation and such matters. I wish to make my point quite clear. I am a convinced believer in freedom through democracy and social welfare through public control of production and distribution of wealth. But a mere desire to have public ownership or public control of industry does not enable us to have that ownership or control. It is not through slogans and stunts that the economic reconstruction of this great country can be achieved. It has to be attained through laborious thinking and through laborious effort. I have therefore decided to lend my support to the plan by which the State will now take up a limited field and exploit it effectively and go on expanding the field instead of putting forward a general vague programme of nationalisation over the entire field of industry.

If the House will look into the 6 items and reflect on the possibilities which the Government of India have to develop them, they will be convinced that though the number is small, the field is really vast. If the Government of India, for instance, can nationalise all the coalfields in this country and increase coal production to say 50 million tons a year, if it can produce, besides the nearly one million tons of steel and iron by the Tatas, two more million tons in the next ten years by state enterprise, if it can produce 200 aircraft a year, 100 ships a year and enough telephones for equipping 1 million telephones in the country (which is less than the number of telephones in a single city like New York) and if it can produce 1 million tons of petrol either from underground or by synthetic production, then I say that in the next ten years the Government would have taken this country over a really remarkable field. Therefore there is no reason to be disappointed at the small number of items. I believe that the pressure of necessity will force the Government, both Central and Provincial, to take up other items included in the third list. For instance, machine tools, Prime movers, and certain chemicals will have to be produced under State enterprise. Therefore I think the classification given in the statement is as much as we can attempt.

But there is no point in which I am not quite satisfied with the explanation of the Minister for Industries. He has rightly said that State includes the Central Government, the Provincial Governments and even municipal and other local bodies. But there is a strong suggestion throughout the statement that the State will in practice ultimately mean the Central Government. I would have liked the Minister for Industries to indicate what are the industries which he expects the Provincial Governments to take up. All those industries given here in the list on page 2 of the statement are such that they have to be developed only by the Central Government. Of course there is mention of electricity

which I believe will largely be produced by the provincial government but I do think that that is not enough. The statement should have indicated other items which will be specially earmarked for provincial enterprise.

Sir, I see a tendency during recent months, both in the matter of the constitution and in other respects, an attempt on the part of the Centre to concentrate all power in their hands and to minimise the initiative of all others, provincial governments and other bodies. They want centralisation and coordination even in the matter of cottage industries and there are people who cry out, "We want centralisation of cottage industries". I wish to enter a word of protest against this tendency. To the extent that initiative in the field of public enterprise is distributed to that extent progress can be made faster. We know what the Central Government is. Even a single decision on a minor matter takes months and months and a small minor Bill takes 2, 3 and even six months and when it comes before the House we find that it was hastily improvised, badly drafted and people do not know what the policy of the Government is. After all the Central Government means only, 7, 8 or 10 persons, and even they are old and tired men who have got innumerable other activities and it is wrong that the whole economic activity of the country should be concentrated in their hands. There should be the widest possible distribution of initiative, control and management.

Then, Sir, in para. 7 it is said that the eighteen industries listed therein will be the subject of Central regulation and control. So far as the principle is concerned it is unexceptionable. But I wish some more light had been shed upon it. I would like to know whether, subject to statutory provisions, private enterprise will be allowed freedom to exploit the field allotted to it or whether all kinds of fancy administrative machinery will be foisted upon it and our experience of the recent war-time controls will be repeated again in the field of industry. I do approve of the State taking any industry and developing it, but when once the field is given to private enterprise I would suggest that the maximum initiative and freedom should be given to it subject to statutory regulation. We must not put upon it officials with a large amount of personal discretion. It is no fault of the individual people, but so long as you give wide discretion in matters like industry, commerce and trade, that discretion is bound to be misused and it is bound to lead, if not to actual corruption, to a general atmosphere of corruption and a general allegation of corruption. We cannot allow people discretion to distribute favours worth crores of rupees and then say that these people are under a temptation. Let us see that no temptation is given to particular individuals. Therefore, whatever regulation is needed, it should be purely statutory. It should be open to the ordinary citizen to go to a court and say this particular capitalist or particular firm has infringed the statute and that there should be redress against it. But let there be no administrative controls by which individual officials have a great deal of discretion. I wish that the Honourable Minister had announced simultaneously with the statement the Planning machinery because it is the Planning machinery that can give some kind of body and substance to the policy. I do not know what exigencies have prevented him from taking that course, but I hope it will not be long before he announces the Planning machinery. But there is one handicap. The House will be adjourning at the end of this week. If the Planning machinery is announced after the adjournment, the House will not be in a position to scrutinize whether the functions allotted to it, its composition and terms of reference are quite satisfactory. I do not know whether the Honourable Minister will find some way of consulting the members of this House before he finally announces the Planning machinery. It may be done either through circulars asking for opinions, giving tentative views, or in some other manner; but this House should be consulted, the opinions

[Sri K. Santhanam]

of the members should be ascertained before the Planning machinery, its composition and functions are announced to the public.

Sir, the Industries Minister has touched lightly upon financing which I consider to be a crucial factor. As things are, the Government are not going to get the money they want for industrialisation if they believe in conventional methods of financing. If you want private enterprise also to expand in its field, if you want to develop state industries, if you want to finance the various corporations which you have set up through legislation, the Government are not going to get the money they want through private saving. They should adopt boldly new and unconventional methods of financing. There is a great deal of confusion and misapprehension regarding what is called created money, and it is feared that any attempt to finance industries through created money will mean inflation. Inflation is harmful only when it is used to finance unproductive expenditure. Any expansion of currency or bank credit to finance productive expenditure is always beneficial. In fact, if productive expenditure is financed only from savings then there is the deflationary element and it acts as a bottleneck to further increase of production. Therefore I suggest that the Finance Department and the Reserve Bank should elaborate a scheme by which the financing of productive enterprise should be done through what is called created money or bank credit, and strict regulations should be followed by which any capital advanced to productive enterprise will be automatically liquidated in 15 or 20 years' time. We may leave the private savings to private enterprise which will also require hundreds of crores of rupees every year. Public enterprise should be mainly financed through created money. After all, created money is only the credit of the whole country projected into the future; and if the country has got confidence in the government, and if it has confidence that the government will see to it that the new state enterprises will be managed properly, economically and efficiently there is nothing objectionable in it. In fact there is everything to be said for the free and generous use of public credit for the financing of public enterprise.

Finally, one word about cottage industries and I shall finish. I do not believe that the Central Government has a great part to play in the development of cottage industries except in one respect. I think the Central Government can foster cottage industries by sending experts to other countries and introducing new cottage industries with new tools. So far as ancient cottage industries are concerned they may well be left to the Provincial Governments. The Provincial Governments have got sufficient funds and ability to foster existing cottage industries like handlooms, metalware and such things. But there are many cottage industries like watch-making for instance which are not current here which can be introduced. There are many machine tools which can be produced on a cottage scale. For these purposes there should be a Central institute which will not bother itself with things like basket-making and rattan-work. It should confine itself to modern cottage industries, to cottage industries which will have to be operated with electrical tools, with very highly precise scientific tools. To the extent that cottage industries can be produced and spread in middle-class homes and educated homes a great deal of unemployment, especially middle-class unemployment, can be solved and the wealth of the country can be increased to a great extent.

Sir, with these few remarks I invite the House to give its seal of approval to the policy adumbrated in the Statement and give a clear line signal to the Government to proceed to implement it.

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"That the industrial policy of the Government of India as set out in the statement of policy laid on the table on the 6th April, 1948, be approved."

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (the Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

Sri M. K. Masani (Bombay: General): Mr. Speaker, I would like in the few minutes that you have placed at my disposal, to view this resolution from two aspects: one, the aspect of increased production, and the other of equitable distribution; and as the Honourable Minister has himself put it, increased production comes first both in point of time and in priority in the conditions in which we are placed.

From this angle, Sir, I welcome the very active part that the Indian State proposes to play in the industrial sphere. It is the first time that the general statement of policy has laid down such a positive and active role for the State in certain spheres of our industrial life. In case anyone feels that the sphere is rather limited, I think he would be making a mistake because, while these industries might number six, the nature of the industries is such that the State can make or unmake progress in the remaining sphere of our industrial life, and therefore, as the Honourable Minister has recognized, the State has taken on itself a very heavy and serious responsibility of making good that development which it has reserved exclusively to itself and from which it has kept other parties from participating. I, Sir, believe that the State should play such an active part, and I am confident that, given the co-operation it deserves, the Indian Government will be able to rise to its responsibilities and fill up that large void in our industrial structure which is at present gaping wide for all to see.

So far as capital and labour are concerned, I think this statement of policy gives to both of them the assurance and the reassurance that they deserve. To capital has been given the assurance that even in the field reserved for what may be called state enterprises or state industries, there is a period of ten years during which they will get facilities for effective working and also for expansion. That, Sir, is a feature that I welcome, because even the most optimistic of believers in the State will realise that the State today would be doing a disservice to itself and the country if it tried to stop expansion of industrial enterprises that are already in the field. And at the end of ten years there is the assurance of equitable compensation. I think, Sir, these are assurances, call for a response from those who are at the helm of industry in our country today. The statement goes on to say that after ten years there will be a review of the position in the light of the then prevailing circumstances. I would venture to suggest, Sir, that such a review should take the form not only of a mere administrative decision by the departments concerned, but of an enquiry of an open and quasi-judicial nature. I suggest that no industry should be taken over completely or nationalized in that sense of the word unless a Royal Commission, or whatever takes the place of a Royal Commission in a possible Republic which may then exist, investigates openly the desirability of the State establishing a monopoly in a particular field. In fact, that practice has been followed in the case of the Coalfields Committee Report. It was after this report that coal has been put on this particular list. A judicial attitude as to the merits of the case will be called for at the end of ten years, and not an automatic change of policy.

So far as labour is concerned, there is a very important part of the statement which envisages a partnership of capital and labour, both in the profits of industry and in its control and management. That, Sir, I think, is a more, revolutionary concept than mere nationalization with a state bureaucracy at the top. Workers' participation in control, workers' partnership in industry is a sounder path towards economic democracy compared with stateownership and management, and I think labour, if it knows its interests and realises the opportunities it offers, should grasp it with both hands.

[Shri M. R. Masani]

The situation then, Sir, is really a challenge to both capital and labour, and I cannot help feeling that on both sides, so far, the proper spirit has not been forthcoming. The capitalists of our country, the industrialists, have been blamed for wanting too high a return. I think that is rather a pointless criticism. I would rather criticize some of them for wanting a safe and steady return and for not being prepared to take risks which Free Enterprise demands of them.

Similarly, labour leadership is not frightfully imaginative in our country. We have in this country a fine body of men who have shown that they are not inferior to workers in any other part of the world—given proper training and leadership. It is on record that Indian steel, and Indian hydro-electric power in my part of this country, are made available to this country at cheaper rates than those prevalent in the most advanced industrial countries of the West, and if additional testimony were wanted, I am glad to see that Mr. William Fawley, who had a hand in the construction of the Hindustan Aircraft Works at Bangalore, has testified that at the end of three years of training, production per man per hour was ahead of corresponding United States plants by no less than 23 per cent. That shows what, under proper handling and training, Indian labour can do. We have therefore not only a country of great potential resources, but a very intelligent population, a population which can use its hands and brains to great advantage and which given proper leadership, should be able to make up much of the leeway that exists. But the leadership on this side too is not all it should be. There is a constant clamour for a rise in money wages. Trade Union leaders ought to realise that an addition to money wages with a corresponding measure of inflation does not really give the worker anything more than what he was receiving before. What a contrast it makes when we see Mr. Walter Reuther, the newly elected President of the United Automobile Workers of the U.S.A., making a demand not for a rise in wages but a demand on the United States Government to investigate why the United States steel industry is not producing more steel than it is producing today! There we have an awareness of the real benefit that labour would get if industry were to develop and if production were to increase. The position in this country was aptly summed up by an American industrialist who recently visited the country. He said that we in this country suffered from too much Henry Wallace and too little Henry Ford.

From the point of view of equitable distribution, I approach this resolution from the standpoint of a Democratic Socialist. It is often said that the choice before us in this country, and in the world, generally, is a choice between capitalism and socialism. I think that is an entirely false understanding of the position. The choice is not between capitalism and anything else that may take its place. The choice is between those systems which aspire to replace Capitalism, and there are two distinct aspirants to the succession to the dying economic order. One is Totalitarian Communism and the other is Democratic Socialism, and it is in the light of that choice that I would judge this resolution. Now, Sir, I will not give any personal view of what the first alternative is. I shall read out a few sentences from the Statement of Policy of the Socialist Party in this country itself. This is what it says:

"The main choice today is between Democratic Socialism and Totalitarian Communism. In totalitarian communism, to which it is wrong to apply the name of socialism, every other but the ruling party is suppressed: there is no opposition permitted to the bureaucracy in power; the trade unions are not independent organizations of the workers but subordinate limbs of the all-powerful State with no right to strike or to take any other action independent of the State and the ruling party. Under such 'socialism', as totalitarian communism is sometimes called, the individual is not free and enjoys no protection against arbitrary loss of his already restricted freedom—his job or even his life. The State in such a system acquires an unchallenged control over the life, liberty and happiness of its subject. On the other hand, thanks to the single-party system, the State passes entirely out of the democratic control of the community of workers and becomes a tool in the hands

of the ruling clique of the only party in existence. Party leaders and leaders of industry, agriculture and the armed forces become a class, apart from the mass of workers, perpetuating themselves through a system of special privilege, drawing incomes far in excess of ordinary wages and ruling in the name of the workers but wholly beyond their control."

Sir, a book that has recently come to this country, called *Forced Labour in Soviet Russia* by Dalin and Nicolaeosky, gives most alarming and conclusive evidence that in that country now you have a standing slave labour force of 10 to 15 million people who are forced by the secret police to work in concentration camps and who get no wages at all. That is the first alternative before us.

I welcome this statement of policy because I consider it and understand it to be a categorical rejection of communism. I consider it, on the other hand, to be an advance towards Democratic Socialism as tried out in countries like Sweden or Australia or New Zealand or Britain in our own time. Both in our new Constitution and now in this economic policy that we have framed, we have adopted the democratic way of life, and I join with Mr. Santhanam, who also is a believer in that way of life, in welcoming this Resolution from that aspect.

This Resolution lays down the foundations of democratic socialism in this country. It aspires to equality of opportunity. It avoids monopoly, whether private or public—and monopoly under both forms is anti-national, reactionary and anti-social. It is, as the Honourable Minister called it, a Mixed Economy where Free Enterprise and State Enterprise rub shoulders on equal terms. I was very happy that the Honourable Minister rubbed this point in and said that state enterprise would not be worth its salt if it were not able to survive on fair and equal terms the competition that would come from the free enterprise sector. The recent taxation policy of the Government of India, of taxing commercial enterprises even where they are run by the State or municipal organisations, is an extremely sound policy in that light.

Another socialistic aspect of this statement is its effort to equalize incomes and to avoid concentration of wealth by means of taxation and of social services. Most important of all, there is the offer to implement the partnership of labour and capital in the control and profits of industry. I, Sir, feel that not only the Government but the industrialists in this country can go a long way further in that direction than they have done so far. I see no reason why a representative of the workers should not, as far as possible, form a member of the Board of Directors of every major industry in this country.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras: General): Certainly, hear, hear.

Shri M. R. Masani: Labour along with capital has a moral right to such partnership, and I believe it is along that path and not along the path of state regimentation or centralization that we can get economic democracy in this country. There may be differences as to tempo, but on this, the dispersal of economic power and a peaceful and democratic transition, all major parties hold like views. If you read the Report of Jai Prakash Narain, India's Socialist leader, to the recent Nasik Conference, you will find that he also stresses the importance of following Gandhiji's idea of the dispersal of economic power—forced control in a variety of hands as compared with the concentration of power that all-round nationalization by the State would bring.

Sir, if I may be given two minutes more, I would like to touch on the point of foreign capital before I conclude. I think while the statement welcomes the need for foreign capital, as I understand it not enough stress has been given to the very vital need for foreign capital that we feel in this country. Our Government recently invited a distinguished economist, Mr. Collin Clark, to this country to investigate our position, and what, Sir, are his findings? He is one

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of the most distinguished and detached economists, that are available to us today. According to him, our present rate of savings is six to seven per cent of our national income per year. He says that if we do not admit a large amount of foreign capital, we can only increase our national income by five or six per cent. in ten years; that is an increase that not even the most pessimistic or modest of us would be content with. On the other hand, he points out that to get an increase of two per cent. in our income every year, which would be a satisfactory and rapid rise, we would need to import into our country every year foreign capital of the order of our total sterling balances today—not just once, but every year you will have to import the equivalent of our sterling balances in the form of capital equipment to be able to increase our national income by two per cent. in that period.

That shows our desperate and crying need, and I think we should adopt a more positive and a more welcoming attitude towards foreign capital. To be over-suspicious, to be over-frightened, is to show an inferiority complex. We have got our own Government, our own State; we can afford to allow foreign capital on stated terms. Of course we should have safeguards, as stated in the Resolution. But let us approach foreign capital in a more positive and a more welcoming way. Once we decide to give and take from the rest of the world, once we decide that we can face it on terms of equality, we can shed our past sense of inferiority, under foreign rule and not be frightened of what foreign capital can do. I would therefore welcome large credits from a country like the United States, a democratic country, which can afford to give us capital and we with equal self-respect and in a spirit of equality can accept it, not only for our own good but for the common benefit of humanity.

To conclude, I feel that this statement of policy, sound as it is, can only be judged in the light that it is interpreted and worked in the months and years to come. If it is worked in a spirit of pioneering, a spirit of expansiveness, a spirit of taking risks, and not in a spirit of restriction or of stopping people from doing things, but rather of encouraging them to do them because this country is big enough and because this country is powerful enough to do with all the enterprise—state and private—that it can possibly have, then I believe this Resolution will take India many a milestone along its road to prosperity and greatness.

Prof. K. T. Shah (Bihar: General): Sir, I am thankful for the opportunity to offer a few remarks on this Resolution before another chorus of congratulations breaks out and it becomes epidemic in the House. I feel, Sir, that I at least will have to raise my voice of utter disappointment with everything that is contained in this Resolution. As such, I hope that some indulgence would be shown to me so that the salient features and only the salient features, can be reviewed in the light they deserve to be reviewed, and not merely in the light of expansiveness or liberalism, that is, the necessity for what is called a mixed economy.

Sir, to start with, I have had occasion to complain before, to submit to you, that on matters of this description sufficient time is not given to this House to thrash out properly such great and complex issues of national policy. The fate of perhaps 400 millions is to be determined by an Industrial Policy, which, according to the terms of this Resolution, is to be guaranteed for ten years, or is supposed to remain in force for ten years. And a policy which is to affect the life and material welfare of 400 millions of people during that ten years is to be disposed of by this House in less than 2½ hours, with perhaps twenty-five speakers speaking, and the replying Minister probably saying that much is good in what has been said, that something is objectionable, some people have changed, something is destructive, but on the whole we will go along the way we have chalked out.

The charge has been made that I have changed. I, Sir, am only a Bachelor of Arts and not that Master of quick-change artistry which can, with equal facility lead an Imperial Preference Delegation on one day and move a Congress Independent Resolution on another. I prefer to adhere to my views which have been expressed in more than one form perhaps over a period of thirty years. And I am afraid I remain sufficiently fossilised, sufficiently old-fashioned, sufficiently unchanging, not to have altered my views, notwithstanding all the opprobrium on -isms that is now being shown on them. I am not ashamed of these particular -isms. (Interruptions.) Gold remains gold whether in Pilani or in this House.

Sir, let me not be unnecessarily lighthearted. I feel seriously disappointed in this Resolution not only because of its sins of commission but also because of its sins of omission. Take the latter. There is nothing stated here which could, to my eyes, throw even a single ray of hope for the ages or years to come. We, Sir, have heard some glowing words about the material collected by the National Planning Committee. But the National Planning Committee's lists of industries which ought to be exclusively under State management have been grievously curtailed. The six or seven things that were put forward by that body in regard to what are called "Defence industries" have also been curtailed and that too in a manner and with a hesitation and reservation which it seems to me is a matter of great regret that the head of our Government, who was also the Chairman of that Planning Committee, should have subscribed to. Sir, the three items and only three, which in this Resolution are left exclusively to State enterprise are stated there with a note of apology, with a tone of humility, which seem to me to be utterly insufficient to give even a distant indication as it were to the progress this country intends to make in the direction of socialisation on a democratic basis. Take three items seriatim, analyse their nature and profit earning possibilities; and see how "advanced" this Resolution is. First comes the manufacture of arms and ammunition. Sir, in this age of a world State being foreshadowed, in this age of the United Nations Security Council with all the organisation against war that we are thinking of, obviously, the manufacture of arms and ammunition will have no profit left in it. It is therefore highly obliging of the capitalists to leave it so patronisingly to the State to own and manage it exclusively. Then we are told that we shall produce and control Atomic Energy. I do not know whether they will produce any atomic energy soon in India; and even if they did whether that energy will be harnessed to the production and forwarding of social and economic welfare of the people. Today, at any rate, it is in the popular mind—and I confess in my mind also—associated with destructive force, and not as a socially productive factor. But even supposing it is, within our lifetime or within the lifetime of the younger generation in this House, made a force for the production of new wealth and general good of mankind, then I am perfectly certain that if this mentality prevails, even that will be cornered by the capitalists, after the State has spent untold wealth in preliminary research.

The last come the Railways. The Railways today are on the verge of again beginning a losing cycle of years. And the Resolution speaks of the Railways only, mind you—there is no mention of road transport, sea transport, air transport or any other linked forms of transport which are left to the sweet mercy of the capitalists seeking profit, profit and profit only. On this basis, obviously, the Railways cannot make profit or any surplus. In fact, I should be the first myself to claim that the public utility services should not be worked for profit, and should be worked for the purpose of rendering the greatest service possible and not earn the greatest surplus possible. On that basis, obviously, that which is left to the State exclusively in this very elaborate Resolution on

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the Industrial Policy of the Government is selected; and it could not have been selected with greater care to make State enterprise the most objectionable, meddlesome, losing inefficient concern that could ever be imagined, because the worst examples are left to the State and the best examples are selected to be reserved for the capitalist profit-seeker. The six classes of industries, again which are taken over, subject to the exclusive responsibility—I hope I am correct in using the word—of the State—and the State in this context represents the Central, Provincial and State Governments and the municipal and other local bodies plus the Statutory Corporation. Even there, the policy is not to take over the entire category of those industries. The policy is “new undertakings, new units”; so that, when the better or the more productive or the more profitable fields have been taken up, explored, exploited and protected by the State, then what is left by the capitalists, what cannot be taken up by them—that is to say, all the coal that is coarse, or all the electric power already used up and so on—these will be, with the greatest indulgence on the part of the capitalists, left to the State to develop—again, for the benefit of the total industry, which is of course left in the hands of the capitalists.

We are told, Sir, that the State reserves to itself the right to take over any time it thinks it proper any of the industries. Was it necessary to state this? Was it necessary to rub this in? It is the inherent right of a sovereign State at any time to do anything it deems right and proper for the welfare of its people. I think Government should not have insulted the intelligence of the House by stating such obvious truth and saying two and two make four, unless of course they think that two and two make twenty-two if put together properly. If that is the idea, then such an obvious statement as this would not be made, except with a purpose, perhaps, to misrepresent or misinterpret the intentions of this House.

It has been said mine has been a destructive criticism. I do not know whether that was a correct representation; but this I would say, that if the terror of the Whip was not applied, if this House was left free to express its opinion on a matter of this kind, and if the House also gets the proper response from the country itself, then I would make this sporting offer to those who regard such matters as destructive: Let them not be borne away. Let them not insist. Let them ask anybody to vote according to his conscience here and in all the country, and I venture to think this Resolution will not stand approved but condemned. (*Shri Satyanarayan Sinha: Question.*) It is not the policy that a State desiring to be progressive, a State desiring to advance the wealth of the country and well-being of the people should adopt in my opinion.

Sir, we are told that this is a policy intended to provide equality of opportunity. What equality of opportunity can there be, I ask, between one man in a race—in a mile race for example—with a handicap of 1,600 yards in his favour, and his competitor who has to start from the starting post? What is the “equality” available in a country between people, the vast majority of whom have not even one single square meal of the coarsest kind per day, without thought of clothing nor education, nor provision for health—what equality is there, between such people and the multimillionaire? The Honourable the Finance Minister stated the other day that there are 415 people in this country who between them have an income of 20 crores. That works out on the average to 5 lakhs per head, and the average income of an Indian peasant is less than Rs. 50 a year. What equality, I ask, can there be between a man who gets an income of Rs. 50 a year and a man who gets an income of Rs. 5 lakhs a year? And those who prate of such equality, Sir, what should we think of them? Sir, if you will permit me to use the phrase without offence, those who are talking in this strain are talking with their tongue in

their cheeks. They cannot possibly mean it sincerely or in real earnestness. Take next the problem of ways and means. Sir, how are you going to establish equality of opportunity? How are you going to bring about increase in production? Increase in production is all very well but to whom will go the benefit of this increase? Re-distribution of existing wealth, we are told, will only mean re-distribution of poverty. In spite of the risk of being regarded as ridiculous and being treated as an object of laughter, I am prepared to say that it is much better to share equally our poverty than to have in the country one per cent. of one per cent. rolling in wealth and not knowing what to do with it, and the rest not having even enough food, enough cloth and even the primary necessities of life.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member's time is up.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I am very sorry. I would only name just three points of commission and omission that I started with. There is no limit on profits. In spite of all the tall talk about equality—no mention has been made of any limitation of profit. There is a very small list of enterprises reserved for the State. There is no definite period given within which the State should come into its own. Yes, there is a time-limit of ten years, after which it is going to be reviewed; and if the capitalists think it so proper we may have the chance of getting a few more crumbs from their over-laden table; but not otherwise. May I ask, Sir, who are we, who is the present Government, who is even this House—I say with all respect—to bind posterity down for ten years? The country if it chooses, at the very next election it could change the whole of this policy. What is the use of saying that this policy is for ten years; that this will be a charter of exploitation for the vested interests who will take the kernel and leave the husk to posterity. I am very sorry, Sir, a subject like this cannot be discussed within ten minutes, particularly by a man who has spent thirty years, to expound this matter, and so with deep regret I sit down saying the last word that I totally disapprove of this Resolution.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): Sir, I am glad you have given me this opportunity of rising so soon after my Professor of Professors has just sat down. I wish to say that although I would like to find myself on his side, I am not able to be on his side so far as this particular Resolution is concerned. My friend seems to forget certain realities, and I shall probably give rise to another occasion when my friend will again start banging me just as he has been banging the Industries Minister for having stated that his earlier suggestions were rather destructive. But I am prepared to take that risk. I wish to assure my friend that this is not a socialist House, that we have not come into this House after having defeated capitalism. We have not got the mandate from the people. First of all, we have to dispose of all these capitalists, then establish socialism. If that is the position, or if that had been the position, then certainly I would have found myself on the side of my friend Professor Shah in condemning this Government.

But unfortunately, the present position is we have just got rid of imperialism and that is why we find ourselves in this House. We have got to settle terms with the imperialism that is growing in this country. What is it? We have today these people. Let the House also understand that today what is known as the State is an infant one and it is not stronger than all the capitalists and all the budding capitalists all put together. It flatters our vanity to go on thinking that we are stronger. If you look at it, to the very reality of it, it is not so. The police is there. What has happened to our police and the armed forces? Only the other day when the masses went mad, the State really was not in action. Similarly if these people, the capitalists were to go on a strike, what will be the position of this particular Government? What is the mandate that this Government has got and what is the constitution of this Government? Is this Government today a socialist Government? It is not. It is a nationalist Government. That is true, everybody

[Prof. N. G. Ranga] admits it. It is a nationalist Government and then it is placed there in its place by the Indian National Congress which has achieved freedom by defeating imperialism and now the Indian National Congress is committed to the socialistic nationalism. It wants to go the way of socialism. It wants to achieve Gandhian socialism, but it has not yet been able to definitely defeat the capitalists. It must first get the mandate and then say: "I am going to get rid of all the industrialists of this country."

An Honourable Member: Are you asking the capitalists to give to you the mandate?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Now, Sir, that question is very relevant and I am glad that my Honourable friend is putting it. I cannot remove the capitalists altogether. Today there is a conflict between this Government and the capitalists; there is a conflict between the capitalists and the Gandhian socialists and in this conflict I take this resolution as a definite triumph to the Gandhian socialists as well as socialists in this country. We are today faced with these capitalists who, as I said the other day, are terribly greedy, who wish to follow the dog in the manger policy, and who do not want to allow the State to enter any sector which has been their monopoly. In these circumstances here is a resolution by which this Government is able to assert itself, thanks to the leadership provided for it by the Indian National Congress, and says: "Here are the industries further development of which is going to be completely reserved for the State. Here are the industries which we are not going to hand over to private capitalists." My Honourable friend Mr. Shah will remember that it was not long ago that the Indian merchants as well as the British merchants made a suggestion that the Indian Railways should also be handed over to certain public corporations which would be under the control of Indian capital. Therefore it is certainly all for the good that the Government stated quite clearly that the Indian Railways are going to be in the possession of the State. Secondly, there are the armaments industry. He simply said 2 and 2 make 4 but 2 and 2 have come to be 4 only a few years ago, less than 10 years ago. In France when Leon Blum's Ministry had nationalised the armaments industry, it created a big furore in the whole of Europe. In England even today it is not completely nationalised; in America it is not completely nationalised and all these armament manufacturers in these various countries were only creating this world force. Under these circumstances is it not certainly an advance step on the part of our own National Government that we should come forward and state we are not going to allow this Indian capitalism to poach into this particular field? So I consider that policy as a step in advance. Then in regard to the 18 items of these various industries, the State says: You are free; you capitalists use your powerful influence—it is true—but nevertheless we keep to ourselves the right to come in there, compete with you to start bigger and bigger concerns with all our ability to draw money from our own people as well as from abroad and compete in other world markets and that is one of the reasons why this Finance Minister has come to be appointed; otherwise we could have any other Finance Minister. That is why I congratulated him the other day for having sold our Government freely in the International market and the credit of our Government has been enhanced by this Budget, because we want to borrow money from abroad; conditions have been started here so that it will be possible for Indians to safeguard themselves and as against themselves; foreign capitalists' money will be flowing here. Now the Indian capitalists like Birla and Bajaj and all these people will have to compete with our own Indian Government in the foreign markets for capital goods, for steel and for technical equipment and all the rest of it. But who will be able to start all these industries? Now, let my Honourable friend, Mr. Shah co-operate with our own Government in trying to compete successfully with the private capitalists and exploit the 18 items to such an extent that it will be impossible for India

capitalism to grow to their full stature in this country. My fear is not that the Indian capitalism is strong as it is. My fear and my regret is that Indian capitalism is growing stronger and stronger every day. I want to arrest their growth and here is a Magna Charta for me and my colleagues in this Indian Government to prevent the further growth of the political and economic power of Indian capitalism. To that extent, Sir, I take it also as a step in advance.

So many people are fascinated by large-scale industries. I am prepared to make a sort of concession to the extent that I cannot help having these large-scale industries. I would like to have the State coming in as a major partner, if not the only partner. But as far as it is possible, I would like to decentralise our industries and diffuse them. It is not going to help. Therefore decentralization of industries is much better and what are the advantages of decentralization of industries? One is that you prevent the concentration of power and to that extent you prevent the growth of the capitalist and also the power of their own opponent, but an ally on the other side with them as against us there is the organized proletariat who are today and every day threatening us with strikes, going slow and sit in strikes and all the rest of it. Therefore, I would like to have decentralization of industries and that can be added under this chapter here on cottage industries. Is that not a good thing? Of course, my Honourable friend, Mr. Shah does not like cottage industries. We have always been at loggerheads over this particular matter; he regards that as a sort of fossil. I believe in the authority of Mahatma Gandhi; he believes in centralization; I believe in decentralization; he believes in congregation of power; I believe in decentralization of power and democratization of power.

Prof. K. T. Shah: I have never said that I believe in over-centralization of power.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What else is the meaning when he develops his bias for large-scale industry? I only paraphrase it and nothing more, not exactly the word that I have taken from his mouth, but I can claim to be a very good student of his books.

Then, Sir, leaving Mr. Shah aside, there is the other point. These cottage industries are going to be developed. I am glad, Sir, at long last, the Government as well as the workers have to realize the importance of the cottage industries. Through cottage industries we can make the fullest possible use of what is known as man capital or labour capital. India is too full of it and rich in labour capital. It has great resources and these untapped mines of resources have not been utilised today. They have got to be organised and they can be organized for the cottage co-operative organization. That is where I sounded a note of caution to the Finance Minister that he should not give any scope for these capitalists to give their help. On the other hand they should develop what is known as the National Cottage Industries Finance Corporation and help these people to develop their own co-operative organisation and provide us with all the consumer goods. One point more, Sir, I agree with my Honourable friend Mr. Anthaniam when he said that there should be created money, but I am particularly anxious that this created money should never be allowed to be utilised by any private industry at all.

It ought to be utilised only for public and productive purposes by public corporations or State enterprises. But that does not mean that State enterprises should confine itself to created money alone. There is, however, one danger of created money and that is that it puts too much money in the hands of the people while consumer goods are not being created; to that extent there will be an inflationary tendency. For that reason I suggest that Government also should be willing to go into the loan market, borrow as much money as

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possible and bring about this deflationary tendency so as to enable Government to develop its own industries.

Lastly, to return to my Honourable friend Prof. Shah, my difficulty is only this. I am prepared to nationalise everything today if I can be assured that it will be efficient, that the people who will be running it are trained, that they have got the public spirit and can be honest, can be trusted and can be controlled. What has happened in the recent past? Before the war I was myself a very great enthusiast of all these controls and all the rest of it. During the war we have had our bitter experiences and I have been one of the first advocates in asking for a decontrol policy. But that does not mean that I do not want the State to come in our way in controlling this and that industry. But let the State also be sufficiently armed and developed and civilised. In our State today, so far as our own services are concerned, they are not sufficiently civilised; they are barbaric—in Shri Ramnarayan Singh's sense of taking bribes—corrupt, fond of too much power and looking down upon the masses and keeping them down and suppressing them also. All that has to be changed and our services have to become social services. And when will they become so? The Honourable Minister said he is going to take steps; that is also a great step in advance. Till today America has not any such service. England has not developed very much yet. She has nationalised her coal mines and nationalised various other industries; but was she running these industries? She is obliged to run them with the same managers and managing directors who used to run them as capitalist enterprises. And that is why production in England has not been looking up as well as was expected by our own friends the Labour Ministers of that country. I do admit that nationalisation in that country has been a great step; but in our country also it will be an equally great boon if only we were to come to a decision with regard to not only the necessary funds but also the necessary skill and the reliable administrative staff.

The other thing is this. There are our own masses; are they sufficiently organised? My Honourable friend lives in Bombay. Once I asked him, "Why don't you go into the villages like myself and help me in the kisan movement?" He said, "Ranga, I will be dead if I go there." That is the difficulty; it is the duty of all of us and all the rest of us in the country to go to the people, organise them and help them, so that it will be possible for them to control the civil services. Today our masses are not able to control the civil services. If on the top of it we are going to increase their number twice or three or four times and give them all this power and so much of concentration of power, does anybody think that it will be possible for our masses to save themselves from this growing octopus in the civil services on the administrative side and on the economic side?

An Honourable Member: Establish village Soviets.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That is why there should be cottage industries; that is why there should be diffusion of industries; that is why there should be decentralisation of power; and that is why I say that this Government has to be strengthened in every possible manner so that it will be possible for us, when we go back to the electorate next time, to tell them, "Here is the Government of India policy for the next two years. We have been obliged to come to this compromise with Indian capitalism, rejuvenated capitalism or anyhow resurgent capitalism in this country. We are not satisfied with this compromise; we want to get much more power for our own State and for our own administration. Therefore give us the necessary strength. Also organise yourself, so that when we go back to the Government, when we form a Ministry again and when we launch this new scheme for new enterprises and co-operative enterprises, it will be possible to control these people; help us and co-operate with us in controlling the civil services."

Sir, that is my view with regard to this Resolution and I want the House to support this Resolution.

Shri Khandubhai K. Desai (Bombay: General): Sir, I have no hesitation in giving my support to the industrial policy that has been laid before this House by Honourable the Minister for the Industry. I am going to discuss this subject from a realistic and matter-of-fact point of view. We know that the standard of living in this country is very low. It has been stated that our resources are inexhaustible but they have not been manned or canalised to improve the standard of living. We have to judge this policy from the point of view of whether the policy that has been laid down in general terms will help us in achieving our objective. As a hard trade unionist who has worked among labour during the past generation, I have no hesitation in saying that this policy is calculated, if properly translated into action, to expand our production, both industrial and agricultural. But I should like to sound a note of warning that the manoeuvring and technique of the capitalist class will move heaven and earth in order to see that the policy that Government has laid before us may not be put into concrete form. Therefore I would judge this policy, as far as the general aspect of it is concerned when it will be concretised. Even though sound, the proper time for judging it will come when during the next ten years Government will bring before this House statutory legislation as far as these particular 18 industries kept for private enterprise are concerned. We have to see whether the next ten years, which is the period of transition, are being utilised to support and to strengthen the present capitalist order which is certainly an order of exploitation, or whether steps are being taken gradually to take away the power which they at present enjoy in this country. If during the next year or two this House is called upon to consider the regulation and control of these 18 industries with a view to see that every increased unit of production will go either to ameliorate the condition of labour in industry or the common man in the country, and not even an iota of share in that increased production shall go to the already fat rich class. In this connection I will suggest to Government that the maximum earning should be as laid down in the economic policy of the Congress, Rs. 2,000 and not more, in the case of any individual. And while regulating and controlling these 18 industries it must be laid down that the income of an individual should be brought down to Rs. 2,000. At the same time the earning and income of the lowest man should be raised to Rs. 100. It may be asked how that money is going to come and how these Commodities and services are to be made available to the common man in the country. As I have stated, for any increase in production which this policy is expected to bring about it must be laid down very clearly that the present profits, dividends and commissions which are being given to the rich people should be drastically curtailed by law. If the policy as laid down by the Government is to be translated into action, no time is to be lost, and as early as possible the Government must give to the nation really an indication of the concrete steps that it is going to take. I assure this House on behalf of organized labour—and I do represent here, Sir, the largest national organization of labour, the Indian National Trade Union Congress—that it does give, and it will give its full support to the policy which has just now been laid down in general terms. But the amount of enthusiasm, the amount of impetus will be proportional to the concrete steps that will be taken in the near future. It has been stated that it is a great move and a phenomenal move to make a worker a partner in industry. I do not attach much importance to partnership as far as the sharing of profits is concerned in the general national interests. The worker does not require only a material inducement to put in his best for the country. He requires a psychological impetus. He must be made to feel that he works for the interest of his

[Sri Khandubhai K. Desai]

country: that he works for the interest of his neighbour who is not employed in the industry: that he works for himself also, but that whatever more work is expected from him is not expected only for the capitalists. And if he is made to feel that any increased work that he has to put in will go to raise the general standard of living in the country, he will willingly give that share. And let me say it very frankly, that up till now that psychology does not exist. In order to create that psychology, the dividends, the profits, the commissions and any underhand gains that a manufacturer is taking require to be severely checked and curtailed. I do not say that immediately to-morrow morning you will bring about this condition. What I feel is that every step taken during the next few years should go towards that end. It is true, Sir, that the country is not going to get its economic freedom or economic liberty and create a society which is free of exploitation, political or social, tomorrow. We must realize, Sir, and every trade unionist who works with labour from day to day does realize, that we are not building a State here in this country only, nor are we building a State entirely on vacuum. We have to take into consideration the practical aspects which are before the country.

About nine months back we came out of a jungle of theoretical "isms" that had been preached to this country. We are here face to face with the concrete problems. How are those concrete problems going to be solved: the problems of production, the problems of the standard of living, the problem of education and the problems of creating a psychology in the common man that the country belongs to him and not to the few rich people?

Therefore, Sir, I have suggested that, while giving my wholehearted support in general terms to the policy that has been laid down, the time certainly will come when this policy will be translated into legislative measures before this House, and according to me that should be done during the next six months. We cannot afford to wait. Steps should be taken to bring down the high incomes that individuals in this country are earning by exploiting people, and the goal should be, as I have said, to bring down during the next ten years the earnings of those who are earning lakhs and lakhs of rupees to a monthly income of Rs. 2,000, and at the same time raising up the standard of the worker, whether he works in the field or factory, to Rs. 100. There should not be this wide gap between the income of the lowest paid man and the highest paid individual in the country.

One very important part in the policy is in regard to the industrial relations that should exist between capital and labour. The industrial relations are not happy today. They are not conducive to better production. As a matter of fact this brings about a curtailment of production, whether intentional or unintentional. Therefore, Sir, the Work committees, the production committees and other committees that are envisaged under this policy require to be immediately put into effect, and the worker, as I have stated earlier, should be made to feel that he is not only a co-sharer in the profits, but that he is really a co-owner in industry: he is a co-servant of the community along with the manufacturer, and it is for the community to see that these servants of the community are looked after by it.

What have we got in society? In the society which we envisage we have master-servants by turns. The peasant in a way is a master as the consumer of the industrial production and he is also a servant in his own turn as a producer, and in the same manner a worker is also a master-servant. As a matter of fact that is the best way to look at this problem as this conception is calculated to lead us quickly to co-operative commonwealth.

With these words, I commend the resolution to the acceptance of the House.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (West Bengal: General): Mr. Speaker, different sections of the community, who view from different angles, the problems of nation-building, will I think all agree in welcoming on the part of Government an outline of its industrial policy, the lack of which has already had some bad repercussions. This morning the Honourable the Industries Minister made a very eloquent speech and rightly gave a warning by calling attention to our backward condition and the fundamental need for unity among all sections and classes of the community, for a Joint production drive if India is to take her place amongst other countries, and also if economic freedom is to be realized, which alone can give political liberty any significance.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri K. Santhanam (one of the Panel of Chairmen)]

Sir, I fully endorse the Government's policy of emphasising the need for increasing the national dividend first, of increasing production in industry and agriculture so that measures for equitable distribution, can bring about a minimum of welfare and a minimum of standard of living for the common man in this country. Much as some of us would like nationalisation, I do think that at the present stage of our economic development, we can have a wholesale nationalisation of industry. But after saying this, Sir, I have also this to say that Government, probably due to some real difficulties like falling standards of production and lack of proper and adequate administrative machinery, have been far too cautious. I have some suggestions to offer which I hope the Honourable Minister for Industry and Supply will take into consideration. It is only by taking risks that we can eventually emerge triumphant.

In the first place, Sir, I think that aircraft manufacture and shipbuilding which are so very vital and so much allied to the problem of defence should be the exclusive monopoly of the State and should not be left, even for a short period, in the hands of private enterprise. It is a well known fact, not only here, but throughout the world, that those who control the basic and key industries sway the destinies of nations. If we allow these industries which are so closely allied to defence to be left, even for a short period of time, in the hands of private enterprise, I am afraid it will be dangerous and fraught with very serious consequences, which we may not be able to rectify later.

Then, Sir, turning to coal, it is basic to all other industries. I would personally like that it should be completely nationalised. Apart from that, I do not think that the history of the coal industry in India has shown that private enterprise has been very successful in regard to production. It is a well known fact that there have been uneconomic running of many coal-fields with the result that there has been a good deal of wastage. Particularly in regard to first grade coal, of which we possess a limited quantity, there is very great need for strict control. This resolution says that the Coal Fields Committee's recommendation will be taken into consideration in a general way. I hope that the Honourable Minister will clarify the point as to whether this means that an autonomous coal board will be set up. If Government feel that they cannot possibly nationalise coal production immediately, then there should at least be no delay in setting up an autonomous Coal Board, with a view to complete nationalisation of the industry after, say, about ten years.

Turning then to some of the industries in the next category, like Air and Sea Transport, Heavy chemicals, Minerals and Industries related to defence, I do feel that if they cannot be put in category one they should certainly be placed at least in category two. For the time being, such industries as do exist may be allowed to continue in private hands, but new ventures should be taken over by the State. This will help an all out production drive.

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[Srimati Renuka Ray]

Sir, as I have stated before, I am fully alive to the difficulties that face Government and however idealistic we may be, we have got to be practical and it is not possible, under the present circumstances to bring into force all the things that we would like.

I am glad, Sir, that the State has decided that new ventures will become a state monopoly and only the existing industries in category two will continue for some time in private hands. I also welcome the Government's policy regarding the management of State enterprise through public corporations. This I think will counteract against the factor that the Government administrative machinery is not suitable or adequate for the task.

Then, Sir, the Honourable Minister mentioned today the question of trained personnel. It is of course one of the greatest difficulties with which we are faced—one which has exercised the minds of every type of Conference related to nation building, that is held in this country. But I want to make one small point about this. The other day when the Education Conference was held in New Delhi the Education Minister of Madras pointed out—and I think with some justification—that very often trained personnel, either trained in this country, or trained abroad, cannot find suitable employment. It is hardly necessary for me to say that Government, both in the Centre and in the provinces should be vigilant to see that trained human material of this nature is not wasted and its services are utilised by the State to the utmost advantage, for state enterprises.

The Resolution says that Government will keep its inherent right to acquire undertakings in the public interest. Now, this is rather vague. In the first place, this statement occurs after the category two industries. Does it apply only to categories one and two industries, or to all industries? I for myself feel that it is the inherent right of the State to take over any industry for the matter of that in the public interest. Then, Sir, there is another point which I have to make. In case an undertaking fails to carry out regulations and fails deliberately and continuously to carry out the provisions of labour legislation, then the State should have the right to take over such an undertaking belonging to all the categories. Such a provision, I think, will have a salutary effect on industries as a whole.

Sir, I am very glad that the resolution has emphasised the need for the development of cottage and small scale industries through the method of co-operatives. I hope this will be implemented with the help of the Provincial Governments as early as possible. Apart from other considerations, this is the only way out at present for increasing production, when we have so many difficulties in getting the requisite machinery and the trained personnel required for large scale industries. The resolution also endorses the Industries Conference resolution regarding a fair share of wages to labour and a fair share of profits to industry reserve for expansion etc., and the equal division of profits between capital and labour. I would like to endorse what my Honourable friend Mr. Khandubhai Desai said about the psychological effect to be created amongst labour and capital and not only amongst labour and capital but in the country as a whole, that it is not merely a question of profits for one section of the community or the other that is of fundamental importance. Labour, I think would be willing to help in raising the general standards for the common man, and the capitalist must be made to realise the urgent need for the same outlook if private enterprise is to continue. However I fully endorse that profits of industry should be shared between labour and capital equally. But the sliding scale for instance should be made in such a way that profits for labour do not fall below a certain standard. I hope that it means that basic wages will not be in any way affected.

Then there is the question of dividend control. I think that the former arrangement by which control of dividends was effected by taxation was much better from the point of view of equitable distribution than the idea of having legislative control. I hope that the Honourable Minister will consider this.

In regard to foreign capital I agree with what has been said in the report but I do hope that a percentage will be fixed in regard to foreign interests in the country, because this will help the Government itself, if difficulties arise later.

The falling rates of production have naturally been a cause of alarm for the Government, as I have said before, I hope that the outline of the industrial policy will make a great change in this regard.

A great deal of emphasis has been laid in regard to the responsibility of labour. I am glad that the Honourable Minister also mentioned the responsibility of capital. I think that at the present there has been a good deal of manipulation of share markets in this country. I think the Honourable Finance Minister also did say something to this effect sometime ago during the budget that there seems to be a sort of black-mail in regard to this. For instance, the industrial policy is being discussed today and so a few days ago the share markets went down. It seems too spectacular to be true. I do feel that it is high time that the capitalists realise that the days of 19th century capitalism are over, that the days of huge profits are over and they will not succeed in this way to force the hands of Government. I think that if there is firm and effective handling in this matter we shall soon find that capital is not so shy and that there need be no alarm about falling standards of production. It is quite true that labour too must realise its responsibility but I claim that rights and responsibilities go together and it is only if we give to labour minimum standards and give them education, that we can really expect from labour an adequate realisation of its responsibilities.

I have said already that I endorse the report in its outline, provided the changes I have mentioned are included. I hope the Honourable Minister and the Government will take these matters which I have placed before them into consideration and alter their policy accordingly. I hope that we shall have a new era in which production will go up and we shall be able to have equitable distribution in India, so that economic freedom becomes a reality for every citizen.

Dr. B. V. Keshkar (U. P.: General): Sir, today we have heard the industrial policy outlined by the Honourable Minister. But it is no use denying the fact that the declaration as outlined yesterday has not had a very enthusiastic reception at the hands of the public. No doubt that the industrial and capitalist world has given a kind of reserved welcome but the public does not appear to have welcomed it very much. So much so that I would not be far wrong in saying that the public is a little disquieted about certain aspects of the policy declared by the Honourable Minister. Personally I confess that I accept the declaration though with a certain amount of reluctance. I do not agree with the Minister about the reasons that he has given for this policy. The reason why I consider myself forced to some extent to accept this policy is a confession of failure on our part and I mean to say on the part of the Government and the national movement which has brought about this Government into being to create an organisation for taking over or for nationalising or socialising our industry. I find that with the best will in the world we are not able at this moment to take over all the major industries that we would like to. I personally believe that nationalisation or socialisation as my friend Prof. Shah says, must be our aim. But we do not have the technical competence, neither the economic organisation necessary for taking it over and as such I am practically obliged to confess that there is no other go but to allow private industry to continue but under very great vigilance on the part of the Government. But as I said I accept this policy with

[Dr. B. V. Keskar]

reluctance and that brings me to give emphasis on this aspect, that is the training of a competent personnel and the creation of a committee or an organisation for taking over these industries as soon as possible. Though the Government is doing what is possible in trying to get the technical personnel, I feel there is no overall planning and unless we take it up in a planned way we are not likely to attain competence in sufficiently short time to take over all our major industries.

I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister for Industries that it is necessary to try to dispel the impression that appears to be present in the public mind that many of the concessions given in the declaration of industrial policy to industrialists and to capital are due to a kind of pressure or what might be called by some people, a kind of blackmail. Probably this impression is wrong but it is there. It is there because notwithstanding the fact that we have declared always that industries must be controlled, that they must be regulated—and yesterday the Honourable Minister declared that a category of industries are going to be directed under strict Government regulation—uptill now the Government has not done anything. I am talking of the Government that was before and the Government that has come into being and they have done nothing to try to regulate and control what I would call the anti-national activities of some of our major industries. I would ask the Honourable Minister to tell me what has been done to control the anti-national activities of the textile industry during and after the war and even now. The industry as a whole has refused to co-operate in a sincere and honest way with our national needs and with what I would call even the requests of Government. This has certainly created in the public mind a feeling that Government is more than kind in regard to the egoistic needs or the selfish interests of the industrialists. I think it is necessary for the Government to try to take away this impression from the public mind as soon as possible. I do not agree with my Honourable friend Mr. Masani when he said that both capital and labour are on trial: I consider that by stating this policy and trying to bring it into action it is the Government which is going to be on trial. It is going to be on trial insofar as the public will watch with vigilance whether the Government is going to take strong action against those elements, more especially the capitalists who will try to evade whatever regulations might be put on paper and thereby confirm the feeling of the public that what went on before when all sorts of regulations were on paper but were never carried out, will continue today also. Therefore I would submit to the Honourable Minister that it is necessary that Government should more than ever have very great strictness in dealing with those elements which will try to nullify in practice whatever policy the Government wants to follow. I would ask the Honourable Minister that this legitimate complaint of the public and this impression which is prevailing has to be dispelled.

I would not try to go into the details or into the various aspects of the question that have been raised here. Many of the speakers who have spoken before me have drawn the attention of the Honourable Minister and the House to these. I would request the Honourable Minister to see that whatever plans Government puts into practice, the forces of nationalisation and the forces of socialisation shall soon come into such shape that very soon, in a few years, we can realize our dream of having all our major industries nationalised.

Shri Jwala Prasad Srivastava (U.P.: General): Sir, I rise to place before the House the point of view of the much maligned and much abused class of capitalists and industrialists. I owe no apology for doing so as I feel that the industrialist and the capitalist have made no mean contribution towards the advancement of this country. (An Honourable Member). (Question). Sir imagine what the country would have been if we did not have a Tata in the

country. It was Tata who started the first cotton mill in India and he brought the cotton mill industry to this country. I do not wish to say that the plan which has just been placed before the House is one-sided, but I will say that it is unduly biased against the capitalist. And judging from the speeches which have been made here this afternoon I feel that the capitalist is in the dock. I was talking to an American friend of mine who asked me as to why in India the capitalist was regarded as a criminal while in America they regarded capitalists as patriots—bigger patriots, Sir, than the politicians.

The main question is that in the interest of the country we have got to step up production. We can have no peace in the country unless we produce more. 'Produce or perish' should be our slogan. The question then is how this is to be done. We have got to examine carefully the bottlenecks which are impeding production. This matter was gone into at some length by the Industries Conference which was called by my Honourable friend the Minister for Industries; and I am largely in agreement with the decisions reached at that Conference.

First of all, the main difficulty these days is transport. I see my Honourable friend the Railway Minister smiling at me. But production these days is greatly impeded by the lack of transport facilities. I am sure that my Honourable friend the Railway Minister is alive to the need of improving the railways, because unless we have facilities of transport no industry in the country can thrive.

The next bottleneck is the labour unrest. A great deal has been said as to how to improve matters in that direction. So far as the capitalists are concerned they have loyally carried out all the labour laws. (An Honourable Member. 'No'.) I say it with all the emphasis at my command. There is not one case in which they have flouted the decisions of the Labour Tribunals or the labour conciliation machinery. But I can give you several cases in which labour has just ignored the decisions if they did not suit it. The main difficulty about labour is that it is not organised in the trade union sense. There is too much of politics in labour matters, and labour does not realize its responsibilities. No Government can deal with labour unless labour itself submits to discipline; and this discipline, I say, can only be brought about if we have strong trade unions which can control labour. In that case the Government can deal with those Unions and any decisions reached will be accepted and implemented by those Unions. During the war, I do not know the reason, but labour appeared to be doing extraordinarily well. There was no discontent amongst them; their production was much more than what it is today; and there were no disputes. They earned more although the rates of wages are more now. What is the reason, Sir? The reason is that they do not do the work. They have got a feeling that they should get money for doing no work, that they can take the law into their own hands and defy the authorities. This is a serious matter and I beg of the House not to treat it lightly.

Turning to the question of sharing of profits I do not understand what the implications of that are. Will the labour share the losses also? If they are to be partners, as it has been stated they would be, then they must also share the losses. (Interruption).

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Member should be allowed to say what he likes.

Shri Jwala Prasad Srivastava: It would be very unjust, Sir, if in one year there are profits, labour gets away with 50 per cent. of the profits, and next year when there are losses labour does not come in to share the burden.

An Honourable Member: Who pays?

Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava: Sir, the question to my mind is that labour must be paid adequately, treated well and housed well, but they

A. P. M. cannot become partners in business, whether the business is run by Government or by private enterprise

Sir, the next difficulty about production is shortage of raw materials and the difficulty of procuring them. This too has been dealt with in the Industries Conference and I am sure Government is aware of it.

Then, Sir, another serious difficulty is the shortage of technical personnel. We have a paucity of them in the country, and at the moment at least, we cannot import foreign experts.

Sir, the other point which is affecting production is the absence of law and order in many places. This is no fault of the Industries Minister. This is a thing which I hope would improve in due course.

Then, Sir, the biggest bottle-neck of all is the taxation structure of the country. Sir, I am not exaggerating matters when I say that it is not possible to secure capital these days for any industry. You cannot these days float a company of even Rs. 5 lakhs. Shares never stood so low as they do today for a number of years, and even gilt-edged government loan stands at 97. Sir, if the money market is like that, it is, I say, a portent of which we ought to take heed, and Sir, only two years back industries here were booming, the money market was easy, the country was over-flowing with capital, a number of schemes had been conceived and were in process of being executed. Most of them have been dropped now, and we are just now at a stand-still.

Sir, in regard to taxation I would like to make a suggestion. It is no use Government assuming that this or that scale of taxation is suitable. I suggest that a committee of experts should be set up which can examine and report on the taxation which should be imposed on industry, due regard being had to the capital requirements of industry

Then, Sir, the next bottle-neck is that we have lost many of our markets and some of the other markets we cannot get to because of railway and other transport difficulties. Sir, I refer particularly to the Pakistan markets. They were very useful to industry in these parts. Take the case of sugar. We sent about 30 per cent. of our sugar to Pakistan, that export has stopped, and Pakistan is importing sugar from outside. I feel that at the end of this year there will be surplus sugar in the Indian Union factories.

Sir, in regard to the long-term plan, the main difficulty is that of securing capital goods. I am sure the Government is aware that neither the U.S.A. nor U.K. nor any other country is anxious to give us capital goods. While we are bargaining about the sterling balances, we are losing the prospect of getting capital goods, and I would suggest, Sir, that strong efforts should be made to make sure of certain quantities of capital goods required for the development of the country.

Then I would like that as soon as it may be, the Government should come out with its detailed plan which will be worked out as promised in this resolution. Sir, at one time we thought very well of the Tata-Birla Plan, and we thought that was best fitted for the requirements of the country.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Who is that 'we'?

Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava: We all, the country.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: No.

Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava: We would like to know what has happened to that plan and whether the present Government approves of it in some details or not.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: We do not.

Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava: Sir, I am glad the Industries Minister has catalogued industries to be run by Government and those to be run by private enterprise, but, Sir, I feel that it is very difficult to make a hard and fast classification because it may be that a textile mill in one part of the country may require to be started by the Government itself, because there are no private parties ready to take it up. I think, Sir, that the case of each industry will require to be decided on its own merits.

With regard to foreign capital, I entirely agree with the policy laid down by the Government. But, Sir, in case we are not able to raise the capital in India, we should not be shy of securing it from abroad. The good that will result to the country will be far greater than the sentimental objections to which the Government have referred. There is no doubt about it that we need large amounts of money and no Finance Minister can find that money. I will not take up more of your time. I hope the Government will very soon come out with the details of their scheme so that public confidence may be restored.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (Prime Minister and Leader of the House): Sir, I must apologise to the House for not having been present here throughout this debate, but some times the claims of other work are heavy. I would have liked to have been here throughout because I am vastly interested in this subject and I should have liked to hear what members have said. I understand that many of the members have commended this Resolution and spoken in praise of it or in satisfaction of it at least, that some have not liked it and that some have disliked it intensely. I am glad of that difference of opinion, and I am sorry if any of the Honourable Members should feel that he should suppress his own opinion on such a vital matter because of some Whip or some other direction of the Party executive.

I have myself been concerned with the theoretical aspects of planning for a fairly considerable time. I realise that there is a great deal of difference between the theory of it and the practice of it; as in almost everything in life, the theory is full of poetry as, if I may say so, was the speech of my Honourable colleague, the Mover of the Resolution, but when we come down to applying that poetry all manner of difficulties crop up. Normally there would be those difficulties but as we are situated today, with the peculiar situation of India after all that has happened in the course of the last seven or eight months, one has to be very careful of what step one might take which might not injure the existing structure too much. There has been destruction and injury enough, and certainly I confess to this House that I am not brave and gallant enough to go about destroying much more. I think there is room for destruction in India still of many things—they will no doubt have to be removed; nevertheless, there is a way of approach. Are we going to adopt the course of having a clean slate or sweeping away almost everything so that we might have the pleasure of writing anew, without anything else being written on that slate? That seems to be an easy way of doing things, though perhaps there never has been a clean slate even when people imagined that there was going to be a clean slate.

Nevertheless, there can be more or less a clean slate; I will not say that one should never try for that clean slate. But one has to think of each country and its condition at the time and see which is the preferable course, which involves lesser dangers. It seems to me that in the state of affairs in the world today

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and in India, any attempt to have what might be called a clean slate; that is to say a sweeping away of all that we have got, would certainly not bring progress nearer but might delay it tremendously, which far from bringing economic progress may put us politically so far back that the economic aspect itself may be delayed tremendously. We cannot separate these two things. We have gone through big political upheavals and cataclysms and if in our attempt to get something that we liked, to go forward one step in one direction we lose a few steps in another, then in the balance we have lost, not gained. Therefore, the alternative to that clean slate is to try to rub out here and there to write on it, gradually to replace the writing on the whole slate—not very gradually, I hope, but nevertheless not with a great measure of destruction and strain. May be I have been affected by recent events, but more and more I have felt that it is wrong to destroy something that is producing or doing good. It takes a long time to build and it does not take very long to destroy, so that if this House and this country thinks that we should proceed ahead in a constructive spirit much more than in a destructive spirit, then that approach necessarily has to be different. What your ideals may be is another matter, but even in the realization of those ideals do you think that the easiest way of approach will be a clean sweep and then starting anew, or to replace as rapidly as possible and as fast as you can with your available resources and material, the existing structure with a new one? I have no doubt in my mind that we have to change this existing structure and as rapidly as possible.

I was listening to the Honourable Member who just spoke before me; I was listening to his laments of the burdens that are put on industry, of taxation and of this and that. The fact of the matter is that that lament is based on a certain view of the world which I fear cannot possibly come back. I am not thinking in idealistic terms but just practical terms; you cannot have it back. There are going to be greater burdens on industry because the State itself is burdened so much with its social problems; it has to solve them or cease to be a social State, and if it just becomes a police State then it ceases to be and some other State takes its place. It has to face its problems, and if it is to do that it must necessarily get the wherewithal to face those problems, and the burden on industry or the like becomes greater and greater. In fact, not because you think or I think or anybody thinks, but inevitably the trend of events is to make the State more and more the organiser of constructive industry etc. and not the private capitalist or any other person. That is just quite inevitable so far as I can see objectively. I do not rule out entirely the profit motive; I do not know how long it will last in a smaller sense, but in the larger sense of the term it will come more and more into conflict with the new sense of the social state. That conflict will go on and one must survive, and it is clear that the State will survive, not that group which represents in its pure essence the profit motive in industry. That is an inevitable development. How are you to face that development? Are you then again to try to accelerate it as many of us would like to do, because quite apart from the economic aspect, the expert aspect, we have arrived at another stage which I trust every sensitive man feels somewhat, a psychological view of looking at things. That is that sensitive people cannot put up easily today with the vast gap between human beings, the distance between them, the difference between them, the lack of opportunities on the one side and the waste on the other.

It seems so vulgar, and vulgarity is the worst thing that a country or individual should support. We are arriving at a stage which is beyond it. It was not, if I may say so, vulgar 50 or 100 years ago. Although the profit motive was functioning very strongly and although there was probably greater suffering then, nevertheless, the approach was different. Perhaps the sense of social

values was different. But, in the context of the world today, it is becoming increasingly not only a wrong thing from the economic point of view but a vulgar thing from any sensitive point of view. So, those changes are bound to come.

How then, are you going to bring about those changes? As I said, I would much rather bring them about without deliberate destruction and obstruction, because the destruction and obstruction, whatever the future may bring after them, they undoubtedly lead to a stoppage of growth at present. They stop production. They stop wealth-producing activities. One has the satisfaction of being able to do something afterwards more rapidly, no doubt, but it is not such a certain thing that afterwards you will be able to do it so rapidly. One has to compromise, therefore, much. Although I hate the word compromise in this context or in any context, one has simply to do it, if one does not run away with some kind of notion in one's head without thinking about it.

That brings us to a transitional stage of economy. Call it what you like—"mixed economy" or anything else. It brings us to doing things in such a way as continually to add to the wealth of the country and to add not only to the wealth of the country as a whole but to the distribution of that wealth in the country and gradually arrive at a stage when the centre of gravity of the whole economy has shifted the other way. Now, I rather doubt myself whether it is possible, without a conflict or without repeated conflicts, to bring about these changes quite peacefully, because people who are used to possessing certain vested interests or certain ideas do not easily accept new ideas and nobody likes to give up what he has got; at least no groups like it; individuals sometimes do. These conflicts are continually arising, but the point is that even those conflicts are rather foolish conflicts, if I may say so, because those conflicts cannot stop the trend of events. They may delay and in delaying the result is probably that those who hold on to those vested interests get even a worse bargain at the end.

Now, there is another aspect which I should like the House to consider and that is this. It is an odd thing that many of our most ardent revolutionaries who think in terms of an idealistic world are quite extraordinarily conservative in their scientific approach to the world's problems. If I may explain myself, I have used the word "scientific" in its narrow sense. Most of our friends—Socialists or the Communists—continually think in terms of production remaining as it is in the technique of production, in the methods of production. Of course, they will not admit that. They will say: "No. It is changing." But nevertheless, they base their programmes more or less on a static world and not on a continually changing world with new methods of production, new technique of production etc. They think in terms, for instance, of changing the land system. Perfectly right, because the fundamental thing is the feudal land system should go before you build another society. So far quite right; change the land system. They think in terms of acquiring industries, because a socialist economy means that big industries or even all of them should be owned by the State. Well, quite good. But they do not think so much in terms of the vast changes in productive methods that are coming about, which may render the present industrial apparatus or even the methods adopted in the cultivation of the land completely obsolescent and obsolete. They say: "Why don't you acquire this or that?" spend vast sums of money over acquiring things which are 90 per cent obsolete. In fact, from the point of view of technological advance, it may well be a complete waste of money to acquire obsolete machinery, factories and other things that may be there. It is true that they are useful so long as new factories and new technological methods are not introduced, and if you have a vast quantity of money and resources, certainly acquire them and so.

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ahead with other things. But if you have limited resources, then the main thing to do is not to go about thinking in terms of the static technology, but of changing technology; thinking in terms of the State acquiring the new processes, the new changes, and not so much of the old, except from the point of view of the old coming in the way, when the old obstructs, when the old hampers your planning and progress.

Now, obviously, constituted as we are in India, we have not got unlimited resources. We have to think hard where to get the money; how to get the money; how to get the other resources—technical and other—. If so, there has to be a certain kind of priority about what work we do. Even if you start acquiring things,—suppose we decide to acquire a large number of industries—and you pass this Resolution; I am quite sure when we work it out, actually in practice, it will take a good deal of time to take them one by one. However rapidly you may do it, it takes a little time, unless of course it is by the process of the “clean slate” where you sweep the old thing away and build a new one on it. Therefore, even if you think of doing that, you have to think in terms of priorities: which industry first, which service first, etc.; one after the other; provide the money; provide the organisation; provide the technical personnel etc. etc. So it takes time. Much more so when you have to think in terms of additional industry and new industry, new schemes plus old schemes. You have to think in terms of priorities: what must come first. I have no doubt in my mind that priority for the State enterprises must be in terms of new things as far as possible unless the old thing comes in the way.

I attach the greatest importance today to, let us say, the great river valley projects and schemes that have been framed, the first one of which, the Damodar Valley scheme, has passed through this Legislature and others are coming soon. I think they are far more important than almost all your existing industries. Here is something new that you are building out of nothing; new land brought into cultivation, many new things, which you are creating out of the enormous power produced out of the river valley project. Now, I want that to be completely State-controlled, but run, as is stated in this Resolution, on the model of a Public Corporation. I do hope that that Public Corporation that is going to be established is not going to be a Departmentally run organisation, but either wholly or more or less as an independent organisation. I do hope that it is not going to be run by people who have worked in the ruts of the Departments, but by persons of vision, push and drive; not people who write on files but who do the work. Now, regarding these vast river valley schemes, of which you have got enormous ones, all the resources of India are not enough to push them through quickly. Am I going to allow those to remain undone and delay them and think in terms of acquiring a tramway system or something else here and there? Let the tramway system be acquired, if you like; but I do not want to give first priority to the tramway system or some such thing.

Now, in this Resolution which has been placed before you, various lists are given—list No. 1, No. 2 etc.—as to what Government proposes to do and has done. There these river valley projects are mentioned rather casually. But remember what that casual mention means.

It means that the State is undertaking vast enterprises all over the country which will govern the industry of this country and all your acquisition and the rest will be secondary and minor. These river valley systems are controlled by the State and they will control the economy and industry of the country completely. If you get a grip of all these things, then the process becomes swifter, but if we simply lay down rather fancy schemes then we never come to grips with any particular part of it, then really we are not advancing at all except on paper and in theory. Therefore from the poetry of rather vague planning in the

air, we have to come down to the prose of the statement. Because it is a prosaic statement, there is very little poetry in it except the poetry of my Honourable friend who made the speech at the beginning. It is definitely a prosaic statement; it is meant to be a prosaic statement; the House knows it is not difficult to put in fine flourishes of language in a resolution of this kind which would have sounded so nice for the public and which would without conveying any commitment have pleased the ear and the eye and produced a general impression how fine we are. Well, we have very deliberately not done so, because we wanted to make it a prosaic statement of what we think we ought to do and we can do in the relatively near future and how far we can do it. How much we cannot do depends upon this House and a multitude of factors, but at any rate this is a thing which is meant to be done, not a thing which is meant to be flourished about as a kind of election programme before the public.

The tempo will depend on so many factors. I mentioned these river valley schemes, because I attach the greatest importance to them. Now suppose the Damodar Valley scheme is a thundering success, that is a bigger thing from the State's point of view, the industrialization point of view and others than the fact that this House has passed half a dozen other schemes which are not functioning. So it is the first steps that count, the first things, if we start an industry under State auspices; let us make it a thorough success instead of going to acquire this and that and making a mess of many things. Of course, once you have laid a good foundation, it will be easy for you to go ahead.

Now it is obvious that this Government or this House may pass this resolution, may lay down the periods of time as to what will happen 5 or 10 or 15 years hence, but the fact of the matter is that we are living in an age of very swift change and transition and nobody can guarantee what will happen and when it will happen; nobody can guarantee whether there will be war or peace and nobody can guarantee what will happen even if there is peace because things change rapidly in India. We have lived during the last eight months on the verge of rapid change and very undesirable and unhealthy change in many respects. Nevertheless when we say 10 years, we mean it, that is as we see things at present,—and we say 10 years because so far as we can see, the State's hands will be completely full. It is not merely to give an assurance, although we wish to give an assurance to all working industries so that they may be able to function properly, but fundamentally we have got enough to do and we want to do it thoroughly; but whether I give an assurance or the House gives it, ultimately events will determine the pace. Events may go faster or slower; events may break up our economy or something may happen, not only that, but a hundred and one things may happen.

When we are told—and I suppose it is a fact—that capital is shy and it does not come in, that we cannot get capital for private industry or public loans, etc., it is a fact. Well, that too I imagine is due more to these changing conditions than to anything that we might do or anybody else might not do. For this the industrialist or capitalist himself will have to choose whether he is too wary and too afraid of putting his capital or whether if he is then well and good. If not others will put in other ways. It is obvious that the country cannot stand by. Either we give a fair field and a fair chance to the industrialist to go ahead with a certain domain and if he does not, we go ahead and we cannot see things mismanaged or not managed because he is afraid that he won't get enough profit or something that might happen. The people cannot wait. We give a fair chance, a fair field and a fair profit and if he does not do all that, somebody else has to do it; there cannot be a vacuum. Also if any industries are mismanaged, not managed properly, slowed down or stopped, etc., again we have to consider

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what to do with that industry, because the day of industry, simply stopping, not functioning, because somebody misbehaves, either an employer or labour and the whole community suffering, is gradually passing. The community cannot afford to do that; the community must see that it gives a fair deal to labour, that is a different matter. Therefore in this resolution a great deal has been said about it and that is perhaps one of the most important parts of the Resolution i.e. regarding councils and committees, because unless you give a completely fair deal you cannot come down with a heavy hand in case of misbehaviour. After that you may have people still misbehaving, so that I would like this House to consider this Resolution in this context. I have not touched on the various subjects which might be added or subtracted. I have no doubt if the House sat down, it could perhaps here and there make some changes in it, but I do submit that the fundamental approach of this statement is the only right approach and the only practical approach at the present time and therefore I hope the House will adopt it.

Mr. Hussain Imam (Bihar: Muslim): Mr. Chairman, I am very glad to follow after the Prime Minister. The old revolutionary spirit which guided him is still alive, and although the cares of office has dimmed it down, at times it burst out with the same fire as it used to do in the old days. The industrial policy of a country is really meant for achieving certain ends. The end as described in this Resolution is to increase the productive capacity as well as the national dividend. We have to see whether the methods which have been adopted do fulfil these desirable ends. I am sorry to find that the desiderate is not any nearer than it was before this announcement. The capital has a ready fired its thunder bolt and we have heard Sir J. P. Srivastava explaining the industrialist's point of view on this policy. The labour has also had its say, but the poor consumer who has to bear all the burdens is mostly absent from the general discussions.

Labour is out to have as much money as it can get, capital wants as much profit as it can gather, and the Finance Minister wants to have as much taxation as he can. But where is all this to come from? It is after all the consumer who pays, and the consumer's income increases as the national income increases. The consumer cannot remain a consumer without earning some thing. He is a consumer in one sense and he is also an earning member or worker or a person engaged in the acquisition of wealth. I therefore urge that we must regard this thing from that point of view, whether the scheme as propounded by Government will increase the national wealth or not. I regret to find that many necessary items have been left out of this Statement; for instance, among the controlled industries there is no mention of what Government propose to do with the managing agency system. It is an innovation which was established in India by the British concerns in order to permeate their hold on the country. That system has to go if any scheme for direction of capital or for increasing production is to succeed. What happens today is that shareholder may not get anything in profits, the company may register losses, but the managing agency firm never loses. The managing agency used to be formerly composed persons, then it developed into firms, and now it has developed into private limited liability companies; and we have the example of Jardine Henderson and Martin Burns public limited liability companies. What is the sense in having a thing like this? Some of my Honourable friends cast aspersions on our officials and said that because of the inefficiency of Government officials and their corruptions and bribe-taking propensities, we cannot work these industries. I resent that charge. If the Indian nation cannot produce men of ability and honesty to run this business we have no business to be free. What is the good of having a Government which is so slavish to the existing bureaucracy when that bureaucracy is so bad that it cannot be replaced? Or, if it is not so bad as it is painted,

there should be some one to stand up for it. It is wrong that people who are not able to defend themselves should be attacked here every day in season and out of season, and no concrete steps should be taken to stop this rot if there is a rot. I do not say there is no rot, but I say that it is not beyond our capacity to stop it.

Then again every industry that has been taken up by Government has been taken along with its executive. There is the Bombay Telephone Company and there is also the Calcutta Telephone Company. These were taken up by Government, but it did not mean that all the officials employed there were turned out and new officers from the Secretariat sent in to take charge. What happened in the case of the B. N. Railway, the latest railway that we acquired? What happened in the case of the B. B. & C. I. Railway? These two railways were acquired only three or four years ago. When you take up any industry you take it up along with all its permanent officials. Therefore to say that taking up these industries is impossible because we have not got the trained personnel has no meaning. But I concede the greater point which the Prime Minister made out that our resources being limited we should conserve and invest our money to the best advantage of the country. Necessarily it follows that if we wish to preserve the present system we must mend it. There are two things; either you end it or you mend it. We have decided not to end it and so we must mend it; and it is in this sense that I appeal to Government that when they next issue their scheme for the 18 industries enumerated here they will do something concrete, drastic and effective.

Another thing I will say before I conclude. I consider that labour in India has not behaved well towards Government. The hands of Government for nationalisation would have been strengthened if labour had behaved properly in the nationalised concerns. We had the example of the South Indian Railway; even today we have the example of the Government employees in Calcutta. If Government employees behave towards the State in the same rough manner as they do towards private capitalists, the case for nationalisation becomes very weak. Government is a national concern; it is India which is concerned and it is not this or that particular Government with which we are dealing. If in the interest of the prosperity of India every one is not willing to contribute his own mite,—whether it is capital, labour or Government,—India will not rise; and it is for the rise of India that we must all work.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Sir, the Honourable Minister referred to me as a consumer, otherwise I would not have stood up at almost the far-end of the day and tried to encroach upon your time when I know as a consumer myself that I would be anxious to take not one cup but two cups of tea. Sir, both capital and labour forget that there is an employer or employers and that is the community; unless he purchases the goods that are produced or minted out from the factories both the employers on the one side, however rich they may be, and labour on the other side, would have to go starving. I have with great pleasure listened to all the criticisms that have been made on the Statement of Policy enunciated by Government. There was the previous Government which was avowedly for absolute capitalism as such. Even they started in 1945 enunciating a plan. Either following that or in anticipation of that the capitalists of this country started with a plan, a 15,000 crore plan. Many other plans have come in. After this Government took charge it was necessary to state what policy they are going to adopt, what plan they are going to have and what programme they are going to enunciate so that the plan may be effective the policy may be given due force and due weight. Sir, I claim for this Statement of Policy that it is a landmark in the history of the economic life of this country. I do not agree with my socialist friends here; I am in my heart of hearts as good

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a socialist as any of my socialist friends here. I myself come from a very poor family and I still stand for the poorest of the poor in this country. My Honourable friend Prof. Shah and others are still doubting whether this does not contain the essential seeds of a socialist economy; with the cooperation of all sections of this House it will grow into a huge banyan tree and cover the entire economic structure of this country. Till now we started with private enterprise as the *summum bonum* of existence. Any one who thought of cooperative or collective enterprise was pooh-poohed. The age of capitalism in western countries has gone but it still continues to exist in this country. This is the first time that we have definitely enunciated that defence industries and key industries shall be both owned and managed by the State. The field for private enterprise is narrowed down and limited. That demarcation has been laid down; *prima facie* all these industries must belong to the State and be managed by the State. In regard to the others some field has been left for private enterprise. Now and then my friends are a little too impatient. Are we in a position to take up all these industries straightaway? I also like that they should be taken up now but which is the more important of the two? We are technically taking away those industries that are State concerns and producing in those factories those goods which we are short of. We cannot get them from foreign countries and therefore we have to produce. That is the consideration which weighed with Government in demarcating certain items. The field is there, both category No. 1 and category No. 2 although both belong to category No. 2. These industries must be taken by the State and owned and managed by the State; and out of them three industries straightaway belong to the State. The railways are a State concern, the armament factories are State concerns.

So far as the others are concerned, it has been laid down that steel, ship-building, iron, aeroplanes, etc., etc., must be the concern of the State. It is only the other day that the Honourable the Prime Minister went to Vizagapatnam and launched the first ship made in India, called the "Jala Usha". In other countries which have improved their industries, and which are ranking as the top-most industrialised countries in the world, it is easy to switch over from one work to another, as in the case of the United Kingdom. Even there they have not done so much. So we will take time. We do not want to disturb the economy of this country. We stand for a socialist economy in this country. Gradually the field for private enterprise will be narrower and narrower. Isn't it that this statement of policy has made the worker, who was considered a servant elsewhere, a partner with the capitalist? The Industries Conference in December was well attended and all parties took part in it and evolved an agreed decision. I had the pleasure of hearing the speech of G. D. Birla. He said that he had consulted his Counsel at Bombay with regard to all the Acts relating to factories and labour and he summed up to the effect that falling short of making the labourer claim the hand of the daughter of the capitalist, every other privilege had been conferred on him. Unfortunately I was not there. I had no opportunity of replying. It is true that the object of labour legislation is to make the labourer the son of the capitalist. He is really the son-in-law, if by law the labourer becomes the son of the capitalist. Hitherto, it is because he and his son-in-law have been fighting over it that the son has gone to the wall and the country has suffered. It is unfortunate but I have found various writings of these great men who are all captains of industry. It was somewhat annoying and rather unpleasant.

On the other hand I read an article in the *Hindustan Times* by Birla. He said that profit is the only motive for industrial production. I find from his writings about Mahatma Gandhi that he is one of our good and pious men. I am surprised at the statement. The old adage is "*Tuḡay Sambhritārthanam*". I am sure he would have read this and learnt from it that whatever property is

acquired is for the purpose of giving to others. It is not for hoarding a man should acquire. A man is not counted as the topman in this country by the wealth of the possessions in his hands, nor by the amount of income-tax that he pays nor the land-rent that he collects. He is put in the third rank in this country. But the man who gives is the best man. If he makes up his mind, he can be a captain of industry in this country. It is wrong to say that a father has some profit motive if he rears his children or that a wife has some profit motive if she looks to the welfare of the husband.

The huge temples that were built were not built for profit. It is a disgrace to human intelligence to say that all things are done for profit. On the other hand, I assure my friends that the greatest inventions in this country, the greatest contributions to knowledge have not been made for motives of profit. All the poets have been poor. The greatest scientists have been poor. It is because they were born poor that they contributed so much to knowledge. I do find that these industrialists are mere financiers in this country. But there is a large field in industry for every one. There is no need for scrambling. It is not as if every opportunity has been taken away by the industrialists. Let us not fight. Our culture, our religion is essentially one of peace. We have heard the statement of policy laid down by Government. Labour has been satisfied, or if not, they must be satisfied because they have been made partners of industry. All that is expected is that for Heaven's sake for a short period do not enter into a quarrel. Let there be no bi-lateral or triangular fight. So far as the industries are concerned, ten years have been given for most of them and unlike the Economic Committee you must fix a ceiling date. That has not been done. A uniform scale for all industries will not be conducive to the growth of industry, and the Industry Minister has laid down that an *ad hoc* committee will be appointed to say what ought to be normally returned to capital.

I find that this statement of policy is reasonable both to the capitalist and to labour and there is an invitation not to fight hereafter and to carry out that truce, and they entered into the *bona fides* of this truce last December. Unfortunately, after December, some of our own Ministers went about saying that such and such is not intended. I am appealing to our Ministers and persons in charge, not to give by their words or actions any kind of suspicion to labour or capital, or to say that they do not stand by this or to water down the policy that has been enunciated. One result is that the market goes down, not that the market merely goes down on account of this.

I will state one thing more and I will close. I find Sir, after making enquiries, that some of these capitalists themselves are responsible for the strikes. One capitalist tries to cut the throat of another capitalist. The strike in the Binny Mills in Madras were due to the activities of some merchants in Lucknow. Of course I do not attribute this to Sir J. P. Srivastava. The fact is that one textile mill is anxious to bring about a strike in another textile mill. What is the use of quarrelling with labour?

Lastly, I appeal to the members here. We have found two eminent men speaking on the floor of this House, one a capitalist, Sir J. P. Srivastava and the other a socialist, Mr. Masani. They can both put their views before the public and then they can live as the father-in-law and the son-in-law in the same family. Now Prof. Shah can say that there ought to be absolute socialism in this country. I agree with him. But Srivastava may say that there ought to be no socialism. It is all idle talk. Let us go back to capitalism. But still, all of us can live as members of a family, as the father-in-law and the son-in-law—Srivastava and Masani. That is the object of this resolution.

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I hope in the U. K. they have done so. In the U. K. they may write books, but when it comes to a question of preserving the national economy, labour and capital come together and agree with the Government that they would produce so much, though they may not agree on the question of more wages. They come to a truce.

So let us in the name of everything grand and great in this country try to put this young State on a solid economic footing. We do want democracy in economics and in politics also. It is quite easy to quote the example of Russia. In Russia there is dictatorship. It is people like Sir J. P. Srivastava and others who condemn management by the State of railways and other such enterprises and if they go on persisting that such managements are not efficient, I will say that they are driving democracy into the background and they shall have another dictatorship. A dictator can be a slave-driver.

Under these circumstances, let us accept this as a truce. It may not satisfy all views completely and entirely. All the same this is the best solution to the question. Let us work together and let all sections contribute to the growth and prosperity of this country. I wholeheartedly recommend the statement of policy to the approval of the House.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Sir, I do not propose to make a long speech in reply. The Prime Minister had dealt with some of the general questions which were raised in the course of the debate. I am 5 P.M. grateful for the general support which the House has extended to the resolution which I had the honour to move this morning. The only member who wholeheartedly disapproved of the resolution and expressed his utter dismajor lists. One point that I would emphasise here again is this and there appointment with every thing was the learned Prof. K. T. Shah. But I would remove one misapprehension from his mind at once. Government have not issued any whip calling upon the members of the Government party to support this resolution. In fact during the last one month this resolution has been the subject matter of discussion within the Government party in a manner which is almost unprecedented, and I can say this without contradiction that the resolution which Government have brought forward has the willing and spontaneous support of the vast majority of the members constituting the Government party.

Various Honourable Members who have spoken have dealt with some questions of detail. I would classify one type of criticisms dealing with the scheme which it is proposed by Government to incorporate in the legislative measures which will be brought forward before this House sometime later. Obviously this resolution could not go into details. All those industries which will be centrally regulated and also the principles on which Government will undertake big industrial undertakings will have to be considered very carefully. The suggestions which have been made today will be taken into full consideration and when draft proposals are submitted to the House I have no doubt that they will be subjected to searching criticism and many of the points of view which have been expressed will be found automatically incorporated in the Acts which we shall ultimately pass.

Another class of criticism related to the speed with which industries will be nationalised. There may be honest difference of opinion as to whether a particular industry which has been included under one category should be transferred to another category. Here again, as I explained and as has been stated in the resolution itself, the list cannot be deemed to be final or exhaustive in character. But Government are satisfied that the industries which for the present are of an essential character are included under one or other of the three

Prof. Shah has also misunderstood the outline of the scheme; he seemed to think that the best industries have been kept as the close preserve of the capitalists. Those were his exact words. It is nothing of the kind. As I explained this morning, it will be open to Government to start any industry without any restriction whatsoever and if it appears that certain industries for some reasons should be started by Government, Government will not hesitate to go into the field but it is true that Government will have to stand in competition with private enterprise in those particular spheres. The spheres exclusively kept for Government enterprise are also very large indeed.

The other question which was raised related to the position of labour. Here again it is not possible for Government now to go into details but I do claim that the changes which have been recommended are of a revolutionary character. A definite programme has been laid down to ensure that labour will not be allowed to be exploited and will not only get a fair deal but will be treated as partners in a common endeavour. Obviously it will require the goodwill both of capital and labour to give full effect to this scheme which we have outlined.

We heard only one speech on behalf of the capitalists. I am sorry my Honourable friend Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava could not find the time to stay on till the end of the proceedings which incidentally is evidence of the great interest which he has in the industrial development of the country. In any case, he referred to several bottle-necks. In fact he exhausted the list of bottle-necks and the only bottle the neck of which he did not break was the capitalist himself. The picture which he painted was that every one else was a devil and the only angel was himself. It would have been better for him to have apportioned some blame at least for the present impasse to the attitude which a certain section of industrialists has taken. Here the position has been amply made clear by the Prime Minister. We want that the country should develop industrially as speedily as possible. We want that the increased production which will thus be made available should be equitably distributed for the benefit of the common man. We are prepared to give industrialists a fair field. We want that labour, without whose cooperation production is impossible, must get a square deal and must occupy an honourable position. That is the sum total of the scheme. Government will keep to itself the powers of regulation and direction with regard to a number of industries. That also is a new approach altogether. Hitherto every thing was left to free enterprise but now for the first time Government direction will play its part. There, as I said, Government take upon themselves considerable responsibility. The success of the scheme will depend as much on the cooperation of labour and capital as on the efficiency with which Government also discharge their responsibilities.....

Maulana Hasrat Mohani: The whole thing is a farce.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I believe the Honourable Member himself represents that epithet more than anything else.

The whole position therefore is that unless all sections of people cooperate, we cannot attain the desired end. Here, as the Prime Minister emphasised, if it appears that later on labour does not play the game, after we have done every thing possible that any State was expected to do, naturally the Government must see to it that labour does not become the real obstacle which acts against the attainment of our cherished goal. Similarly with capital. If after the announcement of this policy there is no response coming from the industrialists or the capitalists, if they continue to find some excuse or other and thereby create obstruction, as the Prime Minister so categorically declared,

[Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee]

neither the Government nor the country will wait for the capitalists or the industrialists to wake up. Then another machinery will be found out. But we are offering to the people and to the interests involved a scheme which is a well regulated and well coordinated one and we are calling upon every section of the people, whatever may be the differences in respect of political or economic ideologies, to come forward at this most critical time in the history of our country and put all our shoulders to the wheel for the purpose of introducing those important changes in the economic structure of our society which will lead to the desired goal.

Of course we are only making a beginning. It will take some time before final results are achieved and everyone, including members of the House, will be entitled to watch with critical eyes the development that takes place in the months to come.

With these words, Sir, I hope the motion will be adopted by the House.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"That the industrial policy of the Government of India as set out in the statement of policy laid on the table on the 6th April, 1948, be approved".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: Before we adjourn I would like to mention that there is a proposal that the Question Hour be dispensed with tomorrow.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C. P. and Berar: General): I oppose that.

Mr. Chairman: As there is opposition to the proposal I shall make no announcement on the subject. The House is adjourned till 10-45 A.M. tomorrow.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 8th April, 1948.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Thursday, 8th April, 1948

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

STRIKE BY INDIAN AIR FORCE TRAINEES AT BANGALORE

1318. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a strike among the Indian Air Force trainees at the Bangalore training centre on the 9th January, 1948;

(b) the reasons for the strike;

(c) how many airmen were involved; and

(d) whether any inquiry was held in the matter, and if so, with what result?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Yes, Sir. The incident amounted in military terminology, to a mutiny.

(b) The immediate causes, as disclosed by the Court of Enquiry, were the close arrest of a Non-Commissioned Officer for an act of indiscipline and the incitement provided by reports of some demonstration by airmen at Tambaram, earlier in the week, in which no immediate disciplinary action was reported to have been taken.

(c) 433.

(d) A Court of Enquiry was held and on its findings, the following action has been taken:

(1) The Commanding Officer was relieved of his Command.

(2) Three Officers have been reprovved.

(3) 403 trainees and airmen have been dismissed from the service and 11 airmen tried by a General Court Martial. The proceedings of the Court Martial are being examined at present.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What was the act of indiscipline, Sir, alleged against this non-commissioned officer?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The act of indiscipline on the part of the N.C.O. was wilful refusal to salute a senior officer.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it a fact, Sir, that pending the enquiry all the officers who were arrested for the mutiny were treated more or less as prisoners and given prisoners' rations, and not given proper food and facilities for sleeping?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: All those who were arrested were naturally treated as prisoners.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Pending the enquiry?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Yes, when they were arrested, they were treated as prisoners.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is the complaint that they were not given proper facilities for sleeping correct at all?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Not to my knowledge.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it a fact that when they were discharged they were not returned their civilian clothes and personal effects?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Everything according to rules which they deserved was given. I am not quite sure what the Honourable Member means by their being given civilian clothes.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has any complaint been received from those who were dismissed to the effect that their civilian clothes and personal property have not been returned to them?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What was the grievance which made them not to salute the senior officer?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I do not want to disclose the reasons, but there were certain persons who were responsible for subversive activities.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is the report of the Court of Enquiry available to members of the Assembly?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: What was the period of probation which they underwent?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say off-hand, but the period of training is from six months to about twelve months. I am not quite sure about it but I can make an enquiry.

NAMING OF WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF DELHI UNIVERSITY AS MIRANDA HOUSE

1319. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) who was responsible for naming the Women's College of Delhi University as Miranda House; and

(b) the reasons for so naming it?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) دہلی یونیورسٹی -

(b) اس طرح کے معاملوں میں یونیورسٹی پورا اختیار رکھتی ہے۔ اسلئے یہ سوال

پیدا نہیں ہوتا -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) Delhi University.

(b) This is a matter which is entirely within the discretion of the University.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Was the Department of Education not consulted at all in the matter?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : آنریبل ممبر کو معلوم ہے کہ یونیورسٹی ایک آٹانامس

(Autonomous) باقی ہے اور اس طرح کے معاملات میں جب تک کوئی خاص وجہ

نہ ہو گورنمنٹ دخل نہیں دے سکتی -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: The Honourable Member must be aware that the University is an autonomous body and Government cannot interfere in affairs of this kind without special reasons.

श्री एच० वी० कामत : क्या माननीय वजीर तालीम युनिवर्सिटी को यह सलाह देंगे कि इस अंग्रेजी नाम के बजाय कालिज को हिन्दुस्तानी नाम दें ?

Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister for Education advise the University to give the name of the College an Indian name?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس کا فیصلہ یونیورسٹی کر سکتی ہے جس نے یہ

فیصلہ کیا ہے -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: This is for the University authorities to decide who gave the existing name.

श्री एच० वी० कामत : क्या गवर्नमेण्ट का सलाह देने का इरादा नहीं है ?

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has the Government no intentions of giving advice?

Mr. Speaker: He has said so already.

مسٹر تجمل حسین : میں جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ میرنڈا کس کا نام تھا - کیا یہ

کسی عورت کا نام تھا ؟

Mr. Tajamul Hosain: May I know who 'Miranda' was, was it the name of some woman?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it need be answered.

SMUGGLING OF MATERIALS AND FINISHED ARTICLES FROM C. O. D., JUBBULPORE

1320. ***Seth Govinddas:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government are aware that smuggling of materials and finished articles from the Central Ordnance Depot, Jubbulpore is still going on?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to stop such smuggling?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) and (b). Government have no recent reports of smuggling from the Central Ordnance Depot, Jubbulpore. Similar allegations made in the past were investigated by a Staff Court of Enquiry, who were unable to find any evidence of smuggling from the Depot. Government are fully conscious of the need for the enforcement of the strictest measures for the security of Ordnance Installations and necessary steps have already been taken.

Seth Govinddas: Have the Government not received any reports from the Central Provinces Police that the articles smuggled from the Depot were found in the searches that were made in that city?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: As I have already stated, enquiries were made and the allegations were not found to be correct.

Seth Govinddas: May I know, Sir, who were appointed to make enquiries in this matter?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: If the Honourable Member wants the names of persons who were deputed to make this enquiry, I am afraid I have not got that information now, but I would be able to supply that information.

Seth Govinddas: What was the status of the persons who made the enquiry?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I am afraid I have not got the information with me now.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact that as far as the finding of arms in Jubbulpore is concerned, it became practically an all India scandal and did

Government make proper enquiry into the matter whether those arms were not stolen or smuggled from the depot because the police of the Central Provinces says so?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: It may be true that a lot of arms were found from private houses, but enquiries were made whether these arms have been smuggled from the Jubbulpore Ordnance Depot and the result of that enquiry shows that the allegations were not correct.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: May I know, Sir, if while making the enquiry the police of the Central Provinces were consulted in regard to their allegation that the arms had come from the Jubbulpore Depot?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I think the officers must have consulted the local police.

Seth Govinddas: In view of the fact that the country is governed by the Arms Act and no private individual can get arms or keep arms, did the report of that committee to the Government indicate from where those arms were smuggled so that people could be in possession of those arms?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: As I have already stated, that was not the function of this committee. The committee was required to go into the allegations that the arms have been smuggled from the Jubbulpore Ordnance Depot. The enquiry was held and the result of that enquiry was that the allegations were not correct.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Is it not a fact that the Officer-in-Charge of this Central Ordnance Depot at Jubbulpore is a non-Indian?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: You mean at present?

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Yes.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say off-hand.

Seth Govinddas: Was he not a non-Indian, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I must invite the attention of Honourable Members to one factor. It is no use making insinuations on a person who is not here to defend himself. The insinuation in the question "whether he is not a non-Indian" is clear. It is hardly fair to persons, who are not here to defend themselves, to make insinuations against them in face of the statement of the Minister that, due enquiry was held and it was found that arms were not stolen or smuggled from the Jubbulpore Ordnance Depot. Honourable Members will not put questions on those lines.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have the Government of India sent the report of this enquiry to the Home Minister as well as the Inspector-General of Police in the C.P., and if so, have they received their remarks?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: My information is that the result of the enquiry was communicated to the C. P. Government, and I may add further that if the members of the Standing Defence Committee want to go further into the matter, I have nothing to hide from them, and I am quite prepared to place the report of the enquiry before them.

Shri Baldeo Swarup: Has the enquiry gone into the question whether stock registers tallied?

Mr. Speaker: Presumably they must have.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if his Department or any other Department of the Government of India tried to trace the source of those arms and ammunition found in the searches? Were they able to trace them to any particular source?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I am afraid that was not within the scope of this Committee.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I am not talking of the Committee, but I am referring to the Honourable Minister's Department or any other Department of the Government of India inasmuch as it is an important matter.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I think that is the duty of the Home Department and I think the matter was referred to them.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: May I know, Sir, whether the Honourable Minister is considering the question of placing these Ordnance Depots in charge of Indian nationals?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think I will allow that question.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Military Intelligence was consulted in this regard to ascertain the source and the reasons why the leakages have occurred?

Mr. Speaker: Which leakage?

Shri Biswanath Das: Leakage from the Ordnance Factory.

Mr. Speaker: The reply is that it never occurred—that is the Committee's finding.

Shri Biswanath Das: So the position is that there was no leakage?

Mr. Speaker: That is the position.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the Honourable Minister aware that there are prosecutions going on regarding the smuggling of arms out of this Depot, actual prosecutions in the Central Provinces, of persons who have smuggled or attempted to smuggle arms and ammunitions?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Not in connection with smuggling of arms from the Jubbulpore Ordnance Depot—not to my knowledge. There may be cases which have nothing to do with this Ordnance Depot.

DESTRUCTION OF ARTICLES AS 'UNSERVICEABLE' IN C. O. D., JUBBULPORE

1321. ***Seth Govinddas:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the articles classified as 'unserviceable' are destroyed in the Central Ordnance Depot, Jubbulpore?

(b) If so, are Government aware that newly recruited persons are put in charge of the above articles who, having no knowledge of a particular item being 'serviceable' or 'unserviceable', destroy the article concerned?

(c) Do Government propose to employ some experienced men who will inspect all such articles prior to their being classified as unserviceable and destroyed?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Lethal and technical stores which are not to be disposed of by sale are destroyed by breakup after recovery of serviceable components. Other stores like wearing apparel are not destroyed but are sent to salvage for disposal by auction.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The conditioning of stores (that is classification as serviceable or unserviceable) is carried out by Electrical and Mechanical Engineers or Examiners of Small Arms, who are competent to determine whether any article is serviceable, repairable or unserviceable.

Seth Govinddas: Are the Government aware that there is a police report in Jubbulpore that out of the articles classified as unserviceable certain arms were smuggled from that Depot?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say off-hand—it is just possible. But as I have stated, unserviceable arms are not disposed of by us,

they are disposed of by auction by the Disposals Department—it has nothing to do with us.

Seth Govinddas: Who classifies those arms as unserviceable, and after classifying them which is the authority which auctions them?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I have already stated in reply to (b) and (c) of this Question that this classification is carried out by Electrical and Mechanical Engineers or Examiners of Small Arms who are competent to determine whether any article is serviceable, repairable or unserviceable, and the sale of these articles is made by the Disposals Department.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: May I know, Sir, whether those who are put in charge of deciding whether an article is serviceable or unserviceable are Indians or non-Indians?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I think, Sir, they are Indians now.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister what steps are taken to guard against serviceable materials being passed off as unserviceable and free scope allowed for smuggling?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I think we have to rely on the officers, and I have no reason to believe that the officers who are responsible for this job are not doing their duty satisfactorily.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if there is any system of check-up or surprise visits at any of those places where such articles are condemned as unserviceable, before they are actually destroyed?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Occasional check-up is carried out, but the main responsibility rests on the local people, the Examiners and other people in charge of it.

Seth Govinddas: In view of the fact that there is a lot of complaint in this respect in Jubbulpore, will Government appoint any special inquiry committee in this respect to find out whether the arms are smuggled from there or not and whether serviceable arms also are classified as unserviceable and disposed of in this way?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: In reply to the previous question by the Honourable Member I have given a categorical reply that an inquiry was made and the result of the inquiry is that no arms were smuggled. I do not think any useful purpose will be served by appointing another committee of inquiry, but I can assure the Honourable Member that every possible step is being taken to see that no arms are smuggled out of this Depot.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know, Sir, whether there is any arrangement in this Depot to declare whether any arms are obsolete?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: That is what I have stated in this Question.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether the existence of any other underground factory has come to the notice of the Honourable Minister which must have been manufacturing arms?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Not in Jubbulpore Ordnance Depot.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know, Sir, whether the Committee that went into this question also considered whether any of the serviceable articles were sent out as unserviceable ones?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The Committee also inquired into this question and the result of the inquiry is that only unserviceable arms are condemned and offered for sale.

PHYSICAL TRAINING IN STATE AND STATE-AIDED SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

1322. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether physical training is a part of the curriculum in all State and State-aided schools and colleges in India;

(b) the principles on which such physical training is based;

(c) the system or systems of physical training now in vogue; and

(d) whether Hathayogic exercises, particularly Asana and Pranayama, are included in the course of physical training; and if not, why not?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) فزیکل ٹرینڈنگ اسکولوں کی پڑھائی کا حصہ نہیں ہے لیکن اسکول پروگرام کا ضرور ایک حصہ ہے۔

(b) فزیکل ٹرینڈنگ جس پرنسپل پر دی جاتی ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ تندرستی اچھی رہے طبیعت میں تازگی اور چلت پھرت پیدا ہو اور دماغ اور جسم یعنی مائنڈ اور باڈی دونوں کو ایک ہی طرح پھولنے پھلنے کا موقع ملے۔

(c) اسکولوں میں اگر فزیکل ٹرینڈنگ کا جو سسٹم چلایا گیا ہے اس میں دونوں طرح کے سسٹم ملائے گئے ہیں، وسترن بھی اور انڈین بھی۔

(d) ٹرینڈنگ میں یہ بات بھی رکھی گئی ہے کہ ٹھیک طریقہ پر سانس لینے کی کثرت کرائی جائے۔ لیکن ہتھ یوگ آسن کا قہنگ نہیں رکھا گیا ہے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) Physical training is not a part of the school curriculum but forms part of the school programme;

(b) The principles on which Physical training is based are hygiene and recreation. The objects are harmonious development of mind and body, and training in team work, and in rhythmic movements.

(c) The system of Physical training followed in schools is a combination of Western and Indian Systems.

(d) Proper and correct breathing is part of the training but Hathayogic Asanas are not included.

श्री एच० वी० कामत : क्या माननीय वजीर तालीम को यह मालूम है कि हठयोग की तालीम इन्सान के जिस्म और दिमाग, सेहत और तन्दुरुस्ती के लिये निहायत मुफीद चीज है

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is the Honourable Minister for Education aware of the fact that Hatha Yogic exercises are very beneficial for physical and mental development of man?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is purely a question of opinion.

श्री एच० वी० कामत : क्या यह बात सच है कि हमारे आनरेबल वजीर आजम पण्डित नेहरू साहिब आसनों के हिमायती हैं ?

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it a fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is a protagonist of 'yog asans'?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

بلڈت تھاکر داس بھارگوا : کیا یہ درست ہے کہ پنجاب یونیورسٹی کے کئی کالجوں میں Physical Training ان طریقوں سے دی جاتی ہے اور مسئلہ ہو چکی ہے ؟

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Is it a fact that in certain colleges of the Punjab University have been imparting physical training on these lines and have adopted these systems?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس بارے میں مجھے خاص معلومات نہیں ہیں ہو سکتا ہے کہ دی جاتی ہو -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: I have no information about this. It is possible that such training is given.

ڈا॰ پی॰ एस॰ देशमुख : क्या यह बात सच्ची है कि आसनों की वजह से कभी कभी दिमाग भी खराब हुआ करते हैं ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that at times yogic postures (asans) have an adverse effect on the brain?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

श्री दीप्ति बल्लभ कृष्ण : क्या महترم وزیر صاحب اس بات پر غور کریں گے کہ یہ System اب رائج کیا جائے ؟

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the Honourable Minister consider the question of introduction of this system now?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : یہ اکسپہرٹس کے سوچنے کی بات ہے بہر حال اس معاملہ پر غور کیا جا سکتا ہے -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: This is for the experts to decide. However the matter may be considered.

RECONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

1323. ***Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a resolution adopted by the Bangiya Ayurved Mahasammelan in Calcutta on the 29th February, 1948 to the effect that the "Indigenous System of Medicine Committee" was calculated to do harm to the Ayurvedic system of treatment and that the Committee was to be boycotted when they would visit Bengal and that Government should form a new Committee with Ayurvedic practitioners from different provinces;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to allay the misapprehensions referred to in part (a) above and to enlist the co-operation of the Ayurvedic practitioners and Institutions of Bengal; and

(c) whether a favourable response has been received from other provinces?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) Yes.

(b) The apprehensions of the Sammelan are unfounded. Questionnaires have been issued by the Committee, among others, to eminent Ayurvedic practitioners and institutions in Bengal and their views will receive due consideration by the Committee. The Committee are also empowered to co-opt local and provincial representatives in the areas visited by them. Government are confident that the Committee will give full and fair consideration to all aspects of the question.

(c) As far as Government are aware the Committee have received answers to their questionnaires from all Provincial Governments and many associations and individuals.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: May I know, Sir, what is the composition of this Committee and what its terms of reference are?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have not got the names of the Committee here, but the terms of reference were those that were referred to it by the Resolution passed by this House. The Report is now in process of being made.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Is it not a fact that in this Committee Ayurvedic practitioners of repute and Indians possessing knowledge of the Ayurvedic profession are not included?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have already answered that question many times in this House. It is not so. There are Ayurvedic practitioners of repute on the Committee, and the Committee have the power to co-opt Ayurvedic practitioners wherever they go.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact that as far as the Ayurvedic practitioners who have been co-opted on this Committee are concerned, the All-India Ayurvedic Sammelan has said that they are not the real representatives of the Ayurvedic profession?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Some representations to that effect have been made, but as I have said, the Committee is at liberty to co-opt any practitioner wherever they go.

Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Is there any practitioner on this Committee from Bengal?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am sorry I have not got the names here.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: When is this Committee to report?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: By the end of May.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Is there any *vaid*, or *hakim* or *kaviraj* on this Committee?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Is this Committee going to visit the Ayurvedic institutions scattered all over India?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I believe they have already done so.

GOVERNMENT'S SCHEME FOR SOCIAL EDUCATION

1324. ***Shri Yudhisthir Misra:** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state as to when the scheme of Social Education of which the public were informed by Government through the Press during the first week of January, 1948, will be finally ready for action?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : مجلس ترقی آف ایجوکیشن میں ایک نیا سیکشن اس غرض سے کھول دیا گیا ہے اور پوری کوشش کی جا رہی ہے کہ ایسا لکچر اور دوسری چیزیں تیار ہو جائیں کہ کام جلد سے جلد شروع کیا جا سکے اس بارے میں فائنلنگ کا ایک سوال ہے اور اس پر ایک کمیٹی غور کر رہی ہے -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: A new Section has been added to the Ministry of Education for the purpose of spreading ideas related to Social Education. Every effort is being made to prepare necessary literature and start the activities, as early as possible.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra: May I know what are the basic principles of the scheme?

(Basic Principle) انریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: میں نہیں سمجھتا کہ بیسک پرنسپل اس کے اصول کا کوئی سوال پیدا ہوتا ہے۔ اسکیم کا مقصد یہ ہے کہ اقلیت ایجوکیشن (Adult Education) اور جنرل سوشل ایجوکیشن کا نام ایک خاص پلان بنا کر کیا جائے۔ اسی کو اسکیم کے لئے بنیادی پرنسپل سمجھنا چاہئے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: I do not think the question of basic principle arises here. The object of the scheme is to carry out the works of adult education and general social education according to a certain definite plan. This may be taken as the basic principle of the scheme.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra: Do the Government intend to put the scheme into operation all over India through their own apparatus from the Centre, or allocate the responsibility to the Provincial Government?

انریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: ابھی تک ان کاموں کا جو تھنگ رہا ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ سلتورل گورنمنٹ کاموں کا پورا نقشہ بنا دیتی ہے اور ہر طرح کا سامان جمع کر دیتی ہے اور پھر صوبوں کی حکومتیں انہیں کام میں لاتی ہیں۔ سلتورل گورنمنٹ کی حیثیت ایڈوائزر کی رہتی ہے۔ یہی تھنگ اس اسکیم کے لئے بھی سامنے رکھا گیا ہے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad: The policy which has hitherto been adopted in this connection is that the Central Government draws up a complete scheme and provides material of all sorts and then the Provincial Governments make use of them. The Central Government acts in an advisory capacity. This procedure has also been adopted for this scheme.

Shri Yudhisthir Misra: May I know how many officers are preparing the scheme?

انریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: ابھی صرف ایک آفیسر رکھا گیا ہے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Only one officer has been appointed so far.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it the intention of the Government to start a Central Social Education Institute here on the lines of the Social education institute that has been started in Bombay under the auspices of the Tatas?

انریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: یہ معاملہ گورنمنٹ کے سامنے ہے اور وہ غور کر رہی ہے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: This matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government keep it also in mind not to establish that Institute here in Delhi, but in some other place?

انریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: جب وقت آئے گا تو اس پر غور کیا جائے گا۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: It will be considered at the proper time.

شری دیپھ بلدھو گپتا: کیا میں دریافت کر سکتا ہوں کہ دہلی میں کہیں نہ

ہا جائے؟

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know why it should not be located at Delhi?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: You have got too many things in Delhi. You are very greedy people.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

IMPORT OF D. D. T. INTO INDIA

1325. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is importing D.D.T. into India and if so, in what quantities and from what countries; and

(b) whether it has proved more efficacious than quinine for extensive use in hilly and agency areas?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) At the end of the war 160 tons were imported from the United Kingdom and 200 tons from United States of America. Surplus stocks are also available in the Directorate of Disposals. As stocks are available in the country, further import is at present restricted by the Import Control authorities.

(b) The roles of quinine and D.D.T. in malaria control are entirely different. While Quinine is used as a medicine for the treatment of malaria, D.D.T. is used as an insecticide to eradicate the mosquitos which carry the malaria infection. There roles cannot therefore be compared. But it is true that D.D.T. is a very useful weapon for the prevention of malaria in hilly and other malarious tracts.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is any effort being made to manufacture D.D.T. in our own country?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes. I am sorry that so far the amount of D. D. T. produced in the country is small, but efforts are being made to produce more. Some private firms have been asked to do so and further plans are under consideration.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: But then, is it contemplated that Government should also manufacture D. D. T.?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: May I know, Sir, whether any estimate has been made of the needs of our country so far as D.D.T. is concerned?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not tell you whether any estimate as far as our requirements are concerned has been made, but because it is so useful we are trying to produce it as soon as possible in large quantities.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have Government any scheme for using this D. D. T. over as many of our hilly agency areas as possible, so that the life of the agency people may be made a little less difficult than it is today?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is naturally contemplated to use D. D. T. wherever it is needed.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: What are the steps, may I know, which have been taken to manufacture D.D.T. departmentally by the Government of India?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As I said, the matter is under consideration. We have approached three firms already who are manufacturing it, and asked them to produce more. The question of producing it ourselves is also under consideration.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know how much money is spent in importing D.D.T.?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I cannot tell you the price of the quantity originally imported, but I have said that nothing is being imported at present.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know if efforts will be made to supply D.D.T. through the Health Department in all the Provinces?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, from the Centre—if it is in the hands of the Centre.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: The Honourable Member was pleased to say that the quantity of D.D.T. used in this country is very small. May I know if sufficient propaganda will be done in the countryside by the Health Department for its greater use?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Government is doing as much as possible in that direction.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have the Provincial Governments to pay for it, Sir, or the Central Government is supplying it free when the Provincial Governments wants to have supplies?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I want to have notice of that question.

LEPERS AND LEPER-ASYLUMS IN INDIA

1326. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased so state:

(a) the number of lepers in India in each of the years 1939 to 1946 inclusive;

(b) the number of leper asylums in India and where they are situate; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to combat the disease, and the results so far achieved?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) No accurate estimate of the number of lepers in India is available, but it is estimated that the number of infective cases of leprosy in the country is in the neighbourhood of a quarter of a million.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

(c) All Provincial Governments, except Bombay and East Punjab, have prepared anti-leprosy schemes as a part of their Five Year Plans for Development, towards the execution of which the Central Government are making lump sum grants annually. The Central Government have recently deputed Dr. Dharmendra of the School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, to United States of America, United Kingdom, South America and the Phillipines to study the latest methods of combating leprosy. The question of establishing a Central Teaching and Research Institute for leprosy is under consideration.

Statement

List of Leprosy In-patients Institutions in India.

Province or State	When established	By Whom run	Place of the Institution	Accommodation for patients with Leprosy.
1	2	3	4	5
Assam	..	Government or local Body	1. Tura.	100
	..	Government or local Body	2. Dhubri	20
	1920	Mission	3. Kangpokpi	90
	1933	Local Body	4. Gauhati	75
	1914	Local Body	5. Kohima	50
	..	Local Body	6. Manipur	40
	..	Mission	7. Jorhat	50
	..	..	2. Santipara	50

	1	2	3	4	5
Bengal	..	1901 Mission to Lepers	1. Bankura	225	
	..	1893 Mission to Lepers	2. Ranigunj	145	
	..	.. Mission	3. Kalimpong	..	
	..	1810 Local Body	4. Calcutta	140	
	..	1940 Local Body	5. Asansol	..	
Bihar	..	1890 Mission to Lepers	1. Bhagalpur	200	
	..	1905 Mission to Lepers	2. Muzaffarpur	60	
	..	1888 Mission to Lepers	3. Purulia	805	
	..	1929 Mission	4. Saldoha	320	
	..	1914 Local Body	5. Gaya	220	
	..	1938 Local Body	6. Purulia	200	
	..	1892 Government or local Body	7. Deoghar	70	
	..	.. Local Body	8. Dhanbad	20	
Bombay	..	1912 Mission to Lepers	1. Belgaum	50	
	..	1898 Mission to Lepers	2. Nasik	110	
	..	1909 Mission to Lepers	3. Poona	184	
	..	1894 Mission to Lepers	4. Poladpur	175	
	..	1900 B.E.L.R.A. Bombay Branch	5. Sholapur	70	
	..	1918 Mission	6. Vengurla	50	
	..	1875 Govt. or local Body	7. Ratnagiri	90	
	..	1890 Government or local Body	8. Bombay	350	
	..	.. Government or local Body	9. Bijapur	50	
	..	1926 Local Body	10. Surat	200	
	..	.. Local Body	11. Ahmedabad	109	
	..	1937 Mission	12. Sankeshwar	50	
	..	..	13. Trombay	..	
C.P. and Berar	..	1902 Mission to Lepers	1. Champa	550	
	..	1897 Mission to Lepers	2. Chandkuri	554	
	..	1900 Mission to Lepers	3. Dhamtari	418	
	..	1900 Mission to Lepers	4. Ellichpur	285	
	..	1897 Mission to Lepers	5. Jhargan (Mun gel)	88	
	..	1898 Local Body	6. Raipur	120	
Orissa	..	1919 Mission to Lepers	1. Cuttack	383	
	..	1905 Local Body	2. Puri	56	
	..	.. Local Body	3. Bargarh	70	
	..	1938 Local Body	4. (Sambal pur)	..	
	..	..	5. Alainath (Puri)	10	
Madras Presidency	..	1903 Mission to Lepers	1. Culicut	300	
	..	1913 Mission to Lepers	2. Manamadura	300	
	..	1899 Mission to Lepers	3. Ramachandrapuram.	120	
	..	1903 Mission to Lepers	4. Salur	130	
	..	1924 Mission to Lepers	5. Vadatherasalur	125	
	..	1913 Mission to Lepers	6. Vizianagram	112	
	..	1905 Mission	7. Kodur	50	
	..	1923 Mission	8. Narsapur	90	
	..	1883 Mission	9. Mangalore	70	
	..	1924 Mission and Government	10. Chingleput	800	
	..	.. Mission	11. Kumbakonam	..	
	..	.. Mission	12. Bapatla	..	
Punjab	..	1868 Mission to Lepers	1. Sabathu	160	
	..	1994 Mission to Lepers	2. Tarn Taran	220	
	..	1864 Mission	3. Ambala	60	
	..	1916 Mission	4. Palampur	70	
	..	1876 Government	5. Chamba State	30	
United Provinces	..	1886 Mission to Lepers	1. Chandag	72	
	..	1874 Mission to Lepers	2. Meerut	65	
	..	1874 Mission to Lepers	3. Naini (Allahabad)	600	
	..	.. Mission to Lepers	4. Rampur adgenj (Fyzabad)	125	
	..	1836 Mission	5. Almora	110	
	..	.. Local Body	6. Agra	40	
	..	1824 Government or local Body	7. Banaras	30	
	..	1894 Government or Local Body	8. Lucknow	30	

1	2	3	4	5
	1934	Government or Local Body	9. Kanpur	30
	1883	Government or Local Body	10. Rurki	40
	1872	Government	11. Dehra Dum	60
	..	Local Body	12. Moradabad	..
	..	..	13. Srinagar Garhwal	50
Central India Agency	1904	Mission to Lepers.	1. Dhar (Dear)	25
	..	Government or Local Body	2. Bhopal Schore Leper asylum	20
	..	Government or Local Body	3. Naj-Garh	25
Western India Agency.	..	..	1. Junagadh	30
	..	..	2. Idga	10
Eastern States Agency.	1900	Mission	1. Rajnandgaon (Nandgaon)	60
	..	Mission	2. Baripada (Mayurbhanj)	100
	..	Government	3. Bamra (Bamara state)	40
Hyderabad (Nizam's Dominions)	1914	Mission	1. Dichpali	500
Travancore state.	..	Government.	1. Nooranad	470
	..	Mission	2. Patheneruz	170
	1886	Mission	3. Naysoor	170
Mysore state.	..	Government or Local Body	1. Bangalore	100
Cochin state.	..	Government finances Mission administration	1. adoor	300
Kashmir state	1902	Government or local Body	1. Srinagar.	80
Rajputana	..	Government or Local Body	1. Jodhpur	60
Deccan States Agency	1901	Mission to Lepers.	1. Miraj	135
Totals			91	13,416

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know which part of our country shows the highest incidence of leprosy?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Madras, Orissa and Bengal.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are there leper-asylums in all these various tracts where leprosy incidence is high?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: From the statement laid on the Table of the House, the Honourable Member will get a complete list of the leprosy asylums all over the country and the numbers of in-patients in those institutions.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: May I ask if there is any provision for the compulsory segregation of infected cases of leprosy?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There is no provision like that, so far as I am aware.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is there any legislation empowering Government to compulsorily segregate these people and feed them and treat them?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No, I do not think there is.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Then, will the Government consider the advisability of bringing forward the necessary legislation for this purpose?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The suggestion will receive consideration.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know whether the Government will bring forward legislation for the compulsory sterilisation of lepers?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That matter would have to be considered. I personally am not in favour of it.

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: May I know which Province has the highest incidence of leprosy—Assam or Bengal?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have already stated. The Provinces of Madras, Orissa and Bengal.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it not a fact that Berar which shows a fairly high incidence of leprosy is not served by any leper asylum?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am not aware of that.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact that inspite of all our efforts, leprosy is increasing very rapidly in India?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not think it can be said that leprosy is increasing very rapidly.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that leprosy is a hereditary disease and as such every scientific effort should be made in order to prevent its spreading?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I may inform the Honourable Member that leprosy is not a hereditary disease.

Shri H. V. Kamath: How many categories of lepers are there—physical lepers, moral lepers and the like?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if shē is aware that some discovery was made in the U.S.S.R. by which by way of injection this disease can be cured and whether that experiment is being tried here in one of the research institutions?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: We have just sent Dr. Dharmendra to the United States, and other countries to study the latest method of treatment for his disease.

CENTRAL POOL OF TECHNICIANS

1327. *Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Central pool of technicians has been inaugurated;
- (b) if so, how many technicians have registered themselves;
- (c) whether an effort is proposed to be made to provide employment for all those technicians who are unemployed; and
- (d) whether the pool is open to the war technicians also?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا نے ابھی تک اس بارے میں کوئی فیصلہ نہیں کیا ہے۔ کہ سنٹرل پول اور ٹیکنیسینس کھولا جائے۔ البتہ یہ فیصلہ ہو چکا ہے کہ کونسل آف سائنٹیفک اینڈ انڈسٹریل ریسرچ ایک نیشنل رجسٹر کھول دے اور ان تمام آدمیوں کے نام اکٹھے کرے جو سائنٹیفک اور ٹیکنیکل سہجہ کے لئے ملک میں مل سکتے ہیں۔ ساتھ ہی ایک ایمپلائمنٹ بورو بھی کھول دیا جائے۔

نیشنل انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سائنس نے کونسل کی طرف سے رجسٹر ہلانے کا کام اپنے ہاتھ میں لے لیا ہے۔ اور نام رجسٹر ہو رہے ہیں۔ پبلک کی طرف سے اس پکار کا جو جواب ملا ہے۔ وہ اچھا ہے۔ لیکن اس سے بھی زیادہ اچھا ہو سکتا تھا۔ پرائم منسٹر کی ایک ایڈل بھی اس بارے میں نکل چکی ہے۔

اس سلسلہ میں ایک دوسرا کام بھی ہو رہا ہے۔ سائنٹیفک مین پاور کمیٹی نے اس بات کی دیکھ بھال کی تھی کہ ملک کو آنے والے پانچ برس یا دس برس کے اندر اپنے بوہتے ہوئے کاموں کے لئے کس کس طرح کے سائنٹیفک اور ٹیکنیکل آدمیوں کی ضرورت ہو گی۔ اب وہ ایسے آدمیوں کے نام اکٹھے کر رہی ہے۔ تین ہزار آدمیوں کے نام رجسٹر ہو چکے ہیں۔

(b) ملا کر قریب آٹھ ہزار۔

(c) جواب ہاں ہے۔

(d) ہر سائنٹیفک اور ٹیکنیشن اپنا نام رجسٹر کر سکتا ہے۔ ہاں آرٹس کے ٹیکنیشن اس میں نہیں آتے وہ ایپوائنٹڈ ایکسچینج میں اپنا نام رجسٹر کر سکتے ہیں۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) The Government of India have not yet decided whether a Central Pool of technicians should be formed. They have, however, in the first instance, decided that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research should compile a National Register of scientific and technical personnel available in the country as well as organise an Employment Bureau for them.

The compilation of the Register has been taken in hand by the National Institute of Sciences of India on behalf of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and registration of the personnel is in progress. The response from the public has been encouraging although it could be better. An appeal has been issued by the Prime Minister.

In connection with the assessment of the requirements for various types of scientific and technical personnel required in the country during the next 5 to 10 years the Scientific Manpower Committee is also collecting information regarding the available scientific and technical talent. About 3,000 persons have so far registered.

(b) About 8,000 in all.

(c) Yes.

(d) Any Scientist or Technician can get his name registered except the technicians of the artisan type who will have their names registered with the Employment Exchange.

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : यह टेक्नीशियन्ज (technicians) के नाम इकट्ठे

होने के बाद गवर्नमेंट के पास ऐसी कोई स्कीम है जिससे उनको किसी काम में लगाया जायेगा और उनको अच्छे ढंग से ट्रेनिंग दी जायगी।

Dr. P. S. Desmukh: What scheme do Government have under consideration for utilising the services of these technicians and for giving them adequate training after their names have been registered?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس بارے میں ابھی تک کوئی طے شدہ نقشہ نہیں ہے۔ لیکن یہ ظاہر ہے کہ نئے نقشے بنائے ہیں اور نئے میدان کاموں کے کھولے ہیں۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: No definite programme has yet been chalked out but it is clear that new programmes have to be made and new fields for work have to be opened.

شری دیش بندھو گپتا : کیا وزیر تعلیم کی knowledge میں ایسا کوئی institute ہے جو گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے recognize نہیں ہوا ہے لیکن ٹیکنیکل تعلیم اعلیٰ پیمانے پر دے رہا ہے۔ اور اگر ہے تو کیا گورنمنٹ اسکو کوئی encouragement دینے کے سوال پر غور فرما رہی ہے ؟

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is the Honourable Minister for Education aware of any institute which is unrecognised by the Government but which is imparting technical education of a high order? If there is any such institute, are Government considering the question of giving any encouragement to it?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس کے لئے نوٹس کی ضرورت ہے کیونکہ میں ایسے institutes کو ابھی اپنے سامنے نہیں لا سکتا۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: I require notice of this question as it is not possible for me to remember names of such institutes.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Does the Register of technicians contain the names of those persons who are not employed in addition to those who are already employed? Is it a comprehensive register of technicians available in the country, whether employed or not employed?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اسی بیسس (Basis) پر نام

رجسٹر ہو رہے ہیں۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: I understand that names are being registered on this basis.

ARTICLES OF INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE IN BERLIN MUSEUM

1328. *Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many manuscripts in Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali and also other ancient articles of importance are preserved in the Government Museum, Berlin?

(b) Is it a fact that the treasures of the Berlin Museum are to be divided amongst the Allied nations?

(c) What steps do the Government of India propose to take for bringing such articles as are connected with Indian history and culture, from the Berlin Museum?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) اور (b) (c) گورنمنٹ کو معلوم ہے کہ جرمنی میں یورپی ملکوں کی پرانی اور قیمتی چیزیں بہت زیادہ اکتھی کی گئی تھیں۔ اور وہاں کے سکالرز نے اس کام میں خاص دلچسپی لی تھی۔ اب یہ تمام چیزیں کس

حال میں ہیں - اور اُن کے لئے کیا فیصلہ کیا جا رہا ہے - اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ بھروسے کے ساتھ کوئی بات نہیں کہہ سکتی - گورنمنٹ اپنے ڈپلومیٹک ذریعہ سے اس بارے میں تحقیقات کریگی اور پھر دیکھ گی کہ اس بارے میں اسے کیا کارروائی کرنی چاہئے -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) to (c). Government are aware that there was in Germany a very large collection of manuscripts, paintings, sculptures and other antiquities relating to Eastern arts, literature and philosophy. It cannot, however, be said with any certainty as to what the present position is. Government, will endeavour to ascertain the present position through diplomatic channels and will then consider what steps to take in the matter.

سےٹ گوویندداس: کیا گورنمنٹ نے اس بارے میں ابھی تک کوئی سختی کا اہتمام برٹش گورنمنٹ سے کیا ہے؟

Seth Govinddas: Have Government exchanged any correspondence with the British Government in this connection?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: ابھی تک نہیں کی گئی ہے -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Not so far.

سےٹ گوویندداس: کیا گورنمنٹ یہاں کے کسی اپنے ذمہ دار آدمی کو وہاں بھجوانے کی بات سوچ رہی ہے جو جرمنی کے ان بے شمار قیمتی سامان کو اور ہالینڈ سے بھی اسی طرح کے بے شمار قیمتی سامان کو ہندوستان میں لانے کا تمام کوشش وہاں جا کر کرے؟

Seth Govinddas: Are Government considering the question of sending some responsible person to settle fully and finally with Germany and England the question of bringing to India all such precious articles which are at present in those countries?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: اس سلسلے میں پہلی بات یہ ہے کہ معلوم کیا جائے آئندہ کے لئے وہاں کیا فیصلہ ہو رہا ہے؟ اور کیا ارادہ ہے اس کے بعد پھر ہمیں فیصلہ کرنا چاہئے کہ کیا مطالبہ کیا جائے؟

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: The first thing in this connection is to find out what decisions are being taken there and what are their intentions? Afterwards we should decide what we should demand from them?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not sacrilege to disband the museum in Berlin and distribute the exhibits among the Victor nations, simply because the Germans happened to be defeated, and if so, have the Government of India made any representations to the so called Allied Council not to pursue such an inhuman task?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد: اس بارے میں ہم اپنے ڈپلومیٹک چینل سے ضروری باتیں معلوم کریں گے - پھر اس کے بعد کوئی رائے قائم کر سکتے ہیں -

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: We will make necessary enquiries about it through diplomatic channels. After that we can make our decisions.

MILITARY REQUISITION OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSE OF KUMAR DEBENDRA LAL KHAN, MIDNAPORE, WEST BENGAL

1329. *Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) when the residential house of Kumar Debendra Lal Khan, known as the "Gope Palace", situated in the district of Midnapore in West Bengal was requisitioned by the military authorities;

(b) for what purpose it was used; and

(c) whether it is still being used for any special purpose or has been lying vacant and if lying vacant for what period?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) 10th February, 1942.

(b) It was used for a Military Hospital.

(c) It has been lying vacant for the last nine months, but has not yet been returned to the owner as he did not agree to give Government the right of re-entry. This condition was necessary in order to allow disposal of Government property on the land. The structures erected by the Ministry of Defence within the compound have now been sold and the site cleared. The premises are being handed over to the owner.

Shri Basant Kumar Das: When will it be handed over to him?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Steps are being taken to hand over the building to the owner.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Was any compensation paid to him?

HOTEL IN PREMISES OF ZANANA TIBBIA COLLEGE DELHI

+1330. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a hotel has been started in the premises of the Zanana Tibbia College, Delhi?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) and (b). The Tibbia College, Delhi, is a private institution. The matter raised in the question is being investigated and information collected will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

REQUEST BY HAKIM JAMIL KHAN AND OTHER MEMBERS OF TIBBIA COLLEGE TRUST FOR TAKING OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE COLLEGE BY GOVERNMENT

+1331. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some members of the Board of Trust of the Tibbia College, Delhi, including Hakim Jamil Khan have requested the Government to take over the administration of the College?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is understood that some members of the Board of Trustees have approached the Honourable Minister for Education with the request that Government should take over the administration of the Tibbia College. The matter has not been referred to the Health Ministry as yet.

+Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

REPRESENTATION BY JUNIOR ARMY OFFICERS TO PRESENT SCALES OF PAY

1332. *Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether any representations have been received from the junior army officers about their present scales of pay?

(b) What is the present salary for the corresponding ranks in U. K.?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Yes.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to the White Paper on Post-War Code of Pay, Allowances, Retired Pay and Service Gratuities for Commissioned Officers of the British Armed Forces (Command Paper No. 6750) presented to the British Parliament in March 1946, a copy of which is in the Library of the House.

Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: May I know what action Government is taking on the representation of these officers?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I do not know what the Honourable Member means; most probably, he is referring to the pay of the Indian Commissioned officers. Well, that question has been re-examined and a decision has been arrived at. It is not possible for me to give the details of the concessions that have been made, but I will be prepared to supply a copy of Government orders to the Honourable Member.

Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: May I know how much time it takes to come to a decision?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: It all depends on the nature of the case.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if there are any British personnel among the junior officers?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: They are quite separate. They do not come under the category of Indian commissioned officers.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Do the salaries of our ranks here bear any comparison to the salaries of the same personnel in the United Kingdom?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: This question was examined by the Pay Committee appointed by the Ministry of Defence and the statement will show that the rates of pay that have been suggested for the Indian Commissioned officers compare very favourably with the pay of the British officers of the same rank in the United Kingdom.

REORGANISATION OF EDUCATION SYSTEM IN NAVY

1333. *Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government propose to re-organise the present system of Education in the Navy?

(b) What are the qualifications necessary for appointment as school masters in the navy and what is their grade of pay?

(c) How many of these are trained and how many unqualified men are still being retained in service?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) It is not clear what exactly the Honourable Member has in mind. The educational side of training in the R.I.N. is systematically and progressively kept up-to-date. So far as the organisation is concerned, changes in the frame-work of the Education Branch have been under consideration for some time now. A partial reorganisation of the Branch took place twelve months ago and the School master and Instructor Branches will shortly be merged into the Education Branch.

(b) Education officers in the Navy are of two grades—Commissioned officer and Warrant officer. Minimum qualifications are—an Honours Degree in Mathematics, Physics, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering and a Teacher's Diploma or teaching experience in the case of commissioned officers, and a Mathematics or Physics Graduate, preferably but not necessarily with teaching experience, for Warrant officers. Conditions for future entry are, however, at present under consideration.

The pay scales of these officers are the same as of their counterparts in any other branch of the Navy, i.e., an Instructor Lieutenant is on the same grade of pay as a Lieut. in the Technical Branch, viz. Rs. 450 to 650.

(c) All the Education Officers are trained and no unqualified person is now retained in the Navy.

FUNCTIONS AND PERSONNEL OF ESTABLISHMENT PROPOSALS COMMITTEE

1334. *Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state the functions and personnel of the Establishment Proposals Committee?

(b) Have the personnel of this body the necessary technical knowledge to enable them to carry out a thorough examination of the schemes submitted to them?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) The Establishment Proposals Committee is a Committee of officers of the Ministry of Finance which deals with all proposals from the various Ministries of the Government of India relating to the creation of new posts or the extension of temporary posts and the pay and allowances and other conditions of service to be attached to such posts or to be granted to the individuals selected for such posts. The Committee is composed of (i) a Chairman of the rank of Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, (ii) the Branch Officer or officers in the Ministry of Finance concerned with the subject matter of the agenda, (iii) a representative or representatives of the Ministries whose proposals are under consideration, and (iv) an Officer of the Ministry of Finance of the rank of Under Secretary or Assistant Secretary who acts as Secretary of the Committee.

(b) It is not the normal function of the Committee to examine schemes but the body is primarily concerned with staff proposals emanating from approved schemes or otherwise and possesses the requisite knowledge in this behalf.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Would it be possible for the Honourable Minister to include one of the members of the Standing Committee of Finance on this Establishment Committee hereafter?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: No, Sir. This is purely an official committee which has to examine the conditions of service and pay and all that of posts which are sanctioned. This Committee does not deal with the question of policy at all.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if it is not desirable to associate a Minister to preside over such a Committee in order to scrutinize—and not leave it merely to Heads of Departments who join together so that one Head might sanction a larger number and the corresponding head as a *quid pro quo* increase his own establishment?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: It is not possible for the Minister to preside over this Committee at all. This is a Departmental Committee. As a matter of fact all schemes have to be approved in appropriate cases by the Standing Finance Committee also and when once schemes are approved, then actually in fixing the conditions of service and pay, there are definite rules for that purpose and it is the function of this Committee to see that those rules are observed and extravagant expenditure is not incurred.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: For example, if for a personnel as to how many officers of a particular rank are to be recruited for that Department?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: For example, if for a particular scheme this Committee thinks that so many officers are not necessary, certainly it will be open for them to say so.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know if the Honourable Minister after he assumed charge went into the functions of this Committee and satisfied himself that it is not necessary to associate others so as to improve its efficiency.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Unless I get some suspicion that this Committee is not working properly, there is no reason for me to make an examination of that kind.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I ask the Honourable Minister under which Section of his Department this Committee works and whether any senior officer of this Department in the status of a Joint Secretary finally puts the final imprimatur or approval on the Committee's action? Is it the Expenditure or the Establishment Section that is concerned.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: It must be either the Expenditure Section or the Establishment Section; I am not quite sure about the actual procedure, Sir. I would like to have notice.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I ask if the proposals of this Committee are placed before the Standing Committee.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: It won't be placed before the Standing Committee.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Who is the last authority to give effect to the proposals of this Committee in the Finance Department? Is it the Minister or the Secretary or Joint Secretary or who is he?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: In the Ministry of Finance various officers have got delegated powers to settle various matters that come before the Ministry. Every subject does not come before the Minister, nor does every subject even come before the Secretary. Subject to recognized rules, Deputy Secretaries and Joint Secretaries have got the power to pass order and dispose of files, and the Department concerned, if they are not satisfied with it, naturally they will come to the Minister of Finance.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That much etiquette in the Department we are expected to know, even though every individual member of the House may not know, but what I want to know is whether the Honourable Minister has himself taken the trouble even after these questions have been given notice of to find out how the thing is working? And my question becomes relevant because I have asked him just now whether it is the Minister, Secretary or the Joint Secretary or who he is who gives the final imprimatur on behalf of his department to the recommendations of this Committee. He is not able to give any straight answer.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am not able to give a straight answer. That is all.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister what is the object of getting the proposals for establishment scrutinized by this Committee after they are sanctioned by the Standing Finance Committee instead of the Standing Finance Committee having the advice of this Establishment Committee before they sanction any such establishment?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: A scheme is put up by a Ministry. Then if it involves a recurring expenditure of more than one lakh or a non-recurring expenditure of more than 5 lakhs, then it has to go to the sanction of the Standing Finance Committee and my Honourable friend knows that very often when a proposal comes before the Standing Finance Committee the actual detailed financial scrutiny would not have been conducted and if the scheme is passed then afterwards the Ministry concerned sends its proposals. Suppose they say they want 5 officers on Rs. 800—1,200. Then this Committee would say 5 officers are not necessary; 4 will do; all of them need not be on Rs. 800—1,200; two of them may be on a lower scale. It is in that way they would suggest to reduce expenditure to the minimum extent possible. That is the function of this Committee.

GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SURVEYED BY ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

1335. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state the grants recommended for the Educational Institutions surveyed by the All India Council for Technical Education?

(b) What is the amount sanctioned for these institutions by the Ministry of Finance?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) اور (b) آنریبل ممبر کو میں اس سٹیٹمنٹ کی طرف دھیان دلاتا ہوں جو 11 مارچ کو بجٹ قیادت کے سلسلہ میں میں نے ہاؤس کے سامنے رکھا تھا۔ اس میں اس سوال کا جواب موجود ہے۔ بہر حال دو سٹیٹمنٹ ہاؤس کے ٹیبل پر رکھ دیئے جاتے ہیں۔ ان سے دونوں باتیں معلوم ہو چکیں گی۔ یہ بات یہی کہ آل انڈیا کونسل فور ٹیکنیکل ایجوکیشن نے کن کن انسٹی ٹیوشنوں کو گرانٹ دینے کی سفارش کی تھی۔ اور یہ بات کہ گورنمنٹ نے کتنے انسٹی ٹیوشنوں کو گرانٹ دی ہے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) and (b). The Honourable Members' attention is invited to the statement I made in the House on the 11th March 1948 in connection with the Budget demand for the Ministry of Education for the year 1948-49. For the further information of Honourable Members, however, I am placing on the table of the House two statements showing the financial assistance recommended for certain Educational Institutions by the All India Council for Technical Education and the financial assistance sanctioned for these institutions by the Government of India for the year 1947-48.

Statement I

Grants to Technical Institutions recommended by the All India Council for Technical Education

Sl. No.	Institution	Capital grant to be spread over 3 to 5 years—in lakhs of Rupees.		Recurring grant in lakhs	Interest free loan for construction of hostels repayable in 33 instalments beginning in 1950-51
		Building	Equipment		
I	Engineering College, Benaras Hindu University	3.12	16.87	5.12	3.96
II	Jadavpur Engineering College	5.38	24.00	6.48	14.175
III	Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay	7.60	9.87	2.06	4.34
IV	College of Mining and Metallurgy, Benaras Hindu University	3.11	6.85	1.53	3.17
V	College of Technology, Benares Hindu University	1.30	4.20	2.08	2.18
VI	Deptt. of Chemical Technology, Bombay University	3.34	3.06	1.07	3.24
VII	Luxminarayan Technical Institute, Nagpur	5.07	1.50	0.47	1.29
VIII	Deptt. of Applied Chemistry, Calcutta University	4.52	2.81	1.202	2.00
IX	Deptt. of Applied physics and Radio and Electronics, Calcutta University	5.25	2.38	1.29	
X	Jaipur Vikram Deo College, Andhra University	3.20	2.27	0.70	..
XI	Alagappa Chettiar College, Madras	2.50	2.50	0.60	For Chem. Tech. Dept. For Tex. Tech. Dept.
XII	*Engg. College, Aligarh	2.14	10.813	1.92	3.96
XIII	*Engg. College, Annamalai	3.33	7.33	1.28	2.84
XIV	*Dyalbagh Technical College	3.00	7.06	1.28	2.00
Total		52.86	101.813	27.482	44.055

*In the case of these institutions grants, etc., have been calculated at 2/3rd of the total estimated cost of development, and it is to be stipulated that the institutions will meet 1/3rd of the cost from their own resources.

Statement II

Grants and Loans to Technical Institutions Sanctioned for the year 1947-48

Name of Institution	Capital Grant for		Interim relief (to be adjusted against grants for future years)	Loan for Construction of hostels.
	Building	Equipment		
1 College of Engg. and Technology, Jadavpur	1,00,000	1,00,000	2,00,000	2,80,000
2 Victoria Jubilee Tech. Institute, Bombay	1,50,000	50,000	2,00,000	80,000
3 Banaras Hindu University— College of Engineering	..	80,000	..	80,000
4 College of Mining and Metallurgy University of Calcutta—	..	30,000	..	60,000
5 Deptt. of Applied Chemistry and 6 Deptt. of Applied physics, College of Science & Technology Andhra University—	2,00,000	25,000	..	30,000
7 Jaipur Vikram Deo College of Science and Technology. Madras University—	80,000	10,000	..	..
8 Alagappa Chettiar College of Technology Nagpur University—	50,000	10,000	..	..
9 Luxminarayan Instt. of Technology	1,00,000	10,000	..	28,000
Total	13,75,000			5,78,000

Notes.—The question of giving grants to the Engineering College, Aligarh, Engineering College Annamalai University, and Technical College, Dayalbagh, is under consideration of the Government of India and the amounts to be paid as grant-in-aid towards the implementation of their development plans will be decided on receipt of certain necessary information which has been called for.

The University of Bombay have declined to accept any grant as they find it difficult to accept certain conditions which the Government on the advice of the All India Council for Technical Education have thought fit to impose so as to ensure that the grants are properly utilised.

REFUSAL OF OFFICIAL RECOGNITION TO AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES UNION.

†1336. *Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have refused to give official recognition to the Air Force Headquarters Temporary Employees Union? If so, why?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES IN ARMED FORCES HEADQUARTERS.

†1337. *Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state the number of temporary employees in the Armed Forces Headquarters who have rendered:

(i) 7 to 10 years service; and

(ii) more than 10 years service; and

(b) In the case of personnel coming under sub-parts (i) and (ii) of part (a) above, what steps do Government propose to take to confirm those who were

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

nominated against temporary appointments by the Ministry of Home Affairs and who have rendered meritorious service and also held supervisory appointments for several years, in their existing appointments?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) (i) 329 (ii) 13.

(b) The confirmation of temporary employees is regulated by orders issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs with regard to recruitment to ministerial appointments in the Secretariat and attached offices. It is understood that the Ministry of Home Affairs are examining this problem.

GOVERNMENT FACTORY AT KHAMARIA, JUBBULPORE.

1338. *Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a big Government factory at Khamaria (Jubbulpore) is lying idle?

(b) Is it a fact that the above factory is well equipped in machinery to manufacture complete parts of arms as well as machines useful for agricultural and other purposes?

(c) Do Government propose to start the working of the above factory? If so, when?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The factory was designed primarily for ammunition production. The question of using this factory for other purposes is under consideration.

Seth Govinddas: Does the Honourable Minister remember that when I asked this question last time he promised that as soon as the Supreme Command comes in his hands he would see that this factory is started immediately?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: As I have already stated, arrangements are being made to make use of this factory now, and steps are being taken to see what use we can make of it.

Seth Govinddas: Does the Honourable Minister remember that the most valuable machinery of that factory is turning into scrap because it is lying idle for such a long time, and this is the biggest factory in Asia?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: If the machinery is idle there must be a certain amount of deterioration, but I do not agree with the Honourable Member that the machinery will become absolutely useless.

Seth Govinddas: By what time do Government expect to make a decision in this matter?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Very shortly; the question is now being examined.

Seth Govinddas: During the Honourable Minister's recent visit to the Central Provinces did he discuss it with the officers there?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No, it does not concern the officers there; but the discussion was held in the Ministry of Defence.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: May I know why it has not been worked so far?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I cannot say off-hand, but this factory was put up during the last war and it has remained idle; steps are now being taken to make use of it.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: Does that not show that much potential capacity is lying idle and will the Honourable Minister take care to see.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is it not a fact that wherever Government have got such valuable machinery they keep some personnel there to see that it is kept in good order?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I think some staff is there which is looking after the machine.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is this factory going to be used for production of arms or for purposes of agriculture?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The whole question is being examined. Part of the machinery, which is meant for the production of ammunition, will be used for that purpose and the other part, which is fit for agricultural purposes, will be used for agriculture.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Has the Honourable Minister consulted his colleague the Agriculture Minister as to whether the part of the machinery fit for agricultural production can be made over to him for that purpose?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I am afraid Ordnance factories cannot be handed over to other departments; they will have to remain with the Defence Ministry but the cooperation of my colleague the Minister for Agriculture will be welcomed.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: In view of the information given in this House will the Honourable Minister get a report on the present condition of the factory and place it before the House?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I have no objection, but I do not think it will serve any useful purpose.

INCREASE IN POPULATION OF DELHI AND STRAIN ON SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS AND WATER SUPPLY.

1339. *Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recent heavy increase in the population of Delhi and consequent strain upon the sanitary arrangements, including the water supply, for maintaining the health of the city population?

(b) What is the number of cases of the several diseases, particularly of an epidemic character, treated in all the hospitals in the city and the Province of Delhi during the years 1945-46, 1946-47 and during the periods from 1st April, 1947 to the 15th August, 1947 and from the 16th August, 1947 to the 29th February, 1948, and the results in each period mentioned above?

(c) How far had the medical, nursing, dispensing and other staff in these hospitals and dispensaries to be expanded in the above mentioned periods to meet the increased strain on these institutions?

(d) Were any persons suffering from diseases requiring hospital treatment refused admission or treatment in the hospitals and dispensaries for lack of adequate staff, medicine, surgical and other equipment, nursing service or accommodation and if so, how many such cases were there during the period from the 1st September, 1947 to the 29th February, 1948?

(e) If the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative are any steps being taken or proposed to be taken with a view to making the hospitals and dispensaries adequate and efficient enough to meet the increased strain?

(f) Do Government contemplate any amendment or alteration of the legislative provisions and financial arrangements affecting or concerning the hospitals and dispensaries in the city and the Province of Delhi?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible. It is sometimes found necessary to refuse admission to patient requiring treatment for lack of accommodation in hospitals. Infectious diseases are treated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital and no cases were refused admission in that Hospital during the period.

(e) Steps are being taken to increase the strength of the staffs of the Irwin, Hindu Rao and Willingdon Hospitals. The question of expanding the Irwin Hospital and the Infectious Diseases Hospital is also under consideration.

(f) No such proposals are under consideration.

Statement

Showing the number of cases of infectious diseases treated in the hospitals in the city and Province of Delhi.

	Total treated	Cured	Deaths
(i) From 1-4-45 to 31-3-46	1054	899	155
(ii) From 1-4-46 to 31-3-47	705	594	111
(iii) From 1-4-47 to 15-8-47	410	348	62
(iv) From 16-8-47 to 29-2-48	976	797	179

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know what has been the increase in population since the influx of refugees in Delhi? Have Government collected any figures?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I am collecting the figures and will lay them on the table.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: Did the Honourable Minister notice what appeared in the paper a few days ago about the increase of cholera in Delhi? And may I know what action Government are taking to prevent the spread of cholera?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Government are doing all that they can in the matter of water supply. The fact that the population of Delhi has increased enormously because of refugees is a matter of concern; but we are going in for anti-cholera inoculation and trying to keep the sanitation of the city as good as we can in the present circumstances.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In view of the appalling deterioration of health conditions in the city have the Honourable Minister and the Central Government contemplated any measures for improving health administration so that they may be adequate to present needs?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Health Ministry is in constant contact with the municipal health administration and will give them all the help and advice that is necessary.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether any rough estimate of the increased population has been prepared and whether it is somewhere near five lakhs?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, I believe that the increase of population in Delhi is between five and six lakhs.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: In view of the very large population of Delhi and New Delhi has the Health Minister any schemes for starting emergency out-patients' wards in different parts of the city including New Delhi?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That matter is under consideration.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Is it a fact that the police authorities are not giving proper help to the public health authorities in enforcing public health laws?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have not received any report to that effect.

گیانی گور مکھ سنگھ مسافر: کیا آنریبل منسٹر صاحبہ کو اردن ہسپتال اور صفدر جنگل ہسپتال کے متعلق معلوم ہے کہ پہلے دنوں وہاں پر بیدسور کے بہت کیس ہوئے ہیں۔ جو کہ اچھے ہسپتالوں میں عموماً نہیں ہونے چاہیں۔

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that during the past few days many cases of bed-sores have occurred in the Irwin Hospital and Safdarjang Hospital, which should not ordinarily occur in the hospitals?

آنریبل راجکماری امرت کور: میرے پاس اس بات کی اطلاع نہیں ہے۔

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have no any information about this.

گیانی گور مکھ سنگھ مسافر: میں ایک خاص مثال دیتا ہوں۔ سردار شمشیر سنگھ سب انسپکٹر پولیس پشاور سے گولی سے زخمی ہو کر یہاں آئے اور اردن ہسپتال میں داخل کئے گئے۔ گولی کا زخم تو ٹھیک ہو گیا لیکن ہسپتال میں انچارج ڈاکٹروں کی لاپرواہی سے ان کو بیدسور ہوا اور اسی وجہ سے ان کی موت ہوئی۔ کیا آنریبل منسٹر اس بارے میں انکوائری کریں گی۔

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: I quote a particular instance. Sardar Shamsheer Singh Sub-Inspector, who was wounded by a gun-shot came over here from Peshawar and was admitted into the Irwin Hospital. The gun-shot wound was healed, but owing to the carelessness of the doctor in the hospital he got bed-sores and ultimately died to it. Will the Honourable Minister institute an enquiry?

آنریبل راجکماری امرت کور: میں اس کیس کے بارے میں دریافت کرونگی۔ لیکن میں یہ کہنا چاہتی ہوں کہ بیدسور ہمیشہ الغرضی کی وجہ سے نہیں ہوتا۔ بلکہ وہ خاص بیماری کا Symptom بھی ہو سکتا ہے۔

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I will make enquiries into this case, but I would like to say that bed-sores are not always due to carelessness, but may be symptoms of some particular disease.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: May I know what the position is as between the Health administration of Delhi and the Health Ministry, and whether the Health Ministry contemplate taking over the health administration in view of present

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I have said that we are in perpetual contact with the health authorities of Delhi.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is there any ground for the fear that owing to the large influx of refugees into our capital city we might be faced with water scarcity during the ensuing summer season?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, there is very grave danger.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What steps are Government contemplating to meet this threat of water scarcity?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Certain schemes are under consideration and we are appealing to the public to cooperate with us. But the main thing is to lessen the population in Delhi by making arrangements for refugees to go elsewhere.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS.

NON-ISSUE OF LICENCE TO A WOMAN FOR PLYING HACKNEY CARRIAGE.

1340. ***Shrimati G. Durgabai:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether a woman is debarred from obtaining a licence for plying a hackney carriage;

(b) if so, for what reasons; and

(c) if not, whether any woman has applied for such a licence and has it been granted?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) and (b). Under the Municipal Bye-laws women are not debarred from obtaining licences for plying hackney carriages.

(c) It is understood that no woman has applied for a driving licence.

SURVEY TO STOP WASTAGE OF M. SC. DEGREES AND DOCTORATES IN SCIENCE ON UNSCIENTIFIC OCCUPATIONS

1341. ***Shri P. Kunhiraman:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to his answer given to starred question No. 613 on 4th March 1948 and state whether, in view of the said answer do Government propose to cause a survey of Scientific talent in the country to be made so that Indian Graduates with M.Sc. degrees and Doctorates in Science are not wasted on unscientific occupations?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given by my colleague the Honourable Minister of Education to starred question No. 1327 asked a few minutes ago. The point raised by the Honourable Member in this question in so far as it affects the military sphere will be one of the problems which will be examined by the scientific organisation which it is proposed to set up in the Defence Ministry shortly.

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE ON HOMOEOPATHIC SYSTEM OF TREATMENT.

1342. ***Shri Upendranath Barman:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state whether a committee has been set up to give effect to the resolution on Homoeopathic System of Treatment as promised on the floor of the House on the 17th February, 1948?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the names of the members of the committee and how many of them are from medical professions, stating separately whether they are homoeopaths, allopaths, Kabirajes etc?

(c) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, do Government propose to state:

(i) the date by which the committee will be formed;

(ii) the number of members of the committee;

(iii) how many of them will be homoeopaths;

(iv) whether the mover of the resolution and the mover of the amendment will be members of the committee; and

(v) the probable date by which the committee will be asked to submit their report?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a), (b) and (c). No committee has yet been set up. Questions regarding the composition of the committee are under consideration.

HOSPITAL AIDED OR MANAGED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

1343. ***Shri Satis Chandra Samanta:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the names and numbers of hospitals (i) aided; and (ii) directly managed by the Central Government;

(b) how many of them are in rural areas; and

(c) the total amount expended for hospitals in rural areas during the years 1946 and 1947 (year by year)?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) A statement is placed on the table of the House.

(b) and (c). The Hospitals in the Centrally Administered Areas are all situated in towns. There are dispensaries in the rural areas. Particulars regarding these and the amount spent on them are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible. Government realise that medical facilities so far provided in rural areas are very inadequate and provision has, therefore, been made in this year's budget for the construction of four rural health centres in Delhi and five in Ajmer-Merwara and also for two travelling dispensaries in Ajmer-Merwara.

Statement

showing the names of Hospitals in the Centrally Administered Areas

Serial No.	Name and Location
DELHI.	
Government	
1	Irwin Hospital, New Delhi and its safdarjang Annexe.
2	Hindu Rao Hospital, Delhi.
3	Balak Ram Hospital, Delhi.
4	Police Hospital, Delhi.
5	Silver Jubilee T. B. Hospital, Delhi.
6	Infection Diseases Hospital, Delhi.

Serial No. Name and Location

Others

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 7 | Willingdon Hospital, New Delhi. | (Municipal) |
| 8 | Willingdon Nursing Home, New Delhi. | (Municipal) |
| 9 | Mrs. G. L. Maternity Hospital, Delhi | (Municipal) |
| 10 | Lady Hardinge Hospital, New Delhi. | (Government aided) |
| 11 | Dr. Shroff's Eye Hospital, Delhi. | (Private) |
| 12 | Victoria Znanana Hospital, Delhi | (Private) |
| 13 | St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi | (Private) |

AJMER-MERWARA*Government.*

- 1 Victoria Hospital, Ajmer.
- 2 Police Hospital, Ajmer.

Others

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 3 | Beawar Charitable Hospital, Beawar. | (Government aided) |
| 4 | Cantonment Hospital, Nasirabad. | (Government aided) |
| 5 | Women's Mission Hospital, Ajmer. | (Private) |
| 6 | Women's Mission Hospital, Nasirabad. | (Private) |
| 7 | St. Francis Nursing Home, Ajmer. | (Private) |

Coorg.

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Civil Hospital, Mercara. | (Government) |
| 2 | Civil Hospital, Virajpet. | (Government) |

INDIAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE BANK BRANCHES IN WORLD'S PRINCIPAL TRADING CENTRES

1344. *Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any of the Indian Banking Companies have foreign exchange banking branches in the principal trading centres of the world?

(b) If so, how many and in what places?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to meet the needs of Indian foreign trade?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) Yes.

(b) There are in all 30 branches of Indian banks abroad. I place on the table of the House a statement giving their exact location.

(c) Government have already taken steps to help Indian banks to play their legitimate part in the exchange field by providing full facilities to all deserving banks actively to participate in the foreign trade of the country. Whilst Government would naturally welcome any move by authorised Indian banks to increase their share in this business, they feel that the facilities at present available, through the operation of foreign banks, are adequate to meet the needs of India's foreign trade. The establishment of branches, I might note, has no direct bearing on the finance of foreign trade, which, in certain circumstances, may be more economically handled by Indian banks through foreign correspondents.

Statement of Foreign Branches of Indian Banking companies

Name of Indian Bank	Branch offices
1 Bank of India	London (1)
2 Imperial Bank of India	London (1) Rangoon (1) Colombo (1)
3 Exchange Bank of India & Africa.	London (1) Colombo (2) Jaffna (1) Darrus-Salam (1) Mombasa (1) Jinja (1) Kampala (1) Moshi (1) Nairobi (1) Aden (1)
4 Indian Bank	Colombo (1) Singapore (1) Kulalampur (1) Penang (1)
5 Indian Overseas Bank	Rangoon (1) Colombo (1) Singapore (1) Bangkok (1) Kulalampur (1) Malacca (1) Ipoh (1) Penang (1) Rangoon (1)
6 Punjab National Bank	Rangoon (1)
7 United Commercial Bank	Rangoon (1)
8 Central Bank	Rangoon (1)

NOTE.—Figures in brackets indicate the number of branches.

REPAIR OF RAWSIAB AERODROME AND IMPROVEMENT OF MILITARY TRAINING CENTRE AT JORHAT, ASSAM

1345. *Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the aerodrome at Rawsiab (Jorhat, Assam) is going to be repaired and put to use for civil and military purposes?

(b) Are Government aware that the aerodrome served as a base airport during the last war to check the enemy advance from Imphal to other places?

(c) Do Government propose to have an aviation Engineering School at Jorhat and improve the present military training centre (Jorhat), in view of the conditions prevailing at present and also to train ground engineers?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) It is intended to develop the aerodrome at Jorhat for the purpose of civil air transport.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government have no such proposal under consideration.

COMMISSION FOR AGENTS SELLING NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

1346. *Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of commission allowed by Government to agents for the sale of National Savings Certificates;

(b) whether Government are aware that many such agents are given credit for even direct sales of the certificates at the Post Offices which means loss to the Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to prohibit the appointment of any near relatives of Postal employees as agents for the sale of these certificates?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) 2½ per cent.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) The suggestion will be borne in mind in the forthcoming reorganisation of the Small Savings Movement.

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN DELHI

1347. *Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Research Institutions in Delhi;

(b) the names and the number of new Institutions like the Central College of Agriculture that are proposed to be started within the next three years; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of starting these Institutions in the rest of India?

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) The names of Research Institutions apart from teaching Institutions like the Delhi University are: (1) Laboratories of the Director Scientific and Industrial Research temporarily located in Delhi University, (2) Malaria Institute of India, (3) Indian Agricultural Research Institute, and (4) Institute of fruit technology.

(b) (i) The names and number of Research Institutions proposed to be started: (1) The National Physical Laboratory (C.S.I.R.), (2) Road Research Station (C.S.I.R.), and (3) Sir Shri Ram Industrial Research Institute.

(ii) The following Institutions have been established: (1) Central College of Agriculture, and (2) Central Training Institute for men and women.

(c) The Government have already considered and in fact have decided to locate elsewhere many of the important Central Government Institutions such as: (1) National Chemical Laboratory (Poona), (2) Fuel Research Institution (Dhanbad), (3) Glass and Ceramics Research Institution (Calcutta), (4) National Metallurgical Laboratory (Jamshedpur), (5) Building Research Unit (Roorkee), (6) Leather Technology Research Institution (Madras), (7) Electro Chemical Laboratory (Madras), (8) Eastern Higher Technical Institution (Hijli), and (9) Western Higher Technical Institution (Bombay).

SCHEDULED CASTE STIPENDS FOR TECHNICAL AND SCIENCE COLLEGE STUDENTS

1347-A. *Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state on what date the Scheduled Caste stipends for technical and science college students were distributed for the year 1947-48?

(b) How many of these stipendiaries were last year scholarship holders and how many of them got it this year for the first time?

(c) Were they not distributed this year much later than last year and if so, by how many months? What was the last date for receiving the application?

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) The actual distribution of stipends started from the 13th of January, 1948, and 229, 203 and 137 stipends were paid in the months of January, February and March respectively.

(b) Out of the total number of 569: 214 are last year's scholarship-holders and 355 students have received scholarships for the first time this year.

(c) It is true that the scholarships were sanctioned three months later this year than last year, but the actual distribution of the scholarship amount did not take place much later this year than last year, because payments are now made through Bank drafts directly instead of through the Accountant General Central Revenues to the Provincial Accountants General and local treasuries, a procedure which was followed till last year and involved considerable delay. The delay in sanctioning the scholarships this year was due to the fact that the financial provision for this scheme which was meant for the whole of India had to be reviewed after the partition of the country and the refixing of the necessary grant for the scheme necessarily involved some delay.

The last date for receiving applications was 15th July, 1947.

LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION re FORWARD TRADING BANK TRANSFERS ETC. WITH PRESIDENT, BOMBAY STOCK EXCHANGE

1347-B. *Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some officers of the Government of India discussed proposals relating to the prohibition of forward trading, carry forward facilities and blank transfers with the President of the Bombay Stock Exchange on the 1st January, 1948?

(b) Are Government aware that it was alleged in the "Free Press Journal" dated the 3rd January 1948 that this information was disclosed to certain stock-brokers by an officer of the Government of India who is in constant touch with them?

(c) Are Government aware that the President of the Bombay Stock Exchange is reported to have said at a meeting of brokers that Government should make an enquiry as to how the information referred to above leaked out?

(d) Have Government held an enquiry into the matter?

(e) If so, what was its result?

(f) If no enquiry has been held, do Government propose to take steps to enquire into the matter and inform the public of its result?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) Yes with the President and some prominent brokers.

(b) The information was not given out to a stock-broker but to a correspondent of a newspaper by one of the officers who attended the discussion with the President of the Bombay Stock Exchange.

(c) Government have seen reports to that effect.

(d), (e) and (f). On making an enquiry Government found that the officer who gave information to the press correspondent did so in the belief that unless information was available to the public at large a few people who had information of the discussion might use it to their own advantage. Government consider that the proper course would have been to issue an official statement about these discussions. It was an error of judgment to have given information informally to a press correspondent, but Government have no reason to believe that he had any ulterior motive in giving out the information which was also made available to the public.

UNSTARRED QUESTION AND ANSWER

OBJECT OF SCIENTIFIC MAN-POWER COMMITTEE

8. **Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state what is the object of the Scientific Man-power Committee?

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Asad: The objects of the Scientific Man-Power Committee are:

(1) To assess the requirements for different grades of scientific and technical manpower, taking a comprehensive view over a period of the next ten years, of the needs of Government (Civil and Defence), of teaching and research and of industry, agriculture, transport, medicine and other fields dependent on the use of scientific and technical manpower;

(2) To make recommendations regarding action to be taken during the next five years to meet these requirements, in particular with reference to:

- (i) the immediate improvement and expansion of facilities for scientific and technical training in Indian Universities and special Institutions,
- (ii) training overseas in scientific and technical subjects,
- (iii) the promotion and development of scientific and technical research,
- (iv) the utilisation of scientific and technical manpower, and
- (v) the maintenance of a register of scientific and technical personnel to facilitate their utilisation to the best advantage.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

PUNISHMENT TO PERSONNEL OF INDIAN SIGNAL CORPS, JUBBULPORE

Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some personnel of Indian Signal Corps, Battalion No. 2, stationed at Jubbulpore, took part in the protest meeting held on the 27th February, 1946 against the rule of Britain in Jubbulpore City?

(b) Is it also a fact that several of these men were discharged from the military service and were deprived of war gratuity, deferred pay and Provident Fund etc.?

(c) Is it also a fact that an entry was made in their discharge certificates declaring them unfit for future Government service?

(d) If so, do Government propose to remove the restriction on their entry in Government service and order the payment to them of the arrears of pay and gratuities etc.?

(3464)

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) There was no organized protest meeting against British rule on 27th February 1946 in Jubbulpore. There was, however, an organized mutiny by certain Indian Signal Corps personnel on the grounds of their domestic military grievances. These were Insufficient food, Bad rations e.g., atta and gur, Badly cooked food, ever-crowding, Lack of amenities and welfare arrangements, and Slow demobilisation.

(b) Of the mutineers:—17 men were court-martialled and dismissed, 27 dismissed administratively, and 62 discharged. Those dismissed forfeited gratuity, deferred pay etc. as is the case with all dismissals.

(c) Those dismissed are ineligible for Government service. Those discharged had their characters rated as "indifferent".

(d) No, Sir.

GOVERNMENT AID FOR HARIJAN WELFARE.

Seth Govinddas: Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to make a statement regarding the steps which the Government of India and Provincial Government are taking with respect to Harijan Welfare, consequent upon the Resolution moved by Shri V. I. Muniswami Pillai on the 27th November, 1947, regarding earmarking funds for Harijan Welfare and adopted by the House on the 2nd December, 1947 with the amendment moved by me?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: A statement showing the details is laid down on the table of the House.

Statement

Summary of the various Measures taken by the Central and Provincial Government in connection with the amelioration of the conditions of the Scheduled Castes.

Name of Province	Measures taken or proposed to be taken.	Budget Provision, if any made for the purpose.
(1) Assam	Untouchability does not exist in Assam in the form in which it does in some other Provinces. In all places Harijans are admitted into the temples and places of worship. There are of course Harijans who are employed in connection with the sanitation of the towns. They are drawn from Bihar. The Provincial Government have asked local bodies to prepare housing schemes for them and have assured them of financial assistance.	No budget provision for 1948-49 has been made.
(2) East Punjab	The East Punjab Government have set up a Harijan welfare Board. A meeting of the Board was held on the 29th December, 1947 and a scheme prepared by the Hon'ble Minister for Labour and Excise for the uplift of Harijans was considered and its broad outlines adopted. The salient features of the scheme are (i) Educational uplift of Harijans, (ii) Economic betterment of certain Sections of the Harijans especially shoemakers and weavers, (iii) Improvement in the living conditions of sweepers living in towns and (iv) General welfare work amongst the Harijans. It has been proposed	A budget provision of Rs. 8 lakhs has been made for 1948-49. This is to be supplemented year by year to bring the total up to Rs. 10 lakhs.

Name of Province	Measures taken or propose to be taken	Budget Provision if any made for the purpose.
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that full fee concession to the Harijans in all stages of educations should be given. The scheme is to be continued for a period of 10 years. The scheme envisages the grant of scholarships and provision of hostel accommodations to Harijans students. For the welfare of the artisan class the formation of Co-operative Societies is proposed. Model house building societies on hire purchase system is also a part of the scheme. All public wells are to be thrown open to Harijans. New wells are propose to be sunk for them where there are no public wells. Formation of Panchayats for Harijan uplift work is also proposed. The Harijan Welfare Board have decided to approach the Government of India for binancial help upto the extent of Rs. 1 crore, either in lump sum or Rs. 10 lakhs per annum for 10 years. Bills for the removal of social and economic disabilities of the Harijans are also under the consideration of the Provincial Government.

3 Bombay

The Bombay Harijans (Removal of social Disabilities) Act, 1946 and the Bombay Harijan Temple Entry Act, 1947, applicable in the Province of Bombay are designed to remove the Social disabilities of Harijans including entry into places of worship. The entire Government machinery is employed in the administration of these measures and special instructions have been issued to officers. There are a number of private organisations in the Province which are doing work for the amelioration of the conditions of Scheduled Castes and other backward classes. The Provincial Government give substantial grants to such bodies and the amounts are being increased. They have now framed schemes for the amelioration of the conditions of backward classes as a whole rather than of Harijans in particular. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been earmarked for these schemes during the first five years periods of Post War Reconstruction. It is proposed to spend the amount as follows :

1. Education and Social — . 40 lakhs
2. Medical 10 lakhs.
3. Public Health 15 laks.
4. Agriculture and Rural Development and Cooperation of Cottage Industries 35 lakhs.

Education at all stages, primary secondary and college has been made free for all backward class students for a period of 5 years. The number of scholarships for these students have been increased. Slum clearance and Housing schemes both Co-operative and Individual are part of the ameliorative measures. No separate provision for water supply to Harijans has been made as the provincial water Supply Scheme is fairly universal and Harijans are treated in the same way as others.

4. Bihar.

The Government of Bihar have started Co-Operative Societies for Harijan welfare and individual loans are also sanctioned. A welfare

Rs. 1 corer earmarked for the first five year period of post War Reconstruction. Rs. 300, provided for slum clearance and housing. A sum of Rs. 23,53,000 sanctioned for educational facilities during 1947-48.

Name of Province	Measures taken or proposed to be taken	Budget Provision, if any, made for the purpose
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Bihar (Contd).

Department to deal with welfare measures has been constituted Divisional welfare Officers and Distt. Welfare Officers are appointed to co-ordinate work and to executes the welfare schemes. No law for the removal of untouchability is in force but the Provincial Govt. are collecting information from other Provincial Govts. The Harijan Sevak Sangh is given grants by the Government to educate Harijans in hygienic living. Harijans students are encouraged by scholarships, provision of hostel accommodation and other facilities. Primary education is free. Reduced fees are charged in Middle and High Schools. Almost every college student is expeted to get a scholarship. About 100 post-graduate and college scholarships of the value of Rs. 30 each have been sanctioned.

Rs. 3.18,000 and odd provided in the budget for 1948-49. A provision of Rs. 4½ lakhs was made during 1947-48.

5. West Bengal

A bill for the removal of untouchability is under the consideration of the Provincial Legislature. The Provincial Government's uplift schemes will include all the backward classes and not Harijans only.

Information not available at present.

6. Orissa.

The Jagannath Temple has been opened to Harijans and this virtually means a death blow to untouchability. Scheduled Caste and hill tribe students are being given scholarships. It is also proposed that those of them who are sent up for the various University Examinations should be helped to pay their examination fees. Funds for this purpose have been provided in the budget. The Backward Classes Advisory Board has approved a comprehensive scheme for the education and uplift of backward classes and accordingly two residential schools of "Ashram" type have been opened. During the current year it is proposed to open six more schools at a cost of Rs. 1,27,000. In order to remove illiteracy 40 Sevashrams have been opened at a cost of Rs. 22,600 and there is a proposal to start 100 more during the current year at a cost of Rs. 1,12,000. A hostel for tribal girls has been opened at a cost of Rs. 22,000.

7. United Provinces.

The Government of the United Provinces issued in 1937 some orders regarding removal of disabilities of Harijans, but the orders were not strictly enforced during the Advisers regime. In 1947 the Provincial Government issued fresh orders regarding "begar" emphasising the need for launching prosecutions against those exacting "begar". The Provincial Government also enacted in the same year the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act, which entitles the Scheduled Castes to the unrestricted enjoyment of civil rights. The Provincial Government have set up a Provincial Board which will advise them on all matters affecting the interests of Harijans and will also co-ordinate all schemes and activities directed toward their uplift. The Premier is the

The total provision for uplift of Harijans amounts to Rs. 18.87 lakhs (Rs. 6 lakhs for the Harijans Sahayak Deptt., about Rs. 10,72,000 for education and Rs. 1 lakh for the improvement of houses etc.). A sum of Rs. 3,44,000 has been budgetted for the Reclamation Deptt.

Name of Province	Measures taken or proposed to be taken	Budget Provision, if any, made for the purpose.
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Chairman of the Board. A Harijans Sahayak Deptt. has also been set up in the Province, the aim of which will be the uplift of the Harijans through education, development, better sense of living, co-operation and technical training. District organisations have also been set up to see that the provisions of the Removal of Social Disabilities Act, are implemented. Conferences are arranged by the District organisations to popularise Government's development schemes. Publicity and propaganda directed towards the removal of prevailing social evils are done through posters and pamphlets etc. Harijan youth are given technical training in various subjects such as tanning, masonry, pottery etc. Govt., propose specifically to take up the work of training them as masons for building model *Kachcha* houses. Financial help is provided to social institutions interested in Harijan development work. Liberal educational facilities are provided to the Harijans. Aid is given to Scheduled Caste institutions. Vocational training has been encouraged. Stipends and scholarships are granted. Harijans are able to get education free all through from the primary to the university stage. Hostel facilities are provided. A scheme for the education of aboriginal tribes has also been launched in some parts of the Province. Provision is also made for co-operative work among the Harijans. Grants are made for the improvement of the housing conditions of 'depressed' classes.

A good deal of reclamation work is also done in the province. There are at present 6 settlements in the Province run by Govt. and private bodies. Tailoring, weaving and shoemaking is done in some of the settlements. The work of the reformation of criminal tribes is carried on through panchayats and establishment of colonies.

Madras.

The Provincial Govt. have put on the Statute Book the Madras Removal of Civil disabilities Act and the Madras Temple Entry Authorisation Act of 1947, which have gone a long way in removing the social disabilities of the Harijans. Harijans have now equal rights of access with members of other castes and communities among Hindus to all Hindu temples and places of public resort such as educational institutions, streams, rivers, public wells, tanks, pathways and hotels etc. Offences against the Acts referred to are cognizable and punishable with imprisonment.

A sum of Rs. one crore has been set apart by the Provincial Government for expenditure on the uplift of Harijans and for the removal of their general disabilities. The details of the scheme on which this sum of Rs. one crore will be spent are being worked out by the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee. The Committee will also frame a five year plan for Harijan development in all directions such as providing free house sites, wells, sanitation and education etc.

A total sum of Rs. 44,41,500 has been provided in budget for 1948-49 for ameliorative measures in respect of all communities eligible for help by the Labour Deptt. of whom Harijans form the bulk.

A sum of Rs. one crore has been set apart for Harijan uplift work.

Name of province	Measures taken or proposed to be taken	Budget Provision if any made for the purpose.
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Special schools have been opened to meet the needs of the Harijans in certain localities. Scholarships are granted to students from Primary to university classes. Industrial scholarships are also awarded by the Commissioner of Labour. Fee concessions in full and half are granted to the boys and girls in primary and secondary school courses. Hostels for Harijan students are maintained and subsidized by the Labour Department. Boarding grants are sanctioned to pupils of the eligible communities. Recurring grants are given to private institutions engaged in social and economic advancement of the Harijans. Private lands are acquired for the purpose of providing house sites for the eligible communities, wherever necessary, for the purpose of relieving congestion. Government bear half the cost of acquisition subject to certain conditions. Collectors of Districts are empowered to sanction expenditure upto a certain limit or measures connected with the welfare of Harijans such as construction of wells, pathways, latrines etc. As an experimental measure Harijan colonies at some places have been set up. Co-operative Societies have been organised which have worked for the benefit of Harijans for purposes of obtaining loans etc. and also for settling them in colonies by grants of suitable lands. To associate non-officials with Government a Provincial Advisory Board and District Committees have been constituted.

The Provincial Government have taken certain special steps to improve the economic conditions of the Harijans by a system of granting licences to suitable Harijans to deal in iron and steel, paper yarns, foodstuffs, firewood and other controlled articles after relaxing some of the rules relating to the grant of such licences.

In the matter of recruitment to public Services under the Provincial Government 2 out of every 14 appointments are allocated to Harijans in the Provincial and Subordinate services to which recruitment is made on communal basis.

Centrally administered areas Government is pledged to the adoption of all necessary measures so that the curse of untouchability shall be eliminated from this land. The Provisions of the Bombay Harijans (Removal of Social Disabilities) Act, 1946 and the Madras Temple Entry authorisation Act, 1947 have been extended to Delhi the provisions of the United Provinces Removal of Social Disabilities Act 1947 to Ajmer-Merwara. In the Centrally administered areas the Harijans do not suffer so much from social disabilities. They are eligible for houses for living wherever they want, for drinking water from wherever they like and could get admittance to any educational institution.

Name of province	Measures taken or propose to be taken	Budget provision if any made for the purpose.
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Government are aware of the housing needs of the poor sections of the community and of the necessity to provide wells where there is no purewater available and will do everything in their power to supply these needs.

With regard to educational facilities, the Government of India have been spending Rs. 3 lakhs yearly from 1944-45 under the Scheduled Castes Scholarships Scheme (administered by the Ministry of Education). 888 scholarships were awarded during the first three years of the scheme. During 1947-48 scholarships to 590 scholars have been awarded and a total sum of Rs. 11,58,000 has been spent so far. In addition, 22 overseas scholarships were sanctioned in the year 1945-46 for Harijan students.

The Government of India have recently sanctioned the payment to the Ajmer Municipality of a total sum of Rs. 3,05,000 (in the form of grant-in-aid and loan) for the execution of a Sewage Disposal Scheme which will work till the main water supply and sewage scheme for Ajmer is executed. The Scheme while it will improve the sanitary condition of the town generally will be of social benefit to the Sweepers employed by the Municipality as it will do away with the present extremely unsatisfactory method of sewage disposal which involves physical handling of sewage by the sweepers.

Many sweepers employed in Government Offices are at present paid from "Contingencies" and are not eligible for certain concessions regarding leave and pension to which regular Government employees are eligible. The question making such workers part of the regular establishment is under consideration.

STATEMENT RE FORMATION OF TERRITORIAL ARMY, RESTORATION OF FORFEITED PENSIONS, AND APPOINTMENT OF AN INDIAN AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable the Defence Minister will make his statement.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh (Minister for Defence):

The formation of the Territorial Army.

There has been a persistent demand in this House and outside in the country for imparting military training to young men. In a free country this demand is natural and our people are justified in their concern for securing and preserving our hard-earned freedom. This explains the popular demand for military training and as I indicated in an earlier speech, the Government realise the force of this demand and have given this matter careful attention for the last few months.

There were two main reasons why we could not proceed with the scheme of this Force sooner than now. First, we needed well-trained and first class Officers for training purposes—for, obviously, if we employed inferior or incompetent men, the Force would be of little use. Secondly, we did not wish to throw additional burden on the tax-payer and wanted to start the scheme simultaneously with the demobilisation of the present Army. Although the difficulty of getting trained officers is more acute today than before, on weighing the problems afresh and in view of the wider issues involved, the Government have come to the conclusion that the scheme of the Territorial Force should be implemented without delay. They hope that the proposed Territorial Force along with the scheme of the National Cadet Corps will go a long way to meet the public demand.

I should like to indicate the broad features of the scheme for the information of the House:

The role of this force would be (1) primarily to form a second-line to the regular army in the event of a national emergency, in other words, to provide additional units and formations to reinforce the regular army immediately an emergency arises, (2) in a national emergency to take on internal defence duties and relieve thereby the regular army of this responsibility, (3) to be responsible for anti-aircraft and coast defence and above all (4) to give the youth of India an opportunity of receiving part time military training so that, in an emergency, they would be capable of bearing arms for the country.

The Territorial Force will be composed of combatant technical and administrative units to form a balanced force. It is always difficult to raise technical units quickly and therefore emphasis is being laid on the raising of such units. For example, it has been decided that volunteers from the staff of the Railways, Posts and Telegraphs and Port Trusts should be formed into units for the operation of such services in the event of an emergency. The responsibility for anti-aircraft and coastal defence is generally undertaken in other countries by the non-regular army and on that analogy it has been decided that in India the Territorial Army should take on this responsibility.

In its final picture, the Territorial Army would be officered mostly by Officers with Territorial Army commission, but at this stage at the start, it will be necessary to post officers of the regular army for the raising and the training of the units of the Territorial Army. The period of training and the terms of service are being worked out in detail. The broad idea is that every individual joining the Territorial Army should be required to undergo a period of intensive continuous training for a month or two every year and a certain number of drills each month. The age of entry would be so determined as to enable any able-bodied person who so wishes to join the Force.

The total strength of the Territorial Force for the present is envisaged at approximately 1,30,000 and it will be raised and maintained on a zonal basis. The tentative plan is to divide the country into 8 zones, zone 1 comprising Eastern Punjab, East Punjab States, Rajputana including Delhi Province; Zone 2 United Provinces; Zone 3 Central Provinces and Eastern States; Zone 4 Bombay and Kathiawar; Zone 5 Madras including Mysore and Travancore; Zone 6 Bihar and Orissa; Zone 7 West Bengal including Cooch Bihar; Zone 8 Assam including Tripura and Manipur. These zones correspond more or less to our present Area Commands.

It is hoped that it will be possible to raise all the non-Technical units including the infantry battalions, the Railway and Port Units and a number of other technical units, included in the plan, within one year. As the House will appreciate, the progress of this scheme will depend on the availability of instructors and equipment. The Honourable Members can rest assured that every effort will be made to implement the scheme with utmost

[Sardar Baldev Singh]

expedition. I am glad to say that we have already got started and an Officer of Brigadier's Rank has been appointed the Director, Territorial Forces in the Defence Ministry. He will go ahead immediately in laying the foundations of the Force and begin building it up as fast as circumstances permit.

Restoration of Pensions of ex-military pensioners forfeited on political grounds.

The Ministry of Defence have had under consideration the question of restoration of the pensions of ex-Military Pensioners forfeited on political grounds. I promised to inform the House of Government's decision during this Session. The position is as follows:

The rules regulating grant of military pensions provide that an Indian Military Pensioner convicted of a serious crime or who is guilty of grave misconduct of a political nature shall be liable to have his pension withheld or suspended in full or in part. In November 1924, for the first time, instructions were issued to District (now Area) Commanders to enforce these orders and the power to withhold or forfeit pensions was delegated to them. A number of pensions payable to persons who participated in such movements since 1919 were forfeited under these instructions.

The instructions in force provide for the restoration of these pensions "In consultation with the local Government or Administration concerned" on application by the pensioner and on his giving an undertaking of future good conduct. In case of pensioners sentenced to imprisonment, action could only be taken on the pensioner's application after release and the pension is not payable for the period of imprisonment.

The Government have now decided that all these pensions should be restored with retrospective effect from the date they were forfeited and that there should not be any necessity to consult the local authorities before restoration is ordered.

These orders will quite naturally apply only to those who are domiciled in India and those who have migrated from Pakistan to India as a result of the Division.

Progress of Nationalisation

At a Press Conference in December 1947 I gave an outline of the programme and pace of nationalisation as planned at the time. I am glad to inform the House that except for a small variation in regard to few individual appointments, we have been able to keep to the programme. We will need for some time the services of some British Officers and their number will be about 300. All these Officers will be employed mostly in instructional establishments, technical arms and a few on the staff and as advisers. Their number will be reduced as and when Indian Officers become available.

On the 15th August 1947 only half a dozen of the Brigade and Sub-Area Commands were held by Indians and there was no Indian Officer Commanding a Division, an Area or any of the Army Commands. The position today is that all the Battalion and Regimental Commands are held by Indians except the Command of three Regimental Training Centres which is held by British Officers. The three Army Commands, all Divisional Commands, Area Commands, Sub-Area Commands and Brigade Commands are or will before the end of this month be held by Indian Officers.

In the Navy and in the Air Force also it has been possible for us to keep the programme of nationalisation. For example the plan was that out of a total cadre of 620 commissioned and 209 warrant officers, 60 commissioned and 70 warrant officers only would be British. This programme has been adhered to.

In one important respect however, Government have found it necessary to depart from the programme. It was hoped that by the 1st April 1948 it would be possible to appoint an Indian Officer as the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army and that then, General Bucher, the present Commander-in-Chief would become the Senior Adviser.

Due to the rapid progress of nationalisation during the short period of few months, Indian Officers have been called upon to hold charge of important positions which many of them ordinarily could not have held. In these positions they have had to shoulder heavy responsibilities, in many instances without adequate experience. To their credit I must say that they have proved themselves remarkably able and competent. The enthusiasm with which they undertook new and big tasks was phenomenal. The House will, I am sure, be glad to know this. The changes have been so many—so rapid—and conditions in the country so abnormal—that the situation was not as it was expected to be. We have excellent stuff in our Indian Officers. Their zeal and capacity for work is unbounded. But they do need the opportunity of more experience and after very careful consideration of every aspect of the situation, the Government have decided that it would be in the best interests of the country generally and of the Army in particular, to retain for some time longer the services of General Bucher, as Commander-in-Chief.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF FOOD.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram (Minister for Food and Agriculture): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Food, until the end of the financial year 1948-49, vice Mr. M. R. Masani, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Food, until the end of the financial year 1948-49, vice Mr. M. R. Masani, resigned."

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): I am sorry that this Committee has not been able to meet during the session. Some of members of the Committee are as much to blame as the Minister or the Ministry concerned. Therefore I do not apportion the blame but I sincerely hope that at least.....

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The Committee has met. In fact I invited the Committee on Agriculture to meet at the same time.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I wish to congratulate the Honourable Minister upon the very reassuring statement which he made the other day about the food situation in the country and I hope the Food Committee will soon be convened again, if it is possible, before we disperse after the session.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva (C.P. and Berar: General): Sir, I am a member of the Food Committee. I might mention that the Committee met and there were 12 Noon only two persons present and the meeting was adjourned. There was no quorum necessary. Prof. Ranga was not there. At the second meeting only three persons were present and Prof. Ranga was not there. I do wish that members will take more interest.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I wish to apologise to the House.

Mr. Speaker: The number of members of committees does require serious consideration. That is all I can say.

The question is:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one member to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Food, until the end of the financial year 1948-49, vice Mr. M. R. Masani, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee (Minister for Industry and Supply): Sir, I move:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one non-official member to serve on the Standing Advisory Committee to advise on subjects with which the Ministry of Industry and Supplies is concerned, during the unexpired portion of the current financial year, vice Mr. M. R. Masani, resigned."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That this Assembly do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the Speaker may direct, one non-official member to serve on the Standing Advisory Committee to advise on subjects with which the Ministry of Industry and Supply is concerned, during the unexpired portion of the current financial year vice Mr. M. R. Masani, resigned."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the Honourable members that for the purpose of election of a member to each of the Standing Committees for the Ministries of Food and Industry and Supply, the Notice Office will remain open upto 3 P.M. today and that the election if necessary will be held on Friday, the 9th April, 1948. The elections by means of the single transferable vote will be held in the Assistant Secretary's room (No. 21) in the Council House, between the hours 10-30 A.M. and 1 P.M..

ESTATE DUTY BILL.

Shri Satyanarain Sinha (Bihar: General): Sir, I move:

"That the name of Shri Biswanath Das be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty in the provinces of India."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the name of Shri Biswanath Das be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty in the provinces of India."

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN LAC CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram (Minister for Food and Agriculture): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I do not propose to take much time of the House in explaining the single section Bill which is now before the House. The Bill is intended to amend one of the sections of the existing Indian Lac Cess Act. This Act was last amended in 1936. The particular section which is now under amendment enables the levying of an export duty of 7 annas per maund of lac and 5 annas per maund of refuse lac which is exported outside the country. The export duty is thus paid by the outside purchaser. The intention was to create a fund out of which to assist all measures for improving the cultivation of lac in this country and also improving methods of using that lac for various industries. The fund was usually about 4 lakhs a year. During the war on account of

various reasons the export of lac in that quantity was not possible and so the income from this export duty began to decline and for current expenses (which also were round about 4 lakhs) we had to draw upon the reserves which amounted only to 9 lakhs. In the course of time the reserves fell to about 2 lakhs. On the other hand, when the duty was imposed 7 annas per maund worked out to about 2 per cent. of the value of the lac exported. In the interval the value of lac has risen and the duty of 7 annas per maund now works out to a little more than half a per cent. of the value. It has therefore been desired that with a view to make up the loss of our reserves, to aid measures for increasing the cultivation of lac, to assist the use of lac for further industrial purposes, to carry on more intensive research, and to do more propaganda of the results of such research, we should have more funds. It has hence been proposed to increase the duty from seven annas to fourteen annas on lac and five annas to ten annas on refuse lac. Even at this rate it works out to 1.2 per cent. of the value of lac whereas when originally we had seven annas it came to 2 per cent. of the value of lac. The main purpose of the Bill is to enable us to have more funds for carrying on better a programme for the improvement of cultivation and development of the industrial uses of lac.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): There are one or two points on which I would like to have clarification from the Honourable Minister. In the first place will he tell us what the work of the Committee is, and secondly how we are placed in regard to the world market so far as the supply of lac is concerned—whether we have a monopoly, whether any increase in price will affect our export.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We have complete control with regard to marketing and there is nothing to prevent us from deciding where we market and how we market it.

On the point of monopoly, we have more or less a monopoly because India is the main producer of lac.

As regards the work of the Committee, the Committee has been carrying on research at the Research Institute in Bihar and the purpose of the research is to utilise lac for various industries—paints, varnishes, sealing wax—and certain other industrial uses which may be of value from the point of Defence also. We propose to go now deeper in the research, work.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra (West Bengal: General): What is the production of lac?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is round about 10 to 12 lakh maunds. It varies from year to year. Sometimes it is 16 lakh maunds.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: And how much is exported?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That depends on the demand.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras: General): What is the local demand?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The exports used to be 8 to 12 lakh maunds before the war. During the war it fell to 2 to 7 lakh maunds.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva (C. P. and Berar: General): I want to know two things, firstly whether the increase in the export duty will affect our export, and secondly I want to know what the Reserve Fund at present is.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The Reserve Fund is about Rs. 5 lakhs. It is not expected that the rise in export duty will affect exports because we practically hold the monopoly so far as lac is concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

Shri Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General): Sir, I come from an area where lac is largely produced and manufactured. I am also a small lac producer. I have been in the Assembly for a very long time and have heard of this Lac Research Institute also for very long. But my experience is that in the British days sometimes Departments were created and maintained for necessity, and in some cases some Departments were created and treated something like a pinjarapole where people are being maintained out of generosity of the Government. Sir, the Honourable Minister will say, and I request him to say, what the achievement of this Lac Research Institute for the last 25 years is. I have seen sometimes the lac price has gone very very high, and sometimes it is very very low. I cannot say the Institute controls the price, although we have a monopoly in this trade.

As regards lac cultivation also, sometimes it is a total failure and sometimes there is ample production. I have not seen what the use of this Lac Research Institute is. I have never seen any propaganda on behalf of the Lac Research Institute, nor have I seen any propaganda which has been of any use either to the lac producer or to the lac manufacturer. I think these things ought to be clarified and the necessity of this Lac Research Institute fully established.

I am not going to oppose the Bill because it has to be passed and it will be passed. I do not consider it necessary that I should oppose it. But I want to know—and I think the House also, as it appears, is anxious to know—anything and everything as regards the necessity of this Lac Research Institute.

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha (Assam: General): Sir, I shall try to be short and if possible sweet though it is not possible on account of the various objections raised by my honourable friend Mr. Ramnarayan Singh. Indeed I come from a place where lac is produced, in the hills generally, but I have never heard of any activity of the Lac Research Institute for which money is being asked. We oppose really and oppose strongly the Bill which seeks to raise the duty from 7 annas to 14 annas because the Honourable Minister has not even given any justification for the proposed enhancement. What is the benefit that we have derived in Assam from the Lac Cess Committee? Lac is produced generally by our hill tribes and they suffer from the great fluctuation of prices from Rs. 8 to Rs. 28 per maund or more and next year we do not know what the prices will be. What is the reason that we have not been able to stabilize the price when we have the monopoly in our hands, and it is said that we are the only country producing the article. I oppose the Bill strongly and I think the House should oppose the enhancement of this cess.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am surprised that the reasons assigned for the opposition really support the levy of the tax and do not support the opposition at all. The complaint made both by Honourable Mr. Ramnarayan Singh and our friend, Honourable Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha is that sufficient work is not being done in the Research Laboratory. But they themselves are ignorant of the work that has been done. Of course it is up to the Honourable the Agriculture Minister to invite our attention to the progress of work in research. The arguments put forward are only a plea for the appointment of a Committee to be associated with the work of this pinjarapole the members of which may add to their number. But pinjarapoles are not such a bad thing after all. I went to Bhavanagar where I was taken round a pinjarapole where half the bulls and the horses earn their living. Therefore there is no reason why even if some of the superannuated men are employed here, good work may not be done. After all we are not hitting the industry here; we are trying to promote the industry. And seven

annas being raised to fourteen annas will only raise it from half per cent. to one per cent. now whereas even seven annas in the olden days was 2 per cent. I see no reason why the tax should not be increased from seven to 28 annas so as to make it come to 2 per cent. Make your institution a perfect institution, post qualified men there and get a lot of progress from out of the institution. All that we can say is that our institution must work better, not that the tax should not be levied.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): I agree with all the three speakers who have spoken except with their conclusions. I agree with Dr. Pattabhi's conclusion that we should support this Bill, but I wish to make two or three suggestions. Both Mr. Ramnarayan Singh and Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha have said that lac is produced by the hill tribes. I want the Government to take sufficient steps to ensure that the hill tribes do receive their due share of the price that is actually received from abroad for the exports of our lac, and to prevent those people being exploited by middlemen who take the raw material from them and get it converted into regular industrial product known as lac.

Secondly this research institute has been there for the last 35 years. Surely it ought to be possible for the Minister and his department to state what tangible results it has achieved. We want research institutes, more and more of them too. We want them to be extended. But we would also like to be assured that these research institutes are really doing useful and effective work. For 35 years it has existed. Quite possibly two generations of scientists must have passed through it. What has been the result? To what extent have they benefited the industry?

Thirdly there is this question of full industrial use being made of the lac that is being produced in our own country. What steps are we taking in order to see that we do not part with this very valuable raw material to other countries but make the fullest possible use in this country alone and then send to other countries if it is possible, those industrial goods into the making of which this will go in as an essential product. So far we have had no information, but I would like the Government to examine that possibility also.

I am not at all opposed to the raising of the duty from 7 annas to 14 annas. After all it may not be large, but what is most necessary is to eliminate fluctuations. Mr. Chaliha has made a very useful suggestion and I hope it will receive the earnest consideration of the Ministry, and that is that the Government should take up this question of taking control of the whole of this commodity as it is ready to be exported and then create a pool or whatever it is and then see that these fluctuations in prices do not come to prevail at all but reasonable prices are charged to the consumer, and then the price that they consider to be reasonable is kept there as a sort of reserve, and later on when international prices come to fall, these reserve funds may be utilised in order to repay to the growers and thus help them to save themselves from these wide fluctuations and these wide fluctuations hit the primary producers much more than the manufacturers. The manufacturers' staying power is much greater than that of the primary producers. Therefore the primary producer is in need of greater protection than even the ultimate manufacturer and it would be best if the Government of India were to charge the Lac Cess Committee—I think there is a Lac Cess Committee—with the additional function also of stabilizing prices of lac and raw material.

सेठ गोविन्ददास : सभापतिजी मैं भी एक ऐसे ही प्रान्त से आता हूँ जहाँ पर लाख पैदा होती है, और इस सम्बन्ध में मैं सिर्फ दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। लाख की फसल एक ऐसी फसल होती है जिसे अनेक बीमारियाँ होती हैं। जहाँ

सेठ गोविन्ददास]

तक मुझे मालूम है, अभी तक जो इन्स्टीट्यूट (Institute) कार्य कर रहा है उसने इस फसल की बीमारियों का कोई अच्छा इलाज या तो निकाला नहीं है और अगर निकाला भी है तो मैं माननीय मंत्रीजी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह इलाज कम से कम जो खेती करने वाले ग्रामीण लोग हैं उन तक पहुंचा नहीं है।

दूसरी बातों में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि लाख का इतना भाव बढ़ता और घटता है कि जिस चीज की हमको मोनोपली (monopoly) है, उस चीज का भाव इतना घटे बढ़े यह आश्चर्य की बात है। और इसका कारण यह है कि कलकत्ते के बाजार में इस लाख के बाद जो चपड़ा बन जाता है उस चपड़े का सट्टा होता है। इस लाख का इस देश में उपयोग या इस देश के बाहर जाना एक अलग चीज ही रह जाती है और सट्टे के कारण इसका भाव घटता बढ़ता रहता है।

कुछ दिन पहले माननीय अर्थ मंत्री जी ने मंत्र कुछ सवालियों का जवाब देते हुए कहा था कि वह इस बात पर विचार कर रहे हैं कि जहां तक सट्टे का बाजार है, वहां तक किन किन वस्तुओं का सट्टा रोका जा सकता है। मैं माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी के सामने यह बात लाना चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम ऐसी चीजों का सट्टा, जिन चीजों का इस देश में लाख के सामान उपयोग होता है या जिनकी इस देश में मोनोपली (monopoly) होने के कारण वह इस देश से विदेश जा सकती हैं, सट्टा फौरन रोक दिया जाना चाहिये। ऐसी चीजों का सट्टा जारी रखना कि माल कहीं पड़ा रहे, भाव कहीं रहे, सट्टे में लोग जुआ खेलें, बिना उस चीज के मौजूद हुए यह बड़े दुख की बात है। हमारे देश के लिए और कम से कम कृषि प्रधान देश के लिये ऐसी चीजों का सट्टा रुक जाना चाहिए। कृषि मंत्री जी को कृपा करके अर्थ मंत्री के सामने यह बात रखनी चाहिये कि जहां तक लाख का मामला है, वहां तक लाख और चपड़े का सट्टा फौरन बन्द कर दिया जाय में दो ही बातें आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। पहली यह कि लाख की फसल जो बिगड़ जाती है, उसके इलाज की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये और वह इलाज जिस प्रकार हो सकता है वह कृषकों के पास पहुंचना चाहिये। और दूसरी वह कि चपड़े का जो सट्टा होता है, और खासकर कलकत्ते के बाजार में, उसको फौरन बन्द किया जाना चाहिये।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Seth Govinddas (C. P. and Berar: General): Mr. Speaker, I come from a province where lac is produced. I would like to say only one or two things about it. The lac crop suffers from many diseases. So far as I know the existing institute has either not discovered any remedy for the diseases of this crop or if it has then I would like to bring it to the notice of the Honourable Minister that this remedy has not been made known to the cultivators, who are engaged in the cultivation of this crop.

The second thing I want to point out is the great fluctuation in the price of lac. It is a matter of surprise that there should be so much fluctuation in the prices of a commodity of which we have a monopoly. It is due to the fact that there is speculation in the Calcutta market in shellac which is manufactured from lac. The consumption of lac here and its export to foreign countries does not effect its price so much as this speculation.

A few days back in answer to one of my questions, the Honourable Minister for Finance stated that he was considering whether speculation in certain articles can be stopped. I want to invite the attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to the fact that he should immediately stop speculation in articles which like lac, are extensively used in this country or which are our monopoly and can be exported. It is a matter of regret that speculation should be permitted and people allowed to gamble and quote rates in the absence of goods. In the interest of our country which is chiefly an agricultural country, speculation in such articles should be prohibited. The Honourable Minister for Agriculture should request the Honourable Minister for Finance immediately to stop the speculation in lac and shellac.

I want to place before you two things. Firstly, measures should be taken to remedy the diseases of the lac crop, and the farmers should be acquainted with that remedy. Secondly, the speculation of shellac which is particularly going on in Calcutta, should be stopped at once.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to put in a few words in connection with this inoffensive Bill. Sir, I think my Honourable friend Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha overshot his mark when he invited us to throw out this Bill. My Honourable friend Mr. Ramnarayan Singh, though not so aggressive, was also in favour of not supporting this Bill. But the arguments advanced by my Honourable friend Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya have, I think, convinced most members in this House that we have really not made out any case for the total rejection of this Bill. I am perfectly prepared to share the indignation of my friend Mr. Chaliha, in that the amount yielded by the Lac Research Cess has not in any way profited the producers of lac. But Sir, I feel that it would be a good deal of injustice to the Government to say that the Lac Research Institute has not done any service. My friend may be vigorously shaking his head, but shaking one's head is one thing and facts are different.

The Lac Research Institute at Ranchi and at two other places have done very valuable service, and the opposition to this measure is perhaps due to the reason that that fact is not known. I can tell the House that the responsibility for this ignorance on the part of the House is not due to the members themselves but is due to the Department. In that I am in perfect agreement with my Honourable friends Mr. Ramnarayan Singh and Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha. I have always claimed in this House, I have always demanded outside, that the Government of India has suffered from one great defect that in all the research organisations that they have got in this country whatever achievements they make are never publicised, are never made known to the public so that these achievements are never known to anybody except perhaps to one or two persons directly concerned.

You will never get any departmental report as to what achievement these research bodies have made, and what potentialities there are for this industry. The House will perhaps realise not only the fact that we have an absolute monopoly with regard to this commodity, but the Research Institutes of the Government of India in this particular respect have developed the industry to a very high pitch of perfection. But as I said even the industrialists in this country do not know the quality and the different stages through which these improvements have been reached. Perhaps the reason for this is to be

[Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra]

found in the fact that the Lac Research Institute was started in this country primarily for the purpose of supplying lac to the countries in the British Empire because lac had formed a very important ingredient in industrial and other products during the War. The first World War demonstrated the value of lac in many war industries in England. Thereafter, from 1930 this Department had developed and it developed wonderfully, let me tell the House. But if you ask my Honourable friend the Minister in charge, I am almost sure, that he will not be able to produce a single scrap of paper to show the achievements of this Department. I have reason to know something of these achievements personally as I have had contacts with the lac research scholars. I have seen the quality, I have seen the stages through which this industry has passed.

Today the fact has to be borne in mind that although we have a virtual monopoly in lac, it does not occupy the same important place it used to before, thanks to the ceramic industry and the plastics industry which are increasingly going to take the place of lac. But even then, in countries like France there is an excellent market for it, it will have a market in the countries of the Middle East and the Far East. Great Britain, Switzerland, Sweden, Canada and America may not have much use for it, but all other countries will have a good deal of demand for the type of lac which we produce in this country. Our lac is improving in quality and is increasing in production. From this point of view I am perfectly prepared to support the Honourable Minister in that he wants to raise funds which, I hope, would be utilised not for finding some more jobs for people but for improved research, for finding out improved qualities of lac, for finding out alternative uses for lac, for finding out whether finished products from lac can be manufactured in this country, and also for the purpose of stabilising prices and thereby giving relief to the growers. In this respect the suggestion may be made that the Government should fix some minimum price to the lac growers. If that could somehow be done by administrative order, then the bulk of opposition to this measure voiced by my friends Mr. Chaliha and Mr. Ramnarayan Singh would be met.

With these suggestions, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Bill. I would request the Honourable Minister to pass orders on his Department to keep a vigilant eye over the export of this commodity, for every single commodity in India which we can export today will bring for us valuable foreign exchange of which we are in dire need. I honestly believe that the supply of lac could be enhanced to about two to three million maunds easily and the world has real need for it—I mean the countries which I have indicated. If my Honourable friend proceeds on these lines, I am sure he will achieve a considerable measure of success. Sir, I support this Bill.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise merely to sound a note of warning to the Honourable Members of the Treasury Benches. And that warning is this, that they must consider the implications in a Bill of this kind. Sir, I believe the Honourable Ministers will have the grace to admit that so far as sanction of supply is concerned we have been behaving like very indulgent parents, or should I say like doting husbands, and we have never demurred in giving whatever the Government Benches wanted. But in this particular case I would ask the Honourable Minister in charge to go into the case more carefully before he takes the step of increasing the cess.

I am afraid this increase of cess will not bring any appreciable gain to the Government. It may, after all, kill the very source from which the cess comes, as the Honourable Members who have spoken before me, particularly Mr. Chaliha, have drawn the attention of the Government. Considering the unstable prices which lac yields, the effect of this is that the entire production

and collection of lac may be stopped. Lac is principally gathered from the forest, or Assam and it is the principal occupation of the tribal people. If, by any hasty action of increasing the cess to such a considerable extent, the production and collection of lac is entirely stopped in our Province, it will mean a great discontent amongst the tribal people.

What I would, therefore, suggest is that if it is necessary really to have more money for the research business, Government should try to get it from other sources of revenue and not by levying a cess on the lac. What we really require in the lac trade is that we must devise some machinery or means to stabilise the price of lac; not merely to confine ourselves wholeheartedly to the research in lac, but to see what steps should be taken to stabilise the prices of lac so that the people who are living on collection and production of this commodity might not be entirely deprived of the source of their livelihood.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Sir, let me make a confession, in the sense that I endorse most of what has been said in the House today; the purposes for which this research was being carried on until recently were purposes which were more or less suited to our predecessor Government. We must realise that we are inheriting a variety of institutions from our predecessors. Those institutions were oftentimes put to uses which were not for the good of our country, but which were intended to subserve the needs of the ruling nation. Hence what I would suggest is that when we come up for demands, you should help us by constructive criticism for the future administration of those institutions. I do not say that criticism of the past is not helpful. It is helpful. But I do not propose to defend all that the Department did before we took charge. I do propose, with the co-operation of the Assembly and the Committee which has been appointed for this industry to divert this raw material of ours for our own industrial purposes and export only to the minimum extent that is necessary. I cannot say today what would be the position when the question of stabilising prices comes up for consideration. There may be two points of view about it. It is a matter in regard to which I have no special qualification. Those men who are more familiar with questions relating to finance, tariff and customs will be better able to guide us and I propose that this matter should be discussed by them. But speaking generally, with regard to most of the suggestions and what my friend Mr. Maitra said, I endorse most of the criticism that has been levelled against the administration of this particular activity of the Government.

We have, Sir, a large variety of industries in our own country for which we can utilise this raw material and there are vast potentialities not only for the use of lac which we have today here, but also for the cultivation of more lac in the country. Therefore, what I would plead with the House is: Do not starve research in your country. Give fullest possible funds for the research work that is being carried on. Take, by all means, the greatest care to see that adequate staff, proper staff, trained staff, useful staff and not superfluous staff is being employed. By all means, help us by your criticism to see that research work of the highest order is carried on and that research work is put to the best possible use in the interests of the country. There are various substitutes for lac which certain countries are producing. We may appear to hold a monopoly with regard to lac today. I do not know whether we hold a monopoly with regard to the substitutes for lac. Therefore, one has to move a little cautiously, but as I said, ultimately the interests of both the cultivator in this country and the interests of the industrialists of this country must supervene and guide the activities of this particular section of the Department.

One word more. The uses to which this raw material can be put are, as I said, expanding and I am surprised as I study this subject, at the nature of enquiries which are coming from certain countries and the purposes to

[Shri Jairamdas Doulatram] which they propose to put this raw material of ours. Having come to know that, I feel that this is a precious and important raw material and we must see that the vital needs of our country are served rather than the purposes of those who want to export this raw material from our country. Since the value of lac has increased, however, by four times, I feel that it is fairly safe if we increase the export duty both on lac and on refuse lac by cent. per cent. The future will be watched and if there is any development necessitating a re-adjustments, I do hope that the Legislature will in the interests of the country allow us to re-adjust the duties.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: You would have been perfectly justified in raising it still more.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Lac Cess Act, 1930, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

NATIONAL CADET CORPS BILL—concl'd.

Mr. Speaker: We shall now proceed with the further consideration of the motion "that the Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Cadet Corps be taken into consideration".

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (C. P. and Berar: General): Sir, this Bill envisages the creation of a Cadet Corps for giving education to children, boys and students in the schools and colleges. Since the last 15 years, notwithstanding the impediment of the curriculum in our education which our predecessors framed, several of the educational institutions have already introduced a kind of training in drill, gymnasiums and such like semi-military training in the various schools for boys and girls. Now, this Bill makes it compulsory for a child or a boy or a student to take this training and we are really very glad. Although the number is small, if a character has to be built up of a person, if a constitution of a body is to be developed and if the civic sense of a person is to be cultivated, it should all be done in the early stages of childhood in the schools, and this training, Sir, will make our young boys, who will be flowers of the future, a really upright generation for the country. Therefore, Sir, the thing which was lacking all along has now been brought up by this Government and we really not only congratulate the Government and the Honourable Minister for Defence, but we ourselves are proud of such a measure.

I want only to mention, Sir, that at present there are many Scout organisations. There is the Hindustan Scout Organisation, which already gives in the many schools training of the type which is envisaged in this Bill and a reference has also been made by the Report of the National Cadet Corps Committee to the same. Not only the kind of training that is envisaged in the Bill is given, but there is sea training of scouting given in many parts of this country and these Scouts render splendid service to the nation at present. What I contend, Sir, is that such an organisation has been ignored and not taken care of in this Bill. The open units of the Cadet Corps—or you may call it a Youth Service—which exists in England, of which a reference is made even in this very Report, has not been given any place in this Bill. If you really take an open unit, for instance, a person over 18 years who does not study in the schools and colleges, and he wants to join he has no place in this measure. Of course, a Senior Cadet Corps is provided in the Bill, who shall have obtained a University Degree. Now, Sir, I feel that the qualification of a university degree for the Senior Cadet Corps should be dispensed with. After all, in this kind of service which is semi-military but may ultimately become military absolutely, I do not see why University qualification is wanted. This is not the Cadet only for officers where a higher qualification is wanted. I can assure the Honourable Minister—he knows better than anybody else—that military training can be developed far more effectively and efficiently by persons who have the instinct for it rather than by persons who are merely very clever in books and in passing Degrees. Therefore, Sir, I contend that this qualification which has been insisted upon for the Senior Cadet Corps should be done away with.

Then, Sir, I was mentioning about this Open Cadet Corps. I would not necessarily call it Cadet, because 'cadet' means in the strictest sense, the boys. Therefore, if we really think of enlarging the scope of our training and the Military, then you have to have some kind of Youth Military Organisation, and of course, I do mean certainly women, because—although I forgot to state it—both the boys and girls have been taking the same training in the present Scout organisation and these girls make Girl Guides and they do splendid social service, and they would similarly be really useful for all these Bill about that type of organisation, whereas in England, even this very purposes. Therefore, I contend, Sir, that nothing has been mentioned in this Report says, they have given a larger scope for this class of work. I was very glad, Sir, to hear this morning the Honourable Minister's statement regarding our Territorial Force. My argument has been strengthened by the Government's announcement about the enactment of the Territorial Force. This will certainly give a great deal of fillip for our ordinary Military and Armed forces in case of an emergency of internal trouble and similar purposes. To that extent, we are certainly glad and the Honourable Minister himself stated, while making a statement that the Territorial Forces also side by side with the National Cadet Corps will be very useful military organizations for this country. I therefore, Sir, would like to make one suggestion about this open-unit Corps. If it is possible for the Honourable Minister to make a slight amendment or inclusion of that class of persons in this Bill, it would be very welcome. It is absolutely essential; otherwise this class of people who are already in this training will be ignored; they are only doing a semi-military duty minus the possession of Rifle and when the rifles are given, in which they are half-trained, they will be an asset to our Armed Forces.

I therefore, Sir, congratulate the Government for this Bill and also for the statement made by the Honourable Minister and the scope of expansion of our Armed Services; it should not be lost sight of, although some stages may be necessary as the Honourable Minister stated. Some kind of training for the

[Mr. R. K. Sidhva]

youths already exists in the country minus as I stated the rifle training. If this class of opening for the youths, namely the Cadet Corps is introduced, it would go a long way. With these words, Sir, I support wholeheartedly the measure that has been brought before this House.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सभापति जी, मैं भी इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ और रक्षा मंत्री जी ने आज एक और इससे मिलती जुलती वस्तु के लिए जो विज्ञप्ति की है उसके लिए उन्हें बधाई देता हूँ। जब उन्होंने इस बिल को हमारे सामने रखा उस समय यह कहा था कि यह इस दिशा में केवल आरम्भ मात्र ही है। परन्तु मैं उनसे यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आरम्भ इतना अल्प हुआ है कि उससे किसी को संतोष नहीं हो सकता। इस देश में, यदि हम पाकिस्तान के मनुष्यों की जनसंख्या को छोड़ दें, तो ३० करोड़ मनुष्य निवास करते हैं या इससे भी अधिक। इन ३० करोड़ मनुष्यों में से कितनों को यह शिक्षा दी जायगी उस पर जब हम विचार करते हैं तब हमें जाना पड़ता है कि जो आरम्भ हुआ है वह संतोषजनक नहीं है। धन की कमी के सम्बन्ध में यदि कोई बात यहां कही जाय तो मैं उस पर विशेष विचार करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूँ। इस वर्ष का बजट रखते हुए अर्थ मंत्रीजी ने स्वयं इस बात को स्वीकार किया था कि जहां तक इस देश की आर्थिक स्थिति का सम्बन्ध है वहां तक इस देश की आर्थिक स्थिति बहुत अच्छी है। गत युद्ध में विदेशियों ने इस देश की आर्थिक स्थिति ऐसी ही रहते हुए जो कुछ किया है उससे सिद्ध हो जाता है कि आर्थिक कमी किसी किये जाने योग्य कार्य के लिए बाधा नहीं पहुंचा सकती। फिर कमी किस वस्तु की है धन की कमी नहीं है, दूसरे साधनों की कमी है। मैं उन्हें एक बात का स्मरण दिलाता हूँ। अभी हाल ही में नागपुर के विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति यहां आये थे वह मेरे पास ठहरे हुए थे और वे यहां रक्षा मंत्री जी से मिलने के लिए आये थे। उन्होंने रक्षा मंत्री जी के सामने यह बात रखी थी कि उस विश्वविद्यालय में यदि हम इस बिल को कार्य रूप में परिणत करना चाहें और इसको आगे बढ़ाना चाहें तो सबसे अधिक कमी हथियारों की हो जाती है। मैं रक्षा मंत्री से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में हथियार बनाने के साधन उपलब्ध हैं। आज ही मैंने एक प्रश्न पूछते हुए उनका ध्यान जबलपुर की खमरिया फैक्टरी की ओर आकर्षित किया था। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह फैक्टरी (Factory) केवल इस देश में ही नहीं बल्कि सारे एशिया (Asia) में सबसे बड़ी फैक्टरी है। अभी कुछ महीने हुए वहां के ब्रिगेडियर ने केन्द्रीय और प्रान्तीय धारा सभाओं के सदस्यों को उस फैक्टरी को देखने के लिए बुलाया था। मैं भी उस फैक्टरी को देखने गया और उसके आधार पर मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज चाहे रक्षा मंत्री इस बात को माने या न माने परन्तु उस फैक्टरी की जो मैशिनरी है वह इतनी बुरी हालत में होती जा रही है कि यदि उसको नहीं चलाया गया तो वहां जो अनेक बहुमूल्य

मशीनें हैं जो अच्छे से अच्छे हथियार तैयार कर सकती हैं, वह केवल लोहा रह जायगी और उनका कोई उपयोग नहीं हो सकेगा। जबलपुर में ही एक दूसरी फैक्टरी है, जिसे गन कैरिज फैक्टरी (Gun Carriage Factory) कहते हैं। वह (इस समय स्टीम रोलर (Steam Roller) बना रही है। उसमें भी अच्छे से अच्छे हथियार बनाये जा सकते हैं।

तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि धन की कमी इस तरह की योजना को कार्य रूप में परिणत करने के लिए बाधक नहीं है। यदि कमी है तो अन्य साधनों की कमी है और जहां तक हमारे इस प्रकार के कैडिट कोर (Cadet Corps) का सम्बन्ध है वहां सबसे अधिक कमी हथियारों की है।

इस रिपोर्ट के आरम्भ में एक बात कही गई है और वह सबसे अधिक ध्यान देने योग्य है। इस रिपोर्ट के आरम्भ में कहा गया है :

"The Government have decided, therefore, to set up such a cadet corps which would have as its aims :

- (a) The development of leadership, character, comradeship and the ideal of service; and
- (b) The stimulation of interest in the defence of the country to the widest possible extent."

जिस उद्देश्य से इस कैडिट कोर (Cadet Corps) का निर्माण किया जा रहा है वह उद्देश्य उन छोटे छोटे वाक्यों में आ गया है और मैं रक्षा मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन उद्देश्यों की ओर हम ध्यान देने पर ही इस दिशा में हमारी सफलता निर्भर है। जो कार्य हम कर रहे हैं वह कार्य कितना महत्वपूर्ण है, कितना विशाल है।

जहां तक हमारे विश्वविद्यालयों का सम्बन्ध है और हमारे महाविद्यालयों और दूसरी शैक्षिक संस्थाओं का सम्बन्ध है हम इस बात को जानते हैं कि इन सब में जो शिक्षा पद्धति है वह यथार्थ में लार्ड मैकाले के समय से आज तक चली आ रही है। उस का उद्देश्य इस देश के लिए कर्क उत्पन्न करना था। उस समय से इस पद्धति पर समय समय पर परिवर्तन हुए परन्तु यह परिवर्तन इतने कम हुए कि यदि हम इस नेशनल कैडिट कोर को इन उद्देश्यों के अनुसार से बनाना चाहते हैं तो हमें अपने नेशनल कैडिट कोर में जो शिक्षा दी जायगी वही नहीं बल्कि सारी शिक्षा में आमूल परिवर्तन करना पड़ेगा। हमारा उद्देश्य किसी साम्राज्य की स्थापना करना नहीं है या इस देश में साम्राज्यवाद की भावना का प्रचार करना नहीं है। हमारा उद्देश्य इस प्रकार की नेशनल कैडिट कोर की स्थापना करना है जिनमें नेतृत्व की शक्ति हो और सेवा की वृत्ति। हमारा उद्देश्य किसी देश पर आक्रमण करना नहीं है, हमारा उद्देश्य अपनी रक्षा करना है और अपनी रक्षा करने के साथ-साथ सेवा करना है। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस उद्देश्य की प्राप्ति के लिए हम जो शिक्षा इस नेशनल कैडिट कोर को देंगे उस सम्बन्ध में हमें अत्यन्त सतर्क रहने की आवश्यकता होगी। यदि उनकी बौद्धिक शिक्षा का ठीक आयोजन नहीं होगा और यदि उन्हें ऐसी शिक्षा नहीं दी जायगी कि जो शिक्षा इन उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति के

[सेठ गोविन्द दास]

लिए आवश्यक है, तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी सारी योजना भ्रष्ट हो जायगी। इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि हम इस कार्य को, जिसको हमने हाथ में लिया है, और जो आरम्भ में छोटा सा मालूम होता है, परन्तु आगे चलकर बहुत विशाल होगा, उसमें जितना ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है वह ध्यान हम इस कार्य के लिए दें। जितने साधनों की आवश्यकता है, जैसा कि मैंने निवेदन किया है कि हथियार इस चीज के लिए परम आवश्यक है और उसके लिए हमारे यहाँ फैक्टरियाँ मौजूद हैं, उन्हें हम चलाएं। मैं इस मौके पर फिर जबलपुर की फैक्टरियों की याद दिलाता हूँ। जो नेशनल कैडेट कोर तैयार किया जा रहा है उसकी बौद्धिक शिक्षा की ओर हम विशेष लक्ष्य रखें। जैसा मैंने आरम्भ में कहा था कि मुझे इस योजना से, जो योजना हमारे सामने उपस्थित है, संतोष नहीं है। पर छोटा होने पर भी आरम्भ अच्छा है।

मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ और मुझे विश्वास है कि जो कुछ मैंने निवेदन किया है उस पर अवश्य ध्यान दिया जायगा।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Seth Govinddas: (C. P. and Berar: General): Mr. Speaker, I also welcome this Bill and congratulate the Honourable Defence Minister for issuing a communique on a similar subject today, while presenting this Bill before the House, he said that it was only a beginning. But I would like to say that the beginning is too poor to satisfy any of us. Leaving out the Pakistan nationals the population of this country is over 30 crores. How many out of these 30 crores will receive this training? When we turn our attention to that, we find the beginning unsatisfactory. I am not prepared to consider the excuse of lack of funds for this purpose.

While presenting the Budget for this year, the Honourable the Minister for Finance himself stated that the financial condition of India is very sound. The work of the foreign rulers in India during the last war when the financial condition of this country was almost the same as it exists now that lack of funds cannot impede the execution of a work that has got to be done. What else is then wanting? Funds are not lacking. It is something else which we lack. Let me remind the Honourable Defence Minister that only recently the Vice-Chancellor of the Nagpur University came to see him. He put up with me. He pointed out to the Honourable Defence Minister that the greatest handicap in giving practical effect to the Bill in his University was the inadequate supply of arms. I want to tell the Honourable the Defence Minister that in this country facilities are available for the manufacture of arms. Only today in one of my questions I had drawn his attention to the Khamaria Ordnance Factory near Jubbulpore. This is the biggest factory not only in India but in the whole of Asia and only a few months ago the Brigadier in Charge of this factory invited some members of the Provincial and the Central Legislature to visit the factory. I was one of them. The Honourable Defence Minister may or may not agree with me, but as a result of my visit I would say that the condition of the machinery in this factory is rapidly deteriorating and if it is not worked many of its costly parts for producing first rate arms will rust and will be left, no better than mere scrap iron. There is another factory in Jubbulpore called the Gun Carriage Factory. Steam rollers are being manufactured there at present. Best quality of arms

can also be produced in this factory. I would, therefore, assert that lack of funds only should not prevent the execution of such schemes. If anything is lacking it may be something else and so far the Cadet Corps is concerned the only thing which is lacking is arms.

The statement in the beginning of this report deserves our greatest attention. The report opens with the words:

"The Government have decided, therefore, to set up such a cadet corps which would have as its aims:

- (a) The development of leadership, character, comradeship and the ideal of service; and
- (b) The stimulation of interest in the defence of the country to the widest possible extent."

These short sentences sum up the object with which this Cadet Corps is being raised. I would tell the Honourable Defence Minister that our success depends only on the attention that we pay to these aims and objects. How important and great the task is that we are out to do!

We all know that the system of education that is being given in the Universities, Colleges and Schools, dates back to the time of Lord Macaulay. The object of this system was to produce clerks in this country. Since that time this system has been amended every now and then but the changes have been few. If we desire to raise this National Cadet Corps according to our present ideals, we shall have to change radically not only the method of educating the cadets, but the entire system of our education. We do not aim at establishing any empires, nor is it our desire to propagate imperialism. Our object is to establish a National Cadet Corps which should have capacity for leadership and aptitude for service. We do not aim at invading any country. Our object is to defend our country and along with defence to serve our country. I have, therefore, to say that for the achievement of this ideal a great deal of care will have to be taken for the training that will be given to the National Cadet Corps. If proper arrangements are not made for the development of their mental faculties, and if they do not receive such education our entire object will be frustrated. We must therefore pay the requisite attention to this work which we have taken in hand. It appears small in the beginning but it is going to turn out to be very big in the long run.

Many things are required and as already stated by me arms is the most important requirement for this scheme. We have factories and we should work them. I would remind you once again about the Jubbulpore factories. The development of the mental faculties of the personnel of the National Cadet Corps should be our special aim. As I said in the beginning, I am not satisfied with the scheme as it is before us, nevertheless the beginning, though small, is good.

I welcome this Bill and I am sure my suggestions will be borne in mind.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half-Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh (Minister for Defence): I do not think it is necessary for me to take the time of the House in making a lengthy speech. All the Honourable Members who have spoken so far have supported the scheme. The only criticism which they have made is that the provisions

[Sardar Baldev Singh]

of the Bill do not go far enough. As I said in the statement which I delivered in this House, this is only the beginning and when we have reached the target which is stated in the report, there will be absolutely no hesitation for us to go further ahead. The target of 1,35,000 in the junior division and 32,000 in the senior division is a tentative one. As soon as it is achieved, Government will have no objection to go further ahead and the provinces will be authorised to expand the scheme.

Seth Govinddas: A drop in the ocean!

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: It may be a drop in the ocean, I agree. But it is a beginning. If I were to make a statement straightaway and say that the total strength of the corps will be a million or more than that, that will not go very far. We have to make a beginning and the provinces have to see how much of the financial burden they can bear. As I have already stated, the financial burden will have to be shared by the Provinces and the Central Government. It is only after the scheme has been put into operation that the provinces will be able to know how much of the financial burden they can undertake.

There were one or two points raised by my friend, Mr. Sidhva. I think he has not carefully gone through the report. As far as the boy-scouts are concerned, there is absolutely no bar. Both the divisions are open to the boy scouts and there is no restriction of any kind whatsoever. The scheme is a voluntary one and there is no compulsion. If we are not satisfied at the results we can consider if it is not better to make it compulsory.

Then, Sir, about expenses, my friend, Mr. Govinddas, made some suggestions. He said there would be no hesitation with regard to the provision of finance. I am very glad to know that I will have the support of the House. At present, it is not possible for us to go beyond what is stated in the report.

There are one or two more points that were made out by the lady member from Madras and that was about the open division. Her complaint was that no provision had been made for the girls. I am sorry I am not in a position to give any satisfactory reply to her criticism on this point as the Committee went thoroughly into this question and they have followed the same pattern as has been followed in the United Kingdom. It is not possible for me to say why the girls have been omitted from this open division. Most probably the purpose of the open division is restricted to boys only and the girls division come into a different category. But I will have it examined.

There is one more point to which I wish to refer and that is the advisory committee. As the House will remember it was proposed to appoint a Central Advisory Committee and along with that Provincial Committees. Advisory Committees will have to be formed. I expect that the provinces will take a keen interest in this scheme and those who are interested in it will join hands with the Provincial Governments and will co-operate and agree to serve on the Provincial Advisory Committees. It is only if the public takes an active interest that this scheme can be made a success.

There is nothing more that I would like to say at this stage. Some other points may be raised during the course of the amendments which are proposed to be moved and I shall take the opportunity to say a few more words then.

Mr. Speaker: The question is;

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Cadet Corps, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C.P. and Berar: General): Sir, I move.

"That in clause 2 of the Bill, in the definition of 'university', the words 'or the Provincial Government' be added at the end."

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I accept the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in clause 2 of the Bill, in the definition of 'university', the words 'or the Provincial Government' be added at the end."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Sir, I move:

"That in the proviso to clause 3 of the Bill, for the words 'circumstances may require from time to time', the words 'and when necessary' be substituted."

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, I accept it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in the proviso to clause 3 of the Bill, for the words 'circumstances may require from time to time', the words 'and when necessary' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): I wish to move amendments Nos. 2, 3 and 4 on List No. 1.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, it would save the time of the House if I say at this stage that I am prepared to accept amendments Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I move:

(1) "That in part (i) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the male sex', the words 'male students' be substituted."

(2) "That in part (ii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the male sex', the words 'male students' be substituted."

(3) "That in part (iii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the female sex', the words 'female students' be substituted."

Mr. Speaker: I shall put the first two amendments together.

Amendments moved:

(1) "That in parts (i) and (ii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the male sex', the words 'male students' be substituted."

(2) "That in part (iii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the female sex', the words 'female students' be substituted."

Shri H. V. Kamath: What is the significance of this alteration?

Mr. Speaker: It is perhaps better English.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): It is not better English. Male and female are terms applied to animals and not to men and women. That is why it is deliberately said "students of the male sex" and "students of the female sex". Unless one wants to turn human beings into animals one will not say male and female students. You say a male elephant or a female

elephant.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I accepted the amendment because the Honourable Member was insisting. Otherwise I would have preferred the clause as it stood.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C.P. and Berar: General): Is it not possible to change the words to "boys" and "girls"?

Mr. Speaker: They may not necessarily be boys and girls. May be, they are grown up men and women. In any case there has been an amendment and it has been accepted by the Honourable Minister.

Shri H. V. Kamath: The Honourable Minister explained the position saying that he would not have accepted it if the Honourable Member had not insisted upon it.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I insist upon it. I think the amendment is quite all right.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

(1) "That in parts (i) and (ii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the male sex', the words 'male students' be substituted."

(2) "That in part (iii) of clause 5 of the Bill, for the words 'the students of the female sex', the words 'female students' be substituted."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: There is one small change that is necessary. The proviso is to be deleted and the subject matter of the proviso is to be transferred to clause 6. This is merely a verbal change. Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 6 of the Bill,—

(i) for the words 'student of the female sex', the words 'female student of the prescribed age or over' be substituted;" and

"(ii) the Proviso be omitted."

Mr. Speaker: I could not follow exactly what the Honourable Member intended to say. Is there any special intention in having the phraseology "female student of the prescribed age or over"?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: If the proviso is to be deleted this is unnecessary.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I see no objection in accepting the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Instead of again using the expression "female students" would it not be better to say "students of the female sex of the prescribed age or over"?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: When the House has already rejected this alteration, consistently or logically it should not accept this alteration.

Mr. Speaker: Then it comes to the same thing, that the Proviso may stand.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I would like to withdraw the amendment. If the clause is as it is it would make no difference. The House has already accepted that the right expression is "students of the female sex" and so I see no reason why I should press the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of withdrawal of the amendment as it has not been put to the House.

The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg to move:

(1) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, the word 'any' where it occurs for the first time in line three, be omitted."

(2) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, for the words 'in any place', the words 'in suitable places' be substituted;" and

(3) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, for all the words occurring after the word 'place' the following be substituted:

'consisting of prescribed persons or class of persons who may or who may not belong to any university or school'."

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

(1) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, the word 'any' where it occurs for the first time in line three, be omitted."

(2) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, for the words 'in any place', the words 'in suitable places' be substituted;" and

(3) "That in clause 7 of the Bill, for all the words occurring after the word 'place' the following be substituted:

'consisting of prescribed persons or class of persons who may or who may not belong to any university or school'."

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): There is one difficulty which I wish to point out. "In any place" means one thing. "In any suitable places" in a statute is capable of interpretation. I do not think it is really making the clause any better. "In any place" gives the discretion to the authorities concerned while suitability is a thing which can always be questioned and the expression is capable of interpretation.

Mr. Speaker: Suitable according to the discretion of the authority—that is how it will be interpreted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It only complicates the position.

Mr. Speaker: "...provide for the constitution of any other units of the Corps in suitable places..."—that is how it will read.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): It is always understood that Government will start it in suitable places.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no necessity for the word 'suitable'. The expression "in any place" is as good and should serve the purpose.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg to be allowed to have a say in the matter as to why I want these amendments. If you will kindly see clause 7 it refers to 'any other units'; while clause 4 refers to units and about these units it is said that in any place the Government may by notification provide for the constitution of such units; and then again the Government shall "prescribe the persons or class of persons who may be eligible for enrolment therein". A reference has been made to this aspect in paragraph 4 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons. There it is stated "The National Cadet Corps Committee recommended that open units should be constituted to which recruitment will be made from amongst boys earning a livelihood and the object of clause 7 is to provide for such units." You have been pleased to hear the statement of the Honourable the Defence Minister and the speech of Mr. Sidhva delivered today. The position in regard to open units is very unsatisfactory. So far as the Report of the National Cadet Corps Committee goes they have made a reference to this open unit corps in one place. While they have indicated that it is possible that the Cadet Corps will be constituted in large cities and candidates may be taken from the classes who are not students of schools and colleges, my humble submission is that the reference to the open unit question is so slight in that Report and the emphasis, as laid by the Defence Minister in his speech in regard to open units, has been so very slight

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that I am suspecting that the open units are not going to come into existence for some years, not to speak of months. To start with they want to have some candidates or cadets from the schools and colleges. In regard to schools and colleges also you will be pleased to see from the definition of the words 'school' and 'university' that these schools are not common schools but special schools which will be recognized as such by the Central Government or the Provincial Government. From the Report it appears that the schools must have a drill hall. These schools must be able to substantially contribute to the expenses of this Corps, which means that ordinary schools in the rural areas in the mofussil will not be able to take advantage of this scheme. Leaving aside this broad question, I understand that there will be thousands of schools which will not be included and from which students will never be taken. Leaving aside also schools and colleges, it is the common right of every person that he should be able to get this education as those fortunate boys who read in recognized schools or universities. If equality of opportunity is to be provided I should think that those who do not read in schools and colleges have got an equal right of being educated and given an opportunity of becoming the officers in the Army. Taken from that point of view the institution of open units is not less important for those who do not read in schools and colleges than the Institute of closed units is for those who are fortunate enough in so far that they are students of schools and colleges. In England where the population is much less what do we find today? I think the population of Great Britain is about 4 crores whereas we have got a population of 30 crores. Here the entire scheme is only 1,70,000 boys whereas in England the cadets are to the tune of 3,50,000. I therefore submit that if the open unit scheme is not adopted this scheme becomes a mere eye-wash and it is wrong to say that the demands of the people who want military training for the nationals of this land will be in some measure met. In my humble opinion both the schemes about which we have heard—the Territorial Army and the National Cadet Corps—taken together, the sum total of all this comes to it that not even 1/5th per cent of the population will be trained, militarily speaking. This morning we heard that only 1,30,000 people were to be included in the Territorial Force. They will be a part of the regular Army. It will be after three years that this dream will be realized. As regards this National Cadet Corps this has yet to be started and it may take several years before these 1,70,000 people are given military training. And it is not military training. Only for 30,000 boys reading in colleges it can be said to be military training of some sort. For the rest it is only an educational training. So far as the ambitions and the aspirations of the people of this land for military training are concerned they cannot be met by these two schemes. If they can be met even partially they cannot be so met unless the open unit scheme is there. It is for this purpose I made the amendment. I want to make it absolutely clear that not only will students of such schools and colleges as are not recognised be accepted but I have submitted through this amendment that this Corps may consist of prescribed persons or class of persons who may or who may not belong to any university or school. This is one amendment.

As regards the other amendment (No. 7) I wanted to make it obligatory upon Government to constitute these units. But so far as the attitude of the Honourable the Defence Minister is concerned I am perfectly satisfied that he feels in this matter as any of us and if it is in his power he will surely give us these units as soon as possible. I have therefore declined in deference to his wishes, to move the first amendment (No. 7) which sought to substitute the word "shall" for the word "may". Otherwise I do want that it should be made obligatory on the Government, and the Government should be able to say here and now that after six months or one year they shall be able to have this

open unit. If that assurance is forthcoming I will not insist upon this, though I am convinced that so far as the question of giving military training or ingratiating the nationals of this country in military matters are concerned both these schemes, and many other cognate schemes, whatever be the Government might say, will not meet the situation and will never satisfy the bubbling enthusiasm of the nationals of this country. I therefore submit that these three amendments should be accepted by the House.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, I have no difference whatsoever so far as the objective is concerned. My only point is how far the present amendments, leaving the first one, carry out the objective. The clause as it is, is more general. By restricting it my friend does not make it more easy for the Defence Minister to start these courses. Why should my friend put in a qualification 'suitable'? It should be capable of being started at any place. Therefore I think that for the very objectives which he has stated he should not press the present amendments.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would make bold to say that both my honourable friend Mr. Sidhva and my honourable friend Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava have not properly understood the scope of the Bill. I quite realize that there is a general desire shared by every member of this House as well as the general public that it is time we made up the lack of progress in militarisation in India and that it is also time that the birth-right of every citizen of India to have compulsory military training, was not only recognized but given practical shape.

3 P.M. But this object however laudable cannot be achieved by moving amendments to this section or any other provisions in this Bill. This Bill, Sir, has a specific object in view. It is more or less entirely limited to the students both in the schools as well as in the colleges and it is not intended to impart military education to the general public. I do not know how even open units have been brought in it because they, in my opinion at any rate, do not really, and cannot form a proper part of the Bill that is before us. The whole object of the Bill appears to me, so far as I can see, is a sort of regularization of what we used to have in the University Training Corps and other similar organizations. Of course we know that the University Training Corps was not as useful or efficient an organization as we would have liked it to be nor has it done much good to the country. We also fear Sir, that whatever the importance of the Bill and whatever good intentions the Honourable the Defence Minister may possess placing on the Statute Book of this Bill is not, unless there is driving force behind it, unless every one of our Prime Ministers in the provinces is in earnest about it and also there is proper pressure and supervision by the Defence Department going to do much good. The Bill is primarily intended to encourage and systematize the training in schools and colleges but it is very likely that it may fail in its object of improving matters and it may go the same way as the University Training Corps have gone. Therefore if my honourable friends here are trying to achieve the objective of general and popular military training, it cannot be achieved by the enactment of this Bill in whatever shape or form. That objective cannot I regret to say be much advanced either by passing this Bill or by the announcement made this morning by the Honourable the Defence Minister on the establishment of a Territorial Force. All these things fall very short of the expectations of the country. The 150 years of peace that we enjoyed in this country has emasculated us. Under the British rule we enjoyed a certain amount of peace and security, and this resulted in making us less self-reliant and more easy going. The people at large want to make up for this lack of progress in military education and training of the youth of the country. And military education does not, in my opinion or in the opinion of

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

the general public, merely mean going about and fighting. It has many other good and valuable points to recommend itself. It teaches discipline, it teaches organization, it moulds one's character, and if not merely for the sake of fighting, for all these uses it is necessary and proper that the Government should tackle this issue in the same proportion and in the same seriousness as the people of this country want it. It should be clearly recognized that we all want compulsory military education of however short a period, so that every citizen will be a potent and a latent soldier who will be prepared to fight and defend his motherland if the time comes. That is really the object of my honourable friends who have proposed these amendments and made speeches here. I do not think that object can be gained merely by an amendment of this Act. I would like to urge on behalf of such members that the Honourable Minister should make up his mind not only to make a provision of a few lakhs but to make a large enough provision so that the youth of the country receives military education irrespective of the fact whether he goes to a school or college or not. So I think Sir, that the amendment cannot serve the purpose, and it would be trying to put in in this Bill something which the Bill was never expected to provide for. So I would like my honourable friend, Pandit Bhargava if he has no objection, to withdraw his amendment and urge as strongly as possible along with every member of the House who agrees with me, that it is time the Government prepared itself for the present world situation and not content itself with merely tinkering with the problem here and there and putting on the Statute Book this Bill which is a new edition of the University Training Corps. Now coming to the provisions of the Bill so far as they go I do not think the Bill and the ideas behind it provide for a sufficient incentive for encouraging the Training contemplated and I would not be surprised if we meet with a complete failure. I am tempted to make these evil forebodings because I do not see anything sufficiently attractive in the whole scheme. We may also suffer from insufficiency of proper teachers. There is nothing to indicate how we are going to utilize the present staff in the schools and colleges for this new purpose. I have some experience of the management of schools and colleges and I can say that it is going to take pretty long, even if the government is in earnest, to make much progress in this direction of getting a sufficient number of competent teachers. But even so I would much rather leave this Bill as it is, urging the Defence Minister to see that he puts in sufficient drive behind it, and I would also impress upon him and the Government the necessity of acting in consonance with the world situation and making every youth of this country capable of fighting and defending the motherland, as is the unequivocal desire of the whole House.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I entirely agree with what Dr. Deshmukh has said. As I pointed out in the very beginning, the intention of the Government is to go ahead with the scheme. I am afraid the Bill is not what it ought to be. It is just to regularize the National Cadet Corps that we have brought the Bill before this House, and I think it would be better if these amendments which have been moved, are considered later on, after an experience of say, six months or a year. Then we propose to remove all the difficulties that we experience in the working of the scheme. At this stage I would request the Honourable Member not to insist on these amendments.

There is one more point which my honourable friend has just made and that is about open units. He thinks that Government will not pay attention to these open units. I can assure the House that if we did not want to go ahead with these open units we would have rejected them straightaway. First of course we want naturally to go ahead with the Junior Division and Senior Division, and after we have obtained some amount of success there, we want to go ahead with the open division. It is not at all our intention to leave it out.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I do not wish to press the amendments.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member wishes for leave of the House to withdraw his amendments.

The amendments were, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 11 were added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I beg to move:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 12 of the Bill, after the words 'with the', the words 'constitution and' be inserted."

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I have no objection to the amendment.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 12 of the Bill, after the words 'with the', the words 'constitution and' be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I beg to move:

"That after part (h) of sub-clause (1) of clause 12 of the Bill, the following new part be added:

"(i) two members from the Central Legislature."

Sir, with your permission, I beg to amend "by the Central Legislature" to "from the Central Legislature". As the entire constitution is a nominated committee, I do not think I should put in "elected" after the words "two members".

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That after part (h) of sub-clause (1) of clause 12 of the Bill, the following new part be added:

"(i) two members from the Central Legislature."

Shri K. Santhanam: What is the position? Are they to be nominated or elected? If they are to be nominated, then they can be nominated under (h). Out of seven nominated members, two members can be elected. Unless they are to be elected, I do not see any purpose of this amendment.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): This is an extraordinary thing. Till now no such provision has ever been made in any Bill that has come before us in the last ten or fifteen years that some members of the House should be nominated. It has always been the case that if members of the House should take part in any of these committees which come to be established in a statutory manner, then they must be elected by this House.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I am not enamoured of any nomination. If I knew the Defence Minister would accept it I would have asked for elected members—I do not want nominated members. But I know that he is not going to accept the word "elected".

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, it seems to be a private arrangement between these two gentlemen!

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, as the House will remember, this Advisory Committee is a nominated body and I made it quite clear that it is my intention to have one or two members of this House on this Committee.

[Sardar Baldev Singh]

The effect of this amendment moved by Mr. Bhargava will be that membership of that Committee will be increased from 14 to 16; it is not possible for me to accept it because the whole question was duly considered by the Department and by the Standing Defence Committee and they have agreed that the membership should be 14. So, if the House will agree, I would suggest that it should be left as it is, and if later on the House desires I will be prepared to reconsider this, but I can assure the House that it is my intention to have one or two members of this House on this Advisory Committee.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, if it is a question of nomination, I think the House better accept the Honourable Minister's suggestion. But if there is any mention of the words "Central Legislature and Members thereof", then I think it must be only by means of election and not by means of the grace of any particular Minister of Government.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No, Sir, the words "Central Legislature" do not come in.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, it is on principle objectionable that any Minister should confer patronage on this House; either we should be elected, or we should not be nominated at all in any such body. A non-official member should not be under any obligation to any Minister and so I want that either we should accept Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava's amendment as it was as "elected members", or it should be made clear that these non-official members should not consist of any members of this House.

Shrimati G. Durgabai (Madras: General): Sir, I want to know why the number cannot be increased from 14 to 16.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, there is no special technical reason, no God-given reason at all. Merely because the Defence Department and the Standing Defence Committee had agreed upon this No. 14, there is no sacredness about it. I personally feel the Honourable Minister, I am afraid, has not read the general atmosphere in this House and the general spirit with which members in this House react to such things. If it is a technical thing and if there were to be only technically qualified members in that Committee, then one can understand that it should be limited to ten, to eight and so on. But this Defence Department has always been in the habit of monkeying with things and they come here even in these days of so-called progressive nationalization of the Army and tell us that they have decided upon 14. For what reasons, may I know? What are the sacred reasons? And then say that they have already inveigled our own Standing Committee to agree to this 14 and so it is now impossible, but that we should wait for a sacred day when it will be possible, for the convenience of this Defence Department, to come forward with an amending Bill. It all sounds very bad indeed.

Shri H. V. Kamath: As a member of the Defence Standing Committee may I say just one word that when this came up before the Committee it was agreed to by the Honourable Minister that two of these members will be members of the Legislature and that the question of election or nomination can be decided here when it comes to the House. So we left it at that. We could certainly accept the amendment that they should be elected by the House and not nominated by the Government.

Sri Kuladhar Chaliha (Assam: General): Sir, I think we have not been able to get over the old bureaucratic method of patronising our members. The old way was to go to the Defence Minister to get nomination and then feel flattered that we have been greatly helped by them. I think that ought to go and I fully endorse the views of Mr. Santhanam and Prof. Ranga; we have had enough experience of that sort of nepotism.—I do not want to be harsh; really

we are in the habit of telling harsh things,—but we will get out of it. I support entirely the views of Prof. Ranga and Mr. Santhanam. We must not have any more nomination of this sort; the House must elect. We should know who are going to be elected, who are the people he is going to select.

Mr. Speaker: I have no desire to participate in the debate on the merits, but I cannot help expressing a feeling of depression or sadness into which I get, when I see motives being attributed in the manner in which it has been done during the course of this debate. I, for one, fail to see why motives of patronage or any such thing should be attributed to the Honourable Minister, when he says that he wants to have a member or two of this House. I have nothing to say on the other merits, I do not want to enter into discussion. But I am saying this only for the purpose of just requesting members to have a very high and an impersonal level of debate. It is possible to argue that the results of elections are not always the best; I am merely saying it is possible to argue.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Sir, what are you saying?

Mr. Speaker: I merely say that, I do not want to participate in the discussion, but it is necessary for me to say what I feel, that motives should not be attributed to the Honourable Minister—on any question, for that matter. If one is not in favour of nomination, one may disagree from him and say that he wants election. But that is one thing and it is quite different to say that the Honourable Minister wishes to have or to distribute patronage to members and therefore he is against election. That is not a very good or high level of debate; that is why I am expressing this feeling of mine. I feel sad when I see that members or we ourselves attribute motives to each other. Let our discussions be impersonal and let them be at a high level.

I do not want to participate, as I said—I see Prof. Ranga a bit frowning at what I say—I do not want to participate in the debate any further than that. Of course, as regards the number 14, I may say that I see some point in 14; the point is that there are seven expert officials and the idea seems to be that the Committee should neither have the majority of the one nor of the other. That seems to be the idea on the plain construction.

Mr. Hussain Imam (Bihar: Muslim): That was exactly the fact, Sir in the Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be, it is a mere inference which I see from the scheme of the whole constitution. It is open to the members to accept or not to accept. If we had not gone into that personal attribution of motives, I would have said that instead of saying "seven non-official members to be nominated by the Central Government", we could have "five non-official members nominated by the Central Government" and "two members of this House elected by this House". That would have been a proper remedy, but it is not for me to make these suggestions. I only stand just to request members very earnestly that, whatever our differences may be, let us not say that a thing is being done out of a particular motive by any particular member. That is the only thing I want to say. Now, what is the position about this amendment?

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, I beg your permission for a word of explanation. When I used the word "patronage", I did not mean to say that there was any intention, I did not want to attribute motive at all. I was only expressing my view of the facts. I do not want any member to be obliged even objectively to any Minister for any kind of appointment. It is only then that as non-official members we can bring to bear a wholly disinterested view on matters. That is the only point; I did not mean to suggest any kind of motive and if you felt that any expression of mine conveyed any such idea, I beg to withdraw it unconditionally.

Mr. Speaker: I did not have Mr. Santhanam as the only member in view. More strong expressions in more direct terms were used by some member on the other side—I need not mention names. Anyway, that is quite all right now. What is the position?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Well, Sir, as you have clearly indicated, I had no personal motive in making this suggestion and I can assure the House that as far as I am concerned, I do not wish either directly or indirectly to win over or oblige any particular member of this House. It will be mean on my part as a Minister to do so.

Now, as regards the total number of members on this Committee, it is 14. If this House is of the opinion that it should have representation on this Advisory Committee, I have no objection; I can take them—one or two members—it is difficult for me to say what the representation of this House should be. If the House so desires, I will be quite prepared to take them by election.

Mr. Speaker: So, the position requires consideration, because there is no amendment before the House to that effect. Before we have any amendment, let us be clear as to whether it is desired to have 2, in addition to the 14 or to have 2 in such a manner that the total number is 14. If it is desired to have only 14, then an amendment to sub-clause (h) would be necessary. Instead of 7 nominated, it may be 5 nominated and 2 elected.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Can we not put it this way, Sir: "7, of whom 2 shall be elected from the members of this House."

Mr. Speaker: I have considered that point. But the thing is they say in the Bill: "7 non-officials to be nominated by the Central Government". Otherwise, we would have said "two of whom shall be elected from the Legislature" and achieved our object.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Then, as you suggest, we may have to make an amendment to clause (h).

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, originally the intention was to associate public men on this Advisory Committee and the idea of taking members of the Central Legislature did not occur to us. Otherwise, I would have made special provision for that. Now, if you want to make this provision specifically that there should be one or two members on this Advisory Committee, I can accept it.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I would like to be informed whether the Honourable the Defence Minister wants that the Committee should consist of 14 persons or 16 persons. If he is agreeable to 16, then I would rather like that the amendment that I have made originally may stand. If he wants 14, then out of these 7, 2 shall be elected by the House and the rest 5 shall be nominated by the Government.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I would accept only 14 members.

Mr. Speaker: That means that the Honourable Member Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava may withdraw the present amendment. He may first withdraw and then we shall put in the other amendment.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

The amendment was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Now, he may move the amendment that in sub-clause (h), for the word "seven" the word "five" may be substituted—and he may have to add a new sub-clause (i)—and add the following new sub-clause, namely, "(i) two members elected by the Central Legislature."

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in sub-clause (h) of clause 12 of the Bill, for the word 'seven' the word 'five' be substituted, and that after sub-clause (h), the following new sub-clause be added:

"(i) two members elected by the Central Legislature'."

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That in sub-clause (h) of clause 12 of the Bill, for the word 'seven' the word 'five' be substituted, and that after sub-clause (h), the following new sub-clause be added:

"(i) two members elected by the Central Legislature'."

I may just say here that this will necessitate the removal of the word "and" after sub-clause (g) and its insertion after sub-clause (h), but this can be done by the Draftsman.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I suggest that to give more representation to Parliament, 3 should be elected from the Legislature and 4 should be nominated by the Central Government?

Mr. Speaker: The Parliament is represented by the Minister himself. So that makes the representation of the Parliament, three. As the Honourable the Defence Minister has stated, it is better that outside public men are drawn in on this Committee in a larger number. It is not advisable to curtail their number.

So, the question is:

"That in sub-clause (h) of clause 12 of the Bill, for the word 'seven' the word 'five' be substituted, and that after sub-clause (h), the following new sub-clause be added:

"(i) two members elected by the Central Legislature'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That Clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Prof. Shibhan Lal Saksena (U. P.: General): Sir, I have very carefully heard the debate upon this Bill on the previous day as well as today. I did hope that the Honourable the Defence Minister while replying on the first reading of the Bill will give some explanation to the House as to what he meant when he said that this was a drop in the ocean, but I find that he did not make any elaborate speech and he only said that we are going to make a beginning. On the discussion of the amendments also, which wanted to extend the scope of the Bill, he has not said much and the amendments have not been accepted. As such, I feel very much disappointed at this Bill.

Sir, during the Budget debate, I had said that we were living in very critical times and Pandit Kunzru observed that these were days when we were discussing the Budget under the shadow of President Truman's speech. The clouds of war are gathering all round and the conditions in our own State are not tranquil. We are already involved in Kashmir. The speech of the leader of the Razakars in Hyderabad yesterday shows what may be in store for us, and I feel that the manner in which we are passing this Bill which concerns our Defence does not seem to take into account our critical position. The

[Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena].

Honourable the Defence Minister just now said that we must wait for six months and see how this scheme works and then he will make amendments. It seems to him six months are no time at all. I feel just the reverse. I feel every minute today counts. We have to make a leeway of 200 years. We are at the bottom of the scale in the comity of nations, and if we go in this way—lingering and waiting—I do not think that we can come up to the mark in proper time. Although, inevitably, we shall pass this Bill, and although it will take its place in the Statute Book and the Honourable the Defence Minister will claim to have made a beginning, I feel we are simply having an eye-wash and are trying to deceive the public by showing that we have done something. In fact, we have seen the tremendous urge amongst people for

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Mr. Hussain Imam (one of the Panel of Chairmen)].

military training. We have seen that the country wants a big Army and wants to become a great nation. And we, circumstanced as we are, can only have a big volunteer Army or a big Army which can be in reserve. We cannot keep a standing Army of very large numbers, because the cost may be prohibitive in our present state. But it is time that we train every Indian in the art of war and we build a very good cadre of officers. On account of this Bill, one lakh and seventy five thousand young men will be trained, so that we can have a reserve of officers of this strength. I was comparing the figures of America the other day. One crore and sixty one lakhs of Americans served in the war, and the number of officers was about thirty lakhs. Compared to that, probably, this does not even constitute a drop in the ocean. In Soviet Russia, perhaps the numbers are still larger. The American people with a population of 13 crores had one crore and sixty one lakhs soldiers who have already fought one Great War and won it, and we who want to be on the U. N. O. and to have an independent status, we are providing and that with great gusto in this Bill for a National Cadet Corps which will only mean one lakh and seventy thousand persons who will be given elementary training. All these will be only school boys and small girls. This Bill does not say whether the training given to them will be up-to-date, whether they will be capable of being put in charge of any command or division, etc.

The other day, Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya moved a resolution for the raising of a National Militia. The whole House approved of it and the Honourable the Defence Minister promised that Government will come forward with a scheme incorporating the terms of that resolution. And now, after a lapse of a long time, he has come forward with a Bill, which promises to turn out 1,30,000 trained personnel after three years. This is not the way in which we can go on. I think we must state frankly that this is a hopeless measure and that we cannot support it. Will that put us on a footing of equality with the other nations of the world at this critical juncture? No, it will not. I, therefore, feel that this Bill is not at all suited to our necessity. I do not know why, in spite of our repeated utterances things are moving in the same old way. It is time that we told you plainly that we do not agree with this Bill. The nation is in danger and if people who are in charge of nation's affairs move in this way we do not know where we shall be.

In fact, as I said the other day our expenditure on defence consumes about half our budget and yet it is only 3 per cent. of the American expenditure on defence. It is only 11 per cent. of the U. K. expenditure on defence. If we compare the efficiency and the equipment of our forces I find them nowhere. Only the other day the Prime Minister said to us that in Russia they have not the time to make pieces of furniture for our Ambassador and here in our

country it is going to take 3 years to train 1,30,000 men. It will take them ten years to consider whether our industries should be nationalised or not. After all time and tide wait for no man. We have not got even a national plan which will make India self-sufficient, say in a period of ten years. I think it is time that every child at the school and every man in the street is given an opportunity to exhibit his talents. Who knows how many Napoleons there are among them? I, therefore, consider this Bill to be a mere eye wash. We do not want an eye wash now. What I want to tell you is this. Of course, I do admit that the Defence Minister cannot just now change his Bill, but he can take the advice given by my Honourable friend, Dr. Deshmukh and bring forward a comprehensive Bill in which every youngman will have an opportunity to bear arms, so that the leader of the Razakars may not say what he is reported to have said only the other day. We do not want to be humiliated in this manner. We should have a great Army, a big army in which every Indian will have an opportunity of serving. I, therefore, hope that the Honourable the Defence Minister will prepare a scheme in which will be embodied the terms of Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya's resolution for harnessing the population of this country for military service.

The other day we banned the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh. It was said that these people were a dangerous set of people. But why are they dangerous? It is because you will not harness their enthusiasm and military talent. You will not supply them arms. You want to clamp them in jails. But they will come back from the jails as hardened people cursing you and cursing that you are not fit to govern. I therefore warn my Government that it is a very urgent necessity, both from the point of view of our national defence as also of our internal policy that we must have a great army, a big army.

Sir, with these words I wish to draw the attention of the House and also of the Honourable Minister to the wishes of this House.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Honourable Minister in charge of this Bill. I think he also feels happy that he has been able to include in this Bill the clause about Girls' Division for which he had made such an eloquent appeal the other day. I should have wished to congratulate the Honourable Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru also, who was the author of that pamphlet which was distributed amongst us, in which particular attention was given to the development of the personality of the female students. All that has now been incorporated in the clause by the Honourable Minister.

Sir, it is indeed true that this Bill will give rise to a lot of military consciousness not only amongst our boys but also among the girls. It is only right and proper that they should take their part not only in domestic warfare but also in actual military warfare. Sir, this is the first time that a physical shape has been given to the desire of the people of India to militarize themselves. Hitherto most of us were excluded on the ground that some of us do not belong to the martial classes, but fortunately during the war-time services of every one was required and that artificial distinction between martial and non-martial races has disappeared. Even now, Sir, I should think that this Resolution has come in the right moment because we must be prepared for all eventualities. It is not that India wants to conquer or occupy any part of other people's dominion. It is not that we are expecting war at every moment that we should prepare ourselves, but it is true all the same that the best method of putting off war is to remain prepared; that is the only secret of keeping yourself out of it and for that reason this National Cadet Corps Bill has come at the opportune moment.

[Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri]

I hope to be excused if I refer again to my Province and particularly lay stress on the Honourable Minister's attention that an Academy of Military training should be established in that eastern corner, because if warfare had actually to come sooner or later, it will come from that corner and if you have a military academy there, the martial spirit of that part of the country will be roused and the tribals and the non-tribals of Assam are likely to form an excellent material and as the Honourable Minister also knows that guerilla warfare is a kind of warfare which has very large importance nowadays, and as a matter of fact, I make bold to say that it was the guerilla warfare in the Eastern Theatre which brought victory to the Allied Nations and there are excellent opportunities there for training oneself in guerilla warfare when you have a Military Academy in Assam and I therefore appeal in this connection to the Honourable Minister to start one military training centre for these new cadets especially in the eastern countries of Assam.

پندت تھاکر داس بھارگوا : جذاب چیرمین صاحب! میں نے بہت ساری تقریریں سنی ہیں اور اس موضوع پر میں بہت زیادہ عرض نہیں کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں صرف ایک بات ہاؤس کے سامنے رکھنا چاہتا ہوں۔ اور وہ یہ کہ National Cadet Corps کا جو یہ بل ہے۔ اس میں سے ایک تمیز جو کہ پنجاب میں بہت عرصہ سے چلی آتی ہے۔ اس کو دور کر چاہئے۔ اس میں urban اور rural کی تمیز عملاً پٹھان ہے۔ ہمیں اس تمیز کو abolish کر دینا چاہئے۔ یہ تمیز جو کہ پنجاب میں urban اور rural کے متعلق بہت مدت سے چلی آتی ہے اور اس کی وجہ سے وہاں کا atmosphere خراب ہوا ہے۔ اصل تو یہ ہے کہ سارے دیہات میں اس قسم کی تمیز پائی جاتی ہے جو نہایت مسموم ہے۔ جناب! اگر غور فرمائیں تو معلوم ہوگا کہ آج آرمی میں دو لاکھ ساٹھ ہزار آدمی بٹلائے جاتے ہیں۔ جن میں سے جہاں تک سپاہیوں کا تعلق ہے Rural areas میں سے آئے ہیں۔ اور ان کے جو بڑے بڑے افسران ہیں وہ شہری ہیں۔ عام طور پر rural areas سے آئے ہوئے اشخاص کی یہ شکایت رہی ہے کہ افسران صرف شہریوں میں سے ہی بھرتی کئے جاتے ہیں اور ان میں سے نہیں۔ اور اگر rural areas میں سے افسران لئے جاتے ہیں تو وہ اتنی تعداد میں نہیں لئے جاتے ہیں جتنی تعداد میں کہ شہر سے لئے جاتے ہیں۔

جناب عالی! میں مارشل اور نان مارشل rural اور urban کی تمیز کو ہرگز نہیں چاہتا ہوں۔ میں چاہتا ہوں کہ اس تمیز کو بالکل ختم کر دیا جائے۔ میں یہ جانتا ہوں کہ میری اس خواہش سے انٹریبل ڈیفنس منسٹر کی خواہش اس بارے میں بہت زیادہ ہے۔ اور انکی یہ خواہش ہے کہ اس تمیز کو ختم کر دیا جائے۔ لیکن اس بارے میں میں یہ گزارش کروں گا کہ جتنی دیر کہ اس National Corps میں شہر کے ہی آدمی لئے جائیں گے اور لوگوں کو عملاً صرف بطور سپاہی آرمی میں لیا جائے گا تب تک اس کا کوئی حل نہیں ہوگا۔ جب تک کہ آپ اس تمیز کو جاری رکھیں گے۔ آپ نے دیہات میں یگانگت و ہمبستی نہیں ہونگے اور نہ دیہات میں unity ہو سکیگی۔ ہمیں دور کی آبادی میں اس وقت کل دو لاکھ ساٹھ ہزار کی تعداد میں فوج ہے۔ اور

تین سال کے اندر Territorial Force میں ایک لاکھ تیس ہزار آدمی اور ٹریننگ مکمل کرینگے تو اس کا مطلب یہ ہے کہ تیس کروڑ کی آبادی میں کل تین لاکھ نوے ہزار آدمی فوج میں ہونگے جن کو کہ فی الواسطہ ملٹری کی ٹریننگ مل گئی ہو۔ جس کا مطلب یہ ہے کہ پانچ سو آدمیوں میں سے ایک آدمی ایسا ہوگا جس کو کہ ملٹری کی ٹریننگ مل گئی ہو۔ اگر آپ اس تعداد میں cadets کو بھی شامل کر لیں۔ اگر آپ ہندوستان کی ساری بیماریوں کا علاج کرنا چاہتے ہیں اور ہندوستان کے body politics میں سے ذات پات کی جدائیگی کا اثر دور کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو اس کا صرف وہی علاج ہے جو کہ میرے بزرگ دوست ڈاکٹر پٹابھی نے بتلایا ہے۔ اور وہ یہ کہ نیشنل ملیشیا قائم کیا جائے جس میں شہری بھی ہوں اور گروں والے بھی ہوں اور جسمیں سے ارشل۔ نان۔ مارشل۔ rural اور urban کی تمیز رکھدی گئی ہے اس کو ہٹا دیا جائے۔ تاکہ شہر کے لوگوں میں سے بھی سپاہی بھرتی ہو جائیں اور گروں کے لوگوں میں سے بھی افسران لئے جائیں۔ یہ لوگ جو آج تک بطور سپاہی بھرتی نہیں ہوئے ہیں وہ اب بھی سپاہی بھرتی نہیں ہونگے اور گروں والے بطور افسر نہیں لئے جا سکتے۔ اس لئے آپ کو چاہئے کہ اس تمیز کو ختم کر دیں۔ اگر آپ اس کو قطعی طور پر ایک دم سارے ہندوستان میں نہیں کر سکتے تو کم از کم آپ ایسا کریں کہ East Punjab کے دو ضلع لہن اور West Bengal کے دو ضلع لہن اور ان کے لئے یہ قید conscription کو دیں کہ سب آدمی جو ستروہ سے پچیس سال کی عمر کے ہوں ان کو لازمی فوجی تعلیم دیجائے اس کے علاوہ یہ کر دیں کہ سب کو بلا لحاظ مذہب و ملت و ذات پات ان سب کو ایک ہی جگہ ٹریننگ دیں۔ وہی سب کے استاد ہوں ان کا ایک ہی Kitchen رکھیں اور ایک ہی لباس رکھیں اور ان کے لئے ایک ہی قاعدہ ہو اور ان کے ایک ہی idea ہوں۔ دس کی حفاظت کے لئے جب تک سب برادریوں کے لوگ مشترکہ طور پر خون بہا نہ سیکھیں گے اور مشترکہ طور پر قربانی کے لئے تیار نہ ہوں گے۔ اس دیہات کا کلیان نہیں ہوگا اور نہ اس سوال کا حل ہوگا۔ میں نے بیماری کا اصلی علاج ظاہر کرنے کے لئے ہاؤس کا وقت لیا ہے جبکہ ہاؤس کے پاس زیادہ وقت ہی نہیں ہے اس لئے میں اس تفریع اوقات کے لئے معافی چاہتا ہوں۔

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have heard many speeches, I do not want to speak very much on this subject. I want to place only one thing before the House, namely that the distinction which has been observed in the Punjab for a very long time and which also exists in the National Cadet Corps Bill should be removed. The distinction between urban and rural is designedly incorporated in the Bill. We should abolish this distinction. The distinction between urban and rural observed in the Punjab for a long time has fouled the atmosphere. In fact, such a distinction exists every where in the country, but it is very destructive.

Sir, you will find that our army is stated to consist of about two lakhs and sixty thousand men. So far as soldiers are concerned they all come from

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.]

rural area while officers come from cities. Those recruited from rural areas generally complain that officers for the army are recruited from among city people only, and not from those coming from rural areas. Even if officers are recruited from rural areas, they are not recruited in such a great number as those taken from cities.

Sir, I do not want that there should be any distinction between martial or non-martial or between rural or urban. I wish such discrimination should be completely removed. I know that the Honourable the Defence Minister is himself very keen about this matter. But I would say that in this connection so long as recruits for the National Corps are taken from the urban population and the villagers are recruited as soldiers only, this problem will not be solved. So long as this distinction continues you cannot have equality and fraternity in the country, and there will be no unity among the people.

At present against a population of thirty crores, there are only about two lakhs and sixty thousand soldiers in the army and in the next three years about 1,30,000 men will complete training in the Territorial Force. In this way against a population of 30 crores we will have about 3,90,000 men trained in the army. That is out of every 500 men there will be one man only who has received military training taking into consideration the cadets also. If you want to treat all the ills in India and remove the effects of caste and separatism from the body politic of India, there is only one remedy for it, namely the one suggested by my Honourable friend Dr. Pattabhi that the National Militia should be formed. It should consist of citizens as well as villagers. The distinction of martial and non-martial, rural and urban should be removed, so people from the cities also may be recruited as soldiers, and the villagers may be taken as officers. Those who have not been recruited to the ranks will not even then come forward as soldiers and the villagers would not be recruited as officers. You should, therefore, put an end to this differentiation. If you cannot put an end to this practice in the whole of the country you should at least do so in two districts of the East Punjab, and in two districts of the West Punjab and prescribe conscription for men between the ages of 17 and 25. They should be given training at one centre only, without any distinction of caste and creed. They should have the same instructors and should share the same kitchen, same uniform and the same rules and regulations and ideal. So long as men of all communities are not prepared to sacrifice their lives for the defence of the country, this country will not make any progress and the question will remain unsolved.

I have taken the time of the House to indicate the correct remedy for the disease. As the House has not much time. I apologise for having taken so much time.

Shri Satyanarayan Sinha (Bihar: General): The question may now be put.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, I do not want to take the time of the House, but I do want to say a word or two in reply to the criticism levelled by Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena. I think, Sir, it was wrong the way in which the Honourable Member has described the proposition which I have put before the House. No Government, whether this Government or any other Government will be able to make any beginning unless you lay down the very essential fundamentals. All I have claimed through this Bill is that we have made a beginning. It is absolutely essential to make a beginning and

this Bill's aim is that. Now coming to the next question Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena said it is an eye-wash. I do not think it is an eye-wash. I think it is an unfair criticism of the measure that the Government has brought before the House. There are practical difficulties which the Honourable Member has not tried to go into. There is a great difficulty about the instructors; the trained staff. As the House will remember we have at present an Army of considerable strength. We are nationalising the Army and in doing so we are finding difficulty on account of the shortage of officers.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Are you satisfied that the capacity in your training colleges is fully used?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Now I wish to point out the difficulties that we have got to face. On the one hand we are asked to nationalise and we have accepted the policy of nationalization and we are going ahead with it. On the other hand, if we want to make a success of this National Cadet Corps Committee, we must have trained instructors and we must have trained officers. Again for the territorial army we have decided to go ahead with the scheme; but again the difficulty is about instructors and trained staff.

Prof N. G. Ranga: Are there not plenty of people among the Indian National Army personnel?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I have replied to that question not once but half a dozen times. If we were to build up or help the provinces to raise efficient Home Guards, we have not enough officers for that purpose. Not to speak of Indian National Army men and officers we will have to spare at least 150 of our instructors and officers in order to meet the demand of the provincial Governments in full. That is the difficulty that we are faced with. May I ask my Honourable friend if he proposes to train this National Cadet Corps and the territorial army with ordinary professors or teachers? Then we cannot make any headway. There is no other alternative for us but to have good instructors and good officers to build up a really good National Cadet Corps and a good territorial army.

The next thing he pointed out was about the situation in Hyderabad and Kashmir and the strained relations with Pakistan. All these difficulties are there and I have always stated that it is the intention of Government to meet those difficulties. But they cannot be met by speeches. If we have a hundred thousand men trained today the difficulty of arms comes in. As the House knows, we have not got the capacity to meet all our requirements.

Seth Govinddas: What about factories that are lying idle?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The Honourable Member perhaps knows more about this factory near his home town which is lying idle. But I may inform him that during the war the maximum capacity of our Ordnance factories was never more than nine to ten thousand rifles per month. And at that time we had about 30 factories; and immediately after the war some of these factories have been dismantled with the result that at present we have only 16 Ordnance factories. Now with all the Ordnance factories that we have got with us today we cannot manufacture the requirements of our present armed forces.

Shri H. V. Kamath: I submit that in the public interest all this should not be given out.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: If we pass a Bill or a Resolution here that tomorrow we are to have a national cadet corps of half a million and a territorial army of half a million, that does not solve our difficulty. There are other difficulties which the House must bear in mind. I have already

[Sardar Baldev Singh]

stated that we have made a beginning. After all, these preliminary things, have to be done and the earlier they are done the sooner we can make further headway. It is with this object that I have brought forward these proposals before the House. But I can assure the House that it is the intention of Government not to limit the National Cadet Corps to 1 lakh and 25 thousand boys and girls. It is our intention, as soon as this target is reached, to expand it further; you can expand it to half a million, you can expand it to a million, or you can make the training for all the boys and girls compulsory if you so desire and if your finances permit. The same thing holds true about the territorial army, and this morning I stated that the present target fixed is 1 lakh and 30 thousand. Again there is no limit to this. The House does not realise the difficulties that we have to face. We have got to train the staff, we have not got the equipment, we cannot deprive our regular army of the equipment and make it available for the training of the territorial force when we are faced with a serious situation in this country. These are some of the difficulties. I am afraid I cannot divulge in detail the difficulties that we are faced with but I hope the House will realise the difficulties and will welcome the proposals that we have put before the House.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: Sir, the Honourable Minister mentioned some difficulties but I believe the full capacity of the training colleges is not being utilised and many more people can be trained there. Will the Honourable Minister see that full advantage is taken of these institutions?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Again the Honourable Member's information is not correct. Not to speak of surplus capacity in our training institutions, we are short of these institutions. We have not got all the institutions we want in which to train our officers. That is the position at present. On account of the partition of the country some of the training institutions were left in Pakistan and we are now building new ones. We simply have not the capacity to train more men.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Sir, on a point of order, the Honourable Minister disclosed figures of peak production of our Ordnance factories in war time. I should like to know whether it was in the public interest to disclose them and whether he was in order in doing so.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Minister said once before that his figures are only approximate figures; he is always careful not to give too accurate figures.

The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS BILL

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to provide for the incorporation of Road Transport Corporations and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The purpose of this Bill is to provide one form of machinery for the implementation of the rail-road coordination scheme the principle of which has been already accepted by the House because the necessary finance for it was included in the railway budget which the House was good enough to accept. The original proposal that we made to provinces for road transport organisation

was that the organisation should be set up on the basis of tripartite companies, companies in which the provincial Government, the Central Government and the existing operators would all participate. Some provinces have been agreeable to that proposal, others have not. Recently there has been a trend in some provinces towards provincialisation of road transport organisation, and in connection with the schemes for provincialisation they have found that a Road Transport Board would be the most suitable form in which the organisation could be set up. As the House is aware, road communications are entirely a subject for the provincial legislature under the Constitution Act. Therefore ordinarily one would have expected that the setting up of these Transport Boards for the organisation of road transport would be a matter within the competence of the provincial legislatures. But the Law Officers of the Government of India have taken the line that while trade and commerce are subjects which fall within the sphere of the provinces, the incorporation regulation and winding up of trading corporations—and they take the view that these Road Transport Boards are really trading corporations—fall within the province of the central legislature. It is because of this interpretation of the relevant provision that the necessity for this Bill has arisen. In other words the purpose of this Bill is simply this: Where a provincial Government feel that the most suitable way in which they can develop their road transport is to set up a statutory corporation it is necessary that the central legislature should authorise the provincial Government to set it up. If we do not provide the necessary legislative authority that kind of organisation cannot be set up. But it does not in the least mean that this legislature is directing the provincial Government or the provincial legislature to proceed on any particular lines in regard to their road transport organisation. It is open to them to set up various alternative organizations for their road transport. For example it is open to them to set up a company under the ordinary Companies Act. It is also possible for them to run the whole thing departmentally. Now a statutory Corporation for a public utility service of this kind has certain inherent advantages. If the Provincial Governments find that in view of these advantages they want to set up a Corporation it is necessary that they should obtain legislative authority from the Central Government. That is all the point of this Bill.

Various amendments have been proposed. I have a feeling that many of these amendments are based on a misconception of the real purpose of this Bill. Taking clause 3, which consists of two parts—one of which sets out the purpose of rail-road transport organisation and the second of which states the conditions on which the organisation should base—all these simply reflect points on which agreement has already been reached between us and the Provincial Governments in the course of a very prolonged discussion of this matter between the two Governments. We are not introducing anything new.

There is another point which I want to make clear, because I feel from the trend of the amendments that there is some misunderstanding. It is because of the interpretation of the relevant constitutional position to which I have referred that this legislature has come into the picture at all. We have not the slightest desire to impose the authority of the Central Legislature or the Central Government on the Provincial Governments in this matter, because the development of road communications being borne on the second list in the schedule attached to the Government of India Act, is entirely within their province. It is because of this technical interpretation of the constitutional position, I repeat, that we come into the picture.

Certain amendments have been proposed by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari and Mr. K. Santhanam, the purpose of which seems to me to be to remove from this Bill certain indications of a desire on our part to impose supervision by the Central Government. It is not our intention at all that the Central Government should arm itself with any sort of authority, supervision or control over the Provincial Governments.

There is another point which seems to arise from the amendments proposed. I find there is a fear that unless public opinion is further elicited on this point, harm is likely to be done to provincial interests. I want to tell the House that if we desire now to postpone enacting this, provincial Governments which are proceeding with the urgent execution of their schemes of road transport organisations will be at liberty to adopt alternative forms of organisation. They could set up companies. They could run them departmentally. It seems to me therefore if the idea of a statutory Corporation has certain inherent advantages, then we gain nothing by depriving Provincial Governments of authority to set that up. We gain nothing by trying to postpone it. It would mean that the Provincial Governments would be able to adopt other and less desirable alternatives. This is purely an enabling measure. They can adopt it or they need not.

I feel that many of the Honourable Members who have proposed amendments have probably done so under the impression that this Bill introduces something which is likely either to hamper the interests of the provinces or to place upon the Provincial Governments restrictions on the part of the Central Government. No such thing is intended. I hope there will be no difficulty in passing this Bill into law.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the incorporation of Road Transport Corporations and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): I do not want to take up the time of the House to any extent. The Honourable Minister has correctly explained the legal position. The law of Corporations is within the purview of the Central Government, while the actual subject of road transport is within the provincial field. Therefore if it is desirable for the provinces to run that road transport service through public Corporations, it is necessary that a Bill of this type should be brought forward, and I also agree that the mechanism of a public corporation is certainly the most desirable way of running transport services as a public utility enterprise. Therefore, I welcome the principle of the Bill.

But in this matter it ought not to be forgotten that the Central and Provincial Governments are more or less competing interests in a certain matter. The railways have been asking for a share in road transport. They are entitled to it because they are interested in the development of road transport and road transport may compete with railways, but they have to get the share by the goodwill and consent of the provinces. Therefore, there should be no provision in the Bill which puts the Central Government in a sort of authoritarian position, which may compel the provinces to yield something which they are not willing to yield. Therefore in the Bill as now drafted the Central Government, by virtue of the technical constitutional position which the Minister has explained, has also taken the opportunity to arm itself with the power of sanctioning. In Clause 3 it is found that the Corporation has to be formed with the consent of the Central Government and the Central Government shall not give its consent unless some conditions are fulfilled. The Central Government puts itself into a position of authority to judge whether the provinces have fulfilled certain conditions or not. My point is that in the

present form it means that the Central Government is a party to an existing dispute, which has been going on for one year. It has put itself in the position of a dictator, which is objectionable, and is a misuse of the present constitutional position. All our amendments are meant to provide Provincial Governments with the advantage of a public corporation and without the disadvantage of Central dictatorship. Therefore, I do hope that our amendments will be acceptable to the Minister otherwise the scheme of the Corporation is undesirable.

It is a pity that the Bill has been rather hastily brought forward and it necessitates another Provincial Bill to define the details of a material corporation, and therefore each Provincial Legislature will have to devise its own particular articles for the purpose. Even then, in spite of the deficiencies I do welcome this Bill and I hope that with the amendments we have proposed the Bill will be unobjectionable from the point of view of the provinces, because the provinces will not be bound to set up these Corporations and they will be able to run them departmentally or under the Companies Act. As this is purely an enabling Bill, I hope that our amendments will be accepted. Otherwise the only way by which a public Corporation can be formed will be for the Provincial Governments to put their heads into the noose of the Central Government.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: It may clarify the position if I say straight away that I am going to accept the amendments which my Honourable friend may have to move.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C. P. and Berar: General): Sir, I am afraid I am being asked to be very brief, because our lady members are anxious that we should reach the Hindu Code as early as possible. I have also to bear the weight of the visitors' gallery to see that I do not take much of the time. My point, as will be apparent from my amendments, is a very important one and that is that I do not want in this country any more monopolies to be set up. As early as the year 1933 when the railway trains were going empty the Government of India held a rail-road conference. I attended it then as Minister from C. P. in charge of P. W. D. The Government of India wanted to get a monopoly on the road, so as to save their railways. That conference was decidedly of the opinion that state should not be given monopoly on the roads and that is exactly the point of view that I want to put forward. I do not mind corporations coming into being; but the corporation should not be left to itself as the railways are. We know the unsatisfactory manner in which every monopoly works. We know the railways have failed to work to our satisfaction. Whenever the state comes in or monopolies are granted there is no standard of comparison and the average man has to pay three or four times more money than he would otherwise had to pay. At the present time I have the instance of the service between Amraoti and Badura. It is a distance of six miles. They were formerly charging one or one and a half annas, but since the time the Government or a quasi-government concern has come in the people have to pay three and a half annas without any increase in either comfort or convenience. I am all for the State owning larger and larger industries but they should also leave something by which the people can compare their comfort and convenience. We do not want nationalization merely for the fashion of owning or nationalising industries. That must lead also to more convenience at reasonable and not exorbitant cost. That is the reason why I am opposed to the setting up of the corporations but if care is taken by the Centre to impress upon the provincial governments that they will not be the sole monopolisers of the road transport I have no objection to the passing of this Bill.

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

At the present time we are not very democratically governed either at the Centre or in the Provinces. This is an assertion that I make bold to state on the floor of this House, because there is amongst the various governments in the provinces a certain element which feels absolutely content and safe in their majorities and they are not prepared to listen to either the minority or any sensible views. Therefore it is that we go headlong into many questions without considering the average man's interest and that is the warning that I want to give in the constitution of these corporations.

So far as my amendments are concerned, in view of the very great pressure that is exercised on me to cut short my speech and discussion on the Bill I would not probably be able to move them, if the Government agree to a reference of the Bill to a Select Committee, all these points may be properly dealt with. I might however say that I would like that clause 8 were changed so that it would be incumbent upon the provincial governments to keep intact at least the bigger companies. If there are companies which have a capital of say five to ten lakhs, such well organised concerns ought not to be dislodged from the roads and a monopoly should not be established to so much detriment of the people. I only want that even if this Bill goes through more or less as it is, this point of view will be borne in mind and if we have any bad experience of its working in any province it would be incumbent upon this House to change the policy and restore the private companies.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): Sir, I cannot agree with my friend in his prejudice against the provincial governments taking up this service. My only fear is that if you pass this Bill as it is or even with the amendments the position of the Provincial Governments will be made very difficult, especially those provincial governments which wish to nationalise their road services. There will be there able friends like my friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari who would be able to say that the Central Government and the Central Legislature in their own wisdom have ought it fit to give this enabling power to the provincial governments, because they felt that it would be best to float a public corporation instead of actually nationalising it and running the road services by departmental means. So you would be weighing public opinion on one side as against the other. In some provinces like Madras it has already been nationalised. There are some people who are anxious to get it out of the hands of the department and place it under the control of the public corporation. It is all very well to say that the public corporation is state-owned. I agree. If departmental management of railways or the departmental management of road transport is much more efficient and much better for the Government as well as the public than the corporation, then certainly it should not be disturbed. You will be unnecessarily preparing public opinion against that sort of thing and weighing it in favour of this public corporation. The difficulty about this public corporation is that the legislature does not have that much of direct control over its management, and its recruitment as they will have over departmental management. Therefore it has its own disadvantages. Already in the industrial policy statement that was made yesterday too much stress was laid upon the corporations merely because we have gone to the other extreme in order to safeguard ourselves from the mischief of departmental management but wherever there is departmental management and it is efficient certainly we should not weight public opinion too much in favour of public corporations and too much against departmental management. In regard to the other things I agree with my Honourable friend Mr. Santhanam that the Central Government should not try and least of all even to encroach upon the legitimate field of operation that is set apart for the provinces. Various provisions are made to the effect that

the Central Government should be satisfied in this or that way before the provincial government can possibly take this or that action. That ought not to be there at all. (Mr. K. Santhanam: "That will be removed.") You are going to remove that. I hope my Honourable friend Mr. Santhanam will succeed in safeguarding the interests of the provincial governments and at the same time I want it to be placed on record by the Honourable Railway and Transport Minister that the need for this Bill has come, because one particular Government, viz., the Bombay Government, has asked for it and the Central Government is not in any way biased in favour of these public corporations at all, and that the provincial governments are entirely free. It is only an experiment that is to be made and it is not even an experiment that the Central Government is going to make. Those Governments which have already been making an experiment with departmental management of road transport should not feel that it is in any way a sort of reflection on their own management.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sastry (Madras: General): Sir, I feel impelled to say a few words on this Bill, for it is only a permissive piece of legislation. As the President of the All India Motor transport conference I have had occasion to make a representation that the question of nationalisation of road transport be deferred for sometime. The manner in which provincial Governments have been pouncing upon private enterprise which has done service for the last 25 years (beginning with the time when the provincial governments were nowhere), taking great risks, is somewhat surprising. I should consider that private enterprise in regard to transport by private companies bears the same relation to a corporation or to a nationalised industry as the provinces to the Centre: it bears the same relation as cottage industry bears to a machine industry. Hundreds of thousands of people are eking out their livelihood by running one or two buses. They are trying to compete with one another and promoting the amenities available to the public in a manner which has conducted to public good and to public convenience. At this point when the popular mind has been well accustomed to transport by buses the provincial government comes in with a scheme of a corporation in which the Central Government takes 50 per cent. of the shares, the provincial government takes 30 to 40 per cent. and perhaps 18, 19 or 20 per cent. of the shares are given to the bus owners. And then it is proposed to run a service which is likely to be of a very indifferent type. Imagine a private bus owner running a bus and being stranded on the way. He has personal interest in the matter and he waits on the passengers, stops every incoming and outgoing bus, begs for a little petrol or mobile oil, asks for a pump or a little rubber sheet and rubber solution and tries to see that his patch is repaired, his wheels run and his passengers reach their destination. But the servant of a corporation is responsible to nobody. He leaves the passengers and the bus there, writes a half sheet after going home in the next bus and sends it to the office where it passes through the despatch and receipts clerk and goes to the head of the office; it takes three days in order to reach the engineering side; from there it is forwarded to the engineer and then to the journey-man and the fitter and the turner; and then an estimate is made of the requirements of the material which take their own course and must be sanctioned; and perhaps it may take at the earliest fifteen days for the bus to be repaired and put on the road again. I am perhaps exaggerating. But it is one way of bringing home a truth to a certain set of impenetrable minds. All exaggerations contain not only a core of truth but a volume of truth. I do not say that this industry should not be nationalised. But what is the policy that has been laid down yesterday under the Industrial scheme? You said that you would not touch the existing concerns, and what is the policy today? You are providing amenities for incorporating companies to take over these buses from private owners. Yesterday I hoped I might have an opportunity of speaking but limi-

[Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya]

tations of time necessarily made it impossible for me to butt in. And somebody pointed out that so much as the word 'transport' was not mentioned in either of the lists. I looked in vain for the word and I found in the second list automobiles as second in the list, and I thought that that was meant to serve the purpose of transport. If that is so, then it comes in the second list and therefore not one immediately meant to be taken over. However, I would only say this. I do not wish to say that this Bill should not be passed. But this Bill should not carry implications with it which are not perhaps meant. It should not be understood that because such a Bill has been passed therefore the Provinces are at once to form corporations or to step in departmentally and then take over these concerns. It is true that there are very good concerns conceived on a vast scale—one perhaps in Madura and others elsewhere—which have been doing excellent service. I can equally well point to the bus service between Bezvada and Masulipatam which runs exactly every twentyfour minutes, which does not wait for even the Collector or the Superintendent of Police. It happened that an old servant of mine whom I had trained in motor driving who served as a motor driver first and who became a bus owner and then a bus proprietor happened to be the President of this Union. He is a Mussalman. This young fellow has made good so brilliantly that he rose to this high position. One day I happened to go just a distance of five miles by a bus and hoped to come back home at 10 o'clock. I left a village a furlong distant from the road; the time being about 9.45 I thought it would not take more than ten minutes to reach home. But I had to wait for 2½ hours for the simple reason that the rigidity of the rule of not taking extra passengers was so perfect and complete, the discipline which was self-imposed so binding. I was not taken because they were at the tail end of the road and the buses were full. Such was the discipline; such was the unbending rigidity with which they were bound by the rules. They had got away from the tyranny of the policeman who used to be the tyrant over them, who had indeed no law as a result of which these people came as a ready prey to the police authorities. If you quote instances of a very big organized company doing business I can quote half a dozen examples of individual bus owners, or bus owners who have registered themselves as an organisation, running this business beautifully and splendidly. On the line between Masulipatam and Bezvada you would not have reason to complain either of the bus not starting in time or of its failure to reach the destination at the stated time; the wretched train comes everyday late, but not one out of the fortyeight buses running on the line from morning to night comes even a minute late. It is possible by blending our strength and organisation to such schemes to make them as perfect as possible. I would therefore only sound a note of warning. In U.P. a corporation was contemplated, but after considering various aspects of the question they wanted to take 400 or 500 miles of lines and leave over the rest for four or five years hence. In Bombay there has been an unfortunate instance. The Honourable Minister concerned is so particular about it that I am sorry to say the bus owners who have been waiting on him have not got decent treatment at his hands. There are three groups in Bombay: there is the Karnatak group, there is the Maharashtra group, and there is the Gujarati group. They have started particular lines in particular areas and each group is afraid that if it opposed the proposal it might be considered capitalistic and therefore wants to compete with the other in its socialistic trends. But all of them are complaining against the manner in which this thing is being forced. There is a wide complaint in the Bombay Presidency. In Orissa a Bill has already been passed. Whether it has been implemented or not I do not know. All over the country there is wide agitation, and it must be said that this is a poor reward for the bus owners who have done yeoman service to the popular cause and undergone trials and tribulations. I do not want that this should be indefinitely postponed; nor that those who have rendered service to the nation in time of need should be for-

gotten; nor that those who have rendered service to the nation should live eternally on the past and we should be beholden to them without introducing these new institutions which time and circumstances demand. All things considered I would only sound this note of warning that the mere passing of this measure which is, I take it, of a permissive character does not carry, and should not be understood to carry, implications that it is meant to accelerate the pace of nationalisation of this industry.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva (C.P. and Berar: General): The object of this Bill is to formulate schemes to ensure the development of a rationalised system of road transport in co-ordination with railways. This Bill does not envisage any kind of nationalisation of transport services. As is indicated in the White Paper to which reference has been made by the Honourable Minister while moving this Bill for the acceptance of this House it does not envisage that at all. I was referring to the White Paper which was published in the last session. It is a kind of a tripartite arrangement in which a portion of capital is to be invested by the Provincial Government, some portion by the railways and others by the companies. But I am not talking just now of the nationalisation or the rationalisation of the scheme. What I contend is that this scheme was prepared or discussed or investigated two and a half years ago and since then the conditions have considerably changed. When the scheme was considered our Railways were far better than they are today.

The objects of this Bill, if I may quote a paragraph of the Statements of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, are these:

"This Bill is intended to give the necessary power to such Provincial Governments as may desire to set up the Corporations."

So far so good. Proceeding it says:

"While delegating this power it is necessary to guard against wasteful competition between road transport and the Railways"

Now, the Railway today is not in a position to meet the bare demands of the travelling public. Where does the question of competition come in? Before the war when this question was being considered both by the Provincial and the Central Governments, I can quite understand that the question of competition between the Railways and the transport companies was a reasonable one. But today the situation is quite different. Our railways are not functioning to the satisfaction of the travelling public. And if today there are many transport services which are running parallel to the railway line I for one would not object to it notwithstanding, you may call it, the competition. But it is not competition. The railways are not going to lose anything because the railways are not in a position to meet that demand as I stated. Where does the question of competition come in? On the contrary it is a relief to that class of the public who have to move about off and on by bus services that are run parallel to the railways. Therefore, Sir, at the present juncture the condition is different, and if a bus is running parallel to the railway, I will not object to it because it gives some relief to so many thousands of the travelling public. This object must be borne in mind. I yield to none in nationalizing particularly the transport industry, but at the same time I must see what the facts are. The railways are not in a position to meet their present requirements for very many reasons that they have told us. They have themselves admitted that they are deficient both in engines, rolling stock and so many other factors. When they admit such a position as regards the transport service of the Government, I fail to understand why they should in any way come in the way of those who are in a position to meet some demands of the travelling public. That is my contention. While I feel that this Bill gives powers to the provincial government—and formation of a corporation is a very good thing—what I would like to impress is that while passing this Bill the Honourable Minister must convey the wishes of this House to the provincial Governments that if the buses are running today parallel to the Government

[Mr. R. K. Sidhva]

lines, they should not object. The time will come when we have improved our system, and there will be nothing wrong in changing the conditions afterwards when we are better off in giving facilities to the travellers. At the present moment, therefore, Sir, there is a great deal of force in what my friend Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya stated. As I stated, Sir, I have advocated times without number the nationalization of so many industries and I am very keen always about the public utility concerns, and amongst public utility concerns one is transport and I have always advocated its nationalisation. I may have an aspiration for nationalising; I feel that I am doing little injustice—sometimes great injustice to so many thousands of people if such a view is put into practice. I know there are advantages in nationalization. In the transport services which are privately managed, even if they are run in a deficient manner, I have no voice. I know sometimes people say that telephones when administered by private concerns were very efficient. Today we are not efficiently managing it. It is true we are not efficiently managing, but with all that we have a definite voice in the matter and we have a share in all those concerns. Therefore I overlook it. But in overlooking all these things, I cannot overlook the poor travelling public. Dr. Pattabhi stated he is the President of motor transport, I am President of the Travelling Public of the All-India Federation of Passengers and I can tell you, Sir, that the travelling public will not tolerate any encroachment upon the bus service by Government, provincial or Central. I might state that the travelling public today curse the increase of the railways fares. Without giving them any facilities, this Government have increased abnormally the III class fares of passengers, and on top of that you come and say that buses cannot run on certain routes which run parallel to railways because they come under competition. Therefore, while I will have no objection to the passing of this Bill—I at least do desire that the Honourable Minister will state to the provincial Governments that they shall not necessarily and directly enforce this clause that any service that is run parallel to the railway line today should in any way be opposed. They should be allowed to be continued and when the time comes, when conditions are better and the railways are run satisfactorily and when we feel that the railways are in a position to meet much more readily the demands from the public, we will be in a position to say that this service should be dropped. I therefore support the motion and I hope that the suggestions I have made will be borne in mind.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha (West Bengal: General): I move:

"That the question be put."

Mr. Chairman: I should like to be guided by the House whether the debate should be concluded now or should be continued for some more time.

The question is:

"That the question be put."

The motion was negatived.

Shri O. Subramaniam (Madras: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am glad the Honourable Minister has stated that this is only an enabling Bill and the Central Government has absolutely no intention of forcing any agreement on the provincial Governments. This Bill was introduced only very recently and it is being put through expeditiously, perhaps with the intention that the provincial Governments should take advantage of this as soon as possible. But on going through the provisions of the Bill, I find that many obstacles and hurdles are put in the way of the provincial Governments taking advantage of the provisions of this Bill. I find there is a suspicion against provincial Governments running throughout this Bill. Take clause 1. It says that even though it is for the provincial Governments to prepare any legislation for the purpose of appointing this corporation, we find while it extends to all the provinces it shall

not come into force in any province unless the Central Government, by notification, so directs. So that is one block. The Central Government should be pleased to notify in official Gazette saying that it comes into effect in certain provinces. Then alone it comes into force even though this Bill is passed now. Even after that it is not as if the provincial Governments can straightaway proceed with the appointment of the corporation. In clause 3 you will find that before the consent of the Central Government could be given under sub-clause (2), agreement will have to be arrived at between the Central Government and the Provincial Governments, that is in regard to the percentage of share capital of the corporation, to be held by the Central and Provincial Governments. So before they can proceed to appoint the corporation, they have to come to an agreement with the Central Government regarding the percentage which is to be allotted to the Central Government representing railways. Then there is another provision to which I will refer later on, but that is not a matter which concerns any agreement with the Central Government. Then after that, it has to go to the Central Government for consent and it is only with the consent of the Central Government that the Provincial Government may appoint, by notification issued in this behalf, a Road Transport Corporation. So the condition precedent is there, that agreement should have been arrived at, and after that, they should go to the Central Government for consent, and if they are so pleased, the Central Government might give consent. So I find there are more obstacles put in the way of provincial Governments taking advantage of this Bill. It was said that this is not the only alternative left to the provincial Governments. They could run it departmentally. They could constitute a company under the Indian Companies Act. If you are of opinion that state-concerns should be run by statutory corporation, then it should be made possible for the provinces to take advantage of the Bill without any difficulty whatsoever. I find from the provisions that are put in the Bill, the provincial Governments will be only inclined not to come anywhere near this Bill but to go with their departmental management or to have some other concern just like a company under the Indian Companies Act. You will be forcing provincial Governments to adopt other methods rather than to go to the provisions of this Bill for the purpose of appointing a corporation under this Bill. So I would respectfully submit that these provisions need modification. Then again you will see in clause 3:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a Provincial Government, having regard to—

- (a) the advantages offered to the public, trade and industry by the development of road transport;
- (b) the desirability of co-ordinating any form of road transport with any other form of transport;
- (c) the desirability of extending and improving the facilities for road transport in any area in such manner as to provide most efficiently for the needs thereof and of preventing uneconomic competition among any forms of road transport, may with the consent

I would like to know whether only these considerations should weigh with the provincial Governments for taking over transport services. Suppose apart from any of these considerations, the provincial Governments want that it should nationalize the transport system, will the Central Government stand in the way of the appointment of a corporation for that purpose?

Further, is it necessary that it should satisfy all these three conditions? There is neither "and" nor "or" there. Therefore, I do not know whether it is intended, having regard to all these three facts or one of these three, that the provincial Government may constitute a corporation. There is absolutely nothing to show whether it is the intention that all these three factors mentioned in sub-clause (1) of clause 3 should be fulfilled or having regard to any one of these three a corporation can be formed or a transport service taken over.

[Shri C. Subramaniam].

(Interruption). My Honourable friend Mr. Santhanam says they are only subjective considerations, but here it says:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a Provincial Government, having regard to—

(a)

(b)

(c)

may, with the consent of the Central Government, appoint, by notification issued in this behalf"

It does not read in the way in which my Honourable friend wants to read into it. So, that also has got to be cleared.

There is one other objectionable feature in sub-clause 2(c) of clause 3. Sub-clause (2) says that the Central Government shall not give its consent to the appointment of any corporation under this Act, unless—

(a) provision is made regarding the percentage of the shares to be allotted to the Central Government;

(b) provision is made and continues to be made for adequate representation of the Central Government and of the provincial Government concerned on the corporation;

(c) provision is made for the payment of compensation to the owners of any road transport services whose services have been taken over or have been displaced by reason of the exercise of any powers vested in the corporation.

Sir, in my view this sub-clause (c) contains a very objectionable feature. I can understand compensation being given to owners of services whose services are taken over by the corporation, but to say that owners who are displaced by the corporation should also get compensation, and that unless such a provision is made the Central Government shall not give its consent, is I think very objectionable. In the White Paper laid on the table of the House in 1946, to which a reference is made in the Objects and Reasons of this Bill, it was stated, referring to the provisions in the Motor Vehicles Act,—

"the object of these provisions was to prevent trading in permits and the Act and rules thereunder do not recognise that a permit has any sale value. At the same time, the proviso to Section 58(2) gives preference to the renewal of an existing permit over the grant of a fresh permit to a different person. It can be argued therefore that a permit carries with it some right of continuance and is therefore of some commercial value."

And finally they say,—

"The Central Government desire to deal reasonably with the operators and are in principle prepared to invest Railway finance in a company in which provision has been made for reasonable payments to existing operators on this account."

Sir, I respectfully submit that in those days the Government was anxious to protect all vested interests; that is why they said that even a displaced owner shall be entitled to some compensation because under section 58(2) some sort of preference has got to be shown to him. I may read section 58(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act and I would ask the House to see whether as a matter of fact that contention is justified. That section says:

"A permit may be renewed on an application made and disposed of as if it were an application for a permit:

Provided that, other conditions being equal, an application for renewal shall be given preference over new applications for permits."

If there are many applicants in the field then it says that the original permit-holder shall have the preference. But when the State is in the field and says,

"The State is going to take over the entire transport system should the State

also be treated as an applicant and say, "Here is an applicant who is the State and there is another applicant who has been running the transport system and as between the two preference has to be given under section 58(2), to the previous permit holder." Certainly it was not intended that when the State itself comes into the field to take over the transport system, this 58(2) should operate and that a person whose licence period was over but simply because he is displaced by the corporation taking over his transport system, should get this compensation? Certainly, Sir, that I do not think would be a justifiable provision in the Bill.

Also, the language used leads to some confusion in sub-clause (2). It says:

"(2) The Central Government shall not give its consent to the appointment of any Corporation under this Act, unless—

(a) provision is made and continues to be made by or under the relevant provincial law for the reservation and allotment to the Central Government, as represented by its Railways.

(c) provision is made for the payment of compensation to the owners of any road transport services whose services have been taken over or have been displaced"

The words used are "have been". The corporation has to be constituted after getting consent. At the time of giving the consent, provision should have been made for the persons whose services have been taken over or who have been displaced. The present perfect tense is used; that shows that the act of taking over is over at the time when you apply for consent. It leads to absurdity. The corporation has to come into existence and only later on with the consent of the Central Government, it can take over the transport system. Therefore, the use of the words "have been" is absolutely meaningless here. The present perfect tense used here "have been" would mean a completed act at the time when you give the consent. Instead—

"the Central Government shall not give its consent unless provision is made for the payment of compensation for the owners of any road transport services whose services are taken over"

should be there.

The other objectionable feature should also be removed, namely displaced persons being entitled to compensation. It is said here—

" have been taken over by reason of the exercise of any powers vested in the Corporation."

Suppose no power is vested in the corporation, and if it is taken over by the Government and then handed over to the corporation, then does it mean that no compensation is to be given even in respect of services which have been taken over? So, the language should be—

"any road transport services whose services are taken over by the Corporation."

To say the services which have been taken over or which have been displaced by reason of the exercise of any powers vested in the corporation, is not proper in the context in which it is used. It contemplates as if the corporation by itself might be given the power to take over the services. Certainly it is unimaginable that even though it might be statutory corporation which might be State-owned, the corporation should itself get the power of taking over the services. Therefore that possibility should not at all be contemplated.

These are some of the objectionable features and I am glad the Honourable Minister is accepting some of the amendments which I hope would improve the Bill to a very great extent and remove these objectionable features.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General): I thank you, Sir, and this honourable House for not accepting the motion that the question be now put. Sir, I do not understand this attitude of rushing through such important Bills. Supposing the session is going to come to an end tomorrow and the Bill is not

[Shri Ramnarayan Singh]

passed, the heaven will not fall. These are matters which deserve a lot of consideration.

My friend Mr. Sidhva has just said "No, no. There is no question of nationalisation." Sir, I do not understand. If this is not nationalisation, what nationalisation is? Let the House know and let the public know. This is pure and simple nationalisation, Sir. Government have got a lot of powers. They have got a lot of things to do but still they are after power.

This reminds me of a story. A man went to a jungle and collected some fuel—*lakri*. He tied these and tried to carry. But he could not do so. So instead of lessening the amount of fuel, he went to the jungle again and collected more fuel. He brought again some more fuel and tied all the first ones and this one, and tried to lift and carry it. The man failed. There were two other persons who were observing all these things. One asked the question, "Why this fellow is collecting fuel, when he cannot carry it and again he collects more? Why is this?" Then the other remarked, "This is the way of *Kalijug*." Sir, I think this is exactly the attitude of the present-day Government. The tendency is for more power. When they cannot properly manage what they have already got and still they want more and more power.

Sir, I fail to understand how my friend Prof. Ranga has become a great advocate of provincial Governments. I am sorry, Sir, I have unfortunately not become so. I know how things are going on. Almost in every provincial Government, mutual quarrels, a lot of corruption and a lot of nepotism are going on. And now they will get more powers to run buses. Sir, in my part of the country there is not much of Railway services and we have got to depend upon these bus services, and we see that these services are quite properly run. I am quite sure that the nationalised service will do worse. There are so many nationalised Departments. We see the Police; we see the Railways and so many things being conducted by the Government. Are they being conducted in a national way? Sir, I shall not lose anything if anything be nationalised. If everything be nationalised, I rather stand to gain not to lose. But this ought to be remembered by anybody and everybody, that when you talk of "nationalisation", there must be national-mindedness. Where is the national mind? Are all the Departments of the Governments and all other public services nationally minded or nationally conducted? Sir, when the people will feel that: "They live for the nation. They are servants of the nation."—then will come national-mindedness. Now, if you go to any public servant, who is a national servant in name, he is always thinking in terms of himself as a master. He never thinks that he is a servant of the public. So, if time will come when the people will begin thinking in terms of the nation that they live for the nation and as soon as they enter public service, they will serve the nation, then we may talk of nationalisation. Now, Sir, a policeman—even a *chowkidar*—feels that he is a master of the people. He never thinks that he is a servant of the people.

Now, poor bus owners who are now serving the public in a most humble and respectful manner will be thrown out of employment and in this respect, Sir, Dr. Pattabhi has spoken very nicely and I entirely agree with him in all that he has said. A large number of people will be thrown out of employment and those advantages and conveniences which we are enjoying now when the services are run by private people will be spoiled. When there will be a corporation controlled by the Government or established by the Government, what will happen? Either the conductors or the drivers—they will think they have got nothing to do with the advantages and conveniences of the public. They will have to care only for their pay and that is all. This is the situation. So I do not know why this spirit of things goes on.

I suggest one thing. I shall give a very constructive suggestion. For

instance, wherever there are bus services, let the Government establish a service of their own in competition with other services and let the people see that the service run by the corporation or the service established by the Government is a very good service which gives better service, then I think we shall have no objection to vote for any such measure, but so long as that has not been done, I think this is a measure which ought to be opposed and rejected. In this matter, a lot has been said and has to be said. This ought to be very much discussed and considered then passed or rejected. With these words, I resume my seat but I appeal to the House that such measures ought to be rejected; they do not deserve consideration even.

Mr. Chairman: I think we have had sufficient discussion and we might conclude. I call upon the Honourable the Transport Minister.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, the main point which has been raised in the course of the discussion is the question whether, if the House agreed to this Bill, it would necessarily actually carry the implication that this House is committed either to nationalisation or to one form of implementing a nationalisation scheme. I do not think the acceptance of the Bill by the House would carry any such implication at all. There are two alternatives. There is first of all the question of nationalisation as against private enterprise. There is secondly the question: If it is going to be nationalisation, is it going to be run by a Statutory Corporation or Departmentally. On neither of these issues would the acceptance of this Bill carry any sort of implication, because the matter rests entirely in the hands of the provincial Government.

The issue with which I am faced is this. Supposing a provincial Government comes to me and says, "We would like to have a nationalised scheme run by means of Statutory Corporation. We do not want you to express any merits on the thing. It is a matter entirely within our sphere, but we want the necessary machinery to be set up, because on constitutional grounds you are the only person who can give us that power." It is not for me to say "No" to the provincial Government without infringing their rights of autonomy in regard to this matter. How could I stand in the way, except by giving the impression that I am opposed to a nationalised concern run on the basis of a Statutory Corporation? I could not very well take that line. I leave it entirely to the provincial Government. The provincial legislature is in a position to impose its will on the provincial Government. It is for these provincial agencies to settle this matter. It is not for the Government of India, by taking one line or the other, to take sides on this issue. That is the real point and I would certainly appeal to the House to approve of this Bill because the kind of dangers that are apprehended are dangers that do not arise out of this Bill. It is a perfectly innocuous measure.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the incorporation of Road Transport Corporations and for purposes connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 9th April, 1948.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Friday, 9th April, 1948.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(a) ORAL ANSWERS

ARTICLES SET APART BY INDIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS FOR DISPOSAL AS CONDEMNED

1348. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the number of articles with their value set apart by the Indian Army Ordnance Corps for disposal as out-of-use or condemned?

(b) How many of these are new articles and how many are worn out?

(c) When were these articles set apart for disposal by the authorities?

(d) What steps have Government taken to dispose them of?

(e) Are these articles of any use to Government departments?

(f) If not, what is the reason for the delay in their disposal?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a), (b) and (c). The particulars asked for are not available since no separate records are maintained of serviceable and unserviceable stores reported as Salvage. The quantity of salvage stores subsequently found as serviceable is however believed to be infinitesimal. A statement is laid on the table showing details of I.A.O.C. stores originally declared unserviceable, but subsequently found serviceable. The responsibility for categorisation of stores as "Salvage" or "Serviceable" rests entirely with the Defence authorities, but before actual sale, the Disposals Organisation ensures that such of the stores as are *prima facie* serviceable are not disposed of as scrap.

Before a decision is taken to scrap the stores, all possible avenues of disposal to the best advantage of the State are explored, and it is only in the last resort that stores which have no civil end use are reduced to produce and or components or totally destroyed. A statement giving details of stores reported by the I.A.O.C. showing book values etc., and on which scrapping decisions had to be taken by Government, is placed on the table.

(d) The stores were widely advertised for sale, by tender or auction, and failing to get a reasonable offer, it was decided to sell them for whatever they would fetch, or, where there was no offer, to scrap them.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) As I have stated earlier, all efforts to sell have to be made, and this necessarily takes time.

With a view to securing proper utilisation of salvage stores, Government have under consideration the appointment of Survey Parties, consisting of representatives of various Ministries concerned, who will go round the Salvage Depots in the country and see what stores can be brought into use before they are sold as scrap.

Showing the details of I.A.O.C. stores originally declared as unserviceable Salvage, but subsequently found serviceable

Serial No.	Store	Quantity	Condition as reported by Reporting Authority	Condition found on Inspection	Book value	Sale value	REMARKS
		Nos.				Rs. A. P.	
1	Bush Shirts O.G.	286	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	715 0 0	Released for Refugee Relief work on
2	Bush Shirts K. D.	76	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	190 0 0	9-2-48.
3	Jersey Pullover	255	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	510 0 0	Ditto.
4	Shirts Flannel	313	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	782 8 0	Ditto.
5	Razais Heavy	410	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	1,640 0 0	Ditto.
6	Trousers O.G.	241	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	482 0 0	Ditto.
7	Shorts K. D.	192	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	288 0 0	Ditto.
8	Durries	57	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	171 0 0	Ditto.
9	Trousers K. D.	73	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	146 0 0	Ditto.
10	Ground Sheets	120	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	240 0 0	Ditto.
11	Shirts Mazri	122	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	61 0 0	Ditto.
12	Trousers Mazri	73	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	109 8 0	Ditto.
13	Shirts Angola Drab	13	Unserviceable	Serviceable	Not known	26 0 0	Ditto.

Statement II

Showing cases in which stores declared surplus by I. A. O. C. organization have been accepted for scrapping by D. G. D.

S. No.	Store	Quantity	Condition as given on the declaration	Book value	Reasons for scrapping	REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Tanks Camel marked IV covers	Nos. 60,000	Serviceable —42980 Repairable —17020	Rs. 3,41,250	All avenues for sale were explored but as the store had no "Civil Bnd" use and since in previous auctions highest offers received were only As. 11 and As. 8 each, it was decided to treat the item as "dead stock" on 21-5-47 with financial concurrence and to sell it for best price obtainable in auction.	Sold in auction on 26-8-47 @ As. -/12/6 each.
2	Ear Protectors	4,80,000	Serviceable	30,000	In spite of best efforts it was not possible to find any market for these stores. All sources were tried. Offer of Rs. 100 for the entire lot was rejected in auction and subsequent negotiations met with little success. On 15-1-47, it was decided to sell this item for the best price obtainable.	Sold for Rs. 250 on 18-7-47.
3	Goggles Dust complete with its cases.	12,00,000	Serviceable	13,50,000	Efforts were made to sell these stores through-out India by all means of advertisement. Ultimately the store was declared as "dead stock" on 11-12-46 and it was decided to sell for the best price obtainable in auction.	Sold on 10-3-47 for Rs. 80,000.
4	Brushes, tooth Indigenous	5,81,500	Serviceable	4,37,125	One lakh brushes sold to M/s. G. T. Supplies, Kanpur at As. 3 each. For balance stores, no suitable offer was forthcoming in spite of every endeavour to sell. Stores subsequently found to have been infested and it was decided on 20-9-47 to sell the stores by auction for the best price obtainable.	Implementation of the decision held up on account of the various bans on disposals.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Nos.		Rs.		
5	(i) Sun Compasses (ii) Components for Compasses.	10,917 3,319 1,33,384 2,659	Serviceable/Fair Repairable Serviceable/Fair Repairable	5,12,207 63,818 2,55,727 14,253	The stores were obsolete and had no "Civil End" use for commercial value. Those were elementary Compasses used in the Western desert during the campaign in the middle East and were not accurate enough for survey operations. It was decided to transfer the stores to Salvage Depots for sale as such. Decision to scrap was taken on 16-12-46.	The stores have since been considered as salvage and surplus reports with drawn from disposals.
6	Compasses Magnetic Training marked I & II.	23,348 5,314	Serviceable/Fair Repairable	9,23,744 74,396	The stores are obsolete and have no "Civil End" use or commercial value. They are unsuitable for ordinary survey work and all efforts of the disposals Organization to sell through advertisement or through the Ministry of Education, Boy Scout and Girl Guide Organizations have failed. The Compasses are considered to be of no possible use and it was, therefore, decided on 11-3-47, to scrap them.	Sale held up pending lifting of the ban on disposals.
7	M. T. Spares	3,80,000	Not known	26,98,445	Obsolete stores with no "Civil End" use.	

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know the total book value of these articles set apart by the Indian Army Ordnance Corps?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Does the Honourable Member mean of the Stocks which are there at present?

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Yes.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have not got here the separate figures for the Indian Army Ordnance factories alone. The total will come to about 150 crores.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What is the value of the goods still to be disposed of and the whole stores?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I have not got separate total value of the stores which have come from the I.A.O.C.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know what is the reason for not keeping a separate list for the serviceable and unserviceable articles as the Honourable Minister stated?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I suppose the Defence Ministry keeps one record and whichever they consider to be saleable are put on the disposal lists, but I cannot tell whether they have any separate list to show which are surplus and which are unserviceable.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: My question was why it is not possible. It is an important matter and the House should know whether Government take any effort to find out what are serviceable and what are non-serviceable articles.

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I suppose, Sir, what the Defence Ministry does is this: Whatever they consider to be unserviceable for Defence purposes are put into the hands of the Disposals and the rest are kept with them as serviceable.

Seth Govinddas: Are Government aware that even serviceable articles many times are considered to be unserviceable and there is a lot of confusion in this respect?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I believe that depends on the parties who want to use them.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is it a fact that some of the authorities relating to the I.A.O.C. have written to the Government for the disposal of these articles and still they are not disposed of?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The examination, Sir, is going on from time to time, and sometimes stores which were declared as not serviceable for Defence purposes have been recalled and the Defence Ministry have taken them back. It all depends on the conditions, which are, of course, of a changing character.

Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Government is aware that due to the delay in the disposal of these articles, many of them have become obsolete?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: In some cases that has been so.

Shri B. Das: Does the United Kingdom bear a part of the losses of these surplus I.A.O.C. stores that were purchased on behalf of the United Kingdom, U.S.A. and India?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The financial arrangements between the U.K. and India have been completed.

Shri B. Das: What is that financial arrangement that has been completed? Is it 33: 33: 33 between the U. K., the U.S.A. and India?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Well, the Defence Minister says that the financial arrangement has been arrived at and the matter now rests with the India Government to complete it. So far as the details are concerned, I am afraid, I cannot say, but if the Defence Minister can answer it, he may.

Shri B. Das: I think he can answer how much of the losses will be borne by the U.K. and U.S.A. and how much will fall on India.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The position is this that we have entered into an agreement with the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. for the purchase of these surplus stores. I cannot give the Honourable Member these details, but an arrangement has been arrived at and we have taken over all the surplus stores of the U.K. and the U.S.A.

Shri B. Das: Whatever might be the financial arrangement I would like to know what will be the burden that will fall on India and these two partners?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No proportion has been fixed between Pakistan and India.

Shri B. Das: I am not talking of Pakistan. I am referring to the U.K. and India.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The entire responsibility has been taken up by the Government of India.

Seth Govinddas: May I take it, Sir, that all the losses which would be incurred will be borne by India and not by the United Kingdom and the U.S.A.?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: All the surplus stores become our property and whether there is a loss or profit, it is our responsibility.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Is it a fact that some of the articles kept in tact in packages are found to be unserviceable. Has the attention of Government been drawn to it. If so, why have they not disposed them of. It is now nine months and they are reported to be useless?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Every possible step is being taken to expedite the sale. I do not know whether there are any new unpacked cases which include materials which are completely unserviceable.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: There are.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I ask whether there is any system of priority in disposing of these foodstuffs?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: There is priority. The first in the list comes the Central Government, then the Provincial Governments, then state Governments, then any particular institutions which have been put in the priority list and then they are thrown open to the public.

STOPPAGE OF BRITISH POSTAL ORDERS

1349. ***Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government of India have stopped the issue of British Postal Orders? If so, why?

(b) Do Government propose to consider the issue of British Postal Orders for small amounts?

(c) If not, what are the facilities which exist for payment of subscriptions for British journals?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes, Sir. In order to save foreign exchange.

(b) Yes, Sir. Modified orders on the subject permitting the issue of British Postal Orders and foreign money orders are under issue.

(c) Apart from British Postal Orders, subscriptions to British journals required for personal use may be remitted without limit of amount on application to any bank authorised to deal in foreign exchange.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: With reference to part (c) of the question, will Government make a rule to the effect that in every case of subscription to British journals there will be no limit or restriction and they will accept every application?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I understand there is no limit but if the Honourable Member wants to make a suggestion he should send it to the Finance Minister.

SALE OF WAGONS AT HALISHAHAR AND PANAGAR YARDS

1350. ***Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a certain number of wagons have been sold out at Halishahar and Panagar yards?

(b) If so, what is their number and why were they sold?

(c) Is it a fact that these wagons would have been serviceable after repairs?

(d) Is it a fact that recommendations were made to have them repaired?

(e) Since how long have they been lying as unserviceable and how long were they in service?

(f) Is there any other lot for sale? If so, how many?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) It is a fact that a certain number of wagons were sold at Halishahar and Panagar.

(b) 680 were sold at Halishahar and 81 at Panagar. They were overaged wagons and it was considered to be uneconomical to repair them.

(c) It would have been possible to repair some of these wagons but as stated in (b) above it would have been uneconomical to do so.

(d) It is not a fact that recommendations were made to repair these wagons.

(e) Some of these wagons had been lying idle for over three or four years and almost all of them had completed their normal life of 40 years.

(f) There are still about 1300 replaced unserviceable wagons for sale. Accurate figures cannot be given as the division of the former B.A. Railway stock between India and Pakistan has not yet been completed.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know what was realised out of these 680 wagons which were disposed of as unusable?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: What happened was that some of these wagons which had done their normal term of service and had become by experience unfit for heavy long distance traffic were found to be suitable for light traffic within the precincts of factories. In the case of these wagons we entered into negotiations with large factories and over a hundred of these were sold by negotiation at prices which represented something higher than the original book value. As regards the rest which had been reduced to pure scrap what we did was to put them up for auction when these wagons were sold along with various other scrap materials; and I am therefore unable to give an accurate average figure per wagon.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What is the normal life of a wagon?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Forty years.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What has been the life of these wagons?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Over forty years.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Were they considered to be absolutely useless for purposes of transport?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Most of these wagons had been lying idle for three or four years because they were unsuitable for use for heavy long-distance traffic. Therefore that was the only way in which we could use them in order that the space might not be cluttered up with unusable material.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Did Government try to find out whether by repairs they could be made serviceable?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Yes, investigation was made into that particular question and it was found that repairs to these wagons would cost quite as much as making new wagons.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know what figures were quoted for repairing these wagons?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: At present whatever cost we incur in respect of the manufacture of new wagons is the figure that was given as the estimated cost of repairing.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know what amounts were asked for in order to repair these wagons.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The cost of repairing a particular wagon varies with the type of wagon. Repairing is done normally in our workshops so that we have got figures with regard to wagon costs.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Were any people other than workshop experts consulted in this matter?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: There is no other expert who is engaged at present in the business of repairing wagons.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Could they not have been used for short-distance traffic?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Yes, I said that over a hundred of these which could be used for short-distance and light traffic were sold to factories. The rest were found quite unsuitable, and so no offers were made for them.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Will Government make inquiries and find out whether the remaining stock that is undisposed of can be used somehow?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: We are making every effort because it is not to our interest to dispose of wagons which can be used.

EXPENDITURE ON AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED RESEARCHES DURING PAST TEN YEARS

1351. ***Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the amount which the Government of India have spent over agricultural and allied researches during the past ten years?

(b) Have the researches so made contributed towards the economic well-being of the agriculturist classes in India or added to the out-put of our agricultural products?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement showing the expenditure on research work on different items year by year is laid on the table of the House.

(b) Yes. Improved strains suited to varying conditions of soil and climate have been evolved of rice, wheat, pulses, millets, cotton, sugar-cane, jute and other crops. These have given an increased yield of 10 to 15 per cent. The researches on proper manuring have also shown potentialities of increased yield varying from 20 to 150 in the case of rice and nil to 65 per cent. for wheat. Increased yield has also been obtained by improved manuring in Jowar, mustard seeds, sugar-cane and jute. There is, however, room for still greater progress.

State

Showing the Amount spent over Agricultural and Allied researches

	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Indian Agricultural Research Institute (Does not include expenditure on a/c of Dairy Expert which has been included under Indian Dairy Research Institute)	7,41,848	7,20,487	7,97,181	8,65,84
2. Indian Veterinary Research Institute	7,16,398	7,36,636	8,36,099	8,57,157
3. Indian Dairy Research Institute (Includes expenditure on a/c of Dairy Expert)	58,000	58,634	63,495	60,216
4. Experimental Cattle Breeding Farm, Jubbulpore	..	..	..	..
5. Indian Central Cotton Committee	..	..	..	..
6. Indian Central Jute Committee	..	..	..	..
7. Indian Lac Cess Committee	2,75,381	2,72,314	2,92,431	2,65,385
8. Indian Central Coconut Committee	..	..	..	..
9. Indian Central Tobacco Committee	..	..	..	..
10. Indian Central Sugarcane Committee	..	..	..	..
11. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (Maintenance of Secretariat of)	3,44,900	3,29,100	2,41,300	3,18,800
12. Grants made by Government of India for specific research on behalf of Government	10,51,200	8,95,400	4,80,000	4,50,000
13. Amount paid by Indian Council of Agricultural Research to Provinces and States by way of grants and subvention for implementation of various schemes	14,38,100	13,14,400	12,93,70	14,37,700

during the Past Ten years.

1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48	Total	Remarks
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
9,09,721	11,16,606	12,86,045	11,13,223	11,96,400	16,84,800	1,04,32,151	
9,78,496	11,10,065	13,72,116	18,32,098	21,24,000	27,95,000	1,33,58,065	
2,43,932	3,79,093	3,58,589	4,23,976	5,60,000	15,37,000	37,43,535	
..	..	..	..	..	2,16,000	2,16,000	*
..	..	..	..	..	..	61,36,000	
..	..	..	..	..	..	53,20,698	
2,95,721	2,99,398	2,83,359	2,91,608	2,80,849	3,34,864	28,91,310	
..	..	..	..	..	..	1,42,136	†
..	..	..	..	..	..	14,53,000	‡
..	..	..	5,61,632	4,67,450	3,86,934	14,16,016	§
3,18,500	2,70,700	3,37,000	3,65,600	4,51,800	3,76,900	33,54,600	
6,33,800	14,91,600	17,47,400	15,06,600	8,76,700	3,26,800	94,59,500	
11,85,700	15,82,200	18,18,600	17,70,700	11,96,300	37,400	1,30,74,800	
Grand total						7,09,97,815	

* In the process of being set up Expenditure so far incurred relate mostly to buildings and equipment.

† In Indian Central Tobacco Committee was set up in 1945.

‡ The Indian Central Tobacco Committee was set up in 1945.

§ The Indian Central Sugarcane Committee was set up in 1944

|| The bulk of the grants for the year have still to be paid.

Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi: Do Government circulate the results and the findings among the agricultural classes? If so, how?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I have replied to a similar question on an earlier occasion and given details of such publicity as we have been able to make. The usual procedure is to hand over the results of these researches to the provincial Governments because it is they who are dealing with agricultural production.

Seth Govinddas: Are Government aware that up till now, except an increase in Government farms, these experiments have had no bearing on India's production, so far as cultivators are concerned?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think I might read out certain figures which will indicate that the results of these researches are being implemented by the agriculturists.

The following are the estimated percentages of the introduction of improved varieties in regard to each crop. In regard to sugar-cane 75 per cent. of the area now is grown on seeds of these new improved varieties. In regard to jute in the case of one variety it is 37 per cent. of the area which is under improved variety; in the case of another variety of seeds it is 75 per cent. In the case of cotton, 27 per cent. of the area is under improved variety; in the case of wheat, 22 per cent. of the area in the country is under improved variety; in the case of rice it is 6 per cent.; in the case of jowar it is 1.2 per cent.; in the case of gram it is 1.6 per cent. In the case of gram, jowar and rice, progress has not been as great as in the case of other crops.

Seth Govinddas: Do not these figures show that in cereals there has been very little progress?

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion and inference.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: Is it not a fact that our researches in rice have attracted the notice of other countries but seem to have had very little effect on rice production in this country?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is possible that our researches have drawn the attention of research workers in other countries. I am not aware that the agriculturists in other countries have implemented the results of our researches; it may be so, and if the Honourable Member says so I will not dispute it.

श्री रामसहाय : क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि गेहूँ जो "रस्ट (Rust) लगता है उसके बारे में कोई रिसर्च को जा रही है और उसका क्या नतीजा निकला है ?

Shri Ram Sahai: Will the Honourable Minister please state whether any research is being carried on in rust which affects wheat; and if so, what has been the results thereof?

आनरेबल श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : उसमें रिसर्च जारी है और एक सी की वैराइटी (Variety of seed) निकली है जो "रस्ट" (Rust) को रेजिस्ट (resist) कर सकती है, जिस पर रस्ट का असर नहीं पड़ता है । वह वैराइटी लोग नहीं

रखते हैं । लेकिन मैं यह स्वीकार करने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि जितना प्रोपेगन्डा होना चाहिये था उतना नहीं हुआ । जो एग्रीकल्चरिस्ट (agriculturists) फायदा नहीं उठा सके उस में हम उनकी मदद कर सकते हैं ।

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The research is in progress in this direction and a variety of seed has been evolved which is 'rust' resisting and is not affected by rust. People do not stock that variety, but I am prepared to admit that necessary propaganda was not done. We are ready to help those agriculturists who could not derive any benefit so far.

Shri B. Das: Is not there multiplication of researches in each category by the Government of India, by that bloated body known as the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and also the various provincial Governments? What steps are Government taking to concentrate research in each category in one body instead of having so many bodies?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I admit that there is need of laying down a policy with regard to agricultural research. This matter is under the consideration of Government and with the help of provinces, we propose to formulate a plan by which unnecessary overlapping may be avoided and that there might be specialization of research in particular matter in particular centres.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Apart from provincial Governmental machinery, does Government propose to make available the results of all these researches to Kisans through their own organizations like the Kisan Congress and similar bodies?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This suggestion will be considered.

Seth Govinddas: With respect to rust proof wheat seed about which the Honourable Minister has just spoken, is Government contemplating to send this seed to such areas in India where there is a general complaint of rust?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That will be considered.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know whether there is any increase in the production of cotton?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: 27 per cent. of the area is under improved varieties. I am not able to say what is the percentage of increase. The overall percentage of increase which I indicated for all the crops was 10 to 15 per cent. With regard to cotton I have not the figures now. I am prepared to supply them to the Honourable Member later.

GRANTS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF ARECA-NUT CULTIVATION

1352. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what use has so far been made of the special grant made for the improvement of areca-nut cultivation; and

(b) in what parts of India has such use been made?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A pilot scheme with a recurring cost of Rs. 30,000 and a non-recurring cost of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned for combating malaria in the areca-nut growing areas of South India. The expenditure on this scheme is to be met from the special areca-nut grant.

A central areca-nut committee is being constituted. The committee when formed will be in a position to make plans for the development and marketing of areca-nuts.

(b) South Kanara District, Malabar.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the total amount of money that is being placed at the disposal of this Committee?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think it is Rs. 5 lakhs.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Why is it that though this grant was made more than two years ago, and at that time the promise was made that a Committee would be constituted, the Government are still thinking of constituting it today?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not wish to take the responsibility for previous delays. I am, however, prepared to speed up things hereafter.

Shri H. V. Kamath: With reference to the matter of areca-nut cultivation, may I know whether there are any pests that attack and thrive on areca-nuts?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What are the various pests that thrive on areca-nuts?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I will not be able to name them straightaway.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know whether this unspent grant will be set apart as a research fund and used for areca-nut research?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, there is a special grant of Rs. 5 lakhs for that purpose.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: I believe that Rs. 5 lakhs was granted in 1945-46 and another Rs. 5 lakhs in 1946-47 and the amount has not been spent. May I know whether this sum of Rs. 10 lakhs will be set apart for research work and used for the areca-nut research?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not think the grants of the previous years are still with us. They must have lapsed.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Is not it a fact that these grants were made as a sort of lump-sum grants earmarked for this purpose and have government considered the advisability of asking provincial Governments to supplement the Central Government on a 50/50 basis?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the answer to the earlier part of the question, namely, that there were earmarked sums especially for this purpose, and therefore they need not lapse into general revenues if they could not be spent in the year for which they were allotted?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not able to give the Honourable Member any further information.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Does Government propose to make India self-sufficient in areca-nut and stop imports of this commodity?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: When we produce enough we will stop the imports.

ENQUIRY INTO INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF CATTLE TREATMENT

1353. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports of the enquiry ordered to be made into the indigenous system of cattle treatment has been received; if so, when; and whether it is published;

(b) whether any efforts are being made by Government to conduct any research into the system; and

(c) whether the various serums produced by Government for inoculating cattle are being supplied to the practitioners of the indigenous system?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The report referred to was received in November, 1939. An article by the author, incorporating the findings in the report was published under the title 'Animal Husbandry in Ancient India' in September-November, 1941 issues of the 'Indian Farming' published by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) No research on the indigenous system of treatment of cattle diseases is being carried out at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute at present but the question of sponsoring scholarships for conducting the research primarily with a view to collect further information from the available ancient literature and manuscripts is under the consideration of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(c) There has been no demand for sera and vaccine from the practitioners of the indigenous system.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: In view of the fact that the Kisan Congress has itself been conducting a number of dispensaries in the Andhradesa and has also a college, and has gained considerable experience, will Government consider the advisability of instructing their own proposed scholars to go there to study the way in which research is being done there, or inviting some people to go to their research farm and study under the guidance of their own scientific men?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That will be considered.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact that as in the case of Ayurvedic so in the case of this indigenous system of cattle medicine, the Government is giving very meek support to the investigations which are being made in this country so far as indigenous systems of medicine are concerned?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I agree.

Seth Govinddas: What steps are Government going to take, now that we have swaraj, to see that these indigenous systems of medicine are sufficiently encouraged?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government will consider all suggestions for helping the indigenous systems of medicine.

Shri Biswanath Das: Is Government aware of the fact that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, then known as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, appointed a special officer, who toured all provinces like Orissa, and States like Travancore to gather information and came in contact with persons having something to do with indigenous systems of cattle treatment: that they have collected a lot of information on this subject: and whether Government contemplate getting that information and also publish the same?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government will enquire into this and publish whatever is useful for this particular purpose.

INCOME FROM SALE OF TICKETS AND GOODS TRAFFIC AT SAINTHIA JUNCTION ON E. I. R. SAHEBGUNJ LOOP

1354. ***Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual income from sale of passenger tickets at Sainthia Junction on the East Indian Railway Sahebgunj Loop for the last four years; and

(b) the average annual receipt from goods traffic for the last four years from the same station?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Rs. 1,11,586.

(b) Rs. 3,44,012.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the Honourable Minister is aware that there is no waiting hall for third-class passengers in that station?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I half expected that this question was coming up and I made enquiries and I may inform the Honourable Member that there is a waiting hall for third-class passengers and I think there is also a counter for upper-class passengers.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I tell the Honourable Minister that there is no upper-class counter?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is my information. However, I will look into it.

PURCHASE AND USE OF AMERICAN AIRCRAFTS *Expeditor*

1355. ***Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of American Aircraft (*Expeditor*) purchased by the Government of India and their cost?

(b) When were they purchased and through what agency and who maintains them?

(c) What is the total maintenance and operation costs per month separately?

(d) How many hours has each plane flown?

(e) Have they been used at any time for the Kashmir emergency or Punjab Evacuation purposes?

(f) If not, why not?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Two *Expeditor* aircraft were purchased by the Government of India at a total cost of Rs. 1,91,926.

(b) The aircraft were purchased in July 1946 through the Director General of Disposals and were entrusted to Indian National Airways for maintenance and operation for Government.

(c) The rate of payment to the Company for each aircraft was Rs. 4,047 per month, representing the cost of day-to-day maintenance, payable only for the period the machines were airworthy, plus Rs. -/12/- for each mile flown.

(d) One plane flew for 14 hours and the other none.

(e) No.

(f) Both the aircraft were unserviceable during the period of evacuation and Kashmir operations. One of the aircraft was brought up to airworthy condition, but it became unserviceable after 23 days and could not be made airworthy again due to lack of spares. For the same reason, the other aircraft has remained unairworthy up to now.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What is the reason for giving these two planes for maintenance to the I.N.A. agency? Cannot the new Government maintain these two planes without spending Rs. 4,046 every month?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: It is very difficult for me to know what reasons persuaded the then Government to purchase these planes and to entrust them to the I.N.A. for maintenance purposes. Very probably this was done because the Government itself had no maintenance organisation.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Have Government obtained competitive rates for maintaining these two planes or have they simply handed them over to the I.N.A.?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: As I said, Sir, these planes were purchased in 1946 and handed over to the I.N.A. Except one, which did a

flying of about 23 days, they were not found airworthy, and, consequently, have remained idle till now.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Are they still maintained by the I.N.A., and do they continue to receive any payment for it?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: For the period that the planes remained airworthy the I.N.A. received about Rs. 3,000 and odd as maintenance charges. They have not received a single pie during the period the planes remained idle.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: I was told that one of the planes was airworthy for a few days. May I know whether that plane was used for Kashmir evacuation?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The planes were not used for Kashmir evacuation, because during those days they were not airworthy.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: For whom were these planes imported?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: They were imported for the use of Honourable Ministers and other high officials.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Are they being used by the Honourable Ministers.

Mr. Speaker: We shall proceed to the next question.

INDIA'S SHARE AFTER PARTITION OF MOGHULPURA WORKSHOPS

1356. ***Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state who was deputed to take charge of articles coming to our share after the partition of the Moghulpura Workshop?

(b) Were all the articles taken over and was a list of the same prepared?

(c) Is it a fact that some heavy articles are still left over?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) The Moghulpura Workshops were not partitioned. The question of taking charge of assets falling to the share of the E.P. Railway did not therefore arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: I could not follow the answer, Sir.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The arrangement which was made at the time of partition, and which was approved by the Partition Council, was that, as far as workshops were concerned, they were not to be partitioned. Certain arrangements were made for the use of workshops in one Dominion by railways falling within the limits of the other Dominion. So, the arrangement with regard to the Moghulpura Workshops was that they were not to be partitioned, but the East Punjab Railway was to have the benefit of the service of the Workshops.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Am I to understand that the articles and materials in the Workshops, apart from the machinery, were also not to be partitioned and shared?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: All the stores and materials which were part of the workshops equipment remained at Moghulpura.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: So we had no share in the Moghulpura workshops.

Mr. Speaker: That is what follows.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are there no obstacles placed in the way of the East Punjab Railway securing the services of these workshops whenever the need arises?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: At first it worked extremely unsatisfactorily but of late there has been improvement.

FLYING CLUBS IN INDIA

1357. *Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of Flying Clubs in India;
- (b) the number of aviators recruited in the Royal Indian Air Force who received training in each of the Flying Clubs;
- (c) what assistance Government render to the different Flying Clubs;
- (d) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the grievances of the Bengal Flying Club; and
- (e) what steps Government propose to take to remedy these grievances and to give them proper facilities for work?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a), (b) and (c). I lay on the table of the House three statements giving the information asked for by the Honourable Member.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The grievances of the Bengal Flying Club relate to the provision of aircraft and a permanent site for the Club.

The Club has been allotted 2 Tiger Moths and 2 L-5 aircraft. Action is in hand to obtain more aircraft and as soon as they are received, they will be allotted to Flying Clubs according to priority.

The question of allotting a permanent site to the Club is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Statement I

Showing the names of the Flying Clubs in India

Delhi Flying Club Limited, Willingdon Air Station, New Delhi.
Bombay Flying Club Limited, Juhu Aerodrome, Bombay.
Madras Flying Club Limited, St. Thomas Mount, Madras.
Bengal Flying Club Limited, Barrackpore, Calcutta.
Bihar Flying Club Limited, Patna.
Orissa Flying Club Limited, Bhubaneswar.
Hind Provincial Flying Club Limited, Lucknow.
Jodhpur Flying Club Limited, Jodhpur.
Travancore Flying Club, Trivandrum.

Statement II

Showing the number of persons recruited in the Royal Indian Air Force who received training at each of the Flying Clubs.

S. No.	Name of Club	No. of persons recruited in the Royal Indian Air Force who received training at each of the Clubs
1	The Karachi Aero Club Limited	38
2	The Bombay Flying Club Limited	56
3	The Madras Flying Club Limited	54
4	The Delhi Flying Club Limited	41
5	The United Provinces Flying Club Limited	26
6	The Bengal Flying Club Limited	48
7	The Northern India Flying Club Limited	56
8	The Bihar Flying Club Limited	27
9	The Hyderabad State Aero Club	9
10	The Jodhpur Flying Club	9
TOTAL		364

Note.—In addition 46 Pilots trained by Flying Clubs before War were appointed as Commissioned Officers at the commencement of the War. The details as to the Clubs at which these persons were trained are not readily available.

Statement III

Scale of assistance by Government to the Clubs for the year 1947-48

(i) Fixed subsidy @ Rs. 30,000 per annum per club for meeting the standing charges plus excess flying charges at Rs. 5 per hour for flying done in excess of 1000 hours per annum.

(ii) A bonus of Rs. 250 for each "A" licence pilot trained by the Club.

(iii) Under the terms of the financial assistance, the following charges for flying training are prescribed:

(a) For trainees below the age of 28 years	Rs. 15 per hour.
(b) For others	Rs. 30 per hour.

Government pays to each club a contribution at the rate of Rs. 20 per hour for all flying done in the category (a) and Rs. 5 per hour for flying under category (b).

(iv) Accommodation is allotted to new Flying Clubs if available, otherwise Government gives a grant-in-aid to each Club for construction of hangars, workshops, stores, etc., to the extent of Rs. 25,000.

(v) Allotment up to a maximum of 6 aircraft to each Club on loan. It has not been possible to complete this number so far but arrangements are being made to obtain more aircraft from abroad for this purpose.

(vi) Free landing and housing facilities are granted to Clubs at their aerodromes.

Note.—The above financial assistance is given only to the 7 Clubs in British India and has not yet been extended to the Clubs in the States.

Shri Basanta Kumar Das: By what time are the grievances of the Bengal Flying Club expected to be redressed?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: So far as the question of site is concerned, the aerodrome has been handed over to the Director-General, Civil Aviation, and the Club has been informed that it can carry on for the time being in this aerodrome, of which a portion will be allotted to it later.

FIXATION OF PRICE OF COCONUTS

1358. *Shri V. O. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the present price of coconuts in the market?

(b) Are Government aware that the prices have dropped by 70 per cent. during the last four months?

(c) What is the reason for the precipitate fall in price?

(d) Do Government propose to consider the question of fixing a minimum price for coconuts and thus help the cultivator?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The present market price for a thousand coconuts without husks is about Rs. 105 and from Rs. 100 to Rs. 105 at cochin and Alleppy respectively.

(b) During the last four months the prices in the two principal markets in India, namely Cochin and Alleppy have dropped by 21 and 20 per cent. respectively. A Statement showing the trend of prices is laid on the table of the House.

(c) The 20 per cent. decline is accounted for by (i) the difficult supply position of Caustic Soda resulting in a fall in demand for coconut oil by the Soap Industry; and (ii) transport difficulties.

(d) Not at present.

Statement

Showing the trend of prices of Coconuts (without husks) in the two principal markets of Cochin and Alleppey during the period from 3-12-47 to 30-3-48.

Date	Cochin		Alleppey	
	Price in Rs. per thousand nuts	(a) Index No. of price	Price in Rs. per thousand nuts	(a) Index No. of price.
3-12-47	133	100	125	100
17-12-47	130	98	130	104
31-12-47	124	93	120	96
14-1-48	122	92	120	96
28-1-48	124	93	125	100
11-2-48	122	92	120	96
25-2-48	116	87	100	80
10-3-48	115	86	90	72
24-3-48	115	86	90	72
30-3-48	105	79	100	80
Percentage fall in price	...	21	...	20

(a) with price on 3-12-47 as the base.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Am I to take it that the drop in the price of coconuts is due to import of Ceylon copra?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Not so far as I am aware.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are coconuts available in Delhi markets, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: It is not a matter within the special cognizance of the Honourable Minister.

Shri H. V. Kamath: But in view of the fact that a large number of South Indians are now congregating in Delhi very frequently, do Government propose to arrange for the import of coconuts into Delhi?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

DESSICATED COCONUTS AND FOREIGN DEMAND

1359. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the processing of coconuts for the preparation of dessicated coconuts has received the attention of the Agricultural Research Institutions in the country?

(b) Are Government aware that there is a large demand for dessicated coconuts in foreign countries?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the question of training selected candidates in one of the central institutions for this purpose?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The question was considered by the Indian Central Coconut Committee in 1945, and the proposal was then as premature in view of the short supply of coconuts in India.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know which are the foreign countries importing coconuts from India?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid I cannot give a reply to that question straightway.

Answer: (b).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know whether there is any demand for coconuts from Canada and U.S.A.?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Possibly.

INDIA'S REQUIREMENTS AND PRODUCTION OF SODIUM SULPHIDE

1360. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the requirements of the country in Sodium Sulphide?

(b) What is the present output of the country in this commodity?

(c) Is any new factory being built for the manufacture of Sodium Sulphide?

(d) Has a survey of the Eastern Ghats been made for the raw material Sodium Sulphate?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) About 3,500 tons per annum.

(b) About 500 tons per annum.

(c) No proposals have come up for starting any new factory for the production of the Sodium Sulphide, but several dichromate manufacturers are considering the production of Sodium Sulphide from the bye-product Sodium Sulphate in dichromate manufacture.

(d) The information is being collected. It will be placed on the table of the House as soon as available.

INDIA'S REQUIREMENTS AND PRODUCTION OF BLEACHING POWDER

1361. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the requirements of the country in bleaching powder?

(b) Is there any Government owned factory producing this commodity and if so, what is its annual output and what is the degree of purity that the factory has been able to achieve?

(c) Is it a fact that the factory has not been able to standardise its products?

(d) Is any research being carried out to improve the quality of the articles produced by the factory?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Our annual requirements are approximately 15,000 tons of bleaching agents. Against this, India produces about 7,000 tons in the form of Bleaching Powder and sufficient chlorine to replace 4,500 tons of Bleaching Powder.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d), Do not arise.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: What steps are Government taking to increase the production of bleaching powder?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: As I have just indicated, we are providing for about 12,000 tons now. The factory which originally belonged to Government and was sold away, will also start producing in the course of the next few months. The existing factories have also indicated that they expect to increase their production in the course of this year.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Why was the Government factory sold, Sir?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It was found that the factory which was installed by Government could not be worked, and so it was decided about three years ago to sell the factory.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That raises another question. Why was it that Government could not run the factory—was it for want of experts or want of operatives?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I find that it was entrusted to a particular company which was acting on behalf of the Government but the plant did not work satisfactorily because of technical difficulties. When the matter was reported to the then Government, the Government thought that it was desirable to sell it and actually the plants and machinery were sold.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government take the trouble to enquire into the matter and satisfy themselves that everything was done *bona fide* and whether there were any officers who could be got at for their misbehaviour?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: This happened about three years ago and no useful purpose will be served to reopen the matter at this time.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know if there is any proposal to take back the factory by the Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: The purchasers propose to run this factory and they will be given facilities to do so.

Srri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: When was the sale effected?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: This was done about three years ago.

Shri H. V. Kamath: From which country is bleaching powder at present being imported so as to bridge the gap between our production and consumption?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We are not actually importing any quantity just now.

Shri H. V. Kamath: How than are our requirements, which are more than our production, met?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I would refer the Honourable Member to my answer to part (a) of the question.

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: Was the factory sold to the same company?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: It was not sold to that company; it was sold to a different company.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: How much did Government actually lose in the transaction? How much did they invest and how much did they realise?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: I cannot give you the figures. Practically the plant did not work.

PRODUCER GAS FOR PUBLIC MOTOR TRANSPORT

1352. ***Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government propose to encourage the use of producer gas for public motor transport?

(b) What was the number of vehicles fitted with the necessary plants to use gas, during the war years?

(c) Are Government aware that gas was found to be suitable for transport in the plains and that the cost of running is just a fraction of what it is when petrol is used?

(d) Do Government propose to consider the question of appointing a committee to investigate the possibilities of using producer gas for motor transport?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) The maximum number of vehicles fitted with producer gas plants in undivided India during the war years was 24,236.

(c) Yes. While however, the fuel cost of a gas driven vehicle is comparatively less, this saving is counterbalanced by the relatively rapid deterioration of the engine.

(d) The Government will consider the suggestion.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether Government have made any investigation regarding the use of this producer-gas which deteriorates the engines and thus reduces the normal life of a truck; if so, with what result?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is precisely what I said in reply to this question. The information that has been given to me by my officers is that the use of producer-gas parts fitted on to motor vehicles has the effect of rendering the engine liable to quicker deterioration.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: In view of that, may I know whether Government still propose to appoint a committee for investigating into the use of producer-gas?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: We would normally not have taken that matter into consideration but in view of the possibility of their being a serious shortage of petrol it might become necessary for us to take up this matter again and my idea is to have the whole matter discussed at a meeting of provincial representatives in the course of the next month.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I would like to know the difference between producer-gas and charcoal gas. Are both the same thing?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: They are practically the same.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government keep in mind the danger to the forest wealth of this country, if the production of this gas is very much multiplied in this country, particularly in view of the wartime experience?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The Honourable Member has got to balance that consideration against the other one, which is that we ought to muster all available facilities of transport. The whole question depends on a balance of consideration as to which is the lesser evil.

Shri O. V. Alagesan: Are Government aware that the use of producer-gas has accentuated the fuel difficulty and that the use of petrol now has eased the position a little?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I think I have covered that point in my answer.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Government in the Ministry of Railways be in constant touch with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in order to see that these two uses are properly coordinated, so that the forest wealth of the country does not suffer and at the same time only that portion of the fuel that can be used in a constructive manner is used for the production of this gas?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is obviously one of the matters that I would discuss with the representatives of provincial Governments.

RESUMPTION OF SHIP-BUILDING INDUSTRY IN ORISSA

1363. ***Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether Government of India propose to help re-starting ship-building industry in Orissa?

(b) Do they propose to start coastal crafts in Orissa under the guidance of Ministry of Commerce of the Government of India?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Government are prepared to consider any proposal that may be put forward for starting a shipbuilding industry in Orissa.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

(b) The requirements of the Coastal trade of Orissa are now catered for by certain existing services. Government are not in a position to say whether any additional services can be economically operated on the coast, but they would be prepared to render such assistance as is possible to any companies which wish to operate new shipping or country craft services.

UNREMUNERATIVE PAY SCALES FOR LOWER GRADE EMPLOYEES OF B. N. RAILWAY.

1364. *Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the revised scales of pay have given no practical relief to a number of lower-grade employees of the signalling department of the Bengal Nagpore Railway and that there are cases where a cooly of the department gets a scale almost equal to that of his immediate superior official?

(b) If so, do Government propose to consider the desirability of making another suitable revision in the cases of employees concerned?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) and (b). The exact categories of staff which the Honourable Member has in mind have not been specified in the question. I have not been able to examine the matter in the absence of such information.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Is the Honourable Minister aware that there is such authority given in the report in many places and will he see that the scales are revised.

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Minister has not answered the question at all. He has expressed his inability to answer it, on account of the question not being specific.

EMPLOYMENT IN LOWER GRADES OF EMPLOYEES OPTING FOR INDIAN DOMINION RAILWAYS.

1365. *Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Railway employees who opted out for service in the Indian Dominion Railways have been employed in grades of services lower than the ones that they held prior to the partition?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take steps to see that these employees are not adversely affected in matters of their pay and chances of promotion?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) and (b). The position is as follows: instructions have been issued to the Railway Administrations that India-opting staff should be absorbed in their substantive grade, reverting if necessary any staff who may be officiating in that grade, and that they should be considered for officiating in higher grades along with other staff who are eligible. In cases where such staff could not be absorbed in their substantive grades on account of there being no vacancies, Railway Administrations have been asked to provide them with alternative employment in a grade as near to their substantive grade as possible and to pay them their substantive pay, any difference between the grade pay and their substantive pay being treated as a personal allowance for the time being.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister promise that as soon as there are vacancies in the equivalent posts they will be promoted?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: That is what I said in my answer. They will be promoted if on consideration of their claims along with the claims of other people similarly placed they are eligible for promotion.

STOPPAGE OF PASSENGER TRAINS NOT AT ALL STATIONS ON B. N. RAILWAY

1366. *Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that no passenger train running on the Bengal Nagpore Railway stops at all stations on the main line and that this causes hardship to travellers particularly from rural areas?

(b) If so, how do Government propose to remove the hardships of rural passengers in the above matter?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) It is a fact that all through passenger trains do not stop at each and every station on the main line, but each section has at least one passenger train each way stopping at every station on the section at convenient hours. The Government are not aware of any hardship resulting from this practice.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a).

ADOPTION OF NEW PAY SCALES FOR RUNNING STAFF ON RAILWAYS AS RECOMMENDED BY PAY COMMISSION

1367. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pay Commission could not obtain complete data as to what pay and allowances the Railway Staff known as the Running Staff had been receiving on different Railways, and therefore the Commission agreed that in the absence of such detailed information, the fixing up of total emoluments would be arbitrary but still recommended a few scales some of which could be adopted by the Railway Board; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board adopted all the scales instead of some?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes. The Honourable Member's attention is invited to para. 29 in Part III-C at page 187-189 of the Central pay Commission's report which fully explains the position.

(b) Yes. This was considered necessary in order to allocate the different scales to posts the responsibilities and duties of which vary according to the importance of the trains on which the staff work.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Is the Honourable Minister aware that the Pay Commission was appointed to reduce the number of scales, whereas it has resulted in a multiplicity of scales? Where there were two scales before there are now in some cases, five scales, A, B, C, D, and E.

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of the report of the Pay Commission. The Commission have reported accordingly.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: There are more grades as a result of the Pay Commission than before, a result which was never intended. Will the Honourable Minister see that there are fewer number of grades than there were before?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: We are carrying out the recommendations of the Pay Commission. I am not prepared to go beyond that.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Just as it is admitted that the Pay Commission made certain recommendations without having or waiting for proper information, is it not a fact that the Pay Commission's recommendations are not based on the average income of a citizen of this country?

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: In view of the reply given by the Honourable Minister, is he aware that the Pay Commission itself was not definite and it was left to the Honourable Minister to make definite in its recommendations on many points recommendations?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: What the Pay Commission said with regard to the running staff was that the various scales that they had suggested for different grades should be applied in accordance with the importance of the particular trains and the discretion with regard to the way in which this application is to be made is left definitely by the Pay Commission with the Railway Board.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: rose—

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member is asking about the interpretation of the recommendation of the Pay Commission. What is the exact information that he wants?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: I only wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to the fact that the Pay Commission has not made any recommendations in this matter and that it is for him to take action.

Mr. Speaker: That will be a matter for argument which he may do elsewhere.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I ask the Honourable Minister whether the recommendations of the Pay Commission do not deserve to be scrapped because they are not based on the average income of the ordinary and average citizen of India?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Quite the contrary.

PAY OF TRAIN EXAMINERS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS *vis-à-vis* OTHER SUPERVISORY MECHANICAL PERSONNEL.

1368. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Train Examiners of the Carriage and Wagon Department of Indian Railways are technical supervisory personnel;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, why they are denied equal pay scale with other supervisory personnel of the Mechanical and Engineering sections;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the classification otherwise;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government promised to revise the pay scales of Train Examiners in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in that direction and the conclusions reached?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes.

(b) The scales of pay which have been prescribed for Train Examiners were specifically recommended by the Central Pay Commission. These scales are, in so far as the lowest two grades are concerned *e. Rs. 55-130 and Rs. 80-160* lower than the scales which have been recommended by the Pay Commission for other categories of technical supervisory staff *e.g.,* chargemen in the Mechanical Department and Assistant Permanent Way Inspectors in the Engineering Department.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). As already stated in (b) above, the scales of pay of Train Examiners have already been prescribed on the basis of the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Is the Honourable Minister aware that there is very great discontent amongst one of these two sections of his Department

and that although the personnel is the same there is so much difference in the scale of pay—55-5-130 as compared to 100-5-200?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The Honourable Member has made a representation to me on that subject and I have told him that I would look into the matter.

INCREASE IN RATES OF FREIGHT PER BOGIE LOAD FOR CHARCOAL, FIREWOOD AND 'BHOOSA,

1369. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the rates of freight, per bogie-load of an eight wheeler with floor area of 360 sq. ft., for charcoal, firewood and 'bhoosa' on 31st December 1947 and 1st January 1948 and since;

(b) the procedure adopted while revising the rates of freight for these commodities;

(c) whether Government are aware that the increase in freight rates has adversely affected the trade in these commodities;

(d) whether Government have received in this connection any representation from dealers in these commodities, and if so, to what effect;

(e) whether Government propose to take steps to redress the grievances outlined in the representation, and if so, what those steps are;

(f) whether it is a fact that under the revised schedules the wagons carrying charcoal and fuel are required to be weighed and the charges recovered from the consignor at the station of despatch;

(g) whether this revised procedure is strictly enforced by the railway authorities at all stations;

(h) whether wagons of identical floor area have got different carrying capacity;

(i) whether the freight on charcoal, firewood and 'bhoosa' is calculated on the basis of their actual weight or on the basis of the tonnage marked on the wagons;

(j) whether it is a fact that the time allotted for loading and unloading of wagons for all types of commodities has been reduced from 9 hours to 5 hours; and

(k) if so, whether Government propose to revise the rule and allot more time to commodities such as charcoal and 'bhoosa' which are booked in loose form?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) If the stations between which the rates are required are specified, the information will be given.

(b) The increase in rates was a part of the general increase in rates and fares effected from 1st January, 1948.

(c) No.

(d) Yes, representations were received in regard to cases of charcoal moving over the G. I. P. Railway where charges were demanded in some cases on carrying capacity of wagons in the absence of weightment particulars.

(e) A further revision has been effected from 2nd March, 1948.

(f) Charcoal and firewood moving at other than wagon mile rates are weighed in accordance with rules but freight repayment is not compulsory. On the G. I. P. Railway, charcoal wagons do not require to be weighed after the revision effective from 2nd March, 1948.

(g) Yes.

(h) Yes. In some cases wagons with equal floor area have different carrying capacities measured in tons.

(i) On actual weight subject to a minimum weight in the case of wagon rates other than those on floor area basis. Where rates are based on a floor-area basis rates are charged on that basis and not on actual weight.

(j) Yes.

(k) No.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What priority do charcoal and firewood get on goods traffic?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I cannot answer that off-hand.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is the Honourable Minister aware that very many wagons which are really suitable for conveying perishable articles are used for transporting coal and *vice versa*?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I am not aware of that. As far as perishable goods of any importance are concerned I think we have been able to provide a sufficient number of wagons.

REFUSAL TO TAKE DELIVERY OF CHARCOAL WAGONS BY CONSIGNEES AT SEWRI AND SION COAL DEPOTS, BOMBAY

1370. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the first week of March, 1948 consignees at Sewri and Sion coal depots in Bombay refused to take delivery of charcoal wagons, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the measures subsequently adopted to prevent repetition of such an incident?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) In the last week of February 1948, some wagons were detained at Coal Depots referred to as merchants refused to pay charges on the carrying capacity in the absence of weighment particulars.

(b) From 2nd March 1948 a revision has been made and the weighment of charcoal wagons on the G. I. P. Railway is no longer necessary. This traffic is now charged on the basis of 300 maunds per 16 tons of the carrying capacity of the wagon concerned.

OCCUPATION OF WAGONS BY RAILWAY STAFF FROM PAKISTAN DUE TO LACK OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

1371. ***Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many members of the Railway staff transferred from Pakistan to India are still staying with their families in wagons for lack of housing accommodation;

(b) if so, the number of wagons, station by station, occupied by such staff, and the number of individuals occupying the same up-to-date;

(c) by what date residential quarters will be allotted to these railway servants, thus releasing those wagons for their usual purposes;

(d) whether it is a fact that some of the wagons occupied by the staff are shunted from place to place, instead of being kept in a siding and if so, why, and

(e) whether it is a fact that births as well as deaths have occurred in those wagons and if so, how many from 15th August, 1947 up-to-date?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Some of the Railway staff transferred from Pakistan to India are still staying with their families in wagons for lack of housing accommodation.

(b) The information is being collected and a statement will be placed on the table in due course.

(c) Construction of temporary quarters is in progress and as new quarters are built wagons are being released. Most of the wagons at present occupied by the staff are unserviceable wagons, which could not be used for movement of traffic in any case. Every effort is being made to expedite the construction of quarters for accommodating such staff, and it is hoped that progressively fewer persons will need to use wagons for living in.

(d) The wagons are usually kept in sidings and are not shunted about.

(e) Twelve cases of birth and three cases of death have been reported from amongst the staff living in these wagons.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to give the number of quarters that have been built in these areas, where the staff have been living in wagons, since 15th August 1947?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I cannot give the exact number. But we are speeding it up as much as possible. We have given it the highest priority.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister give us at least an approximate idea as to the number of railway staff living and dying in wagons?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I have given the number of deaths and also births—twelve cases of births and three of death.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: What is the period within which the houses are likely to be completed?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I cannot give the exact period, but as soon as possible we are going to have them constructed because from our point of view and from the point of view of the staff this is a most unsatisfactory arrangement. I have given the highest priority to this work and I am sure it will be completed as soon as possible.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: It depends entirely on the extent to which the necessary materials are available to the Railway.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Are the wagons shunted from place to place, whether it is done in order to give them change of air or for transporting goods?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: They are not shunted from place to place. My answer to (d) was that the wagons are kept in sidings and are not shunted about.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Are these people given any special allowance?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Not that I am aware of; I will look into that.

Shri H. V. Kamath: After the occurrence of deaths in the wagons are any steps taken to disinfect the wagons with a view to making them fit for human habitation?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I have no information that the deaths were the result of any epidemic.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Are special medical facilities available for these people?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: The usual railway medical assistance is available to them.

FALL IN PRICE OF GUR IN DELHI PROVINCE AND AMBALA DIVISION

1372. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the price of Gur is falling down daily in Delhi Province and Ambala Division of East Punjab and that it has gone down to Rs. 4 per maund?

(b) If so, do Government propose to fix the minimum price of Gur and undertake to buy it at that price, so that the agriculturist may be given a minimum price for his produce? If not, why not?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) It is a fact that the price of gur has declined in parts of Ambala Division but the price generally is still not less than Rs. 9 per maund. In regard to some individual sales it may have fallen lower owing to exceptional factors.

(b) The fall in the price of gur which has taken place in certain producing districts is largely due to the difficulty of finding transport to certain important consuming areas like Rajputana. Instructions have been issued that special attention be given to ensuring movement from the districts where the prices have fallen in recent weeks. The suggestion made by the Honourable Member if carried out would involve State trading and State distribution in a perishable commodity which might lead to very heavy losses and indirectly impose a burden on the taxpayer.

Seth Govinddas: Are Government aware that in reply to a short notice question by me with respect to the transport of gur, the Government made a definite promise that something would be done in this respect and that in spite of the fact that about a month has passed no improvement as far as the transport of gur has been made?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think I might supply a little more information as to what has been done in the course of the last month. During the period 20th February, 1948 to 21st March, 1948, fifteen Gur Specials with a total load of 802 wagons have run from Meerut, Khatauli, Muzaffarnagar and Deoband stations on Ghaziabad-Saharanpur Section of the E. P. Railway. Three more Specials were arranged from these stations, but on account of restriction on booking, the Railway could not run the same. It is, however, hoped that with the relaxation of restriction the Railway will make arrangements for the running of these Specials. From Hapur two Specials with a load of thirty and twenty wagons have been run to Kantapoker and the loading of twelve wagons on alternate days permitted. On the days when no loading is done from Hapur, stations on Muradabad Division are permitted to load six wagons of gur. For booking to stations on M. G. system via Delhi Serai Rohilla a quota of ten wagons has been allowed from Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Khatauli, Bharot and Shamli. Request for running a special with a load of fifty wagons from Agra to stations on M. G. system has also been sent to the Railway Board. Approximately 22,440 tons of gur have moved so far by these arrangements. In addition a considerable quantity of gur has moved in proper class of priority, namely 2(b) when booking in that

class was open over E. P. Railway and movements to E. I. were upgraded to class I. At present booking to B. B. and C. I., G. T. P. and *via* is totally restricted which is seriously hampering movement of traffic to areas served by these Railways. As soon as this operational restriction is relaxed, arrangements will be made to run a few more Specials. Programme is being worked out for introducing booking under quota system from different mandis.

(b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

GRANTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BETELNUT CULTIVATION

1373. *Shri H. V. Kamath: Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy or grant made by Government annually for the development of betelnut cultivation; and

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the grant with a view to improving the quality and increasing the yield?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The last annual grant allotted was Rs. 5 lakhs.

(b) Government will ask for and use larger grants as soon as proper plans for such improvement of quality and increase of yield are matured.

IMPROVEMENT OF COCONUT CULTIVATION IN WEST BENGAL

1374. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that coconut trees abound in the coastal districts of Midnapur, 24-Parganas and Howrah and scatteredly in other districts in the Province of West Bengal;

(b) whether a large amount of coconut oil is pressed out from a copra by means of ghani in rural areas for family use;

(c) the amount of coconut oil imported into the Province year by year from 1942 to 1947;

(d) whether any steps have as yet been taken for the improvement of coconut cultivation in West Bengal; and

(e) if not, whether Government propose to advise the Indian Central Coconut Committee to take immediate steps for the purpose?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes

(b) Yes. Some quantity of oil is pressed out by means of ghani locally for family use.

(c) A statement of imports of coconut oil year by year from 1942 to 1947 is placed on the table of the House.

(d) and (e). Prior to the partition of the country a proposal was received from the late Government of Bengal for the establishment of a coconut experimental station cum nursery in Bakerganj District. Before, however, that proposal could materialise the partition of Bengal took place and Bakerganj District was included in Eastern Pakistan. The Indian Central Coconut Committee has therefore, again taken up the matter with the Government of the West Bengal

and requested them to send fresh proposals for setting up a Regional Coconut Research Station in West Bengal. The Government of West Bengal have a scheme under consideration in this respect and are on the look-out for a suitable site in 24 Parganas to set up the station.

Statement

Imports of Coconut oil into Bengal during the year 1941-42 to 1946-47 is as follows :—

Year	From foreign countries	From Indian ports
1941-42	93,35,763	2,50,729
1942-43	12,43,036	7,645
1943-44	22,02,541	11,59,765
1944-45	20,22,495	15,63,100
1945-46	26,87,475	6,72,169
1946-47	15,03,927	6,15,179

CULTIVATED LAND, FALLOW, CULTIVABLE LANDS AND FORESTS IN VARIOUS PROVINCES OF INDIAN UNION

1375. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the area (in acres) of the (i) cultivated lands; (ii) fallows; (iii) cultivable lands other than fallows; and (iv) forests—province by province in the Indian Union?

(b) How much cultivable lands has been brought under actual cultivation since 1942 (year by year province-wise)?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information are laid on the table of the House.

Statement I

Showing Area under cultivated lands, fallows, cultivable lands other than fallows and forests in different provinces of the Indian Union. (In 000 acres)

Provinces	Pre-war normal Average 1936-37 to 1938-39)				1945-46			
	Cultivated lands (Net area sown)	Fallows	Cultivable lands other than fallows	Forests	Cultivated lands (Net area sown)	Fallows	Cultivable lands other than fallows	Forests
Ajmer-Merwara	314	210	301	80	431	181	273	47
Assam	4,840	1,336	18,093	3,989	5,378	1,549	17,393	4,056
Bihar	19,073	6,767	5,886	6,551	17,508	7,228	6,451	6,612
Bombay	28,549	5,216	893	8,357	27,557	6,388	828	8,060
C. P. and Berar	24,500	3,834	13,999	15,874	24,302	4,267	13,834	15,830
Coburg	145	164	12	343	156	150	16	331
Delhi	200	24	64	..	222	8	62	..
East Punjab	11,607	1,884	2,611	769	11,617	1,886*	2,613*	770*
Madras	31,706	9,601	10,731	12,913	30,534	9,779	11,953	13,516
Orissa	6,481	1,693	3,441	2,638	6,453	1,354	3,144	2,606
U. P.	36,140	2,678	9,997	9,276	37,410	2,356	10,056	9,038
West Bengal	7,810	2,601	2,977	1,636	9,242	2,791	1,933	1,625
Total	171,365	36,088	68,805	62,426	170,808	37,937	68,556	62,491

*Based on pre-war average.

Statement II

Showing Net area sown in different provinces of the Indian Union during 1942-43 to 1945-46 as compared with 1941-42.
(In 000 acres).

Provinces	Increase (+) or decrease (—) as compared with 1941-42									
	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46	
Ajmer-Merwara	380	440	436	434	431	(+) 60	(+) 56	(+) 54	(+) 51	
Assam	5,044	5,199	5,305	5,353	5,378	(+) 155	(+) 261	(+) 309	(+) 334	
Bihar	17,975	17,593	17,659	17,510	17,506	(—) 882	(—) 316	(—) 465	(—) 469	
Bombay	28,736	27,973	28,625	28,397	27,557	(—) 763	(—) 111	(—) 339	(—) 1,179	
C. P. and Berar	24,817	24,271	24,989	24,633	24,302	(—) 545	(+) 172	(—) 184	(—) 515	
Coorg	154	151	156	155	156	(—) 3	(+) 2	(+) 1	(+) 2	
Delhi	205	214	213	217	222	(+) 9	(+) 8	(+) 12	(+) 17	
East Punjab	11,623	12,808	11,612*	11,610*	11,617*	(+) 1,185	(—) 11	(—) 13	(—) 6	
Madras	31,603	31,324	31,891	31,534	30,534	(—) 279	(—) 288	(—) 69	(—) 10,69	
Orissa	5,922	6,194	6,296	6,331	6,453	(+) 272	(+) 374	(+) 409	(+) 531	
U. P.	36,161	36,980	37,210	37,252	37,410	(+) 819	(+) 1,049	(+) 1,091	(+) 1,249	
West Bengal	8,435	8,730	9,436	10,660	9,242	(+) 295	(+) 1,001	(+) 2,225	(+) 807	
TOTAL	171,055	171,877	173,828	174,086	170,808	(+) 822	(+) 2,773	(+) 3,031	(—) 247	

*Based on pre-war average.

RESEARCHES FOR PROTECTION OF CROPS AGAINST PESTS

1376. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the results of Research made for the protection of crops against pests and the prevention of plant diseases?

(b) How far have those results been brought to the knowledge of the peasants in rural areas?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) The important results of research done at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, are summarized in the Statement which is placed on the table of the House.

(b) The results achieved are communicated to the Provincial Governments who are expected to bring them to the knowledge of the cultivators. Results of research are also published in the journals of the I.C.A.R. from time to time. The Central Plant Protection Organization also had issued a few plant protection leaflets about the control of some pests and diseases, and more such leaflets are in preparation.

Government are not satisfied that full use of the results of research is being made and realise that more propaganda work is needed and are considering suitable steps to remedy the state of things, and place before the people more effectively the results of research.

Statement

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute ever since its inception in 1905 has been carrying on fundamental research on all aspects of the problem of the control of insect pests of agricultural crops, fruit trees, and storage of grains. The results of these researches are that the life-histories of a large number of insect pests have been studied in great detail both under laboratory and field conditions so that the weakest links in the life-histories of the pest concerned may be known so as to apply the control measures more effectively. The results of these researches on the methods of control by mechanical, physical, chemical and biological means have been published in several papers and bulletins not only in English but in some of the Indian Languages. The Provincial departments of Agriculture have carried the results of these researches to the ryots by means of their propaganda staff. Among the pests tackled in this Institute may be mentioned those of Sugarcane, Tobacco, Cotton, Fruit Trees, Vegetables, Stored products (Grains as well as Dry fruits).

B. PLANT DISEASES

1. *Wheat*.—(a) *Loose Smut*.—A very serious disease which takes heavy toll every year. The following varieties evolved at the I.A.R.I. have been found to be resistant to the disease :—I.P. 114, I.P. 124, I.P. 163-3, I.P. 163-4. The disease can be effectively controlled by the solar and hot water treatment methods.

(b) *Rusts*.—These are responsible for tremendous loss to the wheat crop. Researches have shown that there are several physiologic races of the rusts and no one single variety of wheat is immune to all the forms of rusts. Work to evolve varieties resistant to these rust is in progress.

2. *Rice*.—(a) *Helminthosporium disease*.—The disease can be partially controlled by hot water treatment.

(b) *Stem rot*.—*Basmati* and *Mushkam* varieties of rice have been found to be highly resistant to the disease. Burning the diseased stubles, construction of strong and high bunds round the infected plots and proper irrigation and aeration of the soil are very effective in checking the disease.

3. *Jowar*.—Grain smut of jowar which is responsible for considerable losses can be fully controlled by the use of sulphur dust of a high degree of fineness.

4. *Oats*.—Covered smut and loose smut of oats which are the common diseases of this crop can be effectively controlled by the dry-spray method of applying formaldehyde to the smutted grain.

5. *Pigeon-Pea*.—*Wilt*.—A very destructive disease can be controlled by the use of disease resistant varieties such as Nos. 80, 82, 51, selected at the I.A.R.I.

6. *Gram*.—(a) *Blight*.—This is a very serious disease and is responsible for total destruction of the gram crop in certain areas. Type F. 8 has been found to be highly resistant to this disease.

(b) *Wilt*.—Work at the I.A.R.I. has shown that the disease can be appreciably controlled by adjusting the time of sowing.

7. *Sugarcane*.—(a) *Red-rot*.—An extremely destructive disease which assumed epidemic form in certain years can be controlled by the use of resistant varieties such as Co. 285, Co. 313, Co. 356, Co. 419.

8. *Cotton*.—(a) *Root-rot*.—This disease is responsible for total destruction of the crop in certain irrigated areas and can be effectively controlled by mixed-cropping with *Phaseolus acontifolius* (moth). Also the disease can be controlled by adjusting sowing time and close-planting.

(b) *Wilt*.—Varieties resistant to this serious disease have been evolved.

9. *Potato*.—(a) *Late Blight*.—This is one of the most serious diseases of this crop in the hills and can be appreciably controlled by spraying with Bordeaux mixture. Some of the varieties evolved at the I.A.R.I. have shown considerable resistance to the disease.

(b) *Virus diseases*.—No single cultivated potato variety offers high resistance to a large number of virus diseases which affect this crop. Since most of these diseases are carried through infected tubers which are used for seed purposes, planting of healthy tubers for the production of profitable crops is recommended. A nucleus disease-free stock has been recently produced at the I.A.R.I. which is awaiting multiplication.

10. *Tomato*.—Virus diseases of this crop are chiefly responsible for poor out-turns and can be appreciably controlled by adjusting the sowing time.

LAND UNDER SUGARCANE CULTIVATION IN WEST BENGAL

1377. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state whether Government are aware that Gur is manufactured from the juice of sugarcane and from the juice extracted from date and palm trees in West Bengal?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how many acres of land (district-wise) are used for sugarcane cultivation in West Bengal?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) Yes.

(b) 85,000 acres. A statement showing district-wise area under sugarcane cultivation in West Bengal, is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

Showing area (Districtwise) under sugarcane cultivation in West Bengal

(All figures in Acres).

District	Estimated normal area under sugarcane.	Last year 1946-47	This year 1947-48
1. 24 Parganas	3,400	10,600	10,600
2. Nabadwip	7,100	3,000	3,200
3. Murshidabad	4,300	11,000	11,000
4. Burdwan	11,600	9,600	10,100
5. Birbhum	9,100	8,100	8,100
6. Bankura	3,100	2,900	2,800
7. Midnapur	5,200	6,000	7,500
8. Hooghly	3,000	2,100	2,500
9. Howrah	2,000	2,500	2,500
10. Jalpaiguri	1,800	1,700	1,800
11. Darjeeling	300	400	400
12. Malda	1,700	2,300	3,100
13. West Dinajpur	1,600	1,300	1,500
Total for West Bengal	54,200	61,500	65,100

PRICE AND DISTRIBUTION OF CEYLON COPRA IN INDIAN UNION

1378. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Ceylon copra distributed in the Indian Union year by year from 1944 to 1947;

(b) the controlled price of the same;

(c) the names of Provinces supplied; and

(d) the quantities supplied to each Province?

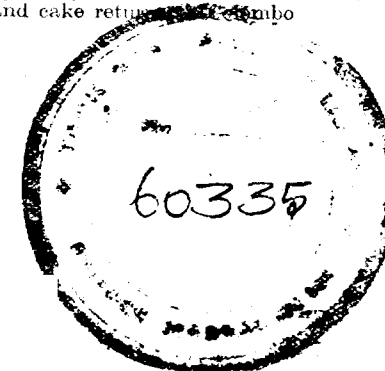
The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a), (b), (c) and (d). India's quota from Ceylon is received partly in the form of copra and partly in form of coconut oil. Two statements are laid on the table. Statement I contains the information asked for in parts (a) and (b) of the Question and Statement II, the information asked for in parts (c) and (d).

STATEMENT I

Showing Ceylon Copra and Coconut Oil distributed in Indian Union year by year from 1944 to 1947 at controlled rates mentioned therein.

Year	Total Copra distributed.	Controlled price	Value	Total C. N. Oil distributed.	Controlled price	Value	Total 4+7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Tons	Rs.	Rs.	Tons	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1944	35,110	455	1,59,75,190	10,647	870 to 900	94,81,330	2,54,56,520
1945	19,083	455 to 577	92,30,995	7,334	900 to 995	68,14,710	1,60,45,705
1946	17,219	625 to 900	1,10,59,467	19,806	995 to 1350	2,21,17,413	3,31,76,880
1947	*12,957	..	1,23,27,956	10,178	1390 to 1670	1,57,60,346	2,80,88,302
Total	84,369	..	4,85,93,608	47,965	..	5,41,73,799	10,27,67,407

* Out of 12,957 tons copra received at Bombay during 1947, only 2,157 tons were sold as copra at the controlled rate of Rs. 900, per ton. The balance quantity approximating 10,800 tons, being the bulk of the arrivals, were received late in 1947, after the new import arrangement were made with the Ceylon Government, whereby Ceylon agreed to export copra to India provided she got back 33% cake in return. This quantity of copra was not, therefore, distributed amongst the allottees, but only the resultant oil was given to them, at Rs. 1,500 per ton net, whilst cake was returned to Ceylon Government at Rs. 90 per ton, C.I.F. Colombo. The value of 1,23,27,956 shown against total imported quantity includes realisation from copra sales as such as also realisation from oil deliveries and cake return to Colombo.



Statement II

Showing distribution of Ceylon Copra and Coconut Oil amongst the Provinces year by year from 1944 to 1947.

Year	Bombay	C. P. & Berar	Delhi	United Provinces	Bengal	Assam	Bihar	Orissa	Cochin	Total	
	Copra C. N. Oil	Copra C. N. Oil	Copra C. N. Oil	Copra C. N. Oil	C. N. Oil	C. N. Oil	C. N. Oil	C. N. Oil	C. N. Oil	Copra C. N. O	
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	
1944	34,493	3,427	146	9	472	134	7,024	20	33	35,110	10,647
1945	19,083	..	..	..	..	170	7,118	18	28	19,083	7,334
1946	17,219	7,250	..	80	..	626	10,670	38	..	17,219	12,006
1947	12,831	2,988	78	42	..	582	5,286	205	375	12,957	10,187
Total	83,596	13,665	223	131	472	1,512	30,098	281	474	84,369	47,965

DESPATCH OF WHEAT, SUGAR, GLASS BANGLES, VEGETABLE SEEDS AND VEGETABLE OILS FROM DHOLPUR STATION DURING 1938-47

1379. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state what quantities of wheat, sugar, glass bangles, vegetable seeds and vegetable oils were despatched from Dholpur station annually during the years 1938 to 1947?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Wheat, glass bangles and vegetable seeds were not despatched from Dholpur station during the period referred to in the question. Sugar was despatched only during three of the years, namely, 379 tons in 1941, 328 tons in 1942, and 16 tons in 1943.

Vegetable oil was despatched only during four years, namely, 92 tons in 1942, 42 tons in 1943, 122 tons in 1944, and 67 tons in 1945.

PRODUCTION OF SALT FROM SAMBHAR LAKE BEFORE AND AFTER 15TH AUGUST 1947

1380. *Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what is the monthly production of salt from Sambhar Lake?

(b) What was the monthly production of Sambhar salt before 15th August, 1947?

(c) Are Government aware that people of Bihar have got religious scruples in taking sea salt?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) The latest annual production from Sambhar Lake is about one crore nine lakh maunds. Monthly production figures are not appropriate because production is not evenly distributed over the twelve months. The principal production months are in the latter part of the cold weather and the summer.

(b) The monthly production at Sambhar before 15th August, 1947 was as follows:

February, 1947	45,440 maunds.
March, 1947	4,63,957 "
April, 1947	18,71,405 "
May, 1947	20,21,696 "
June, 1947	23,83,872 "
July, 1947	29,72,358 "
August up to 15th 1947	10,80,623 "

(c) No such religious scruples have been specifically brought to Government's notice.

SCHEME FOR RAILWAY LINE CONNECTING MECHADA STATION ON B. N. RAILWAY WITH TAMLUK AND CONTAI

1381. *Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any scheme for connecting the Mechada station on the Bengal Nagpur Railway with the towns of Tamluk and Contai by a railway line;

(b) whether any work in connection with that scheme was undertaken; and, if so, when; and

(c) whether the scheme has been altogether abandoned or will be taken up in some future time; and, if so, when?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes.

(b) From the Survey of India maps and based on the information obtained from the P.W.D. about the waterways and formation levels, a rough estimate for the Machada-Contai rail route was prepared by the Bengal Nagpur Railway in 1947.

(c) The scheme has not been altogether abandoned. It will be reviewed by the Central Board of Transport along with other railway projects in West Bengal in due course.

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN CONTAI ROAD STATION OF B. N. RAILWAY AND CONTAI TOWN

1382. ***Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was made with a view to constructing a railway line between the Contai Road station on the Bengal Nagpur Railway and the town of Contai; and, if so, in which year;

(b) how far the work in connection with the above scheme has progressed;

(c) when the scheme was abandoned and why;

(d) whether there is any fresh scheme for the above line; and, if so, when the work is expected to begin; and

(e) whether the line, if constructed, will go beyond the town of Contai; and, if so, how far?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes; a survey was carried out by the Bengal Nagpur Railway during the season 1946-47.

(b) The Survey Report has been received and is under examination.

(c) The scheme has not been altogether abandoned.

(d) and (e). There are schemes of connecting Contai with Machada via Tamluk and with Jaleswar via Digha. A traffic reconnaissance survey has been carried out for these schemes and will be placed before the Central Board of Transport when they consider the projects in West Bengal.

ESTABLISHMENT OF HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND FRUIT TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE IN INDIA

1383. ***Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that before partition of the country there was an institution of fruit technology at Lyallpur;

(b) whether there is any horticultural research and fruit technology institute in India now; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether Government have any plan to establish such an institution; and, if not, whether they propose to consider this question in view of the growing importance and the great potentiality of fruit preservation industry in the country?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a), (b) and (c). A research section (dealing with the testing of samples of fruit products, etc.) was attached (from 1943-44 onwards) to the Agricultural College of the Punjab (Government) at Lyallpur. There was no full fledged Institute of Fruit Technology.

A list showing the various horticultural schemes financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is placed on the table of the House. There is also a proposal to set up an Institute dealing with fruit technology.

List showing the Horticultural Scheme financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research

1. Fruit Research in Madras.
2. Fruit Research and Development in the United Provinces.
3. Mango Necrosis Research at Lucknow University.
4. Mango and Banana Cyto-genetics Research at Calcutta University.
5. Fruit Insect Pests Research in the United Provinces.
6. Fruit Research in Bihar.
7. Citrus Problems Research in Bihar.
8. Citrus Fruits Research in Central Provinces and Berar.
9. Yield Data from Fruit Orchards in Central Provinces and Berar.
10. Citrus Fruits Research in Assam.
11. Citrus Fruits Research in Orissa.
12. Indian Institute of Fruit Technology, I.C.A.R., Delhi.
13. Survey of Horticulture Research, I.C.A.R.
14. Fumigation Technique for Imported Fruits.
15. Orange Cultivation Research in Coorg.
16. Orange Marketing Research in Coorg.
17. Fruit Research in Hyderabad State.
18. Fruit Research in Mysore State.
19. Survey of Deciduous Fruits in Kashmir State.
20. Yield Data from Fruit Orchards in Kashmir State.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES OPTING FOR PAKISTAN

1384. ***Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway employees who had opted for Pakistan (i) finally and (ii) provisionally;

(b) the total number of employees who opted provisionally for Pakistan but changed their option within six months of the transfer of power;

(c) how many of those who have changed their option—

(i) stayed back in India and how many of them have been absorbed;

(ii) migrated or returned from Pakistan, and how many of them have been absorbed; and

(iii) are still in Pakistan desiring to come to India;

(d) how many of the provisionally opting employees who are in India now and have not yet been absorbed are (i) gazetted officers and (ii) non-gazetted employees;

(e) whether any pay or allowance is being given to the provisionally opting employees who have not yet been absorbed; and, if so, to how many, and what is the total monthly expenditure on this account;

(f) whether it is a fact that under the State Railway Establishment Code, all service agreements provide that the services of railway servants are liable to be terminated at six months' notice on either side in the case of gazetted officers and at one month's notice in the case of non-gazetted employees; and

(g) whether Government propose under the aforesaid term of the agreement to terminate the services of the provisionally opting employees who have not yet been absorbed?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) (i) 51,426; (ii) 31,576 approximately.

(b) 17,487, according to official information received so far.

- (c) (i) 14,672 of whom 13,401 have been absorbed.
- (ii) 2,026 of whom 1,275 have been absorbed.
- (iii) Government have no authentic information so far.
- (d) All are non-gazetted staff.
- (e) Ordinary pay and allowances are not now being given to such staff.
- (f) Yes, in the case of permanent staff.
- (g) Government have not yet considered this aspect of the matter.

SURVEY OF MALABAR DISTRICT FOR IRRIGATION WORKS OR HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS

1385. *Shri P. Kunhiraman: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the District of Malabar has been surveyed for major irrigation works or hydro-electric projects; and, if so, what are the results of the survey?

(b) Are Government aware that in certain parts of Malabar, the yield is so poor that it is not profitable to cultivate the land, and that for a properly integrated development, radical measures are necessary?

(c) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, do Government propose to consider the question of conducting a preliminary survey?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This question should have been addressed to the Honourable Minister for Works, Mines and Power.

AERODROME AT CALICUT IN MALABAR.

1386. *Shri P. Kunhiraman: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state when the proposed aerodrome at Calicut in Malabar is expected to be ready for traffic?

(b) Why has Cannanore not been selected for development though it had a landing base for the last several years?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) The plans of the Government of India for the development of civil aviation include the provision of a minor aerodrome at Calicut. It is, however, not possible to say at present when the aerodrome will be constructed, as Government are at present concentrating on the development of aerodromes which are more important from the point of view of the development of civil aviation in India as a whole.

(b) The landing ground at Cannanore belongs to the Army. Cannanore was not selected for development as a civil aerodrome because it is of less importance from the all-India point of view than Calicut.

RECRUITMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICERS IN S. I. AND M. AND S. M. RAILWAYS

1387. *Shri P. Kunhiraman: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any advertisement has been published for the posts of Medical Officers in the S. I. Railway and M. and S. M. Railway?

(b) What is the number of applications received for such posts?

(c) How many of them were selected?

(d) What is the scale of pay of these Medical Officers?

(e) What will be the actual rank of these officers when they are selected to hold these posts?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) On the presumption that by 'medical officers' the Honourable Member is referring to medical officials in Class III Service, the reply is in the affirmative.

(b) 74.

(c) 15.

(d) The prescribed scales for Assistant Surgeon and Sub-assistant Surgeon are Rs. 260—15—440—E.B.—20—500 and Rs. 100—8—140—10—170—E.B.—10—230 respectively.

(e) The Honourable Member's question is not quite clear but obviously the medical official will hold the rank of the post for which he is recruited.

RESTORATION OF SHORAN-UR-NILAMBUR RAILWAY LINE ON SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY

1388. *Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any estimate has been prepared of the total expenditure that may be involved in the restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur railway line on the South Indian Railway?

(b) Has any guarantee been demanded from the Government of Madras and if so, to what extent?

(c) Has the financial implication of extending this line from Nilambur to Calicut via Malapuram, Manjeri and Kundotti been examined and if so, what is the result?

(d) What is the present position with regard to the restoration of this branch line?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) The cost of restoration of the Shoranur-Nilambur Branch has been estimated by the S.I. Railway as Rs. 50,70,000.

(b) In reply to their query, the Government of Madras have been informed that the guarantee required from them would be roughly Rs. 4,67,000 per annum, in case they want the restoration of the line.

(c) No.

(d) No decision has yet been taken about the restoration of this line and the Government are unable to state at this stage if the line will actually be restored, and if so, when.

SHORTAGE OF WAGONS IN PANDU-TUISUKIA SECTION OF BENGAL ASSAM RAILWAY

1389. *Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state why no wagons were supplied to carry paddy, tea, etc., from Lumding Tuisukia section to Neamati Ghat and whether Government are aware that about eight lakhs of tea chests have been carried by Steamer Companies from different Steamer Ghats, causing loss of revenue to the Bengal Assam and the East Indian Railways?

(b) What is the reason for the shortage of wagons in Pandu-Tuisukia section of the Bengal Assam Railway?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) The question is not understood as wagons have been supplied fully up to the indents for clearing tea to Neamati Ghat. Paddy does not offer for movement to Neamati Ghat. The Government have no information about the movement of tea by the Steamer Companies.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

REDECKING OF BRIDGE OVER KOKILA RIVER NEAR NEAMATI GHAT STATION ASSAM

1390. *Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the removal of decking on the bridge over the Kokila river near Neamati Ghat station is causing inconvenience to passengers and wheeled traffic?

(b) Is it a fact that His Excellency the Governor of Assam represented to the Government of India to redeck the bridge?

(c) If so, do Government propose to consider the matter?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Representations have been received from the Provincial Government and a few public bodies recommending restoration of roadway decking on the railway bridge over Kokila river, or alternatively, running passenger trains to Neamati.

(b) Yes.

(c) The work of re-decking the bridge is in hand.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW LINE BETWEEN TRICHINOPOLY AND SALEM via NAMEKKAL, S. I. RAILWAY

1391. *Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for the construction of a new railway line from Trichinopoly to Salem via Namekkal (South Indian Railway)?

(b) If so, has any survey for the same been made?

(c) If not, why not?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) No.

(b) A Traffic survey for a railway line from Trichinopoly to Salem was carried out in 1929 and it was found that the needs of the locality were fully served by the existing roads.

(c) In view of reply to part (b), the question does not arise.

ALLOTMENT OF TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN AGRA

1392. *Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of applicants for telephone connections on the waiting list in Agra on 1st July 1947, and to how many of them telephones have been allotted since then;

(b) what is the number of new applicants for telephone connections in Agra between 1st July 1947 and 29th February 1948, and to how many of them telephone connections have been allotted;

(c) why were new applications sanctioned before the waiting list as on 1st July 1947 has been disposed of;

(d) who is the sanctioning authority for telephones in Agra;

(e) whether Government are aware that there is general discontent in Agra with regard to the manner of allotment of telephone connections;

(f) whether some time back Government instituted an enquiry into such public grievance, and if so, what has been the result thereof, and what action has been taken thereon by Government;

(g) whether, to allay public discontent, Government propose to form a Telephone Advisory Committee at Agra, and if so, when, and if not, why not.

(h) what is the number of applicants for telephone connections on the waiting list in Agra at present, and by what time are they likely to be allotted telephones; and

(i) what steps Government propose to take to meet the growing demand for telephone connections at Agra?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) 295 and 9 respectively (excluding Government connections).

(b) 46 and 4 respectively (excluding Government connections).

(c) New connections were sanctioned in all the four cases on the recommendations of high authorities.

(d) The Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, Agra.

(e) Yes.

(f) Individual cases of complaints received were investigated but it was found that the allegations enumerated therein were not borne out by facts. The last part of the question does not arise.

(g) Formation of a Telephone Advisory Committee at Agra is under consideration. The latter part of the question does not therefore arise.

(h) There are 337 applicants on the waiting list. Telephones will be allotted to them after the additional equipment is installed at Agra.

(i) The capacity of the Switch Boards at Agra will be increased shortly.

DISCONNECTION AND RESTORATION OF TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS IN AGRA

1393. *Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones that were disconnected in Agra during the period of war;

(b) the number of such connections that have been restored;

(c) the number of telephones that have been disconnected in Agra during the period 1st January 1947 and 29th February 1948; and

(d) the number of such disconnected telephones subsequently restored?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) 57.

(b) 49.

(c) 2.

(d) Nil.

SCARCITY OF COFFEE AFTER DE-CONTROL AND AUCTION OF COFFEE STOCKS

1394. *Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is scarcity of coffee after de-control?

(b) Are Government aware that the Coffee Board allows only traders of some years standing in coffee trade to bid in auction sales?

(c) Do Government propose to make arrangements to auction coffee stocks frequently to all merchants with facilities to purchase even smaller quantities?

(d) Do Government propose to take steps to allot only a limited quantity even to large scale buyers?

(e) Do Government propose to draw the attention of the Coffee Board to its assurance of a moderate price for coffee after de-control, in view of the sudden rise in price of coffee in places like Madras?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Immediately following on de-control of coffee prices, there was doubtless some scarcity, but coffee is now generally available to consumers at reasonable prices.

(b) Coffee auctions are now open to all traders whether new or old.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. To ensure wide distribution, however, all large buyers at recent sales have been refused permission to buy coffee at the next auction.

(e) The Government have done so already and have every hope that the Board will be able to bring down prices to reasonable levels.

FIXATION OF MINIMUM PRICE OF *gur*

1395. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state the present price of *gur* in the major cities of India and their prices before the controls were withdrawn?

(b) In the interests of the sugarcane cultivators, do Government propose to consider the question of fixing a minimum price for this commodity?

The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: (a) A statement showing the prices of *gur* in major cities of India, from November, 1947 to March, 1948, is laid on the table of the House.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the answer given by me today to part (c) of the question put by Ch. Ranbir Singh.

Statement
Showing prices of *Gur* in major cities of India from 1st November 1947 to March 1948.

Name of city	15-11-47	30-11-47	15-12-47	31-12-47	15-1-48	31-1-48	15-2-48	29-2-48	15-3-48	24-2-48	Remarks
	For fortnight ending—										
	UNITED PROVINCES										
Muzaffarnagar	15/-	14/12	15/-	15/-	13/-	10/8	9/8	10/8	10/8	10/8	
Meerut	15/-	16/-	15/13	15/2	...	...	10/-	10/-	8/8	...	
Hapur	15/4	15/-	16/6	15/4	13/-	10/4	9/12	9/4	8/8	...	
Lucknow	20/-	22/13	17/4	17/12	16/6	12/12	9/8	9/4	1/13	...	
Madras	9/11 to 15/8	9/11 to 15/8	...	14/4 to 14/11	8/4 to 4/-	7/7 to 12/5	7/7 to 14/8	7/7 to 10/8	7/7 to 10/8	6/9 to 8/-	
Ambala	24/-	22/-	17/8	16/-	14/-	9/-	8/8	9/-	9/-	11/-	
Jullundur	24/-	22/-	16/-	18/-	13/-	11/-	9/-	9/-	9/-	11/8	
	EAST PUNJAB										
Calcutti	18/- to 21/-	18/- to 21/-	27/-	28/8	28/-	18/-	18/-	18/-	16/-	14/-	
	WEST BENGAL										
	BOMBAY										
Bombay	20/14	18/-	18/-	16/- to 22/8	16/- to 22/-	13/- to 18/-	13/- to 22/-	11/4 to 18/8	12/- to 18/8	...	
Ahmednagar	18/-	18/-	12/- to 25/-	10/- to 17/-	...	7/8 to 13/8	7/8 to 14/8	...	8/- to 12/-	...	
Nagpur	20/-	20/-	27/8	27/8	C.P.	17/8	10/- to 15/-	12/- to 17/8	...	...	
Jubbulpore	20/10	20/-	20/-	26/14	15/-	16/4 to 17/8	15/- to 17/8	16/4	...	...	
Cuttack	16/8	16/-	15/-	13/-	ORISSA	14/-	...	15/-	...	...	
Pafna	20/-	18/-	18/-	16/-	BIHAR	20/-	20/-	16/-	16/-	...	
	Retail price										

SUPPLY OF MAIZE TO EGYPT AND FOOD POLICY OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

1396. *Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava: Will the Honourable Minister of Food be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a Reuter's message appearing in the *Statesman* (Delhi Edition) on the first page, first column on 25th January, 1948 stating that the Egyptian Government had signed on 27th January, 1948, agreements with India, Yugoslavia and Rumania for the immediate delivery to Egypt of large quantities of maize;

(b) if so, the background in which this agreement was signed by India and the quantity of maize promised by the Government of India to the Egyptian Government;

(c) the prices at which maize had been promised to be sold and the delivery period thereof; and

(d) whether the sale of maize by India to Egypt is in conformity with the food policy of the Government of India?

The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram: (a) Government have seen the Press Report.

(b) There is an overall shortage of rice in India whereas the Egyptians needed maize. So to safeguard the interests of the rice deficit areas of our country, we gave to Egypt what was with us, a less popular grain in exchange for rice. The maize given to Egypt was on its way to India but it was diverted to Egypt when the barter transaction was concluded.

(c) The price was the same at which India bought from Argentine Government. I regret it will not be in the public interest at this stage to make these details about prices public. The Honourable Member will appreciate that this was not a single isolated deal; it can have repercussions on other negotiations which we may have to carry on. As regards the delivery period, no period was fixed but the total quantity of maize to be delivered under the terms of agreement has been delivered in full to Egypt, and our rice is also being shipped in full.

(d) Yes, since we got rice in exchange.

PENSIONS TO PERSONS FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM OF INDIA

1397. *Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the policy of Government regarding the pensions being given to those who helped the British in the two world wars?

(b) What do Government propose to do for those who helped and fought for the freedom of the country since 1920, by taking part in the Civil Disobedience Movement or otherwise?

(c) Do Government propose to give help or pensions to the latter?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) It is not clear what pensions are referred to. If the reference is to Military Pensions the policy of Government is to continue them.

(b) and (c). The Government of India understand that the Government of West Bengal have issued some orders on this subject. A copy of the orders has been just obtained and the matter is being examined.

REPRESENTATION TO ORISSA STATES PEOPLE IN ORISSA PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY

1398. *Shri Yudhishtir Mishra: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating in the near future to give representation to the people of Orissa States in the Orissa Provincial Assembly?

(b) If not, what steps do Government propose to take to transfer full responsibility to the representatives of the people of Orissa States for the administration of these States?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). The Government of Orissa have taken steps to constitute: (i) An Executive Council for the Orissa States, (ii) An Advisory Council for every State, and (iii) An Orissa States Assembly, in order to associate the people of the States with the administration. It is not possible in present circumstances and under the present Constitution to do anything further in this respect. The Honourable Member will no doubt appreciate that in the event of a final merger with the Orissa, these States will have the same legislature and representation therein as other parts of Orissa.

ABSORPTION OF LOWER GRADE SERVANTS OF ORISSA STATES BY ORISSA GOVERNMENT

1399. *Shri Yudhishtir Mishra: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state whether all the personnel in the lower grade services of Orissa States will be absorbed by the Government of Orissa?

(b) Have Government received any representation from the employees of some of these States in this connection?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) It has been agreed that every effort should be made to absorb the existing staff.

(b) No, Sir.

EMPLOYMENT IN INDIA OF OFFICERS FROM PAKISTAN

1400. *Shri Basanta Kumar Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers who opted for India from each of the Provinces of East Bengal, West Punjab, North West Frontier, Baluchistan and Sind;

(b) whether the officers of a particular province of Pakistan have been allotted to a particular province of India for employment and if so, what the respective province of India is for each of the Provinces of Pakistan;

(c) whether the Government of India have taken charge of any officers for employment and if so, what their numbers are according to provinces from which they have opted;

(d) whether any Provincial Government have not yet been able to give employment to all the officers who have opted out from Pakistan and have been placed in their charge and if so, what the numbers of such officers are in different Provinces; and

(e) whether the provinces have to bear the entire burden of maintaining the surplus officers till they are absorbed in the administration?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Officers of the Governments of the North-West Frontier Province, Sind and Baluchistan were not given the right to opt at all. Those of the Governments of Bengal and Punjab were given this right by the Partition Councils set up in these Provinces. Details about the numbers who exercised their option in favour of India in these Provinces are not with the Government of India.

(b) Employees of partitioned Provinces who opted for India are being absorbed by the Governments of the Provinces concerned. Employees of the former Government of Assam are dealt with by the present Government of Assam, those of the Government of Bengal by the present Government of West Bengal and those of the Government of Punjab by the present Government of East Punjab.

(c) Government of India have accepted responsibility only for the Central Government employees who were called upon to exercise their option.

(d) The information is not available with the Government of India but it is understood that some of the Governments of partitioned Provinces have not been able to absorb all the employees yet who opted for India.

(e) The Governments of partitioned Provinces are responsible for the absorption of the Provincial Government employees who opted for India.

REPLACEMENT OF WORD "IMPERIAL" IN "IMPERIAL SECRETARIAT" IN OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

1401. *Mr. R. K. Sidhva: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that all correspondence after the 15th August 1947 from the Secretariat and its branches bear the words "Imperial Secretariat"?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for retaining the word "Imperial"?

(c) Do Government propose to take steps to replace the word "Imperial" by an appropriate word?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have already issued orders directing that the use of the word "Imperial" wherever it is officially recognised should be discontinued and that the expression "Imperial Secretariat" should be replaced by the designation "Central Secretariat".

SELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTARY FILMS

1402. *Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of officers to be selected for their Information and Documentary Films proposed to be produced?

(b) Do Government propose to consult the film industry in the matter of the production of these films?

(c) What is the system of recruitment adopted for acquiring the necessary personnel?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) 31 officers.

(b) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to my reply to part (e) of question No. 892 on the 19th March, 1948.

(c) Recruitment is made after advertisement inviting applications and on the recommendations of an *ad hoc* Selection Board.

DISTRIBUTION OF GAZETTED POSTS IN SECRETARIAT

1403. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to ensure equitable distribution of gazetted posts in the Secretariat and adequate representation of all provinces?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given to Question No. 1071, by Sri Kishori Mohan Tripathi on the 31st March, 1948.

UMBRELLAS FOR POLICE MEN ON TRAFFIC DUTY IN DELHI

1404. *Shri H. V. Kaath: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether policemen on traffic duty in Delhi are provided with umbrellas in order to protect them against sun and rain; and

(b) if not, why not?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

VACANCIES AND RECRUITMENT IN POLICE DEPARTMENT, DELHI PROVINCE AFTER 15TH AUGUST, 1947

1405. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of vacancies which occurred in the Police Department after 15th August 1947 in various ranks in Delhi Province;

(b) the persons recruited from Delhi Province and various other provinces in the various ranks to fill those vacancies; and

(c) the number of persons who applied for or offered for services in the various ranks from Delhi Province?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is placed on the table of the House.

(c) Candidates were called and interviewed at recruitment parades or individually, and selections were made out of such persons on the basis of fitness. No record of the total number of persons who appeared for interview was maintained or is available.

	Statement							
	S.P.	D.S.Ps.	Insprs.	SGTS.	S.Is.	A.S.Is.	H.Cs	F.Cs.
(a) Vacancies after 15-8-1947	3	11	17	6	77	107	302	2458
(b) Recruitments made :—								
N.W.F. Province	1	1	6	..	31	40	136	261
Sind	..	..	1	..	13	13	80	155
Quetta Baluchistan	..	..	3	..	7	..	15	17
West Punjab	..	..	..	..	9	10	38	435
West Punjab States	..	..	..	..	..	4	6	10
U. P. & C. P.	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	163
East Punjab	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	585
Delhi	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	430
Other States etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	232
Total	1	1	10	..	60	75	291	2294
Received on transfer	1	8	..	..	9	9	..	..
Vacancies filled by promotion from one rank to other rank	1	2	7	..	5	7	10	..
	2	10	7	..	14	16	10	..

INSTALLATION FOR BROADCASTING STATION BY MAHARAJA OF FARIDKOT

1406. *Ch. Ranbir Singh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Maharaja of Faridkot has installed his own Broadcasting Station in his palace?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in this matter?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). Government of India are informed that a transmitter is installed in the State but I am not aware of its location. Enquiries are being made and appropriate action will be taken in the light of the result of such enquiries.

POLICY RE ADMINISTRATION OF ORISSA STATES AFTER MERGER

1407. *Shri Yudhishtir Mishra: Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state the policy that Government intend to follow in the administration of the Orissa States after merger both in the interim period and in future?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: The Policy in the interim period is to integrate the administration of these States with that of the Orissa Provinces. The ultimate objective is a complete merger.

REGISTRATION OF EVACUEE GOVERNMENT SERVANTS FROM BAHAWALPUR STATE

1408. *Shri Upendranath Barman: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the evacuee Government servants from Bahawalpur State have been permitted to register in the Transfer Bureau?

(b) If not, what arrangements have been made to employ these evacuees within India?

(c) Has any provision for rehabilitation been made for the evacuees who are pensioners from the State?

(d) What is the number of such evacuees?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No

(b) Bahawalpur State employees are eligible for registration at the Employment Exchanges.

(c) They are being treated like other refugees.

(d) Information is not available with the Government of India, and the time and labour involved in collecting it will not be commensurate with the results.

BORSTAL INSTITUTIONS IN CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS

1409. *Shri Satis Chandra Samanta: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Borstal Institutions and other institutions of the same nature in the centrally administered areas; and

(b) the names and location of the institutions?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (b). There is one Reformatory School at Delhi. Information from other Chief Commissioners has been called for.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST R. S. S. ORGANISATION RE PREACHING OF VIOLENCE AND COLLECTION OF ILLICIT ARMS, ETC

1410. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the allegation that the R.S.S. organisation preached the cult of violence and indulged in acts involving arson, dacoity and murder, and collected illicit arms and ammunition?

(b) How many R.S.S. offices have so far been searched in the Province of Delhi and other centrally administered areas and in how many of them arms and ammunitions, etc., have been found?

(c) What is the nature and quantity of these arms?

(d) Have Government, during these searches, found any documents, publications or notifications issued by this organisation preaching the cult of violence and hatred?

(e) If so, do Government propose to lay on the table of the House, copies of at least some of the most objectionable amongst them?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The information is not readily available and will have to be obtained from Chief Commissioners. It will be laid on the table of the House when it is complete.

(e) Government will consider this matter in the light of the material collected.

JUDICIAL ENQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST R. S. S. ORGANISATION

1411. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the Government of India have ordered any judicial enquiry to be made into the allegations made against the R.S.S. organisation?

(b) If so, what were the findings of such judicial enquiry and do Government propose to lay on the table of the House a copy of these findings?

(c) In case no judicial enquiry has so far been made, do Government propose to publish the evidence they have in their possession against this organisation?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the press communique issued by Government on the subject on the 4th February, 1948, a copy of which is placed on the table. Government regret that the publication of material on which Government's action was based would not be in the public interests. The documents are of a secret nature.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

R. S. S. Sangh declared unlawful

In their Resolution of 2nd February 1948, the Government of India declared their determination to root out the forces of hate and violence that are at work in our country and imperil the freedom of the nation and darken her fair name. In pursuance of this policy, the Government of India have decided to declare unlawful the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh in the Chief Commissioners' Provinces. Similar action is also being taken in the Governors' Provinces.

As democratic governments, the Government of India and the Provincial Governments have always been anxious to allow reasonable scope for genuine political, social and economic activities to all parties and organisations including those whose policies and purposes differ from, or even run counter to, their own, subject to the consideration that such activities should not transgress certain commonly recognised limits of propriety or law. The professed aims and objects of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh are to promote the physical, intellectual and moral well-being of the Hindus and also to foster feelings of brotherhood, love and service amongst them. Government themselves are most anxious to improve the general material and intellectual well-being of all sections of the people and have got schemes on hand which are designed to carry out these objects, particularly the provision of physical training and education in military matters to the youth of the country.

Government have, however, noticed with regret that in practice members of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh have not adhered to their professed ideals. Undesirable and even dangerous activities have been carried on by members of the Sangh. It has been found that in several parts of the country individual members of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh have indulged in acts of violence involving arson, robbery, dacoity and murder and have collected illicit arms and ammunition. They have been found circulating leaflets exhorting people to resort to terrorist methods, to collect fire-arms, to create disaffection against the Government and suborn the Police and Military. These activities have been carried on under a cloak of secrecy, and Government have considered from time to time how far these activities rendered it incumbent on them to deal with the Sangh in its corporate capacity. The last occasion when Government defined this attitude was when the Premiers and Home Ministers of Provinces met in Delhi in conference towards the end of November. It was then unanimously agreed that the stage when the Sangh should be

dealt with as an association had not yet arrived and that individuals should continue to be dealt with sternly as hitherto. The objectionable and harmful activities of the Sangh have, however, continued unabated and the cult of violence sponsored and inspired by the activities of the Sangh has claimed many victims. The latest and the most precious to fall was Gandhiji himself.

In these circumstances, it is the bounden duty of Government to take effective measures to curb this reappearance of violence in a virulent form and, as a first step to this end, they have decided to declare the Sangh as an unlawful association. Government have no doubt that in taking this measure they have the support of all law-abiding citizens and of all those who have the welfare of the country at heart.

Ministry of Home Affairs.
New Delhi, February 4, 1948.

ARRESTS OF R. S. S. MEN IN CENTRAL BY ADMINISTERED AREAS

1412. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the R.S.S. leaders and workers who have been arrested and detained in the Centrally Administered areas have been apprised of the grounds of their detention, and whether any opportunity has been afforded to them to reply to the charges made against them?

(b) If not, do Government propose to consider the desirability of doing so now?

(c) What is the total number of arrests of R.S.S. men so far made in the Centrally Administered areas since 30th January 1948?

(d) How many of them have been released and how many of them are still in detention?

(e) How long do Government propose to keep these men in detention without trial?

(f) What treatment is given to the R.S.S. men in jail?

(g) How many of them have been placed in A, B, and C classes respectively?

(h) If any special class treatment is given to these men, do Government propose to lay on the table of the House the rules governing this special class of treatment in jail and pointing out the difference between the special class treatment and the treatment of ordinary C class convicts?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) These persons have been detained under section 3 of the Punjab Public Safety Act, 1947, which does not provide for communication of the grounds of detention to the detenus. The cases of these persons are, however, being reviewed periodically.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 549.

(d) 80 (excluding 11 released on parole) and 458, till the middle of March.

(e) Releases are made on the results of the periodical reviews; the maximum period of detention is six months.

(f) and (h). In Delhi there are no A, B and C categories. Persons of status are placed in Class I and others in Class II which is the same as category 'C' but these people are not required to do any labour. Information regarding other Chief Commissioners' provinces is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House when received.

(g) The information is being obtained and will be placed on the table of the House when received.

MEANING OF "PRIVATE ARMIES" IN RESPECT OF R. S. S., AKALI DAL AND CONGRESS SEVA DAL

1413. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state as to what Government mean by the term "private armies", and in what particular respects the R.S.S., the Akali Dal and the Congress Seva Dal come within its purview?

(b) Are Government aware that ever since the ban on the R.S.S. was placed by the Government, even physical drill by youngmen is disallowed and stopped?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) "Private Army" is a well-understood term but for the benefit of the Honourable Member I would define it as a non-official body of volunteers organized and trained on military or semi-military lines with distinctive uniforms and a regular programme of drills, parades, exercises in arms, etc., and capable of being used as a disciplined force. Each case is to be judged on its merits with reference to its programme of training, drill, etc.

(b) No.

BROADCASTS ON MAHAVEER JAYANTI BY ALL INDIA RADIO.

1414. *Shri R. R. Diwakar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the All India Radio broadcasts information regarding the respective personalities on Christmas day, Buddha Jayanti, Ram-Navami, etc.?

(b) Are Government aware that no such information is broadcast on Mahaveer Jayanti, i.e., on 21st April every year? If so, why?

(c) In view of the importance of Mahaveer Jayanti, do Government propose to see that broadcasts on Mahaveer are made on that day by the All India Radio?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes.

(b) Mahavir Jayanti is also noticed by All India Radio Stations at Delhi, Calcutta and Lucknow.

(c) Does not arise.

CRITERION FOR SELECTION OF RAJPRAMUKH AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR STATES TO FORM UNION

1415. *Shri Baldeo Swarup: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state how much income and what population are regarded as sufficient for any State or Union of States to form one unit for administrative purposes?

(b) What is the criterion for selecting the Raj Pramukh for a Union of States?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No hard and fast rule has been laid down, each case is judged on its merits.

(b) The Raj Pramukh is elected by the Council of Rulers.

RECRUITMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE OF INDIA FROM FIELDS OF PUBLIC LIFE, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

1416. *Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether Government propose to indicate the steps that have been taken to make up the deficiency in regard to Administrative and Secretariat officers of the right type, apart from the recruitment of junior personnel for the Administrative Service, in order to remove the shortage of officers of the age group 25-40, by direct recruitment from the fields of public life, commerce and industry?

(b) If no such steps have been taken, why action on these lines has not been taken?

(c) Have Government any objection to the employment of direct recruits to strengthen the Government machinery?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (c). Government have already taken steps to form a Central Administrative Reserve for the Central Secretariat by direct recruitment through the Federal Public Service Commission of candidates between the ages of 30 and 50. In addition, steps are being taken to strengthen the Provincial cadres of the Indian Administrative Service in order to enable Provincial Governments to release larger numbers of officers in the required age groups for employment by the Centre. Preliminary selections of Provincial Civil Service officers suitable for the purpose have been made already by *ad hoc* Committee appointed for the purpose. A conference of Chief Secretaries of Provinces was held on the 31st March and 1st April, at which all possible sources of recruitment from the requisite age-groups, including those mentioned by the Honourable Member have been reviewed. The Conference has been able to reach agreement on all points considered by it and its recommendations are at present under the consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

HINDUSTAN TIMES REPORT re ARREST OF PERSONS AS R. S. S. MEN WHILE PLAYING FOOTBALL IN SUBZIMANDI, DELHI.

1417. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report published in *The Hindustan Times* dated 17th March 1948, that 21 persons were arrested while playing a football match in Subzimandi, Delhi, on Monday, the 15th March 1948, on the plea that a regular R.S.S. meeting was being held in the form of playing a football match?

(b) How many of these 21 arrested persons are still under detention and how many have been released?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of releasing the persons still under detention?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Yes, but the football match was merely made an occasion for confabulation before and after match.

(b) 17 are still under detention and 4 have been released.

(c) No. Sir. The R.S.S.S. is as the Honourable Member aware, an unlawful organisation and the remaining 17 persons have declined to dissociate themselves from its activities.

ARREST OF PERSONS IN A TEMPLE IN DELHI ENGAGED IN HARI KIRTAN AS BELONGING TO R. S. S.

1418. *Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a press report published in papers that 56 persons were arrested while engaged in Hari Kirtan in Gauri Shanker Temple in Bagichi Madho Das near Red Fort, Delhi, on 16th March 1948, on the plea that they were holding an R.S.S. meeting while engaged in Hari Kirtan? Is this report true?

(b) Are Government aware that a deputation of about 200 ladies gathered outside the Assembly Chamber protesting against the arrests of their children and asked the Honourable the Prime Minister to release them forthwith?

(c) How many of these persons have so far been released and how many of them are still under detention?

(d) When do Government propose to release those who are still under detention?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) Fifty-two students were arrested on the 16th March, 1948, while holding a meeting of the Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh, camouflaged as an assembly for holding a Kirtan.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). None of them has been released so far. The Chief Commissioner is, however, considering the question of release on their fulfilling certain conditions.

DECLARATION AS UNLAWFUL OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA BY WEST BENGAL GOVERNMENT.

1419. *Shri Yudhishtir Mishra: Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the Government of West Bengal consulted the Government of India before declaring the Communist Party of India as unlawful?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: No.

CONSTRUCTION OF AERODROMES IN BHOPAL STATE AND DIRECT AIR SERVICE WITH PAKISTAN.

1420. *Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aerodromes are being constructed in Bhopal State, and if so, how many and at what places;

(b) whether from any of these aerodromes direct air service can be had with Pakistan;

(c) whether any air service has been started from any aerodrome in the State;

(d) whether the State has obtained Government sanction for the construction of any aerodrome or the starting of any air service; and

(e) if any aerodrome has been constructed or any air service started without the sanction of Government, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) The Government of India have no information of any new aerodromes being constructed in Bhopal State.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No scheduled air service originates from Bhopal, but the Deccan Airways' service from Delhi to Madras includes a landing at Bhopal.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

TECHNICAL PERSONNEL BOARD TO EXAMINE FOREIGNER TECHNICIANS FOR INDIAN EMBASSIES.

1421. *Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state if there is any proposal for the establishment of a Technical Personnel Board to examine the technical qualifications of foreigners before they are granted visas by the Indian Embassies abroad?

(b) Are Government aware that most of the independent nations have such Boards?

(c) Have Government any record of foreigners employed by Indian companies and individuals?

(d) What is the number of foreign refugees who have been so employed?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The information would have to be collected from the Provincial Governments and local authorities concerned; but this would involve an amount of labour and time which would not be commensurate with the results.

PROPOSAL FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION OF STEEL COAL, CEMENT, TRANSPORT FACILITIES AND SHIPPING AND THE APPROACH TO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR ASSISTANCE.

1422. *Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzra: Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether projects for increasing the production of steel, coal, cement, transport facilities and shipping have been drawn up in India;

(b) if so, whether estimates of additional steel plants, coal-raising machinery, locomotives and the plant and equipment required for the production of wagons, ships and cement have been prepared; and

(c) whether any approach has been made to the United States of America to obtain financial and other assistance similar to that to be given to Western European countries in accordance with the Marshall Plan?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a), (b) and (c). The position regarding the different items is as follows:

Steel.—The Government have decided to set up one or two new steel plants of 500,000 tons annual capacity. Estimates can be prepared only after expert advice has been obtained regarding design, construction and location of the plants.

Coal.—It has been planned to step up production at the rate of 1½ million tons per annum. The total cost of the capital equipment of major categories to be imported from abroad is estimated to be 2 million pounds.

Cement.—The annual target envisaged in the plan drawn up in 1945 was about 50 lakh tons and licences to import machinery are being issued to suitable parties.

Transport facilities.—Availability of rail transport is dependent on the supply of steel and spare parts for the maintenance of locomotives and wagons.

Requirements of motor transport are obtained through commercial channels and no difficulty is anticipated in getting imports.

Shipping.—India's tonnage requirements up to the end of 1948 are estimated at a minimum of 250,000 tons. Government are prepared to release a reasonable amount of dollars for the purchase of the U.S.A. surplus ships.

Government are in close touch with the U.S.A. authorities through their Embassy here and the India Supply Mission in Washington and are trying to obtain a reasonable allotment of steel for urgent requirements. The assistance of the U.S.A. authorities has also been sought in connection with the supply of essential capital goods.

STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE

INFORMATION PROMISED IN REPLY TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE TO-DAY

Mr. Manu Subedar's Starred Question No. 422(b), (c) and (d) of 12th November 1946

COMPLAINT EXPORT OF TIMBER, STEEL, CLOTH AND COTTON FROM INDIA

Statement showing Quantities of exports of certain commodities from India (on private account) during 1945-46 and 6 months ending 30th September 1946.

Commodities. 1945-46. 1946-47. (1st April to 30th September 1946).

Timber (Teak wood)	Cu. Tons 615	144
Iron or steel and steel bars	Tons 1,138	1,600
* Cloth (Cotton piecegoods)	Yards 440,510,258	144,863,602
† Cotton (raw)	Tons 135,945	100,719

Shri R. R. Diwakar's Starred Question No. 133 [b] of 20th December, 1947.

SUBVENTION TO PROVINCES FOR MANURE—SUPPLY

[Statement not printed in the day's Debate. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House. Vide Circular No. LXXXVI dated 9 April, 1948.—Ed. of D.]

Shree M. C. Veerabhu's Unstarred Question No. 6 of 27th November 1947.

COMMODITIES EXPORTED FROM MADRAS TO CEYLON DURING THE YEARS 1937-38 AND 1946-47.

Statement showing the quantities and value various articles exported to Ceylon from the province of Madras during the years 1937-38 and 1946-47

Particulars of the Article.	1937-1938		1946-1947	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		R
Animals living Cattle. Nos.	736	6,500	6	2,400
Animals, living Horses. Nos.	11	13,240	12	53,500
Animals, living Sheep & Goats. Nos.	30,614	6,09,812	26,032	4,62,319
Animals, living Other kinds. Nos.	781	2,343	1,056	17,945
Apparel. Val.	..	24,194	..	2,22,663
Art works of Val.	..	1,719	..	24,253
Bones for manufacturing purposes, Tons	..	..	687	1,13,276
Books, Printed etc. Cwts.	1,748	2,08,306	2,415	6,54,720
Boots & shoes-Others. Pairs.	13,500	28,303	41,326	2,12,012
Building etc.-Bricks. Nos.	2,14,305	5,918	73,59,000	35,220
Building Chalk & Lime, Cwts.	..	..	25	750
Building Tiles. No.	62,57,227	3,01,955	67,68,027	7,79,617
Building Other kinds. Cwts.	4	120	1,006	46,944
Candles of all kinds. Lbs.	..	..	12	10
Chemicals etc.-Salt-petre. Cwt.	2	12	156	6,354
Other sorts of chemicals. Val.	..	2,341	..	19,400
Coal and coke—Coke. Ton.	Cwt. 7	25	..	..
Coal and coke—Coal. Ton	..	..	4,000	1,39,331
Co-fee	Cwt. 247	11,047	9,852	8,30,636
Coir manufacture—Coir yarn. Cwt.	646	5,293	..	..
Coir manufacture—Mats & matting Cwt.	250	6,226	1	261

* No exports were allowed during the stated period specifically against food supply.

† The shares of China, Japan and U. K. in these exports figures are indicated below.

Cotton (raw) Tons.	China	Japan	U. K.
1945-46	13,163	..	39,006
1946-47	..	43,795	4,707
(1st April to 30th September)	..	..	..

1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
Coir manufacture-Other sorts. Cwt.	26	554	..	..
Cardage etc. Cwt.	4	105	510	17,677
Drugs etc.—Asafoetida. Cwt.	39	2,129	122	18,063
Drugs etc.—Camphor. lbs.	..	..	122	232
Drugs etc.—Senna. Cwt.	375	4,521	217	5,464
Other sorts of drugs, Dying etc. Value	..	89,631	..	3,71,728
Barks for tanning. Cwt.	2,214	6,765	..	..
Dying etc.—Cutch and gambier. Cwt.	21	604	1	107
Dying etc.—Myrobalans. Cwt.	..	..	681	4,431
Dying etc.—other sorts. Cwt.	339	2,471	103	1,399
Earthenware etc. Val.	..	17,570	..	56,425
Fibre for brushes & brooms. Tons	Cwt. 11	147	9	6,665
Fish dry unsalted. Cwt.	1,05,872	15,13,102	2,07,517	1,23,02,403
Fish dry salted. Cwt.	84,697	15,41,714	1,58,966	92,39,656
Fishmaws & shark fins. Cwt.	..	..	443	27,646
Fish wet salted. Cwt.	4,090	38,670	57,809	10,34,892
Fodder etc.—Rice bran. Ton.	1,778	35,838	199	19,101
Other sorts of bran & Pollands. Ton.	1,380	81,945	6	348
Other sorts of fodder Ton.	1,419	76,361	..	..
Fruits etc.—Fresh Fruits coconuts. Nos.	55	3	..	..
Fruits etc.—Others. Val.	..	3,547	..	2,18,942
Fruits—Fresh Vegetables—Onions. Cwt.	4,89,947	14,47,407	5,58,225	47,67,081
Fruits—other kinds. Val.	..	2,71,465	..	7,26,360
Fruits dried etc.—Cashew kernels. Ton	7	9,801	Cwt. 13	1,736
Fruits dried etc.—others. Ton	702	70,382	2,601	7,97,162
Furniture. Val.	..	3,983	..	1,335
Glass and glassware. Val.	..	4,647	..	2,72,644
Grains etc.—Jowar & bajra. Ton	1	199	..	..
Pulses—Beans. Ton.	Cwt. 4	64	..	..
Pulses—Gram. Ton.	169	16,046	..	..
Pulses—Lentiles. Ton.	535	51,731	..	..
Pulses—Other sorts. Ton.	1,427	1,77,874	..	..
Grains—Paddy (rice in the husk). Ton.	826	49,403	..	..
Grains—Rice (rice not in the husk). Ton.	79,129	93,77,674	..	..
Grains—wheat Ton	Cwt. 14	136	..	..
Grains—wheat flour Ton	2	400	..	..
Grains Other sorts Ton	219	24,855	..	..
Guans etc.—Benjamin Cwt.	..	..	2	400
Gun etc.—Other sorts Cwt.	24	571	46	1,938
Hardware and cutlery Val.	..	2,00,241	..	6,25,035
Hides & Skins—Raw goat skins. Tons. 10, Nos. 12,100	..	12,240	..	..
Hides & Skins sheep skins Tons 7 Nos. 1,46,58	..	6,370	..	..
Hides & Skins Other skins Lbs 12 Nos. 2	..	40	..	..
Instruments—Musical Val.	..	26,474	..	20,291
Instruments—Other sorts Val.	..	1,42,455	..	5,28,819
Jewellery Val.	..	..	..	8,869
Lac—other sorts Cwts.	..	..	3	1,904

	1	2	3	4	5
Leather Hides & skins Td,					
Buffalow hides	Tons.	Cwt. 1	104	...	...
		No. 37			
Cow hides	"	Tons 2	7,849	Cwts. 9	
		Nos. 2401		Nos. 599	5,776
Calf skins—Buffalow	"	Tons 2	2,400	...	...
		Nos. 1280			
-do- Cow	"	Lbs. 4	8	...	...
		Nos. 2			
Other hides	"	Cwts. 5	1,294	...	...
		Nos. 634			
Tanned skins—goat skins	"	Cwts. 7	1,039	2	36,246
		Nos. 2012		Nos. 10136	
-do- sheep skins	"	Tons. 3	16,004	20	2,42,282
		Nos. 33560		Nos. 98201	
-do- Other skins	"	Tons. 15	28,485	...	...
		Nos. 49874			
Leather unwrought	Cwt.	51	10,069	320	2,68,653
Leather manufactures—Bags &					
Trunks	Val.	...	267	...	20,917
Other sorts	"	...	7,835	...	93,277
Liquors—Spirit	Gals.	24,923	17,259	...	...
Other sorts	"	7,386	4,847	131	1,861
Machinery and Millwork of all					
kinds	Val.	...	7,265	...	1,73,026
Manures—Bones for manuzial					
purposes	Tons.	1,818	1,75,632	52	8,747
Bone Meal	"	2,734	1,79,495	...	...
Fish manure	"	644	30,307	...	...
Guano	"	519	48,686	...	...
Other kinds	"	45	5,887	13	3,023
Mats & matting	Sq. Yds.	86,672	4,243	16,48,10	14,421
Metal & ores—					
Brass wrought	Cwts.	982	48,317	...	...
Copper wrought	"	3	189	...	...
Iron or Steel—					
Pipes & fittings	"	4	84	...	...
Iron or steel—Nails					
Screws & rivets	Tons.	...	...	Cwt. 1	100
Sheets and plates	"	lbs. 78	20	14	4,606
Other manufactures of Iron					
or steel	"	1	406	76	41,245
Tin wrought including sheets					
and plates	Cwts.	...	...	18	746
Lead other sorts	"	45	1,184	...	...
Ores & mineral unenumerated	"	...	...	1	525
Oils—Essential—					
Animal oil	Cwts.	...	...	57	4,200
				Gals. 717	
Lemongrass oil	Lbs.	28	28	...	...
	Gals.	3			
Sandalwood oil	"	21	157	11,01	48,520
	Gals.	2		Gals. 137	
Oil—Essential—					
other sorts	"	...	...	1,067	2,666
				Gals. 117	
Oils—Minerals—					
Petroleum, Dangerous oil	Gals.	...	...	1,121	5,391
Oils—Minerals—other sorts	"	...	...	420	6,540

1	2	3	4	5
Oil—Vegetable—Nonessential—				
Castor Oil	Cwts. 1976	21620	885	67692
	Gls. 21468		Gls. 10105	
Coconut oil	Gls. 14	980	...	...
	Gls. 168			
Groundnut oil	3493	39541	...	...
	Gls. 41748			
Linseed oil	...	...	28	1262
			Gls. 300	
Seasamum	2604	...	3491	309486
	Gls. 30304	46019	Gls. 42809	
Other sorts	674	7836	700	43356
	Gls. 7742		8459	
Oil cakes—Castor	Tons. 965	56046	...	...
Groundnut	6721	343836	...	...
Rape & Seasamum	14462	1346044	...	...
Other kinds	21	990	...	...
Paints & colours—other sorts .	Cwts. 86	3807	2	721
Painters material—Terpentine .	...	...	92	4724
Do. other sorts	Val. ...	—775	...	2357
Paper & Pastéboard—				
Printing paper	Cwt. 5	85	...	...
Other kinds of paper	18	380	13	1420
Pasteboard—Millboard and				
cardboard of all kinds	400	17419	7	539
Perfumery	Val. ...	28786	...	252733
Plants living	...	893	...	400
Precious stones	...	...	...	1300
Printing lithographic material .	...	23784	...	57633
Provisions—Butter	Cwts. 1	52	...	...
Confectionery	24	894	8	900
Pickles, Chutneys & condiments .	49	935	6792	503292
Ghee	911	38553	...	...
Other sorts	Cwts. 1879	20092	3483	298741
Raw Rubber	Lbs. 1674771	850505	...	...
Rubber manufacture	Val. ...	2149	...	43898
Essential seeds—Ajwan	Tons. 1	200	1	509
Annesed	...	...	40	57194
Coriander	653	93302	1698	1587404
Curmin other than black	3	720	98	125037
Fennel	2	494	4	5542
Fennugree	Cwt. 1	13	10	2836
Seed—Non-essential—Seeds—				
Castor seeds	Cwts. 4	55	...	...
Cotton	Tons. 81	5260	70	25570
Groundnuts	642	40932	...	...
Mustard	213	33409	1	993
Seasamum	1258	193986	163	116602

1	2	3	4	5
Other sorts	Cwts. 19	238	...	...
Seed other than oil seeds	...	...	19	814
Shells—Tortoise shell	Lbs. ...	...	24	125
Soaps	Cwts. 16	1527	457	49141
Specimens illustrative of				
Natural science	Val. ...	355	...	...
Spices—Betelnuts	Cwts. 54	2233	16	2534
Do. Cardamoms	40	11360	23	3583
Do. Chillies	76406	1642932	68975	5027770
Do. Cloves	9	1105	...	...
Do. Ginger	2673	102526	187	7249
Do. Pepper	7	120	1600	100325
Do. Turmeric	12339	155869	5442	273014
Do. Other sorts	Lbs. 34	21	...	...
Stationery	Val. ...	7090	...	1796458
Stone and marble granite set .	Tons. ...	...	10	500
Stone & marble other sorts	Cwt. 1	5	Lbs. 112	846
Sugar below 23 D. S. but not				
below 16 D. S.	Tons. 128	22882	...	...
Sugar 15 D. S. & below	526	63502	...	...
Molasses	1230	202833	8	260
Tea, Black	Lbs. 3367404	2302827	...	...
Textile Raw cotton	Tons. 219	122505	...	...
Do. Cotton waste	Cwts. 1712	29521	4712	135036
Do. twist & yarn	Lbs. 147044	73794	104280	115069
Do. Cotton hosiery	Val. ...	164	...	1855762
Do. Cotton piecegoods—Grey	Yds. 21533	6510	756973	427786
Do. -do- white	31172	6938	509594	450566
Do. -do- Coloured	21672124	7133078	24781704	33305977
Do. Thread sewing	Lbs. 923	204	...	...
Do. Cotton manufacture				
other sorts	300571	73556	134159	195785
Do. Haberdashery & Mil-				
linery	Val. ...	485	...	...
Do. -do- other sorts	...	6822	...	12
Do. Hemp raw	Cwts. 329	5396	80	3910
Do. Hemp manufactures	Val. ...	429	...	684
Do. Jute manufacture—				
Gunny bags sacking	Tons. 15	343	34	10545
Do. Jute rope and twine	Cwt. 211	2116	139	7563
Do. Jute manufacture other				
kinds	Cwts. 187	2053	108	11413
Do. Silk manufactured				
(goods of silk mixed with				
other materials)	Yds. 316180	127304	...	...
Do. Silk piecegoods	57128	73081	306	3535
Do. Silk thread sewing	Lbs. 20	31	...	...
Do. Silk other sorts	28	44	...	...
Do. Wool raw	...	...	2482	1979
Textiles—Wool manufacture				
Carpets & rugs	Lbs. 49507	25519	106761	164399
Do. Wool manufacture				
piecegoods	Yds. 1255	1121	...	...
Do. Wool manufacture				
shawls	Nos. 11	200	...	...

1	2	3	4	5
Textiles—Wool manufacture				
other sorts Lbs.	2221	2290	703590	1214306
Other textiles—manufactured . Val.	..	647470	..	820
Tabacco—unmanufactured . Lbs.	..	..	849597	883607
Do. manufactured—Cigars Lbs.	11239	25178	2167	8372
Do. Manufactured—cigarettes „	216782	279379	..	..
Do. manufactured—other				
sorts „	770	1393	1745029	5801837
Toys—Games and sports	..	6905	..	77241
Vehicles—Carriages and carts . Nos.	..	..	16	6350
Do. Parts of carriages and				
carts Val.	..	3799	..	5917
Do. Ships parts of Val.	..	360	..	50139
Do. Vehicles other kinds . „	..	55	..	160
Wax of all kinds Cwts.	27	2132	7	1636
Wood & timber Teak wood . C. T.	3	120	..	..
Do. Sandalwood Tons.	Cwt. 4	216	1	3300
Other kinds of wood & timber Val.	..	6297	..	..
Manufacture of wood Val.	..	1091	..	12959
Postal articles Val.	..	2700614	..	8637080
All other articles—unmanufactured . „	..	100076	..	112754
All other articles—manufactured „	..	62306	..	280335

Shri Yudhisthir Mishra's Starred Question No. 708 of 8th December 1947.

CLOTH, YARN AND SUGAR SUPPLIED TO ORISSA STATE

Quantities of cloths yarn and sugar supplied to the Orissa State during the year ending the 31st October 1947.

Cloth	29,360 bales
Yarn	22,024 bales
Sugar	29,675 Mounds

Shri Algu Rai Shastri's Starred Question No. 722 of 9th December 1947.

EVACUATION OF REFUGEES FROM JHELM (WEST PUNJAB)

(a) 3,000 and 4,200 non-Muslim refugees arrived in East Punjab by the trains which left Jhelum on the 5th and the 11th November, 1947, respectively.

(b) Half of the refugees belonged to Jhelum property while others had collected from outside on different dates, some as early as October, 1947. The evacuees who came by the first train were given only 6 hours' notice, while those by the second train were given 12 hours' notice.

(c) The first train arrived at Jullundur and the evacuees have since dispersed. The second train arrived at Sonapat, and some of the evacuees were still there in the first week of March.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

3585

Shri Profulla Chandra Sen's Starred Question No. 828 of 12th December 1947.

STRIKES IN COTTON MILLS

(a) The statement below shows the total number of man-days lost in the cotton mills in India province-wise from the 15th August to the 15th November 1947:

Province	No. of man-days lost
Bombay	10,58,553
West Bengal	3,75,200
C. P. and Berar	78,424
United Provinces	15,339*
Ajmer-Merwara	7,416
Madras	6,186
Delhi	2,480
Total	15,43,598

*Does not include figures of four strikes in which the number of workers involved is not known.

Information regarding cloth-yardage lost province-wise is not available but figures relating to the whole of India and Bombay area so far as known are as follows:

Month	India	Bombay area
	(Million yards)	(Million yards)
August 1947	45.9	6.2
September 1947	58.1	36.7
October 1947	Not available	16.4
November 1947	Not available	2.0
		61.3

(b) A statement giving an analysis of the causes of strikes is attached.

(c) There was no appreciable delay in the settlement of strikes except in a few cases due chiefly to the mills closing down.

Statement

Showing causes of strikes in cotton mills in India from the 15th August to the 15th November 1947

Province	Wages and allowances	Bonus	Personnel	Leave & hours	Others	Not connected with industrial disputes	Remarks
Bombay	23	1	16	1	12	1	
Ajmer-Merwara	1	..	6	2	..	4	
West Bengal	1	..	3	..	..	..	
C. P. & Berar	2	..	4	2	3	20	Causes not known in 3 cases.
Madras	1	..	5	1	4	2	
United Provinces	6	1	5	..	..	..	Causes not known in 3 cases.
Delhi	1	..	..	..	..	..	
Total	35	2	39	6	19	27	

Diwan Chaman Lall's Starred Question No 110 of 4th February 1948

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES THROUGH THE CENTRALLY CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY

Statement

(a) The points at which refugees from Pakistan were detrained had to be determined in the contexts of the proximity of the entraining points for Muslim evacuees from East Punjab. It was not always possible to detrain the refugees directly at points where they were to be settled. Thus a large number of refugees at one stage numbering over 75 thousand were first taken to Rohtak town after they had been evacuated from Pakistan. At present the number of refugees in Rohtak is about 68 thousand of whom about 17 thousand belong to Areas whose refugees are being settled in or around Rohtak district in accordance with the East Punjab Dispersal scheme. The movement under the Dispersal scheme will be regulated according to the availability of land and houses in the districts of Karnal, Rohtak, and Hissar and Gurgaon.

Diwan Chaman Lall's Starred Question No 112 (a), (b) and (c) of 4th February 1948

CONFLICT AMONGST AUTHORITIES re RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES

(a) No. About 16 thousand families have been settled on land in Ambala district and in the towns over 70 thousand persons have houses.

(b) No.

(c) No.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva's Starred Question No. 1291 (a) of 5th February 1948.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND BY DELHI IMPROVEMENT TRUST FOR BUILDING PURPOSES

Of the land developed by the Delhi Improvement Trust, an area of 349.9 acres is available for building purposes.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh's Starred Question No. 146 of 6th February 1948.

INVESTIGATION INTO THE CONDUCT OF TEXTILE COMMISSIONER SERVING IN CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR

The name of the Textile Commissioner, C.P. & Berar, is Mr. K. A. Padmanabhan and he has been working in that capacity since 29th March 1945. The Police did hold the view that this Officer had some ulterior motive in acting beyond his authority in the matter of fixing prices of cloth produced by a certain firm, but after a detailed examination of the facts of the case, the Provincial Government found that there was absolutely no evidence on which a criminal charge could be sustained against the Officer. The question of taking departmental action against him is being examined by the Provincial Government.

Shri. Deshbandhu Gupta's Starred Question No. 153 (a) of 7th February 1948.

REGISTRATION OF CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY LEFT IN PAKISTAN

1,257 Claims were tendered for registration with the Deputy Director, Relief and Rehabilitation, Ajmer, upto the 1st February, 1948.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhury's Starred Question No. 157 of 7th February 1948.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES DIED OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN COURSE OF EVACUATION

Statement showing deaths amongst the Refugees on account of infectious diseases and other causes during 1st Sept. 1947 to 31st December, 1947

Provinces or States	Deaths due to infectious diseases	Deaths due to other causes	Total deaths
East Punjab	2,724	3,636	6,360
United Provinces	51	466	507
Bombay	33	44	77
Bihar	2	34	36
Central Provinces	17	21	38
Madras	..	3	3
Ajmer-Merwara	4	39	43
Kapurthala	53	..	53
Faridkot	50	..	50
Nabha	..	6	6
Jind	16	13	29
Patiala	24	197	221

NOTE.—There were no officially sponsored refugees in Assam & Orissa & therefore the question of deaths amongst them does not arise. The West Bengal Government reported that no deaths had occurred amongst recent arrivals from East Bengal.

Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar's Starred Question No 335 (a) (b), and (c) of 19th February 1948
PROMOTION OF SECRETARIAT OFFICERS IN GRADES OF SECRETARIES, ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES, JOINT SECRETARIES, ETC.
ON OR AFTER 15th AUGUST 1947

Name of Ministry	No. of promotions (after 15-8-47) to post of				Promotions in normal course		Promotions due to premature retirements		Promotions due to transfer to Pakistan	
	Secretary	Additional Joint Secretary	Deputy Secretary	Under Secretary	Asstt. Secretary					
Agriculture	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Cabinet Secretariat	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Commerce	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Communications	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Defence	..	..	1	..	5	7	..	..	..	1
Education	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
External Affairs & Commonwealth Relations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Finance [Exclg: F.D. (R.D.) & Defence Division]	..	4	3	3	2	12	..	..	..	..
Finance (Revenue Division)	..	..	2	1	..	4	..	..	..	..
Finance (I. & C.)	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
Finance (Military)	..	2	..	2	2	6	..	..	..	..
Food	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Health	..	..	1	..	2	2	..	..	..	1
Home	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	..	..	1
I. & B.	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1
I. & S.	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1
Labour	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Law	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Railways*	..	..	..	2	1	2	..	2	..	..
R. & R.	..	..	..	2	1	4	..	2	..	2
States	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..
Transport	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
W. M. P.	..	..	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..
Ministry without Portfolio	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
Partition Secretariat	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Total	6	9	13	18	22	60	2	2	7	7

*In the Railway Ministry the information relates to posts which correspond to the Status of Secretary, Addl. Secretary, etc.

Statement showing promotions to higher posts in Attached Offices after the 15th August 1947.

Name of office	No. of promotions to higher posts	In normal course	Promotion due to Premature retirements	Due to transfers to Pakistan
Office of the National Savings Commissioner	1	..	1	..
Offices attached to the I. & B. Ministry	2	2	..	..
Agricultural Marketing Department	2	2	..	..
Military Accounts Deptt.	1	1	..	..
Archaeological Deptt.	1	..	..	1
Director-General of Health Services	1	1	..	..
Office of the Director of Customs in the C.B.R.	1	1	..	..
D. G., I. & S.	43	18	..	25
D. G. Disposals	7	4	..	3
Chief Technical Adviser, Fertilizer Project	1	1	..	..
Coal Commr's Organisation	4	4	..	..
Offices attached to the Labour Ministry	4	4	..	..
Naval Headquarters	2	6	..	4
Army Headquarters	8		..	..
D. G., P. & T.	15	4	5	6
G. G., Civil Aviation	10	3	1	6
Offices attached to the W.M.P. Ministry	22	16	1	5
Offices attached to the Ministry of R. & R.	1	1	..	..
Offices attached to the Food Ministry	15	11	1	3
F. P. S. C.	..	..	..	..
Intelligence Bureau	6	6	..	..
Special Police Establishment	2	2	..	..
Controller of Ry. Supplies	..	..	..	..
Central Standards Office for Railways	..	..	..	..
Offices attached to the Commerce Ministry	11	6	..	5
Total	160	93	9	58

Seth Govind Das's Starred Question No. 524 of 1st March, 1948

SALARIES OF PROMOTED STAFF OF GUN CARRIAGE FACTORY, JUBBULPORE

Statement

Since May 1945, 231 members of the staff of the Gun Carriage Factory, Jubbulpore, were promoted to higher posts. Promotions made by the Superintendent of the Factory are only provisional and have to be confirmed by the Director of Ordnance Factories at Calcutta. As the papers relating to 44 of these cases of promotion were lost in transit between the Factory at Jubbulpore and the Directorate of Ordnance Factories at Calcutta, some delay occurred in obtaining the Director of Ordnance Factory's confirmation to these promotions. No reminders were received in Ordnance Factory Headquarters, nor did any request to receive a deputation in this connection reach the Director of Ordnance Factories.

Enquiries have been instituted with a view to ascertaining the person or persons responsible for the delay in these 44 cases and to determining what, if any, disciplinary action should be taken.

Seth Govind Das's Starred Question No. 525 of 1st March 1948

DISCRIMINATORY ALLOTMENT OF QUARTERS TO EMPLOYEES OF GUN CARRIAGE FACTORY JUBBULPORE

(a) It is not a fact that the European, Anglo-Indian and Christian staff of the Gun Carriage Factory, Jubbulpore have been allotted staff quarters in the manner suggested in the question.

(b) Compensation in lieu of quarters has been paid wherever admissible.

Nq.

Shri R. R. Diwakar's Starred Question No. 812(a) of 17th March, 1947.

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT FOR THE INDIAN RAILWAYS

[Statement not printed in the day's Debate. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House. Vide circular No. LXXXVI dated 9th April, 1948.—Ed. of D.]

Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi's Starred Question No. 913 of 22nd March 1948.

SURVEY OF CHHATTISGARH STATES FOR MINERAL WEALTH

(a) Yes. Reconnaissance mineral surveys have been made of all the Chhattisgarh States, with detailed survey of small portions.

(b) Certain minerals mentioned below have been found to occur in these States:—

Bastar—bauxite, copper, corundum (of no economic value), golds (small quantity), graphite, ilmenite, iron-ore (very large deposit), magnetite (small quantity), lepidolite (promising), limestone, sillimanite (of no economic importance), mica.

Changbhakar—clay, iron-ore (no large scale industry possible), mineral pigments (of no economic importance), coal (no economic importance).

Chhukhadan—clay (inferior quality), haematite (of no economic importance) yellowish clay (no economic importance), lime-stones (grey and reddish), calcareous shales.

Jashpur—bauxite, aluminous laterite.

Kalahandi—graphite, manganese and iron-ores, mica, bauxite (good quality), lithomargic clay, white clay, yellow ochre (of little industrial value).

Kanker—haematite micaceous, haematite, red ochre, yellow ochre, mica (small quantity), gold (small quantity).

Karwardha—white clay, red ochre, yellow ochre, iron ore, limestone (dark grey, total quantity not large), mica, bauxite, gold (small quantity).

Khairagarh—fluorite, white clay, clay shales (no economic importance), red ochre (small quantity), yellowish ochre, limestone (poor in quality), lead (of no economic importance), gold (of no economic importance), bauxite (not of sufficient quantity), pyrite (of no economic importance), korea-copper, lead-ores, etc. (of no economic importance), calo-tufa, white clay (of no economic importance), coal. Nandgaon-limestones and calcareous shales, white clay, lead-ore (small quantity), bauxite (of no commercial value).

Patna—graphite, manganese-ore, rajgarh—coal, iron ore (of no economic importance), limestones and dolomite, mica (of no economic importance), red ochre, white clay, sakti limestone, red shales.

Sarangarh—limestone, iron ores (of no economic importance).

Surguja—clays, limestone, calcareous—tufa, bauxite, coal, brick and pottery clays, high quality clays, lead ore (of no economic importance), mica, red ochre, yellow ochre, pyrite (no commercial value), hot sulphur springs (a large number).

Udaipur—bauxite, calcareous tufa (small deposits), coal and fire clay (of no practical use), mica (of no practical utility), red ochre, rock crystal (of no economic importance), white clay.

(c) Systematic geological survey is being carried out in pursuance of the Geological Survey of India's five-year plan for Orissa which includes Chhattisgarh States, particularly Bastar, Kalahandi and Patna.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

BAN ON EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AS ASSISTANT RESEARCH OFFICERS FOR CENTRAL WATER POWER, IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION ON RESEARCH STATION, POONA.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an advertisement which appeared in the *Statesman*, dated the 14th February, 1948, inviting applications for 13 posts of Assistant Research Officers for the Central Water Power, Irrigation and Navigation Research Station, Poona;

(b) how many applications have been received;

(c) whether selections have been made;

(d) whether it is a fact that a woman is debarred from applying for one of these posts;

(e) if so, for what reasons;

(f) whether qualified women are available for such posts; and

(g) if so, whether Government propose to re-advertise so that women should also have an opportunity to apply for some of these posts?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) The duties involved are strenuous. The Assistant Research officers have to do both laboratory and field work and have to do extensive touring. While working on models, they have to stand continuously for long hours. It was considered that women may not be suitable for these posts.

(f) This is a matter of opinion.

(g) No.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know, Sir, whether actually an application has been turned out with the remarks that women are not eligible, but an order to this effect under section 275 of the Government of India Act, 1935, as adapted, has not been adopted by the said department?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: I want notice of the question, but in view of the intense feeling expressed by the noble lady, I am prepared to reconsider the question to the extent whether it would not be advisable after all to reserve a post or two for women who are duly qualified.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I remind the Honourable Minister that women are against any reservation being made?

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Is there any general rule of the department debarring women or not?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: There is no general rule as such.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know why for these particular posts women have been debarred from applying?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: The reasons are given in answer to part (e) of the question.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: Are these reasons justified?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri K. Santhanam: How many qualified engineers are available for these posts?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: I require notice of the question.

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government aware that nowadays women are ready to bear all the hardships which men are bearing and under these circumstances will Government see that no bar is put anywhere as far as women are concerned?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That raises a general question. I am calling the next short notice question.

SEIZURE OF MAIL BAGS BY NATIONAL GUARDS AND PAKISTAN POLICE IN EASTERN PAKISTAN

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the communique of the Government of Assam published in the *Hindustan Standard* dated the 1st April, 1948 (Calcutta Edition), in which it is stated that 406 mail bags intended for Assam were seized by National Guards and Pakistan Police at Lalmonirhat and taken away on the 25th and 27th March, 1948?

(b) Does the seizure amount to a breach of the International Postal Convention?

(c) If so, what action do Government propose to take in this matter?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government have already taken up the matter with the Posts and Telegraphs Administration in Pakistan for the restoration of the bags.

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha: What steps do the Government propose to take to carry mails safely to Assam.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: We are arranging that our mails will not pass through the Pakistan area. From the 15th of this month the mails will be taken throughout through our own territory, first by rail up to Siliguri and from Siliguri by motor bus.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know, Sir, when the Government of India received information about these mail bags?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: We received information before we received the cutting from the press.

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether this new route will totally eliminate the passage of these mails through the Pakistan area?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: That is what I have stated, Sir.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: What has been the response to his application for the restoration of the mail bags? Have the Government got the mail bags back?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Reply has been received and it is being investigated. Our latest information is that the bags are lying at Lalmonirhat and are still safe.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are they standing still?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if the India Government has not agreed to carry mails from Western Pakistan to Eastern Pakistan and *vice versa* through Indian territory?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: No, Sir. All the service rendered in this respect is being paid for. We are paid Rs. 33,000 a month for the carriage of their mails and from the 15th we will make our own arrangements.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: In view of the fact that we are carrying their mails even on payment, why not they agree to carry our mails?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: But the arrangement has not been working satisfactorily. Therefore all first class mails are being carried by air mail, and parcels and heavy mails are being sent by rail, and for that we are making a satisfactory arrangement.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: What action is generally taken when such a breach of postal convention takes place and what action do the Government propose to take?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The matter has been taken up both diplomatically and departmentally with the Pakistan Government.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: What action is generally taken in case of such a breach of the convention?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: We lodge a protest and sometimes it leads to war.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the special need or advantage accruing to the Indian Dominion for them to carry Pakistan mails when they are refusing to provide necessary facilities to carry our mails?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Officially they have not refused it.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: Was any previous information received from the Eastern Pakistan Government that our mails will not be allowed to pass through their region?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: They are doing it. Today mails are going through Pakistan.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: What is the reason for withholding those mails?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Perhaps they thought that under the customs law they are allowed to hold up our mails. We have told them they have no such right.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Why not we ourselves refuse to carry their mails?

Mr. Speaker: These are all suggestions. The information that could be had is already given. I find Honourable Members are arguing. That cannot be done on questions. What is the information they want?

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: I want to know whether the Pakistan Government justified their action in taking away these mail bags.

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: May I remind the House that an Inter-Dominion Conference is going to be held in the course of the next five or six days or a week in Calcutta, and one of the important subjects for discussion is this particular matter. Why they did it, of course they did not justify it. My Honourable colleague said they thought that the new order in regard to customs gave them some right to deal with it. If they thought so, they were completely wrong because there is no relation to the carrying of mails. Anyhow the matter is going to be dealt with at diplomatic level and in a few days' time. It is a serious matter of course, but the House will remember that even serious matters do not necessarily lead, or ought not to lead to action taken in excitement.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not time that we learnt something from Pakistan in all these things?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I hope not, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it not time that we learnt something from Pakistan in all these dealings?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I hope not, Sir.

ATTACK ON IRANIAN HINDUS AND SIKHS IN ABADAN

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news of attack on Iranian Hindus and Sikhs in Abadan, published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 4th April, 1948?

(b) Will Government please refer to my starred questions Nos. 379 and 860 in this connection answered on 21st February, 1948 and 18th March, 1948 respectively and state whether the Bill curtailing the trading activities of all foreigners in Iran, referred to in reply to part (c) of starred question No. 842 of 18th March, 1948 has now been passed by the Iran Legislature?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to safeguard the interests and lives of Indian Nationals in Iran?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) and (c). The Government of India have seen the report referred to, but have received no information of any recent disturbances in Abadan. A report has been called for from our Ambassador in Teheran. It is possible that the report refers to an earlier incident which resulted in some 25 Sikhs employees of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company being repatriated to India at their request.

In December last the Government of India stopped further exodus of Indian labour from Bombay for Iran. Since no fresh incidents have been reported since then and we have been given to understand that the situation in Abadan is normal, we have allowed some recruits to proceed to Abadan. We shall reconsider the position on receiving a further report from our Ambassador.

I might mention that approximately the total number of Indian nationals in Iran is 1663, and not a smaller number which I gave on a previous occasion. We are trying to get the exact figures.

(b) The Government of India have received no intimation that the Bill curtailing trading activities of all foreigners, including Indians, in Iran has yet been passed, although it has been introduced in the *Iran Majlis*. The Government of India have already informed the Government of Iran of their objections to this measure in so far as it applies to Indians.

گیانی گورمکھ سنگھ مسافر : کیا میں آنریبل پرائم منسٹر سے پوچھ سکتا ہوں کہ

ایران میں مقیم ہندوستانی Ambassador نے ان کے خلاف کیا Protest کیا ہے -

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: May I ask the Honourable the Prime Minister what protest has been made against it by the Indian Ambassador in Iran?

آنریبل پنڈت جواہر لال نہرو : معلوم نہیں آنریبل ممبر صاحب کیا چاہتے ہیں -

اس سلسلے میں کیا میں خط پیش کروں یا تار پیش کروں - واقعہ یہی ہے - جو

میں نے عرض کیا کہ جو اخبار میں خبر چھپی ہے - جہاں تک مجھکو علم ہے بہت

بڑھا کر چھاپی گئی ہے - واقعات بہت پرانے ہیں اور سنبھل چکے ہیں اور جہاں تک

آدمیوں کے آنے کا سوال ہے صرف پچیس آدمی آئے ہیں - اخبار میں لکھا ہے کہ ہزار آدمی

وہاں سے آئے - ہزار آدمی تو جہاں تک مجھکو معلوم ہے Employed بھی نہیں ہیں -

میں نے اس واقعہ کی نسبت ایرانی Ambassador کو شکایت بھیجی

کے اسکے جواب میں جو الفاظ ہیں - اگر آپ چاہیں تو میں آپکو دکھا دوں گا -

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not understand what the Honourable Member wants. Does he want me to produce the letter or the telegram? The facts are as I have already stated. The news which has appeared in the press so far as my information goes is grossly exaggerated. These incidents are very old and the situation is now normal. As regards emigrants only twenty five men have returned so far. The news published in the papers stated that a thousand men had left Iran. To my knowledge, one thousand men are not even employed there. I had complained about this incident to the Indian Ambassador in Iran. If you like I can show you the Ambassador's reply to this.

گیانی گورمکھ سنگھ مسافر : صرف ایک سپلیمنٹری سوال میں آپ سے کرنا چاہتا

ہوں کہ اس بل کا جو فارسی مسودہ ہے وہ میرے پاس ہے - اسکی دفعہ ۸ کا اردو ترجمہ

میں آپکو سنانا چاہتا ہوں "اگر کوئی ملک ایران کی پروڈکٹس (Products) کو اپنے ملک

میں import یا فروخت کرنے کی اجازت نہ دے اور ایران کے تاجروں پر اس نسبت سے پابندی لگا دے تب ایران گورنمنٹ کو حق ہوگا کہ اپنی اسمبلی کی اجازت سے اس ملک کے باشندگان جو ایران میں رہتے ہیں انکی تجارت کی نسبت قانون میں ایسی ہی تبدیلی کرے۔

یہ سنانے سے میرا مطلب یہ ہے کہ اگر ایران گورنمنٹ ایران میں ہندوستانی تاجروں پر کوئی پابندی لگاتی ہے تو کیا ہماری گورنمنٹ کوئی جوابی کارروائی کرنے کے لئے تیار ہے۔

Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: I want to ask only one supplementary question. I have got the draft in Persian of this Bill and give you the Urdu translation of section 8.

"Agar koi mulk Iran ki products ko apne mulk main import ya farokht karne ki ijazat na de our Iran ke tajeron par is nisbat se pabandi laga de tab Iran Government ko haq hoga ke apni Assembly ki ijazat so us mulk ke bashindgan jo Iran main rehte hen unki tijarat ki nisbat qanun main tabdeele kare."

"If the import of goods made in Iran and the sales thereof are prohibited by any country and if restrictions are imposed on Iranian traders in that country, the Government of Iran will have the right to impose through the Legislative Assembly of Iran, similar restrictions in respect of trade on nationals of that country resident in Iran."

The object of my reading it out to you is this that in case the Government of Iran imposes certain restrictions on Indian traders in Iran, is our Government prepared to impose similar restrictions on Iranian as a matter of reciprocity.

آرمیل پنڈت جواہرلال نہرو: جی ہاں - اسکی اطلاع دے دی گئی ہے کہ اگر اس

کا اثر ہمارے Nationals پر پڑا تو ہم اس پر غور کریں گے کہ ہم کیا کریں۔

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, Sir, the Government of Iran have been informed that if the Indian nationals are effected, the Government of India will consider what action to take.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Sir, when did this earlier occurrence regarding the repatriation of Sikh employees of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company take place?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I think in December last.

Shri H. V. Kamath: After our Ambassador took over at Teheran?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not remember the exact dates.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Did they ask for repatriation because the economic and trade conditions were deteriorating, or what?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: There was a petty incident there at that time—I forget the details of it—and as a result of that a number of Indians wanted to go home. This is a matter entirely between the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and their employees—we come into the picture only to give protection when needed—and the Oil Company repatriated some people. After that, conditions improved and others are staying on. There the matter stands so far as I know at present.

DEMAND FOR THE RETURN OF REQUISITIONED LAND TO JHANSI PEASANTS

Prof. N. G. Ranga: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the press news, published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 7th April, 1948 from Jhansi that 20,000 peasants threaten to march to Delhi in order to press their demand that their lands requisitioned for only three years by the Military authorities for army manoeuvres in the year 1941 should now be returned to them or that adequate compensation should be paid to them?

(b) If so, what are the facts of the case?

(c) Why were not their lands returned earlier or at least compensation paid both for the use of the land and for the deprivation of their lands after the due date?

(d) What do Government propose to do to redress their grievances?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The land was requisitioned during the period from 1941 to 1944 for military camps, field firing ranges and tank ranges. The total area requisitioned was about 60,000 acres (including about 20,000 acres in Gwalior State). About 2,600 acres have so far been released. The annual compensation due on this account has been paid up to the 30th June 1947. The U. P. Government have been requested to expedite the payment for the second half of 1947.

The area under requisition is required permanently for essential military purposes.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Have Government ever tried to provide these people with alternative pieces of land in view of the fact that this is their only means of living?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No alternative means of employment have been provided as far as I remember.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will Government consider the advisability of doing it at least now?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: That is always borne in mind and every effort is made.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: In view of the fact that no effort has so far been made, will Government give an assurance to this House that they will certainly take some serious steps in order to provide either alternative employment or alternative land on which they can possibly eke out their living?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The only alternative employment that can be given to these peasants is to give them land in exchange of the land that has been requisitioned by the Government, and I think, Sir, that steps might have been taken by the U.P. Government, but I could not say offhand what steps have been taken.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister enquire and let us know?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I will enquire about it.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: How soon are the U. P. Government and the Gwalior Government as well as the Central Government expected to pay these people the compensation for the deprivation of their lands once their half-yearly payments become due?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Sir, as I have already stated, the half-yearly instalment was paid up to the 30th June 1947. About the second instalment, we have already reminded the U. P. Government.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know how the compensation works out per acre?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I require notice.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: In view of the fact that these peasants have no other source of employment, do Government realise the seriousness of delaying for nine months the payment of their second half-yearly instalment?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The last instalment was paid about nine months ago and the second instalment should have been paid in February or March. It does take one or two months to make the payment.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That is exactly the point I raised earlier: How soon after the instalment becomes due, do Government think of paying the instalment to these people? Now, they pay every six months. From June to December, it is six months. Are these peasants expected to wait from December till 31st March or 31st April in order to get this payment for the earlier six months?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The delay for payment of this second instalment is about three months. I will remind the U. P. Government and inform them that steps should be taken to pay this compensation in time.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I at least know the total amount of compensation paid? Has the Honourable Minister got the figure?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I require notice.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Why was this instalment method of payment resorted to? Could not the Government pay at a time?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: This instalment system was agreed to because we were not sure whether this land will be permanently required by us or not. Now, it has been decided that this land is permanently required for military purposes and the compensation will be paid in a lump sum. The details are being worked out.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO CHECK INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE BY KASIM RAZVI—LEADER OF RAZAKARS OF HYDERABAD

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an Adjournment Motion from the Honourable Member Prof. Shibbanlal Saksena. The notice as it stands is argumentative and I have therefore tried to amend it and put therein the substance and the point of his argument.

Before I read the notice, I must again invite the attention of the House to the fact that, I find that, the fact of the Adjournment Motion being given has found a place in the Press this morning. I once told the House that, this practice of publishing anything in the Press is not a very desirable one. I do not mean to suggest that it finds a place through the Honourable Members who are tabling the Motion; but whoever is responsible for it, the practice is not a desirable one. The Press will also take notice of it and if I find this occurring again, it will be my painful duty to proceed against the defaulting members of the Press.

Now, the motion as amended is:

"That the House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely:

'failure of the Government of India to take effective steps to check incitement to violence and the possibility of breach of peace in the Indian Union, contained in the speech of Kasim Razvi at the mass rally of the Razakars on the 31st March 1948'."

May I know how the position stands so far as the Government is concerned?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (Prime Minister and Leader of the House): Sir, may I say to begin with that I deeply regret that notice of this Adjournment Motion has found its way to the Press. If I may say so, I entirely agree with the remarks that fell from you that this is a very undesirable practice and I trust that this kind of thing will not occur again.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

The Motion for Adjournment appears to me inadmissible from a large number of points of view. It is for you to decide. I am not going to deal with those rather legal and technical pleas, but I wish to say this that I think that any discussion on a speech like this, that is to say, a speech that has been reported in the public Press—for us to discuss a speech as well as other connected matters would hardly be in consonance with the dignity of this House, however good or bad that speech may be. Let me, however, say this that this speech, although it is a private speech, nevertheless it comes from the leader of an organisation. I do not know and I cannot say straight off how far the report is correct or not, without further enquiry. But presuming that it is basically correct, the speech is perhaps the most amazing and irresponsible utterance that I have ever come across—not only irresponsible, but as has been said in this Motion, a direct incitement to violence and murder—and Government have given the most careful thought to it and are giving the most careful thought to the situation, as it is developing, in Hyderabad. They cannot obviously ignore such speeches or the consequences that such speeches might produce. That is as much as I can say before the House now. It is obviously a difficult matter for us to discuss at this stage and I do not think it would yield any satisfactory results. I suppose all in the House are agreed that it does not require discussion that the speech as reported, if it is true, is a most objectionable thing. Nobody has two opinions about it. The questions that arise are not on the speech really, but about other matters—what policy should be adopted; what should be done about it; and other questions. Normally speaking, such questions cannot be easily discussed on the floor of this House. Some particular policy—broad policy—might be discussed, but such matters are not normally discussed at all when the Government is engaged not exactly in negotiations, but in dealing with that particular matter initially. It would undoubtedly create difficulties if they were to have such discussion. So, while I appreciate—and not only I appreciate, but the Government appreciates—the apprehension and, if I may say so, the anger of the House that such speeches should be delivered, and Government entirely associates itself with it, still I would beg of the House and of you, Sir, to consider that any discussion of this issue at this moment would not help the House or the Government or go in any way towards meeting the problems that have arisen.

Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth (Madras: Muslim): May I raise a point of order regarding the notice, Sir? We can discuss here only matters with which the Government of India is concerned. You were not pleased to read the wording of the original motion—if it is the speech that the Honourable Member wants to discuss here; if that is so, it is quite out of order. What we can discuss is the failure of the Government of India in preventing the man making that speech, or the failure of the Government of India in having the speech published here. What is the particular subject that is to be discussed?

Mr. Speaker: I think I put the point of the motion clearly in the amendment which I made. As I said, the original wording was argumentative in nature, but the point seemed to be that, the effect of the speech as reported is a possibility of a serious breach of peace in the Indian Union and the failure of the Government of India to safeguard against the possibility of breach of peace. That seemed to me to be the point of the argument and that is why I, *prima facie*, thought that the motion could not be ruled out on the ground that it relates to a speech made by some person in a foreign State. It is because of its repercussions here and the duty of the Government of India to safeguard the interests of the Indian Union, that I thought the matter has relevance.

I should like to know what the Honourable Member has to say in view of what has fallen from the Honourable the Prime Minister.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U.P.: General): Before saying anything, I may tell you that I was extremely surprised to see the report of the motion coming today in the *News Chronicle* and I can only assure you that I gave it to the office at 5.15 last evening and I do not know how it has been published. I hope the Press will take care that they do not publish such news in future.

As far as the motion itself is concerned, I am very glad the Honourable the Prime Minister has given us an assurance that he will watch the situation in Hyderabad and will take care that such speeches are not made in future. It is not this speech that I really wanted the House to discuss, but this speech gives a vivid idea of the situation that is developing in Hyderabad which may cause serious repercussions on the relations between the Communities in our own Dominion and create bad relations between them. My only purpose in moving this adjournment motion was that because of the great flutter caused by the speech in the city of Delhi, the House should reassure public opinion in the country that the Government was fully alive to the situation and it was therefore necessary that this speech should be brought to the notice of the House. Now in view of the assurance of the Honourable the Prime Minister, and his strong condemnation of the speech I shall not press the motion.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): In answer to my Honourable friend Haji Ishaq Seth what he has said is this. I heard it read out by you and one-third came to my mind and that is this: the failure of this Government to see that there are no fifth columnists in the Indian Union especially in view of Razvi's reference to the existence of 4½ crores of fifth columnists in the Indian Union.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it may be, the matter need not be pursued any further, as the Honourable Member is not going to move his motion.

ELECTIONS TO STANDING COMMITTEES FOR MINISTRIES OF (i) COMMUNICATIONS, (ii) WORKS, MINES AND POWER, (iii) TRANSPORT and (iv) FOOD.

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the Assembly that the following members have been elected to serve on the Standing Committees for the Ministries of Communications, Works, Mines and Power and Transport (Other than Roads):—

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Communications.—Lala Achint Ram.

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power.—Shri Basanta Kumar Das.

Standing Committee for the Ministry of Transport (Other than Roads).—Shri Satis Chandra Samanta.

I have also to inform the Assembly that upto 3 P.M. on Thursday, the 8th April, 1948, the time fixed for receiving nominations for election of a member to the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Food, one nomination was received. As there is only one candidate for the vacancy, I declare Shri Nand Lal to be duly elected to the Committee.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

AUTHENTICATED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORISED SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE—OTHER THAN RAILWAYS FOR 15TH AUGUST, 1947 TO 31ST MARCH 1948.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty (Minister for Finance): Sir, I lay on the table in pursuance of section 36 of the Government of India Act, 1935, as adapted, read with sub-section (1) of section 35 thereof, an authenticated schedule of authorised supplementary expenditure for the period 15th August, 1947 to 31st March, 1948 in respect of expenditure other than Railways.

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 36 of the Government of India Act, 1935, as adapted by the India (Provisional Constitution) Order, 1947 read with sub-section (1) of Section 35 thereof, I, Louis Francis Albert Victor Nicholas Earl Mountbatten of Burma, Governor-General of India do hereby authenticate by my signature the following schedule of supplementary expenditure from the revenues of the Dominion for the year 1947-48:—

SCHEDULE

Service, Administration or Area to which Demand relates	Amount (in thousands of rupees)		
	Voted	Charged	Total
1. Customs	1,74	..	1,74
2. Central Excise and Salt	83	..	83
3. Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax	5,50	..	5,50
4. Opium	5,62	..	5,62
6. Stamps	5,02	27	5,29
9. Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department	1	97	98
19. Ministry of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations	51	..	51
21. Ministry of Commerce	4,61	..	4,61
27. Ministry of States	38	..	38
28. Ministry of Defence	1,24	..	1,24
29. Ministry of Industry and Supply	39	..	39
33. Audit	2,98	..	2,98
36. Police	56	..	56
37. Ports and Pilotage	24	..	24
53. Agriculture	2,08,82	..	2,08,82
55. Industries and Supplies	69,00	..	69,00
56. Overseas Communications Service	7,89	..	7,89
58. Broadcasting	3,68	..	3,68
61. Census	75	..	75
66. Mint	2,84	..	2,84
77. Defence Services Effective (Supplies and Stores)	1,04,72	..	1,04,72
78-A. Grants-in-aid to Provincial Governments	1,40,00	..	1,40,00
79. Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	6	..	6
81. Civil Defence	15	..	15
82. Delhi	2,99	3	3,02
86. Relations with Indian States	11	..	26
Staff, Household and Allowances of the Governor-General	..	1,38	1,38
92. Capital Outlay on Civil Aviation	56,33	..	56,33
97. Commuted value of Pensions	2,65	..	2,65
99. Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading	8,53,25	..	8,53,25

NEW DELHI;
the 7th April 1948.

Sd/- MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA,
Governor-General of India.

INDIAN RAILWAYS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890.”

The motion was adopted.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena (U.P.: General): Before you proceed with the business, may I know if the House is sitting beyond 5 o'clock today?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I just wanted to be sure about that position from the Government Chief Whip and I have not yet had definite information. (Interruption). I might just state that there was a proposal that the House might sit tomorrow from 10-45 to 1 P.M. But in view of the fact that today was declared the last day on which the House should sit and considering that various Honourable Members have got appointments and have made their own arrangements for tomorrow, it was considered more desirable that, in order to finish the agenda before the House, the House may sit a little longer today instead of meeting tomorrow. So there will be no meeting tomorrow and the session will end today.

The arrangement has been that we will have a recess of half an hour from 5 to 5-30 P.M. and will resume from 5-30 till about 7 P.M. when the work is finished.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Are we to understand that we sit till we finish the business?

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think the better arrangement will be, we sit till 7 P.M. and make an effort to finish by 7 P.M. I said advisedly, "about 7 P.M.". If we exceed by a few minutes or a short time thereafter, the matter will stand differently. I do not propose to prolong the sitting indefinitely and go much into the night.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): I do not object to the guillotine being put at 7 P.M. but I do not want the motion to be talked out.

Mr. Speaker: I take it that the Honourable Member wants that 7 P.M. will be the guillotine hour, when all outstanding questions will be put to the vote of the House.

An Honourable Member: Are we to finish the entire agenda by the time?

Mr. Speaker: No. As much as the outstanding questions at that time. If it be a Bill, then we shall finish the Bill. We will not take any subsequent Bill if we have not reached that.

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: Then we will proceed clause by clause with the Road Transport Corporations Bill, 1948.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Sir, I move:

"That for sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, the following be substituted:

"(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a Provincial Government with a view to—

- (a) co-ordinate all forms of road transport;
- (b) prevent uneconomic competition among the various forms of transport; and
- (c) provide efficiently for the transport needs of the public, trade and industry and generally improve the facilities of such transport in speed, convenience and cheapness,

may, with the consent of the Central Government by statute or notification in this behalf, incorporate Road Transport Corporation or Corporations for the whole or any part of the Province."

Sir, in 1946 when Sir Edward Benthall, the predecessor of the Honourable Minister for Railways placed his demand before the House member after member rose and the demand was defeated, because the mentality then was that as railways were in charge of a European they were the special concern of Europeans whereas road transport was the concern of Indian members of the House. At that time the members thought that there was competition between railways on the one side and lorry drivers on the other, and Indian members wanted to see that the railways did not get the better of the two by sheer influence. Now the entire picture has changed and there is no difference between the railways and the lorry drivers. We want that the railways should be given a fair deal, and if it is in the interest of the country that the railway form of transport should be encouraged it must be encouraged. Again, so far as the principle of this Bill is concerned, I think the matter has been put right by the speech of the Railway Minister in reply to the objection of Mr. Santhanam, that the principle of the Bill is that Government will give their consent and will not dictate terms to the Provincial Governments and the Provincial Governments will be at liberty to behave in whatever manner they think best in the interest of the general public. This being the accepted principle I seek to clarify the Provisions of clause 3 by this amendment. I want that the words "having regard to" be replaced by "with a view to", and also to add that the Provincial Government should either by statute or notification, in whatever way it thinks best, be able to incorporate road transport corporations. Thirdly, I want to insist that the basic and paramount consideration for the Provincial Governments will be the speed, convenience and cheapness of the transport and the general interest of the people living in their jurisdiction. If the railway form of transport gives more convenience and speed and cheapness, it may be that the road transport corporation may not allow the lorry drivers to come into competition with the railways. But if it so happens that the Road Transport Corporation or the Provincial Government thinks that it will be in the interest of the general public that the railway form of transport should not be given any sort of preference, the right course would be, I think, for the Provincial Government and road transport corporations to allow and encourage other swift, cheap and convenient form of transport and give it preference. Unless this is made clear I do not see any meaning in the words, "Notwithstanding anything contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939". That Act and the subsequent attempts at amending it were directed to bring about a state of things in which the railways were regarded as a body which should be protected by this House. In regard to the second amendment of the Motor Vehicles Act for which a Select Committee was appointed of which I was a member, we made every effort to see that the legitimate interests of the railways were protected, but at the same time we tried our best to see that the interests of the general public and the lorry drivers were not imperilled by these amendments. This is the principle which I want to insist upon and want to be accepted by Government, that in the incorporation of these road transport companies the sole point which the Provincial Governments would consider would be the public interest and not the interest of the railways as such. It is for this purpose that I seek to amend these provisions. So far as the co-ordination of all forms of road transport is concerned, the railway interests will be amply protected by enacting this and also uneconomic competition will be avoided. But I place full emphasis on clause (c) of the amendment which is the keynote of the whole thing, that the paramount consideration will be speed, convenience and cheapness of transport for the public, trade and industry. Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That for sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, the following be substituted:

"(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a Provincial

Government with a view to—

- (a) co-ordinate all forms of road transport;
- (b) prevent uneconomic competition among the various forms of transport; and
- (c) provide efficiently for the transport needs of the public, trade and industry and generally improve the facilities of such transport in speed, convenience and cheapness.

may, with the consent of the Central Government by statute or notification in this behalf, incorporate Road Transport Corporation or Corporations for the whole or any part of the Province."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, with regard to the point raised by my Honourable friend I am substantially in agreement with his general view on the subject. But the particular amendment that he has proposed does not to my mind really make any difference to the statement of the objectives of this measure, because the objectives are simply co-ordination and development in the cheapest and most efficient manner. The way in which he put it verbally is different from mine but substantially makes no difference.

With regard to the general points that the Honourable Member has placed, when proposals regarding road-rail co-ordination were placed before the old legislature at the time the old Government was functioning, it was turned down by the House on the ground that the Provincial Governments at that time were not represented by Ministries, and they wanted, I think, the whole matter to be reconsidered with the Ministry Governments in the provinces. Since then we have been in active and continual discussion with the Provincial Ministries, and the statement of objectives as put in the Bill is the statement which has resulted from the discussions that we have had with the Provincial Ministries during the past two years. And it seems to me that since there is no difference in substance although there is difference in terms and phraseology, and since this particular form has emerged from the discussions which have been carried on between us and the Provincial Ministries, there is really no case and I would ask my Honourable friend not to press his amendment; it is not going to make any difference to the position. As regards the possibility that the railways may impose their will in regard to the development of transport, that is in settling questions of competition as between railways and road transport, the House will remember that under the terms on which these road transport corporations are going to be based, railways would have only a 20 per cent share in the capital. In other words, the representatives of the Railway Ministry would appear at the Board of Directors as the representatives of a small minority holding, as poor relations. All that it does is to give us a *locus standi* so that we may with due humility place before the 80 per cent shareholders our views on the subject. That is all that happens and I hope the Honourable Member does not want me to deprive the railways of that elementary right.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): I have to make one point clear. I have tabled an amendment on which there is a change in substance to the original draft. Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's amendment gives a different version of the clause but the substance of my amendment is also essential for his clause because it also provides for the setting up transport corporations with the consent of the Central Government. My object is that the setting up of the Corporation must be an act of the Provincial Government. They must decide when and how to set it up. There must be no question of taking consent. The Statute must provide the conditions and the purposes for which these corporations should be set up. Provincial autonomy in the matter of road transport should not depend on their consent. That is the substantial amendment.

So far as the actual wording is concerned, I think both the original draft as well as my friend's draft err in putting padding in the Statute. After all the

actual purpose here is the setting up of the Corporations and these Corporations are set up to run road transport, whereas the co-ordination will have to come between the railways and these corporations. It is not a substitute for the Motor Vehicles Act. That is the wrong impression given by this wording. But even after setting up the corporation there should be a machinery for co-ordinating activities between the railways and these corporations and they will have to devise a machinery to operate the road transport in the province. These padding are really superfluous. But the substance is whether these Corporations should be set up with the consent of the Central Government or by the Provincial Government or on their own volition. I maintain that they should be allowed to be set up by the Provincial Governments on their own volition without reference to the Central Government. If the mover does not agree to my suggestion, I shall have to press my amendment as an amendment to his.

Mr. Speaker: I am not clear on that point. Which amendment is the Honourable Member referring to?

Shri K. Santhanam: Amendments 1 and 2. Both are relevant to Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's as well.

Mr. Speaker: He is referring to amendments Nos. 1 and 2. But amendment No. 1 will stand on a different footing.

Shri K. Santhanam: Even if we take Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's amendment it is there in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. I want to save the other Acts also. That also is relevant to his in substance.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras: General): But one is different from the other.

Mr. Speaker: The two are entirely different.

Shri K. Santhanam: The difference is only in the purpose.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: 'With the consent of the Central Government' is different from the Companies law!

Shri K. Santhanam: Number 1 is for the first preamble, and then there is my deletion of the Central Government. Both of them are there. Both the points are in Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's amendment.

Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava: So far as the amendment of Mr. Santhanam is concerned, I have no quarrel with it. I am ready to accept it. I do not want the consent as condition precedent to legislation. I think no question of consent arises.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C. P. and Berar: General): I have also given notice of an amendment similar to those which are before the House. The wording proposed by me was intended to replace the three clauses in 3 (1). I proposed that the following be substituted in that clause:

"Having regard to—

- (a) the necessity of increasing facilities of road transport for the public, trade and industry; and
- (b) the desirability of providing a more efficient, economic and less costly form of transport than obtains at the present moment in that area (instead of 'any' it should be 'in that area')."

I was very glad to hear from the Honourable Minister that he agrees both with the principle and the spirit of the amendment moved by my Honourable friend Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava. My whole point in this amendment was that one of the criteria of judging the efficiency of the Corporation, and the objects with which this Corporation should be started was that it should work in such a way as to be least costly to the ordinary person. I think I have heard him quite correctly to say that he accepts the principle that these services should make

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

every effort to be as cheap as possible, and should not on the plea of establishment of the Corporation go on increasing the rates irrespective of the convenience or inconvenience of the public. So, if he accepts that principle, I would like to know if it would not be possible for him to accept a suitable change by which this important idea would be incorporated in the section of the Bill? If that is so, probably my friend, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava will also be satisfied. If no such wording is there, there is nothing to indicate what the situation would be, because the Corporation would be a sort of a statutory body, which will be brought into being by Provincial Governments, and they will probably do as they like, without caring to discharge their responsibility, not only with respect to increasing efficiency and the facilities, but also of maintaining the services as economically and cheaply as possible. That is my submission and I hope the Honourable Minister will agree to alter (c), for instance, by merely changing a couple of words. If we say—

"the desirability of extending and improving the facilities for road transport in any area in such a manner as to provide most efficiently for the needs thereof and of preventing uneconomic competition among any forms of road transport and to run the services as cheaply as possible."

If he were to accept the addition of these words, it would be thoroughly inoffensive and would serve the purpose. It would also afford a guarantee to the travelling public that they would not have to pay more because the private bus-owner had ceased to ply his motors. I am totally opposed to increasing the cost to the general public as it generally and as a rule happens whenever Government agencies are substituted for private or company agencies. I am not prepared to ask the people to pay more merely for having the satisfaction that the services are state-owned. As I already said "I am opposed to monopolies and thus I think that we must insist that whoever wants concessions and monopolies of one sort or the other must compete on equal terms with the existing agencies and show that they can continue to compete."

Mr. R. K. Sidhva (C. P. and Berar: General): I wanted one point to be clarified. The Honourable Minister said that the Railways' representation would be in a minority, that is 20 per cent., and their voice will not be the deciding factor. But he forgets that the policy of the Railway remains and that is that there should not be any service running parallel to the railways. Will not this policy override the constitution—the minority representation of the railway on the Corporation? After all the policy and the Government rule will intervene. I want to know from the Minister what he thinks about that. If there is a service already existing on a parallel line, will he say that it will be allowed to continue, or will he by the rule-making power say that this interferes with the policy of the Government and notwithstanding our minor representation on the Corporation it shall not be allowed?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I feel somehow that this must be only an enabling measure. As the Honourable Minister said, for want of a legal right or jurisdiction the Provincial Governments cannot bring into existence a Corporation and so they have applied to the Centre. The Centre must only prepare in this Bill a draft scheme for bringing into existence a corporation and the legislature of any province might fill in the details. If any province wants to run it through a state department it must be free to do so. That is also accepted by the Honourable Minister. Even where a corporation is brought into existence it may not be that private agencies are absolutely turned out on the road. That is also envisaged. Some of the details are worked out in the Bill itself. So far as the corporations are concerned the Central Government wants to take a certain percentage of shares on behalf of the railways to safeguard the interests of the railways. The quantum of the shares has been reduced to a minimum or minority of 20 per cent. Therefore they may not have a dominant voice. The rest is a free field for enterprise either by the Provincial Government or they may leave it to the bus-owners or those persons who are already

running the services. Under the circumstances "with the consent of the Central Government" need not be there. It is a provincial matter and there is the safeguard that the Central Government must be given 20 per cent. of the shares. This Bill may be passed with the amendment of Mr. Santhanam.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: With regard to the point made by my honourable friend Dr. Deshmukh the words "most efficiently" covers the question of cost. It is not necessary to specify the word "cheaply". The only test of efficiency is that the best possible service is available at the least cost. There is no other meaning that you can put into it.

Dr. B. Battabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): Efficiency does not include economy.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: If efficiency does not include economy I do not quite understand what efficiency really means.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I would suggest a compromise. "cheaply consistent with efficiency."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: If the House so desires I am prepared to have it in this form: "to provide most efficiently and at the cheapest cost" or some words to that effect. In my opinion it is quite unnecessary. I do hope the House will accept my assurance that in any kind of business or industrial concern efficiency can be determined only by relating the quantum and quality of service to the expense to which the company is put. There is no other way.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Our experience is that very often it is not so. It is for this reason we feel so keenly about it.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: It would enthuse the public to welcome this Bill wholeheartedly. There is no harm in having it.

Mr. Speaker: Efficiency and cheapness need not necessarily go together. That is how my mind reacts to it. Things may be more costly to work efficiently. What is necessary is the word "cheaply". "To provide most efficiently and cheaply" means that it should be both efficient and cheap.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would say "as cheaply as possible consistent with efficiency". That would be better.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I would suggest "to provide most efficiently and economically for the needs thereof".

Mr. Speaker: I might illustrate the point. Even first class coaches may be provided and they may be as economical as possible but it may not be possible for the ordinary public to travel in the first class. That seems to be at the back of the mind of Honourable Members. It may be considered that we are making a change in the whole ideology, as to "the desirability of extending and improving the facilities for road transport."

Shri K. Santhanam: Road transport whether it is cheap or costly is necessary. Wherever it is possible it should be cheap.

Mr. Speaker: It is better we wait for sometime and keep it over. Meantime the Honourable Minister can turn it over in his mind.

Shri K. Santhanam: In the meantime my amendment may be accepted and we may adjust later.

Mr. Speaker: If the House proceeds to accept the amendment of Pandit Bhargava, the Honourable Member's amendment will have to be an amendment to his amendment. If that is not accepted, even then, independently there is scope for his amendment being moved.

Shri K. Santhanam: Whether Pandit Bhargava's amendment is to be moved or not my amendment may be accepted.

Mr. Speaker: What about the other amendments which cover the same ground?

Several Honourable Members: They will be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: The only amendment that we have before us will be the amendment of Pandit Bhargava or in the alternative the amendment of Mr. Santhanam to delete the words "with the consent of the Central Government", in case Pandit Bhargava's amendment is not accepted.

Shri K. Santhanam: In any case my amendment would come.

Mr. Speaker: That is what I mean.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If the Honourable Minister would accept my wording of parts (a) and (b) being substituted and (c) being omitted that would be the best possible alternative.

Mr. Speaker: That may be considered later on. I am not touching clause 3 at present. I take it that Dr. Deshmukh is not moving both his amendments.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I will keep over the amendment of Mr. Santhanam for the deletion of the words "with the consent of the Central Government." We will proceed with the other amendments to this clause.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, after the figures '1939', the words 'the Indian Companies Act or any other law' be inserted."

I want to make it more general.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I accept it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, after figures '1939' the words 'the Indian Companies Act or any other law' be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill,—

- (i) for all the words occurring before part (a), the words 'In such Corporation' be substituted;
- (ii) in part (a), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continue' be substituted;
- (iii) in part (b), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continue' be substituted; and
- (iv) in part (c), for the words 'provision is made', the words 'provision shall be made' be substituted."

All these amendments stand together, because the idea is that the statutory authority given to the Central Government should be taken out of the picture. Therefore they are merely consequential amendments based on that principle.

Mr. Speaker: I would not put the amendment to the vote, if the Honourable Member agrees, because it is consequential to the first amendment.

Shri K. Santhanam: It is consequential to the removal of the words 'Central Government'. Whichever alternative is accepted, the deletion of the words 'Central Government' is common ground.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I accept it.

Mr. Speaker: I will put the motion before the House; but I will put it to vote afterwards in the proper sequence.

Amendment moved:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill,—

- (i) for all the words occurring before part (a), the words 'In such Corporation' be substituted;
- (ii) in part (a), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continue' be substituted;

(iii) in part (b), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continue' be substituted; and

(iv) in part (c), for the words 'provision is made', the words 'provision shall be made' be substituted."

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I beg to move:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, before the word 'compensation' the word 'adequate' be inserted."

In part (b) of sub-clause (2) the provision is for 'adequate representation'; but in part (c) of the same sub-clause the word 'adequate' is not there. It says 'for the payment of compensation'. I know what is compensation. Unless the word 'adequate' is there people may not be adequately compensated. We do not know how Provincial Governments may behave in awarding proper compensation. I had tabled the amendment as 'fair and adequate' compensation but I have dropped 'fair'. We want to insist that these lorry drivers who have done pioneer work should be adequately compensated.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I accept it.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): As a matter of fact in regard to this particular word we have been fighting elsewhere. The question of 'adequate' or 'just' compensation starts all the trouble. If my honourable friend is going to accept it without realizing its implications he is going to put the whole lot of Provincial Governments in a soup.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Under clause 7 of the Bill the Central Government is in a position to make rules to carry out the purposes of this measure. There is an amendment proposed with regard to that which restricts our rule-making power as regards compensation. My feeling is that if you add the phrase "adequate compensation" here it is possible for the Central Government, by making rules under this clause, to see that whatever provision we make, there may be agreement between the Provincial Governments and the Centre.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My Honourable friend is making a little mistake. The introduction of the word in the body of the statute is one thing, and to give the powers to the Central Government to describe what is the nature of the compensation, in the Rules is another. What is contained in the body of the statute takes precedence over the other. Lawyers will have to explain in court how it is adequate and a whole lot of trouble will be raised. There is so much difference between putting it in the statute and in the rule-making power.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: It is my intention to accept the amendment which has been suggested by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari with regard to arbitration. One of the matters on which I certainly think there might be difference of opinion is this matter of compensation. Supposing for example there is difference between the Central Government and the Provincial Government on that matter, it is something that would necessarily go up for arbitration. Therefore the question of what is adequate compensation would be determined on the basis of the statute.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In regard to my amendment this is a matter between the Central Government and the Provincial Government. I am suggesting arbitration. But if the Honourable Member accepts this amendment that will not eliminate the trouble. This is between the parties and the Provincial Governments.

Mr. Speaker: We will take up this point after Lunch. The House is now adjourned till 2-30.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half, Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

ELECTION TO STANDING COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the Assembly that Professor Nibaran Chandra Laskar has been elected to serve on the Standing Committee for the Ministry of Industry and Supply.

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS BILL—concl'd.

Mr. Speaker: We were last discussing the amendment of Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava about the addition of the word "adequate", and there was some discussion on the term "adequate".

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I suggest that since the Honourable the Law Minister happens to be here, he may be asked to clarify the position for the benefit of a layman like myself.

Mr. Speaker: He knows the point, I believe?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava wants to put in the word "adequate" before the word "compensation".

Mr. Speaker: "Compensation to owners" would mean adequate compensation.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It would not mean adequate unless you make it adequate by the addition of that word. You know even in regard to requisitioned lands the House agreed that the compensation should be one half.

Mr. Speaker: Let us hear what the Honourable the Law Minister has to say. On the discussion raised by the Honourable Member Mr. Krishnamachari I was thinking that the question of adequacy might perhaps raise some complications—adequacy in what respects and in whose opinion, and all that sort of thing.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: I should like to keep the word "adequate" for this reason that this is a word which is extremely necessary in view of the happenings in other provinces. It is not a question of law at all. The words that have been used have been several—"adequate compensation", "proper compensation", "just compensation", "fair compensation", "equitable compensation"—all these words have been used. But leaving it as mere compensation may just make it nominal compensation. I know that in the United Provinces they have offered Rs. 1,000 for all buses whenever they are taken over. Now this is not compensation. It is nominal compensation. If you say 'adequate' compensation, then of course it may become a subject of dispute in law courts, but if you eliminate the adjective altogether, it will still more become a subject of dispute in law courts without any guidance to the judges. Therefore we must be clear in our own minds whether we mean to give to the bus-owners when we take over the buses compulsorily the compensation to which they are entitled. For instance suppose there is a bus which has run for two years. It has been purchased at a cost of about Rs. 15,000. Now if you give compensation of Rs. 1,000 as a matter of routine, that will be cruelty carried to the utmost degree. It is exercising the power of a giant like a giant. There is no fairness in it. There is no justice, no propriety or equitability in it. Therefore when you are taking over property from a person the value of which can be appraised by men of wisdom and men of sound commonsense and sound judgment, then you must use the word which will help the person who is being deprived of his property. I might

say that after great deliberation we have used the words 'equitable compensation' in regard to compensation payable to zamindars on their zamindaris being abolished. Well, there it is a right that is being taken away. Even so equitable compensation was being contemplated. Equity arose from the fact that not merely the gross income, but the nett income had to be taken into account; the amount of expenditure incurred in collecting revenues; the amount of expenditure involved in irrigation works; also failure of collections. All these things being considered, there being no material object on the basis of which appraisal could be made, we said it should be 'equitable compensation'. But here is a material object, a commodity which could be purchased and sold, and therefore you have got a market value here and the market value must be the guidance. In that case the only word to be used is 'adequate' compensation, so that the power of the Provincial Corporations or Governments whichever may come into existence to take over the new concerns may not be exercised arbitrarily and even inequitably.

Mr. Speaker: I might point out one thing. As a lawyer I also feel something about this, but with my limitations of being in the Chair, I will not enter into that arena of controversy. The point here is compensation has to be paid in respect of services which are being taken over or even displaced. I can imagine services being displaced without the fleet being taken over.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: If I may intervene now, there is an amendment on the Order Paper asking for the deletion of the words "or have been displaced by reason of the exercise of any powers vested in the Corporation" by my Honourable friend Mr. C. Subramaniam, and it is my intention to accept that amendment.

Mr. Speaker: In that case, it would simply mean "whose services have been taken over by the Corporation". Of course, the basis of compensation would be the cost of the fleet etc., but in order to lessen the controversy and save time, I am just wondering, whether the words "due compensation" would satisfy Honourable Members.

Shri C. Subramaniam (Madras: General): I would submit that compensation has to be paid by the Provincial Governments. They will have to judge what would be the proper amount to be paid according to circumstances. There is another point also. This is a matter of fundamental right. No man could be deprived of his property without being paid compensation, and we are making provision in the fundamental rights what sort of compensation—equitable compensation or adequate compensation or what other sort of compensation—has to be paid in the case of taking over the property of another. In these matters we should be guided by fundamental rights. Therefore let us not be restricted here by saying 'adequate', 'due' or 'proper' or any such thing because after all we are going to be governed by fundamental rights which we will be passing very soon. So let it stand as it is.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: The 'Fundamental Rights' says 'except in accordance with the law'?

Mr. Speaker: Personally, I do feel compensation would mean an adequate measure of compensation for whatever property is taken over. That is the natural meaning of it, and whether you put the word 'adequate' or not, still a court of law would take cognizance of the value of the property to the owner in ascertaining the compensation, if at all the matter can go to a court of law. That is my own feeling. But in view of what has been felt by Honourable Members, I was shaky about the word 'adequate'. Therefore I was suggesting 'due' compensation instead of 'adequate' because the question of adequacy will raise questions such as different standards of adequacy, adequacy from whose standpoint

[Mr. Speaker]

and all those various complications. That is why I was suggesting 'due' compensation, but my chief business was to save time in discussion.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, may I suggest that there is an amendment to clause 3, which I think the Honourable Minister is willing to accept in some form; that means the Central Government will have to lay down the terms under which compensation should be paid. There the position of the operators is safeguarded because the Central Government will frame the rules as to how the compensation is to be paid.

Mr. Speaker: Still, the word "due" will not do that much harm as the word "adequate" is likely to make.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, one point has not received attention here. The whole difficulty is not about the actual stuff which is taken over or not taken over, but about the goodwill and expectations. How far a company has built up its goodwill and what are the expectations of its future profits?—that will be the material element. So, if you put any adjective then the proper consideration of that element may be prejudiced and therefore the word should not be there. The rules may be framed in detail by the Central Government as to how far goodwill will be considered and how far future expectations will be considered; all that is a matter of precise formulation and therefore we should not put the word "compensation" with any kind of adjective and I say it should be left as it is.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, the words "due" and "adequate" have different meanings. Whereas "adequate" indicates the idea of amplitude from the point of view of the receiver of the compensation, the word "due" implies fair consideration of relevant circumstances only.

Mr. Speaker: That is what I think, and therefore I suggest that the Honourable the Law Minister will be our guide.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Minister for Law): Sir, I have not followed the controversy from the beginning, and I personally think that it is not a legal question in the technical sense of the word. But speaking as a Member of the House and not as a Law Minister, I shall say this that the question as to the content of the word "adequate" would depend upon whether the word "adequate" stands by itself or whether it is coupled by a further provision namely "adequate in accordance with rules prescribed by the Government of India". I am not certain about it, but if there is a provision or if the Members of the House could agree to some such provision that the Central Government should have the power to make rules, to lay down the principles on which compensation could be assessed, then in my humble judgment the word "adequate" would not make any difference at all. The result then will be that whatever compensation is assessed in accordance with rules framed by the Government of India would be deemed to be an adequate compensation and there could be no controversy as to the content of that word, apart from the rules framed by the Government of India.

Therefore, my suggestion is this that if some Honourable Members are keen in retaining the word "adequate" in order to give some sort of an assurance to persons whose property is likely to be taken over under the provisions of this Bill, then I think they would do well to agree to a clause like the one I am suggesting:

"adequate compensation as assessed in accordance with rules made by the Government of India in this behalf".

If those words were accepted as limiting or defining the scope of the adequacy, I think there could be no difficulty at all.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: The difficulty in that is that here we are making a law for the Provinces; it is an enabling law and in this we are trying

to butt in in order to fill up all the details by arrogating to ourselves the rules of compensation. The Honourable the Law Minister will kindly consider that aspect of the matter.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: The reply to that is very simple. The rules of compensation need not be the same all over India; it would be perfectly possible for the Central Government, in consultation with the Provincial Governments, to make different rules for different Provinces, because the circumstances may be quite different. And I do not think the generality of phraseology such as the one I have suggested would create the sort of difficulty that my friend Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya anticipates in this matter.

Mr. Speaker: Then how do we stand at the end?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I think the Law Minister's suggestion could be embodied in some such phrasing as this:

"Provision is made for the payment of adequate compensation in accordance with rules made by the Central Government under this Act."

Mr. Speaker: Which is the amendment which Mr. Krishnamachari was referring to?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Amendment No. 6 in List No. 2. It cuts out the generality of the rule-making power of the Government of India, but gives them only power in regard to this particular sub-section.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, under that amendment the rule-making power will cover only clause (c).

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is restricted only to sub-clause (c). The generality of the power is taken away, but it is restricted to sub-clause (c).

Mr. Speaker: Then, of course, a compromise out of the situation is very clear. If that power is restricted to rule-making and the word "due" is added—if it is acceptable to the Honourable Members we might say "due compensation"—and we also accept the other amendment, that will meet the points of view of both the sides.

Shri K. Santhanam: With due respect to you, Sir, unless you also put "in accordance with rules" the "due compensation" will by itself become justiciable whether you make rules or not.

Mr. Speaker: That may be adopted if it is acceptable to the House. Is Dr. Pattabhi clear on the fact that what is proposed is due compensation in accordance with rules made?

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: I do not mind, instead of leaving it to the arbitrary pleasure of the Provincial Governments.

Mr. Speaker: And we accept the other amendment if it is acceptable to the Honourable Minister.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: We dare say these rules will be published in the Gazette for public criticism as is the practice generally?

Mr. Speaker: Of course, it is assumed that they will be published.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I will have it placed on the table of the House.

Mr. Speaker: There is that assurance that, he will have them placed on the table of the House. That is clarified. What about the amendment under discussion? It may be withdrawn then.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my amendment.

Mr. Speaker: Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

The amendment was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Who moves the new amendment?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I will move it

I beg to move:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, for the word 'compensation', the words 'due compensation in accordance with rules made under section 7' be substituted."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, for the word 'compensation', the words 'due compensation in accordance with rules made under section 7' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Now, as regards the "cheap" business.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I have thought over the matter again in the light of the discussion that took place here. I find on full consideration that the use of the word "cheap" would not be a very satisfactory solution of the problem. My own suggestion is: "So as to provide most efficiently and economically for the needs thereof". My objection to the word "cheap" is that cheapness indicates low cost independently of the quality of service, whereas the word "economically" would mean low cost consistent with the quality of the service, and I think what the Honourable Member wants is service of good quality at the lowest possible expenditure. I think the word "economically" would cover that very much better than the term "cheap".

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It may not be cheap, but it may be economical. Cheapness from the point of view of the public, and economical from the point of view of the Administration. We want "cheapness".

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: "Economical" is "cheap".

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: The difficulty, Sir, is that there are two points of view. One is that of the Central Government or that of the organisation itself. The other is that of the consumer. Now, when we talk of cheapness, we are talking from the standpoint of the consumer. When we are talking of economy, we are talking from the standpoint of the organisation. For 40 or 50 years under the bureaucracy the controversy has been a most irrepressible one between economy and efficiency. Whenever we wanted "economy" they said "efficiency". We wanted the salaries of the Executive Councillors to be reduced from Rs. 6,666. They said: "No. There must be efficiency." They always sacrificed economy for efficiency. Of course, economy and efficiency can be combined, and though successfully combined, they only satisfy the members of the organisation. Therefore, "economy" serves the Government very well, but it does not serve the consumer. What the consumer wants is this: as a rate payer, he wants every Administration to be run both efficiently and economically. He also expects that the service rendered to him is rendered at easy rates. Now, for instance, one of the big factories may conduct their business and manufacture products economically as well as efficiently and yet they may charge exorbitant profits, so much so the consumer is badly dealt with. That is the difference between the two.

Mr. Speaker: May I make a suggestion with reference to this also? I also thought of this point. I do not know whether it would be agreeable to the Honourable Minister. I suggest the addition of the words "and as cheaply as possible for the needs thereof" after "provide most efficiently".

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: May I just see how it will read?

Mr. Speaker: It will read as follows:

"in such a manner as to provide most efficiently and as cheaply as possible for the needs thereof."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I will accept it.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: You may add "consistently with efficiency" also, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: That would not be necessary if the amendment I have suggested is accepted, because it is said there "most efficiently and as cheaply as possible." Now, I think somebody can formally move the amendment.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I beg to move:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, after the words 'most efficiently' the words 'and as cheaply as possible', be inserted."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, after the words 'most efficiently' the words 'and as cheaply as possible', be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: How do we deal with the amendment of Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, all other things are there in the original clause of the Bill. The only clause was the one about "speed" and "convenience". Speed and convenience are of course included in the word "efficiently". Now "cheaply" has also been included. So, I wish to withdraw my amendment to sub-clause (1).

Mr. Speaker: Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment.

The amendment was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Shri K. Santhanam: Sir, I move:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, the words 'with the consent of the Central Government' be omitted."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I accept it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in sub-clause (1) of clause 3 of the Bill, the words 'with the consent of the Central Government' be omitted."

The motion was adopted.

Shri K. Santhanam: Amendment No. 3 has been moved.

Mr. Speaker: So I shall put it to the House.

The question is:

"That in sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill,—

- (i) for all the words occurring before part (a), the words 'In such Corporation' be substituted;
- (ii) in part (a), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continue' be substituted;
- (iii) in part (b), for the words 'provision is made and continues', the words 'provision shall be made and continues' be substituted; and
- (iv) in part (c) for the words 'provision is made', the words 'provision shall be made' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. Subramaniam: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, for all the words beginning with the words 'have been taken over' to the end, the following be substituted: 'are taken over by the Corporation'."

Sir, the object of this amendment is this—yesterday I explained it—that if we accept the principle that a displaced person also should be entitled to compensation, then it would lead to very serious consequences. Tomorrow, you may form a State Trading Corporation for the purpose of taking over the export and the import trade. If we accept the above principle, then a Trader—an importer or an exporter—may come and say: "I have been displaced, and therefore in consonance with this principle, I am entitled to compensation." I suggest that no compensation should be given to persons who have been displaced

[Shri C. Subramaniam]
as such and whose services have not been taken over. It is only with that object that I move this amendment.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I accept it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in part (c) of sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, for all the words beginning with the words 'have been taken over' to the end, the following be substituted:

'are taken over by the Corporation'."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I beg to move:

"That to sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, the following proviso be added:

'Provided that where no agreement is arrived at or a dispute arises in respect of any matter referred to in this sub-section between the Central Government and a Provincial Government such dispute will be referred to an arbitral tribunal consisting of one nominee of the Central Government, one nominee of the Provincial Government and one nominee of the Chief Justice of the Federal Court who shall be Chairman of the tribunal and the findings of the tribunal shall be final and binding'."

This amendment is necessary because of provision (a) of sub-clause (2), which makes provision for negotiation between the Central Government and the Provincial Governments and in order to avoid a deadlock, we think

3 P. M. there must be a provision for arbitration. That is why I have moved this amendment. Sir, I move.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I accept it, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That to sub-clause (2) of clause 3 of the Bill, the following proviso be added:

'Provided that where no agreement is arrived at or a dispute arises in respect of any matter referred to in this sub-section between the Central Government and a Provincial Government such dispute will be referred to an arbitral tribunal consisting of one nominee of the Central Government, one nominee of the Provincial Government and one nominee of the Chief Justice of the Federal Court who shall be Chairman of the tribunal and the findings of the tribunal shall be final and binding'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I beg to move:

"That in clause 6 of the Bill, between the words, 'and' and 'in such manner', the word 'save' be inserted."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I have no objection.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in clause 6 of the Bill, between the words, 'and' and 'in such manner', the word 'save' be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in clause 7 of the Bill, for the words 'this Act', the words 'clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section (3) of this Act' be substituted."

This limits the scope of the rule-making power of the Government about which there was a discussion some time back, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in clause 7 of the Bill, for the words 'this Act', the words 'clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section (3) of this Act' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 1 do stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Mr. Speaker, we have proceeded in this week at a speed with which if any owner of a motor vehicle or any driver of a motor vehicle had imitated in a public highway, he would have been certainly prosecuted. Sir, this is a very important Bill which had practically upset the most salutary provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and if my information is correct the time taken in passing the Motor Vehicles Act was nothing short of 7 or 8 days and here in less than a couple of hours time, we have disposed of almost entirely the main provisions of the Motor Vehicles Bill. I do not know, Sir, whether I should congratulate or to express sorrow for the success which has been achieved by the Honourable Minister in charge of Transport. Sir, this Bill, at any rate, has made obscure the position of the Government so far as nationalisation is concerned. It is not more than a couple of days ago that we have in this House enunciated some definite principles of nationalization and there several categories were omitted and we have accepted that a private motor transport business should be outside the pale of the policy of nationalization. We know very well, that it is impossible for any Provincial Government or even for the Government of India to bring to successful fruition the various projects which they have undertaken or they mean to undertake so far as nationalization is concerned. On the top of this we find that encouragements have been given to the Provincial Governments to nationalise private transport and throw out a large body of employees from their business and profession. I could understand if a tripartite agreement had been reached some years ago. Today as some Honourable Members have said there is no necessity for a tripartite agreement. The needs of the hour are food and they cannot carry the other goods or passengers and therefore there cannot be any question of having a measure of this kind to protect the Railways from keen competition.

The second question is: Why are you having this? Why are you throwing this Bill to the temptation of the Provincial authorities? Do the public really demand that the private motor transport should be nationalised? Has there been a complaint in any part of the country? What is the object of thinking of nationalising the motor transport? Is it because the Government wants to make some money out of this business? Can the Government really make an earning out of the motor transport business? Sir, they might show some earning to this extent that whatever is paid by the ordinary private motor business in the shape of income-tax, the Provincial Governments will not have to pay and that will be some gain. But to that extent it will be a loss to the Government at the centre. It might also be shown that the Provincial Governments, when they

[Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri]

run this motor transport business, will not have to pay large sums of money which the private motor owners have to pay as permit fee; and that may be shown to the credit of Government as part of the profit earned by them. But if you exclude from this the income-tax which is paid by the ordinary business man in the motor line, if you exclude from this the permit fee which would have been payable by the ordinary motor transport owner, very little profit will be left to Government. Therefore it is very difficult for ordinary people like us to understand the reason why all attention has been focussed towards the nationalisation of private transport. When they have not been able to improve railway transport what business was there for Government to turn their attention to motor transport, except that they want to show that they can interfere with everything and they can nationalise everything? If you really want to nationalise why do you not nationalise the children of the country? They need nationalisation more than anything else. Most of the children of this country are uneducated, they are not properly fed and clothed and nursed; why not start with the nationalisation of children? Why not take away the children of poor parents and house them and clothe them and give them education? That is something worth striving for; that is a process of nationalisation which we would have all welcomed. But why turn your attention to this motor transport only?

Sir, my Honourable friend has the passing of this Bill to his credit. There is one clause in this Bill—to which I along with others could not give sufficient attention—which says that in the case of a dispute between a private owner and Government while this business is taken over, some compensation shall be paid to him. But who will be the judge of the adequacy or otherwise of this compensation? You have provided here a machinery to settle disputes between the Provincial Government and the Central Government; but what provision is there for settling disputes about compensation to be paid to a private owner? I refer to clause 3(2) (c). Supposing the Corporation or the Provincial Government has taken over the service of a private transport owner and either no compensation or very poor compensation has been paid, and the private transport owner takes his complaint to and urges before the Central Government that they should not accord any sanction to such a take-over unless adequate compensation is fully paid to him, who will judge whether the compensation paid by the Provincial Government has been adequate or not? Has this Bill barred any suit being brought in the civil court where a claim is to be adjudicated upon between the owner of the private transport on the one side and the Government concerned on the other? And shall the appointment of this Corporation be allowed to stand over till such a suit is disposed of? That is a point which should have been answered. I submit that the whole provision of this Bill can be held up by one such single suit where the owner of a private transport business sues the Provincial Government for adequate compensation. And so long as that suit is pending in court the clause which empowers the Central Government to give sanction to the appointment of the Corporation will not operate. So you must either put in a clause in this Bill that no suit shall lie in any court for any breach of the provisions of this law or you must altogether say that no compensation should be paid to anybody whose business has been taken over by the Corporation. I hope the Honourable Minister will turn his attention to this aspect of the matter. It might possibly be said that adequate rules may be framed in order to make provision for that. But I will submit that no rules can be framed which will meet the difficulties that I have pointed out; rules are not intended for that purpose. A specific provision should have been made in the body of the law itself to provide the machinery whereby the compensation payable to the private owner should be fixed. Therefore on the whole I submit that although every member of this House should feel proud that he has been instrumental in the passing of so many measures this session, I do not see what useful purpose will be served by having a measure of this kind so hastily as if

it was part of an Ordinance which you want to apply tomorrow. On the one hand the hands of Government—Provincial as well as Central—are now so full that they cannot go on considering the nationalisation of such small matters when most vital matters are still pending. The other thing is that the law has been so defective in a material particular that the whole machinery of this law can be held up if a regular suit is filed in order to settle the question of compensation.

Sir, I must support the motion before the House, but at the same time I must ask the Honourable Minister to give some reply to the points that I have made.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U. P.; General): Sir, I am sorry I could not table an amendment that I wanted to move, but I shall draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to one grave omission in clause 3. This Bill is intended to nationalise road-transport or at least it permits provinces to nationalise them. But I have seen so many motions being made by the Government to give effect to their nationalisation schemes but still no provision has been made in any of the Bills intended to give effect to the nationalisation schemes to provide for guarantees for decent conditions of life for labour employed by the Corporations which will administer these schemes. Here we are nationalising road-transport. I had been connected formerly with the bus drivers and mechanics unions who in most cases were also bus-owners when their property was taken over by the U. P. Government and now I happen to be President of several Unions of employees working on the Government motor buses which have replaced private buses. I can certainly say that the passengers are more comfortable now in the new buses, but the salary paid to the staff employed to run them is so ridiculously meagre that there is great discontent among them. The conductors and cleaners and drivers who worked on private buses used to earn about Rs. 100 or Rs. 120 per month plus food; and now Rs. 60 is the usual wage paid to a driver, and similarly low are the wages of other mechanics. I think that is not proper; that is in a way cheating these workmen through nationalisation. In fact when there was no nationalisation these drivers and cleaners used to get much better wages, and now the conditions of service are also harder. I have known these people working for 12 to 15 hours per day. Therefore while I am for nationalisation, I think this measure starts at the wrong end. We should have first nationalised the key industries and improved things. But we have been disappointed; and we have been told that for ten years there will be no nationalisation. In this Bill, the Provincial Governments have been authorised to nationalise road-transport. In fact there is a very sad history of these road-transport nationalisation schemes. We remember that the old Government was very jealous of these motor bus owners because in the 1942 movement these people had sympathy for us and they helped us in that movement; they carried us from place to place in spite of police precautions and all that; and so the British Government were keen on nationalising road-transport and bringing it under their thumb. They did not know then that they would have to go away; but our Government also continued the scheme and took away these Bus Companies. In fact I do not think that these small bus-owners should have been so treated; they are not big capitalists. Still I think it is a good thing to nationalise road-transport. But if you nationalise it you must at least give sufficient compensation to those whose livelihood you take away. So I have my sympathy with those who complain that in many places this has not been done. But while I am for nationalisation I shall draw the Honourable Minister's attention to a very important omission. While he has put in three conditions for nationalisation in clause 3(2), he must also add a fourth condition and insist that the conditions of labour employed by the Corporation and in

[Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena]

the buses plied by them will be such as to satisfy all the regulations for a decent treatment of labour and that labour will not be exploited in any way. I also hope that care will be taken that the conductors, cleaners and other mechanics who work on these buses do not get a lesser wage than what they were getting on private buses. I think this is important; in fact if I had an opportunity I should have liked to move for the insertion of another clause in addition to the three clauses mentioned in clause 3 (2) saying that when you grant permission to a Provincial Government to take over the road-transport system, you must also lay down that the conditions of labour will be satisfactory and there shall be no exploitation and that they shall be paid adequate wages, so that it may not be said that under nationalisation, labour will be in a worse condition than under private companies. Sir, I support the motion.

The Honourable Sir John Matthai: Sir, the main issue that has been raised is whether we are imposing nationalisation upon the Provincial Governments by accepting this Bill. I explained yesterday at considerable length that we are not doing it, and on any sort of construction that you put on this Bill that does not arise. All that we do is that in the matter of providing an organisation for road-transport we are giving Provinces a fair field and no favour.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

CALCUTTA PORT (PILOTAGE) BILL

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of control over pilotage on the River Hooghly to the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, be taken into consideration."

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri K. Santhanam (one of the Panel of Chairmen).]

Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to transfer the control over pilotage on the River Hooghly from the Central Government to the Port Commissioners at Calcutta. The Port Commissioners of Calcutta, under the Calcutta Port Act have several responsibilities in regard to the working of the administration of the port. They are in charge of the docks and jetties in the port; they control pilotage to this port (units); they are also in charge of the surveying and bridging of the whole navigable length of the river Hooghly from the limit of the port up to the sea. It is an anomaly in regard to the present administration of the Calcutta Port that while the Port Commissioners have responsibilities over all these matters, the responsibility for controlling the pilots in the Bengal Pilot Service is vested in the Central Government. The result of that anomaly has been that there is a considerable amount of administrative confusion. There is also, ineffective supervision. The Central Government is not in a position to exercise sufficient control sitting here. The proper course, from the administrative point of view, therefore, is to entrust the Commissioners of the Port of Calcutta, who are responsible for every other function in regard to the Port of Calcutta, with powers for the control over the pilotage. The real reason for the continuance of this anomaly I have not been able to find out. But my own impression is this. Piloting along the course of the river Hooghly is one of the most difficult in the way of pilotage anywhere in the world. Therefore, it was necessary to recruit men of very high skill and for that purpose recruitment used to be done by the Secretary of State. Since the men were recruited by the Secretary of State they became members of what in the old days used to be called an "Imperial Service". As they were members of an "Imperial Service". They were

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obsessed with dignity and importance attached to an Imperial Service and were unwilling to come under the control of a local body like the Calcutta Port Trust. They thought that their dignity would suffer if they were not under the control and supervision of the Central Government. That position has completely changed now. As regards the Calcutta Port Trust we have, for the first time, an Indian Chairman, an Indian Deputy Chairman and, as the House knows, we are taking steps to have better Indian representation on the Port Trust of Calcutta. And, therefore, it seems to me worthwhile from every point of view to transfer control of the Bengal Pilot Service from the Central Government to the Port Commissioners of Calcutta. This Bill aims at doing it.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of control over pilotage on the River Hooghly to the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, be taken into consideration."

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: (C. P. and Berar General): Sir, if you refer to the Bombay and Madras Port Trust Acts and also the Karachi port Trust Act—which no more is a part of India—you will find that the pilot Service in all these ports is under the control of the port Commissioners. I was all along perplexed why an exception should have been made in the case of the Bengal pilot service alone in that it should be under the control of the Central Government. The Honourable Minister has given us the reason why an exception was made in the case of the Calcutta Port Trust. I am very glad that the amending Bill seeks to do away with this anomaly. I fail to see why, if the other Port Trusts could successfully pilot their ports, the Calcutta Port Trust alone could not do that. The only difference between Calcutta and the other ports is that while the former is navigated by the river Hooghly, the others are on the high seas.

But while one anomaly is sought to be removed, a new anomaly is introduced by the proviso to clause 5 which reads:

"Provided that any such order made by the Commissioners shall, as respects any officer whose salary amounts to or exceeds one thousand rupees, be subject to the previous sanction of the Central Government."

I do not see any reason why a special provision should be made in the case of Members of the Bengal Pilot Service alone. There are members in the pilot service of the other ports like Bombay Madras. Again pilots are not the only officers under a port trust. Besides the pilots there are many others, like Engineers, Managers and Deputy Managers who draw more than one thousand rupees. I, therefore, fail to understand why a solitary distinction should be made in the case of officers of the Calcutta Pilot Service. This proviso almost amounts to this that the pilots are under the control of the Central Government. I am entirely in agreement with the other provisions of the Bill, and support it. But I would draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to this provision and would request him to look into it.

With these words, Sir, I support the Bill.

Shri B. Das (Orissa: General): Sir, I welcome this Bill. Sir, the Calcutta Port Trust is controlled by the British Chambers of Commerce. The Hooghly pilot system covers nearly 60 miles from Calcutta to the Diamond Harbour, which is visited by international steamers and ships. That was why the Secretary of State was particular of recruiting Europeans to that service. I wonder whether there are one or two Indian officers in that Pilot Service. I no doubt admit that the Bengal Pilot Service, has a great history and a great tradition behind it and novels and romances have been written about the services they have rendered to foreign shipping in India. But I do hope that I will have a word of assurance from my Honourable friend the Transport Minister that in future no foreigner will be recruited and that he will issue a directive to the Port Commissioners that

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they will take in no more outsiders. Let me hope the Calcutta Port Commissioners will prove responsive although the Calcutta, Bombay and Madras Port Trust Bill will become an Act in the autumn session of this House. That Port Trust must work henceforth to serve India and Indians.

With these observations, Sir, I support the Bill.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I can briefly explain the points raised. As regards the point raised by Mr. Sidhva, the real difference between this particular case and the cases in Bombay and Madras is this. Here are members of a government service being transferred to the control of the Port Trust. Therefore it is necessary for the Central Government, whose service it is at present, to have some say in determining the salaries that they draw while they are under the Port Trust. So we have just reserved a certain measure of control in order to see that these officer's terms and conditions of service are safeguarded.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Minister will please address the Chair.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I am sorry.

As regards the question raised by Mr. Das with regard to the European and Indian members of the Pilot Service, the position is that there are 37 members of the Bengal Pilot Service. Out of that 16 are Europeans and 21 are Indians. Out of the 21 Indians, seven are at present apprentices.

The arrangement we have made with the Calcutta Port Trust is that when the Bengal Pilot Service, is dissolved, the Calcutta Port Trust would be free to take over as such of these men as they consider suitable. For practical purposes, the arrangement would work out like this. We cannot altogether dispense with Europeans immediately. Such of the Europeans as are taken over by the Calcutta Port Trust would be engaged on the basis of short-term contracts ranging from three to five years, whereas the Indian members of the Bengal Pilot Service would be taken over as permanent servants of the Pilot Service, and it is our aim to increase the Indian personnel in the Bengal Pilot Service as soon as possible.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer of control over pilotage on the River Hooghly to the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): Sir, I move:

"That in clause 3 of the Bill, the following be added at the end:

'as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time'."

Under this clause, the Commissioners' duty is to maintain a sufficient number of pilots and the sufficiency has to be prescribed by somebody. That is why I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in clause 3 of the Bill, the following be added at the end:

'as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended was added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in part (a) of sub-clause (1) of clause 5 of the Bill, before the word 'wages', the word 'salaries' be inserted."

Actually a pilot should be paid a salary. So the inclusion of this word is necessary.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (a) of sub-clause (1) of clause 5 of the Bill, before the word 'wages', the word 'salaries' be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That Clauses 6 and 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 6 and 7 were added to the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Sir, I move:

"That in part (a) of clause 8 of the Bill, the word 'it' occurring in line three be omitted."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (a) of clause 8 of the Bill, the word 'it' occurring in line three be omitted."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in part (b) of clause 8 of the Bill, after the word 'salaries', the word 'wages' be inserted."

In this case the word 'wages' was left out: whereas in clause 5 it was the word 'salaries'. Hence the amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (b) of clause 8 of the Bill, after the word 'salaries', the word 'wages' be inserted."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I move:

"That in part (d) of clause 8 of the Bill, for the words 'have been', the words 'may be', be substituted."

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

"That in part (d) of clause 8 of the Bill, for the words 'have been', the words 'may be', be substituted."

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I agree with the Honourable Member that the words "have been" are perhaps not very satisfactory. But I would suggest "are" instead of "may be", namely, "... engaged in the pilot service who are injured in the execution of their duty."

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Either of the amendments will make it logical and consistent. Any of the two amendments will do.

Mr. Chairman: If the Honourable Member accepts this amendment, he may withdraw his own and move this one in its place.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Very well.

Mr. Chairman: Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

The amendment was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Will the Honourable Member move the other amendment?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I move:

"That in part (d) of clause 8 of the Bill, for the words 'have been', the words 'are' be substituted."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in part (d) of clause 8 of the Bill, for the words 'have been', the words 'are' be substituted."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I move:

"That in clause 8 of the Bill, the following new part be added at the end:

'(e) the provision of educational, recreational and other amenities for pilots and other officers and servants of the Commissioners employed in pilot service'."

Sir, this clause refers to expenditure on Pilotage account and various items are catalogued. But there is no provision for expenditure on amenities for people under the Commissioners as pilots and other servants. That is why I thought fit to move this amendment. Sir, I move:

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

"That in clause 8 of the Bill, the following new part be added at the end:

'(e) the provision of educational, recreational and other amenities for pilots and other officers and servants of the Commissioners employed in pilot service'."

Mr. R. K. Sidhva: I only want some more explanation. Does this mean that all facilities should be provided for the pilots—for their education for their family and recreation? Well, these are very highly paid officers and I would like to know whether such facilities should be provided. I can understand it in the case of servants who are the lower paid staffs but I fail to understand the idea of the Honourable Mover when he desires the preservation of all these kinds of recreation, educational facilities and other amenities for officers drawing Rs. 1,000 and over:

Mr. Chairman: This is purely an enabling clause. There is no obligation to do anything.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If I may be permitted, I will explain.

Mr. Chairman: No, no. The Honourable Member cannot speak for a second time.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: It is a matter of discretion with the Port Commissioners whether they spend more on this particular item or not. It does not mean that the Port Commissioners are compelled. It has I think a wholesome influence on officers and servants to be provided with such facilities as the Commissioners may be able to provide.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That in clause 8 of the Bill, the following new part be added at the end:

'(e) the provision of educational, recreational and other amenities for pilots and other officers and servants of the Commissioners employed in pilot service'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 9, 10 and 11 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS AND BAR COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Minister for Law): Sir, I move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Legal practitioners Act, 1879, and the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926.

Sir, after the Government of India had taken the decision to withdraw this Bill there were two ways of carrying that decision into effect. One was the ordinary method of allowing the Bill to lapse by making no motion about it in two consecutive sessions and the other method was to adopt the way which I have adopted, namely to table a direct motion seeking the permission of the House to withdraw the Bill. The reason why I adopted the direct method of tabling a motion to seek the permission of the House to withdraw the Bill was because it was felt that in view of the circumstances relating to this Bill, the House was entitled to some explanation justifying the decision of the Government to withdraw this Bill.

Sir, the origin of the Bill goes back to the time when the Interim Government was in office before the 15th August, 1947. I understand that two Honourable Members had tabled two Bills in order to relieve the legal practitioners who had participated in the August 1942 Movement and who were on that account hauled up before the different High Courts with the result that their names were removed from the roll of practitioners of the High Court for conduct which was prejudicial to the provisions contained in the two Acts referred to in the Bill. The Bills, as the House knows, lapsed because the Assembly changed. When I took charge of the matter I *pro forma* and having had no time to consider the matter moved that the Bill be introduced and the Bill was accordingly introduced. Subsequent to the taking of the charge of this portfolio I sought to make an investigation as to the number of practitioners who were affected by the action taken under the existing law by the different High Courts and I found that altogether there were not more than seven persons against whom action was taken. Out of the 7, four were in Madras and two or three I think were in Allahabad and there were no more cases of that sort at all. Having those facts before me I began to examine the position and to find out whether in order to grant relief for so small a number of lawyers, *viz.*, 7, it was necessary to undertake legislation which had the effect of completely altering the very fundamentals of the provisions contained in the two Acts, *viz.*, the Legal practitioners' Act and the Indian Bar Councils Act. My conclusion was that it would be quite possible for Government to relieve the seven people who were affected by the existing laws and the decision of the High Courts without undertaking such fundamental changes in the law affecting lawyers. That decision was accepted by the Government and it is on the authority of the Government that this motion has been tabled. The procedure which the Government propose to adopt in this matter is to allow the seven persons who are affected to make their application to the various High courts for the renewal of their *sanad* and the cancellation of the orders made against them and the provincial Governments would be instructed to instruct their Advocate General to appear before the High Court when the applications came for consideration and to support the applicants in obtaining the redress that they might seek. I think that will meet the exigencies of the case. It would also give Government time to consider whether the two Acts which govern the legal practitioners at all need any changes in the light of the experience which we have.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra (West Bengal: General): What about section 30?

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: We shall examine that if necessary. As I said, for the moment the action proposed by the Government is quite so sufficient to give relief to the people whose interests we are seeking to protect by the changes which we had proposed to make. I hope the House will accept the motion.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926."

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): Sir, I want to say a few words for this reason that I was probably the first in the field to introduce a Bill for the same purpose in 1945 for amending Section 12 of the Legal Practitioners Act and the relative section of the Indian Bar Councils Act, which Bill as the Honourable Minister said had lapsed. I accept the position as mentioned by the Honourable Minister that by executive direction the Government could see that these seven people do not suffer any longer but I do not think that is at all adequate. My Honourable friend, said that Government will consider whether there is any necessity to amend these provisions of the two Acts. My own feeling is that the necessity is there. It may be said that in the past we were under a foreign government and as a result such thing happened. But it is quite conceivable that some circumstances might come into being in the future and the mere fact that the shape of the Government has changed does not mean that there is adequate protection to a lawyer so long, as the statute is as it is. The amending bill sought to restrict the lawyers' offence to acts, involving moral turpitude and that is as it should be. My own feeling is that the House should ask from the Honourable Minister something more than what he has chosen to give us, an assurance that is definite that before long the position will be re-examined and a suitable amending Bill will be brought forward by government. The position at present could be eased by the seven persons being allowed to practise by the restoration of their *sanads*. But the Honourable Minister cannot give a categorical assurance that there will be no recurrence of such action by the executive, whoever might be the authority. This makes an amendment of the two acts imperative.

Mr. Chairman: There is no provision at all for forcing the Government to proceed with a Bill. Therefore Honourable Members should seek some other remedy than taking the time of the House on a voting of the motion for withdrawal of the Bill. I do not want to shut the discussion, but any Honourable Member can bring forward a Bill and push it or bring a Resolution, or do something of the kind. But I suggest we should not take the time of the House on a voting of this motion.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): The Honourable Minister himself has asked for support of the motion and we have a right at least to ask of him some explanation.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Minister has given an explanation.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: We want a clarification on a single point. The method he has suggested by way of remedying the grievances of those seven people who have been the victims of Bureaucratic anger is that they should put in an application for the restoration of their *sanads* and that the Advocates-General in the respective provinces would be requested to support those applications.

Mr. Chairman: Standing Order No. 50 says:

"The member who has introduced a Bill may at any stage of the Bill move for leave to withdraw the Bill; and if such leave is granted, no further motion may be made with reference to the Bill."

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): But the leave is not granted yet.

Mr. Chairman: The real trouble is you cannot force him. There should be some purpose in taking the time of the House. Of course Honourable Members are free to make use of the time, but if it is purposeless.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will you kindly resume your seat, Sir?

Mr. Chairman: Will the Honourable Member withdraw what he said?

Prof. N. G. Ranga: How can I address the House if the Chair goes on standing all the time? (Interruptions) All right, Sir, I withdraw.

Mr. Chairman: The Honourable Member must know better to behave.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I have already told you I have withdrawn my remark.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: In regard to this matter there is a question first of granting leave, and secondly there is the question of his asking for support. When he asks for support it means that he asks for leave to be granted to withdraw the Bill. In doing so he has made a suggestion. I just wanted to ask of the Honourable Minister whether it is not necessary according to the procedure that he has laid down that the application, supported as it may be by the Advocate-General, should be approved of by the Bench. If there are Judges—and there are such Judges—who still think that the old victimization must continue, what would be the remedy. I wanted to put this question to the Honourable Minister.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: My friend has made a most extravagant assumption. I have never heard of such a thing that when the Advocate-General supports the request the High Court refuses it. However, if such a contingency arises the Government is always there to see that proper remedies are adopted.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Mr. Chairman, I thank you for the opportunity you have given me of speaking on this motion which, as a lawyer I feel, is a vital motion. It would not have taken much time to pass this legislation. We have passed today and yesterday more momentous pieces of legislation in a much shorter time, and if you only allow fifteen to twenty minutes on this Bill we might have passed the Bill and made it into a statute. It is a useful Bill. I am sure that the Honourable Minister in charge of this Bill or his predecessor did not want to initiate this measure only in order to benefit the seven persons. No legislation is at any time introduced only to benefit a specific number of individuals or persons. Legislative enactment is necessary for the people not only for the present but for posterity. Here, for various reasons, being victims of bureaucratic anger, some persons of the legal profession were not allowed to carry on their profession. That was all under the British Government which was in power. But does the Honourable Minister mean to say that such an occasion will not arise again tomorrow? Supposing by any means the Communist Party is in the Government and the tables are turned, is it not possible that they will do the same thing in respect of the members of this House or the members of the present party in power? Will they spare them because they belong to the Congress Party? The British Government did not spare them because they belonged to the Congress Party and they wanted to punish them and topped them from practising in the law courts. Suppose the Communist Party or the Socialist Party came into power and if they found reasons to prosecute or convict these people, would they be allowed to practise if this legislation is not there? You cannot be sure of yourself. You don't know the future. Today you are in power. Tomorrow you may not be in power. Tomorrow you may be subject to ruthless, unjust rule. Another party may come to power and they may stop all these lawyers of the Congress Party from practising in the future altogether. Why not have this legislation now? No law is intended for any

[Shri Roñini Kumar Chaudhuri]

specified persons. It is a bad and unjust argument to put forward that because these persons have now been exempted from that bar of practicing therefore we need not proceed with this Bill. After all we want to show that so long as a man is not guilty of any offence involving moral turpitude he will have every right to proceed with his avocation. So I say if any piece of legislation was important today, including even the much-anticipated Hindu Code, this piece of legislation is more important than anything. Any lawyer who is in politics would feel that such legislation should be made a statute as soon as possible. What stands in the way of passing it today. Why does the Honourable Minister withdraw the Bill? Let him put this Bill before the House. We shall pass it today in twenty or fifteen minutes. Let us have it as a law and we shall then feel very much more stronger. Why withdraw it? We can sit till midnight and pass the Hind Code. There need not be any anxiety about it. Let us pass the Bill and we shall all be grateful to the Honourable Minister for Law.

Mr. Chairman: My attention has been drawn to a Ruling of the Chair which says that if any Member moves for leave to withdraw a motion and it is objected to, the question is put forthwith without further debate. Obviously, as I expected, this is the ordinary rule of commonsense.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: It may be commonsense; but you are forcing a decision.

Mr. Chairman: But this is a Ruling of the Chair.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Rulings are not binding like case-law; they can change.

Mr. Chairman: I am here making the Ruling for today.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926."

The motion was adopted.

HINDU CODE

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (Minister for Law): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend and codify certain branches of the Hindu Law, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Dr. Bakshi Tek Chand, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Shrimati G. Durgabai, Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi, Shri U. Srinivasa Mallaya, Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay, Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Shrimati Renuka Ray, Dr. P. K. Sen, Babu Ramnarayan Singh, Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi, Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan, Pandit Balkrishna Sharma, Shri Khurshed Lal, Shri Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri B. Shiva Rao, Shri Baldeo Swarup, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the last day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

Sir, it is a matter of great pity and also of great regret both for myself and I believe also for the members of the House that so important a measure as the codification of Hindu Law should have come for discussion

4 P. M. before the House almost at the fag end of the session. We have, according to the arrangement announced by the Honourable Speaker this morning, to conclude the debate on this motion by 7 O'clock from now, with an interval of half an hour. I think it my duty that within the limitations in which we are placed I should give more time to Members of the Legislature to express their views on the various points raised by this Bill and I should like to contribute my own mite to the fulfilment of this wish which I have expressed. The only way by which I could do it is to set an example by myself to make my opening speech as brief as I can possibly make. I regret it very much to have been required to come to that decision because this Bill is of such a vast character that if one were to expound it fully, and

thoroughly, and to explain its provisions as against the background of the existing Hindu Law, I have not the slightest doubt that such an effort would take not less than four or five hours. But that is impossible, and the House therefore will forgive me if I confine myself to placing before it the most salient points which mark a departure from the existing law as we know it today.

Sir, this Bill, the aim of which is to codify the rules of Hindu Law which are scattered in innumerable decisions of the High Courts and of the Privy Council, which form a bewildering motley to the common man and give rise to constant litigation, seeks to codify the law relating to seven different matters. Firstly, it seeks to codify the law relating to the rights of property of a deceased Hindu who has died intestate without making a will, both female and male. Secondly, it prescribes a somewhat altered form of the order of succession among the different heirs to the property of a deceased dying intestate. The next topic it deals with is the law of maintenance, marriage, divorce, adoption, minority and guardianship. The House will see what is the ambit and the periphery of this Bill. To begin with the question of inheritance, under his head the Bill enacts a new principle, at least for certain parts of British India. As many members who are lawyers in this House will know, so far as inheritance is concerned, the Hindus are governed by two different systems of law. One system is known as *Mitakshara* and the other is known as *Dayabhag*. The two systems have a fundamental difference. According to *Mitakshara*, the property of a Hindu is not his individual property. It is property which belongs to what is called a coparcenary, which consists of father, son, grandson and great grandson. All these people have a birth-right in that property and the property on the death of anyone member of this coparcenary passes by what is called survivorship to the members who remain behind, and does not pass to the heirs of the deceased. The Hindu Code contained in this Bill adopts the *Dayabhag* rule, under which the property is held by the heir as his personal property with an absolute right to dispose it of either by gift or by will or any other manner that he chooses.

That is one fundamental change which this Bill seeks to make. In other words, it universalises the law of inheritance by extending the *Dayabhag* rule to the territory in which the rule of the *Mitakshara* now operates.

Coming to the question of the order of succession among the heirs, there is also a fundamental difference of a general character between the rule of the *Mitakshara* and the rule of the *Dayabhag*. Under the *Mitakshara* rule the agnates of a deceased are preferred to his cognates; under the *Dayabhag* rule the basis of heirship is blood relationship to the deceased and not the relationship based on cognatic or agnatic relationship. That is one change that the Bill makes; in other words, here also it adopts the rule of the *Dayabhag* in preference to the rule of the *Mitakshara*.

In addition to this general change in the order of succession to a deceased Hindu, the Bill also seeks to make four changes. One change is that the widow, the daughter, the widow of a pre-deceased son, all are given the same rank as the son in the matter of inheritance. In addition to that, the daughter also is given a share in her father's property; her share is prescribed as half of that of the son. Here again, I should like to point out that the only new change which this Bill seeks to make, so far as the female heirs are concerned, is confined to daughter; the other female heirs have already been recognised by the Hindu Women's Right to Property Act of 1937. Therefore, so far as that part of the Bill is concerned, there is really no change in the Bill at all; the Bill merely carries the provisions contained in the Act to which I have made reference.

[Dr. B. R. Ambedkar]

The second change which the Bill makes so far as the female heirs are concerned is that the number of female heirs recognised now is much larger than under either the *Mitakshara* or the *Dayabhag*.

The third change made by the Bill is this that under the old law, whether the *Mitakshara* or the *Dayabhag*, a discrimination was made among female heirs, as to whether a particular female was rich or poor in circumstances at the death of the testator, whether she was married or unmarried, or whether she was with issue or without issue. All these considerations which led to discrimination in the female heirs are now abolished by this Bill. A woman who has a right to inherit gets it by reason of the fact that she is declared to be an heir irrespective of any other considerations.

The last change that is made relates to the rule of inheritance in the *Dayabhag*. Under the *Dayabhag* the father succeeds before in preference to the mother; under the present Bill the position is altered so that the mother comes before the father.

So much for the order of succession of heirs to a deceased male Hindu. I now come to the provisions in the Bill which relates to intestate succession to females. As Members of the House who are familiar with Hindu Law will know, under the existing law the property held by a Hindu female falls into two categories; one is called her *stridhan*, and the other is called "woman's property". Taking first the question of *stridhan*, under the existing law *stridhan* falls into several categories; it is not one single category, and the order of succession to the *stridhan* of a female under the existing law varies according to the category of the *stridhan*; one category of *stridhan* has a different law of succession than another category and these rules are alike both as to *Mitakshara* as they are to the *Dayabhag*. So far as *stridhan* is concerned the present Bill makes two changes. The one change it makes is that it consolidates the different categories of *stridhan* into one single category of property and lays down a uniform rule of succession; there is no variety of heirs to the *stridhan* in accordance with the different categories of the *stridhan*—all *stridhan* is one and there is one rule of succession.

The second change which the Bill seeks to make with regard to the heirs is that the son also is now given a right to inherit the *stridhan* and he is given half the share which the daughter takes. Members will realise that in formulating this Bill and making changes in rules of succession, it is provided that while the daughter is getting half the share in the father's property, the son is also getting half the share in the mother's property so that in a certain sense the Bill seeks to maintain an equality of position between the son and the daughter.

Coming to the question of the "woman's estate", as members of the House will know under the Hindu Law where a woman inherits property she gets only what is called a "life estate". She can enjoy the income of the property, but she cannot deal with the corpus of the property except for legal necessity; the property must pass after the death of the woman to the reversioners of her husband. The Bill, here again, introduces two changes. It converts this limited estate into an absolute estate just as the male when he inherits gets an absolute estate in the property that he inherits, and secondly, it abolishes the right of the reversioners to claim the property after the widow.

An important provision which is ancillary to the rights of women to inherit property contained in this Bill is a provision which relates to *Dowry*. All members of the House know what a scandalous affair this *dowry* is; how, for instance, girls who bring enormous lot of property from their parents either by way of *dowry* or *stridhan* or gift are treated, nonetheless, with utter contempt, tyranny and oppression. The Bill provides in my judgment one of the most salutary provisions, namely, that this property which is given as

dowry to a girl on the occasion of her marriage shall be treated as a trust property, the use of which will inure to the woman and she is entitled to claim that property when she comes to the age of 18, so that neither her husband nor the relations of her husband will have any interest in that property; nor will they have any opportunity to waste that property and make her helpless for the rest of her life.

Coming to the provisions relating to maintenance, there is mostly nothing new in this part of the Bill. The Bill prescribes that the dependents of a deceased shall be entitled to claim maintenance from those who inherit his property either under the rules of intestate succession or who inherit the property under his will. There are 11 different kinds of dependants enumerated in this Bill. I believe, at least speaking for myself, it is an unfortunate thing that even a concubine is included in the category of dependants, but there it is; it is a matter for consideration. The liability to maintenance is cast upon those who take the estate of the deceased. As I said, there is nothing very new in this part of the Bill.

There is another part of the Bill which is important and it relates to the rights of a wife to claim separate maintenance when she lives separate from her husband. Generally, under the provisions of the Hindu law, a wife is not entitled to claim maintenance from her husband if she does not live with him in his house. The Bill, however, recognises that there are undoubtedly circumstances where if the wife has lived away from the husband, it must be for causes beyond her control and it would be wrong not to recognise the causes and not to give her separate maintenance. Consequently the Bill provides that a wife shall be entitled to claim separate maintenance from her husband if he is (1) suffering from a loathsome disease, (2) if he keeps a concubine, (3) if he is guilty of cruelty, (4) if he has abandoned her for two years, (5) if he has converted to another religion and (6) any other cause justifying her living separately.

The next topic to which I wish to make a reference concerns the question of marriage. The Code recognises two forms of marriages. One is called "sacramental" marriage and the other is called "civil" marriage. As members will know, this is a departure from the existing law. The existing Hindu law recognises only what is called "sacramental" marriage, but it does not recognise what we call a "civil" marriage. When one considers the conditions for a valid sacramental marriage and a valid registered marriage, under the Code there is really very little difference between the two. There are five conditions for a sacramental marriage. Firstly, the bridegroom must be 18 years old, and the bride must be 14 years old. Secondly, neither party must have a spouse living at the time of marriage. Thirdly, parties must not be within prohibited degree of relationship. Fourthly, parties must not be *sapindas* of each other. Fifthly, neither must be an idiot or a lunatic. Except for the fact that similarity of *sapindaship* is not a bar to a registered marriage, so far as other conditions are concerned, there is no difference between the sacramental marriage and the civil marriage. The only other difference is that the registered marriage must be registered in accordance with the provisions in the Bill while a sacramental marriage may be registered if parties desire to do so. Comparing the rules of marriage contained in the Bill and the existing law, it may be noticed that there are three differences which the Bill makes. One is this, that while the existing law requires identity of caste and sub-caste for a valid sacramental marriage, the Bill dispenses with this condition. Marriage under the Bill will be valid irrespective of the caste or sub-caste of the parties entering into the marriage.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): If the marriage is between persons belonging to different castes, will it be valid?

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Let me proceed with my speech. If the Honourable Member puts the question while making his speech, I shall reply to it.

The second provision in this Bill is that identity of *gotrapravara* is not a bar to a marriage while it is under the existing law. The third distinctive feature is this, that under the old law, polygamy was permissible. Under the new law it is monogamy which is prescribed. The sacramental marriage was a marriage which was indissoluble. There could be no divorce. The present Bill makes a new departure by introducing into the law provisions for the dissolution of marriage. Any party which marries under the new Code has three remedies to get out of the contract of marriage. One is to have the marriage declared null and void; secondly, to have the marriage declared invalid; and thirdly, to have it dissolved. Now, the grounds for invalidation of marriage are two: One, if one party to the marriage had a spouse living at the time of marriage, then such a marriage will be null and void. Secondly, if the relationship of the parties fell within what is called the ambit of prohibited degrees, the marriage could be declared null and void. The grounds for invalidation of the marriage are four. First, impotency. Second, parties being *sapinda*. Third, parties being either idiotic or lunatic. Fourth, guardian's consent obtained by force or fraud. In order not to keep the sword of dissolution hanging on the head, the Bill, in my judgment very wisely, has provided a limit to an action for invalidation. It provides that a suit for the invalidation of marriage must be filed within three years from the date of the marriage; otherwise the suit will be barred and the marriage will continue as though there was no ground for invalidity. The Bill also provides that even though the marriage may be invalidated and may be declared invalid by a Court of Law, the invalidation of marriage will not affect the legitimacy of the children born and they would continue to be legitimate just the same.

Then coming to the question of divorce, there are seven grounds on which divorce could be obtained. (1) desertion (2) conversion to another religion (3) keeping a concubine or becoming a concubine (4) incurably unsound mind (5) virulent and incurable form of leprosy (6) venereal diseases in communicable form and (7) cruelty.

Coming to the question of adoption, there again, most of the rules embodied in the Bill are in no way different from the rules obtaining under the present law. There are two new provisions in this part dealing with adoption. Firstly, under the Code it will be necessary for the husband if he wants to make an adoption to obtain the consent of his wife and if there are more than one, at least the consent of one of them. Secondly, it also lays down that if the widow wants to adopt, she can only adopt if there are positive instructions left by the husband authorising her to adopt and in order to prevent litigation as to whether the husband has, as a matter of fact, left instructions to his wife, the Code provides that the evidence of such instructions shall be either by registered deed or by a provision in the will. No oral evidence would be admissible, so that chances of litigation are considerably mitigated. The Code also provides that the adoption may also be evidenced by registration. One of the most fruitful sources of litigation in this country is the question of adoption. All sorts of oral evidence is manufactured, concocted; witnesses are suborned; widows are fooled; they one day declare that they have made one adoption and subsequently they make an avowal that they have not adopted and in order that all this litigation may be put a stop to, the Code makes a salutary provision that there may be registration of adoption by a Hindu.

Then there is the question of minority and guardianship, the last subject which the Bill seeks to codify. There is nothing new in this part of the Code and, therefore, I do not propose to say anything so far as that part in the Bill is concerned.

As members will realize, the points which arise out of this Bill for consideration and which are new are these: First, the abolition of birth-right and to take property by survivorship. The second point that arises for consideration is the giving of half-share to the daughter. Thirdly, the conversion of the women's limited estate into an absolute estate. Fourthly, the abolition of caste in the matter of marriage and adoption. Fifthly, the principle of monogamy and sixthly the principle of divorce. I have sought to enumerate these points separately and categorically because I felt that in view of the limited time we have at our disposal, it would be of help to the Members of this House if I could point out what are the points of debate on which attention may be concentrated. These departures which are made in this Bill undoubtedly requires justification, but I think it would be a waste of time if I at this stage undertook any defence of the departures enacted by this Bill. I propose to hear Honourable Members as to what they have to say on the points which I have enumerated, and if I find that it is necessary for me to enter upon a justification, I propose to do so in the course of my reply. Sir, I move.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend and codify certain branches of the Hindu Law, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Dr. Bakshi Tek Chand, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Shrimati G. Durgabai, Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi, Shri U. Srinivasa Mallayya, Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay, Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Shrimati Renuka Ray, Dr. P. K. Sen, Babu Ramnarayan Singh, Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi, Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan, Pandit Balkrishna Sharma, Shri Khurshed Lal, Shri Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri B. Shiva Rao, Shri Baldeo Swarup, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the last day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Madras: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise at an early moment in order to catch your eye in the hope that I shall have the ear of the House while having the eye of the Chairman. This is a very interesting piece of legislation which has been presented to this House, a piece of legislation for which the country has been waiting for long. This country having passed under the rule of foreigners for nearly a thousand years has not been able to effect that social progress which is incidental to changes in society in the world and which takes place imperceptibly by force of ever-changing custom. Custom is a force which is generally patronized, appreciated and recognized by the rulers. Unfortunately this country has had no kings for a long time to whose inspiring example the subjects could look up for any changes in society. In the West even today if a social change is required all that is to be done is for the King to initiate that change and all the people will follow as a matter of course. You might have heard the story of Edward the Eighth who when he was Prince of Wales, went to a far distant island and having heard from the people that their occupation was gone because of the change of fashions, asked what the fashion was which had ruined the occupation. They said formerly they were manufacturers of straw hats and now straw hats had given place to felt hats and therefore they had lost their occupation. The next day he appeared in public on a ceremonial occasion with a straw hat and the straw hat industry was at once revived. That is the power of the king; he is not merely the political head of a State, but head of society, the exemplar, the mentor and the monitor. As such he evaluates the customs—age-long, traditional and hoary—sanctified by age, and it lies in his power to change that custom one way or the other. But

[Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya]

what has been our fate since the British rule had come into existence? So long as the Muslims were ruling this country they copied our customs and we copied their customs; there was an inter-mixture and inter-currency of customs and therefore some measures of social progress. But after the British came, when they came to be looked upon as untouchables and even unapproachables by the vast majority of the population of this country, the situation was that they were afraid to touch the customs of this country with the longest pole. They were afraid of any interference with the socio-religious structure which was a delicate structure almost like a chemical balance and bore the repercussions of the smallest change coming from abroad and from adventitious sources. They were afraid that such repercussions would be ruinous to the stability of their empire in this country, and therefore they adopted the plausible and seemingly reasonable attitude of not interfering with the religion or the custom of the land. In this manner the Judges of the High Courts always helped to register the custom as it had existed for long centuries behind, and never registered a change in the custom as marking a progress in society. Thus custom became petrified and when custom became petrified progress became impeded altogether, and for a hundred and fifty years our society has not been able to make any progress. If social evils had been pointed out by missionaries at one stage they were so pointed out in a spirit of carping criticism rather than in a spirit of progressive helpfulness. And as time advanced and English education took root and as democracy spread its tentacles and got firm hold upon the affections of the people another change came into being. The very missionaries and clergymen who were so keen on educated Indians throwing off the trammels of their orthodoxy became suddenly conservative and critical of the drastic changes which the English-educated people were taking to with a certain amount of irresponsible ease. They began to inquire whether after all these people who were so readily taking to these changes meant to take to these changes or whether they were simply throwing away by way of relaxation the rigid customs of age and of society. They did not like it because the spirit of reform is always destructive of their own power. In the encouraging of reform themselves they saw the dangers to their rule and the missionary saw at once that he was encouraging a certain amount of rebellious spirit in the nation. Now *Brahmoism* came half-way between Christianity and conservatism. *Brahmosim* was looked upon as the saving factor in this country, but *Brahmoism* was thereupon condemned by the missionary because it provided a halting house for the reform spirit of the nation. Thus the missionary himself became conservative. Englishmen became conservative, custom became rigid, society became petrified and congealed and coagulated, as it were, in a chamber which was not wide or expansive. Thus we have suffered, so much so that the issue of a post-puberty marriage in the Punjab was declared illegitimate by the High Court. This was the last straw that broke the back of progressive society. Immediately there was an attempt to break the bones of custom, by trying to reform the marriage law. Act 3 of 1870, popularly known as the *Brahmo Marriage Act*, required, however, a certain denial statement, "I repudiate that I am a Hindu or a Muslim or a Christian or a Parsee or a Jain or a Jew." This obnoxious declaration was associated with the provisions of that Act. Therefore it did not become popular. Later on the *Sarda Act* came into being; fortunately it has set the seal of authority upon that piece of social reform which the heads of orthodoxy were imposing and were impeding. A new era has begun. The Indian National Congress which had started in 1885 had till 1919 associated with it as an ancillary and an auxiliary a social reform organisation which dealt with the social evils of the country and suggested various legislative measures also. But there was a non-willingness on the part of the British Government to effect those legislative changes, and as time progressed there was also an unwillingness on the

part of society to accept the social reform at the hands of foreigners in this country.

Fortunately, Sir, today we have survived those times. I am glad I am alive to see the age when on the initiative of the National Government a progressive measure of reform, comprehensive in outlook, far-reaching in its result, radical in its nature, is being put forward, which embraces the rights of women in regard to inheritance, in regard to marriage, in regard to property, in regard to divorce, in regard to personal freedom. And I hope, as time advances we shall have more and more of reforms in this direction to which this measure points today.

Let us start with the full rights that have been conferred upon the woman after the death of her husband. In our *Shastras* it has been briefly described that the woman is the bond slave of her father when she is young, to her husband when she is middle-aged and to her son when she is a mother. Of course all epigrams, aphorisms, proverbs, platitudes and truisms are half truths. There is a core of truth about them. We sometimes find it useful to quote these things but there is a core of untruth also about them and we should try to understand the full significance of all these.

According to the measure before us, a woman will have property in her own right and be able to dispose of her property. I have been trying to see whether the Law Minister would explain when these rights would come into force. Supposing after the passing of this measure a man dies and his widow inherits his property: what are her rights compared with the rights of a widow whose husband died one year ago? The latter possesses limited estates. What is the change sought to be introduced? Can widows with only limited estates convert those limited estates into full right estates with the right to give away, to mortgage, to sell and so on, irrespective of whether there is legal necessity in the interests of the family or not? That is a point which I have been trying to understand by turning up the pages of the measure before me but I have not been able to understand it. I dare say in his reply the Mover of the Bill will be so good as to elucidate the point.

The 'rights' of the daughter is a matter on which I have been feeling very keenly. When speaking to English people, or when discussing Indian conditions and society with savants and scholars coming from abroad, I have never been tired of praising my own system. If you wish to understand the basis of a system, or appraise any of its social customs or practices, you must not take it in its present degenerate condition. But you must take it in all its pristine purity and glory. I look upon child marriage as a splendid institution as our ancients conceived it because they conceived it good for the average man and the average woman to be married. And this marriage is a good thing because the child has to be grafted into another family and grafting should take place while the plant is young and not when the plant has become old. But then, the conception itself has changed. Now we live in an age when it is much more happy to be bachelors and criticise others' wives than to marry and beget children. Therefore our ideals have changed and therefore the principle of child marriage may not be binding upon us. Each one is at liberty to live his or her own life according to her or his pleasure and there is no obligation imposed by society and social conditions have changed. Under the circumstances, we should not indeed be the victims of past tradition, past customs, past events.

But how shall we deal with the facts which exist at the present day: so many daughters and so many sisters are not merely vegetating but they are rotting in their homes. While we praise our systems to others, we cannot

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shut from our own eyes the fact that our sisters and daughters and other relations are rotting in their own homes unable to get any relief. Latterly I have suggested a love strike for our women. That is the only remedy which I have thought out and I have been able to think it out as a remedy directed against this custom. I read a book called "The Impregnable Women" while I was in the Ahmednagar Fort. There was a war in England and all the women wanted to resist the war. How could they resist? The men are greedy. The men are pugnacious and blood-thirsty. They want to fight. They want to measure the strength of the tiger and ape in them with the strength of the ape and tiger in others. Therefore the women said: let us have a love strike. No young maiden would speak to her lover: no wife would speak to her husband: no mother would speak to her son. The men were boycotted. There was no social life between men and women until the war about to be declared was cancelled. They said they would not mix with these people. But I will not push the matter further. I suggest that if in a village, or town, or mohalla, there is ill-treatment of a single woman, all our wives had better have a club and go away from our houses and live there for 24 hours and very soon the recalcitrant husband will be brought to his senses. All the men will bring their moral influence to bear upon this man and they will tell him: "What the hell are you doing? All our homes are broken up and they will remain broken unless you take back your wife."

You may laugh now. But what else are you going to do? Are you going to prosecute the man? He will bring up his charges. Are you going to prosecute the wife? She will bring a number of charges. You should not enter into the quarrels between husband and wife. Once I found a husband beating his wife. I went and interfered. The woman turned round and came down on me like a wolf on the fold. She said: "It is my husband who is beating me. Who the hell are you to interfere?" Therefore it is not possible for you easily to interfere in domestic affairs. After all the *Kowravas* and *Pandhawas* when they fought, they used to say: "we are 100 against 5 but against a third party they said we are 100 plus 5." So in these domestic quarrels both are against us when we meddle in their affairs. So if the daughter is to be happy she must be able to inherit property in her own right. I find that the position of a wife is most obsequious. Her sister's son comes. Her brother comes. She wants to give them a good present. But the wife has to wait upon the goodwill of her husband in order to get even Rs. 5. After all this man has his moods. And he may be in a good mood or a bad mood. So she must have some property which she can call her own. Would you wish her to get rid of some of her jewels? The idea is fantastic. No woman will sell away her jewellery even after her husband's death because after her husband's death that jewellery stands as the symbol of the unity of herself and her deceased spouse. I know it. I have spoken to many women.

Mr. Chairman: Does the Honourable Member want to speak for a longer time?

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: I am sorry. I was not looking at the time. I would like to continue.

Mr. Chairman: The House will now adjourn for half an hour and re-assemble at Half Past Five of the Clock.

The Assembly then adjourned till Half Past Five of the Clock in the afternoon.

The Assembly re-assembled at Half Past Five of the Clock, with Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya: Mr. Speaker, I was dealing with the question of a share for the daughter from the patrimony. I am in the habit of twitting my lady friends by asking them "Why do you want a share? You are going to become the queens of another home?" My wife has become the queen of my home and she is the unquestioned head of the family. She is getting the keys of her own safe and so will you get the keys of the safe of another home." But that is not enough. It is not enough to be at the mercy of a husband, however dear that husband may be. A woman must have her own right and when she has her own right she is better respected by the husband and although the doctrine of self-effacement on the part of the woman has been carried on in our country and society for ages long, yet the fact remains that in the modern day the conception of self-respect has completely altered the position. One must be able to say that she has a little money to deal with in her own right.

Hitherto I have had a little doubt as to whether we are not depriving all the sons of the share to which they are legitimately entitled if the daughter also comes in for her share. Now the Bill before us gives a share in the *stridhana* to the sons to the same extent to which the daughter is given a share in the father's property. That largely equalises things and warns all parents that they should have an equal number of sons and daughters. That is the only condition that is imposed upon us and that will be able to balance our economy. We must also balance our progeny.

But there is another difficulty. After all as things stand it looks as though we cannot say hereafter in marriage invitations that my daughter is being given in marriage to so and so. There will be a new language adopted. My daughter and so and so will marry each other. That is the new language adopted. Still the fact remains that except in Malabar, where the husbands go to their wives' houses, here our daughters generally go to their husbands' houses. Of course the position in Malabar is entirely the reverse of our conditions and it will take hours to deal with the question. I am not going to stray into that very interesting topic. Yet the fact remains when the daughter goes away from her father's home the wonder is whether she is able to enjoy the property that is given to her by her parents. I have asked my Muslim sisters and brothers as to whether the age-long custom of giving a half share to a daughter, half of the son's, is really, practically, enjoyed. They said that except in towns it is not enjoyed. Somehow or other the brother does the sister in the eye and knocks off her property and gives her some compensation. That may or may not be so but the fact remains that there is that supreme danger and the greatest danger in this matter is that when you recognise the fact that 80 per cent. of *pattadars* are able to pay only Rs. 10 as tax on 2½ acres of wet land or four or five acres of dry land, where on earth is there a chance for them to give a share to the daughter, which she can carry with her or which she can enjoy. I doubt very much from the practical side but on the theoretical side at any rate the thing is unquestionably quite correct.

When thus you have raised the status of women in society and when you have conferred upon her the right to absolute property then you must also give her certain rights which self-respect engenders in her naturally. The conditions of marriage are not conditions of slavery. It is all very well to say that marriages are made in heaven and that once a husband always a husband or once a wife always a wife. It is a very good rule but at the same time there are conditions like drunkenness, persistent cruelty, immoral character

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on the part of the husband, diseases like leprosy, impotency and various other conditions which are enumerated by the law Minister which justify a separation of the husband from the wife. If a man feels free and has the right to stray abroad and do whatever he wants to do, if he can marry a second time when the first wife is alive, then of course it must be equally open for the wife also to marry a second husband while the first one is alive. Imagine that condition. I sometimes ask friends when I see a young man dressed in hat, boot and suit and by the side goes a nicely clad Hindu lady dressed in all the beautiful folds of the Hindu saree "Will you kindly reverse your dresses? Will the husband wear a *dhoti* and the wife a hat and skirt of a European woman, how will it look?" It will look absurd, as absurd as when you sign your name in your mother tongue, over an English document. Once an officer asked me not to sign in Telugu over an English document. Then I said that the reverse situation of an English signature over a Telugu document is equally incongruous. Therefore we must give full freedom to our sisters, mothers and daughters and enable them to have judicial separation if necessary and divorce. But I trust and hope that the distinguished ladies who are here and who have been labouring for years in the cause of rights for women will preach and propagate the fact and the doctrine that divorce is a reserve fund not to be drawn upon for current expenses, that divorce should be the ultimate resort for causes which are otherwise irremediable. Public opinion, personal influence, family persuasion, all these are there. You must remember that the quarrels between a husband and wife during the day are generally closed up in the night and therefore there is not much chance of perpetuating these quarrels. We should not make much of them. In America there is a State called Indianapolis, where the porter cries "Indianapolis Station, Twenty minutes for divorce." The divorce court is in the railway station itself. Any husband and wife having a quarrel in the train, could apply for divorce and get it before the train departs. That should not be our position. Our divorce must be a kind of reserve fund like the jewellery on a woman's person, always to be drawn upon under conditions of the greatest necessity and never to be lightly utilised.

The question of adoption is a very difficult question. The Honourable Law Minister has assimilated the *Mitakshara* practice to that of the *Dayabhaga*. I suppose *Dayabhaga* obtains in Bengal and *Mitakshara* in South India and in Bombay there is a law called *Mayuka*, according to which amongst the non-Brahmins it is not necessary for the husband to give permission and the widow can adopt a child. I had read a judgment of the Privy Council some ten or twelve years ago. I want that law to be copied in other parts, where such adoption is not permissible according to *Mitakshara*. After all why does a family adopt a boy? To perpetuate the family. Is it not the right of the widow to perpetuate the family as much as of the deceased husband? Is it only the exclusive right of the man who is deceased to perpetuate the family. If a boy could inherit the property, why should it not be open to the mother to adopt the boy in her own right apart from the written or the registered permission of her husband either by a document or by a will. In English law oral wills are permissible; whereas written wills require two signatures, oral wills require no such thing. After all by oral wills properties worth lakhs and crores are alienated. "All to wife" on a newspaper bit is held to be a valid will. Then why should it not be permissible in law for a husband to give permission orally to his wife in order that she can adopt. These are points which the Select Committee will have to give its consideration to. (An Honourable Member: "Why permission at all?") That is my contention. If permission is necessary why not oral permission? Relax the law regulating adoption as much as possible.

Then there is the question of monogamy. I am very sorry to note that young girls in their blooming youth do not understand all the conditions that must be observed in regard to the proper selection of match for marriage. We have an ancient saying which when rendered into English says: You must consider the prosperity, good looks, tradition, pedigree, culture—all these things you must consider before you select a husband. But now it has become rather common—and a very distinguished authority has confirmed the statement—that educated girls have the habit of picking ready-made husbands who have already got a wife and five or six children. Why does this happen? It is due to the want of education during their college days about these matters. Somehow these things are considered taboo and everybody shrinks from talking about them although a lot of private talk is inevitably done in regard to these matters. The forbidden fruit has never remained untasted. Therefore it is necessary that we provide teaching in regard to these matters. I once spoke to a certain friend of mine—he has given freedom to his daughter with regard to the selection of his son-in-law—and in the course of his conversation he told me a story which I later related to his daughter and son-in-law much to their amusement. She was asked by him 'Do you wish to marry so and so,—a boy who is handsome, good-looking, is well educated, passed B.L., or is in the profession, is the son of a rich man and has an upstairs house and she said 'No, father, has he got no motor car and electric lights? If he has got a motor car and electric lights, no matter to whom you give me in marriage I am willing to marry him'. Such are the temperaments, tendencies and trends of untutored youth and therefore it is very necessary that we should teach them about all these matters. It is not enough to make laws; but it is necessary to propagate these laws and propagandize these laws in order to educate our young girls in the direction of monogamy. That is very necessary.

I welcome every aspect of this Bill. If there are defects which are obvious here and there I daresay they will be remedied by all the distinguished personalities whose names have been mentioned in connection with the formation of the Select Committee. I have taken a little more time than necessary. Perhaps I can hold forth for hours together. I have got the experience of 68 years covering a careful study of all kinds of conditions and I would have liked very much to continue except for the fact that today's time is limited and we must apply the guillotine at 7 o'clock and some of our sisters and brothers are very anxious to speak and I am also anxious to hear them.

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal: Muslim): Sir, I am in the most unfortunate position of having been charged with the communication of certain views which have been entrusted to me by some of my friends. They are some criticisms of the Bill. I must however assure the House that personally I would fully support the Bill. Its provisions are largely in accord with the laws which prevail in my own community and the Bill tries to do absolute justice to all regardless of practical results. It is however with some amount of nervousness that I have risen to speak. When I find that sturdy members of the House who would have spoken against the Bill have quailed before a powerful array of five distinguished members of the fair sex, ready to stand to their guns, little courage can I muster in giving out the views which I am charged to communicate.

Sir, the Honourable the Law Minister has not told us anything about the opinions that have been collected and printed in the pamphlets which have been circulated to us. They were made available to us at a very late stage. If it was desired that Honourable Members should read them, analyse them and tell the House the result of their analysis I think the time is too short. There is a pamphlet—the Report of the Hindu Law Committee—which con-

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tains a large number of opinions. I am sorry this was not circulated amongst the members. (An Honourable Member: "It was circulated"). It was not. This book was not circulated.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: It was kept in the Library for a very long time.

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad: It was not kept in the Library for a very long time. It has been placed in the Library very recently. I had to buy it from the market. It is only recently that some copies were kept in the Library.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): What is it?

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad: When an Honourable Member like Professor Ranga asks 'what is this?' it only shows . . .

Prof. N. G. Ranga: I asked what is it you are referring to.

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad: The Report of the Hindu Law Committee.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: That is, the Rao Committee. Its Report has been before the public for a year.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever it be, the Honourable Member may proceed.

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad: The Report has been published only recently. I submit that in this Report there is a dissentient minute of the late Justice D. N. Mitter. He has collected a large number of opinions against the Bill. I do not wish to read them. He has classified them province by province and subject by subject. There is no time to deal with them, but he has said that the principles of the Bill are opposed by the entire Hindu community, that is, the orthodox section of the community.

I have studied as carefully as it was possible for me within the short time available the recent opinions on the Bill obtained by the Government and circulated to us. I find there is a volume of opinion against the Bill. In fact, at the time when the Committee was hearing evidence the evidence in Bengal was also all one way. Now in the opinions circulated I find the opinion in West Bengal is all one way. It is clearly against the Bill. What is remarkable is that there is an opinion by the Secretary of the Government of Bengal in the Ministry of Law. That opinion is to be found in paper No. 4, opinion No. 17. That opinion is against the Bill. It says that this is not a proper time to take the Bill. (An Honourable Member: "When was that?") It bears no date. It has been circulated only recently—five or six days ago. In fact it says that the Bill is of far-reaching importance and enough consideration has not been given to the opinions expressed. The House will be asked to consider the different categories of objections. One is that this Bill should not be considered by a mixed Legislature consisting of members of various communities. It is for this reason that I am particularly anxious to speak as it was feared that men of different communities will rather support the Bill and spoil the cause of orthodox Hinduism. It is for this reason that I hasten to declare that I am not supporting the Bill as the Hindu community is much against it.

One of the objections is that the introduction of women's shares would introduce litigation. There are many opinions that this would lead to excessive fragmentation, that it will lead ultimately to the destruction of that joint family system amongst the Hindus which has saved the community from the destructive effects of fragmentation from which the Muslims most terribly suffer. It is said also that the Hindu law—the Vedic literature and the post-Vedic literature known as the "Śruti" and the "Smṛiti"—have a divine origin. But the present Bill goes, it is said, against the very structure, the very religious basis and the very religious structure, of the Hindus. It is on this

ground that it is seriously opposed. It is argued that you cannot regard all this religious law, all this sacred literature as so much nonsensical superstition. They have kept the Hindu society alive for ages though it is quite true that society cannot remain stagnant. It must move. But it must move cautiously and with experience.

The present Bill makes a change with a sweeping stroke. Another point that has been made apparent in these objections is that the present Legislature was elected on one issue, namely the attainment of independence. The present Bill, which is really of a very sweeping and complicated character, and its principles have not been before the public and it would therefore be better to wait to digest opinions and to pass a constitution and hold elections making this a definite issue before the public. It will then be seen whether the public at large really desire it. In fact it is said that the Bill was not properly circulated. Many associations got only a few days' time or even a few hours' time to consider and give their opinions. In these circumstances it is argued that the Bill should not be taken into consideration at this stage.

Then there is another important aspect of the question. The Bill attempts to make the law applicable to Hindus uniformly throughout India, but it has been pointed out that the effect of uniformity will not be attained in view of the shortness of time. It is well known that agricultural land is beyond the purview of this House. It is a provincial subject. Whatever law we may pass will affect only non-agricultural land, whatever that expression may mean. That expression is also vague. It has been defined in the Income-tax Act for the purpose of taxation and this Bill as well as many other Acts have taken that as the basis. There may be lands which lie midway between agricultural and non-agricultural lands. In fact, apart from this distinction, a large proportion of our property—about 80 per cent.—consists of cultivable land. Thus it is perfectly clear that the Provinces will have to deal with them and they may deal with them in a different manner, and some provinces may not deal with them at all. And then again we have the acceded States. Though Hindu Law is to be the same—and it is attempted to make it uniform—the States people may legislate or may not legislate, and in case they legislate they may make different provisions. In fact the Provincial Governments and the States will be largely guided by local custom and local opinion and I believe it will be extremely difficult for the West Bengal Legislature to pass a law which is so much against the opinion of that Province. It will therefore come to this that if we pass this law the result would be that in the case of a man having two classes of properties—a house or building and certain agricultural land—one set of law will apply to non-agricultural land and another set of law will apply to agricultural land. Whatever law you pass, it should be uniform and it would be far better to collect opinions from the Provincial Governments, and to ask for their consent to give jurisdiction to this House to pass a comprehensive legislation as we have done in some cases. If comprehensiveness and completeness is the objective, it is better that the Central Legislature should be armed with their consent and deal with it on an all-India basis, and it would also be a proper thing to ask the States to co-operate in this matter. These are some of the difficulties. As we are working against time, it is impossible, as the Honourable the Law Minister has pointed out, to deal with even some of the salient features of the Bill. It is also impossible to deal with some of the objections except from the border point of view. One thing that strikes me is that the opinions have not been very carefully studied. We have not got any analysis of these opinions collected point by point and supplied to the members to enable them to deal with them. It is very difficult for private Members to read the opinions at a high speed and to analyse them, store them in different compartments of their brains and use them in a classified form. On a matter of such great

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importance as this, it would have been extremely desirable for the Honourable Minister's Department to classify the opinions, as was done before in such cases, and circulate them to enable members to consider each point in the light of the objections or support in respect of each of them.

Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharati (Madras: General): It is there in the Report of the Law Committee, classified, analysed and all that.

Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad: I am grateful for the remark, but the opinions of which I am speaking have been received and circulated after the report. In fact the opinions which have been circulated by the Department were received only recently and they are on the Bill as it is. But the opinions collected in the Report of the Hindu Law Committee were collected before the drafting of the Bill, that is during the enquiry stage. The Honourable Member has missed the point that the opinions I am speaking of are not those published in the Report. They were separately printed and circulated. These are the opinions which I talk of. I think these should have been carefully analysed and printed along with the various points. Sir, I do not wish to labour the matter. Personally I am in favour of the Bill, but these are some of the objections which I have been asked to put forward by certain of my friends. That is the reason why I have put them before the House. There are a large number of other points, but they are of a minor nature. In view of the shortness of the time at our disposal I think I should cut short my speech. Then again legislation should rather follow public opinion. It should follow rather than create or over-ride public opinion, and I am giving a quotation from a famous authority, the father of modern politics, Edmond Burke. He said on a famous occasion:

"To follow, not to force the public inclinations, to give direction, a form and technical dress and a specific sanction to the general sense of the community is the true end of legislation."

But it has been pointed in the objections that there is no public opinion behind this Bill. It is pointed out in some of the objections that only some of the educated section and some of the ultra-modern section are behind it, but the masses, most of whom are ignorant, are indifferent to it and it has not been fully circulated in the way a subject of this importance should have been. In these circumstances I submit this for the consideration of the House that it would have been better if the House gave directions to the Select Committee in matters of a disputed nature, but in this case we are sending the Bill without any directions. I should seek a little clarification from the Honourable Minister for Law. With these few words, Sir, I hope the points raised in the objections would be carefully considered and due decisions would be reached.

With regard to the personnel of the Select Committee, nothing could be said. The ablest, the most authoritative and most well-informed of the Members have been taken in it and I hope and believe that they will do full justice to the objections raised against the Bill.

Shrimati Hansa Mehta (Bombay: General): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Honourable Minister for bringing this Bill even at this late hour of the Session. I also congratulate, or rather I express my sense of 6 P.M. gratitude to Sir B. N. Rau and his colleagues for the great labour they have bestowed on the Report on which these recommendations are based. This Bill to codify the Hindu Law is a revolutionary Bill and though we are not quite satisfied with it it will be a great landmark in the social history of the Hindus. But since this Bill was drafted many things have happened and one of the biggest things that has happened is the achievement of our political freedom. Our new Constitution is in the making; we have already agreed upon

the fundamental principles on which this new Constitution is to be drafted. The new State is going to be a democratic State and democracy is based on the equality of individuals. It is from this point of view that we have now to approach the problems of inheritance and marriage etc. that are before us. The Select Committee will therefore have to see that the new Bill is drafted on these principles.

It is true that the Code has abolished the sex discrimination with regard to inheritance. A woman is recognised as an heir and she is also entitled to enjoy her property in her full rights; that is, the Code has abolished the limited estate of the woman. Even then we feel that it does not go far enough. A daughter who is recognised as an heir inherits the property, but she inherits half the share of the son. This violates the principle of equality on which we have again and again said that our new Constitution is going to be based—a Constitution which aims to secure for the people of this country justice, social, political and economic. We therefore feel that the daughter should get an equal share in the property of her father with the son, and the son also should get an equal share in the property of his mother with the daughter. It is also argued that a daughter gets her share from her father as well as from her husband, while the man does not get anything from his wife. We have already proposed, that is the Women's Organisations have said, that the husband can also inherit the property of his wife in the same way that the wife inherits the property of her husband. In the Indian Succession Act the provision for the inheritance of husband is already there and I think we shall do well to copy that provision.

People have argued, and the Honourable friend who spoke before me has said that if a daughter is given her share, especially in a landed property, there will be fragmentation of land. But why is this argument trotted out in the case of a daughter's inheritance? The same thing applies if a man has more than one son; if he has, say, four or five sons the land has to be fragmented; why is the argument not trotted out then, and only trotted out when the question of daughters inheriting the property comes up? The better thing would be that there should be law against fragmentation and the property should be sold if it goes below the prescribed limit. Or there is another alternative and that is collectivisation of the land.

Then with regard to the question of marriage. I am gratified, and the women of India will be very happy to know, that the principle of monogamy is recognised, and if the Code comes into being then the principle of monogamy will be established. Sir, we have felt that all civilised nations, all civilised communities have adopted the principle of monogamy. Disrespect for women and all the atrocities that we hear of perpetrated on women are I think due to the fact that this principle of polygamy exists. If we had monogamy I do not think that women would have been abducted, married off or other things would have happened to them. This is a very wholesome principle and I hope the House will accept it.

But with regard to some of the conditions of marriage there are one or two points that I would like to suggest. With regard to the marriage of the *sapindas* and the definition of *sapinda*, that requires a little revision; we are not quite satisfied with the definition that is given in the Code. Then again, we would like the age of marriage also to be a condition of a valid marriage. We have got the Sarda Act but that is not satisfactory; that has not satisfied the people because it has not been able to prevent child marriages; it is not effective. For that reason we would like the law to be more drastic. If we want sixteen to be the age of marriage, then it is very necessary that it should be included as one of the conditions of valid marriage and I would like the Select Committee to make that change.

[Shrimati Hansa Mehta]

Then, with regard to divorce, even that, from the point of view, of some does not go far enough. There is, however, one thing that I would like to bring to the notice of the members of the Select Committee and that is, the time given for desertion. If a man or a woman deserts his or her spouse, it has been provided, he or she can divorce her or him after five years. Five years is the period given in the Code. Even in "Narad Smriti" it is given that a childless woman should wait for three years. After three years she can marry again. So why not also bring that particular provision here, that if a woman is childless, she need not wait till five years, but can divorce her husband after three years? If a woman has got children, then five years would be the right period, but for a childless woman three years would be a reasonable period.

With regard to guardianship, here also the Code has not made any changes in the present law. Father is the natural guardian of the children. The mother does not come in. We would like the mother also to be a co-guardian of the children with the father.

With regard to adoption, I think the whole chapter should be scrapped. We are a secular State. We want to be a secular State. Adoption in Hindu law is for religious purposes. Why should a secular State have anything to do with a religious custom? What we are concerned with is whether adoption which is for religious purposes should be recognised by the State for purposes of inheritance. We say that it should not. If a child is adopted—whether it is a boy or a girl—we would like a daughter also to be adopted—if a child is adopted not for religious purpose, but for real purpose, i.e. that the parents want a child, then that child should have the same rights as the natural child. But if there is adoption for religious purposes, only then I think that adoption should not be recognised for purposes of inheritance.

These are some of the important points that I would like the Select Committee to consider. Speeches have been made,—at least my Honourable friend Dr. Pattabhi has made a very long speech—praising all sorts of things about our past traditions. We have looked too much to the past. We must now look to the future. It is for the future generation that we are making this law. It is not for us, but for the future generation that is coming after us that this law will be applied. We have to look to the future conditions. After all, it is the conditions that determine the law. The law reflects the society. The law reflects the conditions in which the people live. We have to see that the future generation is not fettered by our own prejudices with regard to marriage or divorce or with regard to any other ideas that we may have today. I hope the Select Committee will consider that and produce a Bill which will be a great boon to the future Hindu society.

श्री राम महायः : स्पीकर महोदय, बिलके बारे में मुझे कुछ विशेष नहीं कहना है। आजकल की हिन्दू सोसाइटी के लिहाज से यह बिल जिस तरीके से बनाया गया है, वह बहुत ही अच्छा है। लेकिन मुझे एक दो आपत्ति इसमें मालूम होती हैं और वह मैं सेलेक्ट कमेटी की तयज्जह के लिये बयान करना जरूरी समझता हूँ।

मैरिज (marriage) के सम्बन्ध में पार्ट ४ सेक्शन ३ (६) [Part IV Section 3 (6)] में यह बताया गया है कि माइनर (minor) गर्लज़ (girls) के गार्जियन

(guardian) को रजामन्दी हासिल करना लाजमी रक्खा गया है। लेकिन जहाँ तक मैरिजके इनवैलिड (invalid) करार देने का सवाल है वहाँ सेक्शन ५ (Section 5) में यह बतला दिया गया है कि अगर ऐसी इजाजत हासिल न भी की गयी हो तो महज इसी वजह से मैरिज (marriage) नाजायज नहीं होजायेगी समझ में नहीं आता कि जहाँ पर जरूरी समझा गया कि गार्जियन की रजामन्दी जरूरी है फिर रजामन्दी हासिल न करने की बिना पर नाजायज क्यों न होना चाहिये। फ्रॉड एण्ड फोर्स Fraud and force से अगर गार्जियन की रजामन्दी हासिल की गई हो तो वह मैरिज इनवैलिड हो सकती है। लेकिन अगर बिल्कुल ही इजाजत हासिल न की गयी हो तो मैरिज नाजायज क्यों न होनी चाहिये। खिलाफ इसमें बतलाया गया है कि वह महज इस वजह से नाजायज करार नहीं दी जायगी। एक आपत्ति तो इसमें यह है जिसके मुतालिक सेलेक्टकमेटी (Select Committee) को गौर करना चाहिये।

दूसरे मुझे उत्तराधिकार (Succession) के सम्बन्ध में यह निवेदन करना है, जैसा अभी श्रीमती हंसा मेहता ने इस बारे में कहा है। लेकिन मैं उनके विचार के विपरीत यह ब्याल करता हूँ कि इस तरह से सक्सेशन (Succession) कायम करने से जो आधार भूत सिद्धान्त धर्मशास्त्र के हैं, वह एक तरह से खत्म होजाते हैं। मेरा इन बातों से यह मकसद नहीं है कि स्त्रियों को कोई राइट्स (Rights) नहीं मिलने चाहिये। लेकिन मेरे ब्याल से इसमें उनको पुरुषों से भी ज्यादा राइट्स दे दिये गये हैं। इस तरीके से मैं अर्ज करूँ कि जहाँ एक पुत्री को अपनी पैतृक सम्पत्ति में और पति के कुटुम्ब की सम्पत्ति दोनों में हिस्सा मिलता है, वहाँ कोई भी विधान इस बिल में इस किस्म का नहीं है कि किसी पुरुष को उसकी पैतृक सम्पत्ति के अलावा उसको अपने फादर-इन-लॉ father-in-law की सम्पत्ति में शेयर (share) मिलता हो। इस तरीके से आज तक जो भी इनजस्टिस (injustice) स्त्रियों के साथ की जाती रही है वह इस बिल में पुरुषों के साथ की जा रही है। इसके विपरीत यह बात कही जा सकती है कि जो उसकी पत्नी होगी उसको अपनी पैतृक सम्पत्ति से हिस्सा मिलेगा और इस तरीके से वह बराबर हो सकेगा। लेकिन जिन ब्यालात के तहत और दुनियावी हालात के तहत इस बिल को लाने की जरूरत महसूस हुई है, उन बातों पर विचार करने से इस तरह असल समस्या का हल नहीं निकलता। कारण कि जो सम्पत्ति किसी स्त्री को अपनी पैतृक सम्पत्ति में से मिलेगी, वह उसका स्त्री-धन होगा और उस पर उसके पति या कोई भी हक नहीं होगा। इस लिये उससे कोई विशेष लाभ उसको न होगा। इस तरीके से यह दूसरी बात मैं सेलेक्ट कमेटी की तयज्जह के लिये पेश करता हूँ और उस पर गौर करना जरूरी है।

[श्री राम सहाय]

एक बात मुझे और अर्ज करनी है और वह यह है कि धर्म-शास्त्र के सिद्धान्त मौजूदा हालात के लिहाज से कितने ही खराब क्यों न हों लेकिन उनके आधारभूत सिद्धान्त जो हैं वह मैं समझता हूँ कि हमें मानना चाहिये और उन आधारभूत सिद्धान्तों को सामने रख कर ही सारी बातों का फैसला करना चाहिये और मौजूदा हालात की वजह से जितनी तरमीम जरूरी हों वह करना चाहिये और महज किसी आवेश में या किसी पाश्चात्य सभ्यता की नकल करने के नाते पर हमें उसमें कोई तरमीम नहीं करनी चाहिये जिससे हमारे सामाजिक सोसाइटी का जो ढांचा हो उस में बाधा उत्पन्न हो और उस में किसी तरह की दिक्कतें पैदा आयें जो मुनासिब न हों। इसलिये मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा कि जो सेलेक्ट कमेटी के सदस्य हैं वह इन बातों पर गौर करके उसको सुधार करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Ram Sahai (Gwalior State): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have nothing to say particularly in reference to the Bill. I appreciate the manner in which this Bill has been drafted after keeping in view the needs of the present-day Hindu Society. But I find in it one or two defects, and I think it necessary to explain them for the consideration of the Select Committee.

It has been laid down in Section 3(6) of Part IV of the Bill that in case of minor girls, the consent of her guardian must be obtained for her marriage. But so far as the question of declaring the marriage as invalid is concerned, it has been stated in Section 5 that it shall not be deemed to be invalid merely on the ground that such consent was not or had not been obtained. I fail to understand why it should not be deemed to be invalid when it has been expressly laid down that the consent of the guardian must be obtained. If the consent of the guardian had been obtained by means of fraud or force, that marriage can be deemed to be invalid, but if the consent had not been obtained at all, then why should not the marriage be deemed to be invalid? On the contrary it has been laid down that the marriage will not be deemed to be invalid merely for this reason. This is the one defect which should be considered by the Select Committee.

Another point which I have to mention is in regard to 'Succession' and which Mrs. Hansa Mehta has just referred to in her speech. But I do not see eye to eye with the views expressed by her and am of the opinion that the manner in which the order of succession has been prescribed ignores the fundamental tenets of *Dharam Shastras* (Hindu Code of Law). I do not mean that the women should not be given any rights. I am of the opinion that, they have been given more rights here than men. I may point out that while a daughter gets a share both in her patrimony and the property of her husband's family, there does not exist any such provision in this Bill which gives a man a share in the property of his father-in-law in addition to his patrimony. The men are, thus, being subjected to the same injustice which has upto now been done to the women. On the contrary, it can be argued that the share which his wife will get in her patrimony will make up the deficiency. But after considering objects underlying the Bill and the worldly conditions which have necessitated it, it is felt that the real problem remains unsolved. The reason for this is that the property which a woman acquires out of her patrimony shall be treated as her *Stridhana* and her husband will have no right to that, therefore, he will not derive any particular benefit from this. In this way, I submit this second point for consideration by the Select Committee which is very essential.

I have yet to say another thing. Whatever may be the differences between the tenets of *Dharmashastra* and the present day conditions, I feel that we must follow the fundamental principles propounded therein; and keeping these in view we should decide all the issues. We should make only those changes which are considered necessary in view of the present conditions and trend of the society. We should not resort to introduce any change merely under excitement or in imitation of the western civilisation which may obstruct the growth of our society and produce some sort of difficulties that may not be desirable.

Therefore, I would submit that those who are members of the Select Committee should consider these things and try to make necessary amendments.

Dr. B. V. Keskar (U.P.: General): Sir, I take this opportunity of congratulating the Honourable the Law Minister for bringing this Bill forward in spite of the inordinate delay that has taken place since this idea was first conceived. Sir there is no doubt that this is a very, very important Bill. As my Honourable friend, Dr. Pattabhi said, I do not think there has been any bill so radical and so revolutionary which is trying to change the very foundations of Hindu society, a society which has remained fossilized for the last thousand years. No doubt, and it is to that that I want to draw the attention of this House and the members of the Select Committee, the very fact that this society has remained fossilized for the last thousand years and has developed such inertia, such lethargy, in the body politic that all manner and all kinds of forces will come forward to impede the passing of this Bill and passing of any Bill to change the existing structure of Hindu society. It is to this inertia, this lethargy of Hindu society which has probably become its bane, that the members of the Select Committee and the Honourable the Law Minister will have to look to, because I have no doubt that until this Bill is passed, to the very last moment every sort of effort will be made to see that this Bill does not become a law. The changes that are suggested are such that there is a fundamental change in Hindu law. I know that orthodoxy will try in every way. My Honourable friend, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad was good enough to voice the alarm of a certain section of the orthodox society about the revolutionary nature of this Bill. No doubt, some of the changes suggested appear revolutionary. But as Dr. Pattabhi rightly observed the changes are really not revolutionary. They are due to the fact that for the last so many centuries, Hindu society has not been allowed to evolve. So we have to try to change in a few days what would have been done in centuries. I would, therefore, ask the Members of the Select Committee not to fall a prey to the pressure of what is called the so-called orthodox opinion which is really the opinion of the inertia of so many centuries which does not want anything to change, but after thinking over it for years and years, which really considers that any change is an attack on Hindu religion. I would ask them to guard against these and go forward in spite of all this pressure.

There is no doubt that quite apart from the question of making any radical change in Hindu law, the necessity for consolidating the Hindu law was very urgent. Sir, the present day Hindu Law is a maze; it is a jungle like the *Tarai* or *Sunderbans* in which all sorts of practices and traditions come up; in which all that *puranic* books and prevailing customs in many parts of India, in many regions and provinces, in many castes, sub-castes, sub-sub-castes come into play, and which is naturally a paradise for lawyers. This to a certain extent might not have been undesirable, but it has grown to such an extent that the time has come when this maze of traditions and counter-traditions should be put an end to and we must rationalize and consolidate the law. This is quite apart from any question of changing the Hindu Law. So from both points of view, I consider that a bill of this kind is overdue.

[Dr. B. V. Keskar]

I rather would warn the members of the Select Committee to see that the Bill is not delayed too much. Already the first Committee was appointed in 1944. The idea and some of the proposals about the Bill have been circulating for the last so many years and even now we find before us proposals which will circulate it the more. Now I would like them to try to curb this period of discussion as little as possible and to bring this Bill before the House, the latest before the next session. Sir, I welcome this Bill.

Begum Aizaz Rasul (U. P.: Muslim): Sir, I do not desire to take up much time of the House, because I know that the time is very limited, but I think I would be failing in my duty if I do not stand up and welcome the measure that has just been brought before the House by the Honourable the Law Minister. Sir, it is in the fitness of things that with the achievement of freedom in this country and the establishment of a National Government, a measure of this kind should have been brought before this House. I only hope that the Select Committee will not delay giving its report and that this House will have an opportunity of passing this measure into law, and putting it on the statute book as early as possible.

There is no doubt, Sir, that the provisions of this Bill are extremely far-reaching and the provisions about marriage, divorce, inheritance and adoption that are being brought forward are extremely radical measures. It is an extremely important matter and the codification of Hindu law will certainly be looked upon as one of the most momentous pieces of legislation that has ever been brought forward in this House.

Sir, without going into the different clauses of this Bill, I welcome this measure. Sir, it is by the Status of the women of a country that the society of that country is judged and there is no doubt that the Hindu women were very backward in India. The Muslims have taken pride in the fact that the *Shariat* law gives them great rights. I agree with my Honourable friend, Dr. Pattabhi when he said that although the *Shariat* has given many rights, they are not followed in the letter and I do know that there are many parts in India today where in spite of the fact that Muslim women do enjoy all the rights given to them by *Shariat*, they are not being followed in the letter at all. In the Punjab the customary law still prevails and the daughters are absolutely disinherited from the property of their fathers. In the same way in the U.P. although in some parts of the Province *Shariat* has prevailed, Muslim women do not share in the property amongst the *talukdars* and therefore, I am glad that this piece of legislation that is being brought forward will put the Hindu women on a par with Muslim women as far as their rights are concerned. As I said, Sir, I hope that no section of society will oppose this measure. There is no doubt that this being such a fundamental measure and also connected in many ways with religion, there will be certain sections of society amongst the Hindus who will oppose it, but, Sir, it needs courageous minds to bring forward courageous measures, and therefore, I hope that orthodox opinion in the country which looks with disfavour upon this legislation will not stand in the way of its being passed and I hope that this Bill that is going now to the Select Committee will come out even in a more improved form and that this measure will not be delayed. Society should not be static and as we go forward on the road to progress, it is necessary that women should come into their own and unless the women of India stand on their own feet economically, it is absolutely impossible for India to go forward on the road to progress. With these few words, I give my whole-hearted support to this measure.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): Sir, I think I must congratulate the Honourable Minister-in-charge of this Bill. He must have greatly liked this hour of the day when he has received so much ovation from certain

sections of the House. But I think I should not be considered to be criticising in a wrong spirit when I say that the title of this Bill is a misnomer; it is not a Hindu Code but it should more appropriately have been called a Hindu Woman's Code. Sir, I do not understand why only three or four days after we passed the Resolution about having a secular Government and stopping of communal organisations we should have gone out of our way to legislate in such a hasty manner only for a particular community. After having decided to eschew all communal organisations I should like to know why we should not have been given time to think out and draw up a piece of legislation which would include all subjects of the State, Hindu, Muslim, Christian, etc. If the Honourable Minister is not led away by fair influences in this House I think it is not yet too late to withdraw this Bill, and if he withdraws it with a promise to bring in a more comprehensive Bill at a later date, his action in so withdrawing would have greater merit than the withdrawal which he made a few minutes ago. I know that some women of our country are very anxious to snatch away a portion of inheritance from their brothers; I know some influential women of this country are anxious to put an end to marriages to which they were unwillingly led and which they have found unbearable. It is also perhaps a fact that some educated and progressive ladies of our country who cannot think of polygamy of any kind are now anxious to have legislation for the removal of these things. By enacting this Hindu Code you are revolutionising the whole structure of Hindu life and law and custom. But for whom are you doing it and who is going to be benefited by it? The large mass of people who depend on agriculture and agricultural property are outside the pale of this legislation. Are the poorer Hindus in our villages clamouring for divorce? Are they clamouring for properties to be got from their parents? Not at all. You want this legislation for what you call the enlightened section of our people, men and women. It is for the rich man who gave his daughter in marriage to a poor man who hoped to give his wife some position but has not been able to give it and his daughter has become unhappy; and so he wants to get rid of this marriage. This legislation is going to help that kind of individual.

Then, Sir, with reference to custom and usage, custom plays a very important part in Hindu law as administered in my province. I want to lay particular stress on our province because there is no one who represents us in the Select Committee. As all lawyers would know, the customs which have taken the place of Hindu law in Assam are very peculiar. I can cite the Privy Council case of "*Maniram Kalita*" versus "*Keri Kalitani*" which has practically revolutionised Hindu law as administered among the Hindus.

Then there is the question of tribal people. According to this Bill they would be considered Hindus and they are really Hindus if they have not adopted Islam or Christianity or Buddhism, etc. Are you going to thrust on them this piece of legislation? If you ask them to have this system of inheritance they will simply revolt against you. There are different kinds of custom in Assam. Amongst the *Khasia* people of Assam the youngest daughter inherits the property. Now you are giving it to the widow, the son's widow, the widowed daughter, the son's daughter-in-law and so forth. Will they tolerate it for a moment if you introduce this legislation among them? You have introduced sacramental marriage and civil marriage. Shall I tell you how the *Cacharis* get married? Some boy and girl come to know each other and the girl is forcibly taken away from the parents after which the ceremony of marriage takes place. Will you ask them to go to the Registrar's Office and get married there?

Then we are very much against dowry. These rich people who can afford to give dowry get their daughters married very quickly, even though they may

[Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri]

be blind or ugly. If I had no money I would mortgage my house and everything that I possess in order to give a dowry and thus get rid of my daughter. But what will happen now? The daughter will inherit part of the property. So when I seek brides for my sons—fortunately I have five sons—I shall look forward to that family where the daughters will inherit something and not go to an ordinary person who will have to borrow or mortgage his property. Are you going to legislate for poor people in this way? Among the poor there is only agricultural property. If you include the tea gardens that is different, but there is no agricultural property among them. And there is no question of big inheritance and therefore the poor man's daughter, however beautiful and accomplished she may be, has no chance. I think this measure requires very serious consideration, so far as customs and usage and other points are concerned, and it is not proper to pass this legislation in such hurry. I should have said something more also, Sir, but in this House there are persons who are still unmarried; so it would not be fair on my part to disclose all my objections to this Bill.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Mr. Speaker, my task is considerably lightened by the fact that the Bill has received such an ample measure of support from this House. I shall, therefore, confine myself to replying to some of the points which have been made by the speakers who have participated in this debate.

I would begin with the observations made by my Honourable friend, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad. Sir, I thought that the Legislature was not a court and that a Member of this House who is a lawyer certainly does not come here either to practise or to plead. But somehow my friend, either for fee, or out of pure generosity, undertook the task of representing the views of some of his clients who probably had not the courage to say what they had in their mind. I shall, however, not raise any technical objections, but deal with the points that he has made.

Sir, his complaint was that the Bill had not sufficient publicity and that the public was not given as ample an opportunity as the importance of the measure required. I should have thought that the clients of my Honourable friend had rather misinformed him on this point. This Bill had its origin in a legislation which took effect in the year 1937. Ever since that year the provisions of this Bill have been bandied from one side to the other, from committee to committee. For instance, in the year 1941, the Home Department appointed a Committee to consider some of the difficulties that arose out of the Women's Rights to Property Act of 1937, to report upon the difficulties and to suggest remedies. This Committee which is known as the Rau Committee made its report on the 19th June 1941. My Honourable friend, if he had referred to this report, would have seen the immense amount of publicity that that Committee gave to its proposals, the number of questionnaires that it issued, the statements that it received, the witnesses that it examined and the peregrinations it undertook from province to province in order to ascertain local public opinion. Again in 1942 this very Committee submitted two draft Bills, one on succession and the other on marriage. The Hindu Succession Bill was introduced in the Assembly in 1943. That was referred to a joint Committee of both Houses. That joint committee again invited public opinion and a volume of them were collected and circulated to the then legislature in existence. Having regard to all these, I am sure that the statement made by my Honourable friend that the Government had not given sufficient publicity cannot be accepted as truth.

He also referred to the report, the Minority Report, of Justice Mitter, where also he has analysed the *pros and cons* of the various points contained in this Bill. Sir, I do not like to say anything derogatory of a member of a Committee, who has done such useful work, but I cannot help saying that this

member really ran away from his own opinion. If my Honourable friend, Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad were to read the report of the majority he will find that all the propositions contained in that Bill which give rights to women were really based upon a publication of this member of the Committee in the year 1930. In that book he had propounded the view that the case law which had limited the rights of the women had no foundation. Ultimately, for reasons best known to him he did not subscribe to his very opinion which he had expressed in that book. I, therefore, submit that there is no point in this argument.

My Honourable friend also referred to the fact that this Bill is after all confined to property other than agricultural land. The conclusion he drew from that fact was that this codification was only a partial codification, because a large part of the property which is the subject matter of inheritance is left untouched by the provisions of this Bill. Sir, there are two explanations for the non-inclusion of non-agricultural property. My Honourable friend, if he refers to the Schedules to the Government of India Act, where the subject matter of legislation for Centre and the Provinces have been set out, will find that land is put in the "Provincial List". As a result of the judicial interpretation given by the Federal Court it was held that the word "land" or item "land", which is included in the "Provincial List" not merely covered tenancy land, but also covered succession to land and consequently any provision with regard to the succession to land made by the Central Legislature would be *ultra vires*. In order that this may not happen the Committee very deliberately exempted agricultural land from the provisions of this Bill. But what I would like to say is something different. I should have thought that the omission of land from this Bill far from being a flaw or a fault in the Bill was probably an advantage, because I believe there is no necessity that a uniform law of inheritance should apply to all sorts of property. Property varies in its nature, varies in its importance in the social life of the community and consequently it may be a matter of no mean advantage for society to have one set of law of inheritance for agricultural property and another set of law for non-agricultural property. It may be that on a better consideration of the situation, Indian or Hindu society may come to the conclusion that land which is the foundation of its economic life had better be governed by the law of primogeniture so that neither the junior sons nor females may take part in the inheritance. As I said, the question having been left open it is to the advantage of the society that it may consider the matter *de novo* and afresh. I do not, therefore, regard that the comment made by my Honourable friend on the part of this Bill is really a matter to be apologised for.

Coming to my friend, Mr. Chaudhuri, he considers, this piece of legislation as a communal legislation. I agree that inasmuch as it refers to Hindu society, which is one of the many communities inhabiting this country, it might well in a logical sense be called a communal piece of legislation. But what is the alternative? If my Honourable friend's alternative was that there ought not to be communal laws of inheritance and communal laws of marriage, but there ought to be a common civil code, applying to all sections, all communities, all persons: in fact applying to citizens without discrimination as to religion, creed or caste, I am certainly one with him. Certainly, that is not his conclusion. His conclusion is, if I understand him, that this legislation by reason of the fact that the other day a view was expressed that the future society here stated would be secular, had no right to legislate for a secular community: that would be a most disastrous conclusion. This country is inhabited by very many communities. Each one has its special laws, and merely because the State desired to assume a secular character it should withdraw itself from

[Dr. B. R. Ambedkar]

regulating the lives of the various communities, undoubtedly would result in nothing but chaos and anarchy. I certainly myself am not prepared to subscribe to that sort of a proposition.

His second comment was that the Bill had not taken into consideration the customary law. He cited some ruling of the Privy Council. I should have thought that at this hour of the day it was unnecessary to cite the authority of the Privy Council because it has been well established by a long course of decisions, that so far as the Hindus are concerned custom would override the text of the "Smriti". We all know this. But what are we doing? What are we doing is this. We are shutting down the growth of new customs. We are not destroying existing customs. The existing customs we are recognising because the rules of law which are prevalent in Hindu society are the result of customs. They are born out of custom and we feel that they have now grown so sturdy that we can indeed give them flesh and life in the body politic by our legislation.

He also said that we had not taken into consideration the question of the tribal people, whose life is undoubtedly governed in a large measure by customary law. If my friend had read the definition in this Code as to who is a Hindu and who is not and to whom this Code applied, he would have seen that there is a clause which merely said that persons who are not Muslims, Parsis, or Christians, shall be presumed to be Hindus: not that they are Hindus. The result is that if a tribal individual chooses to say that he is not a Hindu it would be perfectly open to him, under this Code to give evidence in support of his contention that he is not a Hindu, and if that conclusion is accepted by the Court he certainly would not be obliged by anything contained in this Bill.

Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: My point is that he did not like to be called a Hindu and still wanted to retain all the customs of the Hindu!

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: The position taken is this: that once a person chooses to call himself a Hindu, he must accept the generality of law which is prescribed for the Hindu. We do not want this anarchy. A Hindu is a Hindu for all purposes. If a tribal person does not want to be a Hindu the way is open to him to prove that he is not and the Bill will not apply to him.

Then my friend, Dr. Sitaramayya asked me to tell him whether the rule of law contained in this Bill, whereby the women will acquire absolute estate in the property which they inherit, will apply to widows who have already taken the estate before the passing of the Act. I am afraid I must say that the Bill has no retrospective effect.

Nor would it be possible to give retrospective effect to the principles of the absolute property of women, for the simple reason that long before this Bill will come into existence, vested rights would have been created in that estate, and it would not be right and proper to divest them however much our sympathy may be with the widow.

Mrs. Hansa Mehta raised several questions indicating that the women, and particularly herself, were not satisfied with some of the provisions contained in the Bill relating to the rights of women. It may be that in an ideal sense the Bill does not come up to expectations. But I would like to tell her that she must remember that this society is an inert society. The Hindu Society has always believed that law-making is the function either of God or the "Smriti" and that Hindu Society has no right to change the law. That being so, the law in Hindu Society has remained what it was for generations to come. Society has never accepted its own power and its own responsibility in moulding its social, economic and legal life. It is for the first time that we are persuading Hindu

society to take this big step, and I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that a society which has bucked up courage enough to tolerate the large step that we are asking it to take by reason of this Bill, will not hesitate to march on the path that remains to be trodden and reach the goal that she has in mind.

Sir, much has been made of the fact that there is a great deal of public opinion which is opposed to this Bill. I have certainly not weighed the opinions that we have received, but I do like to say this, that this is hardly a question which we can decide by counting heads. This is not a question which we can decide in accordance with the opinion of the majority. When society is in a transitory stage, leaving the past, going to the future, there are bound to be opposing considerations: one pulling towards the past and one pulling towards the future, and the test that we can apply is no other than the test of one's conscience. I have not the slightest doubt in my mind that the provisions of this Bill are in perfect consonance with the conscience of the community, and I have therefore no hesitation in putting forth this measure although it may be as a matter of fact, that a large majority of our countrymen do not accept it.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend and codify certain branches of the Hindu Law, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Dr. Bakshi Tek Chand, Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Shrimati G. Durgabai, Shri L. Krishnaswami Bharathi, Shri U. Srinivasa Mallayya, Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay, Dr. P. S. Deshmukh, Shrimati Renuka Ray, Dr. P. K. Sen, Babu Ramnarayan Singh, Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi, Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan, Pandit Balkrishna Sharma, Shri Khurshed Lal, Shri Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri B. Shiva Rao, Shri Baldeo Swarup, Shri V. C. Kesava Rao and the Mover, with instructions to report not later than the last day of the first week of the next session of the Assembly and that the number of members whose presence shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the Committee shall be five."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: This brings to a close our long session which commenced on the 28th of January and I heartily thank all the Members for the sincere co-operation, which I have always had from them.

The Assembly then adjourned sine die.

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 Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) —.— (Amendment of sections 10, 11 and 13)—
 Introduced. 602.
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- Abolition of duty on salt used for industrial purposes. 808.
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- Import of raw films into India. 3040.
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- Inclusion by U. N. O. of irrelevant issues in Kashmir and Jammu question. 571.
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- Licences for import of goods from foreign countries. 3032.
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- Question *re* attack on Wazir-i-Wazarat and other State Officials of Ladak at —. 2816.

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- Question *re* — of calves in Military dairy farms. 3241-42.

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- Question *re* introduction of periodical compulsory re-vaccination for —. 424.

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- Question *re* grades of pay of officers and staff appointed under —. 1052-53.

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Question *re—*

- Customs check of planes — bullion from Hyderabad State to Pakistan. 658.
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- Question *re* statement by — *re* situation prevailing in Chittagong Hill Tracts. 2735-36

SOCIALIST ECONOMY—

- Resolution *re* — for India. 825-36.

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- Question *re* Pakistan, — supporting so-called Azad Kashmir Government against India. 2815-16.

SOIL EROSION—

- Question *re* prevention of — and policy of afforestation. 2909-10.

SONDHI, SHRI BIKRAM LAI—

Demand for Grant—

- Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation. 2024, 2026.

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- Question *re* opening of public telephone call office at — Railway station. 2296.

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- Exchange of High Commissioners between India and —. 2352.

- Export of coir matting to — by Indian firms. 3378-79.

- Reciprocal and retaliatory actions by India against —. 1896.

- Re-export of jute products to — by certain Middle East and European countries. 569-70.

- Renewal of Satyagrah campaign by Indians in —. 2351-52.

- Restriction on Entry of British Nationals of South Africa Domicile. 2341-42.

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SOUTH INDIA—

- Publication of South Indian inscriptions collected by Archaeological Department. 1062-65.

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY—

- See "Railways".

SPARE PART(S)—

- Question *re* manufacture of motor — in India. 1141-43.

SPEAKER, MR. (THE HONOURABLE MR. G. V. MAVALANKAR)—

- Appointment of the Committee on Petitions. 1657.

Bill(s)—

- On a request by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava to introduce certain Bills on behalf of Dr. Hari Singh Gour, Mr. Speaker observed that such delegation of authority was not recognised according to the long practice of the House and refused permission (without creating a precedent) and promised to look into the point and decide finally later on. 601-02.

- In granting permission to Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava to introduce The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill on behalf of Dr. Hari Singh Gour, Mr. Speaker observed that as Dr. Gour had sent an authority stating that all subsequent motions in respect of this Bill will be made only by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava—there was no objection to leave being granted. He also observed that this Bill will, however, be considered as one of the three Bills that Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava could bring for discussion before the House under the Rules. 1286.

- While discussing an amending Bill the principle of the original Act cannot be challenged. 2457.

Bill(s), amendments—

- A marginal note is not a part of statute and any amendment to such a note may be left to the Draftsman. 3057.

- An amendment for the omission of a clause is out of order. 616.

- Observation by Mr. Speaker that mistakes of commas, mistakes in spelling or of small or capital letters and such other patent mistakes in Bills may be corrected outside the House by the Draftsman and need not be brought before the House in the form of an amendment. 768-69, 1294.

Business, list of—

- On the 28th February, 1948, Mr. Speaker allowing introduction of the Indian Finance Bill which was not put down in the List of Business for the day observed that the omission was due to some circumstances, which it was not necessary to disclose. He further observed that it would not create a precedent. 1350.

SPEAKER, MR. (THE HONOURABLE MR. G. V. MAVALANKAR)—*contd.*

Business of the House—

On an objection taken by Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth to the taking up of private business on an official day, Mr. Speaker remarked that any business could be taken up on an official day with the consent of Government. 3091.
Condolence on the death of Mahatma Gandhi. 101-02.

Cut Motions—

On a point of order raised by Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth *re* the scope of a cut motion Mr. Speaker observed that the scope of a cut motion should be to discuss one specific subject. 1003-04.

Cut Motions and Demands for Grants—

(i) Change in procedure for moving Demands for Grants and adoption of the Parliamentary practice of putting all the Demands from the Chair instead of the Finance Minister moving each demand separately, (ii) Cut motions, all of which are to be discussed on a particular demand should be moved along with the Demand. 1658.
Scope of discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants and cut motions. 2841-43.

Debates, Publication of—

Observation regarding delay in printing of Assembly Debates and the proposal adopted for setting up of a separate Printing Press for the Legislature. 594-95.

Hindustani, Speeches in—

Observations *re* answering questions in Hindustani and supply of English translation and putting of questions by an Honourable Member in his own language. 1068-69, 1358-59.

Observations regarding making of speeches in Hindustani. 1101-02.

On a point being raised whether the Honourable Minister himself could be requested to give the answer in English Mr. Speaker observed that he had restricted that right to himself. Mr. Speaker then directed the Secretary to read the translation. 1373.

On a request made by Shri V. C. Kesava Rao for an English translation or the reply given in Hindustani to his question by the Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Mr. Speaker directed that as the Honourable Member could not understand, the English translation of the reply may be read out. 1282.

Light hearted remarks like "Thank you", "Jai Hind", or "Bande Matram" should not be addressed to other members of the House either directly or through the Chair. 2118.

Meeting(s)—

Announcement by Mr. Speaker that there will be no business transacted in the Assembly on Saturday, the 28th February, 1948 except the presentation of the General Budget at 5 P.M. and the cancellation of the meetings of the Assembly on all Saturdays during the current session. 1002.

Announcement *re* extension of lunch interval and change in timing of the commencement of the meetings of the Assembly. 868.

Cancellation of the meeting of the Assembly fixed for Saturday, the 21st February, 1949 allotted for the discussion of Demands for Grants for Railways. 905.

Members should not change their seats. A member not found in his usual seat shall not be permitted to put any question. 919.

Motion for adjournment(s)—

In disallowing a motion for adjournment by Shri Jaipal Singh *re* improper administration of Chota Nagpur States, Mr. Speaker observed that Government not having taken the responsibility for these States, as stated by Honourable the Home Minister, there was no basis for the motion. 21.

Nomination of Panel of Chairmen, 664.

Privilege, Point of—

On a point of privilege consequent on the arrest of a member of the House without his (Mr. Speaker's) prior consultation, Mr. Speaker observed that each case would have to be judged on its own merits but every member of the House was subject to ordinary law. 21-22.

Publicity in the Press—

Observation by Mr. Speaker that publication in the Press of the Short Notice Question regarding precautions against attempts on life of Mahatma Gandhi by Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, admitted and answered in the House, and likewise of all motions, before they are admitted, is an important breach of convention of the House. 336, 3593.

SPEAKER, MR. (THE HONOURABLE MR. G. V. MAVALANKAR)—*concl'd.*

Questions and Answers—

In the absence of Shri Deshbandhu Gupta who gave notice of a Short Notice Question, Mr. Speaker read out the question himself. 395.

Observations *re* supply of answers to questions and delay in printing of debates. 2654.

Professor Shibban Lal Saksena who gave notice of a Short Notice Question but was absent, Mr. Speaker did not feel inclined to allow Shri H. V. Kamath, who was authorised to ask the question by him (Prof. Saksena) on his behalf, to put the question. 1283.

Questions and Answers, Supplementaries—

On Pandit Balkrishna Sharma rising to put a Supplementary question on a statement made by the Honourable Prime Minister in reply to a Short Notice Question *re* the accession of Kalat State to India, Mr. Speaker observed that it had been consistently followed in the House that whenever a long and elaborate statement is made (on a request for a statement) then there would be no further questions put on the statement made but if at all any questions are deemed necessary they may be dealt with later on. 2744-45.

Resolutions—

On an objection raised by Haji Abdus Sattar Haji Ishaq Seth to permission being given to Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar to move his second resolution (even though the first one was not barred), Mr. Speaker ruled that it was absolutely a matter of violation on the part of a member to move or not to move a resolution. 227.

Speeches, Time limit—

After the motion for the reference of the Indian Finance Bill to Select Committee was moved, Mr. Speaker proposed to put a time limit on speeches under rule 46(4) of the New Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business but as many members expressed themselves against the proposal, Mr. Speaker agreed not to impose a time limit but directed Honourable Members not to make repetitions and to restrict themselves to 10 to 15 minutes. Mr. Speaker also referred to the convention that members whose names are proposed for the Select Committee should not *ordinarily* take the time of the House by expressing their views. 2301-03.

Tributes to the late Shri Vithalbhai J. Patel on the occasion of unveiling of his portrait in the Assembly Chamber. 1740-43.

Unparliamentary Language—

Questions and suggestions such as whether the scientists are in the pay of the industrialists and capitalists are not permissible and ought not to be made as it does not add to the dignity of the House and are defamatory. 2277-78.

SPECIAL MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL —

See "Bill(s)".

SPECULATION—

Question *re*—

Leakage of information *re* forward trading, bank transfers etc., 3463.
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SPINDLE(S)—

Question *re*—

Agreement with Japan for exchange of—with Indian coal. 2347, 2671-72.
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SPORTS GOODS—

Question *re* dealers specified by Adjutant General to Military units for purchase of—materials. 2564.

SPYING—

Question *re* spy-activities in Indian Dominion. 1365.

SRINAGAR—

Question *re* amount paid to private companies for planes chartered to carry troops and goods to—. 2285-87.

SRIVASTAVA, SHRI JWALA PRASAD—

Motion *re* industrial policy of Government of India. 3414-17.

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Question re—

- Accommodation for laboratories and—of Indian Institute of Fruit Technology shifted from Lyallpur. 3290.
 - Anomalies in the pay of Railway—due to (Revision of pay) rules, 1947. 1795-96.
 - Appointment on programme—of A.I.R. 1355-56.
 - Centres for selection of—to junior administrative posts in the Railways. 2279.
 - Construction of quarters for Secretariat—. 1504-05.
 - Grades of pay of officers and—appointed under Small Saving Scheme. 1052-53.
 - Inadequacy of—, appliances and medicine in hospitals and dispensaries of Ajmer-Me wara 1076-77.
 - Lowest scales of pay for—of South Indian Railway. 1139.
 - Number and employment of N.W.R. employees opted for India. 1805-06.
 - Re-employment of Muslim Railway servants provisionally opted for Pakistan. 1803-04.
 - Release of wagons occupied by—in B. N. Railway. 20.
 - Temporary—in various Ministries. 1566-67.
- See also "Employee(s)".

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Question re—

- Allotment to refugees of platform—on East Punjab Railway 501-03.
- Higher charges and non-payment of rents by—keepers on Railway platforms. 1796.
- One-man contract system for running hotels and—on all Railways. 1801-03.

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- Question re—
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 - States issuing their own—and keeping Posts and Telegraph Offices contrary to Instrument of Accession. 2648-49, 3188.

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- Question re article re Indian—by Mr. R. V. Vaidya in *Indian News Chronicle*. 923-24

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- Syed Kasim Razvi's statement re Hyderabad's accession to Indian Union after termination of —. 69.

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- Agreement with Rulers of Orissa—re ceding of rights to Government of India. 2822-23.
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Question re article re Indian standard time by — in *Indian News Chronicle*. 923-24.

VEERBAHU, SHRI M. C.—

Question re commodities exported from Madras to Ceylon during the year 1937-38 and 1946-47. 3579-84.

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New — Post Offices for Hazaribagh district. 1803.

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VISUAL EDUCATION—

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Consignment of full — load of goods reaching Delhi late from Bombay and Calcutta. 2655.

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Question re continuance of Communal distinction in supplying —, refreshments, etc. at Railway Stations. 1790-91.

WATER POWER, IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION COMMISSION, CENTRAL—

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WAZIRWALA—Question *re* non-payment of price of a piece of land near Chah (Well), —, Amritsar. 2180.**WEAVER(S)—**Question *re—*

Number of textile mills in Andhra District and facilities to handloom —. 320-21.

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES—Question *re* uniform standardisation of — throughout Indian Union. 1816-17.**WELFARE—**Question *re—*

Consumption of coal in 1946-47 and Labour — Committee at Bokaro Bermo Coalfields. 3368.

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WELLS—Question *re* grants to East Punjab for sinking —. 1148.**WEST BENGAL—**Question *re—*

Allotment of foodgrains to — in view of increased population. 1148-49.

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District-wise population of — and Assam provinces after Radcliffe Award. 163, 1737-38.

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Improvement of coconut cultivation in —. 3551-52.

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WESTERN HOUSE—Question *re—*

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WHEAT—Question *re—*

Despatch of —, sugar, glass bangles, vegetable seeds and vegetable oils from Dholpur station during 1938-47. 3559.

Import of — from Australia. 487-88.

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Recovery of abducted — in Dominions of India and Pakistan. 217-18.

Refusal of District Magistrate, Montgomery to restore an abducted Hindu girl in possession of a Muslim Zamindar. 3377-78.

Refusal of District Magistrate Montgomery to restore an abducted Hindu girl to Indian Dominion. 3047-48.

Rehabilitation of unsupported refugee — and children. 2119-20.

Representation to Pakistan Government *re* the location of abducted — in five Kashmir Border Districts and the closing of those Districts to Indian troops and Civilians. 3048.

Rescue of abducted — and children in India and Pakistan. 1872-75.

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WOOD—Question *re—*

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Indian Building Industry and export of rose-wood and soft-wood. 2732.

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WORKERS' PROVIDENT FUND BILL—

See 'Bill(s)'.

WORKING EXPENSES—ADMINISTRATION—

Demand for Grant. 1159-67, 1195.

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WORKING EXPENSES—APPROPRIATION TO DEPRECIATION FUND—

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Demand for Grant. 1159, 1167-76, 1196.
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WORKING EXPENSES—OPERATING STAFF—

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Demand for Grant. 1195.

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Demand for Grant. 1196.

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Demand for Grant. 1002-03, 1101-12, 1176-89, 1195.

Motion to reduce demand for "——".

Manufacture of locomotive and machine tools. 1102-13.
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WORKMEN'S STATE INSURANCE BILL—

See "Bill(s)".

WORKS, MINES AND POWER, MINISTRY OF—

Demand for Grant. 1903-31.

Election to Standing Committee for ——. 3600.

Motion re Election to Standing Committee for ——. 3297.

Motion to reduce demand for "——".

Policy re Building of Houses and quarters. 1903-31.

Policy re Development of Mineral Resources. 1904-31.

Utilisation of water resources and Policy of Central Water-Power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission. 1903-31.

Question re officers and other personnel prosecuted for corruption in ——. 390.

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YARN—

See "Textile(s)".

YASHWANT RAI, PROF.—

Question re—

Introduction of 'Visual Education' in educational system of India. 2261.

Smuggling of wheat and gram on Bhatinda-Ferozepore Line. 2916.

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YOUNG PLAN—

Question re implementation of — and Conciliation Board award by colliery owners. Hazarihagh and Manbhum coal syndicate. 3377.

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Question re restoration of estates and — confiscated during Sepoy Mutiny, 1858. 1926.

ZIAUDDIN AHMAD, DR. SIR—

Condolence on the death of —. 20-21.

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY—

Demand for Grant. 2262.

CORRIGENDA

In the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) Debates, Budget Session 1948:—

In Volume I,—

1 No. 1, dated the 28th January, 1948,—

(i) Page 3, line 13, for "taken" read "keen";

(ii) Page 9, in the last line, for "POWERN" read "POWER", and transpose the line, above existing line 3 from bottom;

(iii) Page 29, line 16 from bottom, insert "to" after "particularly";

No. 2, dated the 30th January, 1948,—

(i) पृष्ठ ७३, पंक्ति ४, "वनी" के स्थान पर "मंत्री" पढ़ें।

(ii) Page 89, line 9 from bottom, for "there" read "these";

3. No. 3, dated the 2nd February, 1948,—

पृष्ठ ११३, पंक्ति २, "महमुनि" के स्थान पर "महमुनि" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति १३, "बच्चों" के स्थान पर "बच्चे" पढ़ें।

4. No. 4, dated the 3rd February, 1948,—

(i) पृष्ठ १८७, अंतिम पंक्ति, "दिक्कयतें कत" के स्थान पर "दिक्कतें क्या पढ़ें।

(ii) पृष्ठ १८८, अंत से ८वीं पंक्ति "planning" के स्थान पर "planning" पढ़ें।

(iii) पृष्ठ १९०, पंक्ति ९, "बिम्कुल" के स्थान पर "बिल्कुल" पढ़ें।

5. No. 5, dated the 4th February, 1948,—

صفحہ ۲۱۸ — اردو پیرا + سطر ۱ — سنہ ۲۲ بجائے ۲۳ سنہ ۲۲ پر ہے۔

6. No. 6, dated the 6th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 206, for the existing line 8, read "position to resuscitate our ancient system. My friend, Mr. Dharma, said";

(ii) Page 292, and after the last line "taxed by the Textile Board. If free competition is going to lead to any trouble it is the Government to take steps either to fix prices or in some";

(iii) Page 299, between lines 2 and 3 from bottom, insert "The Government may accept them,";

No. 7, dated the 6th February 1948,—

(i) Page 349, line 22, for "years" read "years";

(ii) पृष्ठ ३५८, पंक्ति ९, "पहुंचना" के स्थान पर "पहुंचाना" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति १०, "कानून" के स्थान पर "कानून" पढ़ें।

8. No. 8, dated the 7th February, 1948,—

(i) صفحہ ۳۷۶ — اردو پیرا — سطر ۲ — ”ہیں“ کے بجائے ”میں“
— پڑھیں۔

(ii) صفحہ ۳۱۰ — اردو پیرا — نیچے سے سطر ۳ — ”connivance“
کے بجائے ”connivance“ پڑھیں۔

(iii) صفحہ ۲۱۱ — اردو پیرا — اوپر سے سطر ۳ — ”پہلے“ کے بجائے
”پہر“ پڑھیں۔

(iv) Page 411 (English portion), line 3, insert “things” after “clause”;

(v) صفحہ ۲۱۲ — اردو پیرا — سطر ۴ — ”exclusion“ کے بجائے
”execution“ پڑھیں۔

9. No. 9, dated the 9th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 449, line 16 from bottom, after “was such” insert “and such”;

(ii) Page 453, line 4 from bottom, for “acquitted” read “acquittal”;

(iii) Page 471, line 9 from bottom, after “read” insert “the” and for “Clause
20(a)” read “Clause 29(a)”;

10. No. 10, dated the 10th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 514, for the existing line 13, read “but why on earth have we not
addressed ourselves to the Reserve Bank and”;

(ii) Page 534, for the existing line 27, read “The Assembly re-assembled after
Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock”;

(iii) Page 535, line 2, for “beseach” read “beseech”, line 9 from bottom, for
“decontrol” read “decontrol”, and for “taking” read “talking”;

11. No. 11, dated the 11th February, 1948,—

صفحہ ۶۰۳ — اردو پیرا — نیچے سے سطر ۲ — ”تیسے“ کے بجائے ”تسے“
— پڑھیں۔

12. No. 12, dated the 13th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 662, in heading to Starred Question No. 265, for “NUMBER” read
“NUMBER”;

(ii) Page 688, line 6, for “krongful” read “wrongful” and line 8, for “resulting”
read “wrongful act”;

(iii) Page 700, line 21 from bottom, for “the” read “this”, and line 12 from
bottom, insert “or” in the beginning;

(iv) पृष्ठ ७०५, पंक्ति ७, “ता” के स्थान पर “तो” पढ़ें।

13. No. 13, dated the 14th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 719, in heading to Starred Question No. 288, for “NUSLIM” read
“MUSLIM”;

(ii) Page 728, insert after line 18, “may stand in the way, whether financial;
technical or otherwise; but to lay”;

14. No. 14, dated the 16th February, 1948,

(i) Page 761, line 21 from bottom, for “ameidmeits” read “amendments”;

(ii) Page 775, line 2 from bottom, for “de” read “he”;

(iii) Page 782, line 2 from bottom, for “act” read “not”

In Volume II,—

15. No. 1, dated the 17th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 824, for the heading “RESOLUTION RE SOCIALIST ECONOMY
FOR INDIA IN SERVICES” read “RESOLUTION RE REPRESENTATION
OF RURAL POPULATION IN SERVICES”;

(ii) Page 825, for the heading “RESOLUTION RE REPRESENTATION OF
RURAL POPULATION” read “RESOLUTION RE SOC
ECONOMY FOR INDIA”;

(iii) Page 845, for line 5 from bottom, read as follows:

“An Honourable Member: Khuda Ganje Ko Nakhun Na De.
Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Yes, God will”;

16. No. 2, dated the 18th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 857, line 12 from bottom, for “which” read “would”;

(ii) Page 863, line 21 from bottom, insert a dagger mark (†) at the
insert “† Printed serially” as footnote, and in heading to
Question No. 324, for “AND” read “OF”;

(iii) Page 873, insert as line 1, “There is a Bengalee proverb which I
mention here:”, and omit existing line 3;

(iv) Page 879, for the existing line 3 from bottom, read “In these
stances, I beg to submit that neither in the interest of sy -”;

(v) Page 884, for the existing line 30, read “Authority is not taxed,
should be allowed to become”;

(vi) صفحہ ۹۰۷ — اردو پیرا — سطر ۶ — ”مہز“ کے بجائے ”محض“
— پڑھیں۔

(vii) पृष्ठ ९१३, छपे हुए संस्कृत वाक्य के स्थान पर यह पढ़ें—

“एकः शब्दः ज्ञातः सम्यक् प्रयुक्तः स्वर्गे लोके कामधुक् भवति।
इति वैयाकरणानाम् मतम्”।

17. No. 3, dated the 19th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 923, in heading to Starred Question No. 342, for “Chro
read “Chronicle”;

(ii) Page 932, at the top, for “[Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru]” read
K. Santhanai”];

(iii) Page 945, omit line 16, and in line 34, omit “for”;

(iv) Page 950, line 20, for “Company” read “Co. units”;

(v) पृष्ठ ९५३, पंक्ति ११, “इलाक” के स्थान पर “इलाका” पढ़ें।

(vi) صفحہ ۹۱۸ — نیچے سے سطر ۹ — "د گلیت" اور "د پڑی" کے بجائے
 "د گلیت جی" - "اور" "د پڑی" بالترتیب پڑھیں۔

(vii) صفحہ ۹۱۹ — نیچے سے سطر ۱۱ — "د سکے" کے بجائے "د اکے"
 پڑھیں۔

(viii) صفحہ ۹۷۵ — سطر ۸ "د ماتسلی" کے بجائے "د ناتسلی" پڑھیں۔

18. No. 4, dated the 20th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 1002, line 8 from bottom, for "Rs. 41.84.44,000" read "Rs. 42.00,000" and in line 3 from bottom, for "Rs. 42.00,00" read "Rs. 41.94.44,000";

(ii) Page 1004, line 28, for "performing" read "preferring";

(iii) Page 1007, line 23, for "equalled" read "unequalled";

19. No. 5, dated the 23rd February, 1948,—

(i) Page 1057, transpose lines 1 to 22 above heading to Starred Question No. 406;

(ii) صفحہ ۱۰۶۱ — نیچے سے سطر ۶ — "د اشیشوشن" کے بجائے "د انشیر
 لیشن" پڑھیں۔

(iii) صفحہ ۱۰۶۲، پंक्ति ۱، "जहः" के स्थान पर "जहां" पढ़ें।

(iv) Page 1066, line 23, for "Dr. Wheeler here" read "Dr. Wheeler opting for Pakistan was received.";

(v) Page 1068, omit line 17 from bottom;

(vi) صفحہ ۱۰۶۹، نیچے سے پंक्ति ۱۴، "अजायदघ" के पहिले "जो" पढ़ें।

(vii) Page 1072, in heading to Starred Question No. 412, for "PSIONERY" read "PENSIONARY";

(viii) Page 1078, line 15 from bottom, for "299. *Shri P. Kunhiraman" read "291. *Shri Doshbandhu Gupta";

(ix) صفحہ ۱۰۹۲، पंक्ति ६، "सोजन" के स्थान पर "सोजत" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति १५, "तह" के स्थान पर "वह" पढ़ें।

(x) Page 1110, transpose lines 21 and 22;

20. No. 6, dated the 24th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 1134, for the existing lines 25 to 27, read as follows:

'Mr Fozain Imam: Have any sources for this raw material been found in India to replace the source of Malabar?

The Honourable Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We expect to get some gyan within the Indian Union and we are investigating this possibility.";

(ii) Page 1184, between lines 1 and 2 from bottom, insert "undertaken at our suggestion. I am out to appeal to my countrymen, to";

(iii) Page 1185, omit line 1;

(iv) Page 1193, line 1, omit "Committee was appointed and the findings of";

(v) Page 1195, under the heading "DEMAND No. 1—RAILWAY BOARD" for "Rs. 17,84,000" read "Rs. 82,25,000";

21. No. 7, dated the 25th February, 1948,—

(i) Page 1204, line 16 from bottom, for "observed" read "absorbed";

(ii) Page 1217, for existing line 7 from bottom, read "Totta palla—24 million tons.";

(iii) Page 1227, line 21 from bottom, insert "of" after "point";

(iv) Page 1228, line 4 from bottom, insert "to" after "Legislature";

(v) Page 1234, line 2, for "departer" read "departed";

22. No. 8, dated the 26th February, 1948,—

Page 1283, transpose lines 1 and 2 under the heading "SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER" to the bottom of page 1282;

23. No. 9, dated the 28th February, 1948,—

Page 1345, at the end of last line, insert "excise";

24. No. 10, dated the 1st March, 1948,—

Page 1359, omit lines 1 and 2;

25. No. 11, dated the 2nd March, 1948,—

(i) Page 1460, line 23, for "considered" read "concerned";

(ii) Page 1482, line 16, for "move" read "ment", and in line 3 from bottom, for "to" read "at";

(iii) Page 1491, omit line 7;

(iv) Page 1497, omit line 11;

26. No. 12, dated the 3rd March, 1948,—

(i) Page 1504, line 9 from bottom, after "Lodi" insert "Road";

(ii) Page 1508, insert between lines 5 and 6 from bottom, "accommodated in houses. In fact I made it perfectly clear that they would";

(iii) Page 1517, in heading to Starred Question No. 588, for "PROBLEM" read "MIGRATION";

(iv) Page 1535, for existing line 3, read "granted in a number of native states, I am sure no talk of revolution and no";

(v) صفحہ ۱۵۴۵، पंक्ति २, "रूपयेक" के स्थान पर "रूपये को" पढ़ें।

(vi) Page 1557, line 12, for "then" read "there" and in line 14 from bottom, after "that" insert "is";

(vii) Page 1560, line 21, for "profounded" read "propounded";

27. No. 13, dated the 4th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 1575, line 5, for "Is" read "Will";

(ii) صفحہ ۱۶۰۸ — آخری سطر — "د اس لئے" کے بعد "د اس میں کم از کم یہ
 تو ہونا چاہیئے کہ اس" پڑھیں۔

In Volume III,—

28. No. 2, dated the 8th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 1720, line 8, for "derivaties" read "derivatives";

(ii) Page 1746, line 15 from bottom, for "I prepared" read "I am prepared";

29. No. 3, dated the 10th March, 1948,—

Page 189, line 28, for "Communal" read "Commercial";

30. No. 4, dated the 11th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 174, line 21 from bottom, for "last" read "fact";

(ii) Page 897, in heading to Starred Question No. 707, for "DEBATES" read "DEBTS";

(iii) صفحہ ۱۹۴۱ — سطر ۹ — "اس" اور "دے" کے درمیان "د وقت"

پڑھیں -

نیچے سے سطر ۸ میں "اور" شامل "دے" کے درمیان "اس" اور "کات دیوین" -

(iv) صفحہ ۱۹۴۵ — نیچے سے سطر ۵ "یہ تبدیلی ضرور ہونی چاہئے" -

کات دیوین -

(v) صفحہ ۱۹۴۶ — پیرا ۲ — سطر ۶ — "انہیں" اور "د دلونکا" کے

درمیان "یقین" پڑھیں -

سطر ۹ — "رواز" کے بجائے "د آواز" پڑھیں -

سطر ۱۱ — "د آدرس" کے بجائے "د ایتریس" پڑھیں -

سطر ۱۳ — "دے" کے بجائے "د سے" پڑھیں -

سطر ۱۶ — "د پو" کے بجائے "د نو" پڑھیں -

(vi) Page 1951, for existing lines 5 and 6 from bottom, read "The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Yes, the Government as well as any honourable member of the House can move for an amendment of the Act.";

31. No. 5, dated the 12th March, 1948,—

صفحہ ۲۰۳۹ — سطر ۴ — "د علیحدہ" کے بجائے "د علیحدہ" پڑھیں -

سطر ۵ — "د دلی" کے بجائے "د دہلی" پڑھیں -

32. No. 6, dated the 13th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2061, line 19, for "Pandit Mirday Nath Kunzru" read "Pandit Mirday Nath Kunzru";

(ii) صفحہ ۲۰۷۰ — سطر ۲ — "د کثرت کو" کے بجائے "د کثرت کو" -

پڑھیں -

(iii) صفحہ ۲۰۷۵ — سطر ۳ — "د احوال" کے بجائے "د اصول" پڑھیں -

(iv) Page 2104, after line 4, insert "DEMAND NO. 25—MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT";

33. No. 7, dated the 15th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2128, line 10, for "1765" read "1756";

(ii) Page 2129, foot-note, for "t" read "t";

(iii) صفحہ ۲۱۲۹، پंक्ति ۳، "परिवर्तन" के स्थान पर "परिवर्तन" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति ५, "नहीं" के पूर्व "मे" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति ७, "म" के स्थान पर "मे" पढ़ें।

पैरा २, पंक्ति ५, "चार" के स्थान पर "प्रचार" पढ़ें।

34. No. 8, dated the 16th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2194, last line, for "bive" read "give";

(ii) Page 2210, in heading to Starred Question No. 793, for "INDIA" read "DELHI";

In Volume IV,—

35. No. 1, dated the 19th March, 1948,—

Page 2475, between lines 12 and 13, insert "to be compared to them. The thief is a person who robs another individual";

36. No. 2, dated the 22nd March, 1948,—

Page 2525, line 1, omit "Mr. Speaker.";

37. No. 3, dated the 23rd March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2582, transpose last line between the existing lines 2 and 3 from bottom;

(ii) पृष्ठ २५८२ (हिन्दी विभाग), पंक्ति २, "विद्यार्थी" के स्थान पर "विद्यार्थी" पढ़ें।

38. No. 4, dated the 29th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2647, in heading to Starred Question No. 984, insert "AND RICE" at the end;

(ii) Page 2665, in heading to Starred Question No. 1017, for "EAST BENGAL" read "WEST BENGAL";

(iii) Page 2700, transpose lines 4 and 5 from bottom;

39. No. 5, dated the 30th March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2726, in heading to Starred Question No. 1041, omit "AND THE MANAGER";

(ii) Page 2758, line 12 from bottom, for "then adjourned for Lunch till" read "re-assembled after Lunch at";

40. No. 6, dated the 31st March, 1948,—

(i) Page 2795, statement appended to answer to Starred Question No. 1074, line 1, column 3, for "1945-" read "1945-46" and column 4, insert "1946-47";

(ii) Page 2797, in heading to Starred Question No. 1077, after "CORRUPTION" insert "ACT";

(iii) Page 2826, item No. 12, under column "Amount Voted", for "8,65" read "18,65";

- (iv) Page 2828, item No. 84, under the heading "Total", for "63,059" read "63,05";
- (v) Page 2838, for the existing line 20 from bottom, read "to sit down at any time. But what is the policy? Are they prepared to give";
- (vi) Page 2843, insert after line 8, "DEMAND NO. 92—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL AVIATION";
- (vii) Page 2859 for existing line 11 from bottom read '15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce'.' and for existing line 5 from bottom, read '15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of States'.';
- (viii) Page 2861, for existing line 7, read '15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of States'.' and for the existing line 13, read '15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of Defence'.';
- (ix) Page 2862, for the existing line 10 from bottom, read '15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of Defence'.';

41. No. 7, dated the 1st April, 1948,—

- (i) Page 2896, for existing last line, read "(b) the total financial savings effected by such a retrenchment?";
- (ii) Page 2899, line 13, after "Institutes" insert "have";
- (iii) Page 2906, line 10, after "Stocks of" insert "Gur", line 13 from bottom, after "accepted" insert "Gur", and last line, insert "Gur" in the beginning;
- (iv) Page 2962, after line 1, insert "(Vide answer to Starred Question No 1131.)";

42. No. 8, dated the 2nd April, 1948,—

- (i) Page 3047, line 23, insert a dagger mark (†) in the beginning;
- (ii) Page 3057, lines 16 and 20, for "required" read "require";
- (iii) Page 3062, for existing line 3, read "Mr. Speaker : No, the point is that in this very section this fundamental";
- (iv) Page 3066, for existing line 13 from bottom, read "Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill";

(v) पृष्ठ ३०७१ (हिन्दी विभाग), पैरा २, पंक्ति २, 'अंकसूत्र' के स्थान पर "एक सत्र" पढ़ें।

(vi) पृष्ठ ३०७६ (हिन्दी विभाग), पंक्ति २, "उस" के स्थान पर "इस" पढ़ें।

(vii) पृष्ठ ३०७८, पैरा १, पंक्ति ३, "वर" के स्थान पर "वह" पढ़ें। पैरा ३, पंक्ति ५, "दिल" के स्थान पर "दिलों" पढ़ें।

43. No. 9, dated the 3rd April, 1948,—

- (i) Page 3099, line 10 from bottom, for "1963" read "1936";
- (ii) Page 3111, line 24, for "greatful" read "grateful";

(iii) Page 3135, line 14 from bottom, for "the" read "one";

(vi) पृष्ठ ३१३९ (हिन्दी विभाग), पंक्ति २, "जातीयता" के स्थान पर "जातीयता" पढ़ें।

(v) पृष्ठ ३१४०, पैरा २, पंक्ति ५, "पदा" के स्थान पर "पैदा" पढ़ें। पंक्ति २१, "गरमा" के स्थान पर "गरम" पढ़ें।

(vi) पृष्ठ ३१४१—पैरा २, नीचे से पंक्ति ४, "ood" के स्थान पर "good" पढ़ें।

- (vii) صفحہ ۳۱۴۲ — سطر ۹ — "حقصد" کے بجائے "مقصد" پڑھیں۔
 سطر ۱۱ — "چڈے" کے بجائے "چاہیئے" پڑھیں۔
 سطر ۲۱ — "اجازت" کے پہلے "کی" پڑھیں۔

In Volume V,—

44. No. 1, dated the 6th April, 1948,—

- (i) Page 3252, line 4 from bottom, insert "bona fide" at the end;
- (ii) Page 3255, between lines 8 and 9 from bottom, insert "missioner's office is now examining the question of over production of coal";
- (iii) Page 3314, omit line 1;
- (iv) पृष्ठ ३३१७ (हिन्दी विभाग), पैरा १, पंक्ति ५, "वैज्ञानिक" के स्थान पर "वैज्ञानिक" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति ६, "ओर" के स्थान पर "और" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति ७, "ह" और "अभी" के स्थान पर क्रमशः "है" और "अभी" पढ़ें।

पंक्ति १६, "द्वारा" और "प्राप्त" के मध्यस्थ शब्द "स्वतंत्रता" को काट दें।

(v) Page 3329, for existing line 9 from bottom, read "Mr. Chairman : The question is :";

45. No. 2, dated the 7th April, 1948,—

Page 3426, transpose line 25 to the end of the page;

46. No. 3, dated the 8th April, 1948,—

(i) Page 3463, omit line 15;

(ii) पृष्ठ ३४७८, पंक्ति ५, "बातो मे" के स्थान पर "बात में" पढ़ें।

(iii) صفحہ ۳۵۰۲ — اردو — سطر ۵ — "اور" کے بجائے "اس میں" پڑھیں۔
 چاہیئے پڑھیں۔

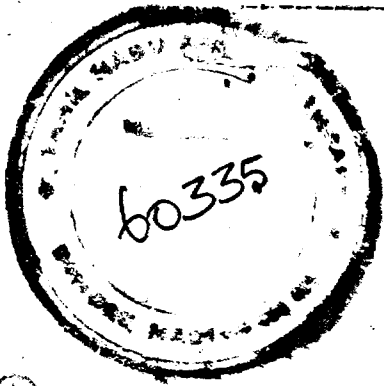
سطر ۹ — "پائی" کے بجائے "پائی" پڑھیں۔

سطر ۲ — "رکھینگے" کے بجائے "رکھینگے" پڑھیں۔

سطر ۹ — "روز" کے بجائے "روز" پڑھیں۔

47. No. 4, dated the 9th April, 1948,—

- i) Page 3571, in heading to Starred Question No. 1406, for "FOR" read "O";
- (ii) Page 3615, line 16 from bottom, for "cotinues" read "continue";
- (iii) Page 3622, transpose lines 15 and 16 from bottom;
- (iv) पृष्ठ ३६४४ (हिन्दी विभाग), पैरा १, पंक्ति १, "म मुझ" के स्थान पर "मैं मुझे" पढ़ें।
पैरा २, पंक्ति २, "गार्जियन" के स्थान पर "गार्डियन" पढ़ें।
- (v) पृष्ठ ३६४५, पंक्ति ५ तथा ७, "गार्जियन" के स्थान पर "गार्डियन" पढ़ें।
नोचे से पंक्ति ४, "पेतृक" के स्थान पर "पैतृक" पढ़ें।



D

V. 2, 31/1/48

M. 4. 5

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பக நூலகம்,
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புவனைத்தாள்.

சே எண் :

ப. எண் :

[illegible]