

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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

Volume III (Nos. 1-12).

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

HIS EXCELLENCY LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD
EDWARD NYE, G.C.I.E., K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND PORTFOLIOS.

1. THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM (Hon'ble Prime Minister) :
Public, Police, Finance, Planning, Food and Fire Services.

2. THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI (Hon'ble Minister for
Public Health and Medicine) : Public Health, Medicine, Fairs and
Festivals and Miscellaneous (Public Health).

3. THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI (Hon'ble Minister for Industries
and Labour) : Industries and Labour, Electricity, Co-operation and
Emigration, Iron and Steel Control.

4. THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM (Hon'ble Minister for Law) :
Law, Home (except Police and Motor Transport) and Registration.

N.B.—Cases relating to appointments of Public Prosecutors Additional
Public Prosecutors and Government Pleaders will be circulated to Hon'ble
Prime Minister.

5. THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI (Hon'ble Minister for Hindu
Religious Endowments) : Hindu Religious Endowments, Charitable
Institutions and Excise.

6. THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS (Hon'ble Minister for
Local Administration) : Local Administration, Roads in charge of
Local Bodies and Tramways.

7. THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH (Hon'ble Minister for
Revenue) : Land Revenue and Commercial Taxes.

8. THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM (Hon'ble Minister
for Public Works) : Public Works (General), Irrigation, Highways
and important Roads other than those under the control of local
bodies, inland waterways and minor ports.

9. THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA (Hon'ble
Minister for Agriculture) : Agriculture, Commerce and Trade,
Statistics marketing, museums, Posts and Telegraphs, Banking,
Insurance and Rural indebtedness, Debt Relief, Veterinary, Rail-
ways and Ropeways, Civil aviation and Government Museums, the
Ceded Districts Economic Development Board.

10. THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR
(Hon'ble Minister for Education) : Education, Stationery, Record
Office, Translators department, Archæology, Epigraphy, Age and
Nationality Certificate, Libraries and Government Press.

11. THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA (Hon'ble Minister for
Public Information) : Public Information, Broadcasting and
Harijan Uplift.

12. THE HON. SRI B. VEERASWAMI (Hon'ble Minister for
Forest) : Forests, Cinchona, Fisheries and Village industries.

13. THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON (Hon'ble Minister
for Motor Transport and Food) : House Control, Motor Transport

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS.

Speaker.

THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHUNMUKHAM PILLAI.

Deputy Speaker.

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA.

Panel of Chairmen.

1. SRI K. VARADACHARI.
2. MR. F. FERRELLY.
3. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR.
4. MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ.

Secretary to the Assembly.

SRI D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA, B.A., B.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Assembly.

SRI T. HANUMANTHAPPA, B.A. (Hons.), B.L.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Aaron Rao, Alladi	Guntur <i>cum</i> Nellore, Indian Christian.
2 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib ..	Kurnool, Muhammadan, Rural.
3 Abdul Majid, B.A., M. S. ..	Chingleput <i>cum</i> South Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
4 <i>Vacant.</i>	
5 Ahmad Kutty Sahib, Haji Koyappathody, M.	Malappuram, Muhammadan, Rural.
6 Allerton, D.	European.
7 Ammanna Raja, Srimathi C. (<i>Deputy Speaker</i>).	Ellore Town, Women, General, Rural.
8 Ananda Nambiar, K.	Railway Trade Union, Labour.
9 Ananthachar, B.	Hospet, General, Rural.
10 Anjalai Ammal, Srimathi ..	Cuddalore, Women, General, Rural.
11 Annamalai Pillai, N.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural.
12 Arunachalam, T. S.	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam Towns, General, Urban.
13 Ataullah Sahib, M. S.	Salem <i>cum</i> Coimbatore <i>cum</i> the Nilgiris, Muhammadan, Rural.
14 Avinashilingam Chettiyar, T. S. (<i>Minister</i>).	Palladam, General, Rural.
15 Balakrishnan, S. C.	Palani, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
16 Bapineedu, B.Sc. (Cornell). M.Sc. (California), M.	Ellore, General, Rural.
17 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, B.A. (Hons.).	Madras City, Women, Muhammadan, Urban.
18 Bakthavatsalam, M. (<i>Minister</i>).	Tiruvallur, General, Rural.
19 Bhashyam, K. (<i>Minister</i>) ..	University.
20 Bhupathiraju Bangarayya, Srimathi.	Bhimavaram, General, Rural.
21 Bokkai Gowder, K.	The Nilgiris, General, Rural.
22 Brahmanandam Reddi, K. ..	Narasaraopet, General, Rural.
23 Chandu, A.	Calicut, General, Rural.
24 Chandramouli, K.	Tenali, General, Rural.
25 Chengam Pillai, O.	Tiruvallur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
26 Chidambara Ayyar, S.	Villupuram, General, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
27 Damodaran, M. P. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Kottayam, General, Rural.
28 Daniel Thomas, Hon. Mr. (<i>Minister</i>).	Tinnevely, Indian Christian.
29 Devanayaga Iyah, A.	Cuddalore, General, Rural.
30 Doraikannu, M.	Tiruttani, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
31 Durairaja Pandian, D.	Tinnevely, General, Rural.
32 Easwaran, M. A.	Erode, General, Rural.
33 Ebrahim Coonhee, M.	Chirakkal, Muhammadan, Rural.
34 Fernandez, W. J.	Anglo-Indian
35 Ferrelly, F.	European.
36 Fowler, H. O.	Anglo-Indian.
37 Giri, V. V. (<i>Minister</i>)	Sarvasiddhi, General, Rural.
38 Gopala Reddi, B.	Kavali, General, Rural.
39 Govinda Das, D.	Bellary, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
40 Govinda Menon, P.	Malappuram, General, Rural.
41 Govindan Nayar, C. K.	Kurumbranad, General, Rural.
42 Govindan Nair, P.	Ponnani, General, Rural.
43 Govindaraju Nayagar, S. K.	Saidapet, General, Rural.
44 Govindaswami Nayudu, N.	Textile Workers Trade Union (Madras), Labour.
45 Guruvulu, Saketi	Chicacole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
46 Hassan Koya Sahib, Puthiya Pommani Chintakath.	Calicut, Muhammadan, Rural.
47 Howard Gerry	Madras Planters
48 Hussain, B.A., B.L., H. S.	Mangalore, Muhammadan, Rural.
49 Hydross, B.A., B.L., M. V.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
50 Ibrahim Sahib, Sinna Kaziar Haji Moulvi, S. A. F.	Madura, Muhammadan, Rural.
51 Ishwara, K.	Coondapoor, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
52 Jaffar Mohideen Sahib	Anantapur, Muhammadan, Rural.
53 Jebamoney Masilamoney, Mrs.	Tinnevely <i>cum</i> Palamcottah <i>cum</i> Tuticorin Towns, Women, Indian Christian, Urban.
54 Jogi Nayudu, Allu	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
55 Kader Kutty Sahib, A. K.	Kottayam, Muhammadan, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
56 Kadirappa, D.	Penukonda, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
57 Kakkan, P.	Ariyalur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
58 Kaleswara Rao, A.	Bezawada <i>cum</i> Masulipatam Towns, General, Urban.
59 Kamaraj Nadar, K.	Sattur, General, Rural.
60 Kamakshi Chettiyar, K. P.	Palni, General, Rural.
61 Kameswara Rao, Annapragada.	Guntur <i>cum</i> Tenali Towns, General, Urban.
62 Kandaswami Gounder, P. R.	Pollachi, General, Rural.
63 Kandaswamy Pillai, P.	Salem Town, General, Urban.
64 Kannappa Mudaliyar, V. T.	Gudiyattam, General, Rural.
65 Kanniyappan, M.	Madras City Dock and Factory Labour (excluding Textile and Railway Labour), Labour.
66 Karanth, Hon. Mr. K. R. (<i>Minister</i>).	Puttur, General, Rural.
67 Kosalarama Nadar, K. T.	Tuticorin, General, Rural.
68 Koti Reddi, Hon. Mr. K. (<i>Minister</i>).	Cuddapah, General, Rural.
69 Krishnan, K. S. V.	Tindivanam, General, Rural.
70 Krishnan, S.	Pollachi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
71 Krishnaswami Vandiar, A.	Kumbakonam, General, Rural.
72 Kulasekara Doss, K.	Tindivanam, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
73 Kumarakrishna Yachendra Bahadur Varu of Venkatagiri, Sri Sarvagna.	Northern Central. Landholders.
74 Kumaran, M.	Chirakkal, General, Rural.
75 Kumaraswami, Garembella	Chicacole, General, Rural.
76 Kumaraswami Raja, Hon. Mr. P. S. (<i>Minister</i>).	Srivilliputtur, General, Rural.
77 Kunhi Kammaran Nambiar, K. T.	West Coast. Landholders.
78 Kuppuswami Nayudu, A.	Conjeeveram, General, Rural.
79 Kuppuswami, R.	Textile Workers' Non-Union Labour.
80 Kurmayya, Hon. Mr. V. (<i>Minister</i>).	Bander, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
81 Kuttimalu Amma, Srimathi A. V.	Tellicherry <i>cum</i> Calicut, Women, General, Urban.
82 Lakshmanaswamy Pandu	Amalapuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
83 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi K. ..	Dindigul, Women, General, Rural.
84 Lakshmi Ammal, Srimathi V. ..	Shermadevi, General, Rural.
85 Williams, W. T.	European.
86 Leonard, D. G.	European Commerce, The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association.
87 Linga Raju, K. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Rajahmundry, General, Rural.
88 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib, B.A., B.L.	West Godavari <i>cum</i> Kistna, Muhammadan, Rural.
89 Mahin Sehamnad Sahib	Puttur, Muhammadan, Rural.
90 Mallayya, U. Padmanabha ..	Mangalore, General, Rural.
91 Mallikarjuna Rao, Sri B. S. ..	Vizagapatam <i>cum</i> East Godavari, Dock and Factory Labour, Labour.
92 Manickam, R. S.	Sattur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
93 Marimuthu, M.	Tanjore, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
94 Mohamed Rafeeudin Ahmad Ansari Sahib.	Nellore, Muhammadan, Rural.
95 Moideen Kutty, P. K.	Palghat, Muhammadan, Rural.
96 Moses Wilson, John	Northern Circars, Indian Christian.
97 Mohamed Abdul Salam Sahib ..	Guntur, Muhammadan, Rural.
98 Muhammad Anwar Sahib, N. ..	North Arcot, Muhammadan, Rural.
99 Muhammad Hussain Sahib ..	Tinnevely, Muhammadan, Rural.
100 Muhammad Ibrahim, M. A. ..	Tanjore, Muhammadan, Rural.
101 Muhammad Ibrahim, V. S. ..	Trichinopoly, Muhammadan, Rural.
102 Muhamad Ismail Sahib	Vizagapatam <i>cum</i> East Godavari, Muhammadan, Rural.
103 Muhammad Ismail Sahib, M. ..	Madras City, Muhammadan, Urban.
104 Muhammad Raza Khan	Chittoor, Muhammadan, Rural.
105 Muniswami Pillay, V. I. ..	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
106 Murti, B. S. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Cocanada, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
107 Muthuramalinga Tevar, U. ..	Ramnad, General, Rural.
108 Muthiah Chettiar of Chettinad, Kumararaja Sir M. A.	The Nattukottai Nagrahars' Association.
109 Nachiappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Omalur, General, Rural.
110 Nadhamuni Reddi, R.	Madanapalle, General, Rural.
111 Nagappa, S.	Kurnool, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
112 Nagaraja Ayyangar, N.	Namakkal, General, Rural.
113 Nagaraja Manigar, S.	Hosur, General, Rural.
114 Nageswara Rao, Meduri	Guntur, General, Rural.
115 Nagayya, S.	Cuddapah, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
116 Narasimharaju, P. L.	Vizianagram, General, Rural.
117 Narasimha Rao, Guntur	Madras City North, General, Urban.
118 Narayana Reddi, K. B.	Rajampet, General, Rural.
119 Natesan Chettiyar, M. G. ..	Dharmapuri, General, Rural.
120 Natesan, P.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
121 Pais, L. C. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	West Coast, Indian Christian.
122 Palaniswamy Gounder, V. C. ..	Coimbatore, General, Rural.
123 Pallam Raju, M.	Cocanada, General, Rural.
124 Paramananda Rayar, S.	Chidambaram, General, Rural.
125 Parameswaran, B.A., B. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Chingleput, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
126 Parisutha Nadar, A. Y. S. ..	Tanjore <i>cum</i> Madura <i>cum</i> Ramnad, Indian Christian.
127 Pattabirama Iyer, M. S.	Dindigul, General, Rural.
128 Pattabhiraman, T. S.	Tiruchengode, General, Rural.
129 Paliya Kudumbar, S. K.	Koilpatti, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
130 Periyaswami, M. P.	Namakkal, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
131 Perumalla Nayudu	Kandukur, General, Rural.
132 Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu ..	West Godavari <i>cum</i> Kistna <i>cum</i> Guntur, Factory Labour, Labour.
133 Pocker Sahib, B.	Calicut <i>cum</i> Cannanore, Tellicherry Towns, Muhammadan, Urban.
134 Ponnambala Gounder	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
135 Ponnuswami Gounder, V. ..	Tiruppattur (North Arcot), General, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
136 Ponnuswami Mudaliyar, A. ..	South Arcot cum Trichinopoly cum Salem cum Coimbatore, Indian Christian.
137 Prakasam, Hon. Mr. T. (<i>Prime Minister</i>).	Madras City, South Central, General, Urban.
138 Raghavan, K.	Malappuram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
139 Raghava Menon, Hon. Mr. R. (<i>Minister</i>).	Palghat, General, Rural.
140 Raghavayya, V. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Nellore, General, Rural.
141 Rajagurunatha Chettiar, Sri Zamindar of Elampalli.	Southern Central, Landholders.
142 Rajamannar, G. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Madras City, North Central, General Urban.
143 Rajaram Naidu, K.	Tirumangalam, General, Rural.
144 Ramachandra Rao, Dr. D. S. ..	Madras cum Chingleput, Indian Christian.
145 Ramamurthy, Rokkam	Tekkali, General, Rural.
146 Ramanujalu Reddiyar, R. ..	Cheyyar, General, Rural.
147 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Vellore, General, Rural.
148 Ramiah, N. P.	Musiri, General, Rural.
149 Rangasawmi Reddy, N.	Mayavaram, General, Rural.
150 Ramaswami, D. V.	Vizagapatam, General, Rural.
151 Ratnaswami, S.	Dharapuram, General, Rural.
152 Ratnavelu Tevar, P.	Trichinopoly, General, Rural.
153 Rayappa, A.	Gooty, General, Rural.
154 Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A. (<i>Minister</i>).	Madras City, Women, General, Urban.
155 Sahajananda, A. S.	Chidambaram, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
156 Sami Goundar, S. K.	Gobichettipalayam, General, Rural.
157 Samuel, Dr. M. J.	Central Districts, Indian Christian.
158 Sangam Naidu, Palavalasa ..	Palakonda, General, Rural.
159 Sanjeeva Reddi, Neelam ..	Anantapur, General, Rural.
160 Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliyar, V. S.	Tinnevely cum Palamcottah Towns, General, Urban.
161 Karayalar, L. S. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Koilpatti, General, Rural.
162 Satvanarayana Raju, Alluri ..	Narasapur, General, Rural.

Serial number and name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
163 Satyanarayana Raju, Bhupati- raju.	Viravalli, General, Rural.
164 Seetharamaswami, Gona ..	Bobbili, General, Rural.
165 Seethi Sahib, K. M.	Malappuram, Muhamma- dan, Rural.
166 Shah Alam Khan Savoi Sahib ..	Cuddapah, Muhammadan, Rural.
167 Shanmugam, K.	Gudur, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
168 Shanmuga Rajeswara Sethupathi of Ramnad, Raja Sri R.	Southern Landholders.
169 Shetty, A. B.	Coondapoor, General, Rural.
170 Sitamahalakshamma, Srimathi Vallabhaneni.	Bandar, General, Rural.
171 Sitarama Reddi, H.	Bellary, General, Rural.
172 Sivashanmukham Pillai. J.	Madras City, South Cen- tral, General, Urban (Scheduled Castes).
173 Srinivasa Padayachi, P. R. ..	Tirukkoyilur, General, Rural.
174 Srinivasa Rao, W. S.	Ranipet, General, Rural.
175 Subbanna Gounder, K. K. ..	Gobichettipalayam, General, Rural.
176 Subbaraman, N. M. R.	Madura Town, General, Urban.
177 Subbarao, Kallur	Penukonda, General, Rural.
178 Subbiah, P.	Ongole, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
179 Subba Ayyar, R. (<i>Parliamentary Secretary</i>).	Chingleput, General, Rural.
180 Subrahmanya Ayyar, Dr. S., M.B.B.S.	Tiruppattur (Ramnad), General, Rural.
181 Subrahmanyam, A.	Salem, General, Rural.
182 Subrahmanyam, K.	Coimbatore Town, General, Urban.
183 Srimathi Sumangalamma, Allum.	Bellary, Women, General, Rural.
184 Surayya, Kollipara	Bezwada, General, Rural.
185 <i>Vacant</i> .	Sivaganga, General, Rural.
186 Swaminathan, R. V.	Ramnad, Muhammadan, Rural.
187 Syed Muhammad Sahib, M. R. P.	Tiruvannamalai, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
188 Thangavelu, R.	Chandragiri, General, Rural.
189 Tatachari, T. K. T. N. R. ..	Mannargudi, General, Rural (Scheduled Castes).
190 Thiagoo Voikkarar	

[M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur] [30th January 1947]

the whole Province. He has served the public in various capacities. He has been a member of this Assembly for a long time, he has been the Chairman of the Bellary Municipal Council for a number of years and he has also been a member of various committees and bodies. In discharging his duties as member of these various institutions and bodies, he has shown himself a man of capacity of cool thought, and of balanced views. He was never seen to lose his temper or to express any views which anybody might dub as unbalanced. He was always prepared to give his opponents the due to which they were entitled. In short, Sir, he was a perfect gentleman, and his service to our party was very great as it was to the public which he served with devotion and sincerity. It is really very difficult, as the Hon. the Premier has said, to replace him. But, however, that is what happens in the world and it is the will of the Almighty. We all pray for the peace of his soul and we convey our heartfelt condolences to the members of his family who have been left behind him and who can be very proud of the record which the late Mr. Abdul Rawoof has established for himself."

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like to associate myself with all that has been said by the Hon. Premier and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I had no acquaintance with our friend till I met him within the portals of this House a few months ago. Within this short period, I had occasion to meet him and to come into close acquaintance with him to discuss various matters relating to local administration and particularly the administration of municipal councils. I should say that during these conversations, I was very much impressed by his intelligence, by his sense of public spirit and by his desire to serve not any particular community but the entire people living within the municipality entrusted to his charge. I am glad to say that during his administration, he earned the well-deserved popularity and the just appreciation of every section of the community among whom he lived and moved and had his being. I am sure that not only the whole House but the country at large will feel that by his untimely death the Province has lost a valued public servant, particularly in the sphere of local administration."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have known Mr. Rawoof Sahib for many years both in this House as well as in the educational field. I always found him to be a gentleman to the very core. Though a Muslim, he had a corner for all other communities. As has been pointed out by my Hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas, he was one of those rare administrators of local bodies where he proved to be above board and loved all communities alike. It was a shock, Sir, to know that he was taken away at such a young age. I am sorry to say that it is not only this House, but the whole Province has lost a gentleman. I pray to the Almighty that his soul may rest in peace."

* SIR STUART TOWN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of myself and on behalf of my Group I wish to associate myself with

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everything that has been said by the previous speakers with regard to the late Mr. Rawoof. My business friends in the Bellary district have told me of the very high esteem in which he was held by people of all communities in that district. We, here, have lost a valuable comrade. His part in the deliberations of this House was always strictly correct. A valiant fighter—he fought strenuously for those things he believed in.

"I wish to express the sympathy of my Group to his family in their loss of a loved one, to his constituency in the loss of a valued representative and to his party in the loss of their comrade."

* MR. H. O. FOWLER:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the absence of the leader of our group, I would like on behalf of our little group to say that we entirely support the sentiments expressed by the leaders of the other groups and we offer our deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family."

* SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I come from the Bellary district. I knew late Abdul Rawoof Sahib very intimately. He was one of the shrewd, real workers we had in the district. We are not afraid of famines in the Bellary district; we are afraid of the famine of real workers, friends of the poor and servants of the people. We have lost in him one of the best symbols of Hindu-Muslim unity in the district. Many times he has tried to solve difficult problems between the two communities and helped us in solving serious questions and arriving at happy conclusions. Lately we have had many troubles locally, and he was helpful in solving all these troubles. In fact it is a serious loss to the district and to the Province. I associate myself with the feelings expressed on the floor of this Assembly and pray to God that his soul may rest in peace. I join in the condolence resolution also."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I associate the Chair with the sentiments expressed by the Hon. the Leader of the House and the other members in this House. I knew Mr. Rawoof well. He took very keen interest in the proceedings of the Assembly. It is a pity that he was taken away in the prime of his life. I request the House to stand for a second and pass this resolution."

The resolution was carried, the whole House standing.

III.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Private lorries licensed for procurement at Tuticorin.

* 1 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that private lorries licensed for procurement purposes at Tuticorin are used as transport for hire; and

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(b) whether the Government propose to instruct local officials to take stringent measures for contravention of the transport control orders?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) Some lorries granted to private individuals in the district of Tinnevely which were engaged to transport foodgrains to the interior parts of the district were permitted on their return journey, if they had to return empty, to carry other goods for hire in order to avoid any loss to the owners of the lorries.

“(b) Local Police officials have already taken action in regard to two lorries for alleged contravention of the concessions granted to them. They will take similar action in other cases of contravention.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Are the Government aware that the action taken by the local officials sometimes is a warning after the repetition of the same offence two or three times and after the offender was caught red-handed?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The Government note what the hon. Member has pointed out. There are many things happening in spite of the care taken by the officials on the spot or even by the higher officials. We are indebted to the hon. Member and we shall be taking particular care in regard to this matter.”

Number of Muslim and women clerks in Secretariat.

* 2 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of (i) upper division clerks and (ii) lower division clerks in the Secretariat;

(b) how many of the above are (i) Muslims and (ii) women;

(c) the present scale of salary of the abovementioned officers; and

(d) what is the scale of salary that was recommended for them by the Salaries' Committee appointed by the previous Government?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) & (b) The information is given in the statement below:—

	Total number of clerks.	Number of Muslims.	Number of women.
Upper division clerks	347	37	1
Lower division clerks	180	18	17

“(c) *Upper division clerks—*

I Grade.—Rs. 70-70-10-150-5-175.

II Grade.—Rs. 60-10/2-120-15/2-150.

Lower division clerks.—Rs. 40-3/2-55-5/2-70.

“(d) *Upper division clerks—*

I Grade.—Rs. 85-15/2-150-20/2-210.

II Grade.—Rs. 70-10/2-90-15/2-180.

Lower division clerks.—Rs. 48-4/2-50-5/2-85.”

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* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, what the reason is for the paucity of Muslims and women in those posts?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Sir, the paucity is due to the fact that they were not ready to offer themselves.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether it is not a fact that many of the applications for such posts have been rejected?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“If they had been rejected that must be due to the fact that they did not come up to the requirements.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising from the answer of the Premier, may I know whether his answer had been prepared after a thorough examination of the question?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The answer had not been prepared after thorough examination, because questions come on the floor of the House and the reply has to be given immediately without asking for time.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Hon. the Premier is satisfied that the principle of communal representation in the services has been given effect to in this department?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Apart from communal representation even crossing the limits of the rules laid down for the purpose, appointments had to be made in regard to Muslims and women.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask whether the communal Government Order is observed in regard to promotions from the lower division to the upper division or only with regard to the initial appointments?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I think they do apply only to the initial appointments.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that unless the communal Government Order is applied to promotions also various communities cannot have their share in Government services, will the Government be prepared to consider the proposal that the communal Government Order must be applicable to promotions also?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The hon. the Leader of the Opposition can understand the difficulty of applying the communal Government Order with regard to promotions also. As I imagine that, when once the start is given at the initial stages it will take care of itself and no one's claim can be ignored at the time of promotion unless there is anything coming in the way.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, why it is that the Cabinet Committee has recommended an initial

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pay of Rs. 60 for an artisan in the Public Works Department but an initial pay of Rs. 51 only for a lower division clerk in the Secretariat? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The question cannot be answered immediately. Notice."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state why the Government has not applied the principles to the new posts created from the time this Government came into existence? "

MR. SPEAKER:—"You can put a separate question."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that there is a general feeling among the public that the Cabinet Committee has been definitely less sympathetic to the lower paid ministerial officers of Government? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. the Premier stated that many of the Muslim applicants did not come up to the mark and therefore they could not be appointed."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I said 'If'."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then may I take it that the Premier did not mean that many of the Muslim applicants did not come up to the mark? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I did not say that any applicants had not come up to the qualifications fixed. If anybody fell short of them, they could not be appointed. That is how I put it."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the admission that the communal Government Order has not been working in this department properly, will the Premier institute an enquiry and find out what the reasons are for this disparity? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No admission has been made by me that anything wrong was done in the distribution of the appointments."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then is it not a fact, Sir, that the Muslims have not got their quota according to the communal Government Order in the posts now under reference? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I cannot say that unless it is pointed out with reference to the applications made and the results thereon."

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Seizure of yarn at the junction of Pothanur-Palghat Road.

* 3 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state what action has been taken in respect of yarn seized on the night of Sunday, 12th May 1946, at the junction of the Pothanur-Palghat Road in Coimbatore district?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"No answer could be given in respect of this matter because it is *sub judice*."

Construction of a thermal electric power station in Nellore district.

* 4 Q.—MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a thermal electric power station in Nellore district;

(b) and if so, where it will be located; and

(c) whether the claims of Nellore will be considered in view of the great demand for electric energy by its municipality, factories and public?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) Such a proposal is under consideration.

" (b) Not yet decided.

" (c) Yes."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire whether the Government are aware that the Province of Madras has progressed very little in regard to power development even as compared to the neighbouring State of Mysore, because the per capita consumption of electrical energy in the Province of Mysore is about 50 K.W.H., whereas in Madras it is only 7.5 K.W.H.?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is making a speech."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Hence may I point out that it is very necessary that the matter should be given further consideration not only with reference to Nellore district but also with reference to the other districts as well? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"This Government is doing better than most of the other provinces. As regards Mysore it is a matter of opinion. This Government is most anxious to develop electrical energy."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is a pressing need in the district of Nellore particularly in regard to the mica mining industry? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Yes, Sir."

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MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether the Hon. the Minister will be pleased to state that in view of the existing conditions, private applications for generating electrical energy will be considered? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“ It is not necessary. Government is looking after the matter itself.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the great handicap in which the industry is working in Nellore particularly, will the Government expedite the supply of electrical energy as much as possible? ”

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

11-30 a.m. MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of applications pending before the Government? ”

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

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I enquire, Sir, whether the recommendations of Sir Henry Howard who went into this question are receiving the consideration of the Government? ”

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

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government announce a policy forthwith that no private enterprise in the sphere of electrical production and distribution will be hereafter tolerated? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“ That policy has always been emphasized.”

Assessment of commission agents for sales-tax.

* 5 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the sales-tax assessments that were stayed in the case of commission agents are now proceeded with;

(b) whether the special officer appointed in this connexion has made his report; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken on that report?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ (b) Yes.

“ (a) & (c) The Government have directed that the assessment of commission agents who do not satisfy the conditions of the licence granted under section 8 of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939, should be proceeded with and that doubtful points should be settled by decisions in appeal or revision as hitherto. The stay of collection of tax has also been

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* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government be pleased to state whether as a result of earlier stay orders a number of assessments have become difficult of realization? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ The Government have no information on the point.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government after collecting such information as has been suggested by me place the figures on the table of this House? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ That will be done after we collect the figures. In the meanwhile there has been repeated agitation that the collection should be stayed again and the Government have refused to do so.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government adopt the procedure generally adopted by the Income-tax department that no stays are given in such matters but only refunds of wrong assessments are given at the end of the period of assessment? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ That should be so ordinarily in matters of taxation.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“ In how many cases, Sir, have the commission agents appealed to the Revenue Board before the Special Officer appointed submitted his report? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ I have no information as regards the exact number. The Special Officer went into a large number of typical cases nearing a hundred.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ May I know the amount of taxation that was accrued by taxing the commission agents in 1946-47? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ I cannot say off hand, Sir.”

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“ May I enquire, Sir, whether the Special Officer was appointed from this department? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ It was so, Sir, because he has a correct knowledge of all the matters.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Is not the Government aware that the amount involved in the previous stay orders regarding the so-called commission agents was in the neighbourhood of half a crore of rupees? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ I understand so, Sir.”

* SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—“ In view of the objections raised to the Special Officer's report will the Government consider the question of appointing a Judicial Officer to go into the complaints of the commission agents and getting a proper report? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ No, Sir. It is not necessary. We are satisfied that the assessment is just.”

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* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"If the amounts become unrealizable for some reason or other will the Government take steps to have them recouped by the offending authorities?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I am unable to understand the question."

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

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"It is not necessary to repeat the question, Sir."

Appointment of K. Lakshmiah Chowdary as Assistant Engineer by the President, District Board, Guntur.

* 6. Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President, District Board, Guntur, has repeatedly appointed one K. Lakshmiah Chowdary, an overseer under the district board and a lower subordinate, as an Assistant Engineer subject to the approval of the Chief Engineer, overlooking the claims of other overseers with upper subordinate qualifications;

(b) how many times the Chief Engineer got this appointment "ratified as a special case";

(c) whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer has issued definite orders finally not to appoint Lakshmiah as an Assistant Engineer any further;

(d) whether it is a fact that in spite of this definite order the President, District Board, has appointed him as an Assistant Engineer again;

(e) whether it is a fact that without the post being sanctioned by the Government, the President, District Board, appointed this Lakshmiah without mentioning in his report anything about the leave already sanctioned to him as an Assistant Engineer on 16th June 1946; and

(f) whether the Government propose to take any action in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) & (c) Sri K. Lakshmiah, a lower subordinate and a permanent Local Fund Overseer, I grade, with more than twenty years' experience, was first appointed by the Chief Engineer (Communications), as temporary Assistant Engineer in 1944. He was again appointed by the President, District Board, as an Assistant Engineer in March 1946, without the concurrence of the Chief Engineer (Communications) for supervision of certain building works relating to schools, dispensaries and maternity and child welfare centres under the Guntur District Board. The President, District Board should not have made such appointment but his action was ratified by the Government. At the same time the President,

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District Board, was informed by the Chief Engineer (Highways) that Sri Lakshmiah should be reverted as soon as possible and that the Assistant Engineer for the District Board works, Guntur subdivision, should be placed in additional charge of the buildings subdivision which was being held by Sri Lakshmiah. The President, District Board, requested that Sri Lakshmiah might be continued for some time more in the interest of work but the Chief Engineer did not agree to this.

once. The appointment made by the Chief Engineer (Communications) in 1944 did not require ratification by the

"(b) The appointment was ratified by the Government only Government.

"(d) No.

"(e) No. Sri Lakshmiah was not on leave from 16th June 1946.

"(f) In view of the instructions issued by the Chief Engineer to revert Sri Lakshmiah and as the services of another Assistant Engineer have since been placed at the disposal of the Guntur District Board, no further action is considered necessary."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Is it a fact that this Lakshmiah is still continuing in service?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I want notice, Sir."

Changes made by the President, District Board, Guntur, in the personnel of the Engineering establishment after formation of Highways Department.

* 7 Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President, District Board, Guntur, has made some changes in the personnel of the engineering establishment after the formation of the Highways Department from 1st April 1946 in contravention of section 73 (c) and other provisions of the Local Boards Act;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Guntur, has protested against the orders and pointed out the irregularities of the President, District Board;

(c) whether it is a fact that the President, District Board, got this action of his approved by the Chief Engineer against the orders of the Government and against the Chief Engineer's own previous orders; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) Yes. The President, District Board, Guntur, suggested three changes (two clerks and one peon) in the staff recommended for District Board works and this was agreed to by the Chief Engineer (Highways). Since the appointments are provisional pending the approval of the district board, there

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was no contravention of section 73-C of the Local Boards Act, as the Act will come into operation only after the approval of the district board is obtained and regular allocation is made.

“(b) Yes. The Divisional Engineer reported about the changes suggested by the President, District Board, and the former was asked to settle the matter amicably after personal discussion with the latter and draw up a final list. His report is awaited.

“(c) The Chief Engineer (Highways) had a personal discussion with the President, District Board, Guntur, and the proposal of the President, District Board, was agreed to by the Chief Engineer (Highways) in order to prevent an unnecessary hitch over a small matter at the very commencement of the formation of the Highways Department. The change did not make any material difference and was in favour of the District Board Engineering Branch. The transfers as finally made are not prejudicial to the interest of administration and there has been no contravention of Government orders.

“(d) The matter will be considered after the Chief Engineer's final report is received.”

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—“Will the Government be pleased to get a detailed report about the highhanded action of the District Board President?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“We are awaiting the further reports from the Chief Engineer.”

Perennial spring at Tatiparthi in Nellore taluk.

* 8 Q.—MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Rafeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the existence of a perennial spring at Tatiparthi in Nellore taluk; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take steps to utilize it for irrigation purposes?

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

“(b) The spring water is already being utilized for garden and other dry crops during summer apart from being used for drinking.”

Raising of the Municipal Muhammadan Middle School at Nellore to the status of a High School.

* 9 Q.—MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Rafeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to raise the Municipal Muhammadan Middle School at Nellore to the status of a high school; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open the high school from the beginning of the next academic year?

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

“(a) No.

“(b) Does not arise.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that there has been need and a demand for such a school, will not the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of having a high school started in Nellore?”

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

“The Government are not satisfied about the need, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether there has not been a demand made by the Muslim community and whether the Hon. Minister considers that the demand is frivolous?”

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

“Many demands are made by many people which we may not consider frivolous but which may not be feasible.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the mother tongue of 99 per cent of the Muslims of Nellore is Urdu and hence there is need for a high school there?”

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

“I have nothing more to add to what I have already stated on the floor of this House on this matter.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know if the Hon. Minister is satisfied that there is adequate provision for the higher education of Muslims in Nellore?”

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

“I understand that there is more than one high school in Nellore.”

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does the Hon. Minister for Education still insist on his way of administering Muslim education in utter disregard of the public opinion among the Muslims of this Province?”

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

“I have nothing more to add to the statement, I have already made on many occasions before on the floor of this House.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that there is no provision at all for the higher education of the Urdu-speaking Muslims in Nellore although there are other high schools?”

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

“I have already answered the question.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that the existing high schools are not sufficient to meet the needs of even other communities?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“No, Sir.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are we to understand that the Hon. Minister for Education is going to flout the considered opinion of the Muslim representatives in this august body, the opinion of 29 of us representing 100 per cent of the Muslims of this Province?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The question does not arise.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does not the Hon. Minister think it necessary to consult the Muslim representatives in this august body in the matter of Muslim education?”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“It is not a supplementary question arising out of this question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask whether the Hon. Minister believes that hon. Members representing the Muslim community here are telling lies and making frivolous demands so far as education is concerned?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister never said that.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I want to know whether he believes that we are telling lies.”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I certainly would not make any such statement.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Since we representatives of the Muslims say that there is great need for a Muslim High School in Nellore will the hon. Minister consider the question seriously and open a high school for Muslims in Nellore?”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I have considered the question very seriously, Sir, and I think Nellore is very adequately served in this matter.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“In view of the answers already given I think we may now pass on to the next question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“No, Sir. May I request the Hon. Minister to realize that he is not discharging his duties properly in the matter of Muslim education as he is not prepared to satisfy the demands of . . .”

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SRI K. VARADACHARI:—“May I rise to a point of order, Sir . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Let the hon. Member finish his question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I mean that the Hon. Minister is not satisfying the legitimate demands of the Muslims of the Province.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“It is a matter of opinion, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire how the Hon. Minister expects Muslim students who have been prosecuting their studies in Urdu in the Middle School to prosecute their further studies without due provision for an Urdu High School?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister has already answered that he would give due consideration to this question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR and some Muslim Members:—“No, no, Sir. He has not done it.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Hon. Minister will now answer the question.”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“As they have been doing till now, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know what exactly he means by that, Sir.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The boys passing out of the Middle School are now prosecuting their further studies in the High Schools there and that will continue.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Most of the boys have to go to other places in the Province to prosecute higher education in Urdu because there is no provision for it in Nellore.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“That is a statement and not a question, Sir.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Minister for Education stated that the necessity for a Muslim high school in Nellore was a matter of opinion. When the Muslims who are affected by the absence of a school say that they have a great need for such a school, whose opinion is to prevail,—the opinion of the people who are affected or the opinion of the Hon. Minister?”

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am afraid the Leader of the Opposition has not understood my answer. My answer to one question has been confused with my answer to another.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Does the Hon. Minister realize that by ignoring the claims and rights of a very important people in this Province he is weakening his Ministry ? ”

* **THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—**
“ I may or may not be weakening the Ministry. I do not think that we are neglecting the claims of any community in this Province.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I find that the Hon. Minister is saying ‘ It is a matter of opinion ’ with reference to many questions. Therefore it is that I wanted to know the meaning thereof. He said this with reference to an answer which he gave us, namely, that it is a matter of opinion whether there is any need for a Muslim High School in Nellore. I want to know whose opinion it is that should prevail in the matter.”

* **THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—**
“ I will be very glad to take the opinion of this House. If the hon. Member wants to take any opinion he may take the opinion of this House.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ No, Sir. It should not be the opinion of this House, but it should be the opinion of the people who are affected by the absence of the school that must count.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ That is certainly a matter of opinion, Sir.”

* **N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—**“ Will the Hon. Minister himself find a way out of his obstinacy in the matter of Muslim education ? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ The way is for my hon. Friend to become more reasonable.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ We will rather lose our lives, Sir . . . ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ The hon. Member Mr. Hameed Khan might have some patience. No occasion has yet arisen for him to state that he is prepared to lose his life. (Interruption.) I have now risen to say something with regard to the policy of the Government. Questions have been put as to whether the wishes of the persons concerned should not be given effect to. The wishes of the persons concerned or the parties concerned will be given effect to according to the policy of this Government in such manner as no disturbance is caused in the main work regarding education. If every sub-community and every individual gets up and says, ‘ It is my desire to have education in this manner ’, the Government will certainly say, ‘ No, you cannot have. You have to subordinate your own interest, your own feelings in regard to education to the very important general interest which is necessary for all communities.’

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That is the policy of the Government. I appeal to the hon. Members of the League to have a little patience and find out whether the point they are pressing can be complied with by any Government under the circumstances of this problem. If the Muslim community should get up and say ‘ we want a Muslim college, a Muslim school for boys here and for girls there ’ and everywhere can that be accepted by this Government? I am respectfully submitting to hon. Members that it would be an unreasonable position to take by the Muslim League or by any other community in this Province of ours. Generally we are anxious to take whatever is suggested in a very reasonable manner. It will become impossible and Government cannot run educational institutions for two months or even one month if these considerations are taken into account. The Hon. Minister for Education has been struggling here all these days to steer clear of these difficulties and let there be no misunderstanding about it. I am one of those who feel that not by separatist tendencies, not by having everything separate, not by dividing everything that the interests of this country could be promoted, but by trying to come together, by studying and working in the same institutions that the unity of this country will be achieved. I have no doubt that the Muslim League Members would not controvert that position. If the position of the Muslim League is that they want everything separate so far they are concerned, I would ask them to say whether such a thing would be possible in the administration of this country either by the present Government or any other Government. That is the position with regard to the introduction of Urdu or teaching in Urdu. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: ‘ We have not been consulted at all in this matter.’) We have come together in this House being elected by the people, no doubt sometimes by separate electorates, we have come here for the purpose of putting the whole of this country in a proper order by exchanging our views, by working together and by co-operating. I have been thinking, Sir, as a matter of fact, to tell you the truth, ‘ Why should the Muslim League Members be separate, why not one of them come and sit on this side and help to carry on the Government. . . . (Some hon. Members: “ Too late ”.) I know that you will say that. But we have got patience to wait until this matter is settled. Indeed that should be the spirit in which we have to work in the House and in the Province for the benefit of the Muslims and others. For Heaven’s sake, please do not go on saying that for everything we must do this.’ It will become impossible for any Government to undertake such things.”

* **SIR STUART TOWN:—**“ On a point of order, Sir. May I ask whether this is question time or debating time? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ It is question time.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Hon. Premier has made the statement that he has made. He is very much mistaken . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does the hon. Member want to put a question or make a statement?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order. I have known the procedure of Legislatures for a long time and I can assert on the floor of this House that when a statement is made by a Member of the Government the Opposition is given the right of reply by a Speaker who is impartial . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am impartial."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I know, Sir. I never stated that you are partial. I was only making a distinction between a Speaker who is partial and a Speaker who is impartial. It has been the policy and practice of the Speaker to give a right of reply to the Opposition. I know my hon. Friend Mr. Town might raise a point of order that this is question time. Undoubtedly it is, but the moment one Member of the House forgets that this is question time and takes the opportunity to make a statement, and finds it necessary to make a statement, then it is necessary that the Leader of the Opposition should be given the right of reply."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No. The Hon. Prime Minister and Leader of the House made a statement regarding the policy of the Government. That privilege cannot be claimed by others."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, Sir . . ."

HON. MEMBERS:—"Obey the Chair."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I submit, Sir, that the Minister to whom the question was put is the Education Minister. If he wanted to make a statement he could have made one. If the Prime Minister wanted to make a statement he should have taken other occasions, but he having made a statement, it becomes necessary for the Leader of the Opposition . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"This is question time. We cannot allow statements by other Members. We shall now pass on to the next question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I crave your indulgence for a minute. May I know under what rule the statement of the Prime Minister has been allowed and I am not allowed to reply?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has enunciated the policy of the Government and he has every right to make a statement."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The policy of the Opposition also should be enunciated."

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, this is not the time."

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Bamboo leases in Salem Circle by the Forest department.

* 10 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Forests be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Forest department has mis-managed bamboo leases in Salem Circle both in 1943 and in 1946;

(b) that the highest bidder in open auction was not given the lease;

(c) that tenders were then called for;

(d) that the highest tenderer was not given the lease;

(e) that the lowest tenderer was not given the lease;

(f) that after calling for tenders the Conservator of the day gave the lease to whomsoever pleased him;

(g) that in 1943, the lease of the Kalroyan bamboo block was given to one who was not the previous contractor, nor the highest auction bidder, but to some favourite of the Conservator at about Rs. 12,000 less than the very amount tendered by him;

(h) that similar malpractices were common in the sales of 1946 also; and that sales were not confirmed on the highest auction bidder or highest tenderer;

(i) that there was never a price control for retail trade in bamboos;

(j) whether any Government Orders authorized such departure from sound finance, that is, to give contractors coupes at reduced prices for selling bamboos in an uncontrolled market; and

(k) whether the Government have any proposal to issue orders for the proper administration of the Forest department in the matter of coupe sales?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. Sri B. Veerasami):—" (a), (f) & (h) In 1943 the Forest department allotted bamboo coupes to old contractors at negotiated prices which were considered reasonable both by the concerned Conservator and Chief Conservator of Forests. This procedure was adopted by the Department mainly to avoid disturbance of the former contractors' organizations and to arrange that, as far as possible, all regular contractors obtained a fair share of the areas to be worked at reasonable negotiated prices. The Forest department considered that this procedure was the best that could be adopted in the abnormal circumstances that prevailed in 1943 and in the interest of the public.

"In 1946 the Forest department allotted certain bamboo coupes in the Salem Circle to old contractors at the highest tender for the reason that the old contractors might otherwise find it difficult to recover the sums advanced by them to coolies and cartmen under the previous contract.

"(b) The highest bidder in open auction was not given the lease.

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“(c) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(d) & (e) Neither the highest tenderer nor the lowest tenderer was given the lease.

“(g) The lease of the Kalroyan bamboo block was given to Sri Rajagopala Mudaliar who was neither the previous contractor nor the highest auction bidder for reasons that the highest bidder requested the transfer of his bid to Sri Rajagopala Mudaliar and that the second highest bidder disappeared.

“(i) There was no price control for retail trade in bamboos.

“(j) The Government have not permitted the Chief Conservator of Forests to sell bamboo coupes at fixed prices.

“(k) The Chief Conservator of Forests has been instructed to obtain the previous approval of the Government whenever it is proposed to depart from the usual procedure for selling bamboo coupes by auction or tender.”

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* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Are the Government aware that much of the Forest revenue is being lost by this absurd procedure adopted by many of the officers in this respect? ”

* THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ No Sir, I cannot agree that the procedure adopted was absurd, nor with the statement that there was any loss of revenue under any circumstances. ”

* **MUHAMMAD N. ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR** :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, an hon. Member on the Treasury Bench in the last session objected to the use of the expression ‘ absurd ’ as unparliamentary. Can now one hon. Member on the Treasury Bench and another Member sitting behind him use the unparliamentary word ‘ absurd ’.”

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Member said that the procedure that is followed is absurd. I think it is parliamentary in that context."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government hereafter issue instructions severally that except in the case of bidders or tenderers whose solvency is questionable, the highest bidder or tenderer should get the bid, the Government will not interfere, with the normal revenue procedure? ”

* THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ I will tell my hon. Friend that all that he wants to be done is rather too complicated for a supplementary question. The Government have already issued necessary instructions to the Department in the matter. The hon. Member can get into touch with the department and make his suggestions, which will be considered. ”

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Paddy procurement case against S. P. K. A. Lakshmanan Chettiar.

* 11 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether the paddy procurement case against Sri S. P. K. A. Lakshmanan Chettiar is being proceeded with?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ Yes. ”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government be pleased to say whether this case has not been pending for over six months? ”

AN HON. MEMBER:—“As the case is before the court, is it not *sub judice* to ask questions on the subject?”

MR. SPEAKER:—"The matter is *sub judice*. I will not allow the question."

Microphones in the Assembly Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before the Hon. the Premier makes his statement, I should like to make a few remarks about the microphones in this House. The House would remember that a lot of complaints were made regarding microphones in the Assembly Chamber. Now certain improvements have been made. I hope it would satisfy the members. Four new loud speakers have been installed. The members are requested to stand before the mike and to speak slowly (not rapidly). The mikes are very sensitive. Even the lowest voice will be magnified. In order to make it clear, the members are requested to speak at a lower rate of delivery. The space between the mouth and the mike should be between 1½ feet to 2 feet. If the speech is delivered rapidly, there will be blurring noise and loss of clarity. Hence I request the members to speak at a low speed.

“Honourable மெம்பர்கள் மைக்கில் பேசும்போது தயவுசெய்து மைக்கி லிருந்து 1½ அடி அல்லது இரண்டு அடி தூரத்திலிருந்து பேசவேண்டும். மெதுவாக பேசினால் எல்லோருக்கும் கேட்கும். நிறுத்தி பேசவேண்டும்.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, may I submit, Sir, that the Hon. the Speaker is expected to translate it into Telugu also?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know Telugu. It is not my mistake."

SRI A. VAIDYANADA AYYAR:—“ My mike has been taken away somewhere, Sir.” (Laughter).

SRI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—“మైక్రోఫోన్ పిచ్చాల్లు మునుపటికంటే బాగుచేశారు. మెంబరు మాటాడునపుడు దగ్గరనుంచి నొందరగా గట్టిగా మాటాడినట్లు తెలుసుకోవచ్చును. ఒకవిధమగు (Blurring) వ్యవస్థలిగి ఆసలు మాటాడుచున్నదిగాంచుముహూదా తెలియదు. కాబట్టి మెంబరు మైక్రోఫోన్లకు $1\frac{1}{2}$ నుంచి 2 అడుగుల దూరంలానుండి మాటాడవలెను. మాటాడుటకుమందు మైక్రోఫోన్ గుండ (Button) నొక్కాలి. అప్పుడు మెల్లగా మాటాడాలి. గట్టిగా మాటాడినట్లు తెలుసుకోవచ్చును.”

IV.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Under rule 9 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I have nominated the following four members to the panel of Chairmen:—

Sri K. Varadachari.

Mr. F. Ferrelly.

Mabooob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.

Mr. W. J. Fernandez.

“ The Hon. the Premier will make his statement now.”

V.—THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER ORDINANCE, 1947 (MADRAS ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 1947).*

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Sir, in the agenda it is stated that that the Hon. the Premier will make a statement regarding the promulgation of the Ordinance, but it is not stated whether there will be a discussion following that statement. In view of the fact that this is a very important matter, may I know, Sir, whether a discussion will be allowed? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ First let the Hon. the Premier make his statement. Then I will consider the request made by my hon. Friend. ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Public Order Ordinance was promulgated and certain steps were taken in pursuance of the provisions of the Ordinance . . . ”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ Is it after the promulgation of the Ordinance or before the Ordinance was promulgated? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Let the Hon. Premier make his statement first. Please do not disturb him. ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Sir, I would have delayed the making of this statement in consequence of a resolution that has been tabled by the hon. Sri P. Venkateswarlu, but having stated that I would explain the reasons for the promulgation of the Ordinance, I do not wish to delay it any further. It was not, a pleasant task for this Government to think in terms of an Ordinance and to apply it to anybody in this Province, but it could not be avoided when matters got from bad to worse and from worse to worst. We wanted to prevent the worst happening in this Province of ours. No one would like to have recourse to a measure of this nature more than the Members of the Government. The Members of the Government during the last twenty-five years have suffered under the Ordinance rules and under all kinds of repression. Nobody can say with greater competence than ourselves that the terms of such ordinances should not be applied under ordinary conditions to people living within our Province. It will be a long story to narrate, but it cannot be helped. Other provinces had recourse to promulgating such ordinances as soon as the Defence of India Rules expired in September 1946. When those rules terminated, the Provincial Governments were left without adequate power to deal with any large-scale disturbances. Most of the provinces . . . ”

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 68-74 infra.

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ Were they communal or political? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Please do not disturb him in the middle of his speech. I will allow you to put a few questions after the Hon. Premier has made the statement. Mr. Venkateswarlu, kindly resume your seat. ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Most of the provinces in India, such as the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, Bihar, Assam and Bombay, were faced with acute communal troubles or other—with the curse of communal troubles—and have issued ordinances during the recent months for the maintenance of public order and armed themselves with some of the powers which they had under the Defence of India Rules. But this Government did not have recourse to promulgating any ordinance on the lines on which the other provinces have done.

“ With the co-operation of the hon. Members of this House¹² and also with the co-operation of the public, we have been endeavouring to manage the matters of this province without allowing them to take any serious turn. All over India to-day, almost every one who knows anything of the country and its struggles and its sufferings, has been certifying that Madras has had the good privilege of not having become victim to communal outbreaks or to the tricks and machinations of communal men who were bent upon creating disturbances. That has been the privilege of this province, of the Government and of the people. I take pride, Sir, that things have been managed so well by all the leaders and also by all the people. It was not as if we were not threatened with such situations. We were threatened with situations at a time when they went out of hand altogether in other parts of the country, in some other provinces. Although there was such a threat and although we feared that similar things might happen here, I must say, Sir, that all those things were avoided with the tolerance and patience and cordial co-operation among the members of the Opposition and also of other members of this House and in the country. How is it, then, that we have come forward with an ordinance like this at this last stage? Is it because we have lost all sense of responsibility, that we became hard-hearted people with a view to carry on the administration with troubles before us. As I pointed out, ordinances had come into play in the other provinces as soon as possible after certain disturbances had happened. We cannot say there have been no disturbances in this province altogether, although massacres have not taken place, although murders have not taken place and although several other acts of violence have not taken place. Even when the worst thing has been done, with great self-restraint, we have been bearing it and we have been tolerant. Everything could not be borne; there are certain things that could not be borne, that could not be managed or mended and could not be reconciled. Whatever were the efforts of the Government with a view to pacify the people and make them reasonable and make them behave better, the Government did not succeed. What could be done? It was only when

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matters reached a crisis, after a long list of occurrences in this province in the last few months of our administration had happened here that we had to think of doing something. Each one of those items I shall have to refer to, if necessary, at a later stage, so that things may be explained when we take them up in greater detail. But it is enough if I point out at this stage that things had gone out of our hands to such an extent that any reasonable Government, with any sense of responsibility, could not allow things to continue any further like that. What was happening? There was an occasion when a debate was called for with regard to the Golden Rock affair and I had then the opportunity to explain to the hon. Members of this House and to the country at large the actual state of things; but even after that, how patient this Government had been and how considerate this Government had been when the party concerned, or the group concerned, in this House, did not take note of the warning given to them, with great patience? And what was happening in this province of ours? Agrarian troubles."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what those groups are?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Leader of the Opposition wanted to know about the groups, what the groups are. One would say at once it is the Communist group. That is known to everybody. Because I used the plural 'groups', the hon. Leader of the Opposition jumped to his feet and asked me what those groups are. Those groups I would not like to mention immediately; but the first group is the Communist group, and any other group I must say, that would take the place of the Communists, that would challenge the rights of the civil population, that would encroach upon the rights and properties of others and would carry on the whole business, as if they themselves had become the masters of both Government property and private property."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Absolute falsehood."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I request the hon. Member not to disturb the Premier."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member, even before I have stated anything about the activities of his party, says 'absolute falsehood'. Is he in order? Will you allow that sort of statement to be made, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'falsehood' is unparliamentary; will the hon. Member kindly withdraw it?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I could not follow you, Mr. Speaker, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'falsehood' applied to any statement of the Hon. the Premier or of any member is unparliamentary. I request you to withdraw that word."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Before I withdraw, I may have to explain what . . ."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Without any explanation, I want you to withdraw."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, I must know what I have to withdraw, and what I need not withdraw."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You withdraw the word 'falsehood'."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"What is false is falsehood."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Will you kindly repeat what you said?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The Hon. Premier said . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Before the Hon. Premier has said anything particularly, you said it was falsehood; I want you to withdraw that word. I hope the hon. Member will do it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"If it is only withdrawing for the sake of withdrawal, I have no objection."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Withdraw it please."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. You stated that the word 'falsehood' is unparliamentary when applied to any statement made either by the Premier or by any other Minister. May I know whether it is unparliamentary when applied to a statement made by any other member of the House?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Even before the Prime Minister made the statement, the hon. Member said 'falsehood'."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The Premier said that the Communist group wanted to take away the properties of others; then I rose on behalf of the Communist party to say that it was entirely wrong."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Venkateswarlu, instead of raising a regular debate, will you kindly withdraw, so that we can proceed with our business?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I am not very much disturbed by what has happened; because members of the House know it is a very mild word when compared to the words which he and his comrades have been using." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"But having used the word, it is but appropriate that he should withdraw it. If the Premier had not raised the question, I would have kept quiet; but he having raised it, I hope Mr. Venkateswarlu will withdraw it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Why don't you allow me, Sir, to say what I have to say. I am not explaining; I am only stating that I did not say anything like falsehood, to which he is objecting. He says I said 'falsehood' before he said anything; that is not correct. He said that Communists were taking away the properties of others. If he denies that, then I will withdraw."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"When a request is made from the Chair, I trust the hon. Member will obey and withdraw the word."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I shall obey, Sir; as a matter of fact, I expect each and every one in the House to obey you; but what I did not say, how can I withdraw?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The word 'falsehood' should be withdrawn."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" 'Falsehood' is not unparliamentary, Sir. Another point is that I did not say that word."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The very use of the word 'falsehood' is unparliamentary, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The word 'falsehood' is not unparliamentary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is unparliamentary."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I am withdrawing, Sir; I hope others also will not use that word."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now the Hon. Premier may continue his speech."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I was saying the Communists have been committing acts of violence, even promoting agrarian troubles, not in one place . . ."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"On a point of information." (Cries of 'order, order'.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already told you that I would allow you to put questions to the Premier as soon as he finishes his speech."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Because cases are going on in the High Court; a petition has been filed in the High Court; the Premier says now that we are committing violence; their case may be affected, Sir. The question is *sub judice*."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I cannot allow two members to stand on their legs at the same time; let the Prime Minister continue his speech."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"All of us are responsible people, not excluding Communist members. We must observe certain rules of decorum as well. When the hon. Speaker has been asking the member to sit down, it is not proper to ignore it. Each member ought to know, if any one has not known hitherto, that when one member is on his legs, unless he yields, he cannot get up and interrupt the proceedings and refuse to be managed by the Speaker of the House. It is good for us all if that procedure is observed and we can carry on."

"About the agrarian troubles I was referring to, the agrarian trouble is not confined to any particular centre or district; there has been agrarian trouble in Ramnad district, Watrap village, where people are marching in hundreds and thousands upon lands

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and forcibly occupying them and challenging the right of the owner to cultivate and plough them, grow crops and harvest them. This has been going on, not for one week or even two weeks, but for months together. We, members of Government who are responsible for peace and order and for security of person and property of every one in this province of ours, have been worried about the situation that has been developed by these communists. How many police forces had been sent there to prevent this forcible occupation of the lands by the Communists who prevent the owners from reaping the harvest! If you go there now, you will find the police still working there. You will be surprised to see how things are being managed there by the Police force who are trying to circumvent the activities of the Communists. This is unthinkable and unimaginable. 12-30 p.m.

"Now we come to the Tanjore district. The Tanjore district which was a district supplying food to other districts and also to other provinces being the best of the districts in the whole Presidency, had been reduced to the present state by these Communists. No Government will bear with patience for such a long time what was happening in Tanjore. The people there were not allowed to cultivate their lands, to reap their crop, to harvest them and to enjoy the fruits of their labour or to distribute according to the orders of the Government. That had been made impossible. One member of the Constituent Assembly and another Member of this Assembly Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai of Tanjore, wrote to the Government and sent telegrams to the Government as to how the crop that was ready could not be reaped by the owners owing to the activities of the Communists. These people march together upon the whole area and they take away everything on which they could lay their hands. This is what has happened in Tanjore. When representations were made to me in regard to this matter, by the two members, I sent them both to the head of the Police Department to inform him in person as to what exactly had happened. After that was done, a report was received which showed that nothing as alleged had happened. When I met Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai at Meerut, I asked him why he made such an incorrect statement. He said that it was very unfortunate that somebody who came to the spot after the whole thing was over made such a report. Similar things had happened in the taluks of Tanjore, Mayavaram and Mannargudi. What was the position of the people in those areas? There is no security of person; no security of property. At last, I sent the Hon. Mr. K. R. Karanth, Revenue Minister. He toured that area and tried to find out the position but he was not able to do so from the persons concerned. Then he made a report about the state of affairs there and that report is on the file. In that report, he has also made a reference to the previous state of affairs in the district. On the first occasion when two other Hon. Ministers Mr. Raghava Menon and Mr. K. Bhashyam, went there to patch up the differences and to bring about a settlement, it was practically found impossible. While they were on the spot, the Communist leader who was present there had the courage to use very

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insulting diatribe against one of the Hon. Ministers. Everybody believed that some settlement would be effected by the intervention of the Hon. Ministers. But did things improve after that? No, matters became worse. Absolutely unjustifiable acts have been done. Two of the servants of one mirasdar who have been brought from outside on account of the mischief done by these Communists were killed and absolute anarchy had been prevailing there. Where these people had been fomenting agrarian trouble, two innocent men were killed on the spot. (Muhammad Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur: 'But, is there no court of law in that district?') Mr. Salam will have some patience. There are also lawyers in that district. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'Have not those law courts given any opinion?') Law courts will give their opinion. Government will not allow Communists or any other people to take charge of other people's property and make it impossible for them to live in this country; if such a situation comes about, Government will take particular care to see that those persons who are responsible for creating anarchy are not allowed to commit such acts. That is the business of this Government and that is why this ordinance had been promulgated.

"No, Sir, that is not all. Let us see what is happening in Malabar. Those friends who feel that their liberties and freedom have been tampered with, because they live at such long distances not knowing the state of affairs, do not know the patience with which this Government are trying to manage affairs. This Government would not deserve to be called Government if they were not able to deal with the situation and restore peace and order and security of person and property for the individuals. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Justice also?') Certainly justice also; absolute justice without doing any wrong to any individual. What is going on in Malabar? The latest thing is that these Communists have come to conflict with the police in pitched battle. My Hon. Friend Mr. Giri who toured Malabar recently told me on his return that trenches had been dug in some areas; weapons had been secured; guns and spears had been secured. These people had commenced to give battle to the police force. It is a long story how these people have selected a particular corner which is convenient for them to go and hide themselves in jungles; no communications had been established in the interior and taking advantage of that situation, they selected the spot. It has become a matter of regular fight between the Government police force and these people. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'How many police were killed?') The question is put. How many police were killed? If the police were imbeciles and useless people, perhaps every one of them would have been killed (laughter). In this case, the police have been equal to the task and they have been able to resist the attacks upon them, and notwithstanding the injuries sometimes caused to them, they even chased these Communists, who took to their heels with a view to rounding them up. Hon. Members can easily understand how much it had cost Government. Well, Sir, having started this game, and set up the whole thing, the Communist leaders came to Madras—they are all good friends of mine because we were all

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in jails at one time—one of them was preaching something to me inside the jail—(Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Was he not taught anything?')—He was taught good behaviour but he would not take it—(laughter)—and presented their petitions. I am glad they did not know the consequences of the statements they had made in the petition. Their statements were made which were corroborated by the statements made by some of the hon. Members of this House. They took up a particular position in regard to private property and private ownership and in regard to certain other matters. They wanted to file that petition while the battle was going on in Malabar between the Police and these people. How can anybody expect peace in this country? I may say, Sir, that sometimes I used to feel that because of our leniency and because we did not take proper steps at the very beginning of this movement, these people thought they were free to go about their way telling people that they were entitled to grow crop on Government land to grow more food. If any land belonging to the Government was lying waste, they say they would grow crop on it. In that petition, they asked for an enquiry into these matters, but since I was not in a position to undertake another tour to Malabar to enquire into the statements contained in the petition, I deputed a special officer, not belonging to the Police Department, to go and find out and to send a statement in regard to this matter. We got that report also and that report will show to what limits these people have gone and what all things have been done by them. Another Member of this House who knew what things were going on there narrated to me how many cases have been filed and how anarchy was practically prevailing in that area. One member of the Constituent Assembly also told me about the happenings in Malabar; another lady member who belongs to Malabar came and told me what is happening there and asked how people could live there unless something is done by Government. Therefore, the position in Malabar has become very difficult to tackle except with the aid of the Police Department.

"Then in regard to northern districts, agrarian troubles started there also. These Communist friends have got three or four papers. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'Four papers in four languages.')

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Premier may go on without minding the interruptions."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If I should mind them, I should have been elsewhere. There is one paper in Madras 'Jana-sakthi,' one in Andhra called 'Prajasakthi' and another in Malabar called 'Deshabimani.' Even in regard to these papers we have been very lenient. We have allowed them to write whatever they liked; probably they thought that they were absolutely free to create anarchy in this country by writing anything they liked. The 'Deshabimani' paper wrote a leader calling upon the Moplahs of Malabar to rise in rebellion. It had stated that the conditions that prevailed in 1921 during the Moplah Rebellion

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are prevailing to-day. That is the way in which that paper wanted to incite people. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'It was against Imperialism.') Imperialism has no head, no legs and no hands. You use the word 'Imperialism' against anybody, even against those people who want to help you.

"This is the special report received from the Special Officer whom we deputed to examine the position in Malabar. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'What is the name of the Special Officer?'). (Mr. Muhammad Abdul Salam: 'Is he a European or an Indian?') The name of the Special Officer is Mr. Dixon. He says 'The existence of a popular Congress Ministry in Madras enabled the Left Wing Communist members of the Party to persuade the people to believe that action would not be taken against them by the Police. The Congress Socialist elements also secured control of labour unions and carried on propaganda of a distinctly communist type among teachers and students. The movement culminated in the violent disorders associated with the Protest Day in 1940. Following on this the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee was reorganized under Right Wing control and the communists were excluded from the Congress. When Russia joined the war, the attitude of the Communists underwent a change; the Imperialist war became a people's war and the party gave to the Government nominal support and refused to join the Congress. The ban on the Communist party was removed and it started the paper "Deshabimani" which now wields a large influence in Malabar. After the release of Congress leaders from jail, the Communists received a temporary set-back . . . I am trying to explain here what Mr. Dixon has not written or stated. While in 1942, the whole Congress was thrown into jail from top to bottom, these Communists who had been Congressmen until then for all outward purposes, declared themselves against the Congress. When the Congress went into jails saying that the war was not a people's war, we never wanted this war, it is a war that is fought in the interests of other countries, these Communists started the slogan that it was a people's war; what all things have been done by them is a matter of history. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'How this is all relevant here, Sir?') I am trying to speak only relevant matter in dealing with Communists. If this is not relevant, what else can be relevant? These people were members of the Congress at one time and in war time they cut off from it and started the agitation because they did not want to be grouped with the Congress in jails. It is worse for you now to say anything you like. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'Is that movement violent or non-violent?') (Mr. Speaker: 'I will not allow any further interruptions.') If it were not non-violent, all the congressmen would not have been inside jails before anything happened in the country. It is because of non-violence that each time they were ready to go into the jails obeying the orders of Government. The report goes on: 'After the release of the Congress leaders from jails, Communists received a temporary set-back.' Sir, from inside the jails, congressmen were feeling what programme and propaganda were carried on by the

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Communists. Innocent people of the cherries were taken hold of and they were set against the Congress and the Congress organisation. It was in that way they believed that they gathered the strength of the masses. Now, Sir, I may say without fear of contradiction, ever since I came out of the jail, I concentrated my attention upon Communist activities in the Andhra area. Month after month, I was able to meet innocent villagers who were misled by these Communists. They counted upon their work for being returned in large numbers at the elections. Notwithstanding all the mischief done by them, they could not command the influence over the people in this country. Elections came; we all knew the result of the elections and we knew that only two members of the Communist Group came into this House.

"I referred last time how even this Government was threatened; it is threatened even to-day, and what is it that this Government should do? The Government has to do its duty in spite of these men. People will not be frightened by anonymous letters. I told hon. Members of this House what was done at Karur and Trichinopoly and in other places where I actually went and witnessed with my own eyes what things had been done and how things were settled. Even to-day some cases are pending. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'There are no Communists in Karur to-day.') (Mr. Speaker: 'I will not allow the hon. Member to go on interrupting the Premier like this.') Cases are pending and the courts will decide them. Whatever the courts may decide, the public also are considering and will decide. People living in this Province are also considering." (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I tell you once again, Mr. Venkateswarlu, not to disturb the Prime Minister. You have sent in a resolution on this matter and it will come up for discussion on Monday next when I will give you an opportunity of saying whatever you wish to say, but for goodness' sake, please do not disturb."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"But I have to contradict certain allegations which have been directed against the party."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow you to put some questions at the end of the speech of the Hon. the Premier."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Houses were set on fire, 1 p.m. crops and foodgrains were burnt. I am quoting to you from a letter received by the Government as early as 6th May 1946. 'I gave some suggestions for food production in Tanjore district. The activities of Communists among the labourers have to be checked. I got a reply in June that the matter is under consideration. From June to December various attempts were made to conciliate and redress their reasonable grievances by members of the Government and local officials. But concessions and increases of wages were taken to be only successes in their struggles. They have proved more a stimulation than a settlement of their violent action. The representatives of the District in the Legislature have intimated

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the situation to the Government during the middle of November. As a result of the activities of the Kisan Sabhas in the district, more particularly Mannargudi division, there is a set back in the production of rice. Kisans are adopting a scorched earth policy."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I am not able to hear properly the Hon. the Premier."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The quantity of short-term crop paddy exported from this district has fallen short by 30 per cent. The Kisan Sabhas are adopting a scorched earth policy inducing labourers who have fallen a prey to their preachings to impoverish the Mirasdars by adopting disruptive action. The result will be that the export of surplus stock will be greatly affected. The latest instance of violent action of the Kisan Sabhas was at Alathur in Mannargudi taluk where two watchmen who were deputed to supervise the lands were murdered. The Communists are planning terrorist acts in places where there is resistance to their scorched earth policy. The main harvest is approaching and Mirasdars are anxious whether the Alathur incident will be repeated. Unless Government take proper action the normal export of surplus paddy will not be done." These are the photographs sent with regard to the burning of the properties. The Leader of the Opposition and hon. Members of this House may look at it and draw their own conclusions. The communication ends with a strong recommendation to improve the condition of the labourers. The photographs were taken only of occurrences of a serious nature. All these acts have been planned and programmed in Bombay by Mr. Joshi, the Secretary of the All-India Communist Party. Mr. Joshi visited districts shortly before the elections advocating violence and the District Magistrate had to issue orders, prohibiting the carrying of weapons immediately before and during the elections. Subsequent to the Congress accepting office, certain communist leaders were released. This was the offence committed by the Congress Government. Though they were released the relations between them remained embittered and Communists started direct action. They supported the Pakistan demand of the Muslim League in so far as it was aimed against the British Government. They even advocated the repetition of the Moplah rebellion of 1921. In regard to industrial labour they have been actively fomenting strikes. Some of the strikes were accompanied by violent acts. Perhaps their most significant effort has been on the Kisan front. Once again the Chirakal taluk has been the scene of activities. There have been several factors, some new and some old, which have favoured the Communists in their agitation in North Malabar, particularly in Chirakal taluk. Assumption of office by Congress has raised extravagant hopes of immediate redress of all grievances and the expectation that strong action will not be taken to punish illegal action. This belief was encouraged by the cancellation of the externment order on Mr. B. Krishna Pillai and the release of persons convicted in the Vettathur case. These persons have been responsible for the

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brutal murder of a Sub-Inspector and a constable. Since their release they have been openly saying that they would preach violence. So far as this district was concerned there were many instances of organized trespass into private lands and theft of cattle or forcible occupation for cultivation purposes or of occupation of lands wherefrom tenants were evicted. During the month of December, Communists became gradually emboldened and their acts of defiance of Law and order grew more serious. In December 1946 when a Rationing Inspector visited a house where a big feast was being conducted against the Rationing Rules they threatened the police when the accused were arrested. They offered obstruction to these arrests. On 11th December 1946 about 300 Communists armed with sticks, etc., obstructed the movement of paddy and they had to be dispersed by lathi charge. On 30th December 1946 when the Malabar Special Police went to arrest some Communists, a large number of the latter with fire-arms, etc., collected on a hill in defiance of orders under Section 144. The Communists fired eight rounds. A large number of weapons were recovered from this party. Eight Communists were killed including three ex-service men. The country in the interior of Chirakal taluk is ideally suited for operations by ill-armed guerillas. Communications are non-existent; the country is hilly and wooded and they have got an efficient system of intelligence and signalling. The Communists have been claiming that they have spies in every place, in every Government office, including the Secretariat. They have a feeling of security that they would get any information and that they would be able to act in anticipation of any orders that the Government may issue. The "Praja Sakti," the Communist daily paper in Bezwada, included in its issues of 16th October 1946 and 3rd November 1946, gists of circulars sent out from this Secretariat—all confidential papers. As a result of these leakages, confidential enquiries were immediately instituted and it is now learnt that the Communist party of India, Bombay, has issued instructions to all Provincial Communist branches that they should adopt a counter espionage system with a view to discovering the plans affecting the party."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is it a fact . . . ?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have told the hon. Member already that he will be allowed an opportunity of putting some questions to the Hon. the Premier. He will wait till the Premier finishes the speech."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Communists in Guntur indiscriminately assaulted the inhabitants of a certain locality in April resulting in a case of murder and there was a promulgation of prohibitory orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. As a result of Communist efforts to gain control of Textile mills, innumerable clashes have occurred resulting in a number of murders in Madura and Coimbatore. In July last,

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in Anantapur and Kistna districts a Communist party attacked and killed two persons. In August Communists brought about a general strike in South Indian Railway including 40 per cent of the total staff and caused considerable dislocation of business. The strikers resorted to acts of sabotage and intimidation of loyal workers and resistance to the authority resulting in the Police opening fire. Cases are pending against them. The Communists were directly responsible for bringing about a strike of Conservancy workers in Madras City and other Municipalities in the Province and the strikers were instigated to use violence against loyal workers. On 11th December 1946, about 300 Communists attacked a police party in Malabar, resulting in a lathi charge. On 12th December a Communist mob armed with deadly weapons attacked the Erikur outpost and injured some police men. The mob had to be disbursed by a lathi charge. On the 20th December determined efforts were made by a mob of Communists to obstruct the transportation of paddy belonging to a zamindar. The police had to open fire as a result of which two persons died. On 30th December 1946, armed with guns and deadly weapons, a Communist party attacked the Malabar Special Police; the police opened fire against them as one of their jamindars was wounded. The result was that five persons were killed and ten injured. On the same day another unsuccessful attempt was made to attack the Malabar Special Police at Elacheri at night. In the West Godavari and Kistna districts it was part of their plan to occupy lanka lands belonging to the Zamindar of Ellamaru, necessitating the issue of orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In Kistna district, Communists resorted to forcible occupation of lands in defiance of Estate authorities. In Kistna district the Communists armed with spears forcibly occupied the zamindari lands. A no-tax campaign was carried on by Communists, in Mandasa and Tekkali in Vizagapatam district."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"It is your centre."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Every centre is a strong centre for the Government."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I mean the Congress."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"In South Kanara district Communists instigated innocent people to remove fuel from estates and resist anybody if they questioned them. Their activities have ranged from the north-east extremity to the south-west. They have been devoting their attention to delta districts of Godavari and Tanjore. In Tanjore there have been frequent clashes and breaches of the peace. Reserved Police had to be detailed to maintain law and order and a number of criminal cases have been launched. In Konerirajapuram, Communists set up the kisans to make unreasonable demands on the mirasdars. They instigated the trespassing of lands belonging to the mirasdars and the police

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had a much difficult time in maintaining law and order. In the months of November and December 1946 in Tirutaraipundi and Mannargudi taluks the kisans took the law into their own hands and carried away the paddy and the mirasdars were unable to prevent them and a number of cases have been registered against farm-servants. Kisans became very defiant with the result that a large number of cases had to be registered against them. A double murder took place on 29th December 1946 when Communist kisans caused rioting and killed two. Reserve Police had to be stationed at several centres in these taluks and prohibitory orders had to be issued. On 11th December, Communists attacked the loyal workers at Coimbatore with sticks, soda-water bottles, etc., necessitating the opening of fire by the police resulting in several casualties. For the recognition of the Textile Union at Madura, the Communist workers instigated their followers to open an attack upon their opponents and the police were hard put to quell these disturbances. They had to use tear gas also. Again prohibitory orders had to be issued. A large number of Communists were charge-sheeted for criminal conspiracy and the cases are pending. In Coimbatore, there were differences among the workers themselves. Some were working and some came out of the mill. There was one murder in front of one mill and another murder in another mill in Tirupur. Violence has been the rule of the party and they have made up their minds to make it impossible for this Government to maintain law and order in the province. Otherwise, how are you to account for these large-scale operations, operations from one corner of the Province to the other and all of the same pattern? They have been saying that this Government must quit and they will themselves become the Governors and be the rulers themselves. I am wondering wherefrom they have been getting their funds for distribution among these innocent people. People have been misled by them. They have not hesitated to make use of anything for the furtherance of their objectives. Money, intimidation and acts of violence have been freely brought into play with a view to discredit the Government and gain the support of innocent men. This has become a regular menace not only in this Province but in other Provinces also. When I was in Delhi, there was a Conference of the Prime Ministers and I had occasion to verify all these facts and how things had been spreading. This country will face a serious situation if these Communists are allowed to act in the manner they have been doing. It is with this object that the Government was compelled to take this action by way of an Ordinance. We do not wish to keep this Ordinance in force without bringing it before this House. The Bill is under preparation and it will be ready in a few days. Immediately it is ready, it will be placed before this House. It is not without reason, it is not for the mere whim that this Ordinance has been promulgated. Such a measure was very necessary in order to get over this difficulty. It has been asked why this Ordinance, why this hurry, why not have recourse to normal legislation? I have narrated

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to you at length what has been done month after month, how the police had to be stationed in different areas with a view to give protection to innocent persons. It is not merely the mob that the police have to disperse and maintain law and order, but they have to look to the safety of not merely the owner of a certain property but of everybody who has to live there and carry on his business. It is only when matters have reached a climax and when all the forces that the Government have been using were not sufficient, we had to think of this. The Police cannot be expected and will not be able to get along with their duties when thousands of people go about and take the law into their own hands. Hence, restrictive action was called for. It is not our object to kill our people; it is our object to prevent these people from making a hell of the whole country and prevent people leading a peaceful existence. This Ordinance was intended to meet such a situation and this will not be continued for a day beyond the one on which necessity for it ceases. The moment that there is peace and order, the Ordinance will be withdrawn and will not be allowed to remain. There must be a guarantee forthcoming, having regard to all the developments in this country, that there is peace. When it became impossible and when we had to discharge our duty by the country and by the people, we were obliged to have recourse to this measure. In a few days' time you will be having the Bill for discussion. If hon. Members after examining the whole thing consider that there is nothing in the country to warrant the measure, let it be thrown out. I am absolutely certain that every Member of this House will stand up and speak of things from his own experience, how things have been going on in the past. I am not dwelling on some things which may not be very palatable with regard to our administration and with regard to unforeseen difficulties that we have experienced in the matter of getting the required services done straightaway. Look at the students now. I wonder where this country is going to be. I am amazed at the indiscipline that has come to stay with them. The hon. Member looks happy and joyful and is shaking his head round and round."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Increasing your prestige."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If you consider that by these acts these people are believing that they are enhancing their prestige, they are wrong. One's prestige cannot be enhanced like that. Let there be no mistake about it. It may be the principle of Communists to subvert the existing order of things, to subvert the Government itself and then jump into their place. Such ideas regarding law and order must be dismissed at least by persons who have come into this House with a particular responsibility, stating that they are representatives of the people and of the country. Two days back, the Education Minister got a message from the Principal of Masulipatam College to the

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effect that the students had taken forcible possession of the college premises and made it impossible for the staff to carry on their work."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Premier will continue his speech."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, one or two points more, I have to refer, on the question, why this Ordinance had been promulgated. The Communists put on an appearance of non-violence for certain purposes. At one time there were reasons to believe that they might have adopted non-violence as a matter of policy, if not, as a creed. But that cloak has been shaken off, when they cut off from the Congress and declared in favour of violence."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"When did they declare in favour of violence?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I said, Sir, earlier, that Mr. Joshi, the General Secretary of the All-India Communist Party, whose headquarters is in Bombay, came here before the elections, with a view to give instructions to his party people while they ran their candidates, said, he did not wish to adhere to the creed of non-violence. He preached violence itself and it was in pursuance of that, as a matter of fact, violent activities increased very much. They thought, by using violence, the voters would be frightened and they would vote in favour of those who are strong enough, and so they informed their men they should use violence. That was the psychology at that time. They did believe in that, and they proceeded on that basis for canvassing votes, and we have seen the results of the elections, so far as this province is concerned. It is quite a mischance that one member of the Communist Party was returned in the general seats, and it is sheer chance that another member from the south was returned from that party."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"We got a thumping majority!"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"What is it like, and what it would be like will be seen very soon. I know the conditions under which this thumping majority was secured by hon. Members. But for certain things, they would have shared the fate of several other great men. However, I expect every member returned from that party to be a reasonable man, without talking of violence, without preaching violence and without threatening people to do violence. Sir, there were defects on our side. When thousands of people marched on others lands, photos ought to have been taken. We have not facilities in this country to take photos of these men going along. But anyhow, these are facts which cannot be denied. In that way, they thought, they were creating an

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atmosphere, that they were gathering strength, and that it would be enhancing their prestige. They expected they would be able to march on to their goal. It is for that purpose, I was telling you about the students' organization, how young boys had been affected by these people, how boys and others, who did not really understand anything of Communism, how though Communism as conceived by Karl Marx and Lenin had been abandoned, it had been adopted by these people. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'Indian Communism.') We have got far away from that.

"I was telling you, Sir, the story of the Masulipatam students' strike. Some time back there was a strike in Guntur. The Christian College Principal closed the door altogether and could not carry on work. You have got the Masulipatam College, which had been taken possession of by Communist students. What should the Government do when such students were crying out, 'You teachers, clear out; you, Principal, clear out?' What should we do except to bodily remove these boys and restore peace and order. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu interrupted.) I am not addressing the hon. Member. I always sympathise with him. (Laughter.) One other incident. In West Godavari at Ellore, the tannery workers had been instigated by Communists to go on strike. What happened? We had to take particular care to see that everything went on well in that place. And nearby in Madras, at Pallavaram, the tannery workers were influenced to go on strike, and the latest is the Chrome Factory workers' strike. This is not a thing that has been exaggerated. Read the pages of newspapers, whose names I gave you. There, you see them all in print. Is this the way in which a political party should conduct itself? They have been considering to bring about a general strike, not merely all over the province, but throughout India. They are an ambitious people. They think, 'with these strikes, let us break down the Government of the land, and let us establish our raj everywhere.' That is their object. Local Communist leaders and students met at a conference in Madras on 22nd December 1946 under the presidency of A. S. K. Ayyangar and decided to paralyse labour throughout the presidency early in January 1947 by bringing about a general strike to express their resentment against Government's attitude towards labour. (Sri P. Venkateswarlu: 'Are newspapers banned?') The result of strikes in the past must have enabled everyone to understand what the result of strike would be like, how people suffer, not merely strikers, but others also. That is quite sufficient to convince any reasonable man of the evils of strike. But such things will never convince the Communists. They are pledged not to be convinced with any amount of reason. (Laughter.) Questions have been put even in this House, 'is it illegal to go on strike; because it is not illegal, is it not open to people to create strikes?' Strikes are intended to paralyse Government. When they are contemplated, people take steps to take care of themselves. Even so, Government also take steps.

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"I regret to say we had recourse not to the ordinary provisions of the law, but sometimes to extraordinary provisions. I never believe that people in our country would force conditions to such an extent as to compel a Government in our position, who have been so good and kind to these Communists from the very beginning, to adopt this attitude of having recourse to an ordinance. Why did we have recourse to an ordinance? Who is this A. S. K. Ayyangar? A. S. K. Ayyangar is a Communist whose headquarters is Madras. A. S. K. Ayyangar presided over a meeting and passed a resolution to paralyse the Government. Who suffers? Do not these Communists have sufficient sense to understand that by bringing about a general strike all over the Province, by getting everything to a standstill, who would be suffering, and for whose benefit and in whose name they will be suffering. Nobody can call upon the whole country to go on strike and stay away from the work. Where is the source for all this inspiration of the Communist party? Is it only from Bombay headquarters? No, it is not so, though they have been saying hitherto that it is the Russian method which is being adopted. Just as the Congress people are taking Independence pledge on the 26th January, the Independence Day was observed by all Communists on the 26th January. What it is that the Communist party said with regard to the observance of the Independence Day? They said they started with the birth or death of Lenin . . ."

2-45
p.m.

(At this stage the Hon. the Premier was searching for the manifesto.)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I have got a copy of the manifesto."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I have got it here, Sir. Nobody need offer it."

(At this stage Sri P. Venkateswarlu interrupted.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is a limit even to interruptions. Mr. Venkateswarlu, please do not force me to take action under rule 20-A of the rules."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"This is the paper. It says 'January 21st Lenin's Day. 21st to 26th Independence Day. Carry on Independence Day.' What is stated in this paper of January 21st, on another page, is 'In the eleven districts of Bengal, although Hindu-Muslim unity had been maintained (I am translating from Telugu), several people gave up their lives (Thyagam) in the cause of Communism; that day must be observed; the coolies must respect and work to promote that.'

"I did not propose to deal so exhaustively on this occasion when I promised to make a statement. But I thought, because of the extreme step we had to adopt, it was necessary to take this House, and also those people outside, into our confidence, and tell them in what condition those millions of people who were affected by the activities of the Communists are. From that you will be

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able to decide whether we should allow them to go on doing things which they have been doing, or we should put a stop to their activities, until they are settled and set right."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Leader of the Opposition will now speak."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the House has to thank the hon. the Leader of the House for the long statement which he has made on the floor of this House. Now coming to the Ordinance itself, that is a very extraordinary measure by itself, and the way in which it has been brought into being is another extraordinary thing. In view of this extraordinary step that the Government was forced to take, I think we must have a debate on the subject on some day that is convenient to the House. Moreover, when I heard the statement of the Hon. the Premier, and the vivid description he has been giving us of the happenings in this country for several months past, my desire for a debate has been more intensified. We want to hear from the other side what they have got to say about the several points and matters that have been raised in the statement. Therefore, that is another reason why we must have a debate on this very important matter."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Salam asked me this morning whether we could have a debate on this matter. My ruling on this point is this. To have a debate on a statement, we should have a motion before the House. There is now no motion before the House. In Parliament, the rules are clear. I will first read the procedure followed in the House of Commons:

'Extract from Sri T. Erskine May's Parliamentary Practice, Fourteenth Edition, page 352.

(3) MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS.

Explanations are made to the House on behalf of the Government regarding their domestic and foreign policy; stating the advice they have tendered to the Sovereign regarding their retention of office or the dissolution of Parliament; announcing the legislative proposals they intend to submit to Parliament; or the course they intend to adopt in the transaction and arrangement of public business. These explanations are now usually elicited by arrangement in reply to a question. But the older practice under which they were volunteered spontaneously is still sometimes followed. In that case they are taken in the order of business indicated on page 326 and prior notice to Mr. Speaker is necessary.

An explanation has been permitted after motions at the commencement of public business had been disposed of and before the Speaker called upon the Clerk to read the orders of the day.

Ministerial explanations have also been made during debate on motions that afforded an opportunity for the statement, for instance, on motions for Committee of supply and an adjournment of the House. A statement has been permitted between the orders of the day after five o'clock on a Friday.

As no question is before the House, debate on such statements is irregular."

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"This is the procedure in the House of Commons. Now I go to the Central Legislature. In the Central Legislature it is open to a Government Member, with the permission of the Chair, to make a statement on matters of public concern. No debate is allowed on such a statement, but sometimes on the request of members, the President has permitted the putting of a few questions with a view to elucidate the statement or to elicit further information on points arising out of that statement. Where a statement has been made on behalf of Government relating to a matter of general public interest, it is open to any member to give notice of a motion under rule 24-A that the statement relating to such and such a matter be taken into consideration. Such a motion cannot under the rules be moved except with the consent of the President and the Member of Government to whose department the motion relates. So, the Hon. the Premier has made a statement, and there is no motion before the House. Further I wish to inform the House . . ."

(Mr. Muhammad Ismail Sahib rose in his seat.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please resume your seat. Hon. Member Mr. P. Venkateswarlu has sent a resolution day before yesterday. I am going to bring it before the House under sub-section 2 (A) of section 88 of the Government of India Act, 1935, and also under rule 114 of the Assembly Rules. Rule 114 of the Assembly Rules require—

'114. As soon as possible after the Governor has promulgated an ordinance under sub-section (1) of section 88 of the Act, printed copies of such ordinance shall be made available to the members of the Assembly. Within six weeks from the re-assembly of the Assembly any member may, after giving three clear days' notice to the Secretary, move a resolution disapproving the ordinance and if such a resolution is passed, it shall be forwarded to the other Chamber with a message asking for its concurrence.'

The resolution given notice of by my friend Mr. Venkateswarlu will be before the House on Monday."

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is that a resolution for a debate, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"When the resolution is before the House naturally you will have a debate. Secondly, the House will have another opportunity to discuss this question. Within a week, the Hon. the Premier will bring the contents of the ordinance in the form of a Bill, and then there will be another opportunity to 3 p.m. discuss this Bill. So, I shall inform the House that the House will be given opportunity to debate this question. The Hon. the Premier has made a statement. If the hon. Member Mr. P. Venkateswarlu wants any explanation from the Premier, I will allow him to put one or two questions."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Under the ordinance, to prevent from doing any of the acts contemplated, anybody can be arrested. The ordinance is all-comprehensive. Even a sub-magistrate or police officer can take action. As a matter of fact, one of the Members of this Assembly has already

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been arrested under the ordinance. I want to know whether this House has got the right to have him brought to this Assembly for discussing and taking part in the debate."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The object of the hon. Member is to bring Mr. Ananda Nambiar before the House. In England, as the hon. Members know, Members of Parliament have privileges. We have not got such privileges. They are not written privileges, but recognized by custom from time immemorial. We discussed this in the Speakers' Conference and came to the conclusion that we should have certain privileges. With the co-operation of the Hon. Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and other Group Leaders, I am going to form a committee which will go into this matter and frame a Bill which will be placed before this House very soon. To-day the House is helpless to bring the hon. Member before the House."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I know that this House, as it is to-day, has no powers. But our Hon. Premier can order so that Mr. Ananda Nambiar, M.L.A., can take part in the proceedings."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I have been thinking about this matter for some time. No assurance has been forthcoming from any quarter that nothing untoward will happen, if the hon. Member is allowed to come up. Even if there were no precedent or constitutional rule framed in this direction, I would certainly agree in the ordinary course to get the hon. Member here, so long as he continues to be a member of this Assembly, to take part in the deliberations. That is my personal feeling in the matter. I shall be able to tell you, Sir, and the House later."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Will there be an assurance that he will not be arrested during the session?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Under the constitutional rules, no member can be touched so long as he is in the House or on his way. If any hon. Member of this Assembly does not go out of his way to create a situation, I can certainly assure the hon. Member that he will not be touched under the recognized rules, and I am only hoping that he will not go out of his way to create a new situation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We will have a debate on this subject on Monday."

VI.—GOVERNMENT MOTIONS.

- (1) RESOLUTION UNDER THE MADRAS SALES OF MOTOR SPIRIT TAXATION ACT, 1939 (MADRAS ACT VI OF 1939).

Rates of tax on sales of motor spirit.

- * THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I beg to move—
'That the following notification made by His Excellency the Governor of Madras under the first proviso to section 3 (1) of the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation

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Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), fixing, in lieu of the existing rates, other rates at which tax is to be levied on retail sales of motor spirit under that Act, be approved:—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by the first proviso to section 3 (1) of the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939 (Madras Act VI of 1939), His Excellency the Governor of Madras hereby fixes, in lieu of the existing rates, the following rates at which tax is to be levied under that Act on all retail sales of motor spirit effected on or after the 1st February 1947:—

- (1) *In the case of petrol, at the rate of four annas per gallon;*
- (2) *In the case of any motor spirit other than petrol, at the rate of one anna and six pies per gallon.'*

Sir, in placing this resolution before the House, I shall refer to a few facts. As has been stated already in the resolution itself, this Act was passed in 1939, and under section 3 of that Act, the rates of tax that are being levied are one anna and six pies per gallon on petrol and half an anna per gallon on other motor spirit. This revenue has been increasing from year to year. In 1939-40, it was about 16 lakhs of rupees. In 1945-46, it was Rs. 48.59 lakhs. In the current year, we have budgeted for Rs. 50.02 lakhs under this head. But we find, from actual realizations in the last two quarters of the year, that, by reason of the termination of the war, the sales have gone down, and our income will be only about Rs. 24 or 25 lakhs, i.e., half of what we have budgeted for. The proposal now is to raise this one anna and six pies per gallon to four annas per gallon, i.e., by two and a half annas in the case of petrol, and in the case of other motor spirit, from half an anna to one anna and a half. The total amount that might be expected for the next year from this on the basis of the figures already given by me will be, if sales continue to be the same, about 65 lakhs of rupees.

"Now the need for additional taxation which it will be my pleasant or unpleasant duty to bring before this House during this session is quite clear. As has been rightly said, Sir, one cannot have the cake and also eat it. This House has asked for large measures, the biggest of which is prohibition which is costing a great deal. Out of a total revenue of 45 crores, we stand to lose nearly 17 crores in the short space of three or four years, i.e., more than one-third of our total income which it is very difficult to make up. I know there are hon. Members in this House like my hon. Friend Sir Stuart Town who have said in the past and will no doubt say again that prohibition is a foolish venture and that therefore don't lose all that valuable revenue. Sir, this House has taken a definite position on the subject and therefore I hope the majority of this House will be with me when

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I say that it is our plain duty to make up the revenue which we are losing so fast. The loss in the current year on account of the introduction of prohibition in eight districts will be 5 or 5½ crores, and if we take up a few more districts next year, it will be another 4 or 5 crores. Therefore, it is the plain duty of any Government, which wants that its balance-sheet should be proper, to levy taxation, towards which end we are going to bring forward two or three proposals. This is the first of them and, I hope, the least objectionable.

“ I may say, Sir, that two days ago a printed memorandum was submitted by four associations in Madras—the Automobile Association of Southern India, the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association, the Madras Motor Vehicles and Allied Merchants' Association and the Madras Provincial Motor Union Congress. It was addressed to me. Though I got it only two days back, it is up to me, with your leave, to answer a few statements made therein. Firstly, it is stated that the taxation on motor spirit in Madras is the heaviest in all India and secondly that the all-India figures show that more money is taken by way of taxes than is spent upon the roads. On page 2 of the memorandum, it is said that the expenditure on roads in India in 1938-39—rather a far back period to mention—was only 6 crores, whereas the motor vehicles taxation was 9 crores, and the inference is deduced that the percentage of tax to expenditure on roads is 150 per cent. That means in India we spend much less on roads than the tax realized under this head. Whatever may be the figures for the whole of India, I have got certain figures for this Province to show that our expenditure on roads is far more than the income that we realize under this head. Now, our income in the budget that was passed by this House, under the Indian and Provincial Motor Vehicle Acts—the Indian Motor Vehicle Act is one under which licences and allied matters are dealt with, and the provincial Act deals with taxation—is 90.19 lakhs. The other head of revenue to which I referred is the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, for which we have budgeted Rs. 50.02 lakhs, but under which, as has already submitted to this House, our income will be only half or even a little less, i.e., about Rs. 24 or Rs. 25 lakhs. These are the only two sources of revenue which yield Rs. 115 lakhs. What are the figures of expenditure upon various roads in this Province? As may be seen from page 427 of the detailed budget, we have provided for new works Rs. 56.24 lakhs, for repairs Rs. 170.50 lakhs, for grants to local bodies Rs. 25.15 lakhs, and for grants for post-war works to the same bodies Rs. 5.00 lakhs. In all, the Government is spending Rs. 256.89 lakhs, whereas our income is going to be only Rs. 115 lakhs. In addition to this, we have provided Rs. 90.42 lakhs towards grants for toll compensation to local bodies. Over and above us, there is what the local bodies have spent during the year. Though I have not got the figures for this year, I shall take the figures for the last year 1945-46. The municipalities

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and local boards have spent Rs. 31.44 lakhs and Rs. 117.09 lakhs respectively. The total expenditure on roads in this Province is a little more than Rs. 4 crores. I ask, Sir, whether it could at all be said that the taxation is more than the expenditure involved. I may even say, Sir, that the need for taxation under this head is much more. In the coming year, we shall have to provide very much more than what we have done in the past on account of damage to roads in the mofussil districts on account of the wear and tear of the war Government will have to spend more. Therefore the plea that we are taxing motor transport very heavily is not at all a sustainable one.

“ Secondly, the question is whether the increase is excessive and cannot be borne. The price for petrol per gallon at present in Madras is Rs. 1-9-0. This is made up of the company's price of Re. 0-11-6, the Central Government's duty of 12 annas, and all that we are left with is only Re. 0-1-6. If we add Re. 0-2-6, it will be Rs. 1-11-6. One might probably say that the duty of Re. 0-12-0 per gallon levied by the Central Government is rather too much and that, after the war necessity is over, that should be reduced, but certainly not the tax which this Government is going to levy.

“ Lastly, the argument raised in the memorandum—which is likely to be repeated from certain quarters of the House—is about the welfare of the villager. It is said that by far the greatest part of the population of this Province lives in the villages and it should be the aim of everyone and every Government to improve the lot of the common man. We all know how those who run the motor transport have been looking after the needs of the villager. The villager can be safely left to our care. The great work of prohibition we have undertaken is certainly more to his benefit than to anybody else. We have to provide more and more for roads, and therefore my submission is that the tax which I propose in this resolution is very reasonable, and probably in later times the House will have to be prepared for much higher taxation than the modest increase I have asked for. I therefore ask this House to vote for this resolution.

“ In section 3 of the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1939, as has already been mentioned, the duties fixed are one anna and six pies per gallon in the case of petrol and half an anna in the case of any motor spirit other than petrol. Under the proviso to that section, there shall be no alteration in the rates without the approval of this House. So I beg of this House to approve of the resolution.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ The increase in the motor spirit taxation that has been proposed by the Hon. Minister is indeed rather very high. He proposed to increase the tax by more than 150 per cent. Further it is indeed rather very hard upon the Province to have to pay more tax particularly on an article which is required for a great need of the Province, I mean the transport. The transport needs of the

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Province are very great and every effort should be made to accelerate the expansion of the transport system of the Province. However, I suppose I will have to support the proposal of the Hon. Minister for the reasons he has set forth before the House. Government wants money for the various measures which the House itself is anxious should be executed in the interests of the people. Therefore, Sir, however hard it may be, I have to give my support to the measure that has been put forward by the Government. In this connexion, I would only say that the roads require more attention from the Government. ('Hear, hear.') The Minister himself has mentioned the fact that the roads in the various parts of the Province are in bad disrepair. I myself have got a good deal of experience of the roads existing in the Province. Only the other day I happened to go to Ramnad and on our way from Ramnad town to Kilakkarai I had to pass over a distance of two furlongs and it took me forty-five minutes to cross that distance. After we got over that distance we had to count our ribs to see whether they were all right or missing. That is the state of the roads. I would request Government to pay more attention to these roads. I would invite their attention to the fact that next to the question of protected water-supply to villages, communications are the utmost necessity. Therefore, I support this measure and urge upon the Government to pay more attention to the roads and see that they are such as one would expect in a civilized Province as Madras. I have nothing more to add. With these words I support the proposal placed before the House by the Hon. Minister."

* SIR STUART TOWN:—"Sir, I am quite sure I shall be alone in voicing my protest. I was very sorry for the poor Revenue Member. In his speech it was very obvious that he at least realized that Government is in difficulties with its finance. You could hear in nearly every sentence hints of bankruptcy and of possible cuts in expenditure. He pointed out to us that it is this House that has taken the responsibility for throwing away our revenue from excise and that it is his duty to implement the decision of this House and to find other forms of income. I would remind this House that one of the greatest sources of revenue is in England that derived from excise and that it comes not from the habitual drunkard but from the man who regularly takes a glass of beer and not more. It is one of the stabilising elements in the revenue of Great Britain. Now, Sir, this House is responsible for having shaken the foundations of the revenue of this Province. We have thrown away an important source of revenue and in order to make up our loss we have to tax everyone else in this Presidency in one way or another. Everyone who now rides in a bus will have to pay something extra in the near future because we in this House want to prevent a few hundred habitual drunkards getting drunk. Why should we all suffer because there are a few who drink to excess? I am more and more sorry for the Leader of the Opposition. Forced against his will he has to support

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Government and to help this taxation to go through. He would have loved to get up and attack this tax and have seen it thrown out, but he dare not because he knows that the revenue must be found because he supported prohibition. Therefore, Sir, he finds himself between the devil of drink and the deep sea of the Muslim League's support of prohibition and he has to align himself with his opponents the Government of Madras.

"Now, Sir, with regard to the expenditure on roads, very clear figures have been placed before the Revenue Member, but by some careful and very clever manipulations he has tried to show how very good this Government is regarding their expenditure on roads, but he cannot deny, and I am sure he will not deny, that we in this Presidency do not spend enough money on our roads. I would like to know what is the reason for this additional taxation on petrol? Is it for roads? I can answer that Sir. It is not, and not one part of it will go to roads. In this statement which all of us have seen and which has been so cleverly handled by the Revenue Member, you will see that all other countries spend on roads all their revenue from motor vehicle taxation, and more. He has been at great pains to show how at least in the Madras Presidency we do likewise, but still he has to admit that our roads are in a deplorable condition. When we get this extra revenue are we going to spend it on roads? No. He has no intention of spending it on roads. He will spend most of it on the enforcement of prohibition and the balance will make up his loss under the heading Excise occasioned by the introduction of prohibition. In fact, Sir, it is most likely that all of it will be required to enforce prohibition.

"Sir, I will not keep you long, but I mean to voice my protest. When prohibition is finally given up, the people will read my words and will see that this Government acted against the advice of their best friends. This is a case of thoroughly bad public finance and that is why I am protesting. I do not protest against the tax so much as against the fact that the necessity for this tax is based upon misunderstanding of the fundamentals of national finance and our fiscal policy is being rapidly ruined by pursuing mere ideals and being blind to facts. Sir, I oppose."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I heartily support the introduction of prohibition in certain districts and would very much like that prohibition was introduced in all the districts of the Province, it does not necessarily follow that I should support this taxation. I look upon it as an independent measure brought forward by the Government to tax a certain commodity, namely, petrol. There is absolutely no connection between prohibition and this tax. (An hon. Member: 'Both are spirits.' Both are spirits undoubtedly, but one is sought to be destroyed and the other is sought to be brought in more and more. I do not however know whether the quantity will become more or less. I am not a prophet in this matter. The Hon. the Revenue Minister said that the income

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from this source of revenue will increase day by day. But anyone who knows the canons of taxations will not vouchsafe to any such hope, because while the tax on any commodity is increased, the quantity of that commodity which is consumed will surely go down. This rule must apply in the case of petrol also.

“ In the case of petrol, Mr. Speaker, it is assumed by the Government that it is a rich man's need, a thing required by rich people to go about in their cars any number of miles without any purpose whatsoever. But they seem to forget that petrol is an article of necessity for the poor man as well. The needs of the villager were mentioned by the Hon. Minister. Certainly the transport facilities required by him are of primary importance. If petrol is not made cheap, surely it will affect the transport facilities available to the villager, facilities for him to move from place to place and for the marketing of his goods. I submit, Sir, that the idea that petrol is an article of luxury used by the rich people is a wrong idea. On the other hand petrol is a necessity of the average man also and it is increasingly becoming a necessity of the poor man too. It is necessary for the purpose of transport and trade. Just as electricity is an essential article, petrol also is becoming an essential article and it is not a luxury. Again, Sir, it is wrong to establish a connexion between this tax and the improvement of roads. The proceeds of the increase in this tax must certainly be spent on the improvement of the roads, but from what the Hon. Minister has said and from what he expects the Government to do, it seems to me that the amount is not going to be spent for the improvement of the roads. The roads throughout this Province have deteriorated very badly and the Government should certainly utilize the money derived from this taxation on the improvement of the roads.

“ The amount derived from this increased tax will certainly go to make up to a certain extent the loss of revenue entailed by the introduction of prohibition. But as I said before there is no connexion whatsoever between prohibition and this increase of tax on petrol.

“ In the first place there is no connexion between the increase in this tax and prohibition and secondly, there is no connexion between this tax and the improvement of roads. When that is the case, I do not see what I can do so far as this measure is concerned. Certainly if I were in the Government, I do not know what measure I would devise to augment our resources. That is not my business now. I am not in the Government and it is not my business to find out ways and means of meeting the deficit caused by prohibition. That is the business of the Government. The present Government, for the sake of introducing prohibition, proceed to tax certain classes of people, wrongly believing all the time that they are taxing only the rich. They are taxing the poor also along with the rich. The belief that they are taking the money from the rich and distributing it among the poor does not hold good so far as this measure is concerned.

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Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have stated that there is no connexion between this tax and prohibition and there is also no guarantee that the proceeds of this enhanced tax will all be spent on the improvement of roads, and for providing further transport facilities for the poor man who must go from place to place and also find ways and means of transporting his goods and procuring other necessities of life. I therefore hope that the Government will consider whether what they are doing is the wisest thing and see that they do not tax any class of people unnecessarily.

“ So far as the roads in this Province are concerned, my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition has told us from his personal experience recently that the roads in the City of Madras and in some parts of the Province are too bad to be mentioned. They are in a hopeless condition and transport is impossible on account of the bad condition. The Government have not given due attention to the condition of the roads; they should increase the allotment for the improvement of the roads and increase the transport facilities available to the poor.

“ The roads in the City are in a very hopeless condition and what is the attitude of the Government towards these roads. During the war the heavy military vehicles destroyed the roads to a large extent. The Government should increase the allotments made not only to the City Corporation but also to the district boards for the improvement of the roads. They should not think that it is only the duty of the Corporation and the district boards. But, Sir, I do not think that Government will allot any portion of the amount got by this increased tax for the improvement of the roads. Whatever my Hon. Friend the Revenue Minister has said, they do not wish to connect this increased taxation with the improvement of the roads. And as I have said before, there is no connection between this taxation and prohibition. I therefore wish, Sir, that the Hon. Minister had not come forward with this fresh taxation measure so soon after their coming into power.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must state at the outset that the new tax that is proposed is one which the commodity can most easily bear, and I shall therefore support this tax with less reserve than when supporting other forms of taxation that may be proposed. I see also the necessity of moving this resolution to-day because the enhancement of the tax will take effect from the 1st February.

“ Sir, I think it would have been wiser not to have mentioned that the heavy demands entailed by prohibition are responsible for this enhancement of the tax. In fact, this enhancement is going to cover only a very small part of the cost of prohibition. It was unnecessary to have mentioned prohibition in this connection and we should make prohibition popular and successful by avoiding as far as possible mentioning in this House that every measure of new taxation is meant to replace the revenue

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lost by prohibition. We can introduce prohibition even without many of the taxes that have been proposed already or that may be introduced in the future. I support this measure of taxation because, petrol is a commodity which can bear this tax quite well and there is no fear of diminishing returns by the enhancement of the present tax.

"Having said that, Mr. Speaker, I must point out to the Government two important facts. The Government must at once take steps to see that bus fares are kept under control, and that no advantage is taken of the present enhancement by bus-owners to increase the bus fares as they like even to an extent far in excess of the taxes now proposed. Perhaps it will be even possible to keep the bus fares at the present level if we introduce an efficient system of road administration. The complaint I find in the memorandum of the Automobile Association is this: 'You are not spending enough money on roads, but you are taking more money from us by way of taxation on motor cars, buses and lorries.' I do not agree with that view. I must say in fairness to the public that this question of efficient management of roads must be examined thoroughly by a committee of experts, and if within the limits set by Government for expenditure on roads, we can achieve a greater measure of efficiency, that by itself will reduce the wear and tear of motor cars, buses and lorries and perhaps make them bear heavier taxation than has hitherto been borne by them. It is an important matter which should not be forgotten.

"Sir, I do not agree with the view that because you levy a tax on motor cars, all the money realized therefrom should be earmarked for roads. It is bad finance and it is not a proper understanding of the duty of Government. No tax can be earmarked. Land Revenue, Excise or any other tax for the matter of that cannot be earmarked for any particular purpose. Education cannot be financed from any earmarked tax; Public Health expenditure cannot be met from earmarked taxes. Earmarking of taxation is a bad thing. We have done so in some matters in the past and I have had to protest against that course in the House, because earmarking of revenues for certain purposes always creates vexed problems which later on make for difficulties. All the revenues must be treated as one and all the expenditure must be treated as one and the only connection between the two should be this that the revenue and the expenditure should balance each other. I would therefore like to utter a word of caution.

(At this stage the Deputy Speaker took the chair.)

"It is wrong to imagine that a Government which keeps the largest amount of money in reserve or can afford to spend the largest amount of money on particular subjects is a Government which is very sound. I submit that if we are spending a large amount of money, Rs. 220 lakhs on roads, it is our duty to the public and to ourselves to see that every pie of that money is

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properly spent to the best advantage of the public in order that the complaint that motor vehicles are sustaining great wear and tear and that roads are not properly maintained, is obviated.

"That is my object in speaking on this resolution. I want the Government to make it clear that they will very soon appoint an Expert Committee on this matter and see that road administration is taken up on a planned basis and not waste money on roads by making grants as they like to this body and that and spend on new roads without getting the existing roads under proper repair. That is what I wish to emphasise. I support this measure."

* SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, after hearing the explanation of the Hon. Minister for Revenue, I think, Madam, there can be no cause for opposition. The taxation that has been proposed by the Hon. Minister for Revenue will give an impetus to an important national industry. The motor vehicles are not driven only by the power of the motor spirit. During the last Congress Ministry a great impetus was given to the manufacture of charcoal and using the gas plant for driving the vehicles. We know, Madam, that during the war time, it was the rich men and the Military who were consuming practically all the petrol that was given to this country. The poor man, as we all know, was not able to command the use of this form of conveyance. I also feel, Madam, that by this measure the many forests that we own in this Province will be properly utilized and charcoal manufacture will be made a very big industry and it will give work to all those people who live very near the forest areas. I found in the Forest Research Institute in Dehra Dun charcoal of a very useful type was manufactured and that gives more power in the gas which is produced. But unfortunately in our Province that system has not been brought into existence. I would therefore suggest to the Ministry in office that this question may be considered so that the revenue as a result of the motion that is placed before this House for increasing the taxation on petrol and other motor spirits may be utilized for better purposes. I know, Madam, that during the last visit of the Hon. Labour Member (Sri Jagajivan Ram) to South India, we found that the roads, specially in the Tanjore district, were in a very bad state. This morning the Hon. Prime Minister told us how Tanjore has been leading the various districts in the Province in the production of rice. They do not know the state of the roads in Tanjore. I feel sure, Madam, that they will take up this question and do the needful. With these few words I support this taxation measure."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Madam Deputy Speaker, I wish to support the resolution that has been moved by the Hon. Minister for Revenue. Though we on this side of the House form the Opposition, we on our part are not interested in creating obstacles in the path of the Government, but on the

[Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin] [30th January 1947]

other hand, we are animated by the sincere wish and desire to help the Government in carrying on the administration of this Province. It is with this object in view that I am supporting the resolution for the increase of the tax on petrol. I do realize that the tax on motor transport in this Province is not only the highest in India as was mentioned by the Hon. Minister for Revenue but as a matter of fact is the highest in the world. I have travelled in England, France and Germany and during the course of my travels I found that taxi fares in those countries of the West were not as high as they were in India; taxis there were very much cheaper as compared with taxis in Madras. Then I discovered that taxation, not merely on petrol but the total taxation per motor vehicle in England and also in France was about half of what is prevalent in Madras. I understand that in America it is still less. I believe the tax on motor vehicles there is about one-tenth of the rate of taxation that is prevalent in this Presidency. Among the Provinces of India the rate of taxation on motor vehicles is the highest in Madras. Next to Madras comes Bombay but even Bombay is three times cheaper in regard to this matter as compared to Madras; as for the Punjab it is ten times cheaper than Madras. But in spite of the fact that the tax on petrol is going to be very heavy, I wish to support the Government, because as has been mentioned by the Hon. Minister, the Government are in need of finance. The Hon. Minister mentioned that the price of petrol that we have to pay per gallon is Rs. 1-9-0 and he pointed out that out of this, 11½ annas is the company's price and the remaining amount, namely, 13½ annas, represents the tax that we have to pay on petrol. But at the same time he informed us that it was not the Provincial Government of Madras that was getting the bulk of the benefit but the Central Government. I did not know that myself until I learnt it from him. He told us that the Madras Government derived the benefit of only 1½ annas per gallon. That being the case I think we should allow the Government the increased rate of taxation on petrol in this Province, particularly in view of the fact that this is a commodity that is utilized mainly by the rich. It may be that the poor man might also have to suffer to a certain extent; for instance the bus fares may go up, because it is futile to imagine that the incidence of this taxation will be borne by the transport services. The incidence of this taxation, I am afraid, will ultimately be borne by the utilizers of these conveyances. But on the whole I think the increase in bus fares will not be very appreciable. In this connection I should like the Government to control the bus fares. I feel that in the long run the burden of this taxation will be borne by the rich. Hence in view of what I have stated and in view of the fact that the Government are in need of finance I support this resolution.

"It has been pointed out the Hon. Minister mentioned that he intended to utilize the proceeds of this taxation for the cause of Prohibition. While I should like the Hon. Minister for

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Revenue to do all that he can for improving the roads, which are in a terrible condition, particularly in certain districts, I personally would have no objection if the Hon. Minister utilized a portion of the proceeds of this tax for the cause of Prohibition. We, Muslim Leaguers, as Muslims, are interested in Prohibition and therefore I say that even if a portion of this amount is utilized for Prohibition, we on our part would not object to it. With these words I have great pleasure in supporting the motion."

SRI ALLURISAT YANARAYANA RAJU:—“ఉపాధ్యక్షులగు 3-50
అయ్య నేను యీ లిఖిత ప్రవేశపెట్టుతూ కరెంటుగా చెప్పిన దానితో నేను యేకీభవిస్తు 3-50
చున్నాను. కాని ఈ పన్ను భారము భాగ్యవంతులమీద వేసినప్పుడు మళ్ళీ ప్రయాణికులమీద, p.m.
మామూలు ప్రజలమీద పడకుండా చూచు బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వముమీద ఉన్నదని న్యాయపూర్వ
కముగ మనవిచేయుచున్నాను. ఇప్పటికీ మామూలు ప్రజలకు, బీద రైతులకు, కూలీలకు
ప్రయాణాన్ని ఖర్చులు యెక్కువగా వున్నాయి. మళ్ళీ వారిమీద అధిక పన్ను భారము
హడ పడినట్లు యితే మూలుగుతున్న నక్కమీద తాటిపండు పడినట్లు వుతుంది. గనుక ఇటు
వంటి భారము కూలీలపై, రైతులపైను పడకుండా చూడవలసినదిగా ప్రభుత్వమువారికి
మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“అంతేకాకుండా మళ్ళీగా యీ పన్ను మీదవచ్చు ఆదాయము మధ్యపాన
నిషేధముమీదను ప్రభుత్వమువారు తప్పకుండా ఉపయోగిస్తారని, అంటున్నారు, కాని
దానితోపాటు చాలకాలమునుంచి అక్రమ చేయబడినటువంటి రోడ్లను తప్పకుండా బాగు
చేయించాలి. మరాఠులు లేక పాడేహాయిని రోడ్లపై ప్రజలు చాల బాధపడుతున్నారు.
చాలకాలమునుంచి వారు మన కార్లను ప్రభుత్వము వచ్చినతరువాత రోడ్లు తప్పకుండా
బాగుచేయిస్తారని ప్రతి రైతు హామీగా ఆశిస్తున్నారు. ఆ విధంగానే మనముకూడ
ఆశిస్తున్నాము. లేకపోయినట్లయితే కార్లను ప్రభుత్వము ఈ రోడ్లు బాగుచేయించ
లేదని ప్రజలు అనుకుంటారు. గనుక ఈ అధిక పన్ను ద్వారా వచ్చే ఆదాయములతో
రోడ్లు బాగుచేయించవలసినదని ప్రభుత్వమువారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“ఈ రోడ్లు Highways Department కింద నున్నాయని ఒకప్పుడు షెరీకప్పుడు
Local Boards కింద నున్నాయని అంటున్నారు. నిజంగా నా నియోజకవర్గములో
ఉన్నటువంటి నిడదవోలు-నర్సాపూరు రోడ్లలో బస్సులమీద ప్రయాణముచేస్తే జ్వరం
వస్తుంది. నర్సాపూరు, తణుకు, తాడేపల్లిగూడెం తాలూకా రోడ్లకూడ చాల పాడై
పోయినవి. వాటిమీద బస్సులలో ప్రయాణాలుచేస్తే 2, 3 రోజులు పడుకోవలసిందే. ఈ
బస్సు ప్రయాణాలలో గర్భిణీ స్త్రీలు ఉన్నట్లయితే వారు ఆ ప్రయాణములోనే ప్రసవి
స్తారా అన్న భయముకూడ కలుగుతుంది. ఈ ప్రదేశాలలో మన ప్రభుత్వ కార్యదర్శులు
ప్రయాణాలుచేశారు. వారికి యీ రోడ్ల పరిస్థితులు తెలుసును. మన స్థానిక శాఖా
మంత్రిగా రెస్. Daniel Thomas గారు చాలకొన్ని వచ్చినప్పుడు ఈ రోడ్ల పరిస్థితులచూ
చారు. ఈ అధిక ఆదాయములమీదవచ్చే డబ్బు యావత్తుకూడ రోడ్ల మరమ్మత్తు
ఖర్చు పెట్టువలసినదిగా మనవిచేస్తున్నాను.

“అంతేకాక ఈ అధిక పన్ను భారము యుద్ధ కాలములో బాగుగా సహించిన
వారిపైనేగాని మామూలు పేద రైతులు, కూలీలపైనే పడకుండా చూడవలసినదిగా మనవి
చేస్తున్నాను. నా నియోజకవర్గములో చాల పెద్ద పెద్ద గామాలకు రోడ్లు లేకుండా
ఉన్నాయి. రోడ్లు లేకపోవడమువలన జనసామాన్యానికి చాల బాధలు కలుగుచున్నాయి.
ఈ గ్రామ ప్రజలు పెద్ద పెద్ద కంకర రోడ్లు గాని, తారు రోడ్లు గాని, సిమెంటు రోడ్లు గాని
కోరడములేదు. వారు కోరేది తాము ఉత్తేజితేనే సరుకులు, భాగ్యమూ, అపరాధా, యీ
పంటలు అమ్మకానికై పట్టణాలకు చేరుకోవడానికి వీలుగా కనీసము మట్టి రోడ్లే. యీ
మట్టి రోడ్లు ఉపయోగించువారే మనలను యెన్నకొని ఇక్కడకు పంపినది కూలి చేసుకొనే
ఆ గ్రామ ప్రజలే అని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఆ గ్రామ ప్రజలు మనకు ఇచ్చినశక్తి వల్లనే యీ
ప్రభుత్వము యేర్పడిందని మరిల యీ ప్రభుత్వమువారికి మనవి చేస్తున్నాను.”

* MR. H. O. FOWLER:—“Madam, with your permission I 4 p.m.
would like to make a few remarks on the proposal to increase the

[Mr. H. O. Fowler] [30th January 1947]
sales tax on petrol. I would like us to look at this subject as the man-in-the-street would look at it. It is sometimes easy for us in an Assembly of this type to view these things not from the right angle. I would rather look at it from a very practical point of view. These rules are passed here, but it is the man-in-the-street who has to pay. I wish the Hon. Minister for Revenue, when he proposed to increase this tax, could have given us a far stronger assurance that this additional revenue is for the benefit of the tax-payer, or—shall I put it more explicitly—for the benefit of those who use the roads. And so, I would ask that, before the Hon. Minister for Revenue replies to the debate, the Hon. Minister for Transport would give us some such assurance.

(At this stage, the Hon. Speaker occupied the Chair.)

“ I think the whole matter boils down to this. We are all entitled to ask the question, ‘ Is it fair to tax motor users in order to help rescue drunkards? ’ Perhaps it may be stated (as one of the distinguished speakers this morning said) that this is a matter of opinion. My own humble opinion, Madam, is . . . ”
(laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Order, order.”

* MR. H. O. FOWLER:—“ I am sorry, I meant no insult to you, Sir. I repeat what I said just now, that people are looking upon this tax from a special angle. They are beginning to ask ‘ Is it fair to tax people who use petrol in order to help those who are addicted to drink? ’ There are two classes of people who use petrol. Those who use it for pleasure can well afford this additional burden. While those who use it for their daily transport, should, I feel, be prepared for a little sacrifice, if that sacrifice is for the good of the common man and woman of this country. I thank you, Sir.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, we on this side rise to support the motion of the Government with one remark, viz., that the enhancement suggested is too high. After having heard our leader, I would not have attempted to rise in my place, but for the small suggestion made by the Hon. Minister for Revenue. Describing the condition of the roads in this Province—and our Ministers know very well the condition of roads in the Province for they are going about for everything good or bad, and they are really authorities in this matter—he was saying that the roads in this Province to-day are in this bad condition due to the activities of the military vehicles. But, blind as our Government are in so many matters, they seem to be blind in this matter also. For they did not admit in the past of claims of the Madras Corporation for some compensation for the loss caused to the roads in the City due to the activities of the military vehicles and I do not know why the Government should not appoint a committee to estimate the loss that is caused to our roads in the Province and claim from the military authorities compensation for the same. Perhaps the Government are not aware that military authorities are making tons of money by selling their surplus stocks of motor vehicles, etc. And I do

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not know why the Government, instead of blindly trying to tax the people—because it is only this thing that they are accustomed to do, so far—should not try to estimate the loss done to the roads and claim compensation from the military. I should like to know from the Hon. Minister for Revenue whether anything has been done in this matter, and if not, whether anything will be done in the future. The Government seem to have very poor ideas about the development of villages and firkas. We added as they are to old and antiquated ideas, they have appointed some village committees and have selected some firkas in each district and have specially noted them for firka development. I submit, Sir, that firka development could not be carried out by simply appointing a committee and giving jobs to men of your own school of thought; and the sooner the Government realize that good roads go a long way to improve the firkas, the better. You have to pay greater attention to roads if you want to make the villages models for the future. Simply because the House has accepted the Government's prohibition policy, the Government should not go on thinking of taxing the people in season and out of season. They should consider how far these taxes touch the rich as also the poor. I cannot accept the plea put forward that by taxing petrol, you are not taxing the poor. I support the idea of my hon. Friend Mr. N. S. Varadachari that the Government, while putting a tax on petrol should see that fares of buses and lorries are not in any way increased and thrown on the common man. We request the Hon. Minister for Revenue to give us a categorical reply that the Government would have an eye on the matter and would do the needful. I support the motion with this closing remark that the tax contemplated is rather too high.”

SRI K. SUBRAMANIAN:—“ சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இந்த மசோதா 4-10
நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று நினைக்கிறேன். P.m.
நாலு அணுவுக்கு பதிலாக ஒரு ரூபாயாக இருந்தாலும் நல்லதாக இருந்திருக்கும் என்று நினைக்கக்கூடியவன் நான். அடுத்த வருஷம் இதை எவ்வளவுதரம் அதிகப்படுத்தலாமோ அவ்வளவு தரம் அதிகப்படுத்தக்கூடிய வழிகளை யோஜனைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும்படியாக இருந்தாலும் அதற்கு ஆதரவு கொடுக்க நான் தயாராக இருப்பதோடு கூட ஒவ்வொரு மெம்பரும் அப்படியே இருக்கும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ பெட்ரோல் உபயோகப்படுத்துகிறவர்கள் பணக்காரர்களாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்களாக இருந்தாலும் சரி, அதற்கு அவர்கள் கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டில் மூன்று அல்லது நான்கு மடங்கு அதிக விலை கொடுத்து வாங்கி இருக்கிறார்கள். சட்ட சபை மெம்பர்களுக்கு 40 அல்லது 50 காலன்கள் கொடுத்தால் அதை விற்பதற்கு தயாராக இருந்தால் ரூ. 200-க்கு வாங்கிக்கொள்ள தயாராக இருந்துகொண்டு எங்களுக்கு ஆசைகாட்டி யவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு குறைத்துப் போட்டாலும் அவர்கள் இப்பொழுது அதிகமான பெட்ரோல் சார்ஜை கொடுக்கவேண்டியதாக இருந்தாலும் அதற்காக பிரயாண சார்ஜை ஜாஸ்தி பண்ணவேண்டியது அவசியம் இல்லை. இப்பொழுது பஸ்களுக்கு ஏராளமான லாபம் கிடைத்திருக்கிறது. Monopoly வந்த பிற்பாடு ஒவ்வொரு பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்களும் ஒரு பஸ் ரூ. 4,000 பெறக்கூடியதற்கு ரூ. 20,000 கொடுத்து வாங்கி இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவ்வளவு லாபமான தொழில் அவர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது வந்திருக்கிறது. இப்படி செய்வதால் பிரயாணிகளுக்கு கொஞ்சம் கஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டாலும் ஏற்படலாம். அதற்காக

[Sri K. Subramanian] [30th January 1947]

பஸ் சார்ஜை ஜாஸ்தி செய்தாலும் செய்யலாம். அப்படி செய்வதாக இருந்தால் அப்பொழுது பஸ்களை உடனே சர்க்கார் வாங்கக்கூடிய நிலைமை ஏற்படலாம். அதை அப்படி சர்க்கார் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு பஸ்களை Nationalise பண்ணும் Policy-ஐ அந்த இடத்தில் உபயோகிக்கலாம் என்று நான் யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். இந்த வரியைப்பற்றி பல மெம்பர்கள் பேச்சுக்கையில் ரோடுகளின் நிலைமையைப்பற்றி பல புகாராக பேசினார்கள். பெட் ரோல் வரி போட்டுவிட்டு ரோட்டுக்கு சிலவழிக்க மாட்டார்கள் என்று. இந்த வரியின் மூலமாக 1½ கோடி ரூபாய் அதிகரித்திருக்கிறது என்று. அதைக் கொண்டு (வரியை) ரோட்டுக்கு 2 கோடி ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கச் சொன்னார்கள். இந்த வரி மூலமாக ரோடுகளை எல்லாம் சரியான முறையில் வைத்துக் கொள்ளக்கூடிய முறையில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் விவரணை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம் என்று யோசனை சொல்லுகிறேன். எவ்வளவுதூரம் ரோட்டுக்கு பணம் செலவழிக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம் ஏற்படுகிறதோ அதையெல்லாம் பெட்ரோல் வரி மூலமாக வசூலித்து செலவழிக்க தயாராக இருப்பதாய் பிரசினையை ஒத்துக்கொள்ளலாம். அந்த வகையில் செய்யும்போது பெட் ரோல் வரியை அதிகம் செய்யவேண்டிய அவசியம் ஏற்படும் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். அதோடு மாத்திரமல்லாமல் மோட்டார் பஸ்கள் போகும்போது கிளப்பும் புழுதியானது தெருவில் நடப்போரின் கண்ணிலும் முக்கிலும் அடைத்துக் கொண்டு அதனால் வியாதியும் ஏற்படுகிறது. அந்த வியாதியை தடுப்பதற்கு சுகாதார முறைகளையும் ஒரு பங்கை ஒதுக்கவேண்டும். எந்த விதமாக இந்த பெட்ரோல் வரியை அதிகப்படுத்த முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் அது கப்படுத்தவேண்டும். மோட்டார்களை வாங்குகிறவர்களுக்கு அதிக செல்சு டாக்ஸ் போடவேண்டியதும் அவசியம்தான். மோட்டாரினால் புழுதி ஏற்பட்டு கண் மூக்குகளில் அடைத்துக் கொள்வதால் அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்வதற்கு அதிகம் sales tax போடவேண்டியது அவசியம். ஒரு அணு அல்லது இரண்டு அணு வரிசுட போடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். லாபகரமாக இருக்கக்கூடிய காரியத்தில் ரோடுகளை நன்றாக வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதிலிருந்து மக்களுடைய உடம்பு கெடாமல் இருப்பதற்கு எல்லா வரியையும் போடுவதற்கு யோசனை செய்து அடுத்த வருஷமும் அதை கொண்டுவர வேண்டியது அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. இதற்கு வேண்டியவைகளை அடுத்த வருஷத்திற்கு திட்டம் போட்டு வந்தால் நாம் எல்லாரும் அதற்கு ஆதரவு கொடுக்க தயாராக இருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லிவிட்டு நான் என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

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p.m.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ Sir, I rise to support this motion. But I want to make a few observations in this connection. The first point is that whatever may be the intentions of Government all the measures taken by the Government are only hitting the poor and leaving the rich to have their profits. Even in this case I fear it may happen like that; for instance, the mileage for motor traffic has at present been fixed in our parts at six pies per mile; even that rate the people as a whole are feeling to be high. It has not been reduced. Even as it is, people are not charged six pies only per mile, and black-marketing is going on. Now that petrol tax has been raised, generally the tendency will be to raise the charges all the more. My particular point therefore is that the Government must introduce measures with a view to see that the rates for motor traffic are not raised and that strict control is exercised over the rates and that the rates are continued as at present. The tax on motor spirit and petrol may be fixed in such a way that the poor man is not touched. The main point the Government must bear in mind is that the rates for motor traffic should not be increased. If that is borne in mind, most of the troubles can be avoided.

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But if without taking that into consideration you raised the tax on petrol, the owners of the buses and those who control them, will naturally raise the rates also and that will hit the poor badly. That is why I request the Government to take this important point into consideration and see that the present rates are maintained and are not enhanced. With these words, Sir, I support the resolution.”

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, while supporting this motion, I would like to make a few remarks. This measure is not going to fetch you large revenues. Moreover, as a temporary measure, you can have it; but in the long run, it may not fetch you the income you are thinking of. Now, Sir, the world is going forward and forward, progressing from day to day. You are now having ink-less fountain pens in the market; so also you may get a petroleless cars, improved and cheap, may flood the market. When gas plants come to be used, where are you going to get this tax from? From petrol? Yes, but who will use it? I am for progressive taxation; progressive taxation should be introduced and you must bring about better measures, measures that will stand, that will bring in more revenues. This is only a temporary measure. I am sure and this is not going to fetch you the income you think you are going to get. Moreover, in the world of to-day you have to make electricity, petrol, gas, etc., cheaper, and they all must be made available to the common man in the street. You must make the labour less and the leisure more to the common man. From that point of view also, I do not think this measure will be profitable or that the measure is good. But I support the motion only temporarily, because although you now think it is a profitable taxation, you will yourself find later, in the end, that it is a useless taxation.”

* SRI K. VARADACHARI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was not very necessary that much support should be offered for this resolution from this side of the House. I have listened to the speeches made by hon. Members before me; but one aspect of the matter I just want to mention, viz., that this leave which is sought to be obtained from the House by this resolution should not make it binding upon the Government not to relax the rigours in special cases. I refer to the question, Sir, of the need for the use of petrol in business other than motor transport. Agricultural operations sometimes require the use of petrol. Government in their scheme for subsidizing the sinking of more wells have been helping the ryots by the hire of pump-sets, driven solely by petrol-driven engines. And if the ryot is called upon to pay annas 2½ more now—I know that the circar area ryots may be very rich people, but in our parts, our ryots are very poor—the ryots who have been forced to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Government for sinking wells will have to make a big sacrifice in the use of these pumping sets with petrol-driven engines. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister for Revenue and the Finance

[Sri K. Varadachari] [30th January 1947]

Minister to consider the question of exempting the agriculturists who are using petrol for purely agricultural purposes, from the levy of this additional taxation.

“ Another matter which I wanted to refer to was, there seems to be an impression on the other side of the House that the Central Government or some other authority, say the military authorities, must be made to pay compensation for the damage caused to all the roads in this province by the use of roads for military operations. I would remind my hon. Friend Mr. Salam that the Central Government, as I understand, has already compensated this province by a grant of nearly Rs. 70 lakhs in respect of this matter. Therefore, there ought to be no difficulty about giving your full consent to this measure of taxation, and there need be no qualms about the Government being particularly anxious about keeping the roads intact or improving or extending the same over rural areas.”

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—Mr. Speaker, Sir, one point more than another which is pointedly brought to our notice in this discussion is the deplorable condition of the roads. The mover of the resolution, the Minister for Revenue and the members on both sides of the House, have referred to this condition. My justification in participating in this discussion is to invite the attention of Government and of this House to the short-sighted policy of the Government with regard to post-war development of the Highways department. I had occasion to speak on that question in the last budget discussion. If only the Government had found its way to provide more funds to implement the post-war development scheme in regard to roads during last budget to-day there would not have been many persons to refer to the really deplorable condition of the roads. One member has gone so far as to say that the condition of the roads in the country is a propaganda against the Congress Ministry itself. So my justification in intervening in this debate is to bring to the notice of Government its short-sighted policy. The Government, I hope, will make a note and at least in the next budget, will provide more funds and implement the post-war development scheme.

“ Another point I should like to refer to is this: Some members of the House seem to think that the expenditure and revenues of Government departments must be treated in water-tight compartments. It need not necessarily be like that. The revenues which the Government may get from one department may be spent in another department; there ought to be no objection to that either from financial or other points of view. One need not look to the revenues of the department for being spent on the very same department. At the same time, it must be borne on mind that when a measure for the enhancement of tax is brought up before this House, it must be justified. And taking into consideration the people who are mostly affected, viz., the villagers who require easy and cheap transport, unless we are going back to bullock-carts,

30th January 1947] [Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur]

hand-carts, etc., I hope at least in this respect the present Government won't go back—unless you are going to bear that in your mind, their interests, referred to in the last paragraph of the memorandum presented, will be affected. There is much force in that argument, and many a member who spoke to-day either on this or on that side, has referred to that aspect of the question—notably my friend Mr. Varadachari has referred to that and wanted an assurance that motor bus rates will not be enhanced. That is a point to be considered by the Government.

“ Then, another suggestion made by another Mr. Varadachari was with regard to the use of petrol for agricultural purposes. I know as a matter of fact many ryots who have been encouraged to dig wells, and not only dig wells but supply water to their irrigation projects, have been using a lot of petrol and very usefully too. I know that in districts where land cannot be irrigated by canal water, many ryots have dug wells and are utilizing petrol to pump out water from petrol-driven pumps which are the only pumps supplied by the Government. Till such time when Government are in a position to supply other kinds of pumps—what are called oil pumps—the relaxation of this rule at least with regard to supply of petrol for agricultural purposes, might be considered. With these words, Sir, I have pleasure in supporting this motion.”

* SRI K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that the Government have undertaken this measure to re-imburse the road fund so as to improve the roads to a better condition. All along, the fund for road-making has been contributed chiefly by the agriculturists by way of road cess. I wish here to make a suggestion, that the maintenance of all motorable roads may be taken up with the revenue collected from the petrol tax and the road cess may be released for making village roads and keeping them in a good order. So far, I regret to say that not much attention has been paid to village roads and they are therefore in a neglected state. Very many of the villages have not been provided with roads at all and this requires very close attention at the hands of the Government. Even otherwise, they have been spending only very meagre amounts on village roads. They have been asking the local bodies to undertake the construction of these roads by promising to pay a contribution of half the amount. If the district boards allotted say Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000 the Government usually allow only Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 and nothing more. This state of affairs should cease and Government will have to allot bigger amounts to local bodies so that they may spend the moneys on the roads through the Highways department consistent with economy and efficiency. Anyhow, what we require is that more roads should be brought into existence giving facility of approach to each and every village and that they should be kept in good and proper condition year after year. With these words, and with the hope that Government

[Sri K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar] [30th January 1947]

will find good lot of money by way of such taxation and that they would earmark the cess amount for the improvement of village roads, I support the motion."

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tale of woe has begun. As the Hon. the Revenue Minister told us at the outset, having decided to throw away revenues by giving effect to an ideal, we must pay the penalty by increased taxation. This is the first of a series of penalties which we will be called upon to bear and must bear as the administration must go on and revenues must be found. I therefore think that nobody will oppose the measure before this House. In speaking on this I have only one motive. I join with those speakers who have made a request of the Hon. the Minister that some portion of the additional revenues which this taxation will bring in, be utilized by putting the disgraceful roads in the city in a decent condition. With these words I support the motion."

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a.m.

SRI V. PONNUSWAMI GOUNDAR:—" தலைவர் அவர்களே : இப் பொழுது கனம் ரிவினியூ மந்திரி அவர்கள் பெட்ரோல் மோட்டார் எண்ணெயை இவைகளுக்காக உபரி வரியை போடவேண்டுமென்று கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் திட்டத்தை நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஸ்ரீமான் ஸ்பீர் அவர்கள் சொன்ன மாதிரி அதிகமான வரி போடவேண்டியதும் அவசியந்தான், பெட்ரோல் வரியை இன்னும் அதிகமாக விதித்தால் கூட நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இந்த மோட்டார்கள் ஓடும் கிராமங்களில் ரோடுகள் ரொம்பவும் செப்பனிடவேண்டியது மிகமிக அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. முக்கியமாக என்னுடைய தாலுகாவில் ஜவாதி மலை பிராந்தியத்தில் ஆலங்காயம்-கிருஷ்ணகிரி போகும் பாதையில் டிரங்கு ரோடு நீங்கலாக மற்ற ரோடுகள் சொல்ல முடியாத அளவு கேவலமான நிலையில் இருக்கின்றன. அதில் இப்பொழுது பஸ் சொந்தக் காரர்கள் என்ன செய்துகொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள் என்றால் வாணியம்பாடிக்கு போய் அங்கேயே பஸ்ஸை ஸ்டாண்டில் நிறுத்திவிடுவதுடன் திரும்பவும் கிருஷ்ணகிரிக்கு திரும்பி விடுகிறார்கள். ஆலங்காயத்திலிருந்து கிருஷ்ணகிரிக்கு போகவேண்டியதாக இருந்தால் எவ்வளவு நேரம் பஸ்ஸுக்காக காத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தாலும் பஸ்கள் கிடைப்பது இல்லை. ஆனால் பஸ்ஸுக்கு ரிப்பேர் கிடையாது. வழி மோசமாக இருக்கிறது. பஸ் சாமான்கள் உடைந்துபோய்விடும் என்று எண்ணி பயந்து பஸ்களை விடுகிறது இல்லை. இது ஒரு பெரிய ஏமாற்றத்தை பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு கொடுக்கிறது. அதில் சர்க்கார் ரொம்பவும் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. எந்த இடத்திலிருந்து எந்த இடத்திற்குப்போகவேண்டியது என்று லைசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதோ அதன்படி அந்த மோட்டார்காரர்கள் நடக்காமலிருந்தால் அந்த மோட்டார் சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு லைசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது என்று நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" அடுத்தபடியாக அந்த மோட்டார்காரர்கள் இவ்வளவு பயப்படவேண்டியதற்கு அவசியம் என்ன என்பதை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். வாஸ்தவமாக சொல்லுகிறேன் நான் பிரயாணம் செய்திருக்கிறேன், மோட்டார் சொந்தக்காரர்கள் சொல்லி கேட்டிருக்கிறேன், ஒரு தடவை போனால் கூட சாமான்கள் கெட்டுவிடுகிறது என்று சொல்லி இந்த மாதிரி அவர்கள் குறைபாடுகள் சொல்லி தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதையும் நாம் கவனித்து அந்த ரோடுகளுக்கும் இந்த அதிக வரியிலிருந்து கொஞ்சம் தாராளமாக ரோடுகளை செப்பனிட செலவு செய்தால் நன்றாக இருக்கும் என்று நான் யோசனை கூறுகிறேன், இதை கட்டாயம் செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியம். ஏனென்றால் கிராமங்களுக்கு மோட்டார் வசதிகள் நன்றாக கிடையாது. குறிப்பிட்ட இடத்திற்கு குறிப்பிட்ட தேதியில் போகவேண்டுமென்

30th January 1947] [Sri V. Ponnuswami Goundar]

றால் போக முடிகிறதில்லை. மூன்று நாட்களுக்கு முன்பே வந்து தயாராக இருக்க வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. இரண்டு மணி நேரத்தில் பிரயாணம் செய்யும் கிருஷ்ணகிரியிலிருந்து ஆலங்காயத்துக்குப்போக இப்பொழுது ரொம்பவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. பஸ்கள் சரியாக போவதில்லை. மத்தியில் நின்றுவிடுகிறது. வாரத்திற்கு மூன்று நாட்கள் பஸ் வருகிறது கிடையாது. இந்த குறைபாடுகளை கட்டாயமாக நவர்த்து செய்யவேண்டும். அது மாத்திரம் இல்லை. சண்டை காலத்தில் பஸ் சொந்தக்காரர்கள் கசக்கிப் பிழிந்து வாங்கிய பணத்தைக்கொண்டு இப்பொழுது அதிக வரி கொடுக்க முடியும். அவர்களுக்கு ஆட்சேபம் கிடையாது என்று கேள்வி."

MR. SPEAKER:—" நீங்கள் பேசுவதற்கும் இங்கு இருப்பதற்கும் சம்மந்தம் இல்லையே, உங்களுக்கு என்ன சொல்லவேண்டுமோ அதை பேசுங்கள்."

SRI PONNUSWAMI GOUNDAR:—" இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமான வரியை பஸ்களுக்கு விதித்தால் தேவலை என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு இத்தூண் நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

*SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion but with a different view altogether. The speakers who have preceded me supported the motion on the supposition that the tax will fall on the rich consumer. The rich man lives on the sweat of the poor man, and whatever tax is levied, it ultimately falls on the head of the poor man. Therefore, I would have opposed this tax, but as I have said in the beginning, I support this increased tax but with a different suggestion and that suggestion is that the increase proposed to be obtained by this measure should be borne by the importers of petrol. I mean, the various companies which are distributing petrol should be made to pay this tax. If that is done, I think neither the rich man who owns a car for luxury, nor the poor man who trades on buses will be affected by this motion for increase of taxation. I therefore rise to support the motion with this definite suggestion, but I do not know just now how the law stands in regard to this matter. I would propose that it should be possible that the importing or distributing companies which are amassing huge profits by the sale of petrol, should be made to bear this tax. Having said this, I cannot shut my eyes to the various needs for improvements of the roads and all these require more and more money. Therefore, when this increased taxation brings in more funds we will have to answer the demands of the population in various ways. When we actually get more funds we are morally bound to provide better and more roads. If, as a matter of fact, statistics are taken, you will find that most of the districts are ill-served for want of proper roads and there are hardly roads which are motorable except the trunk roads. Third-class roads do not at all receive attention and the funds set apart in respect of their improvement are very poor and limited. Therefore, increase the number of roads, make better roads, whether by means of cement or tar, if possible, and see that the funds for these come from the importers of petrol. I hope this suggestion of mine will be considered by the Hon. the Revenue Minister and that he will refer to it in his reply to this motion."

[Sri M. P. Periyaswami] [30th January 1947]

SRI M. P. PERIASWAMI :—“தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது வரியை அதிகப்படுத்துவதற்கு நான் support ஆக பேசுகிறேன். ஏனென்றால் சில அதிகமான மோட்டார்கள் சில ரோடில் ஓட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். எவ்வளவு ஓட்டினபோதிலும் இன்னும் ஜனங்களுக்கு செளகரியமாக பிரயாணம் செய்வதற்கு தடை ஏற்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. நூறு மைல், ஐம்பது மைல் போகிறவர்களைத்தான் அவர்கள் ஏற்றிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். பஸ்ஸில் முதலில் ஏறிக்கொண்டு உட்கார்ந்திருந்தால் எந்த ஊருக்குப் போகிறார்கள் என்று கேட்ட உடனே 10 மைலுக்குள் போகிறேன் என்று சொல்லக் கேட்டவுடனேயே கையைப்பிடித்து கீழே இழுத்து விடுகிறார்கள். அப்படி இழுத்துவிட்டு 50, 100 மைலுக்குமேல் போகிறவர்களை ஏற்றிக் கொண்டு செல்லுகின்றார்கள். இதனால் ஜனங்களுக்கு ரொம்பவும் தொந்தரவு ஏற்படுத்துகிறது. இந்த நிலமையில் இருக்கும்போது இன்னும் அதிகமாக மோட்டார்கள்க்கு Permit கொடுக்கவேண்டும் இன்னும் ரோடு வழியில் இருக்கும் ஜனங்களுக்கு சரியானபடி வசதி கொடுப்பது இல்லை. அவர்களுக்கு தெரிந்தவர்கள் தெரியாதவர்கள் என்பது கிடையாது. மற்ற ரோட்டில் அதிகமாக மணிக்கு மோட்டார்விட்டு ஓடச் செய்தால் கவர்ன்மென்டுக்கு அதிகமாக வரிசெலுக்கும். இப்பொழுது ஒரு ரோட்டில் 20, 30 பஸ்களுக்கு பர்மிட்டு கொடுத்து ஓட்டிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“இதற்கும் அதற்கும் சம்பந்தம் கிடையாது.”

SRI M. P. PERIASWAMI :—“இதனால் அவர்கள் இன்னும் அதிகமாக சார்ஜை அதிகப்படுத்தி ½ அணா ¾ அணா ஏற்றலாம் என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். நாம் வரியை ஜாஸ்தி செய்தால், அதற்கு நாம் இடம் கொடுக்கக் கூடாது. இப்பொழுதே ஜனங்களிடம் ½ அணா ஜாஸ்தியாக வாங்கிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். ஆகையால் வரியை ஜாஸ்திப்படுத்துவதால் சார்ஜை அதிகப்படுத்தாமல் இருக்கும்படி செய்வதுதான் உசிதம் என்று சொல்லி நான் முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

*[M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR] “தலைவர் அவர்களே, நமது ரெவினியூ மந்திரி இன்று கொண்டுவந்த மோட்டார் வரியை நான் முழுவதும் ஆதரிக்கின்றேன். இப்பொழுது நமது மாகாணத்தில் ரோடுகள் மிகவும் பழுதாகவும் சீர்கேடாகவும் போக்குவரவுசாதன அனுசூலங்களில் கொடிய கஷ்டமும் சிரமமும் அதிகரித்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிற இந்த சமயத்தில் இந்த வரியை இன்னும் ஜாஸ்தி செய்தாவது நம் ஜனங்கள் போக்குவரவுக்கு நல்ல வழியைச் செய்துவைக்க வேண்டியது ரொம்ப அவசியமென்று நான் சொல்லுவேன். சில பகுதிகளில் ஜனங்கள் சாதாரணமாக நடந்துசெல்ல முடியாமல்கூட டிரங்கு ரோடுகளில் பள்ளங்கள், குழிகள் இவைகளிலே ரொம்ப கஷ்டப்பட்டுவருகிறார்கள். அதுவும் எங்கள் பகுதியிலே மழை அதிகமாக பெய்ததினால் ரோடுகள் உடைத்துக்கொண்டு ரொம்பப் பாழாகியிருக்கின்றன. சில பள்ளங்களிலே மெட்டல் இல்லாமலும் கிராவல் இல்லாமலும் பீனமரத்தின் ஒலைகளை வைத்து அடைத்து அதில் மண்ணைப் போட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். ஒரு மோட்டார் பஸ் அதில் போனவுடனே அதைச் சிதர அடித்துவிடுகிறது. அந்தப் பள்ளத்தினால் அதிகமாக ஜனங்களுக்குத் தொந்தரவும் கஷ்டமும் உண்டாயிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அதைச் சீராகச் செய்யவேண்டியது கவர்ன்மென்டுடைய கடமையென்று சொல்லுவேன். பெரிய ஊர்களிலே, முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளிலே, பெரிய நகரங்களிலே பிரபுக்கள் இருக்கிற இடங்களிலே சவுகரியங்களை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். ஸெமண்ட் ரோடுகளும், தார் ரோடுகளும், மெட்டல் ரோடுகளும் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஏழை மக்கள் போகக்கூடிய ரோடுகளில் எந்தவிதமான சீர்திருத்தங்களும் இல்லாமலிருக்கிறது. இந்த வரி நமது ஏழை மக்களைப் பாதிக்கக்கூடிய நிலையில் இல்லையென்று தெரியும். பிரபுக்கள் எவ்வளவு வரி போட்டாலும் அவர்கள் கொடுக்கத்தயாராயிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது பெட்ரோல் பஞ்சகாலத்திலே ஒரு காலன் 20 ரூபாய்க்கு வாங்கி போக்கு வரவு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். பிரபுக்கள், எவ்வளவு வரிபோட்டாலும் அது பிரபுக்களைப் பாதிக்கும் நிலைமையில் இருக்காதென்று சொல்லுவேன், இந்த வரியை இன்னும் ஜாஸ்திப்படுத்திப் பணக்காரர்களிடத்தில் வசூல் பண்ணி ஏழை

30th January 1947] [M.R.P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

மக்கள் போக்குவரவுக்குச் சாதனம் செய்து கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். முன் காலத்திலே ஏற்பட்ட வேலு மார்க்கமுமன்ன பெரிய ஸ்தலங்களுக்குப் போகிற பாட்டைகளெல்லாம் பாழடைந்திருக்கிறது. கவுரவம் வாய்ந்த மெம்பர்கள் இங்கு வீற்றிருக்கிறார்கள். அதைச்சீர் செய்ய வேண்டியது நம்முடைய பெருமை பொருந்திய மினிஸ்டர் அவர்கள் பொறுப்பு என்று சொல்லுவேன். ஆகையால் கனம் மெம்பர்களவர்களும், மினிஸ்டரவர்களும் அதை இன்னும் ஜாஸ்தி செய்து போக்கு வரவு சாதனத்துக்கு வேண்டிய உதவியைச் செய்து கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.”

* THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“Sir, I wish briefly to refer to the various points raised by the several hon. Members. With regard to the suggestion of the hon. Member for Kurnool, whether this tax should not be passed on to the importers of petrol, I may tell him that it is not possible. It is not one of the subjects under the Provincial Legislature and it is only a sales tax that the Legislature can impose and what the hon. Member proposes is customs duty which is not within our scope.

“Sir, I beg to express my thanks on behalf of the Government for the almost unanimous support which this measure of taxation has received from all quarters. It is very seldom that any measure of taxation receives such support and we are very grateful for it. Suggestions have been made by more than one hon. Member that the rate suggested is hardly sufficient and that it should be much more than what we have done.

“Then, Sir, with regard to the question whether all this money will go to the improvement of roads, I think I had made the facts very clear. I had said definitely that our realization this year on the whole from this tax is only about 25 lakhs whereas we had budgeted for 50 lakhs. The only other source is the vehicles tax, which is about 90 lakhs, so that I made it quite clear that our income is about 115 lakhs, whereas the expenditure of this Government by itself, that is, without reference to local bodies, is 257 lakhs. Therefore, it is not open to anybody to say that we are not spending much more on the roads than what we get. After all, what is the increase; it is just 40 lakhs as I estimated. If the figures are worked out, you will find that 25 lakhs this year will become 65 lakhs next year. That is not very much.

“Now, Sir, it has been stated by all hon. Members that our roads are in a very bad condition. They are not certainly the making of this Government and it is a legacy from the past. Particularly the main roads, where there is a lot of traffic, are bad. Sir, personally, I am aware of many districts where the roads are in a very bad condition. When the budget is placed before you for the current year, you will find that the position next year will be very much better than what it was possible to provide this year. I cannot say exactly what the figures will be but I can only say that the position will be better. We are fully aware of the difficulties of the roads and transport.

[30th January 1947 [The Hon. Sri K. R. Karanth]

"Then, Sir, I may also mention a very strong reason which has been suggested to me by the Hon'ble the Minister for Public Works. You are aware, Sir, that before the war, rates were fixed at $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas per gallon in the case of petrol and $\frac{1}{2}$ anna per gallon in the case of any other motor spirit. Also Rs. 25 was the rate fixed as motor vehicle tax for each quarter for a car and so on. The rates for the improvement and work on roads have risen three times whereas the old rates of taxation have remained the same. So, if the rate of taxation were raised even three times, it would not have been unjust, whereas we are attempting to get only a very little more than the existing rates.

"Sir, some hon. Members expressed concern that this taxation should not be passed on to the villager or the common man and that Government should take care to see that in the guise of this, the whole tax is not passed on to the poor man and very much profit made. I can assure hon. Members that we shall look into the matter and see that this tax is not passed on to others.

"Regarding the suggestion that the bus fares should be kept at reasonable limits, that also is a matter that will be separately looked into.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the village roads. We are aware that the finances of the local bodies are not of the best order and that this Government is taking over a large number of roads to the Highways Department all over the Province. To that extent, funds will be released and the local bodies can improve their roads very much better. It is the intention of this Government to give further help also to the local bodies.

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. K. Varadaachari from Chittoor, said that agriculturists should be excluded from the payment of this tax. I submit that this is a tax which has to be paid at the petrol bunks, and therefore it is not possible to say when a man takes a gallon or two of petrol, whether he takes it for his motor car or for agricultural purposes but such cases are very few and the quantity of petrol taken is very little and so the exemption is not possible.

"In the conclusion, I beg to express my thanks to this House and I hope that the resolution will be passed."

MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. When you increase the proceeds of this tax, is it not advisable to persuade the Government of India to see that petrol rationing goes out soon?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"We shall make a representation to the Government of India. If that is the wish of this House, that the twelve annas duty they are putting should be reduced, we shall make a representation to them on that point as well."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Prime Minister will now move the motion that stands in his name."

30th January 1947]

(2) ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I move—

'That with reference to rule 134 of the Madras Assembly Rules, this Assembly do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker, to elect nine members to be members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the second session of the Madras Legislative Assembly.'"

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 4 p.m. on Monday, the 3rd February 1947, as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Public Accounts Committee should be given to the Secretary. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election if the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, nine. In that event the date of the election will be announced on Monday, the 10th February 1947."

(3) ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I move—

'That under rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules, the House do proceed to elect six members to the House Committee according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf by the Speaker.'"

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"In accordance with the regulations framed by me under rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 4 p.m. on Monday, the 3rd February 1947, as the time within which nominations of candidates for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election if the number of candidates nominated exceeds the number of vacancies, namely, six. In that event, the date of the election will be announced on Monday, the 10th February 1947."

(4) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Sir, I move—

'That in accordance with section 3 (1) (b) of the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922 (Act V of 1923), and rule 3 of the rules framed thereunder, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker to elect one person to be the Assembly's representative on the Board of Industries constituted under the Act.'"

The motion was put and carried.

[30th January 1947]

* **MR. SPEAKER:**—"In accordance with the regulations framed by me for conducting elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 4 p.m. on Monday, the 3rd February 1947, as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Board of Industries should be given to the Secretary. The nominations forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

"There will be an election if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. In that event, the date of the election will be announced on Saturday, the 8th February 1947."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 31st January 1947.

VII. PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

(1) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3284, Development, dated 27th August 1946, regarding Madras Handloom Cloth (Price Control) Order, 1946.*

(2) *G.O. Ms. No. 3571, Development, dated 18th September 1946, regarding the administration of the textile control measures.*

(3) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 1981, Home, dated the 5th July 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940 as subsequently amended.*

(4) (i) *First list of corrections to the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Madras, 1944-45 and the Audit Report, 1946.*

(ii) *First list of corrections to the Finance Accounts of the Government of Madras, 1944-45 and the Audit Report, 1945.*

(5) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3107, Home, dated the 2nd October 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.*

(6) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 2675, Home, dated the 12th September 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act published with Home Department Notification No. 847, dated the 1st December 1936 as subsequently amended.*

(7) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3310, Home, dated 18th October 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended and deemed to have come into force on the 1st March 1946.*

(8) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3484, Home, dated 7th November 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras*

[30th January 1947]

Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.

(9) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3282, Home, dated 16th October 1946, exempting vehicles owned by Indian Red Cross and St. John War Organization under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.*

(10) *Notification issued with G.O. No. 3547, Home, dated 13th November 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.*

(11) *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No. 3609, Home, dated 18th November 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.*

(12) *Notification issued with G.O. No. 3690, Home, dated 23rd November 1946, making certain amendments to the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940, published with Home Department Notification No. 357, dated the 29th March 1940, as subsequently amended.*

(13) *The Madras Road Traffic Code, 1940, with correction slips Nos. 1 to 53.*

(14) *The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1947 (Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1947).*

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APPENDIX I

[Vide i e n V at pa e 22 supra.]

An Ordinance to provide for preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions and of essential services, and certain other purposes.

Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1947.

WHEREAS the Legislature of the Province is not in session and the Governor of Madras is satisfied that circumstances exist which make it necessary for him to take immediate action to prevent and put down disorders involving menace to the peace and tranquillity of the Province and for that purpose to provide for preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions and of services essential to the life of the community, and certain other purposes ;

AND WHEREAS the instructions of the Governor-General under clause (b) of the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 88 of the Government of India Act, 1935, have been obtained ;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 88 of the Government of India Act, 1935, the Governor hereby promulgates the following Ordinance :—

Short title, extent and commencement. 1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1947.
(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras.
(3) It shall come into force at once.

Power to make orders restricting the movements or actions of or detaining certain persons. 2. (1) The Provincial Government, if satisfied with respect to any particular person that with a view to preventing him from acting in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order, it is necessary so to do, may make an order—

- (a) directing that he be detained ;
- (b) directing that, except in so far as he may be permitted by the provisions of the order, or by such authority or person as may be specified therein, he shall not be in any such area or place in the Province as may be specified in the order ;
- (c) requiring him to reside or remain in such place or within such area in the Province as may be specified in the order and if he is not already there to proceed to that place or area within such time as may be specified in the order ;
- (d) requiring him to notify his movements or to report himself or both to notify his movements and report himself, in such manner, at such times and to such authority or person, as may be specified in the order ;
- (e) imposing upon him such restrictions as may be specified in the order in respect of his employment or business, in respect of his association or communication with other persons, and in respect of his activities in relation to the dissemination of news or propagation of opinions ;
- (f) prohibiting or restricting the possession or use by him of any such article or articles as may be specified in the order ;
- (g) otherwise regulating his conduct in any such particular manner as may be specified in the order.

(2) The Chief Presidency Magistrate or a District Magistrate may exercise the power conferred by clause (a) of sub-section (1) and an order so made by him shall be valid for a period not exceeding fifteen days.

[30th January 1947]

(3) An order made under sub-section (1) may require the person in respect of whom it is made to enter into a bond, with or without sureties, for the due performance of, or as an alternative to the enforcement of, such restrictions or conditions in the order as may be specified in the order.

(4) If any person is in any area or place in contravention of an order made under the provisions of this section, or fails to leave any area or place in accordance with the requirements of such an order, then, without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (6) he may be removed from such area or place by any police officer or by any person acting on behalf of the Provincial Government.

(5) So long as there is in force in respect of any person such an order as aforesaid directing that he be detained he shall be liable to be removed to and detained in such place and under such conditions, including conditions as to maintenance, discipline and the punishment of offences and breaches of discipline, as the Provincial Government may from time to time by general or special order specify.

(6) If the Provincial Government have reason to believe that a person in respect of whom such an order as aforesaid has been made directing that he be detained has absconded or is concealing himself so that the order cannot be executed, they may—

(a) make a report in writing of the fact to a Presidency Magistrate or Magistrate of the first class, as the case may be, having jurisdiction in the place where the said person ordinarily resides ; and thereupon the provisions of sections 87, 88 and 89 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall apply in respect of the said person and his property as if the order directing that he be detained were a warrant issued by the Magistrate ;

(b) by order notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, direct the said person to appear before such officer, at such place, and within such period as may be specified in the order ; and if the said person fails to comply with such direction he shall, unless he proves that it was not possible for him to comply therewith, and that he had, within the period specified in the order, informed the officer of the reason which rendered compliance therewith impossible and of his whereabouts, be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

(7) If any person contravenes any order made under this section, other than an order of the nature referred to in clause (b) of sub-section (6), he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both, and if such person has entered into a bond in pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (3), his bond shall be forfeited, and any person bound thereby shall pay the penalty thereof, or show cause to the satisfaction of the convicting Court why such penalty should not be paid.

3. An order made under section 2 shall be in force for a period not exceeding the duration of this Ordinance unless earlier revoked by the authority making the order :

Duration of orders made under section 2. Provided that any such revocation shall not prevent the making under section 2 of a fresh order to the same effect as the order revoked.

4. Where an order is made in respect of any person under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 2, as soon as may be after the order is made, the authority making the order shall communicate to the person affected thereby so far as such communication can be made without disclosing facts which the said authority considers it would be against the public interest to disclose, the grounds on which the order has been made against him and such other particulars as are in the opinion of such authority sufficient to enable him to make if he wishes, a representation against the order and such person may

Grounds of order of detention to be disclosed to person affected by the order.

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at any time thereafter make a representation in writing to such authority against the order and it shall be the duty of such authority to inform such person of his right of making such representation and to afford him the earliest practicable opportunity of doing so.

5. (1) If it appears to the Provincial Government that the inhabitants of any area are concerned in, or abetting the commission of, offences prejudicially affecting the public safety or the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community or are harbouring persons concerned in the commission of such offences, or are failing to render all the assistance in their power to discover or apprehend the offender or offenders, or are suppressing material evidence of the commission of such offences, the Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, impose a collective fine on the inhabitants of that area :

Provided that an imposition of a collective fine by any authority to whom the power may have been delegated under this Ordinance may be made by publication of the order imposing the fine in any such manner as such authority may consider best calculated to bring the order to the notice of the inhabitants of the area concerned.

(2) The Provincial Government or any officer empowered in this behalf by them may, by general or special order, exempt any person or class or section of such inhabitants from liability to pay any portion of such fine.

(3) The Chief Presidency Magistrate or the District Magistrate, as the case may be, after such inquiry as he may deem necessary, shall apportion such fine among the inhabitants who are liable collectively to pay it, and such apportionment shall be made according to the Magistrate's judgment of the respective means of such inhabitants.

(4) In any such apportionment, the Magistrate may direct a joint or undivided family as such to pay such portion of the fine as may be assigned to it.

(5) The portion of such fine payable by any person (including a joint or undivided family) may be recovered—

(a) in the manner provided by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, for the recovery of fines imposed by a Court, as if such portion were a fine imposed by the Magistrate acting as a Court :

Provided that the Provincial Government may, in lieu of the rules referred to in sub-section (2) of section 386 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, make rules under this Ordinance regulating the manner in which warrants under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of the said section of the said Code are to be executed, and for the summary determination of any claims made by any person other than the person liable to pay the fine in respect of any property attached in execution of the warrant ; or

(b) as arrears of land revenue.

6. (1) The Provincial Government may, for the purpose of securing public safety, public order or supplies and services essential to the life of the community, by general or special order, prohibit, restrict or impose conditions upon the holding of processions, meetings or assemblies by a class of persons or organizations whose activities, in the opinion of the Provincial Government, are subversive of law and order.

(2) If any person contravenes any order issued under this section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

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7. (1) The Provincial Government may, in the interest of public security or maintenance of public order, by order, prohibit, or impose such conditions as may be necessary on, the holding of camps or performance of drill or parade with or without arms, or any article, weapon or implement capable of being used as arms by any class of persons or organizations whose activities are in the opinion of the Provincial Government subversive of law and order.

(2) Any contravention of an order made under this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

8. (1) If the Provincial Government are of opinion that any employment under the Provincial Government or any employment or class of employment connected with matters falling within List II of Schedule VII to the Government of India Act, 1935 (Provincial Legislative List), is essential for purposes of public safety, the maintenance of public order or maintaining supplies or services essential to the life of the community, they may, after notifying the employment or class of employment in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, direct by general or special order that any person or persons engaged in such employment shall not depart out of such area or areas as may be specified in such order.

(2) An order made under sub-section (1) shall be published in such manner as the Provincial Government or officer making the order consider best calculated to bring it to the notice of the persons affected by the order.

(3) Any person engaged in any employment or class of employment to which this Ordinance applies who—

(a) disobeys any lawful order given to him in the course of such employment, or

(b) without reasonable excuse abandons such employment or absents himself from work, or

(c) departs from any area specified in an order under sub-section (1) without the consent of the authority making that order,

and any employer of a person engaged in an employment or class of employment notified under sub-section (1) who without reasonable cause—

(i) discontinues the employment of such person, or

(ii) by closing an establishment in which such person is engaged, causes the discontinuance of his employment, shall be guilty of an offence under this section.

Explanation 1.—Abandonment of employment or absence from duty by any person merely for fear of molestation, intimidation or assault by any person or class of persons shall not constitute a reasonable excuse within the meaning of clause (b).

Explanation 2.—A person abandons his employment within the meaning of clause (b), who notwithstanding that it is an express or implied term of his contract of employment that he may terminate his employment on giving notice to his employer of his intention to do so, so terminates his employment without the previous consent of his employer.

(4) Any person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

(5) If the person contravening any of the provisions of this section is a company or other body corporate, every director, manager, secretary or

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other officer or agent thereof shall, unless he proves that the contravention took place without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such contravention, be deemed to be guilty of such contravention.

9. (1) The Provincial Government may, for the purpose of securing the public safety or the maintenance of public order, by order addressed to a printer, publisher or editor, or to printers, publishers and editors generally—

(a) require that all matter, or any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects shall, before being published in any document or class of documents, be submitted for scrutiny to an authority specified in the order;

(b) prohibit or regulate the making or publishing of any document or class of documents, or of any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, or the use of any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931.

Central
Act
XXIII
of
1931.

(2) If any person contravenes any order made under sub-section (1), then, without prejudice to any other proceedings which may be taken against such person, the Provincial Government may declare to be forfeited to His Majesty every copy of any document published or made in contravention of such order and any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, used in the making of such document.

Central
Act
XX III
of
1931.

(3) If any person contravenes any order made under this section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

10. (1) If in the opinion of the Provincial Government it is necessary or expedient so to do for securing the public safety or the maintenance of public order, or for securing supplies and services essential to the life of the community, they may by order in writing requisition any movable property and may make such further orders as appear to them to be necessary or expedient in connection with the requisitioning.

(2) Where the Provincial Government have requisitioned any property under sub-section (1) they may use or deal with the property in such manner as may appear to them to be expedient.

(3) Whenever in pursuance of sub-section (1) the Provincial Government requisition any property, the owner thereof shall be paid such compensation as they may determine:

Provided that, where immediately before the requisition, the property was by virtue of a hire purchase agreement in the possession of a person other than the owner, the amount determined by the Provincial Government as the total compensation payable in respect of the requisition shall be apportioned between that person and the owner in such manner as they may agree upon, and in default of agreement in such manner as an arbitrator appointed by the Provincial Government in this behalf may decide to be just.

(4) The Provincial Government may, with a view to requisitioning any property under sub-section (1) or determining the compensation payable under sub-section (3), by order—

(a) require any person to furnish to such authority as may be specified in the order, such information in his possession relating to the property as may be so specified;

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(b) direct that the owner or person in possession of the property shall not without the permission of the Provincial Government dispose of it or remove it from the premises in which it is kept till the expiry of such period as may be specified in the order.

(5) Without prejudice to any powers otherwise conferred by this section, any person authorized in this behalf by the Provincial Government may enter any premises and inspect such premises and any property therein or thereon for the purpose of determining whether, and if so, in what manner, an order under this section should be made in relation to such property or with a view to securing compliance with any order made under this section.

(6) If any person contravenes any order made under this section he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine or with both.

11. (1) Any officer of Government authorized in this behalf by general or special order of the Provincial Government may, within such area as may be specified in the order, require any male person in that area to assist in the maintenance or restoration of law and order or in the protection of property for such period and in such manner as the officer may direct.

(2) If any person fails to comply with any lawful direction given to him under sub-section (1) he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine or with both.

12. Any person who attempts to contravene, or abets, or attempts to abet, or does any act preparatory to a contravention of, any of the provisions of this Ordinance or of any order made thereunder, shall be deemed to have contravened that provision or, as the case may be, that order.

13. The Provincial Government may, by order, direct that any power or duty which is conferred or imposed on them shall, in such circumstances and under such conditions, if any, as may be specified in that direction, be exercised or discharged by any officer or authority subordinate to the Provincial Government.

14. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Ordinance.

15. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other Act, Ordinance or Regulation for the time being in force.

16. Any Police Officer may arrest without warrant any person who is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence punishable under this Ordinance.

17. The expiration, withdrawal or repeal of this Ordinance shall not affect—

(a) the previous operation of, or anything duly done or suffered under, this Ordinance or any order made thereunder, or

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(b) any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under this Ordinance or any order made thereunder, or

(c) any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect of any contravention of this Ordinance or of any order made thereunder, or

(d) any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment as aforesaid;

and any such investigation, legal proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced and any such penalty, forfeiture or punishment may be imposed, as if this Ordinance had not expired or been withdrawn or repealed

ARCHIBALD NYE,
Governor of Madras.

22nd January 1947.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 31st January 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Police shooting in the village of Chagalmarri in Kurnool district.

* 12 Q.—MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state what action the Government have taken in response to a representation made for holding an independent enquiry in regard to the Police shooting in the village of Chagalmarri in Kurnool district on the 8th October last, resulting in the loss of one life and injury to several others and the other alleged Police excesses?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The allegations of Police excesses made in the representations referred to were examined and they were found to be baseless. The Government do not propose holding an independent enquiry.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that more policemen were injured than Muslims?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I cannot answer the question pointedly but the policemen were injured as also the Divisional Magistrate and several other things had happened in that connexion.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, that it was more a Muslim excess than a Police excess?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Such general questions are not conducive to the hon. Member who puts them and also to the Government which has to answer them.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, what action has been taken on my report to the Hon. the Prime Minister about Police excesses against the students of the Hindu College, Masulipatam, on 4th November 1946, when they indulged in dragging the picketers and lathi charging both the boys and girls?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This question has no reference to the question which is being answered. I rule it out of order.”

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Regarding the trouble at Chagalmarri in Kurnool district, may I know what led to the situation that was referred to by the Hon. the Premier and what was its origin?”

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"In consequence of the strained feelings elaborate bandobast had to be made for the Dasara festival from 26th September to 5th October 1946. Just after Dasara some of the local Hindus wanted to take out a procession on 8th October 1946 of Sri Kannika-parameswari and Chennakeswaraswami with music in front of the Arab mosque. In view of the High Court decision allowing processions during non-prayer hours and in view of the civil court injunction issued by the Magistrate, Nandyal, on 1st October 1946, restraining the Muslims from interfering with Hindu processions, the District Magistrate, Kurnool, allowed the procession to be taken out during the non-prayer hours. In the course of that the trouble started."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the procession was taken out after non-prayer hours?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that all the Muslims were asked to leave the town for a day and not allowed to come to their houses?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Premier is aware that both the Hindus and Muslims of that area had come to some understanding and the Hindus agreed not to take out the procession whereas it is the Police who forced the taking out of the procession when the Hindus of that area did not want to take out the procession?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is not at all correct."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that most of the Harijans were harassed by Muslims simply because they sided with the Hindus?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Have the Government any information that the procession was taken by the Police and not by the residents of the area?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is quite clear that it was not the Police that took out the procession."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the injunction granted by the civil court was an ex parte injunction?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the reckless allegations made by Mr. Nagappa and others of the Treasury Benches, is it not advisable to appoint an independent committee to enquire into this matter rather than depending upon Police reports?"

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No reckless allegations have been made. If I read to the House the full report the Members will understand how the Police and officers on the spot were injured and what all had happened."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact that a large number of Muslim men veiled as purdah women attacked the Police and when fire was opened they ran away throwing off their masks and coming out in their true colours?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice. Information will be got, if necessary."

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the men were shut up in the mosque by the Police and when the women came out to open the mosque they were attacked by the Police and one woman was killed?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Nothing of the sort, as described by the Leader of the Opposition, had happened."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. the Premier whether, in view of the allegations made, he is prepared to appoint a committee to enquire into the matter rather than depend upon the Police reports?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Government is anxious not to add fuel to the fire. In this debate on the floor of the House there has been some excitement on both sides. An enquiry of that nature will not help and not needed unless facts warrant, especially when Government servants, including the Divisional Magistrate and others were injured, and the fact is on record."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In the light of his explanation is it advisable for the Hon. the Prime Minister to go by the report of the authorities who were themselves parties to their dispute?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The Government will not accept that position. So long as it has to do its duty, it should be guided by the officers on the spot. In this particular case Khan Bahadur Nazaruddin Sahib Bahadur, B.A., District Superintendent of Police, Kurnool, had sent his report."

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it the assumption of the Hon. the Premier that Government servants will never be in the wrong?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Government servants may be in the wrong on some occasions and if they are in the wrong that will be the occasion for an enquiry."

MUHAMMAD RAFAEUDDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that in a large number of cases of communal rioting the cause has been the question of *mu* before mosque, will the Government be pleased to examine the whole question *de novo*?"

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Government is anxious to examine every question connected with the communal disturbances and they will certainly take note of this. Government have been considering how a solution can be arrived at in regard to this matter.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ In view of the fact that this question of music before mosque has been a constant source of irritation and the conflicting decisions of the Madras High Court regarding the rights of the parties and as a Full Bench of the High Court is now at it, will the Government in the interests of peace and communal harmony bring in legislation laying down the rights of parties? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Legislation will certainly be undertaken when all the necessary preliminaries have been completed. We have to do that.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ In view of what the Premier has stated we are also anxious that there should be harmony and peace in the area between the two parties and according to the report received by the Premier it is the Police who were injured, I want to know whether in view of this allegation whether it is not necessary that it should be found out how the Police came in and why the Police were injured and not the Hindus? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ The whole thing is on record and no non-official enquiry is needed in my opinion.”

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I wanted to ask the same question that in view of the allegations placed before the House, the Premier still thinks it is unnecessary to institute an enquiry into this matter which has generated so much heat and which it is necessary to allay.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Heat should not be generated unnecessarily in any matter. From the facts on record and they cannot be even disputed because the men injured were in a hospital and were certified to that effect and the whole thing is plain to the Government. The Government cannot take any step which would create further heat.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ May I know, Sir, what guarantee the Government will give with regard to the people living there in view of the strained feelings that exist between the Hindus and Muslims, especially the Harijans who are tortured by both the parties? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I believe the hon. Member has got substantial evidence to support his statements. If he has got it he may place it before the House.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ Sir, after the incident I myself had been to that place because some of my Harijan friends . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ You are making a statement and I cannot allow it.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ We are certainly anxious to avoid any heat in this connexion. I should ask the Hon. Premier whether in the report he has information as to the number of Hindus, Muslims and the Police party who were injured and killed? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Information will be obtained and supplied. So far as I can read from this report here I see that after a few minutes after protest on their part regarding unreasonableness the mob advanced towards the police party from three directions, viz., Kambalavasa Sandhi, Agadi Sandhi and Vadlamanar Sandhi. They were attacked with an incessant shower of granite stones. The Subdivisional Magistrate, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nandyal, 18 men of the armed reserve and 9 local policemen have received injuries. Two constables of the armed reserve received fairly serious injuries on the ear and elbow. The other injuries are of a minor nature. The Subdivisional Magistrate and the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Nandyal, received severe stone hits on their hats which saved them from receiving severe head injuries. This occurred at about 7-45 p.m. More particulars which the hon. Member wanted will be obtained.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know the exact time when the procession started? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ It started at 5-30 p.m.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ Are the Government aware that the place made mention of as a mosque is a dharga but not a mosque? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ That information is not available immediately.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The Hon. the Premier has stated that the procession started at 5-30 p.m. Is he aware that it is the hour of congregational prayer in the evening? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ According to my information, one thing is certain and that is that it was a non-prayer time.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—“ Is it a fact that immediately before and after the incident, certain Muslim League leaders visited the area to rouse the law-abiding Muslim masses and took out procession of five thousand strong along Nandyal streets with the dead body though they had nothing to do with the incident in question? ”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ That question does not arise, Mr. Speaker; he is asking about a thing which is outside the question under answer.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ The answer is not in my hands. Regarding Mr. Hameed Khan's question of prayer

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time, according to Justice Kuppuswami Ayyar's orders procession with music will be allowed to pass the mosque outside the prayer hours, namely, 6 to 8 a.m., 12 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. This was with reference to the case in which the same parties were involved in the same village in connexion with the festival."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. the Premier kindly state if the hours that he has mentioned are hours of congregational prayers and the procession was not taken out during those hours and whether the Police did not act in a high-handed manner and as a matter of fact against the decision of the Court?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The facts do not warrant the assertion that the Police acted in a high-handed manner. In spite of persuasion and the efforts which they made to prevent such a thing, things developed in such a manner that they could not help taking the measures they did."

MUHAMMAD RAFFEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that 5 o'clock and not beyond that is the limit within which processions may be taken out according to the decrees of various civil courts?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is too sweeping an assumption. No such thing can be laid down from a perusal of the judgment of the cases. No such thing could have happened. I have myself read a note from a judgment of one Judge."

Purchase of additional cars for Hon. Ministers.

1-30 a.m. *13 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Hon. Ministers have recently purchased at Government expense some more cars in addition to the twenty-one cars that were purchased for the Hon. Ministers previously;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the number of additional cars recently purchased, their make and the reason for their purchase;

(c) whether the six extra cars that were previously purchased by the Hon. Ministers at Government expense have been sold, and if so, at what price and to whom; and

(d) the total amount of expenditure debited to the Government Exchequer in connexion with the purchase of cars for the Hon. Ministers?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Three additional cars were purchased—two Dodge Sedan and one Plymouth Sedan. They were purchased in order to replace two smaller cars and a second-hand car.

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" (c) The six cars were disposed off as follows:—

Name of the car.	Car No.	To whom sold.	Price at which sold.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		
			RS.	A.	P.
Austin Ten ..	9835	Hon'ble Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chett yar.	6,365	12	0
Hindustan Ten ..	9827	Sri S. Kunjithapadam (1, Hensman Road, Thyagaraya Nagar).	6,200	0	0
Do. ..	9838	Sri G. N. Vembu (194, Mount Road, Madras).	6,788	9	0
Do. ..	9833	Messrs. Crompton Engineering Company.	6,605	0	0
Do. ..	9832	Dr. T. N. Krishnaswami ..	6,605	0	0
Citroen ..	9836	Sri G. Rajamannar Chetty (Parliamentary Secretary.)	7,654	8	0

" (d) Rs. 1,32,300. "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that 'Hindustan Ten' cars are Swadeshi cars, may I know who is the Hon. Minister who bought the non-Swadeshi car?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member wants to have a mere joke. I may tell him, the Hindustan Ten car is not a Swadeshi car. It is only assembled here."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I inquire, Sir, why the six cars that were purchased, were sold at a price lesser than the cost price? What is the loss to Government Exchequer on this account and why was the loss incurred?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The prices were fixed by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I inquire why the six cars were not retained by the Ministers instead of making the Government suffer a loss by selling them at a lesser price than the cost price?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No special reason could be given; because of necessity it was done."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I inquire, Sir, whether the three additional cars mentioned in clause (b), that were purchased, have also been sold?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

Unani College for the Province.

* 14 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements have been made for the opening of a fully equipped Unani College in the Province; and

(b) whether this College is expected to come into being along with the Ayurvedic College?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will answer the question on behalf of the Minister for Public Health."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

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N. MUHAMMAD ANSWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, I would like to know whether an Hon. Minister has to seek the permission of the Chair before he answers the question?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR (on behalf of Hon. Mrs. R. Lakshmipathi):—"There is no proposal to open a separate Unani College in the Province. But, a Unani Section is proposed to be opened in the Central College of Indian Medicine at Madras, proposals for the opening of which are under the consideration of Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that the proposal is to open a separate Ayurvedic College?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The proposal is to open a Central College of Indian Medicine at Madras."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I understand, Sir, that in that College, under the instructions issued Ayurvedic system will occupy more important a position. Is it a fact?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is too much for me to say. You may put a separate question."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the course of studies that are to be taken up in the Ayurvedic College have been settled?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Not as far as I know."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Hon. Minister give us an assurance that unless a scientific planning of these studies is settled, no Ayurvedic College will be started?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No such undertaking can be given."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether the Ayurvedic College is to come into being, and, if so, whether the Unani College will come into effect simultaneously?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I have nothing more to say. If the hon. Lady wants further information, she may put a separate question."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The Unani scheme is not yet ready. That is why an answer cannot be given now."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Is the Ayurvedic scheme ready, Sir?"

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, to a certain extent, but not to the extent of perfection, which the hon. Member has got in his mind about scientific planning."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As the Prime Minister is mainly responsible for the decision of the Cabinet, may I know whether Government have any discrimination or preference to Ayurvedic medicine over Unani medicine?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"There is no such discrimination. In order to avoid such misapprehension, all the systems of medicine have been included in the programme."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, why the Unani scheme is not ready?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Perhaps, not enough time and also question of cost. These questions were not anticipated earlier."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Have all details been fixed, in view of the important step of opening the Ayurvedic College? May I enquire whether the syllabus, course of studies, professors, training places and finally hospital which will be attached to this college in order to administer Ayurvedic medicine and in order to give effect to the methods of Ayurvedic treatment have all these things been made ready?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"All these steps will be taken and all necessary measures will be adopted. If there are no substantial buildings in existence, they will be located in places where they could be established."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that Mr. N. S. Varadachari insists on calling this college, Ayurvedic college, and in view of the fact that it is not denied by the Treasury Bench (laughter) may I know whether it is an Ayurvedic college that is to be established or a college of Indian Medicine?" (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"As I said in my answer, the name of the college is Central College of Indian Medicine."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Prime Minister, whether he will give us an assurance, that when the question of improvement of these two systems of Medicine (Unani and Ayurveda) comes, he will treat them on an equal footing?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is a third also, Siddha."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Government will treat all systems alike and there will be no discrimination (including Siddha and Homœopathy)."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I inquire whether Government will at least now take steps to get the Unani scheme ready and give us an assurance that the Unani and Ayurvedic schemes will come into being simultaneously? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" We are on that matter, Begum; if possible, that will be done; if not, one may start earlier."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have to point out to the Hon. the Premier that he is addressing the Chair and not the lady. "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" I am sorry, Sir."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will Government consider the advisability of making budget provision only after making sure that the most scientific arrangements have been made for the opening of these institutions, as otherwise, as Government are aware, it will become a confusion college and not a college of Indian Medicine? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Government are being helped with the best of experts with perfect scientific knowledge."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Prime Minister keep in view that there should be parity and never priority as between Ayurveda and Unani Medicine? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" That question has already been answered."

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Hon. Premier lay the papers on the Table of the House showing how far progress has been made in planning? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" This is not the way in which any business can be done. If at the very outset all papers are called for and placed on the Table of the House, no Government can carry on."

Number of people diverted from the Co-operative Department for prohibition work.

11-45 a.m. * 15 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of people that have been diverted from the Co-operative Department for prohibition work;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are very many Non-official Co-operative employees who are equally fitted for doing work in connection with the introduction of prohibition on the ameliorative side; and

(c) if so whether the Government propose to recruit at least some of the candidates from non-official co-operative employees?

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SRI B. S. MURTHI (on behalf of the Hon. Sri V. V. Giri):—

" (a) the following staff has been taken from the Co-operative Department for prohibition work—

1 Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
7 Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies.
17 Co-operative Sub-Registrars.

" (b) There may be some.

" (c) After the initial work of organizing co-operative societies is over, it may be possible to replace the co-operative staff by non-officials, whenever suitable persons are available. "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, from the Parliamentary Secretary, what efforts have been made to find out whether suitable persons are available or not? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" All efforts have been made. "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know what they are? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Whenever a selection was made, efficacy and feasibility were the main considerations that prevailed."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I inquire, Sir, when non-officials are available for appointment as inspecting textile officers throughout the presidency, is it not possible for the Minister to recruit these supervising officers from non-officials advantageously, as in the case of the textile department? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Government have now lent the Co-operative staff so that the initial work might be done, and whenever possible, non-officials may be brought into the field."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether Co-operative Supervisors are fit as Excise Inspectors in the place of other people? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Co-operative Inspectors have been sent to organize co-operative societies in areas where prohibition has been introduced."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" My question is whether these people will be useful as Prohibition officers? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" All persons are useful for introducing and carrying on Prohibition."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" How is it that not even one supervisor from non-officials has been appointed? "

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Notice.")

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the fact that Government is entrusting the commerce of the country to the hands of the Co-operative Department, is it advisable for the Government to deplete the staff of the Co-operative Department by lending its officers to other departments?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Government is not doing anything extraordinary. Co-operative societies have been recognized all over the world as the best media through which service to the masses and the people can be carried on. Therefore, it is that the co-operative system is adopted and is being extended now."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question was whether in view of the fact that Government had already transferred a lot of commerce of the country to the hands of the Co-operative Department, is it advisable on the part of the Government to deplete the staff of the Co-operative Department by lending them for Prohibition work, that is to another department?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No such transfer will be made for Prohibition work from the Co-operative Department."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire, Sir, how the staff of the Excise Department, which is not required now, has been disposed off?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"A part of the Excise staff is being absorbed in service in the districts where Prohibition is adopted."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Prime Minister, I would like to know whether there is any precedent in any part of the world in which the commerce of the country is handed over to the Co-operative Department doing away with the commercial section of the people entirely?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Wherever Co-operative systems had been introduced, such a thing happened in the whole world."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know how tappers have been disposed off?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Tappers will be disposed of by putting them on other work so that they will have work in another profession from which they may earn what they were earning previously, or even more."

Representations complaining of the practice obtaining in North Malabar of registering Hindu marriages in the Registry offices.

* 16 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government complaining of the practice obtaining in North Malabar of registering Hindu marriages in the Registry offices without reference to any statutory requirement or provision to do so;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action on such representations; and

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(c) whether the Government propose to promulgate any legislation to validate marriages registered as stated in clause (a)?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" (a) A representation has been received.

" (b) The Government have examined the representation in consultation with the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages and the District Magistrates of Coimbatore, South Kanara and Malabar.

" (c) The answer is in the negative."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"How many are such instances, I should like to know?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"No exact number is given. But I suppose it is very few."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government feel that registration of these Hindu marriages in the registry offices would give validity to marriages which are otherwise invalid?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"If they are otherwise invalid, this cannot validate it. But they might be valid under customary laws. In such cases, this will be a mere record for the marriages that have already taken place."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government has taken any action against the Registrars themselves who have registered marriages without any jurisdiction and without any registration being made binding under the Special Marriage Act?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Registrars, as they are now, are statutorily bound to register any document tendered to them for registration provided they are satisfied they are genuine. Therefore no action can be taken against such Registrars. So far as other questions are concerned, they may be raised on a separate question if the member thinks it necessary."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government intend to bring in any legislation with reference to the registration of marriages in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"So many proposals are there. I cannot give particulars of anything now."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Sub-Registrars about the registration of these marriages in future?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"As I said already, it is not possible to do so, because the Registrars are bound to register documents that are tendered to them."

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, what further extent of land is available in Malabar for cultivation? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Now that the land has been brought under cultivation, has it been brought under collective farms, or on a co-operative basis, or given to individuals? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" It has been offered to individuals. Fifty-seven thousand and odd acres nearly are from private lands and 4,000 from Government."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" To whom the lands have been given—agricultural labourers and Harijans or to the landlords? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" I have no information on the point, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government has got any idea of transferring such lands also to co-operative societies instead of private individuals in pursuance of their policy to hand over the commerce of the country to the Co-operative Department? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" In the East Coast there are many societies working on a co-operative basis, and that is the best way of giving away these lands."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government will consider at least hereafter to grant lands only on a co-operative basis or to the collective farms? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" My hon. friend is mixing up two things. So far as co-operative societies are concerned, attempts will be made to give to them wherever possible."

Construction of a road bridge over the Pennar at Nellore.

* 19 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government propose to start the construction of the road bridge over the Pennar River at Nellore; and

(b) the cost of the proposed bridge.

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) The bridge work is expected to be taken up for execution during 1948-49. The priority for the work has to be fixed by the Government of India who subsidise it, after they receive the revised programme for National Highways now under preparation by the Chief Engineer (Highways).
" (b) Rs. 15 lakhs."

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MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, if the contract for this work will be given to some local firms or will it go to Birlas and Tatas? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" I cannot give any assurance about it, Sir."

Prohibition of sugarcane crushing in Thummapala area.

* 20. Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation was made by the District Ryots' Association, Vizagapatam, regarding the prohibition of sugarcane crushing in Thummapala area;

(b) whether a complaint was made that the price fixed for the sugarcane commandeered for the Thummapala Sugar Factory is very low;

(c) whether complaints were made that the Sugarcane Advisory Board formed is not being consulted in fixing the factory areas, in commandeering sugarcane, in determining prices, etc., and

(d) what action do the Government propose to take to redress the above grievances?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) (1) *Clause (a).*—The prohibition imposed on sugarcane crushing in all the factory areas in this Province has since been cancelled.

" (2) *Clause (b).*—Reasonable minimum prices for cane have been fixed for all the factory areas of this Province. The price for this year has been fixed for the Thummapala area at Rs. 34 per ton. The corresponding price for last year was Rs. 23-8-0.

" (3) *Clause (c).*—Consequent on the change of policy now explained the question of consulting the Sugarcane Advisory Board in the area in the matters specified, does not arise."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, whether the peasants arrested in the course of the dispute relating to minimum price fixation of sugarcane are going to be released as the minimum price has been fixed? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" That must be put as a separate question."

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

II.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS CITY POLICE AND DISTRICT POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

12 noon. SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“On a point of information, Sir. The House is aware that recently the Government issued an order denying to the members the privilege of being supplied with copies of Acts, etc. The result is that we are reduced to the absurd and ridiculous position of coming here to discuss Bills which amend the existing Acts, which are not before us. I am afraid we cannot function effectively and responsibly if copies of those Acts are not supplied to us. The Hon. Speaker has been pleased to move in the matter. May I know at what stage the matter stands and whether we will get the Acts before we consider the amending Bills?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The members of the Assembly have got certain privileges in the matter of supply of publications. They are given in the ‘Notes for the use of the Members of the Madras Legislative Assembly’:

‘Members of the Legislative Assembly will be supplied by the Superintendent, Government Press, free of cost and without application being made, with copies of the following publications:—

(a) Proceedings of the Madras Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council with indexes thereto,

(b) All published reports of the various branches of the administration of the Madras Presidency, including the Presidency Administration Report, and

(c) The Fort St. George Gazette including supplements, the supply of Indian language supplements and Indian Language Acts being limited to one language.

2. The Superintendent, Government Press, will supply members of the Legislative Assembly with any papers placed on the Editors’ table on receipt of intimation from a member of his requirements within ten days of the publication of the list of papers placed on Editors’ table in the Fort St. George Gazette.

3. Members will be supplied free of cost with any other official publications of the classes usually available to the public for which they may specially apply.

Note.—(i) The supply will be restricted to publications dealing with administrative matters and likely to be needed by a member in the exercise of his function and will not permit the supply of books merely of general or literary interest.

(ii) Publications of permanent value, such as Codes, Statutes and Manuals should be returned at his own cost by the member to whom they are supplied on the termination of his tenure of office.

(iii) The application should be addressed to the Secretary, Legislative Assembly, who will forward them to the Superintendent, Government Press.’

“These were the privileges that we were enjoying for a long time. Without my knowledge, Government have taken them away. I am in communication with the Government. I hope they will restore them.”

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Sir, I introduce the Madras City Police and District Police (Amendment) Bill, 1947, and move—

‘That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.’”

* SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I suggest that the consideration of these Bills be deferred till the Acts are supplied to us?”

* MR. SPEAKER:—“Now it is not possible. We will have to sit till 1 o’clock to-day. Ootherwise, the alternative is to adjourn the House now.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I took it, Sir, that the proposed amendments were mere formal amendments. But if the hon. Members think that the previous enactments relating to Police administration should be made available, you may adjourn the House. Let them have the benefit of it.”

* MR. SPEAKER:—“Is it the opinion of the Leaders of parties?”

* SIR STUART TOWN:—“I suggest that it is a non-controversial Bill.”

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—“Even if the matter is adjourned now, by Monday or even within a week it will not be possible for the Government to supply all the members with copies. The Council and the Secretariat libraries have got some copies, and hon. Members can make use of them.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We shall go on with some of the non-controversial Bills. I think the Hon. Premier concurs with me.”

* SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“This is a Bill which I heartily support and which I commend for the unanimous acceptance of this House. This Bill is intended, I think, to penalise the publication, distribution and dissemination of all matters that are intended to popularise racing, betting and gambling.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We are now dealing with the Bill to amend the Police Acts.”

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—“May I suggest for the benefit of the whole House that the Hon. Prime Minister reads the original sections and then the amendments?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That is in the second reading stage. If we pass the first stage and come to the second, I myself will read clause by clause. I wish to know whether the Hon. Prime Minister is going to make a speech now in introducing the Bill.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“No speech is needed, Sir, in this matter. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill may be looked into:

‘Section 61 of the Madras City Police Act, 1888, confers certain powers on Police-officers, above the rank of constable, when a fire breaks out in the City of Madras. It is considered necessary to amplify the section so that members of the Madras Fire Services, above the rank of fireman, may also exercise these powers. A consequential amendment is also proposed in Section 81.

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‘Section 62-A of the City Police Act provides for the imposition of a fine not exceeding fifty rupees on persons giving false alarms of fire. As such alarms are increasing in number, it is proposed to enhance this penalty in the case of a second or subsequent offence, to a sentence of imprisonment, not exceeding six months, to which fine may be added.

‘The Madras District Police Act, 1859, does not contain provisions similar to Sections 61 and 62-A of the City Police Act. As Fire Services have been, or will shortly be, organized in mufassal municipalities also, with jurisdiction over the adjacent areas, the Government consider it necessary to incorporate in the District Police Act provisions corresponding to Sections 61 and 62-A of the City Police Act, as proposed to be amended by this Bill. Consequential amendments have also been proposed to Section 53 and the Schedule to the District Police Act.’

“From this it can be seen, Sir, that this is a non-controversial Bill for the sake of which all the previous enactments and laws need not be referred to. I hope the hon. Member who wanted them, after knowing the object of the Bill, will withdraw his objection.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, I rise not to oppose the motion of the Hon. Premier but to support it. In doing so, I will only make one or two observations particularly with regard to the sections concerning penalty. Even this simple measure, which is mainly intended for the benefit of the people so that the fire services may function more efficiently, might be a source of hardship to people. To justify my statement, I would request you to look at the clauses levying penalty on the people who transgress the provisions of this measure. According to this measure, those people who give false alarms for the second time or subsequently may be sentenced to imprisonment. In the case of a fire, some man comes and reports that there is a fire. If I do not want to be caught by the penal provisions of this measure, I have to go to the place and verify whether there is fire or not. By that time the fire would have done its job and the fire services would be of no use even if they come to the scene of fire. There are really such hardships. What I would urge upon the Government is to instruct the authorities to overlook such things and not to enforce the penal provisions without consideration and regard, so that there may not be any hardship to the people. After all, it must be assumed that the people will not take upon themselves the task of pestering and harassing the officials. As I have pointed out earlier, even this simple measure might be so worked as to cause hardship to the people. I request that the Government would take care that the measure is worked with due consideration towards the people concerned. With these words, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion before the House moved by the Hon. the Premier.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to this Bill, the members of my party, I feel, will lend their support because this is a small matter and we wish to help the Government as far as possible in the administration of this province. But on going through the provisions of the Bill, I find that section 62-A of the City Police Act is to be so amended that in the case of a second or subsequent offence of giving false

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alarm the punishment of imprisonment should be imposed. I consider the penalty of imprisonment for small and trifling offences such as these to be hard and harsh. The maximum limit of fine may be increased from fifty to two hundred or even five hundred rupees; but let us not have this penalty of imprisonment as a substantive punishment. You can imprison a person, in default of paying the fine imposed upon him. That is my suggestion.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot agree with the view that this is a harmless, non-controversial Bill. Although it may be only a two-page Bill, it is certainly not a harmless and non-controversial Bill. The provisions of this Bill are very extensive and all-pervading. In the first instance, I find that an officer of the rank of a police constable is given certain power and authority which had hitherto been exercised by an officer of a higher rank. I remember the days when some of our friends here were in jails and legislation was passed in a hurry giving authority to police officers below the rank of Inspector of Police to arrest people even without warrant. We raised a hue and cry that the powers ordinarily exercised by police officers of higher rank should not be entrusted to officers of lower ranks like the police constable. Here we are not in possession of the Police Act and therefore I cannot say who the present officers are who have been exercising the powers that are now sought to be given to police constables. The fireman and police constable are very low people, and they are not the class of people to whom important work could be entrusted. They may exercise their power not so much always in the interests of the people, and it may be to the detriment of the people themselves. Therefore, I think, we must be very careful in giving authority of a very important nature to a police constable or fireman. The other object for which this Bill has been introduced and sought to be passed by this House with such great hurry is to penalise the public, and to increase the penalty. After all, the man that is sought to be penalised is a member of the public. This Government seeks to inflict heavier punishment on a member of the public by increasing the penalty. This is certainly a legislation which takes away the liberty of a citizen or a member of the public. (Interruption.) The Hon. Minister for Local Administration ought to know better. I am not asking the House to agree to encourage offences. But, I find, the punishment that is already there is enough deterrent to prevent offences being committed. I am not asking that you should altogether exempt from punishment or encourage offenders giving false alarm. Why are you going to enhance it? I am sure the Government will be able to tell us what the number of such offences are and how they have been dealt with. I do not think they will come forward and say that false alarms have increased to such an extent as to come forward with legislation. As has been pointed out by the previous speaker, the Bill seeks to impose imprisonment not exceeding

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six months for second and subsequent offences. Imprisonment is certainly not an easy thing. I know how the first alarm will be recorded. Suppose a false alarm is recorded. On the basis of the alleged false alarm, a man may be punished, and in most cases he may not be the real offender. On the basis of that wrong decision, a poor man who gives an alarm in his anxiety to prevent fire from spreading might be proceeded against for a second offence. How does giving false alarms benefit anybody? In most cases, these supposed false alarms are real alarms. They may be due to anxiety on the part of somebody. It is not always right that a man should wait till the fire develops to such dimensions that then alone he should give the alarm.

“These are very delicate matters. These matters affect the liberties of the people. I hope that the Government will not compel this House to pass this legislation in a hurry. I would rather wish that the members are given some more time so that they could examine what the present provisions are and what exactly is being sought to be done by this amendment. Therefore I am not in a position to agree with the view that the legislation that is sought to be passed is harmless and non-controversial.”

* SIR STUART TOWN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to give my wholehearted support to this Bill. Fire is the most terrible thing. Those who have been trapped in a burning building know its terrors. Obviously many people here have never been in that terrible position. This Bill gives to certain members of the Fire Services the power to cut through a lot of red tape to get on with this job. When a fire has started it is essential that there shall be somebody able to do whatever is necessary and to see that nobody stands in the way of putting the fire out. This Bill gives the Fire Services such power. The main opposition to the Bill is on the question of penalty. The last speaker seemed to think that the public should have the liberty to create false alarm. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ‘No.’) This Bill only deals with cases where a person knowingly gives information which he knows to be false. Mr. Hameed Khan wants that such a man should have the liberty to spread the false information. Lastly any one who has had his property destroyed by fire, would be very much annoyed if his property was destroyed because the fire brigade had to be away at the other end of the town because some person had given false alarm knowing it to be false. Government are very kind to such a man by giving him a second chance. They seem to wish to treat him like a dog which is always given a second bite before being destroyed. People don’t go giving false alarm always unless there is some reason. The reason must be either they have no civic responsibility or have in view a practical joke to call out the fireman, probably in the middle of the night and run the risk of other people suffering loss of life and property because some criminal has given false information. Sir, I think the punishment should stand and if

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the man who knowingly gives false information and I detest the man who gives it twice. Sir, I heartily support this Bill, especially its penalty clauses.”

* SIR T. VISWANATHAM:—“Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan, was under some misapprehension when he made his remarks on this Bill. He said that powers should not be entrusted to constables. The existing section says that ‘on the occasion of a fire in the City of Madras the Commissioner or any police officer above the rank of constable may, etc.’ So, the existing powers are not vested in constables but only in officers above the rank of constables. Secondly, he said that this amendment proposes to place these powers in the hands of the firemen. That also is equally wrong, because our amendment is: ‘On the occasion of a fire, any police officer above the rank of constable, or any member of the Madras Fire Services above the rank of fireman.’ So, it is not to the firemen that these powers are entrusted but to those who are higher in rank. Then he himself (i.e., hon. Member Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan) seemed to be creating false alarms by defending the false alarmists. Section 62-A of the existing City Police Act says: ‘Whoever gives or causes to be given to any fire brigade in the City of Madras, or to any officer or fireman thereof, whether by means of a street fire-alarm, statement, message or otherwise, any alarm of fire which he knows to be false, shall be liable . . .’ So the punishment is only in the case of a person who gives an alarm knowing it to be false. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ‘Who is to prove it?’) The person who prosecutes will prove it.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome the provisions of this Bill which is sought to be introduced. Sir, the fire services were originally brought into existence in most of the cities and municipalities as a war measure. I think the present Government has thought it advisable to confirm the arrangement. I, as one who knows that the municipalities require the assistance of these fire brigades welcome the Bill. But what I fear, Sir, is that the penalty that is proposed to be imposed under this Act will be a bit hard. Of course, Mr. Viswanatham just now explained to us what is the criterion for a fine, namely, whether the alarm given is a false one or a correct one. But in most cases we know when there is a fire and the authorities have been informed and before they could arrive the people passing by may have put out the fire while the alarm notice given is still there. So what I would request the hon. Prime Minister is in making rules to see that the innocent people may not be penalized though there may be a true fire. With these words, Sir, I support the introduction of this Bill.”

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Sir, I rise to support this Bill. It is a very good Bill and it brings the police into service on very important and dangerous occasions such as the outbreak of fire.

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"Sir, when some time ago, I raised the question of the privilege of the Members of this House, I did so as a general question and not with reference to this Bill at all. This is of course a non-controversial Bill. But as you may be pleased to see, we are to discuss here other Bills also and unless we are supplied with the Acts we cannot understand the full import and meaning of the amendments that are sought to be introduced in those Acts. It is for this reason that I raised the general question of the privilege of hon. Members of this House. I submit, Sir, that our existence in this House would be a mockery unless we discharge our functions properly and responsibly and we cannot discharge those functions properly and responsibly unless we know what the Acts are which we are amending. Sir, those Acts have not been supplied to us. It may be that the amendments are very innocent or non-controversial. That does not affect the position that I take up when I raise the general question.

"As regards this particular Bill it has my full support, because it is a very useful Bill."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, with regard to the severity of the sentence there has been some misapprehension in the minds of some hon. Members. If any information is given innocently by a man that will be known and he will not come within the meaning of this section. The language of the clause is 'whoever gives a false alarm knowing it to be false.' Therefore, the fear need not be entertained by the hon. Members of the House that the sentence is very severe. But those who give false alarms deliberately will have to be made to know that they would be dealt with severely. This part of the legislation is merely preventive. A provision of this nature will make people think once, twice and thrice before they think of doing any mischief. Therefore the sentence need not be looked upon as very severe and that it would be imposed upon innocent people. (Interruption.) What is the number of false alarms? One can imagine the time and circumstances of the present day. What is the number? Even if the number is not 1,000 or 500 or 300, even if the number is one or two, if there are such mischievous men bent upon creating trouble, they must be dealt with. It is not by the numbers that this should be judged. We have seen very recently how even in a train the chain was pulled and trouble was created and what all trouble followed upon that. Similarly in the event of a fire what amount of trouble comes up, one cannot imagine. Therefore, if the number is big or small need not trouble us."

The question that the Madras City Police and District Police (Amendment) Bill, 1947, be taken into consideration was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"As there are no amendments, I think it would be better to put the Bill as a whole for the vote of the House. (Some hon. Members: 'It would not be correct.') Then I will go clause by clause."

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Clause 2.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 1 and Preamble.

Clause 1 and Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I now move, Sir—
'that the Bill be passed into law'."

The question was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I move—

'that instead of taking next the Madras Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Extension to Agricultural Land) Bill, 1947, the House now proceed to take up the Madras High Court (Jurisdictional Limits) Amendment Bill, 1947, and the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1947.'"

The motion was put and carried.

(2) THE MADRAS HIGH COURT (JURISDICTIONAL LIMITS) AMENDMENT
BILL, 1947.

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras High Court (Jurisdictional Limits) Amendment Bill, 1947, and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"Sir, the Bill is necessitated by the fact that the limits of the jurisdiction of the Madras Municipality have been increased by the inclusion of certain portions of Chingleput district. Therefore it is thought necessary that the jurisdiction of the High Court should be co-terminous with the municipal limits of Madras. In fact in August 1945 the Government ordered that portions of Aminjikarai should be included in the limits of the city with effect from October 1945. Again in March 1946 the inclusion of the Saidapet Municipality, Sembiam, part of Aminjikarai and certain other villages in Chingleput district was decided upon to take effect from April 1946. The extension of the city limits involved also extension of the jurisdiction of the High Court and other courts in the city. It is undesirable that one portion of the city should be under the jurisdiction of courts in Chingleput district and other portions of the city under the jurisdiction of the courts in the city. Therefore it was considered desirable for the sake of uniformity that all portions of the city should be under the same jurisdiction of the High Court and various other courts of the city. The Bill is merely a formal one.

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"As regards pending suits, Government anxiously considered the matter, whether any provision should be made in the Bill regarding pending suits whether in the District Court of Chingleput or in the various Munsifs' Courts. Finally it was considered desirable not to disturb them, for the parties might have paid heavy court fees in various courts and if the suits are transferred to courts in the city, the question of paying back the court fees or paying more court fees would arise. The parties would have also incurred costs in paying fees to legal practitioners for conducting their cases. There is also another difficulty in regard to small cause suits in the mufassal. If we transfer all these suits, the question of revision petitions will arise and there is also the question of appeals. Therefore the Government have made no provision in the Bill for giving retrospective effect to it and they have left pending suits as they are. I beg to move, Sir, that the Bill be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know if any hon. Member wants to speak on the Bill."

(Hon. Members: 'No'.)

The question that the Bill be taken into consideration was put to the House and passed.

Claus 2 with the schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I move, Sir—
'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

The question that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(3) THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1947, and move—

'that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.'

"Sir, the matter is a very simple one. Under the Madras City Municipal Act, companies are subject to the levy of certain taxes. The term 'Company' is defined in the City Municipal Act, clause 9-A), section 3. It reads as follows:—

'Company' means a company as defined in the Indian Companies Act, 1913, or formed in pursuance of an Act of Parliament or of Royal Charter or Letters Patent or of an Act of the Legislature of a British Possession and includes any co-operative society registered or deemed to be registered under any law for the time being in force in British India or any part thereof.'

In actual working, Sir, it has been found that this definition is not sufficiently comprehensive. It cruits to take in two classes of companies—companies registered in India or in any of the States of India and also companies registered in foreign countries. This Bill is intended to bring in these classes of companies also

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under the definition of 'companies' in the City Municipal Act. I would ask the House to accept this motion and pass the Bill into law."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Does any hon. Member wish to speak on this Bill?"

(Hon. Members: 'No'.)

The question that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I now move, Sir—
'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is now 10 minutes to 1 o'clock. Usual-12:50 ly we adjourn at 1 o'clock on Fridays. To-day the other House p.m sits at 3 o'clock. So we will not have a sitting this afternoon. We will meet on Monday. There will be no meeting on Saturday."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it for the races, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not for the races. I have consulted the Hon. the Premier and the hon. Leader of the Opposition and the other group leaders on this matter. We shall adjourn now and meet again at 11 o'clock on Monday."

The House then adjourned till 11 a.m. on Monday, 3rd February 1947.

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

(1) Madras Government's Khadi Scheme.

(2) Well Subsidy Schemes—Statement showing amount of subsidies paid, etc.

(3) G.O. No. 4696, Development, dated 23rd December 1946, regarding Textile—Handloom cloth—Price control—Policy of Government.



THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 3rd February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Number of residents of Telugu districts in the Secretariat.

* 21 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) how many employees are there in the Government Secretariat excluding peons and menial servants, in the permanent and temporary cadres respectively; and

(b) of them, how many are residents of the Telugu districts?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) Eight hundred and seventy-eight.

“(b) One hundred and forty-six.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Will the Government be pleased to place the list of the Secretariat employees on the Table of the House, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“It will be placed, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Of the 146 Telugus, may I know how many of them are Muslims?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“When the list is placed on the table, it can be known.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will the Hon. Minister place on the Table of the House also the total number of Muslims out of the total number in the Secretariat?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Yes, Sir, that will also be furnished.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“Of the 146 Telugus, may I know how many come from Rayalaseema?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Notice, Sir.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to take steps to bring about parity between Andhras and Tamils in this matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I do not understand what is meant by parity.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“By parity, I mean, equal number of Tamils and Andhras.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“No such undertaking can be given.”

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SRI GOPAVARAM VENKATA REDDI:—“ May I know, Sir, of the total number of Telugus, how many come from each of the Telugu districts? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether it is possible for the Premier to tell us how many of these are residents of Tamil districts? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Notice, Sir.”

SIR STUART TOWN:—“ May I know, Sir, how many of them are married, how many single, how many children they have got, whether they have got any dependents and lastly, whether Government consider that they are efficient or not? ” (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Notice Sir.” (Laughter.)

SRI GOPAVARAM VENKATA REDDI:—“ May I ask whether Rayalaseema will be given due representation? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Notice, Sir.”

Work of the District Armed Reserve during last five years.

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

(a) whether the District Armed Reserve in any district was called in for action during last five years;

(b) if so, where; and

(c) what the nature of the work done was?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ (a) & (b) The District Armed Reserve has been called out in most districts on a large number of occasions during the past five years. It would be a very laborious task which would not be justified to ascertain the number of times and the places to which they were called in each district.

“ (c) Maintenance of law and order.”

Elections to Madras Medical Council.

* 23 Q.—SRI N. S. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been made questioning the validity of elections held in October to Madras Medical Council;

(b) if so, what are the grounds on which the election is questioned; and

(c) what steps have been taken in the matter of scrutinizing these irregularities?

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR (on behalf of the Hon. Mrs. Lakshmipathi):—“ (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

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“ (b) & (c) Under the rules relating to election, the Council may, of its own motion, or on objection made, declare any election that has been held to be void on account of corrupt practice or any other sufficient cause and may call on the electorate to make a fresh election. The decision of the Council under this rule is final. The grounds on which the election has been questioned have been referred to the Madras Medical Council and its decision is awaited.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Is it a fact, Sir, that in the case of 700 voters, their addresses were not found in the electoral roll? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ The electoral roll was hung up in the office of the Medical Council and in regard to a number of voters, their addresses were not known.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Is it a fact that in the case of about 1,500 voters, their addresses were reported to have been changed within a week before the date of the elections and that such change was never notified to the candidates? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ The allegation broadly is correct. Changes intimated to the office, it has not been customary nor is it required by the Act that they should be intimated to all the candidates individually or to the voters. They are only published in the office.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that while rules enjoin that declaration papers should be filled in by the electors themselves, it was found that in many cases, the papers were filled in by some one else? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ The rules only require that the papers should have the signature of the candidates affixed. It is not necessary under the rules that the electors themselves should fill in, in their own handwriting, all the columns in it.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government consider the desirability of amending the Medical Council Rules suitably so that such grave irregularities as have been alleged by me do not recur? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Government do not concede that the irregularities mentioned are true or in the nature of or tantamount to illegalities. The other matter will, of course, be considered by the Government.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Will the Government at least constitute a small committee of this House to consider the nature of the irregularities alleged by me and then come to a decision whether they are grave or not and then take steps to amend the Act? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ I may remind the hon. Member that the election in this case is governed

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by an Act of the Legislature, the Madras Medical Council Registration Act. Under that Act, the Medical Council is the authority in the first instance to go into this question of irregularities, etc."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Does not Government realize that referring this matter back for decision to those very people who have been illegally elected or elected on pretences other than those which are proper is an anomalous and absurd position?"

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The Act provides the *modus operandi* and it is not possible now to go into those allegations which have been made."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"In the light of this answer, may I ask whether the Government will see their way to amend this Act and bring it into line with other Acts which provide for enquiring into election irregularities such as in elections to the Legislature, local bodies, etc.?"

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I have already answered that the suggestion will be considered by the Government."

Permission to the Muslims for starting mills, etc., in this Province.

* 24 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state how many Muslims have been given permission to start mills and factories in this Province for the manufacture of cloth, vegetable ghee and cement?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"No Muslims have so far been granted permission to start the industries referred to. There are, however, Muslims as managing directors in some of the undertakings."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what are those undertakings in which Muslims are managing directors?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I shall be glad to have notice of this question and furnish the information to the hon. Member."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether any application has been received from Muslims for establishing a textile mill?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Applications were received after the mills were allotted. Afterwards, there has been some change in the policy of this Government and those applications are there."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"May I ask whether Government are considering applications for the starting of mills and other industries on a communal basis?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I ask whether any applications were received from Muslims for starting cement factories here?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether permits to start these industries will be granted to hon. Members of this House?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know which are the districts from which the Hon. Minister has received applications?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With reference to the applications for starting textile mills which the Government have already received from Muslims, will the Government consider the possibility of granting them the necessary permits to start those mills?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Every application for permit will be considered on its merits."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact that an application for starting a cement factory in Kurnool district has been refused, and if so, for what reason?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It has not been refused."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"If it has not been refused, may I know if it has been granted?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact that permission to start a sugar factory in Chittoor district by a Muslim concern has been refused?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I am not aware of it. If a separate question is put, I shall answer it."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government be pleased to state whether permission for starting a cement factory in Kurnool was given by the Government of India though it was not within the quota fixed by them?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"This does not arise out of this question."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister referred to the change in the textile policy. Will the Government give an opportunity to this Assembly to discuss the change in the policy?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Premier will make a statement on the subject and the House will be given an opportunity to discuss it in the near future."

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MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government has refused to receive besides spindles, machinery connected with any other industry? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“ No, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Will the Government consider the desirability of nationalizing all the industries at an early date? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“ It is a matter of policy which is being considered.”

Legislation about unequal marriages.

* 25 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to enact any legislative measure in this province similar to the “ Bill about unequal marriages ” introduced in the Bombay Legislative Assembly by Mrs. Lilavathi Munshi?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHIAM:—“ Government have not yet considered the question.”

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know whether the Government have received any representation asking for the introduction of any such measure? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHIAM:—“ Not that I am aware of.”

Anti-drink propaganda through films and radios.

* 26 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state whether any anti-drink propaganda is being done by using films and radios in districts where prohibition is to be introduced?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ The answer is in the negative.”

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I ask whether the Government will consider the desirability of preparing the minds of the people in the districts where they propose to introduce prohibition next time? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Government do not believe in the need for spending large sums of money on this propaganda. The trouble is more the illicit distiller than the drinker. So, there is no need to spend large sums on propaganda. The Government may possibly arrange for radio talks which will not cost anything to this Government.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I ask, Sir, what steps Government have taken to apprise the so-called illicit distillers of the consequences of such action on their part? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ They are aware of the punishments the Government will give them.”

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SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“ If there are no drinkers, where is the need for illicit distillation? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ If there is no illicit distillation, the drinkers will not have an opportunity to drink. My experience in the problem is more one of illicit distillation.”

SOME HON. MEMBERS (from Congress Benches):—“ We are not able to hear the answers of the Hon. Minister.”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ My experience of the prohibition districts is this. The drinkers have told me that so long as there was no drink available and brought to their own doors, they do not feel the necessity for drinking. We are trying to put down illicit distillation. We cannot say that we have succeeded in putting it down completely. In course of time it will be possible to put it down completely.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I ask whether it is the expert opinion? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ I have enquired of thousands of drinkers who are hard manual workers and for whom many of us have expressed sympathy and considered that they needed some drink after a hard day's work. They have found that after one or two weeks, they do not feel the need for it.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I enquire whether Government have definitely come to the conclusion that no form of propaganda whatever is necessary for weaning people away from drink even though it may not cost much to the Government? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Government are not certainly against any propaganda where it costs little or nothing to the Government. But Government do not feel the need for spending large amounts on mere propaganda. That is why, I have said, the Government may use the radio for propaganda purposes.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask whether it is the opinion of the Government that propaganda will not put down illicit distillation? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Illicit distillation is there because people want to make money out of it. No amount of propaganda against evils of drink will help to put it down.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“ Is it not a fact that in Kurnool district where prohibition has been introduced, illicit distillation has sprung up as a cottage industry? If so, what measures are Government taking to put it down? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“ We have not yet been able to completely put it down. We will try to put it down as early as possible. There are some difficulties in some areas.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Minister told us that he had consulted thousands of drinkers. May I ask whether he has consulted any of the drunkards?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Some of them also have been consulted.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Minister says that propaganda should not cost the Government much. May I ask whether there is any harm in carrying on such propaganda as some people think that such propaganda will do some good to the people?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Certainly, there cannot be any harm.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask if it is a fact that large quantities of arrack are smuggled across the Banganapalle State border?”

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

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask, Sir, whether the Chenchus of Kurnool district are exempted from the Prohibition Act?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Notice, Sir.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to receive a deputation from the drinkers of these districts?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Certainly yes, Sir.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Who is going to lead them, Sir?” (Laughter.)

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer about radio talks for anti-drink propaganda, may I know what the exact control this Ministry has over the All-India Radio programmes?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“We have not taken any steps in this matter except that I myself and the Premier gave some radio talks.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I want to know, Sir, what exact control this Government has over All-India Radio programmes.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That question should be addressed to some other Hon. Minister.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask, Sir, if any non-official organizations are willing to take up prohibition propaganda, whether Government will be pleased to give the necessary facilities such as conveyance, free jeeps, etc?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“It will be considered, Sir.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“It is an important question, Sir, which I have put and I should like to have an answer.”

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

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister what the Bhoze Committee has stated regarding the necessity of carrying on anti-drink propaganda?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“I am not aware, Sir.”

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that it is not an offence to be drunk in a prohibition area?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Mere drunkenness may not be an offence but coupled with some other things it will be an offence under the Penal Code and the Towns Nuisance Act.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Is the Government aware that of late a few such cases have been acquitted?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Possibly, if the cases are not proved, the accused will be acquitted.”

Alleged receipt of mamools by the revenue officials.

* 27 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that mamools are received by the revenue officials during ‘jamabandi’ for ‘jamabandi’ expenses; and

(b) if so, whether the newly established anti-corruption staffs will take cognizance of it?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“(a) The Government have repeatedly prohibited the revenue staff from resorting to collection of mamools during jamabandi. The latest instructions are in G.O. Ms. No. 2469, Revenue, dated 25th September 1939. The Government have received no complaints recently regarding the prevalence of these practices. The Collectors have been requested to make a report on it afresh.

“(b) The question does not arise.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister not aware that some of the servants of Hon. Ministers themselves are taking ‘mamools’ when they are on tour?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“That certainly does not arise out of the jamabandi question.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“Will the Government issue special instructions to the anti-corruption staff to take special notice of it in the coming ‘jamabandi’?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Sir, the jamabandi is going on. After we received this question, we have called for a report as to the existence of the practice. If it is found that it does exist, the matter will be examined.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Hon. Minister tell us the various forms which this ‘mamool’ take? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ The hon. the Leader of the Opposition who put the question may know it better.” (Laughter.)

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ With reference to the answer to clause (b), viz., ‘ the question does not arise ’, does the Hon. Minister mean that these ‘mamools’ do not partake of the nature bribery? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ As I said, Sir, the Government are not aware of its existence to any widespread extent but if, from the report which has been called for, it is found that it is widely prevalent, steps will be taken to put it down.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ If the Hon. Minister concedes that taking of ‘mamools’ is a kind of corruption or bribery, why should he not ask the establishment which has been specially set up for putting down corruption to enquire into the matter? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ I have only to repeat the answer I have given already. This will be done after the report which has been called for has been received.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ May I know, Sir, what is meant by the word ‘mamool’? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ It is a Tamil word meaning custom.” (Laughter.)

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ Why should there be any objection to custom, Sir? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ ‘Mamool’ means a long-standing practice.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is not ‘mamool’ illegal gratification? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ The hon. Member who asks the question should know it himself.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Government place on the Table of the House an interim report of the activities of the anti-corruption staff so as to judge their usefulness? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ The question may be addressed elsewhere, not to me.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask whether the Collector of a district is exempted from the rule relating to ‘mamools’? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ No persons are exempted from that rule. Nobody is expected to take ‘mamools’.”

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SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“ Do the Government sanction jamabandi expenditure for all the people who go to the jamabandi? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ Certainly, Sir, to all the officers. As regards village officers, I am not quite sure. Recently a rule has been passed sanctioning a small amount for their expenditure, but I am not quite sure.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask how it is that the Collector has been asked to report on a question pertaining to him as well? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ I do not think it was ever suggested that the Collectors are receiving ‘mamools’.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask whether the Hon. Minister can give me an assurance on that point? ”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ So far as I know, I can certainly give the assurance, but if anything has come within the knowledge of the hon. Member who put the question, she may kindly pass it on to me.”

Alleged plight of the Mandasa ryots.

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

(a) whether the Government have received the memorandum, dated 14th August 1946, sent by the Andhra Provincial Ryots' Association, Bezwada, regarding the plight of the Mandasa ryots;

(b) if so, what are the representations contained therein; and

(c) what action do the Government propose to take on the memorandum?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ (a) Yes.

“ (b) & (c) The requests contained in the Memorandum and the action taken or the conclusions arrived at with regard to them are mentioned in the statement annexed and are laid on the table.”

Supplementary ration to the labouring classes.

* 29 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that supplementary rations to the labouring classes are not being given despite Government sanction;

(b) whether the Government propose to take any steps to ensure extra rations being given to the labouring classes; and

(c) whether the Government propose to supply broken rice for extra rations wherever possible?

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“(a) In Kistna alone there was some delay due to shortage of application forms but these are now being printed locally. The Government have received no complaints from other areas.

“(b) Yes. Supplementary rations are given to all persons who are classified as heavy manual labourers and who apply for it. According to figures received in July 1946, 72,162 labourers are now receiving their supplementary ration in the statutorily rationed areas and about 953,278 labourers in rural rationed areas according to figures tabulated in June 1946.

“(c) Broken rice is being allotted to rural areas and is issued as part of the rice ration there. In statutorily rationed areas it is issued to non-meals hotels and tiffin hawkers. Its issue as part of the supplementary ration could only be at the expense of those who are getting it now. Hence it is not proposed to supply extra rations in broken rice.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know whether the Government is aware that the labourers in mica industry in Gudur taluk are given 6 ounces of cholam and 2 ounces of rice, while their staple food is rice?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The Government are not aware of that.”

AN HON. MEMBER:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister the persons who are classed as manual labourers for getting special rations?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“Hard manual labourers are classified for the whole country, and there are about 237 classes. I have got a big list here, and if the hon. Member comes to me, I shall verify and give him the information.”

AN HON. MEMBER:—“May I request the Hon. Minister that the agricultural labour is hard labour and that it may be included in the list?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“My recollection is that agricultural labourers are classified as hard labourers.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister to state the classes of hard manual labourers who are given additional ration?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I have no objection. It is a big list. I shall place the list on the Table. If the House wants me to read the whole list, I have no objection to do so.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask if that list contains the unfortunate beedi workers?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I do not know whether the beedi workers are included in the list.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Why have they been excluded?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I shall verify from the list or place it on the table, and then a supplementary question can be put.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the much advertised improvement in the rice situation, will the Hon. Minister consider giving extra rations to all people instead of this cumbersome classification?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I do not think the food situation has so much improved. But in view of the little improvement in the food situation, the list of hard manual labourers is being reconsidered.”

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that mamools have to pass from the labourers to the staff of the ration department before they are classified under this cumbersome list?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I am not aware of it.”

AN HON. MEMBER:—“May I request the Hon. Minister to include the agriculturist in the list?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“Agricultural labourers are already included among hard manual labourers, and agriculturists who are actually working on the fields will also be entitled to supplementary ration.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I point out that all people living in villages are in some way hard labourers and that additional ration may as a rule be given to all the villagers?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“That depends upon the food situation.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Are the hon. Members of this House included in the list as a category, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“If they come under any one of the hard labouring classes, they will certainly be included.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I take it that tannery and beedi workers are included among classes of hard labour?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“As I told you, the list is an elaborate one. I shall place it on the table of the House, or if the hon. Member comes to me, I will give him the information.”

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in the debate and the discussions that take place in this House. If the agenda is to be changed from day to day, it becomes very difficult for members. Therefore I think the House should be given every opportunity and facility to keep to the agenda. If it is changed, it causes a good deal of inconvenience to the members."

MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is much force in what the Hon. Premier has stated. We will accept it if an assurance is given that no action will be taken under this ordinance for these three days. Otherwise much harm would be done to the province. The ordinance was promulgated eight days before the meeting of the Assembly and many arrests have been made and atrocities committed."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Hon. Premier gives an assurance, has the hon. Member no objection to postpone discussion?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I wish to tell you something similar to what my friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan said. I also take exception to the business of the House being changed without notice like this, because while we are prepared for one thing, we are all of a sudden asked to go upon something else. That is rather unfair to the members of the House and inconvenient also. I suggest that the House adjourns to Wednesday. (Mr. Speaker: 'Wednesday is a non-official day.') Even if this resolution is taken up on Thursday, I have no objection. We are under the impression that this resolution will be taken up now; if not, the other business will have to be gone through and we want some time for that purpose. Therefore I suggest that the House may now adjourn to Wednesday, and this item taken up on Thursday."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I am only making a suggestion. In view of the discussion here, I do not press my suggestion. We may go on with the resolution."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I rise to move the following resolution:—

'This House disapproves the Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1947 and recommends to the Government that a request be made to His Excellency the Governor to withdraw it forthwith and to release all the persons arrested under it'.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, We are aware under what circumstances this Ordinance was promulgated. Only just a week before this House was going to meet, it was brought into force. It came out in the Press that His Excellency the Governor promulgated the Ordinance. As our Hon. Prime Minister was then in Delhi, I thought that he had nothing to do with it, and only on the initiative of His Excellency the Governor it had been promulgated."

MR. SPEAKER:—"How much time will the hon. Member take? (Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu: 'About three hours'). The hon. Member will be allowed one and a half hours."

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* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"When it came in the Press my first reactions were that His Excellency the Governor used his extraordinary powers and as the Prime Minister was in Delhi, he would surely get things aright. But the next day perhaps through some espionage system of which our party is accused of 'Indian Express' came out with an editorial saying that the Prime Minister had taken a grave responsibility in recommending to His Excellency and gradually it came out in the Press that the Prime Minister would make a statement supporting this measure. The Ordinance with all its poison even though sanctioned by a popular Ministry will not but nullify every vestige of civil liberty. The executive body make law in such a precipitated hurry to attack political patriotic party and mass organizations as though the party in power is on a war path. It was kept as a secret from the House. After it has been promulgated severe and serious action had been taken. Only when after the Ordinance was put into execution it saw the light of the day.

"Before going into the details of the Ordinance let us examine the arguments adduced by the Hon. the Prime Minister in support of this unpopular measure. He laboured hard both in this House as well as in the Council by hurling accusations against the communist party. Indiscriminate arrests and searches took place even without the publication of the Ordinance. The Police discriminately aimed at the communist leaders, trade union offices, Kisan sabhas and communist party offices were raided simultaneously. Province-wide arrests took place. Dr. Rajan's grandson Ramaswami and his wife Mrs. Kamala were arrested. The son-in-law of Dr. Subbarayan, member of the previous Congress Cabinet, was arrested. It appeared as though the popular Ministry is not in existence and Advisers have again resumed their rule. Without consulting anybody, except perhaps His Excellency, the Cabinet has unfortunately took this grave responsibility. The Hon. the Prime Minister wants to shield the vicious nature of this Ordinance by accusing the communists of violence.

"The Ordinance was named as Public Safety Ordinance. But every syllable in the Ordinance removes the safety of the public and allows the Police and vested interests to prey upon the public. This Ordinance is an embodiment of all repressive legislations, a codified summary of all the previous Ordinances and includes that of Regulations of 1818. Members of the House can be detained without warrant merely on suspicion of a Police officer. You may not be allowed to visit your friends or relatives' houses. You can be separated from your kith and kin. There will be no liberty for the Press. Meetings or processions are to be sanctioned by the Police. Your actions will be at the mercy of a constable. Your property and yourself will be at the disposal of the Police. Members of the Congress party, you are all victims of this Ordinanceraj. We have struggled against these repressive measures and were able to achieve this much of civil liberty as

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we are enjoying now. With this Ordinance goes all your previous labour into waste. Do you allow the Ordinance to be passed into law?

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noon.

"The Hon. the Prime Minister wanted to present us with a picture of extraordinary situation. He says, pointing out at the Communists, there was no safety for the property. Murders are taking place, violence was encouraged. These are the very same measures against which the Congress has fought, and the argument adduced by the sun-dried bureaucrats are also the same as those given by the Hon. the Prime Minister. This is the imperialistic way of suppressing mass movement. Do you not remember the imperialist scandals against Mahatma Gandhi during 1942? Do you forget, Hon. Prime Minister, how you felt when security was demanded from your *Swaraj*? Do you not remember the days when our national dailies were run without editorials? Look at your past history and with that conception you view these measures.

"During 1942, when there was mass upsurge men and women braved bullets and fought the Military. 1942 movement transgressed the bounds of non-violence. But Pandit Nehru took responsibility upon his shoulders. Nobody denounced that movement because there was violence.

"The public is very much agitated against this Ordinance. Local Congress committees, Presidents and Secretaries have protested. Congress M.L.As. Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar, Sri A. Satyanarayana Raju and Sri M. Venkata Raju condemned this Ordinance. But the Hon. Prime Minister wants us to swallow this pill giving it an anti-Communist coating. He depicts a deplorable state of situation to justify the Ordinance.

"I also agree that there exists an extraordinary situation. But it is not of the type featured by the Hon. Prime Minister. My conception of extraordinary situation does not warrant an Ordinance of this type. On the other hand, it warrants legislation annulling all measures that curtails our civil liberties and granting land to the tiller and fair wage to the labourer. But, our Prime Minister, instead of bringing any such legislation, presents us with this piece of Ordinance. This Ordinance has created an extraordinary situation which was created by the British Government during 1942, 1930-32 and 1920-21. Up till now we have got the right of going to the courts. Now, even that right had been taken away. You have arrested and detained our leaders, workers and organizers. Then you began accusing them of violence, loot and murder. Does this not go against all canons of law of civilized nations? Now as you have detained our party leaders, who can answer your charges? Why are you afraid of open trial? Why do you take away the last vestiges of civilized law? Putting us in jails and then slandering are tactics of the blue-eyed imperialist. It is unfortunate the Congress Cabinet should adopt such tactics.

"What is the expediency and critical situation through which we are passing? Now we have got an opportunity to break

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the shackles of our slavery. You have an opportunity to implement your 'Quit India' resolution. From the speech of Hon'ble the Prime Minister in this House saying that imperialism has no head or body, it appears that he does not feel the existence of British rule. But let us not forget that still imperialism has got the upper hand in our country. It is His Excellency that has still to certify. Union Jack is still flying over our heads. To-day our biggest national leaders who could have been at the helm of the free states in independent republic are content to be the Ministers under foreign Viceroy or a Governor. We have only to recommend to the Governor."

(At this stage Mr. J. M. Wilson was seen going out of the House through the gangway.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Wilson, it is not right on the part of a Member to cross between the chair and a member speaking who should not be out of the view of the Speaker even for a single moment. If you want, you can go by the other way."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The recent statement of British Government clearly shows that the Constituent Assembly is no more a sovereign body. The constitution is to be approved by the British Parliament. The farce of the Constituent Assembly is going to end soon and if you mean obtaining independence it is only through joint struggle of the masses. But here is the Ordinance which strikes at the very root of the mass movements.

"Our Prime Minister has got nothing but praise for His Excellency; he says that no difference of opinion arose between them. If the administration is carried on the very same lines, there could be no difference of opinion as His Excellency has got to look after only one job—smashing all mass movements and anti-imperialist agitation. Our leaders in the interim Government are not maintaining good relations with the Viceroy. Pandit Nehru complains that wheels of his coach are being removed one by one. First-rate political crisis is maturing inside the interim Government and even the Provinces cannot escape. Pandit Nehru admitted that twice he had to resign from the interim Government. At any time the interim Government may go. Whatever my Hon. Prime Minister may think of imperialism, it cannot be denied that we have yet to win our freedom. Look at the Ordinance in the light of the existing situation and think for yourself whether it is going to affect the freedom struggle or not? Let not anti-Communists play into the hands of the British. Let us not with our hand put off the flames of Indian Revolution, the freedom upsurge of the people seeking to break through the tottering bulwark of imperialist feudal rule. At any time the lull in the political horizon may break into a storm. It is the duty of the Congress Government to act in such a manner as to give impetus to the political situation. Our civil liberties must be enlarged; but what will be the effect of this Ordinance? The

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very roots of the civil liberties will be smashed. If this Ordinance were to be on the statute book, what will then be the fate of the members sitting on the Treasury Benches? You will not be able to mobilize public opinion. Popular Governments must live and develop only by creating and developing public opinion.

"This Ordinance is not only anti-Communist, but it is anti-national and anti-Congress and anti-popular measure. It is directly playing into the hands of the blue-eyed imperialist. You find on an all-India scale Congress Socialists are being harassed and their houses searched and in some places Congress Socialists are also being arrested. This Ordinance is also against all popular movements. In Andhra I know most of the Congress leaders are also Kisan leaders. They too are taking part in Kisan struggles. Mr. N. G. Ranga, now President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, is also a kisan leader. If he were to stick up to his ideals and work in the interest of the Kisan, he too cannot escape from this axe. If this Ordinance is to be on the statute book, Policeraaj will be the result. Without the backing of the mass-movement the popular ministry will be reduced to the position of the old Executive Council. This Ordinance means perpetuation of Policeraaj. My resolution is only against this anti-national and anti-Congress and anti-popular Ordinance. It is not against the Congress Ministry. As a matter of fact we support and back all popular measures of the Congress. We worked night and day to make the procurement policy a success. Against blackmarketing we worked vigorously and for that reason alone, in Malabar, we are attacked by the Malabar Special Police. The co-operation of the Communist party to any popular measure of Government is there. But our co-operation was not accepted and we are presented with this Ordinance. The very people who had been subjected to these Ordinances and who loudly shouted against such Ordinances, to-day sign these Ordinances."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"What did the Communists do during the imperialism of 1942?" (Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The other day the Hon. Premier was interrupted. Many Members got angry and I had to get up and warn the Members from interrupting. Please therefore do not interrupt the speaker."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My hon. Friend is still in 1942. We are now in 1947. It is a very serious thing we are discussing and our party is very severely affected. Almost all the Congress Socialist Party leaders have been suspected and harassed. There is no use saying that the Ordinance is aimed at communist activities only. There will be a nation-wide repression. It is only the imperialist language which the Congress Ministry is using to-day. The imperialists have ruled us all these years, and still they are ruling over us. I submit, Sir, that this Ordinance must go. The Hon. the Premier is very cruel towards the communists. Why did he not give us an opportunity to explain our case? Why should he rely upon police reports? So many representations were made against police, but

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they were of no avail. Let me here mention, Sir, that the communists were prepared to co-operate with the Government in each and every measure they brought forward in the interests of the people, as for instance, the procurement and the grow more food campaigns. On the other hand what is it that we hear to-day? We are told that the communists were killing the people and that they were murderers. I submit, Sir, that there is no truth in it. May I ask, Sir, whether it is the communists that are the murderers or the goondas that are engaged by the capitalists, zamindars and mirasdars that kill the workers? I say that it is the communists that are murdered. I will give some instances. Let us take the clash at the Madura Mills on the 21st May. Two workers were murdered. No further particulars were heard about them. Nobody was arrested. But on account of this incident, in Madura, various communists were arrested and were jailed unjustly. We know, Sir, how justice is going on in our land. The Hon. Prime Minister says 'Go to courts and they will decide.' Go to the law courts and see what farce is going on there. These were the very courts which passed sentences on the Congress leaders in those days and before which Congressmen refused to put in a defence; and these same courts are still in existence. There is no change in the character of the administration. One hundred and fifty people throughout Tamilnad have been arrested for the death of the two workers in Madura. Many representations were made to review the cases, but in vain. To-day, going to the court means going to the gallows. Nothing less than that.

"Now, Sir, I will come to the Ordinance, item by item. The Ordinance is named 'Public Safety Ordinance,' but we find that there is no safety for the public as long as this Ordinance is on the statute book. The ordinary police can arrest whomsoever it pleases. No warrant is necessary. Even a whole village can be fined; any house can be searched and any man on suspicion can be arrested and detained. It contains all the worst features of an Ordinance to suppress all lawful activities. It has no provision to ensure public safety; on the other hand, it is against safety of the public. Moreover, did we not hear how the British imperialists used the phrase 'public safety' for perpetuating their hold and for suppressing the Congress movement in the days of the Simon Commission, when the present Prime Minister led about 2 lakhs of people for the boycott of the Simon Commission. Was he not arrested under the same Ordinance? To-day the same weapon is used by the Hon. Premier to suppress our legitimate activities. I request him to look back into history and see what a change has taken place between 1927 and 1947.

"Sir, in this Province, I submit that every strike action is a legal one. I would ask the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour to point out a single case where there was an illegal strike? What for do the workers strike? It is because they have some legitimate grievances to be gone into. It is because whenever the adjudicator's award has not been given effect to in full,

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that there is discontent and there are strikes. But there is no prosecution even for legal strikes. But instead of justice, they get bullets. Sir, Members of the Treasury Bench want to ensure the safety of the public, they think the first thing they should do is to do away with strikes through this Ordinance. This Ordinance with all its restrictions makes the position of the workers impossible even to carry on union activities. Not only that, all sections of the public and all public movements that have been suppressed hitherto should be made free to carry out their lawful activities. What is the safety that the imperialists require? They want the safety for their existence; they want that their profits should be safe and that their employees should not be interfered with. But what is the safety that the workers and peasants want? They want that their wages should be adequate to meet the growing cost of living and medical and other facilities.

"Now, let us see, what is the law and order and security that the Government want to maintain. In the past Mahatma Gandhi was accused of creating disorders throughout the country. (Interruption.) That was the language used by the imperialists but now our Minister is using such language. Sir, I welcome such disorders. There is nothing wrong about them. The disorders which Mahatma Gandhi created in 1920-30 and 1942 were responsible for the growth of the freedom movement in this country and we see to-day that the country is on the threshold of freedom. Let us not here confuse ourselves the present Congress Government with that of British Imperialistic Government. Of course, we want popular Governments, by whatever party it may be, instead of the Advisers' Government. Therefore my point is that these disorders which have been described by the Hon. the Premier have been previously created by the national leaders themselves and by the Hon. the Premier himself. Our Prime Minister says he wants to maintain law and order. The phrase law and order is nothing but abstract. The law and order is exercised by a particular Government against certain force which tries to overthrow it. Now what is the particular force that deserves to be overthrown? It is British Imperialism. It wants to suppress all the forces that attempt to overthrow it. It is the people and the peoples' movement particularly workers and peasants that are trying to overthrow the imperialist force. It is the desire of the imperialist to crush the rising forces. Why should the Congress Government be a party for such unholy task?

"The Hon. Prime Minister has referred to the economic strifes. He has thrown the responsibility for this unrest upon the Communist party. He has accused us of being responsible for strikes and agrarian troubles. He wants to cure the country from these economic struggles by this Ordinance and by locking up the communists in jail. But in the same breath, he ridicules the communist party as having no strength and yet ambitious. He stated that in the elections only by chance we got two seats. In the next breath he accused us of country-wide struggles. He repudiates even the struggles led by Congressmen themselves by crediting

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them to us. What is the reality? The economic strifes and agrarian troubles are a reality. They are the creation of the greedy capitalists and landlords, who, being afraid, try to bypass the agrarian legislation which the Congress is contemplating. But to justify the promulgation of this Ordinance the Hon. Prime Minister gives political colouring to these economic struggles and throws the responsibility upon us. As regards industrial strife, he wants to make communists as scape-goats to disown his responsibility. Deep economic crisis born out of imperialist exploitation of war years I submit, Sir, has brought about the starvation to masses of toiling and common people and awakened their political consciousness.

"Even the editorial of *Hindu*, dated February 2, while supporting the Ordinance could not but point out to the real cause of the economic strife. That part of the editorial will speak for itself. It is evident the greedy capitalists who produce only for their profits and not for public consumption, want to suppress the workers, deny them even their elementary rights and to cover up their misdeeds, raise the bogey of communism taking advantage of the anti-communist sentiments that are dominant among the Congress leaders to-day. Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister referred also to the industrial strikes. Industrial strikes everywhere, according to him, are the creation of the communists. On the other hand, I have here an editorial in the *Hindu* which has supported this Ordinance. But it is forced to say how these industrial strikes are coming up and how it is the duty of the party in power to see that these strikes are avoided. This is what the *Hindu* says in its editorial on the Public Safety Ordinance, dated 2nd February 1947:—

"It is the duty of the Government to put an end to them by removing those causes. It is the declared policy of the Congress to do justice by labour, not in words but in deed; and while it must be said that the Government have sought to interfere in industrial disputes when they reached an acute and menacing stage, they have not put forward, much less enforced, a positive and consistent labour policy such as could carry conviction to labour that everything possible is being done to ameliorate its lot. What is their record in regard to the most essential needs of the people—food, clothing and shelter? . . . The worker is still far from getting the rice he wants and is accustomed to; and in the matter of protective foods, little has been done. . . . Of the Government's cloth policy, the less said the better. If their aim is to bring about a general cloth famine and occasion the utmost distress to the poorer folk, they could not do better than persist in their present policy, as for shelter, they seem blissfully indifferent to the matter. How can you expect contentment and order to thrive in an atmosphere so congenial to the growth of distemper, despair and disorder."

"So, Sir, who is responsible for the strikes and other things? Is it merely because the communists have agitated that you say they are responsible for everything? In this connexion, I wish to bring before this House a resolution passed by the All-India Congress Working Committee, which correctly points out that these strikes are due to the fact that the rise in the cost of living was not compensated adequately and that the strikes are still coming because of that. They specifically said that the rise in prices has got to be compensated. So, in India too, this

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at the will of the landlord. In 1944 the Tripartite Conference took place. The wages of the agricultural labourers were raised from half a marakkal to three-fourths marakkal. But the mirasidars never implemented this. To terrorize them goondas were sent. Numberless petitions were sent to the Government regarding the flouting of this award but no reply. But last year an adjudicator was appointed to settle the dispute. According to his award the wages of Harijans were raised to seven-eighths of a marakkal and permitted no landlord to evict the kisans from their houses. First the mirasidars agreed to it, and Sambasiva Ayyar signed it on behalf of mirasidars. But the mirasidars did not respect this agreement. Deputation and petitions were of no avail with the Ministry. But when the mirasidars approached the Ministers both the Ministers for Law and Food came down not to insist upon the mirasidars to abide by the adjudicator's award but to safeguard the so-called rights of mirasidars against the terms of the award. He scraped the award and gave another award to the advantage of mirasidars. Even when their demands are not accepted the labourers did not cease to cultivate. They actually cultivated the land. The tenants even when they are prepared to cultivate were ejected by the mirasidars and thus reduced 30,000 acres of land into a desert, so that they can starve the tenants into submission. To cover up their misdeeds these mirasidars are raising a hue and cry demanding the banning of kisan sabhas. They are even agitating for the transfer of a Muslim District Magistrate. It is the goondas employed who are responsible for all trouble. They break up meetings. In the scuffle that was ensued two of them died.

“Now let us see what has happened in Andhra and the role of communists in it. The Prime Minister referred to taking possession of others property. Who is taking whose property? Whose rights have been tampered with? Let us see what has happened in Chellapalle estate. In this estate the zamindar was trying to eject the kisans from their lands. Both the kisan sabha and kisan Congress are agitating to protect the rights of the kisans. Even according to the report of the estate the Raja has got only 15 acres of land, in Gazulalanka and Chintalalanka. But now the zamindar is trying to eject the ryots and trying to sell away the lands. Kisans are prohibited from entering the lands and in Kistna lanka alone 600 acres of land had been reduced to a desert due to the zamindar being in alliance with the police officials.

“Now let us see what had happened in West Godavari, to a village Kalavalapudi to which the Prime Minister made a reference. The lower court passed a judgment in favour of kisans, but yet in connivance with the police the inamdar was able to get section 144 promulgated against the kisans. I will merely mention that a statement was also issued by the President of Kovvur Taluk Congress Committee—Sri N. L. Narasimha Rao,—on 13th November 1946, about the zamindar's zulum in West Godavari especially Kalavapamula and Yelavana where the zamindar occupying ryots' land with the help of the police. Ryots and labourers are uniting

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to fight the atrocities of the zamindars. In the name of patriotism, in the name of the Congress, I appeal to the Congress Government to stop zamindari atrocities. It will be clear that being afraid of the contemplated legislation the zamindars and inamdars are jeopardising the rights of the kisans. It is the rights of the kisans that are curtailed and it is the kisans that require protection to-day. This is all what happened in regard with the taking away of the rights of others. People do want law and order, but the law that the people want, that the kisans want, is the law that the land must go to the tiller of the soil and not to the mirasidars and zamindars. The zamindars and the mirasidars and the landlords are trying to exploit the tillers and want to perpetuate their own rights that are still existing. They want for that purpose that protection should be afforded to them as against the zamindar. But what are the actual facts? It is not the kisans that are giving trouble, it is the landlords that want to eject the tenants from their lands, and for that purpose only they want this so-called disorder should be stopped. In that connexion, we have heard so many cases made out against the communists; one was what we heard the other day that the communists were making fertile lands into deserts. Is it true? I say it is not the communists that are doing it; it is these mirasidars that are making the lands into deserts. Even in Tanjore district, in the Mannargudi taluk, what happened? Previously when there was trouble, an adjudicator was appointed and he gave his award. It was then the mirasdar that refused to implement the award, and in spite of many requests made, the Government did not go to the aid of the kisans. Later, when the Government themselves appointed an adjudicator, his award was not accepted by the mirasidars even though the labourers and the tenants have been pressing that the award should be implemented. They even went to the Ministers and represented their case, even then nothing was done. In the meantime, the landlords put all kinds of obstacles in the way of the labourers. They say they have got every right to appoint anybody as labourers. Is it not just that in such circumstances the Government should see that the tenants are not ejected? On the other hand, what is actually happening? When these tenants are ejected by the mirasidars and landlords and zamindars the police go to the help of the landlords and harass the kisan leaders and the communist leaders; and in the end they are locked up in jails and thus the Government wants to subside the trouble. So, the real question is whether in the interests of law and order, all these things should be allowed to continue. That is the question we have to consider. When the Prime Minister says that there is disorder in the country, that fertile land is being reduced to a desert, what does it indicate? It indicates the conflict that is going on between landlord and tenant. If the land is actually reduced into desert, it is purely because of the attitude adopted by the mirasidars in not implementing the award given by the District Magistrate of Tanjore and refusing to allow the tenants to till the land. Not only that, Sir, I have come to know that the mirasidars agitated and got the District Magistrate transferred

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and that pressure is being brought to bear on the authorities to see that the District Superintendent of Police is also transferred. In spite of all these things, Sir, we are told that it is the communists that are responsible. There is no truth in the statement that communists are fomenting these troubles. Even the Hon. Revenue Minister had stated as follows:

“Everywhere there was a war going on between the zamindars on the one hand and ryots on the other. The condition of the peasantry was awful. Rents were exorbitant and unconscionable. Tanks which had breached 20 or 30 years back had not been repaired. Tank bunds were purposely breached so that tank beds might be leased out. The system as a whole stood self-condemned.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I wish to know whether the Member is reading from a newspaper?”

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I am quoting the speech of the Hon. Revenue Minister.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Is it a very long one?”

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“No, it is not. Only one more sentence. He also pointed out how the forests of Kangundi and Punganur had been denuded within the last ten years after the publication of the Prakasam Committee Report, and added that there was the danger of these areas becoming as famine-stricken as Anantapur and Bellary. Recently one zamindar insisted on breaching the bund of the tank which was full of water so that he might auction the tank-bed for cultivation. Similarly communal lands and grazing lands had been assigned away. So, Sir, it will be seen how, it has been made clear that these mirasidars are evicting the tenants from their lands. The Hon. Revenue Minister has himself pointed out that the whole trouble is due to the war that is going on between the zamindar and the tenants. It is not a war between the communists and others it is a war that is actually going on—to put it in the words of the Minister—between the zamindars and their tenants and the mirasidars and zamindars have declared war against ryots and are trying to eject the tenants so that they may lease out for more rent and afterwards claim compensation for those lands, when the proper time comes. Therefore, without going into all these matters, there is no use blaming the communists that they are creating all this trouble.

“In the case of Ellore Tannery workers’ strike in order to see the strike may not be prolonged, we approached the President of the Muslim League and he also agreed that the capitalists should concede their demands. We approached Sri Govindacharyulu, M.L.C., so that the strike might be ended as early as possible. In a written statement the workers wanted that certain demands should be met because of the inhuman conditions prevailing in the tannery; and even those demands were not granted. And when the strike went on, an adjudicator was appointed, but immediately the tannery was closed and nothing has been done for the 600 labourers there who are now starving. And when the

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strike was going on, out of the 600 labourers 63 persons were arrested; the police went to the length of going into the houses of the workers and began dragging them into the companies for work even though they did not defy the law. If anybody defied the law, it was the police and not the labourers. Is there any provision in law for such actions? Under what rules or regulations they did so, I want to know. I represented the matter to the District Magistrate and before my very eyes the reserve police took a labourer inside the company and beat him there. That is how the police are behaving and in spite of all these things we are trying to exhaust all legal channels. But no protection was given even for legal strikes.

“In Coimbatore all the workers are demanding a bonus of six months’ wages and they are agitating for it. Every one knows that the textile industry is earning an yearly profit equal to seven times what it was several years ago. And all these profits are reaching only the capitalists. Here the congress union and the communists union are demanding six months bonus. Even President of the Tamilnad Congress Committee wholeheartedly supported this demand and he has promised to lead the strike itself. We find that congress themselves are supporting us because they are seeing the suffering of the masses. In Madurai the adjudicator has given an award that the right of the communists has to be recognized. But Mr. Doak, who owns one-third of the spindlage of our Province, is against the right of the union being recognized. 150 of our communists were arrested simultaneously and the case is going on. Let me state our demand. Sir, we wanted the adjudicator’s award to be respected. They wanted the enquiry committee’s report to be respected. Even the President of the Madras Trade Union Congress who has nothing to do with the Communist Party and who commands the respect of everyone in the trade union movement is even to-day voicing a violent protest against such actions. Sir, if there is an agitation and if there are strikes, it is not under the communists leadership alone. To-day we find workers carrying on Congress flags and Red flags. Sir, we find in the streets not only our flags but also the congress flags. For every strike and every disorder the blame is placed upon the communists. We can for instance take the municipal workers’ strike. Sir, they all agitate because they are not satisfied with their present position. According to the Cabinet Sub-Committee’s report some allowance has been given to their servants. What about the municipal workers? Sir, even in that report there is a loophole. The ordinary peons and other menial servants are not taken into consideration. Their wages are fixed at Rs. 19 or so. But the Cabinet Sub-Committee failed to go into the question of minimum wage. What is the immediate task of a popular Government? Their task is to fix a minimum living wage. Sir, that is the only solution of the problem. Sir, instead of giving their servants, their peons, who serve them and help them in carrying important papers, a minimum living wage, if the Congress Government sanction them only Rs. 19 or Rs. 18 what

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will be their lot? Suppose the teachers and the peons who are dissatisfied with their salaries refuse to work on such low wages, again the blame will be thrown on the communists. Sir, that is the policy of the Government. The Government is following that policy to-day not for meeting the demands of the people but for harassing the leaders of a movement.

" Now, what do we want under the circumstances? We want to-day to bring a Minimum Wage legislation and see that the workers' demands are conceded by the capitalists. Then you will find that the industrial workers happy and there will be no strikes.

" Then I come to general strikes. What is wrong with general strikes, I ask. Don't we find strikes in other countries. It may be said that we want to imitate other countries. We find in England to-day that workers are going on strike even without giving notice. The British Railway Workers were on strike and their object was for causing trouble to the Government of Britain. What is their demand? Sir, look at the demands we are placing and look at their demands. Because some non-union workers were engaged they have gone on strike. Sir, whenever we go on strike, we do so after making repeated representations to get our demands satisfied. The Hon. Mr. Giri, Minister for Labour, says: 'I do not say that you should not go on strike. But do it slowly.' Sir, we adopt all the procedure which he himself never adopted when he was a labour leader. We get no results. When we go on strike the capitalists are allowed blacklegging. Is this what we should expect from a popular Government? When the capitalists have the right of blacklegging has not the labourers the right to go on strike to get their demands conceded? When the capitalists close down their mills no action is taken against them. The strikes cannot be put down by an Ordinance. Whenever there is a strike what does the community expect from the Government? They expect the Government to see that their demands are fulfilled, and that the workers are satisfied. This is what the community expects from the Government but none of their expectations have been fulfilled. Previously when our labour leaders spoke on behalf of the people going on strikes they were against the blacklegs because public safety was endangered. Can that now be allowed under the popular ministry, I ask? That is why I say, Sir, that in the interests of the people the Congress Government should not adopt their present policy towards workers and I appeal to the Prime Minister to see that the policy of conciliation is employed.

" Sir, several times, when the Prime Minister was making charges against us, he was saying that he was showing forbearance and, I ask, what is the forbearance that he has shown towards us? During workers' struggles 25 persons were killed. Sir, even before strikes were declared Section 144 was promulgated. As a matter of fact this is what happened when section 144 was promulgated in Ellore when the tannery workers went on strike. We could not hold any meetings even in our houses. Even to call off the strike we could not meet together. I went to the District Magistrate

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to get his permission. He said 'You may not meet the workers. Therefore we cannot give you any exemption'. I was staying in a house when the Police came and said that they wanted to see if 5 or more people were discussing. Sir, this is how the police are behaving. And these Ministers are still relying upon the reports of the police. You found yesterday the Muslim League Members and the Muslim League Leader demanding an enquiry into the conduct of the police. Even the Congress Committee President demanded an enquiry into the conduct of the police. We are of course agitating that the conduct of the police should be enquired into by a non-official committee in all its details. Why should the Ministry hesitate to appoint an enquiry committee?

" Various charges are framed against us and these charges are framed after detaining our leaders. Mr. Nambudiripad who is the leader of the Labour Kisan Movement in Kerala was detained and so many charges were hurled against him. How can he reply to these charges? And who can reply except the man affected. Mr. Dixon goes there and stays for three or four days. He does not care to hear witnesses. He does not care even to hear the persons concerned as to what is going on around him. In that connexion a letter was addressed to the Prime Minister protesting against this by Nambudiripad. Sir, I ask the Hon. Prime Minister, why should an European be appointed? Why not non-officials like Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and some other congress members be sent to enquire into these matters.

" I want an enquiry not of the ordinary kind with Mr. Dixon or one of your Parliamentary Secretaries but it must be an enquiry which must be openly conducted and to which the tenants, kisans and zamindars might come and give evidence without fear of being harassed. It must be an impartial inquiry by persons like Vaidyanatha Ayyar and they must go to the people to find out truth. It is clear in the cases I have mentioned that the zamindars wanted to evict the tenants. In Kothalagudem, zamindars are trying to evict some members of the scheduled classes for fear they will be given rights under measures contemplated by the Government and as is usual with them they are employing rowdies to carry out their purpose. About 1,500 to 1,600 cases have been launched against the kisans and what I wish to know is how many zamindars and mirasdars have been prosecuted for the sort of things that they have been doing. It is no use merely condemning them by word of speech. Only the other day the Hon. the Revenue Minister catalogued to us the woes of the tenantry under the zamindars. Do you mean to suggest that such people will keep quiet when they are to give rights to others which you have promised by the Prakasam report? A representative committee of the tenants met the Hon. Premier and wished to know their rights and the Hon. Premier said 'You have got full tenancy rights and nobody can eject you' but when in pursuance of this and from the knowledge of their rights, they take any action you at once blame the Communists. You say the Communists are reducing fertile lands into deserts. In Challapalli, 600 acres have

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been reduced to a desert just as in the Tanjore district, by the police *cum* zamindars. This has occurred as a result of the combination of the landholder and the police. Our party is prepared to prove that it is the police that is obstructing and prohibiting the tenants in regard to the exercise of their just rights. There is the case Kalamalaperali, an inamdari village of the West Godavari district. The Revenue Divisional Officer has given judgment in favour of the kisans but the police went against it and issued guthuva. Is this the way that law and order should be maintained? And yet Communists are charged with scorched earth policy. I assure you that Communists will never do it. They are against it and this is an unfortunate charge which has no basis. If you still feel otherwise, an open enquiry will exculpate us. While on the matter of an open enquiry I may state for the information of the House that when Justice Horwill was deputed to enquire into the Chirala disturbances in 1937 our revered Andhra leader, Konda Venkatappayya, protested and demanded open unofficial enquiry. I raise this point now because I want to show mine is not a lone cry. Congressmen have demanded in the past and they have been demanding it now in regard to the conduct of the police which is becoming intolerable and insufferable. The League is also raising the same demand. Only then will the mischief of the police be exposed. So long as you rely on their reports and go by them, you will be only shielding the police. I fail to see how in your attitude to the police you differ from the bureaucratic regime to which you have succeeded. There is no use bringing in this legislation to meet this agrarian unrest. You will be committing the same mistake as the old regime had done in their treatment of the Congress. You say on the one hand that the Communist party is very weak but on the other you are not tired of saying that they have been the cause of all the troubles. There is some glaring inconsistency about this. It is not the weakness or the strength of the party that counts. It is a question of the zamindar versus his kisans or even of the capitalist against the labour. It is a question of British Imperialism against the people and this was what obtained previously. I request you not to be prejudiced against this statement as it comes from me. How can you explain the removal or perhaps the burning of some police records against prominent leaders of the country, in the Central Government, when the Interim Government started to function? What need was there to remove them if it was not untrue. This is how things were going on in the past and that is how things are allowed to continue now.

"We have been accused of violence. It has been said that Mr. Joshi had given instructions regarding violence during the elections. Also another charge was made that we try to terrorise the people. But against that statement I would only say that against the 1,000 people who attended Congress meetings 15,000 attended ours. That shows how people are eager to hear what we have to say. You cannot attract crowds by terrorising them. Regarding our numerical weakness in the Assembly it has to be remembered that only 14 per cent of the people have got votes.

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You represent only 14 per cent of the population. I want to ask you how anybody who adopt terrorist means against the people can get their support. If a man is not liked, even for all the inducements he cannot get anybody around him." (A voice: 'Even cinema stars get good audience.') "You appear to know much about them. Just as people came to hear you in large numbers in the olden days, people want to hear us now to see what we had got to say. The Hon. Minister accuses us of violence. My complaint is that our meetings are disturbed by goondas. The position is not altered if such people wear khaddar caps and I say they cannot belong to any political parties. Anyway, I fail to understand whether any speech of ours can be half as inflammatory as that of Sardar Patel at a public meeting in Bombay. I can venture to say that he misguided the boys who burnt our offices, beat our people and ended by killing one of our student leaders Golwalu. What does this show? I ask whether Communists advocated violence or the leaders of the Congress party. I will take another instance.

"During the Meerut Congress it is Sardar Patel who said that no Government can defend its people and that they must depend upon their fighting capacities. May I ask whether his 'sword for sword and limb for limb' speech advocate violence or non-violence. Is it not preaching anarchy? Have the Communist party ever descended to such kind of speeches with regard to any of its political opponents? The activities of the "Desabhimani" of Calicut has been mentioned. A security deposit of Rs. 3,000 was demanded of that paper and it was forfeited. Is it a sin to refer to rebellion which has created a sort of understanding and unity between Hindus and Muslims though violence might have been there in it? Let us take the 1857 rebellion. Are there any among our patriots who will not praise it as a War of Independence against British Imperialism? Are we not praising 1942 movement in spite of its violent acts? Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has himself accepted his responsibility for the 1942 movement though there were acts of violence. It is inevitable in a final struggle against Imperialism. Imperialism is not yet dead. And in spite of the Hon. Premier, Imperialism is still there. To-day or tomorrow it must be fought and then only must a fight be given. There is no use your taking an isolated sentence in a statement and saying that it exhorts violence. You know that it is a poor party paper and it cannot afford to lose such an amount. Your purpose was to deny the benefit of an organ for this party and civil liberty has been reduced to a mockery by a subtle method. One is led to think that you wish that no party except yours should survive.

"Do you allow me to conclude like that? I wish I must be wrong. I request you therefore to return the deposit to the paper. In any future time if you find that the paper indulges in any statement or speech against the people it will be the people that will condemn it. Mr. Nambudripad was charged with making a speech which roused communal passions but in the Court the

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Public Prosecutor stated that there was nothing communal in it but was anti-British. Is it a crime to be anti-British under Congress Raj?

"A charge was made that we have got an espionage system. In proof of it, it was stated that certain confidential circulars appeared in the 'Praja Sakthi'. It is not clear whether these were issued by the Hon. Premier or originated from the Commissioner or Inspector-General of Police. I do not know if the party is to be penalised for publishing a thing issued by a Police Officer the publication of which goes against the interests of the police but not against the interests of the people. I am reading to you a particular portion from the said paper:

(1) నెంబరు 453-3-40 స్కూలర్లలో 'తా విద్యార్థుల' కుగ బోయే మహమ్మదీయ మత ప్రచారమును నివారించు వల్లనైనా ఎంటునో పేరు ప్రాసె పంపాలి' అని శ్రుతి.

The instructions according to that are that the names of those who were going to attend the Muslim League Conference at Lahore were wanted. I wonder what for you want the information. I am certain the Hon. the Premier would not be responsible for such an anti-national circular like that. When this is being exposed why should your wrath be kindled? The only criterion is whether it is in the interests of the people or not. I say that it is. I shall read to you items 2 and 3 of the circular:

(2) మన స్కూలర్లలో 'అంధ కమ్యూనిష్టు కమిటీ నిర్బంధవ్యతిరేక వారో తృవాల జరిపి, విద్యార్థి సంఘ, కిరాన్ సభ మొదలైన ప్రజాసంఘాలచేత గోల్డెన్ రాక్ (Golden Rock) కాల్వలకు ప్రభుత్వంపై నిరసన తెల్పేటట్లు చెయ్యావలసి, బహిరంగ సభలు, పూరీంపులు జరుపాలి క్రింద కమిటీలకు స్కూలర్లు పంపించి. గవర్నమెంటు ఉద్యోగముల జీతాలగురించి రాష్ట్రమంతా వాల్ పోస్టర్లలో (Wall poster) సహా పూర్తి రిపోర్టులు పంపాలి' ని శ్రుతి.

(3) విద్యార్థి కాంగ్రెస్ను గురించిన స్కూలర్లలో ఇలా శ్రుతి. 'అంధ రాష్ట్ర విద్యార్థి కాంగ్రెస్ ఈ నెల 18 వ తారీఖున Detention వ్యతిరేక సమ్మెలు జరపాలిగా స్కూలర్లు పంపించి. గడ్డి బొమ్మ పూరీంచి తగు నిర్బంధాలని కూడా శ్రుతి కాట్టి తగు జాగ్రత్త తీసుకొని వెంటనే రిపోర్టులు పంపాలి' అని శ్రుతి.

Names are wanted of the people, the teachers and municipal workers who are agitating for their demands. Is it a crime to agitate for demands? We find that it is directed not only against Communists and Muslim Leaguers, but also against teachers, students and others. In item 3 Students Congress also come in. The students' conference were to hold an anti-detention day on the 18th and names were wanted of those who were taking active part in it, i.e., those belonging to the Student Congress and those of the Federation. It may be of some interest to note that the Students Congress is an organization composed of people with Congress

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sympathies but the Federation is composed of people with Communist leanings. If I bring this to the notice of the Prime Minister through the columns of my party paper is it a crime? There are other circulars of which I do not have copies. Then I request that these circulars be placed on the Table of the House so that the Members themselves might see whether any anti-national act has been committed by the Communist party in exposing them."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"It may be possible for the member of the Communist party in this House to supply copies of these pamphlets as he must be having them in his possession and it would help the discussion if they are laid on the Table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We have nothing to do with the circular and Mr. Venkateswarlu will continue the speech."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I believe the hon. Member is very eager to go through the circulars. I am not carrying them on my person. All our papers have been seized by the police. I therefore advise him to go through our files. I have no idea of what is going to happen to them but a study will help."

"Recently you find that military operations which have been conspired by Imperialists have been exposed by the Communist party and they have appeared in the 'Bombay Chronicle', 'Free Press' and other papers. The Leader of the Congress party in the Interim Government has stated that he had nothing to do with the arrests and searches in that connexion. But why should our Prime Minister take cudgels for exposing police conspiracy against mass movements?"

"But when Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru says it has nothing to do with Communists, we find our Prime Minister attacking Com- 1-15
munists. Is it what we can expect from the Prime Minister? I p.m.
say you are all being used as a screen for an attack against Communists by Imperialists. What we Communists do is not against any political party. It is not against Congress party. It is not anti-national. It is in the best interest of our country. Yet, our friends ridicule about the secret circulars."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has taken one and a half hour. He should finish his speech soon and give some time for a Member to second the resolution so that the debate may be continued on the next day."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, the secret circulars only expose the police atrocities. Everybody knows even the hon. Member from Bezvada (Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao) knows that a students' strike in Masula took place by joint action of Students Congress and those of Federation. To-day what is happening? Three thousand and five hundred students are on strike and out of that 20 were arrested. These 20 students are not Communists. In the Engineering College in Madras itself, our boys of whom we rightly feel proud refused to go into the college

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with a Union Jack flying over the College buildings. Can anybody complain against that? It is not out of Communists' instigation they did it. Then what about Guntur College. The hon. Member who sits before me led a deputation of students to the Education Minister. Students as a whole to get redress from their grievances went on a strike. But the Prime Minister lays a charge against us. It is all said to dupe the public. Even if this Ordinance is passed the people will still be with us. They have got faith in us. If the Ordinance were to wipe out the Communists from the country, which I say is impossible, still all this outbreaks will occur. Besides, to-day, the country is on the brink of a revolution. Our people are marching forward. Our boys are coming forward. Workers and peasants are coming forward. This is not a thing to be despised. We ought to be proud of them. It is not the result of the Communist Party or any other party. The Congress Government are trying to-day to break up this movement. If this Ordinance were to be passed, the Communists organizations may or may not cease to exist, the Forward Bloc may cease to exist, only Imperialism will stay in the country, only Union Jack will fly over the country. No newspapers can be published criticizing Government freely. No demonstrations nor meetings could take place. Public opinion is curbed. It will be a death-blow to democracy. It is an inglorious step for the Congress Government to take. With these words, Sir, I appeal to all Members of the House, both the Muslim League and the Congress Members to support this resolution. I request the Hon. the Prime Minister to appoint a committee to enquire into the alleged misdeeds of leaders of our party before they are put in jail.

"I appeal to the Hon. Prime Minister not to persist in this move. It is not going to enhance the prestige of either of himself or the Congress. Remember the days when you led mass movements. Do not stand on the false sense of prestige. Try to rise to the level of your previous glory. 1947 Prakasam is of no use to the country. I do not want 1947 model of Prakasam. I appeal to him to revert to 1929 level. In the name of Congress itself I appeal to you to withdraw this heinous measure.

"With these words I move the resolution."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I second the resolution. A Muslim Leaguer and a Communist may look like strange bed fellows. (Laughter.) But, however, I have got reasons to second this resolution, and I shall, with your permission, give those reasons on Thursday next."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Tomorrow is a holiday. Day after to-morrow is Wednesday, a non-official day. The hon. Member will continue his speech on Thursday next."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 5th February 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 25 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 3rd February 1947, page 113 supra.]

Statement showing the requests made by the Andhra Provincial Ryots' Association, Bezawada, in their Memorandum, dated 14th August 1946 and the action taken or the conclusions arrived at with regard to them.

Requests.	Action taken or conclusions arrived at.
1 All arrears of rent should be cancelled.	The Madras Tenants' and Ryots' Protection Act, 1946, provides for the stay of all suits, proceedings in execution of decrees or orders and other proceedings in which the sale of the holding of a ryot or tenant for recovery of rent is claimed. This will go a long way to give relief to the ryots.
2 All summary suits now pending in the Courts should be withdrawn.	
3 All kinds of forced labour should be made illegal providing for the imprisonment of the offender.	Forced labour is already an offence punishable with one year's imprisonment under section 374 of the Indian Penal Code.
4 Facilities to obtain fuel, fencing and other materials for agricultural implements, etc., free of cost should be allowed.	The question of removal of fuel, etc., free of cost, from estate forests by ryots depends on the customary or prescriptive rights they possess.
5 All villages should be surveyed and settlement made and the zamindar should bear the costs.	It was open to the ryots to have applied to the Government and got the villages surveyed and settled. The Government can take action <i>suo motu</i> in the matter only in the cases coming under section 164 (1) (b) of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908.
6 The existing rents in these estates should be reduced to the level of rents prevailing in the adjoining Government ryotwari areas, i.e., in Ichapur taluk.	The question of fixing reasonable rates of rents for lands in estates is under the consideration of the Government and the Government propose to undertake legislation in this regard very soon.
7 Joint pattas should be immediately separated.	Under section 50 (2) of the Estates Land Act, every ryot is entitled to call upon his landholder to grant him a patta for any current revenue year. When a landholder, for three months after demand, fails to grant a patta in such terms as the ryot is entitled to receive, it is lawful for the ryot to sue for such a patta before the Collector.
8 All irrigation sources which are out of repair should be completely repaired by the Government and the costs thereof recovered from the zamindar concerned.	The Madras Irrigation Works (Repairs, Improvement and Construction) Act, 1943, enables the Government, among other things, to <i>suo motu</i> repair or improve privately-owned irrigation works. Powers under the Act in regard to repairs or improvements have been delegated to Collectors. The request has accordingly been remitted to the Collector of Vizagapatam for necessary action.
9 The Government should take up the construction of Hamsarali and Padigam projects.	The question of taking up these projects is under the consideration of the Government.

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<i>Requests.</i>	<i>Action taken or conclusions arrived at.</i>
10 Remission facilities declared by the Government for 1945 crops should be given by the zamindars.	There is no provision for remission of rents except on the grounds specified in sections 38 and 39-A of the Estates Land Act.
11 Cheap credit facilities should be provided.	The request is too vague. No action was therefore considered necessary.
12 Drinking water facilities should be made for every village of Uddanam (coastal) area of Sompeta taluk.	Extracts of these requests have been sent to the Board of Revenue for necessary action.
13 Ryots living near forests should be allowed to protect their crops from the ravage of wild animals and they should have the right to shoot the wild animals, if necessary.	

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 5th February 1947.

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

1.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Formation of village vigilance committees.

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

(a) how and by whom the police vigilance committees are constituted;

(b) what the qualifications are for appointment as a member of the police vigilance committee;

(c) what their functions are; and

(d) whether the Government have prescribed or propose to prescribe any minimum qualifications for appointment as members of the vigilance committees?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) The village vigilance committee (which is the committee apparently referred to) consists of a president and normally from four to seven members including the village headman who is an ex-officio member. Members of the committee are nominated by the Circle Inspector and approved by the Subdivisional Office or the District Superintendent of Police. Certificates of appointments are issued to the members by the District Superintendent of Police. The committee is essentially a voluntary and non-official body though officials may be members of it.

“(b) The qualifications for appointment as a member of the village vigilance committee are that the persons selected should be residents of the village itself or its outlying hamlet and should be influential and of good position and character and genuinely interested in carrying out the work expected of the committee. The members should generally be of the type who would be recruited as Special Police Officers, if occasion arose.

“(c) The functions of the committee are—

(1) to aid the village headman and the village watchman in carrying out their duties in regard to crime and criminals

(2) to help the police in the investigation, prevention and detection of crime generally and in tracing and apprehending persons wanted;

(3) to take such immediate steps in regard to crime and criminals as the law empowers them to;

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- (4) to keep a look out for suspicious strangers, night prowlers, gangs and their supernumeraries and members of criminal tribes and to report any information regarding such persons;
- (5) to report any movements or suspicious activities of known bad characters, and any information regarding stolen property;
- (6) to report promptly to the village headman (i) information which under section 45, Criminal Procedure Code, the latter and others mentioned in that section should report to the Magistrate or the police station, and (ii) information in respect of cognizable offences;
- (7) to report promptly any other information regarding the occurrence of crime;
- (8) to communicate to the village vigilance committees of neighbouring villages, information regarding crime and criminals that may affect such villages;
- (9) to see that the village or parts of it are patrolled by night when circumstances require it;
- (10) to take such steps as are feasible to prevent rowdyism, gambling and street offences;
- (11) to encourage, by personal example and by precept, all members of the village community to give individually and collectively, to the village vigilance committee and to the village authorities, such assistance as will ensure that necessary co-operation between the village community and the police is secured.

"(d) The answer is in the negative."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is the Government aware, Sir, that due to factions in the villages, the village vigilance committees are doing more harm than good?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I do not know whether village vigilance committees are more harmful, but the very existence of human beings in villages may be harmful unless they know how to work together and how to co-operate with each other to improve the village conditions, their own conditions, and everything that is necessary for their existence in this world."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Who is to decide and how it is decided that a man who is to be appointed as a member of the village vigilance committee is one of influence and of good character? Is a list of such persons maintained, and if so, by whom?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The officer who is empowered to appoint is expected to know. If he does not know beforehand, he is to make enquiries and do his duty as directed."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the onerous duties that are given to these members of these committees, may I know, Sir, what training is given to them, and what salary is paid to them?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that criminals themselves will be more useful either to keep vigilance or to detect crimes, as there is a proverb 'Diamond cuts diamond'?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I am not able to understand what the hon. Member suggests."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that criminals themselves will be more useful either to keep vigilance or to detect crimes, as there is a proverb that 'thief catches thief'?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir. A criminal may have all the required qualifications, but the fact that he is a criminal disqualifies him."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know, Sir, if the present Food Committee members will be useful to serve as members of the vigilance committee?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"In view of the onerous duties with which the village vigilance committees are entrusted, may I suggest, Sir, that the opinion of the public of the village is also taken into consideration when selecting members to that committee?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The whole scheme implies that the opinion of the public of the village should be consulted."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Have these committees to play the part of C.I.D. by giving secret information to the officers concerned?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The duty of giving secret information to Government officers concerned has been cast upon them from the very beginning, and that is not a new duty."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Have any definite orders been given to the officers concerned to see that these committees are not made mere party committees?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Certainly, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether there are any Harijans on these committees?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."]

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that rewards are set apart for members of these committees, but very rarely these rewards reach the members, and that they are eaten up by the police themselves?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The presumption is that everything is going on honestly. It is not fair and proper that we should presume that anything is eaten up by the police, and also put questions in that form. I would earnestly request not only the hon. Member who put the question, but others also, to keep that in mind. It is not proper that a general statement should be made like that."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that members of these committees have hitherto been acting as mere tools and spies of the Police?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Wherever the public and the Congress are not taking proper care to educate the people, anything may happen; what the hon. Member suggested may also happen."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"As the Food Committees are functioning now, will Government consider the doing away of these village vigilance committees?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—"Are there any proposals to re-organize the village vigilance committees?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I ask, Sir, whether Government will kindly appoint men of character and calibre to these committees hereafter?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member presumes that Government is not doing its duty. Every precaution will be taken, and is being taken."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether after this Government came into office, there has been any re-organization in the personnel of these committees? If so, I would be satisfied."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that these persons are expected to assist the police, will the Hon. the Prime Minister consider it advisable to see that these men are not appointed by the police, but by some other authority?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The suggestion will be considered."

[SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government consider that a revenue officer, who is not lower in rank than a Deputy Tahsildar, should only appoint such committee members?"

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"When I said 'the question will be considered', it meant 'which officer should appoint which gentleman' will be decided."

Forfeiture of deposit amount of defeated candidates in the elections.

* 31 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state what was the particular rule followed in ordering the forfeiture of the deposit amount of the defeated candidate in the last election to the Madras Legislative Assembly from the Malappuram Muhammadan Rural Constituency?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (d) of the unstarred question No. 23 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly on the 23rd August 1946. If an unsuccessful candidate does not obtain more than one-eighth of the total number of votes polled, divided by the number of members to be elected, his deposit shall be forfeited to Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that any candidate, who loses his deposit will be debarred from standing for any election; if so, for how many years; if not, why should not Government debar him once for all?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member should have taken a little care to verify whether he is entitled to put such a question."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact, Sir, that the Majli candidate in the Malappuram Muhammadan Rural Constituency forfeited his deposit?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The candidate referred to got 8,808 votes. For that reason, he could not have forfeited his deposit."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that this candidate did not get one-eighth of the total votes polled in the election?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"One-eighth divided by the number of candidates, Sir."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"On the statement made by the Prime Minister, whether I was entitled to put that question, I seek the ruling of the Chair, Sir." (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"He asked you to consider twice before you put the question." (Laughter.)

Underground drainage scheme in Nellore.

* 32 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether any scheme for underground drainage in Nellore town was considered in 1938;

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- (b) if so, why the scheme was given up;
 (c) whether the Government propose to revive it;
 (d) whether it is a fact that the water-supply to the town is unsatisfactory; and
 (e) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to rectify it?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The scheme was given up because the municipal council wanted that it should be deferred on account of the then economic depression.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) The water-supply cannot be said to be unsatisfactory. Nearly 6.75 lakhs of gallons of water are being supplied every day for a population of about 60,000, which works out to 11.25 gallons per head per day; but the distribution system is old and has to be revised. Certain parts of the town have developed in regions where there is no protected water-supply at present.

“(e) An improvement scheme is in contemplation and will be taken up in connexion with the first five-year programme of post-war schemes.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister how long it will take to see that the scheme is executed?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“As soon as the scheme is revised, the work will be taken up for execution. It is said that the revision of the distributary system has been assigned the eighteenth place in Appendix III of the post-war plan. No investigation is required, and as soon as the design is worked out, it will be taken up for execution.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Madam . . .”
 (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“You should address the Chair.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, in what stage is the Guntur water-supply scheme?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The scheme is in operation.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Since the scheme occupies only the eighteenth place, may I know, Sir, how much more time should elapse before one can hope to see that this is executed?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I am afraid, I cannot give a definite answer, as regards the approximate time when it will be taken up. But I can assure Mr. Hameed Khan that it will be taken up as early as possible.”

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government will strictly follow the post-war scheme as far as water-supply and drainage schemes are concerned, according to the priority list already in existence?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Yes, Sir, according to the place assigned to the several schemes in the compendium of Provincial requirements.”

Availability of D.D.T. for anti-malarial work.

* 33 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether D.D.T. is available here in sufficiently large quantities to be used for anti-malarial work; and

(b) whether the Government propose to undertake or encourage local manufacture of D.D.T. on a large scale for the above purpose?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) Yes; no difficulty is also anticipated in the future in obtaining this product.

“(b) The Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, has been instructed to enquire about the manufacture of D.D.T. during his stay in the United States of America on deputation and to submit proposals on his return for the manufacture of the product in this Province.”

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, in how many districts or places anti-malarial work is being carried on now?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Notice, Sir. But I can tell the hon. Member for his information that intensive anti-malarial operations are being carried on in the Wynad taluk of Malabar district, in some of the agency tracts in East Godavari, and in the Vizagapatam district.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, what does ‘D.D.T.’ mean, and what are the places where it is manufactured in our Province?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I am afraid I cannot say. I believe it is a long name. I consulted the Director of Public Health this morning, and he also said it is a long name. If a separate question is put, I will be able to give an answer. With regard to the production of D.D.T. in this Province, the Superintendent of the Kerala Soap Factory was asked to put up proposals. He put forward certain difficulties with regard to the setting up of a pilot plant in the first instance, and then to put up a large scale plant afterwards. He also expressed the difficulty in securing the necessary raw materials for setting up the plant. Some time last year, the Government considered the proposal to set up a factory for the production of D.D.T., but the proposal was given up in view of the non-availability of material, and also the cost could not be ascertained. As soon as the officer

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deputed to the United States of America to make enquiries into the production of D.D.T. returns—I do not know whether he has returned, that is an information to be ascertained by my Colleague the Hon. Mr. Giri—the Government may be able to put forward proposals for the manufacture of D.D.T. But this much of information I can give, that is, the Government of India has supplied this Province with about 20 tons of D.D.T. for anti-malarial operations. If more is asked for, the Government of India may supply.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know from the Hon. Minister why the Superintendent, Kerala Soap Factory, has been asked to investigate about the manufacture of D.D.T. in this Province? ”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ Because the Superintendent of the Kerala Soap Factory, Calicut, was deputed to ascertain about the production of D.D.T., he was asked to investigate.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ Would it be possible for the Hon. Minister to find out a substitute for D.D.T. under the Ayurvedic system of medicine? ”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ I am afraid I cannot say so much about the Indian medicine that it would be able to give a substitute for D.D.T.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know from the Hon. Minister for Public Health whether she has read the disturbing statement issued by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetty and whether the Hon. Minister is prepared to take steps to eradicate the evils mentioned in the statement? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ If the hon. Member puts a separate question the Hon. Minister will answer it.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Does the Hon. Minister for Public Health mean that it will be impossible for her to find a suitable corresponding drug in the Ayurveda, the Unani or the Siddha system? ”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ So far as preventive medicine is concerned, I am not aware of any drug which would be as efficacious as D.D.T. Anyway it is the intention of the Government and proposals are very nearly matured to set up a Research Institute and probably the Research Institute will be able to go into the question. On the curative side I know of a specific drug or I have had it mentioned to me that there is a specific drug for malaria.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“ May I ask what the Hon. Minister means by ‘ pilot plant ’ which she proposes to introduce in the Kerala Soap Institute? ”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Sir, the latter part of my question asking about the places where D.D.T. was being manufactured has not been answered.”

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THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ At present there are no possibilities of manufacturing D.D.T. Till now the Government of India have imported 700 tons of D.D.T. Unless and until there is a possibility of producing the drug, I am unable to say whether there are any firms, private or Government, who have undertaken production of D.D.T.”

Complaints about alleged black-marketing.

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

(a) whether the Hon. Minister for Industries and Labour has received a letter from the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress, dated 3rd September 1946, informing him about the various black-market dealings by Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiyar, Dr. Alagappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur Murugappa Chettiyar, etc., and if so, whether a copy of the same will be placed before the House;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the information given by the Madras Committee of the Communist Party of India in connexion with the above through a hand-bill, dated 19th September 1946, from Madras; and

(c) whether the Government have instituted any prosecution against the above black-marketeers, and if not, why?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“ (a) The letter in question was received by the Government. A copy^a of it is placed on the table of the House.

“ (b) Yes.

“ (c) The action taken by the Government against the persons or firms referred to in the letter and the hand-bill is as follows:—

(1) So far as the South India Corporation is concerned the matter is *sub-judice*. Regarding the Umayal Weaving Establishment a complaint has been filed. As regards Murugappa Chettiar & Sons and G.M.S. Textiles the investigation report is expected. In the matter of the Madura Saree Stores the clerk was proceeded against departmentally and removed from service.

(2) *Madura Saree Stores*.—A permit for 2,400 yards only was issued to this firm by the Provincial Textile Commissioner's office. The firm sold it to a broker who sent it to another broker of Madras. This broker handed over the permit to a third broker who either altered or got altered the figure in the permit to 42,000 yards and sold it to a firm in Madras. A complaint under section 471 of the Indian Penal Code, has been filed against the broker who altered or got the figures altered.

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 174—175 *infra*.

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(3) *Sri Kalyanam*.—A permit for only 1,500 yards was issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner's office. The permit did not, however, reach the permit-holder as it was withheld from despatch by a clerk in that office. It was recovered from the clerk who was proceeded against departmentally and removed from service.

(4) *Mohanram Company and S.R.V.S., Limited, Madura*.—Investigation has shown that no offence has been committed by these firms."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Member has permission to put the question from Mr. Ananda Nambiyar who is now in jail? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" A few minutes before I asked him whether he has Mr. Ananda Nambiyar's permission and he said that he has kept it in his house and that he will bring it tomorrow."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I suggest one thing? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member need not suggest anything."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Has the Government verified the bills of lading of the steamship companies? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" Did the Government examine those lading bills and take proper action to the extent of suspending the licences of those who have contravened the rules? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" I have already asked for notice, Sir."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know, Sir, what are these ladies' bills? " (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—" He means bills of lading."

Co-operative societies in the selected rural development areas.

* 35 Q.—SRI K. VARADACHARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will consider the advisability of forming House-building and Irrigation Co-operative Societies in the selected rural development areas; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to give a direction to the officers concerned to organize these co-operative societies as early as possible?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) & (b) House-building co-operative societies are already functioning in the following four firkas which have been selected for rural development

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work, viz., Hindupur (Anantapur district), Rajahmundry (East Godavari district), Bezwada (Kistna district) and Kurnool (Kurnool district). The Registrar has already issued instructions to the Deputy Registrars to encourage the formation of building societies, in areas where there is a demand for such societies and where the local conditions are favourable for their successful working.

" The Registrar proposes to organize irrigation societies in the selected firkas if investigation shows that the organization of such societies is feasible and necessary."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I know whether a similar representation has been received from the residents of the Pendurti area, Vizagapatam district, and whether the Government will be pleased to give a direction to the officers concerned to organize early these co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With regard to the rate of interest charged on the loan and the small number of times of the share capital the loan amount is calculated, will the Government consider the desirability of amending the rules so as to provide more facilities? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" I shall be glad to answer it if a separate question is put."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I know the share capital of each of these building co-operative societies in the districts mentioned by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" May I know whether any type-designs have been prepared for these house-building societies to guide them? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the fact, that building houses and constructing irrigation works are responsible kinds of work and have to be done according to modern methods, will the Government consider the advisability of giving up the practice of entrusting them to co-operative societies and entrust them to better and more experienced organizations? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" I shall look into the matter, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of giving free house-sites to house-building co-operative societies for the purpose of building houses for poor people living in the slums and for the Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice, Sir."

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Abolition of capital punishment.

* 36 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether the Government propose to abolish capital punishment?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“The matter is under the consideration of the Government.”

Land acquisition schemes for village house-sites.

* 37 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government passed orders instructing District Collectors not to start any land acquisition schemes for village house-sites during the pendency of war; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to cancel the orders?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“(a) & (b) In 1943, the Board of Revenue instructed Collectors to defer for the duration of the war action on the acquisition of private lands for purposes unconnected with war requirements and also for purposes not considered urgent for any other reasons. The Government recently passed orders directing that the revised instructions regarding the acquisition of private lands should cease to be in force and that items of work relating to these matters should no longer be suspended but should be expedited, where necessary, by the appointment of special staff.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask, Sir, how land acquisition stood in the way of winning or losing the war?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The officers engaged in that work were required for war and other work, and so they could not be diverted to land acquisition work.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask whether it is not the duty of the Government to provide house-sites for people who are homeless during the war?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The hon. Member must ask the previous Government.”

SRI P. KAKKAN:—“May I know whether it is not the intention of the Government to give free house-sites to the poor Harijans in the province?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“A separate question may be put, Sir.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“May I ask what rules the Government have made to allot lands for house-sites since many Harijans have been rendered homeless on account of the recent floods?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“It does not arise out of this question.”

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Repairs to “Ottai Anai” on the Vasishta Nadi in Salem district.

* 38 Q.—SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorial has been received from the aya-katdars under the Panai eri in Erramasamudram village, Attur taluk (Salem district) for repairing the “Ottai Anai” on the Vasishta Nadi, which is the main source of supply to the Panai eri and which has not been functioning properly during the past many years; and

(b) if so, what action was taken by Government?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“(a) Certain memorials were received in September and October 1946.

“(b) They have been referred to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and his report is awaited.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“மேல்படி வாய்காலை மெட்டு வதற்கு ஏதாவது எஸ்டிமேட்டுகள் தயார் செய்திருக்கிறதா?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“I have answered that the report is awaited from the Chief Engineer. I cannot now say whether any estimates have been prepared.”

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—“தமிழில் பதில் சொல்ல வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“Certainly, Sir, சீப் என்ஜினியரிடமிருந்து ரிபோர்ட் வந்தவுடன் கவனிக்கப்படும்.”

Measures for the marketing of agricultural produce.

* 39 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any measures for the marketing of agricultural produce of the Province?

[The question was put and the answer was being read out by the Hon. Minister.]

SRI P. NATESAN:—“On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, may I ask whether this is an answer to a question or a statement. It is not possible for us to follow it. It looks as if it is a long statement.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The answer involves a long statement. Copies of the answer will be placed on the table of the House tomorrow. Hon. Members may put supplementary questions tomorrow.”

Muslim women in Madras Educational Service.

* 40 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin in whose name the question stands has requested me to postpone her questions to tomorrow. So this question will be taken up tomorrow.”

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Kanarese as medium of instruction in schools of Madras City for the students of Kanada district.

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

(a) the number of Kanarese-speaking people in Madras City; and

(b) the arrangements made in Madras City for imparting education through the medium of Kanarese to the pupils whose regional language is Kanarese?

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

“(a) The Government have no information.

“(b) If any school makes representation for being allowed to open sections with the medium of instruction as Kannada, the matter will be considered. The Government understand that the Corporation of Madras has a proposal to open a Kannada section in one of their schools in Triplicane area.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I ask the Hon. Minister whether, if there are many Kannada speaking people as stated in the question, it is not the duty of the Government to make adequate provision for their education? ”

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

“ I have not mentioned any number or proportion of the population of Kannada-speaking people.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I want to know whether the Government agree with the fact that there are a large number of Kannada-speaking people in the Madras City and, if so, whether it is not the duty of the Government to make provision for their education? ”

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

“ I have not mentioned any number. If there are a sufficient number of Kannada-speaking people, the matter will be attended to.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, that if there is any demand from any particular school provision will be made. I want to know if a demand is made by the people themselves, whether the Hon. Minister will not make provision? ”

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

“ If there is a demand it will be considered.”

Sri B. Ananthachar (spoke in Kannada).

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member knows English. I will not allow him to put the question in Kannada.”

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—“ May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to collect the necessary statistics with regard to the Kannada-speaking people in Madras City? ”

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

“ I do not know whether it is possible, because we will have to go round the 15 lakhs of citizens in Madras. But if there is an earnest demand from certain people I can assure you that the matter will be considered.”

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—“ Will not the statistics, if collected, give some information about the number of Kannada-speaking boys and girls in the Madras City? ”

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

“ Yes, statistics will give that information, but the point is whether we can take the statistics to-day.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Sir, in a similar way if people speaking any other language put forward a demand for imparting education in that language will that also be considered by Government? ”

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

“ I can always expect a supplementay question of this nature from that quarter. The answer is, yes, Sir.”

SRI B. ANANTHACHAR:—“ Will not the Census Report of 1941 give us the number of Kannada-speaking people in the Madras City? ”

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

“ The point is whether they are all in a place where it will be easy or possible to provide this kind of education.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is it not a fact that a demand has already been put forward by the Muslims for imparting education to them in Urdu? ”

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

“ They have put forward many demands. They are coming before us every day. Some are coming before the House to-day.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ May I ask in how many schools in the Madras City instruction is provided in Telugu, Urdu, Malayalam and Kannada and will the Hon. Minister place a list on the table of the House? ”

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

“ A separate question may be put, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Hon. Minister going to wait till a demand is made by the people for providing education for them? Does he not consider it his duty or the duty of the Government to make such provision *suo motu*? ”

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

“ The Government does not make provision for education *suo motu* for all the people in the Province. But if any special thing is wanted, if a representation is received the matter will be considered.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask what in the opinion of the Hon. Minister is a special necessity? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" It will depend on the context in each case. If people in any particular locality feel that it is necessary for their children to receive a particular kind of education and if they make a representation it will be examined."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising from that answer does it not follow that to that extent the Government is not responsible to the class of people who are in need of that education? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" It is open to the hon. Member to draw any conclusions he pleases."

MR. SPEAKER:—" We shall pass on to the next question."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" I want to put a supplementary question on the previous question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member cannot monopolize question time."

[*Number of labour schools and higher elementary schools in each district.*]

* 42 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Labour schools in each district and number of higher elementary schools among them;

(b) whether the Government propose to start higher elementary schools under the Labour Department; and

(c) if not, why not; and if so, when?

[The question was put by Sri S. Nagappa and the answer was being read out by the Hon. Minister.]

MR. SPEAKER:—" If the statement in the answer is a very big one I suggest to the Hon. Minister it is better that copies of the answer are circulated to hon. Members and supplementary questions taken up tomorrow."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Yes, Sir."

* 43 Q.—Postponed.

Transport facilities in Madras City.

* 44 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether Government have any proposals to arrange increased transport facilities in Madras City?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" Yes. Thirty Government buses will be put on the road by the end of March. Thirty-six lorry buses are running and these were

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expected to meet the heavy demand during peak hours of the day. Shuttle services are being tried on a few routes. Still the demand is not felt satisfied. Instructions have been issued to put thirty more buses within a week on four routes. If these measures are found to be insufficient further arrangements will be made."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask which are the companies which will be given the business of running these buses in the City? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" The thirty buses which are going to be put on the road will be distributed among the existing companies. Some lorries also will be converted into buses."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of encouraging co-operative societies to run bus services instead of individuals or companies? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" The matter will be considered later on."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the revised policy of the Government in the matter of bus services in the mufassal will it not be advisable to give the business of running further buses to individuals who are not already in the business? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" It is the general policy of the Government to give licences only to new companies."

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

II.—DISCUSSION RE. SITTING OF THE HOUSE.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of information, Sir, I want to know whether we are sitting the whole of to-day." 12 noon

MR. SPEAKER:—" No. The Upper House sits at 2-30 p.m. So we will sit till 1-30 p.m. I wish to inform the House that we are unable to do business due to the meeting of the Upper House in the afternoon. I will have a talk with the President of the Upper House for arrangement from tomorrow onwards, when we will sit from 11 o'clock to 5 o'clock with the usual interval. To-day we will rise at 1-30 p.m."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Non-official day comes only one day in a week. Therefore, is it not fair that we should be given the advantage of the full day? Cutting of half a day to-day is very unfair to the House. Therefore, I submit that the House may be allowed to sit the whole of to-day, any further arrangement to be made being made applicable to the future."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The Upper House also should be given the opportunity of having a non-official day. When we change the rules, we shall see that it is on different days. Now we

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cannot change the rule. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: 'Is it a definite ruling, Sir?') No, it is not a definite ruling. I make only a suggestion that we rise at 1-30 to-day. We have not got enough reporters. From tomorrow onwards, we will sit from 11 to 5 o'clock. I want to know the opinion of the Leaders."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"To-day, the other House also has to sit, because the sitting has been announced. As you have said, from tomorrow onwards it may be that we sit for a number of days together and then the other House given a chance."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether tomorrow can be converted into a non-official day instead of to-day with the leave of the House?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Leader of the House gives his consent."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is not the House sovereign in this matter?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the Leader of the House gives his consent on behalf of Government we can transact non-official business on official days."

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Speaker will give an assurance that the rules will be changed in such a manner . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to inform the House that a committee has been appointed to go into the whole matter. The draft rules framed by them will be brought before the House in the near future. So, we shall sit till 1-30 to-day."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir, as usual, we shall sit till 1-30."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *re* FIXING OF THE PRICE OF COCONUT.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. P. K. Moideen Kutti has given notice of a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the fixing of the price of coconut at Rs. 150 per thousand, and the restraint imposed on its export which has created a very grave situation in the West Coast. Before I give a ruling, I will allow five minutes to the Member to explain how it is a matter of urgent public importance and how it affects the people of our province."

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is very well aware that the very name 'Kerala' is derived from the word 'coconut.' So far as we in the West Coast are concerned, coconut is our chief produce which to a very large extent affects the economy of owners of even small land. Unfortunately like many other evils brought about by the war, control of many things like the necessities of life has also been brought about by the war. This abnormal condition of control extended to products like coconut and rice in Malabar.

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Very recently, coconut was brought under control by the Government. (Mr. Speaker: 'The Government of India or the Provincial Government?') Government of India which was followed by this Government. It was only yesterday we found in the papers that the price of coconut had been fixed at a certain level, which affects very adversely the ryots of Malabar. The people in the East Coast cannot appreciate the position that we in the West Coast are put in. As far as Malabar is concerned, labour has become very costly and the wages have increased to tenfold and even twelvefold. The House may be very well aware that the condition of the coconut growers was very bad during the depression days, and the price was so low that people could not pay even the land revenue. Only recently the price rose very high, and it was a great relief to small owners of land in Malabar. All of a sudden, the Government have come with this interference with the price of that commodity, which is affecting the very life of the people of Malabar. Therefore I want to move the motion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Provincial Government have anything to do with the fixing of the price and the ban on the export of coconuts."

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The fixing of price was done by the Government of India because in this matter not only a British province is concerned but also the States of Cochin and Travancore which are also coconut producing areas. The price of both coconut and coconut oil went up so high that the Government of India, on complaint from the consumers that their price had increased eight or nine-fold, decided to control the price. They controlled the price of copra and coconut oil, and left the price of coconut uncontrolled thinking that the price fixation of copra and coconut oil would regulate the price of coconut. (Mr. Speaker: 'So the Provincial Government had nothing to do with it.') In fixing the price of copra and coconut oil, the Government of Madras had nothing to do. It was the Government of India's act. The fixing of the price of coconut was done by this Government. (Mr. Speaker: 'Regarding the ban on export.') The ban is not meant to be permanent. As soon as the price of copra and coconut oil was controlled, every product of copra went underground. Nothing was available to the people. There was a hue and cry from Malabar that not a drop of oil was available. Hence, we had to impose the ban. The notification issued allows export from district to district subject to the permit of the Collector. Only export to outside the province is restricted for the time-being, so that the Government may have time to study the question. It is the intention of the Government to allow export to outside the province of the normal quantity that was going out from Malabar or from any other area under a permit. There is no intention on the part of the Government to prohibit export altogether.

"Regarding price fixation, the merchants themselves said that, compared with the price of copra and coconut oil, the price of coconut ought to be such and such. We have taken that

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figure. The idea of the Government is to constitute an advisory committee which will suggest the necessary revision of the price. The price fixed is only provisional. It was fixed by this Government in correlation to the price of copra and coconut oil. Nothing is final. The Government are only watching its reactions in the market. They are going to allow the export of the normal quantity and revise the price."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the explanation given by the Hon. Minister, is the hon. Member pressing his motion?"

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTY SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, Sir."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I may add a few words. It may not perhaps be right to say that we are doing the fixation of prices. It is an inheritance. As a matter of fact, the price is fixed by this Government not only for copra but also for other articles in accordance with the previous practice under the directions of the Government of India, and the matter is not exclusively in the hands of this Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"As my hon. Friend Mr. Moideen Kutty has said, coconut is one of the products of the West Coast and upon it depends the life of the whole people. The Hon. Minister said that only provincial control had been imposed, that the Government would look as to how the control worked, and that they would be inclined to revise from time to time. What I would urge is that once this control gets going, it will affect the life of the people in such a manner as not to enable them to revert to normal conditions. Therefore, even before they proceed with the present control, I wish that the House should be given an opportunity to discuss this matter, so that the Government may take note of the objections and feelings of the people who are affected. My friend complained that East Coast was not very much interested in the life of the West Coast. Let me assure him, Sir, that we are very much interested in the life of not only the West Coast, but also of every part of the province. It is that that has made us support this demand for discussion in the Assembly. I strongly urge upon you, Sir, to allow discussion on this motion before the control measures are proceeded with any further."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the motion is in order and I admit it. 'If the Speaker is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the House and ask whether the member has the leave of the House. If objection is taken, the Speaker shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places, and if 35 or more members rise accordingly, the Speaker shall intimate that the member has the leave of the House.' So, I wish to know the sense of the House."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, before you put the motion to the vote of the House, I would request the hon. Leader of the House to agree to this motion in view of the importance of the subject."

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, if this motion is admitted and debated upon with such short notice, this House will be inundated with a number of similar motions relating to prices of various articles in our province. Perhaps even the ordinary work of the House will have to be suspended if discussion is carried on with regard to prices. Therefore I would suggest to you, Sir, not to admit such a question as a matter of urgency for debate in this House. The question of prices is a very difficult question. For the last two months some of us have been going up and down to Delhi in order to solve such problems. We are flooded with deputations on the simple ground that parties are undergoing very serious trouble on account of rise in prices. I would request you not to treat this as an emergent matter, particularly because the matter is not entirely in the hands of the Madras Government; they cannot do anything immediately. The hon. Member, Mr. Moideen Kutty Sahib, has admitted that the matter is in the hands of the Government of India also. How can any emergency arise now? Therefore, I would request you, Sir, not to admit this motion for debate in the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already given my ruling. I wish to know how many hon. Members wish to give leave to Mr. Moideen Kutty to move his motion. (Only 21 hon. Members stood in favour of the motion.) The hon. Member has not got the leave of the House to move his motion."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I request you to admit the motion for discussion for half an hour?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, Sir. That is why I asked the hon. Member to put a short notice question."

IV.—MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following messages, dated Fort St. George, the 4th February 1947, have been received by me from the Hon. the President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

'In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras City Police and District Police (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 1 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.

'In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras High Court (Jurisdictional Limits) Amendment Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.

'In accordance with rule 108 of the Madras Council Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1947), as agreed to by the Council without any amendment and signed by me.'

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the item of business which the Hon. Speaker has dealt

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with now, is official or non-official business? (Mr. Speaker: 'It is an official business.') May I ask how an official business can be transacted on a day set apart for non-official business?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is my duty to announce to the House what has taken place in the Upper House."

V.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

BILLS.

(1) THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

* M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Annamalai University (Amendment) Bill, and I hope the House will give me leave to introduce the Bill.

"I wish to place a few points before the House for its consideration. The Annamalai University Act was enacted in 1929 and it provided for the representation of the Muslim community on the Senate by the election of one member by the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. In a body of nearly 80 members which the Senate consists of, this representation has been found to be most inadequate and ineffective. Except for an occasional addition of another member through nomination either by the Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor and by election from the Legislature, at no time the number of Muslim members on the Senate of the Annamalai University has exceeded three. This has not given any satisfaction to the Muslims considering the vast progress the University has made during the last seven years and the wider sphere of activity of the University. It is therefore sought to make the necessary amendment to provide for the election of five members to the Senate from among the members of the Muslim Educational Association. It is with a view to amend the Annamalai University Act to give more representation to the Muslims in view of the importance which the University is assuming, I beg leave to introduce the amending Bill and I am confident that the House will give me leave to introduce the Bill."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I second the motion."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, this matter is not a new one. Such a Bill was considered by the Assembly some time ago and it was rejected for certain reasons. Those reasons hold good even to-day. It will be seen that representatives of two communities have been provided for in the Annamalai University Act. One is for the Muslim Educational Association and the other for the Nandanar Kalvi Kazhagam. The Muslim Educational Association is supposed to represent Muslims and the Nandanar Kalvi Kazhagam to represent Harijans. One representative for each community was given in the Act. The Annamalai University was mainly intended for the Tamil districts. If you see the population figures, you will see that the Scheduled classes form 19.6 per cent and the Muslims 4.8 per cent of the population. One representative has been

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given to 19.6 per cent of Scheduled classes and one representative to 4.8 per cent of Muslims. If this Bill is accepted, then we must increase the representation of Muslims on the Senate to five members. Corresponding increase will have to be made for the Scheduled classes also for which this Bill does not provide. Though the representation given by the Legislature under the enactment for Muslims is one, as a matter of fact there have always been more than one member on the Senate every period. In the Act itself provision has been made for nomination by the Chancellor as well as the Founder. I find that during the years 1936-39 there was one elected Muslim member and one nominated by the Founder. During 1939-42—the period is for three years—there was one elected, one nominated by the Chancellor and one nominated by the Founder, thus there were three Muslim members. 1942-45 two were elected, one nominated by the Chancellor and two nominated by the Founder. So the number of representatives was five. As the House will note, when certain groups are not able to come in by normal methods of election, there is nomination. From the figures I have given, the House will see that there is already ample representation for Muslims under the Act as it works now. I do not think it is necessary for the Government to agree to this Bill.

"There is one more reason. The Government have under consideration proposals to go into the working of the Act and to suggest suitable amendments. If we accept this piecemeal amending Bill now, it will do harm to various other communities. The Government are tackling the matter. Before long the Government propose to bring forward Bills of their own and all parties may put forward their grievances and amendments, if necessary, may be made. For these reasons, the Government oppose the Bill."

MR. SPEAKER :—"Rule 72 (1) says:—

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

"Does the House give leave to Mr. Abdul Majeed Sahib to introduce his Annamalai University (Amendment) Bill?"

The motion was put to the House and declared lost.

Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur demanded a poll.

The bell was rung and the House divided.

AN HON. MEMBER :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members may be requested to take the seats allotted to them in the House." 12.30 p.m.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR :—"On a point of order, Sir, I don't think it is the duty of the members to give directions to the others. It is for you, Sir, to do so."

MR. SPEAKER :—"It was merely a suggestion. I shall proceed now to count the votes block by block."

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(Sri K. Kamaraja Nadar, when his name was called, was found not in his seat in Block I, but in another seat in the same block; and was taking his allotted seat.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, Mr. Kamaraj Nadar's vote cannot be counted, as he was not in his seat."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He was inside the House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"But as he was not in his allotted seat, I submit, Sir, he cannot vote."

(When block 3 was being counted, Sri P. Venkateswarlu was seen coming into the House and occupying his seat.)

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"On a point of order, Sir, Mr. Venkateswarlu is coming into the House when votes are taken."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Venkateswarlu, please leave the House."

(The hon. Member Sri Venkateswarlu left the House.)

(When block No. 8 was being counted, Mr. K. M. Ahmad Kutti Sahib Haji was observed coming into the House and an hon. Member from the first block drew the attention of the Speaker to it.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it right for an hon. Member to direct the member out, by his fingers? I think he must draw your attention."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not his business of course; he simply pointed it out to me."

The House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

1 M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur.	10 M. S. Abdul Majeed Sahib Bahadur.
2 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	11 N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur.
3 Mahboob Ali Beg Sahib Bahadur.	12 M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur.
4 H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur.	13 Shah Alam Khan Savoi Sahib Bahadur.
5 P. K. Moideen Kutti Sahib Bahadur.	14 P. P. C. Hassan Koya Sahib Bahadur.
6 A. K. Kaderkutti Sahib Bahadur.	15 K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur.
7 Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur.	16 M. V. Hydross Sahib Bahadur.
8 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin.	17 Mahin Schammad Sahib Bahadur.
9 Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur.	18 M. Ebrahim Coonhee Sahib Bahadur.
	19 Sri P. Natesan.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam.	13 Sri K. Brahmanandam Reddi.
2 The Hon. Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmi-pathi.	14 " A. Chandu.
3 Sri R. Venkata Reddi.	15 " O. Chengam Pillai.
4 " T. Viswanatham.	16 " S. Chidambaram Ayyar.
5 Srimathi C. Ammannaraja.	17 " K. Chandramouli.
6 Sri A. Kaleswara Rao.	18 " M. Doraimannu.
7 Dr. M. J. Samuel.	19 " Durairaja Pandian.
8 Sri Rajagurunatha Chettiyar.	20 " M. A. Easwaran.
Zamindar of Elampalli.	21 " D. Govinda Das.
9 Sri N. Annamalai Pillai.	22 " M. P. Govinda Menon.
10 " T. S. Arunachalam.	23 " C. K. Govindan Nayar.
11 " S. C. Balakrishnan.	24 " P. Govindan Nayar.
12 Srimathi Bhupathiraju Bangaraya.	25 " S. K. Govindaraju Naicker.
	26 " N. Govindaswami Nayudu.
	27 The Hon. Sri V. V. Giri.

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Noes—cont.

28 The Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam.	85 Sri S. Paramananda Rayar.
29 " Sri M. Bakthavatsalam.	86 " R. Kuppuswami.
30 " Sri K. Koti Reddi.	87 " M. S. Pattabiram Ayyar.
31 Sri V. Raghavayya.	88 The Hon. Sri V. Kurmayya.
32 " V. M. Ramaswami.	89 " Sri R. Raghava Menon.
33 " B. S. Murthi.	90 Sri R. Subba Ayyar.
34 " B. Parameswaran.	91 " B. Perumalla Nayudu.
35 " M. Bapineedu.	92 " V. Ponnambala Gounder.
36 " N. S. Varadachari.	93 " V. Ponnuswami Gounder.
37 " A. B. Shetty.	94 " K. Raghavan.
38 " Kala Venkata Rao.	95 " P. Ratnavelu Tevar.
39 " D. Kadirappa.	96 " K. Paliaya.
40 " P. Kakkal.	97 " K. Rajaram Nayudu.
41 " A. Kameswara Rao.	98 Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao.
42 " P. R. Kandaswami Gounder.	99 Sri R. Ramanurthi.
43 " P. Kandaswami Pillai.	100 " R. Ramanujulu Reddiyar.
44 " V. T. Kannappa Mudaliar.	101 " N. P. Ramiah.
45 " M. Kannappan.	102 " N. Rangaswami Reddi.
46 " K. T. Kosarama Nadar.	103 " D. V. Ramaswami.
47 " A. Krishnaswami Vandayar.	104 " A. Rayappa.
48 " K. Kulasekara Doss.	105 " A. Vedaratnam Pillai.
49 " M. Kumaran.	106 " N. Veeraraghavulu.
50 " G. Kumaraswami.	107 " P. M. Velayudapani.
51 " K. T. Kunhi Kamaran Nambiar.	108 " K. Veeramapadal.
52 " A. Kuppusami Nayudu.	109 " P. S. Veluswami Gounder.
53 Mrs. Jahamoney Masilamoney.	110 " G. Venkanna.
54 Srimathi A. V. Kuttimalu Amma.	111 " K. S. V. Krishna.
55 " V. Lakshmi Ammal.	112 " B. Venkatanarayana Reddi.
56 " K. Lakshmi Ammal.	113 " B. Venkataratnam.
57 The Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar.	114 " G. Venkata Reddi.
	115 " N. Venkata Subbayya.
	116 " P. Venkatarama Ayyar.
	117 " M. Venkataraju.
58 " Mr. Daniel Thomas.	118 " R. Nadhamuni Reddi.
59 " Sri K. R. Karanth.	119 " B. Gopala Reddi.
60 Sri P. S. Kumaraswami Raja.	120 " V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
61 " B. Venkatachalam Pillai.	121 " A. Aaron Rao.
62 " L. S. Karayalar.	122 " V. S. Sankarasubramanya Mudaliar.
63 " L. C. Pais.	123 " B. Ananthachar.
64 " K. Lingaraju.	124 " Alluri Satyanarayana Raju.
65 " A. Jogi Nayudu.	125 " Bhupathiraju Satyanarayana Raju.
66 " K. A. Nachiappa Goundar.	
67 " S. Nagappan.	126 " G. Seetharamaswami.
68 " S. Nagaraja Manigar.	127 " K. Shanmugam.
69 " M. Nageswara Rao.	128 " N. Sanjeevi Reddi.
70 " U. Padmanabha Mallayya.	129 Srimathi Seetamahalakshamma.
71 " B. S. Mallikarjuna Rao.	130 Sri H. Sitarama Reddi.
72 " P. Lakshmanaswami.	131 " T. K. T. N. R. Tatachari.
73 " K. Iswara.	132 " N. M. R. Subbaraman.
74 " R. S. Manickam.	133 " Kallur Subba Rao.
75 " M. Marimuthu.	134 " P. Subbiah.
76 " N. Nagaraja Ayyangar.	135 " A. Subrahmanyam.
77 " S. Nagayya.	136 " Kollipara Surayya.
78 " Guntur Narasimha Rao.	137 " R. V. Swaminathan.
79 " P. L. Narasimharaju.	138 " R. Thangavelu.
80 " K. B. Narayana Reddi.	139 " M. D. Thyagaraja Pillai.
81 " M. G. Natesan Chettiyar.	140 " A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.
82 " M. Pallam Raju.	141 " K. Varadachari.
83 " V. C. Palaniswami Goundar.	142 " T. S. Pattabiraman.
84 Srimathi Anjalai Ammal.	

Neutrals.

1 Sir Stuart Town.	5 Mr. John Moses Wilson.
2 Mr. W. J. Fernandez.	6 " A. E. Thompson.
3 Sri Rao Sahib Parisutha Nadar.	7 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
4 Mr. D. Allerton.	

MR. SPEAKER:—"The result of the voting is Ayes: 14, Noes: 142, Neutrals: 7."

The motion was lost and leave was not granted.

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(2) THE ANDHRA UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Andhra University (Amendment) Bill."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I don't think it is necessary for me to make a speech on this motion. I oppose this motion for the same reasons that I gave in connexion with the Annamalai University (Amendment) Bill. The hon. Member has not himself made out any reasons for this measure and I do not think I need speak much about it."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I explain, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Does it mean, Sir, that I will be given another opportunity to speak after the hon. Member has spoken?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, you will have an opportunity."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I thought, Sir, the Hon. Minister would take a different view so far as this Bill is concerned. He felt that we were already having sufficient number of Muslim members in the Senate of the Annamalai University; and on that account, he was not prepared to accept the introduction of that Bill. But, Sir, he will notice that so far as the Andhra University is concerned, the number of Muslims there is not sufficiently adequate and there is no possibility of more Muslims being elected to the University. In view of this, I plead that it will be fair on the part of the Minister to accept this amending Bill which will add six more Muslim members to the Andhra University, five to the Senate and one to the Syndicate. The Hon. Minister has stated that in regard to the recent elections the Congress Party could not find any Muslim members to represent this House on the University with the result that there is not even a single Muslim member on the Syndicate. Under these circumstances, the Hon. Minister will only be doing justice to the Muslim community if he accepts this small amending Bill which seeks to give representation to the Muslims in the Andhra University who have not had adequate representation so far. Besides, Sir, the most important reason why we seek to get more representation is that the Minister is not prepared even to listen to representations made to him by the Muslim members of this House that Urdu is the language spoken by Muslims in the Andhra area, and that is why we want to have more Muslims on the University authorities who can safeguard our educational interests which are at present in jeopardy."

(Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin rose to speak.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am sorry; no debate can be allowed. Rule 72 says:

"If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may, without further debate, put the question thereon." The Minister for Education will reply now."

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* **THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"Sir, I must at the outset disabuse my hon. Friends Mr. Hameed Khan and others with him, that the Government are not prepared to consider all legitimate demands. The Government are always willing and anxious, Sir, to carry the Muslim members here along with them in all reasonable ways. And I would assure them that if their proposals are good for themselves and this country, I will be the first person to close up with their proposals. But unfortunately, Sir, the way in which their proposals have been coming are in certain respects not acceptable. About this Bill itself, I am afraid, Sir, my hon. Friend does not know the facts. By the present proposal, he wants five seats for the Muslim Educational Association of Southern India. Let us know the facts and see how the Act has worked during the last few years. I have got here figures from 1937 to 1945. Every year some people have been elected to the Senate and every year uniformly the Chancellor has nominated two Mussalmans to the Senate. So, it is not as if the Muslims have had no representation; actually, however, representation has been in some cases much more than what they have asked for in this Bill. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: 'Representation by election.') Election should be such as can be put into the University Act, from out of graduates. If you want to ask for more representation, it must be by methods which have been devised under the original constitution of the Andhra University Act, in order to see that Muslims are sufficiently represented on its bodies. Let me now give the figures:

In 1937-38, one was elected and two were nominated to the Senate.

In 1938-39, two were elected and two were nominated.

In 1939-40, four were elected and two were nominated, so that there were six on the whole.

In 1941-42, four were elected and two nominated, i.e., again six on the whole.

In 1942-43, two were elected and two nominated, i.e., four.

In 1943-44, one was elected and two nominated.

In 1944-45, six were elected and two nominated, making a total of eight on the Senate."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. May I know why the Hon. Minister wants Muslims alone to be satisfied with nomination while the principle of election is observed in the case of other groups?"

* **THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"When there are six people there by election already, they do not need even this nomination. Why do they want the Muslim Education Board to be separately represented, while the Muslims on their own right are able to come in such good numbers as six? They have not made out any case for showing that the general electors have refused to elect qualified Muslims and so a separate electoral board is necessary for the Muslims."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information. Such instances of Muslims having been refused to be elected through the general seats are scattered throughout the province and throughout the years."

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"The hon. Member may have a grievance. But, if the hon. Member means that there is not sufficient representation in the Senate, if he is given the actual figures, I am sure, he must cease to have any grievance. In the latest year they have got six elected to the Senate and two nominated direct. Now, coming to the Syndicate, almost every year one member is elected to the Syndicate. When by their own merit and by their own ability, they are able to get elected to the University bodies, I think it is wrong in principle to have a close electorate on communal basis. They are now able to stand on their own legs and they are able to get elected; that is what facts warrant. In those circumstances, I do not think, we should accept this Bill."

"Apart from this, if we take up this matter of nomination or give special increased representation to Muslims here, the Scheduled Castes who are much larger in number than the Muslims . . ."

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. The Hon. Minister is bringing up the Scheduled Castes again and again. I want to know whether he has conceded the principle that they form a separate minority community."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I thought it has been accepted on all hands that they are educationally backward and more backward than Muslims who are 5.9 per cent in the Andhra districts."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"On a point of information, Sir. I would like to know how many members were elected from the Muslim Educational Association."

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"That is not the point here, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I inform the Hon. Minister that the Muslim Educational Association is the body that represents, so far as the education of Muslims is concerned, the entire province and that its membership is 1,500 and it does, therefore, require representation."

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"I hope what the hon. Lady Member says is correct, but I do not know anything about it. Even so, that does not mean that the institution should have representation. If they are distinguished enough and have done service in the educational field, they will certainly come within the five or six elected to the Senate."

"Now, Sir, the point I was making out was, we cannot agree to piecemeal legislation giving increased representation to particular communities because, that will create a lot of heart-burning everywhere. I may mention here that Government propose to

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bring forward an amending Bill to this University Act also as soon as possible. Let me assure my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, that when the Bill actually comes up, it will be time enough for him to make representations and the Government will then consider the question of giving equitable representation to the various communities."

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. . ."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHIAM:—"Sir, when the Hon. Minister is on his legs, there is no question of asking for information and the hon. Member may ask for information at the end."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Minister has now yielded. Mr. Ismail may now put his question."

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, the Hon. Minister has been speaking of various communities to whom representation has to be given. I want to know, before we pass on to another point, the number of communities that Government have recognized in this Province."

*** THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:**—"There are various communities in this Province; I do not know what the hon. Member actually means by this question. As a matter of fact, there are the Hindus, the Muslims, Scheduled Castes, non-Brahmans and a lot of other communities; the backward classes are considered a community for certain purposes. Very much depends on the purpose for which the hon. Member wants information. So, Sir, considering all these facts, I do not think it is advisable on the part of this House to accept this motion; Government therefore oppose it."

The motion was put and lost.

(3) THE MADRAS HINDU BIGAMOUS MARRIAGES PROHIBITION AND DIVORCE BILL.

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Leader has asked me to postpone my moving this Bill till it has been decided by the Party to-night. I, therefore, request you to allow me to move it on next Wednesday which is a non-official day."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know whether you are moving it now or not."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I move it next Wednesday, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I want to know from the hon. Member whether he is moving it now or not."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I am anxious to know whether, if I do not move it now, the Bill will lapse."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it comes in the next ballot, it will be taken. I want to know whether you move it now."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"I am not moving it now, Sir."

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(4) THE ANDHRA UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. SPEAKER:—“ This is a Bill similar to the one which was lost. So, I do not think there is any use in moving it.”

(5) THE MADRAS KALAVANTHULA NAUTCHES PROHIBITION BILL.

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—“ I am not moving it now, Sir.”

RESOLUTION.

INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF URDU FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS.

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ Sir, with reference to this resolution, before I move it I should like to enquire whether I can continue my speech on the next non-official day because I feel it will not be over to-day.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Yes, you can.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ Sir, the resolution that I wish to move to-day runs as follows:—

‘ This Assembly recommends to the Government to make provisions for Muslim students to receive instruction in schools and colleges through the medium of Urdu, wherever they desire to do so.’

“ Before dealing with the subject of my resolution, I wish to state that it is a matter of regret to me to find that my resolution has been so mutilated as to have lost all its force. The resolution that I sent for being moved before this House was something different, and more comprehensive, than the one which we find before us. The rule under which portions of my resolution have been deleted is Rule 115 (b) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules. In this connexion, Mr. Speaker, I should like to read out a resolution that was moved by the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari in 1937 with reference to Federation. The resolution moved by him ran as follows:—

‘ This Assembly recommends to the Madras Government that the opinion of this House be communicated to His Majesty’s Government of Great Britain that it is politically and morally impossible for the people and Government of this Province to tolerate the imposition of the scheme of Federation as laid down in the Government of India Act of 1935, and that the said scheme would, far from bringing about all-India unity, provoke forces of conflict in the Provinces and the Indian States, and that this Assembly hopes that the Government of Great Britain will respect the wishes of the people of India and immediately devise means, even for transitional purposes, to set up a Central Government free from the objectionable features of the Federal scheme of the Government of India Act to be evolved in consultation with the responsible Provincial Governments and national leaders.’

[At this stage the Deputy Speaker Mrs. C. Ammannappa Raja occupied the Chair.]

“ Well, this is the long resolution that was moved by the Hon. Sri Rajagopalachari, who must have known everything about the rules of this Assembly. Now, when such a lengthy resolution could have been moved by him, I do not see how my resolution

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was not found in order. Whereas portions of the resolution of Mr. Rajagopalachari amounts to an argument. I find that the sentences deleted from my resolution did not amount to an argument. The sentence to which I refer in his resolution is this: ‘ that the said scheme would, far from bringing all-India unity, provoke forces of conflict in the provinces and the Indian States.’ I may say that this is an argument. But my resolution ran differently and it contained mere statements of facts only. I stated in my resolution that, ‘ whereas the policy of Government that instruction in schools should be imparted in the regional languages has the effect of preventing Muslim students from being taught through the medium of Urdu which is the mother-tongue of a large number of Muslims of this Presidency.’ This is nothing but a statement of fact, and not an argument. Again, I said, ‘ whereas the aforesaid policy has created an alarm and apprehension in the minds of the Muslims that the Ministry wishes to obliterate the Urdu language from this Presidency and by this method, destroy Muslim culture and retard the progress of the Muslims.’ This is the apprehension which is in the minds of the people”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“ Madam Deputy Speaker, this is against the ruling of the Chair. There is the convention that the ruling of the Chair should not be questioned. The hon. Lady Member may mention this in support of her resolution, but I do not think she should be allowed to make these remarks against the ruling of the Chair.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ I am not questioning the ruling of the Chair, Madam, but I am mentioning these facts to show the import of my resolution which has lost all its force.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“ The complaint of the hon. Lady Member was, Madam, that the Speaker has scored out certain portions of her resolution because it contained arguments. I only state that the Speaker having given his ruling, it is not open to any Member to question that. She has only to address herself to the resolution before the House by adducing arguments in support of it.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member will please confine herself to the resolution, on hand.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ Madam, I wish to point out that my object was not to question the ruling of the Chair for having amended the resolution. My object was to bring to the notice of the House the full import of my resolution and nothing further.

“ Coming now to the subject-matter of my resolution I may point out that it is one of vital importance, to the well-being of the Muslim nation, for this resolution relates to the question of education which is the life-spring of every race, nation and community. It is education that is the bedrock, the foundation on which the progress of the Muslim community should be planned. It is through the medium of a sound educational policy that the Muslims of this Province can march onward in the path of advancement and come up to the level of the other communities that have

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come forward. In the days of old, we found that Muslims the world-over were so advanced in learning that they were leaders in culture and in ideas. This was due to the fact that in the days of old, Muslims paid the greatest attention to education in consonance with the injunctions of the great Prophet of Islam. No religion has laid so much emphasis on the need, value and importance of education as Islam did. The daily prayer of the Holy Prophet used to be "رب زدني علما" which means 'O Lord, increase my knowledge.' As a matter of fact, the followers of Islam were enjoined to go to China in pursuit of learning at a time when means of transport were so scarce, the injunction of the Holy Prophet being "تأملوا العلم ولو كان باليمن" which means, 'Gather knowledge even though it be in China.' The idea underlying this is that Muslims should not shirk sufferings, trials and even privations for the sake of learning. It is because of these injunctions we find that in the hey-day of Muslim civilization in the past, Muslims were, the torch-bearers of learning and culture the world-over. In India, we find that during the Moghul rule, in consonance with the injunctions of the Prophet, Muslims were afforded due opportunities to prosecute their studies in the manner prescribed by their religion. But, thereafter, came a set-back in the position of the Muslims. With the advent of the foreign rule, the Mussalmans found that it was difficult for them to prosecute their studies in the manner they had done before because a foreign language had been imposed upon them. That foreign language, as the hon. Members of this House know, was English. The Muslims were loath to betake themselves to this foreign tongue and desired that instruction should be imparted through the medium of their mother-tongue. But this form of instruction was not available to them in many places, the result of this being that Muslims remained backward in the field of education. It was only after the advent of that great Reformer and Leader of the Muslims, the late Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and other leaders, that is to say—it was only during the past few decades that Muslims have been coming forward in the field of education and reconciling themselves to education through the medium of a foreign tongue, viz., English. It will thus be seen that it was only recently that Muslims have been regaining their lost ground. But just at the time when members of the Muslim community are coming forward, when they are recovering their lost ground, there comes to them a bolt from the blue, as it were, from the present Congress Ministry for the Congress Ministry comes forward now and declares that education should not be imparted to the Muslims in their mother-tongue. . . ."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Did the Congress people say so?"

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I understand that the Hon. Minister's policy is to allow education to be imparted in this Province through the medium of the regional languages. If the Hon. Minister is prepared to correct me, I shall be glad to hear what he has to say on this subject."

[At this stage, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.]

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"When we glance, Sir, through the pages of history, we find that one of the first acts of a Government not one's own, in every country, where such a Government had been established, has been to impose a language upon the people which was different from their own. In consonance with this, I find that the present Congress Government, which represents not the Muslims of this Province at all, are imposing upon the Muslims a language which does not belong to the Muslims. This indeed is a matter of regret to all. We were under the impression, Sir, that the Congress Government, though it had no representatives of the Muslims on the Cabinet, would not fail to deal justly and fairly so far as the interests and the well-being of the Muslim community were concerned; but, Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to say, that we have been under a very serious delusion. What is the position now? The position is that the Muslims are asked by the Hon. Minister to prosecute their studies in the schools through the medium of a language which is not their mother-tongue. The other day, in answer to a question that was put to him, with reference to the establishment of a High School for Muslims in the Nellore district, so as to enable the Muslim pupils who were prosecuting their studies in a middle school in Urdu to go up for further studies through the medium of the same language the Hon. Minister asked us to be reasonable. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inquire, is it unreasonable on our part to request that elementary justice be done to Muslims; is it unreasonable on our part to demand that our children should not be denied the fundamental right of every human being to be educated through the medium of their mother-tongue? Did not the Congress Party itself clamour for this in the days of old? How is it that they have forgotten their mother-tongue? Did not the Congress Party itself clamour Education aware that not merely the Central Board of Education but also the Zakhir Hussain Committee which framed the Wardha Scheme of education and even the National Planning Committee, which I understand, met only a few months ago, have definitely expressed themselves in favour of the mother-tongue being made the medium of instruction. I have perused, Mr. Speaker, these various reports and in none of these reports do I find any mention of the words 'Regional languages.' This term is a mere innovation, in the Province of Madras. In all the other Provinces, as far as I am aware, the medium of instruction happens to be only the mother-tongue of the pupils. Well, then, is it unreasonable on our part to ask the Education Minister to do here what is being done with reference to the education of the pupils residing in other parts of the country. How can we consider. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may continue her speech next Wednesday. I now adjourn the House till to-morrow 11 o'clock."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 6th February 1947.

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 34 asked by Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu (on behalf of Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar), at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 5th February 1947, page 149 supra.]

THE MADRAS PROVINCIAL TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

No. 157, SARAFALI HOUSE, BROADWAY,
Madras, 3rd September 1946.

To

SRI V. V. GIRI,
Hon'ble Minister for Labour and Industry,
Madras.

Sir,

We have represented to you on several occasions the enormous black-marketing business carried on in the city and elsewhere by prominent businessmen of the city.

The South Indian Corporation (proprietor : Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar), the Umayal Weaving Establishments (proprietor : Dr. Alagappa Chettiar), Murugappa & Sons (proprietors : Diwan Bahadur Murugappa Chettiar and Dr. Alagappa Chettiar) in their own name have carried on extensive black-market business in the export of handloom piecegoods. All these gentlemen have exported much more cloth than allowed by permits. If you can immediately call for the day-books, ledgers, purchase bills, sales bills, copies of the bills of lading, railway receipts, necessary names of consignee and how the money was recovered from them, the correspondence between the consignee and the parties, you will be able to find out that the allegations we have made are true.

The South Indian Corporation has been selling their permits to Saraswathi Palayakat Company, Ramaswami street, Georgetown, Madras, Murugappa & Sons have also sold their permits in like manner. Dr. Alagappa Chettiar and Umayal Weaving Establishments have also been selling their permits. They have not only sold their permits, but have exported much more quantity than allowed by permits. This can be verified if the Government will call from them the steamer companies' copies of the bills of lading which will reveal that the bales exported are of greater size than recognized by the Textile Department. A bale of 2,000 yards must have only 18 cubic feet whereas most of the bales exported by the above companies are twice or thrice the size. The freight charges will prove our contention. The railway exports can be verified from the duplicate receipts which will show that they have exported much more than allowed. The weightage of bales can be verified from the railway receipts.

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We request you to call for these papers from 1st April 1945 to 31st August 1946 from the abovementioned gentlemen. We also request you to call for the copy of the shipping bill from the Custom Authorities from which you can find out the names of the ships and dates of export. The above establishments will not be able to say when they have exported as they are not the parties who have exported.

No machinery has been as yet set up to check the exports from the harbour and the railway stations as suggested by us in our previous letter. As the Textile Commissioner could not find time to go into all these in spite of our repeated representations, we request you to appoint a Special Officer to go into this and see that strong and prompt measures are taken to stop black marketing in cloth.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) P. BALACHANDRA MENON,
General Secretary.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 6th February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Marketing of agricultural produce of the Province.

* 39 a Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any measures for the marketing of agricultural produce of the Province?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“ Work to promote agricultural marketing commenced in 1934 with financial assistance from the Government of India. The measures taken can be classified under two heads, namely, (1) Investigational or survey work, and (2) Developmental work based on the recommendations of the survey reports. Under item (1) the following market survey reports for India as well as the Madras Presidency were completed giving a detailed account of the production, consumption, marketing, prices, etc., of each commodity and recommendations for improvement:

Marketing reports (Completed).

All India and Madras.	Madras only.
Rice.	Millets.
Wheat.	Pulses.
Barley.	Cashew.
Gram.	Safflower.
Linseed.	Peanut.
Gourinuts.	Illuprai.
Coconut.	Mangoes.
Cashewnuts.	Pineapples.
Eggs.	Apples, pome fruits and stone fruits.
Skins.	Meat.
Milk.	Poultry.
Coffee.	Pepper.
Grapes.	English vegetables.
Bananas.	Wool and hair.
Citrus fruits.	Lac.
Fish.	Fibres.
Co-operative marketing.	Ghee and butter.
Merchandise and fairs.	
Sheep and goats.	
Sugar and Sugarcane.	

Marketing reports on hand.

Ginger.	Melons and minor fruits.
Dry fruits.	Root vegetables.
Cotton seed.	Betal vine.

“ The All-India reports have been published but the publication of provincial reports except those on eggs, tobacco and wheat have been held up due to paper shortage, on account of the war.

* Held over from the list of questions, dated 5-2-47.

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“ Under item (2) the following items of developmental work were undertaken. The Madras Commercial Crops Market Act, 1933, was passed to provide for the better regulation of the purchase and sale of three commercial crops, viz., cotton, groundnut and tobacco. Regulated markets have been established under the Act in Adoni, Nandyal and Tiruppur in respect of cotton; in Bezwada taluk (Kistna district) and in Guntur district, in respect of tobacco; and in the South Arcot in respect of groundnut. The market committees established under the Act provided facilities for storage of these commercial crops. The question of extending the scope of the Act to crops other than cotton, groundnut and tobacco is under the consideration of the Government.

“ The Government of India created in 1942 a fund for the relief of groundnut cultivators and allotted to the Madras Government an amount of Rs. 4,75,740. An equivalent contribution was made by the Government of Madras, and the total amount that became available for approved schemes which would benefit groundnut cultivators was Rs. 9,51,480. The Government sanctioned in 1943 the construction of godowns at 20 centres in the Province for the storage of groundnut at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,22,780. Due to the increased cost in building materials the construction of godowns at three centres was dropped. The construction of the other 17 godowns has been completed.

“ Measures to promote fair prices for the agriculturists were also considered and the question has been referred to a price stabilization committee of the Government of India. On account of the serious food situation and the control over food crops, marketing developments meant to bring better prices were not taken up during the war.

“ The Government have under consideration a five-year plan for the development of co-operative marketing of agricultural produce and construction of godowns.

“ The question of undertaking legislation to standardize the weights and measures in large use in this Province is also under consideration.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ It has been stated in answer to the question that the question of extending the scope of the Madras Commercial Crops Market Act, 1933, to crops other than cotton, groundnut and tobacco, is under the consideration of the Government. May I enquire, Sir, whether the Government will examine the desirability of including potatoes also within the scope of the Act? ”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“ It would be considered.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ In view of the answer given that steps to promote agricultural marketing started in 1934, may I know what was the financial assistance given by the Government of India so far? ”

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THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“ Notice.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether the Government of Madras has tried to open such marketing facilities in our Province and outside the country? ”

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“ Notice.”

Muslim women in Madras Educational Service.

* 40 a Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muslim women at present holding posts in the Madras Educational Service (Women's Branch); and

(b) the number of permanent vacancies that are likely to arise in the Women's Branch of the Madras Educational Service in the course of the next six months?

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

“ (a) One.

“ (b) No permanent vacancy is likely to occur before 31st July 1947.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know, Sir, why only one Muslim woman has been recruited to gazetted rank in the Madras Educational Service? ”

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

“ For the reason that more were not available. Recently in August Mrs. Shajahan was temporarily appointed to the post of Lecturer in Arabic, Urdu and Persian in the Madras Muslim Women's College, Madras, but she has not yet taken charge of the post. Therefore the Government has asked the Madras Public Service Commission to advertise for the post.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I enquire how it is that the Hon. the Minister for Education says that qualified Muslim candidates were not available, when as a matter of fact a number of highly qualified Muslim women possessing high qualifications, second-class Master of Arts, five or six of them, were available.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ When were they available? ”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ They were available before June. They had taken their degrees long before. They were available before the new Muslim Women's College was established.”

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

“ The procedure is this. When Gazetted appointments are being made it is the Madras Public Service Commission that selects the candidates and the applicants must apply to the

^a Held over from the list of questions, dated 5-2-47.

[6th February 1947]

Madras Public Service Commission and on their recommendations such appointments are made according to communal rotation."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I know, Sir, why the post of an Assistant Lecturer in English in the new Muslim Girls' College was filled up by the appointment of a Hindu lady whereas a Muslim lady possessing high qualifications and one who came first in the Presidency in her L.T. examination was available for this post? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am not able to answer the question immediately. I suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I say, Sir, that many Muslim women candidates with high qualifications were available even before he became the Minister for Education."

MR. SPEAKER:—" You have made a statement."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I enquire what steps have the Government taken to fill up the post which the Hon. Minister has just mentioned of Lecturer in Arabic, Persian and Urdu including Islamic History as well, in the college for Muslim girls in Madras? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am glad to know from the hon. Member that many Muslim women with high qualifications are available. The Commission has been asked to advertise for the post and make a selection."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I request the Minister to invite applications for this post even from North India on a temporary basis because suitable candidates may not be available in this Presidency just at present."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" An emergency appointment was made of a lady in Northern India but the candidate selected has not joined. That is why the permanent post is being advertised."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the fact that there is plenty of talent available among the Muslims, men and women, will the Hon. the Minister for Education refrain from making incorrect statements time and again that there are no such men and women available among Muslims? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" While I would like to accept the statement made by the hon. Member, I have no other information than what I have already given."

* 41 Q.—[Answered on 5th February 1947.]

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Labour schools and higher elementary schools.

* 42 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Labour schools in each district and the number of higher elementary schools among them;

(b) whether the Government propose to start higher elementary schools under the Labour department; and

(c) if not, why not and if so, when?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" (a) The number of Labour schools in each district and the number of higher elementary schools among them are as follows:—

District.	Number of Labour schools.	Number of higher elementary schools.
1 Tanjore	145	..
2 Trichinopoly	122	..
3 Kistna	42	1
4 South Arcot	159	..
5 Guntur	23	..
6 East Godavari	109	2
7 North Arcot	139	1
8 Chingleput	100	1
9 Maabbar	42	..
10 West Godavari	42	..
11 Bellary	43	1
12 Nellore	79	..
13 Anantapur	43	..
14 South Kanara	47	..
15 Madras	5	1
	1,140	7

N.B.—In addition to the above higher elementary schools, there is one Government Higher Elementary School at Masulipatam, Kistna district, and there are also two at Chidambaram, South Arcot district—one for boys and one for girls.

" (b) & (c) The Government's policy is to provide Labour schools only in places where there are no other facilities for the education of the children of the eligible communities. Higher elementary schools are started only in places where they are absolutely necessary. Proposals to start higher elementary schools or to convert existing lower elementary into higher elementary schools, when received from the Commissioner of Labour are considered on their merits."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I suggest to the Hon. Minister to hand over all Labour schools to the district boards as it is better to entrust the education of the whole district to them and in the place of Labour schools, the amount so saved may be used to start some more hostels attached to every high school at the cost of the Government and managed by the Government? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I suggest to the hon. Member to put another question separately."

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AN HON. MEMBER:—"Vizagapatam is not mentioned in the list given in the answer. In view of the fact that the population figures of scheduled and other classes is not less than that of any other districts, may I request the Government to take immediate steps to start a reasonable number of schools in that area?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Government is actively considering the starting of Labour departments in the districts where it is not now working and the question will be considered favourably."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know how many recommendations by the Commissioner of Labour for raising the Labour elementary schools into higher elementary schools are pending with the Government?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Government have not received any recommendation."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government kindly call for a report from the Commissioner of Labour and place it before the House?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Government expect the Commissioner of Labour to make recommendations in suitable cases."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that there are very few higher elementary schools, will the Hon. Minister compel the district boards who are now introducing compulsory education step by step, to start higher elementary schools in places where it is necessary at an early date?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The question of the scheme of compulsory education in district board schools does not arise from the main question. The suggestion will however be considered."

Buses running in the City of Madras.

* 43 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of buses running in the City of Madras which are under the management of companies or of private owners;

(b) the number of Government buses that have begun to operate in the City;

(c) the number of Government buses that are expected to operate within the next few months;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide transport facilities at places where congestion is great; and

(e) whether the Government have taken any step to provide convenience to women travellers in buses?

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" (a) All the buses running in the City are under the management of companies. There are altogether 211 route buses and 52 spares.

" (b) Nil.

" (c) Twenty-four buses are expected to operate before the end of March with six as spares.

" (d) Yes. Under the instructions of the Central Road Traffic Board, 36 lorries converted into buses are running a peak hour service to relieve congestion on several routes. Moreover all the companies are now plying all their spares to the extent possible on the regular routes. Instructions have been given to put 30 more buses, whether lorries or ordinary buses on the road, in a week's time.

" (e) No. The question was considered and the Road Traffic Board, Madras City, at its last meeting resolved that it was not practicable."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is a proposal to nationalize the bus service at an early date?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"There is already a decision to nationalize the bus service and a Cabinet Committee is sitting at it and they are considering the ways and means."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether the Government have taken any steps to see that Mount Road and such other busy centres are made the starting point for running buses, especially during rush hours?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"This shall be considered and tried to be put into practice."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know what prevents the Government from running buses from Mylapore and Triplicane to Parry's Corner along the Beach as that would divert through traffic and relieve congestion on the other route?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are trying to relieve congestion in all possible ways. How many buses are running in the particular routes, I am not in a position to say. I have already informed the House what attempts are being made by the authorities to relieve congestion."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I point out, Sir, that the lorries converted into buses in the City are very inconvenient and uncomfortable and ask whether the Government will take steps to make them more comfortable and alter the design?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are aware that the lorries converted into buses are not convenient as the regular buses themselves. It is only for want of regular buses and as a stop-gap measure this arrangement has been made and Government will consider the question of making the lorry buses more convenient."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Minister satisfied that 30 more buses will be sufficient to cope with the heavy traffic in the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government will watch the situation and if these buses are found to be insufficient they will take further measures."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"In view of the nationalization of bus transport why fresh permits are being granted for new buses and what is the policy of the Government in issuing such permits?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Fresh permits have to be issued because nationalization is not yet complete. As I have mentioned a few minutes ago, a Cabinet Sub-Committee is considering the question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"How long will it take, Sir, for the Sub-Committee to arrive at a definite conclusion with reference to nationalization of bus transport?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is very difficult to answer. That will depend on many factors. The question is very big and it requires very many things to be considered but I may state this that the Government will try to finish its deliberations and make an attempt to translate it into practice at the earliest possible date."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of making nationalization a success by first applying it to a very limited area, for instance, the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"This will be one of the questions which the Sub-Committee will be considering, whether it must be gradual nationalization and what areas are to be taken and the hon. Member's suggestion will not be lost sight of."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, why the Government are experimenting by putting down a certain number of buses on the roads without obtaining any information as to the approximate number that is required to relieve congestion?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If the hon. Member means Madras, no experiment is being made. The available buses are not much and in plenty. We are trying

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to put in as many as possible by changing lorries, by putting shuttle buses and we are making all attempts to relieve congestion. We cannot say that this is an experiment. Government cannot put on the roads a number of buses at once. It will depend upon so many factors."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Considering the convenience of acquisition both of buses and of efficient workshops, would it not be desirable to go step by step and would it not also save the trouble of choosing correct routes for Government buses if nationalization for the present is confined to the City of Madras?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Nationalization is not the subject-matter of this question; but still I shall answer the hon. Member. These are questions which the Sub-Committee is considering."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know whose capital is invested on these buses which are run on behalf of the Government; is it the capital of the Government of Madras or of different private companies? If so, what are the terms and conditions under which they are run, both during the peak hours and the off hours?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I very much doubt whether the supplementary arises out of the question under answer."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"I am sorry, Sir. I would like to know whose money is involved in running these buses. The Government say they are putting so many of their buses on the roads."

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Without at the outset raising the technical objection regarding its relation to the main question under answer, I will say that the capital for the Government buses is the Government's."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Is it a fact that several hon. Members of the Legislature are pestering the Hon. Minister for Motor Transport with recommendations for new licences for bus routes?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I am afraid it does not arise out of the question which is being answered."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire what the specific reasons are for inability to provide convenience for women travellers?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Road Traffic Board at its last sitting decided that it will not be practicable to give reserved seats for women and the existing practice may continue. If any further information is wanted, I would request the hon. Member to put a specific question separately."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is intolerable congestion even in the mufassal so far as the buses are concerned?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ Generally, one can expect it; I have no authoritative information; nor have complaints been received. All the same, new bus routes will be opened and I think the need will be supplied.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, if it is the view of the Government that it will be easier for them to deal with a greater number of permit holders than what exists at present and is that the reason for issuing more permits? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ There is no question of convenience involved. The addition of a small number of permit holders will not give additional trouble to the Government at the time of nationalization.”

ABDUL HAMIED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know whether it is a fact that recently the district officers in the Transport department were authorized and instructed to give licences to Congress applicants only? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ Certainly not. That is an allegation which does not deserve an answer on the floor of the House. It is a fact that there was a conference of officers with a view to gain first-hand knowledge of how the thing is working in the districts. No instruction of the sort has been given or will be given.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that there are not very many complaints received about congestion as regards town services, may I ask whether the Hon. Minister will just make an experiment by himself trying to travel in a bus in town, say from Mylapore to Town or from Triplicane to Parry's Corner? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ I am sorry my hon. Friend did not understand the previous question. The question was about congestion in the mufassal and not about the City and my answer, therefore, was with reference to bus service in the mufassal.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, that the Government's policy of issuing fresh permits at this time has given rise to a charge on the Government that they want to introduce cut-throat competition.”

No answer.

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I shall only allow one or two more supplementary questions. The House has taken nearly fifteen minutes for this particular question.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Hon. Minister aware that discrimination is resorted to by district officers against Muslim applicants in matters of licences? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ It is not true.”

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“ Without using the word ‘ nationalization ’, may I ask, if, when the Government buses do run, care will be taken to see that good routes are selected where abundant traffic is available and the success of the experiment will be assured? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ That is exactly what will be done before the routes have been decided upon.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know what prevents the Government from running buses along the beach from Mylapore and Triplicane to Parry's Corner, so that there might be a quicker service and through traffic will be diverted and thus congestion will be relieved during the peak hours? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ I am not in a position to answer that question because I do not have in my hands all routes in the City; but I think some buses are run to take officials and others to the Secretariat.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know whether the Government intend to give a share to the Corporation of Madras in running the buses? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ That is not relevant to the main question. I suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ In view of the impression—the impression may be wrong—that local officials are recommending persons, who are either Congressmen or have the support of Congress office-bearers, for permits in the mufassal, may I ask if the Government will issue instructions that no discrimination should be made between persons supported by Congressmen or other party men? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ I have already answered the question and there is no reason for any apprehension of this nature.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister that he does not know the various routes in the City, may I request the Hon. Minister to study the question as to what particular routes are run in the City and carry out the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, namely, the advisability of running direct bus service from Mylapore and Triplicane to Parry's Corner through the beach for the benefit of passengers and officers who want to go direct.”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“ I am sorry the question is too long; the hon. Member might either put a separate question or put it in pieces.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“ Regarding the question of nationalization, may I ask, Sir, if the Government is prepared to extend the concession of nationalization of motor traffic to municipalities and district boards? ”

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"That question may also be considered by the Sub-Committee of the Cabinet."

* 44 Q.—[Answered on 5th February 1947.]

Superior staff in the Secretariat.

* 45 Q.—SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House—

(a) a comparative list showing the order of seniority and the posts held by—

(1) each member of the superior staff, viz., Assistant Secretaries and Superintendents in the Secretariats of Public Works, Law, Land Revenue, Industries and Labour and Public Health in 1939 just before the Congress Ministers resigned; and

(2) of the same members in 1946 just before the Congress Ministers again took office; and state—

(b) whether there has been, during the interval, any case of change in the seniority of any particular member or members of the departments superseding seniors according to the list of 1939; and

(c) the status and qualification which they possessed before they were promoted to the superior jobs?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a), (b) & (c) The posts of Superintendents in the Madras Secretariat Service belong to a selection category, and appointments to the posts are made solely on grounds of merit and ability, seniority being considered only where merit and ability are approximately equal. In the case of Assistant Secretaries to Government, appointments are made in consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission and its recommendations are generally accepted in the matter. The Government do not consider that the collection of the information asked for will serve any useful purpose."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will make an enquiry and find out how many persons have been overlooked with regard to promotions, and see that their grievances are redressed?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Such a general undertaking cannot be given, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether, in the cases in which the merits of candidates are approximately equal, and where any particular community is not at all represented, the question of communal consideration will arise?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"According to circumstances, communal consideration also may be taken into account."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Premier aware, Sir, that practice is prevalent in the Secretariat, that members belonging to particular communities, who reach the top rank in that department, are shunted out to other departments in order to enable the members of a particular community to be appointed as Superintendent or Assistant Secretary?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member may give instances to enable the Government to consider."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether in a particular case of a Harijan graduate, by name Appa Rao, his claims were overlooked though he was fully qualified and he was the seniormost man, to be promoted as Superintendent in the Food Department, quite recently?"

(Mr. N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib: 'What an advocate?')

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether the Government believes, recognizes and puts into practice the principle of seniority and merit at all, and whether influence and recommendations play an important part?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is not so, Sir."

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, I see a new face in the Treasury Bench. Is he the 13th Minister?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes. He is a new Minister in the place of Sri B. Viraswami resigned."

Starting of a fire station at Tellicherry.

* 46 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) when the fire station was started at Tellicherry;

(b) the number, designation and salary of the employees at the station;

(c) the monthly expenses besides the salary of the employees incurred for the station and the items on which they are incurred;

(d) the community to which the employees belong; and

(e) the number of accidents to which the Fire Brigade attended after it was started?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) On 27th October 1942.

" (b) & (c) The particulars required are given in *Statements I and II respectively placed on the table of the House.

" (d) The total strength of the station at present is 55 including the Sub-Officer of which 1 is a Christian, 2 Brahmans, 5 Scheduled Caste and the rest are Non-Brahmans.

" (e) Thirty-three fire calls and 551 ambulance calls."

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K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the reasons why there are no Muslims at all on the staff of the fire station?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If there are no Muslims, it might be because there are no qualified persons."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what the qualifications prescribed for the posts are?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"There are various qualifications. Notice."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that generally fire breaks out in slums and Harijan quarters, will Government consider the desirability of stationing the fire brigade very close to slum areas and Harijan quarters?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Wherever there is necessity, there they would be located."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Sir. What happened to your ruling given yesterday that Sri S. Nagappa will not be allowed to monopolize the question-hour?" (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not a ruling."

K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether applications were called for for the several grades in the fire station at Tellicherry before appointments were made?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I believe so."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that there were many Muslim applicants and they were rejected, or there were no applicants at all?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice."

Victoria Jubilee Hospital at Nellore.

* 47 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Victoria Jubilee Hospital for Women at Nellore is ill-kept and ill-provided by the municipality;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take over the hospital under their management;

(c) whether it is a fact that the building of the Government Headquarters Hospital at Nellore is badly in need of improvements;

(d) and if so, whether the Government propose to take steps for improving and expanding the hospital;

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(e) whether the Government propose to provide suitable accommodation outside the hospital for the relatives of in-patients; and

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to acquire the land situated to the south of the hospital for that purpose?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) This question will be considered on receipt of the Surgeon-General's proposals.

" (c) & (d) Yes; the question of constructing a new hospital will be considered in accordance with the Post-war schemes.

" (e) & (f) There is a choultry in front of the Headquarters Hospital specially constructed by the public for use of the relatives of in-patients. The Government consider that for the present nothing further is necessary."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether Government intend to spend money on building for hospitals?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Government intend to take up the question of improving the district headquarters hospitals under the Post-war scheme, No. 101."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether apart from spending money on improvements, the Government are prepared to spend money on the construction of new hospitals?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Wherever Government think it expedient and necessary to demolish old hospitals as unsuitable and put up new ones, Government will certainly consider."

Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society.

* 48 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a resolution for constitutional change was passed at the last meeting of the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society; and

(b) whether the constitutional change has been brought into operation?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) Government is considering the matter, and an early decision will be taken."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire of the Minister whether he is aware that even some co-operative societies are selling cloth and sugar in the black-market?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice."

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Administration of jails.

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

- (a) the total number of prisoners in jails;
- (b) how many of them were convicted in connection with agrarian and Trade Union struggles;
- (c) whether the Government are considering the abolition of classification among prisoners;
- (d) whether the Government propose to reform the administration of jails;
- (e) whether the Government propose to utilize labour of the convicts for productive purposes; and
- (f) how many of the prisoners convicted in this province were sent out of the province and for what reasons?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“(a) 13,755 on 18th January 1947.

“(b) The figures are not available. The ascertainment of the figures means enquiry into the cases of the individual prisoners: the task involves a great labour which is not worthwhile to undertake.

“(c) There is a proposal to reduce the number of the classification of ordinary prisoners from three to two and no formal orders have been passed yet. Classification among political prisoners has been abolished and all such prisoners are now treated as ‘special class prisoners.’

“(d) Yes. Various proposals to improve the administration are under examination.

“(e) Convict labour is already being utilized for jail industries, such as carpentry, tailoring, weaving, dyeing, building, korah-matting, smithy, jar-making and paper-making.

“(f) In 1944, one hundred and eighty-two ex-military prisoners, six police register transfer prisoners and twenty-nine detenus were transferred to jails in their own province. In 1945, sixty-eight ex-military prisoners and two detenus were transferred to jails in their own province. In 1946, twenty-seven ex-military prisoners and a native of the North-West Frontier Province were transferred to jails in their own province.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Will the Government be pleased to state what are the privileges enjoyed by the ‘special class prisoners’, and how are those persons detained under the new Ordinance treated?”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“They are treated as political prisoners and given the privileges of political prisoners. I will place the relevant Government Order on the table of the House, so that hon. Members may know.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that the persons detained under the new Ordinance went on hunger strike and protested because they were treated as ‘C’ class prisoners and even to-day they are given only ‘C’ class prisoners’ diet?”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“I do not know about the hunger strike. Orders have been issued to treat them as per the Government Order.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I enquire, Sir, whether butter milk is still supplied to political prisoners in view of the agitation carried on by the Congress Party?”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“Certainly, Sir.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether the persons arrested under the new Ordinance are enjoying or are being given the same privileges as were given to the Congress detenus previously?”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“Very nearly all.”

[*Prohibition in the Nilgiri district.*]

* 50 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been partial prohibition in the Nilgiri district for more than ten years and whether the hill tribes including Badagas have been prohibited from being served with drinks in the taverns; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Nilgiri district fetches almost the highest revenue from excise in this Province?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) No. The total Excise revenue realized from the Nilgiris district is almost the lowest realized from any district in the Province. Of the 25 districts, it occupies the 23rd place in the matter of Excise revenue.”

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Is the Government aware, Sir, that the partial prohibition introduced in the Nilgiris has not been successful?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Yes, Sir.”]

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, what steps the Government are taking with reference to Prohibition so far as the Nilgiris district is concerned?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Government will consider it.”

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Will the Government find out what the reasons are for this failure, and place the report of the district authorities concerned on the table of the House?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“In view of the possibility of the extension of Prohibition to the whole Presidency. Government think it unnecessary to do so.”]

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Conversion of the Panchayat Board, Amalapuram, into a municipality.

* 51 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Panchayat Board, Amalapuram, East Godavari district, by its Resolution No. 1, dated 26th October 1945, requested the Government to convert it into a municipality;

(b) whether the proposal was considered and with what result; and

(c) whether the town of Amalapuram is the Revenue Divisional Headquarters and has a Subordinate Judge's Court?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a), (b) & (c) Yes.

“(b) With reference to (b) I may add that the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to submit proposals for constituting the Amalapuram Panchayat into a municipality. Action will be taken by the Government much more directly than I.”

“(c) The hon. Member is in the position of vantage to know much more directly than I.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“In view of the important geographical situation of the town, and also in view of the need for improvements in the town, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider the establishment of a municipality during the coming official year?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Government fully realize the necessity for improving the amenities and the general welfare of the panchayat in question, and will take as early steps as may be possible.”

Levy of tax on palmyra trees in Tinnevely district.

* 52 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a special tax known as palmyra tax is levied on all palmyra trees in the Tinnevely district;

(b) whether it is a fact that such a tax is not levied in any other district;

(c) whether the export of palmyra jaggery from taluk to taluk and from the district as a whole is prohibited; and

(d) whether in view of the Government policy of total prohibition, the Government propose to encourage manufacture of palmyra jaggery products such as candy sugar preparation, peppermint, etc.?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Palmyra tax is also levied in the Sattur and Srivilliputhur taluks of the Ramnad district.

“(c) The ban on the movement of jaggery from taluk to taluk in the Tinnevely district was removed in October 1946.

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Excess stocks are allowed to be moved outside the district to suit the needs and convenience of producers, subject to permits being obtained.

“(d) The question of forming co-operative societies for the manufacture of jaggery and other cottage industries with a view to provide employment for ex-toddy tappers of Prohibition districts is under the consideration of the Government.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“May I know, Sir, if Government have any proposal to cancel the said palmyra tax, and if not, whether they will consider the cancellation?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The question has been referred to the Special Officer who is going into the question of land assessment throughout the Province.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Are the Government aware that the sugar factory in Tachanallur has been closed down for the last four years because of the lack of palmyra jaggery?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“A separate question may be put to the Minister concerned.”

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER:—“In view of the present policy of Prohibition, is the Government aware that in Coimbatore a large number of tappers, both of coconut and palmyra, have been thrown out of work, and as the proposal of issuing licences to tappers to tap palmyra juice is dragging on, the production of palmyra jaggery and sugar has gone short, and in that way the quota of sugar production in the district is very much affected, not to speak of the hardship to the tappers?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is requested to put a separate question.”

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM:—“In view of the fact that palmyra jaggery industry is a cottage industry, will free trade and free movement be allowed for it, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“A separate question may be put to the Minister concerned. I am concerned only with the revenue aspect.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Arising out of answer to (b), will Government consider the desirability of subsidizing that factory, that is, paying the difference between the cost of palmyra jaggery and the cost of sugarcane which would be required to produce the like amount of sugar as from jaggery and the factory restarted in order to produce more sugar for our Province?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Notice.”

Improvement to the shutters on the Godavari Anicut.

* 53 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase the height of the shutters on the Godavari Anicut from 3 feet to 4½ feet;

(b) whether it is a fact that the department is satisfied about the urgent need to do so; and

(c) when it will be possible to give effect to the proposal?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) A proposal has been received by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation from the Superintending Engineer, Dowlaishwaram Circle, for raising the height of the shutters from 3 feet to 4 feet.

“(b) No. The height of the shutters was only recently raised from 2 to 3 feet. The increase in area of cultivation anticipated after fixing 3 feet shutters has not yet been realized and the fixing of higher shutters is not considered a matter of urgency.

“(c) A detailed examination of the suitability of the present section of the anicut for the increased height of shutters has to be made. The scheme for higher shutters has also to be correlated to the Ramapadasagar scheme.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Are the Government aware that the canal distribution system, as at present in existence, is insufficient to give proper supply of water at the time of the transplantation season?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“The Government are quite well aware of that, Sir.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“How do Government propose to rectify it in the absence of raising the height of the shutters?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“That question will be examined separately.”

Tidal lock on Bendamurlanka Canal.

* 54 Q.—SRI KALA VENKATA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal to build a tidal lock on the Bendamurlanka Canal; and

(b) whether the proposal was examined in 1938–40 and with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes. The proposal, once dropped in 1941, is under re-examination now.

“(b) The proposal was examined by the local officers between the years 1933 and 1940. In September 1940, the Government directed the Board of Revenue to make a detailed examination of the proposal and submit a further report. The financial aspect of the scheme was examined by the Board and it reported in March 1941 that the scheme was unremunerative and did not recommend it for sanction. The proposal was therefore dropped in April 1941.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that there is no other tidal lock that will connect the sea or river with the taluk of Amalapuram through any of the two canals that flow through it now?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“I want notice, Sir.”

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Supply of modern agricultural implements by Government.

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

(a) whether there is any scheme to purchase small tractors called the Deering tractors and bull-dozer either from the Military department or from the manufacturers in America and England and sell them to agriculturists;

(b) whether it is a fact that plough discs and other agricultural implements attachable to jeep cars are available with the Military Departmental Stores and if so, whether the Government propose to purchase a sufficient number of them from the said stores or from the manufacturers;

(c) whether it is a fact that small petrol or oil driven mechanical ploughs called the “one-man’s plough” suitable for small land-owners are available with Madras firms;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to investigate the possibilities of introducing these ploughs on a larger scale to relieve the scarcity and high prices of livestock for agricultural purposes;

(e) whether the Government have any schemes for the supply of power motors and pump sets wherever electric power is available for agricultural irrigation; and

(f) if not, whether the Government intend to formulate a scheme for the supply of power motors and pump sets to agriculturists?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“(a) There is no scheme for the purchase of the Deering type of tractors. Twenty-three Class IV tractors (35–50 h.p.) with bull-dozer and angle-dozer for hiring to cultivators were ordered by the Government from the American Army surpluses. Four of them have so far been received.

“(b) The R.I.E.M.E. workshops at Risalpur made a triangular shape mould board plough attachable to jeep cars for ploughing. On enquiry by the Agricultural department, the Military authorities reported that the plough was made only for experimental purposes and that they were not in a position to make them for sale. As jeeps are operated with petrol, jeep ploughing will be neither economical nor popular.

“(c) Stocks of ‘one-man’s plough’ are not available in India but a few firms are reported to be trying to import them.

“(d) The matter is being investigated by the Agricultural department.

“(e) & (f) The newly set up Agricultural Engineering Branch of the Department of Agriculture is making arrangements for the supply of electric motors and pumps to agriculturists direct from the makers or through the manufacturers’ representatives and this arrangement has been found to be working fairly satisfactorily.”

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Appointment of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction.

* 56 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state what decision has been arrived at by the Government with regard to the question of appointing a Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, which has been pending for a long time?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The Government have considered the matter and have come to the conclusion that, instead of appointing a Deputy Directress of Public Instruction, a woman officer may be appointed with the designation of Inspectress at the Central office. Such an officer has been appointed.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, what are the reasons which made the Government not to appoint a Deputy Directress but create a new post?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Because the Government thought that this officer will discharge that duty as well.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, whether the holder of the new post is concerned only with women's education or with general education?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I believe she is specially appointed for women's education, but I do not think there will be any water-tight compartment arrangement.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are the powers of the new officer the same as those of a Deputy Director or Directress?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“By status, the Deputy Directress is higher than this officer, whose status is equal to that of a District Educational Officer. But she will assist the Director in the discharge of his duties in this direction.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I enquire, Sir, whether the Government are not aware that women's education is expanding in this Province, and whether they do not consider that there is need to co-ordinate all plans with reference to women's education, and hence it is necessary to appoint a Deputy Directress of Public Instruction instead of the new officer?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Most certainly, women's education is expanding; but it does not necessarily mean that women should be there to expand women's education.” (Laughter.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I inform the Hon. Minister that women know more about matters pertaining to women's education than men, and so far as women are concerned, they want a woman to be in charge of matters pertaining to them.”

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Surely the hon. Lady does not expect a man to accept that position.” (Laughter.)

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it not a fact that as the Hon. Minister is a bachelor, he does not know the responsibility of women's education?” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“That may be the very same reason why I may know more about women's education.” (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“Question time is over. Answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“May I ask, Sir, if those questions which are left over can be taken up on another day?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“If any hon. Member makes a request to that effect in writing, I can have the questions postponed.”

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE HON. THE SPEAKER.

(1) ELECTION TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have to inform the House that the following candidates have been nominated for election of nine Members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the Second Session of the Madras Legislative Assembly:—

- (1) Mr. W. J. Fernandez.
- (2) Sri N. S. Varadachari.
- (3) K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur.
- (4) H. S. Hussain Sahib Bahadur.
- (5) Sri K. Raghavan.
- (6) Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman.
- (7) Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder.
- (8) Sri M. Bapineedu.
- (9) Sri B. Ananthachar.

As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, nine, I hereby declare them to have been duly elected to the Committee on Public Accounts.”

(2) ELECTION TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

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

- (1) Muhammad Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Muhammad Raza Khan Sahib Bahadur.
- (3) Sri K. Varadachari.
- (4) Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal.
- (5) Sri R. S. Manickam.
- (6) Sri S. K. Govindarajulu Naicker.

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

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"In addition to the above, under rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I nominate the following two members to be members of the said Committee:—

- (1) Mr. A. E. Thompson.
- (2) Mr. W. J. Fernandez."

(3) ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that the following candidates have been nominated for election of one member to the Board of Industries:—

- (1) Sri R. V. Swaminathan.
- (2) Sri M. Bapineedu.

"Sri R. V. Swaminathan was already elected as a member of Board of Industries during the first session and continues to be a member of that Board. The nomination of Sri M. Bapineedu was received after the latest hour for receiving nominations, namely, 4 p.m. on 3rd February 1947. Their nominations are, therefore, rendered invalid.

"Under Regulation II (3) of the Regulations for the conduct of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote I extend the period of notice of nominations for this election and fix 4 p.m. on 7th February 1947 as the time within which notice of nominations for election to the Board of Industries should be given to the Secretary. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. In that event the date of election will be announced on Saturday, the 8th February 1947."

III.—RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 114 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES RE DISAPPROVAL OF MADRAS ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1947—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on the motion moved by Mr. P. Venkateswarlu will now continue. Before we proceed to do so, I have to announce that I have fixed a time limit of 15 minutes for each hon. Member. The Leaders of Parties will have more."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"I hope it would not be reduced later on."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It may be reduced if there is repetition."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second the resolution"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has already seconded the resolution."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am only reminding the House that I have already seconded the resolution moved by Mr. Venkateswarlu. I seconded the resolution because the Ordinance is subversive of the civil liberties of the people both

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in its conception and in its provisions. Under the Ordinance any man can be arrested without a warrant by any officer appointed by the Government for the purpose. Any citizen, any inhabitant of any village can be harassed by an official on the plea that he was failing to render any assistance in his power to discover or apprehend an offender or offenders or of suppressing material evidence of the commission of any offence. Under its provisions, any inhabitant can be taken to task by any petty official who may happen to be invested with the powers under this Ordinance. The papers also may be gagged with or without reason, "without reason" so far as the public could understand.

"Sir, this Ordinance is bad in its very conception, bad in its provisions and bad in its *modus operandi*. Sir, hon. Members who are now occupying the Government benches have in the past dubbed similar measures as black measures: they called the Rowlatt Act a black Act, all the Criminal Law (Amendment) Acts as black measures and the Ordinances as reprehensible pieces of legislation if they could be called legislation at all. Now, Sir, the very same gentlemen have come forward with a similar Ordinance which is the subject-matter of the discussion to-day.

"Sir, in this connection, I want to make this clear. The Hon. the Premier has given an account of the happenings in the various parts of the Province for several months past. There have been lootings, destruction of property and murders. I do not deny the happenings of all these things. I met a friend, the other day, who came from Tanjore and he said that the Hon. the Premier did not exaggerate things when he said that Tanjore district was almost reduced to a desert. I also know for a fact that the accounts given by the Hon. the Premier about Malabar are an understatement of the happenings that have taken place. Sir, I grant all these things. I do not support all these happenings. On the other hand, I condemn such acts and we, on this side, have been condemning such acts from the very beginning.

"Sir, we the Muslims are followers of Islam which stands for socialism—Godly socialism—which is based on belief in God, in the soul of man and in the spirituality of man. It is the only socialism which is practicable in this world, socialism which has been proved to be practicable in the past, which can be practicable at present and in the future. All the same, Sir, I say that we the Muslim Leaguers and the Muslims have no common ground with the Communists. We do not endorse their creed, their ideology and their objectives. In this sense we are poles apart from them. Therefore, Sir, there is no question of joining hands with them in their creed, in their doings and in their ideology. Then, Sir, how is it that I happen to second the resolution moved by a member of that Party? I have already indicated my reasoning in the beginning, namely, that this Ordinance which the Government have promulgated is subversive of the liberties of the citizens of this Province. The Government have denied the elementary principle of justice to the Communists in arresting them even before the promulgation of the Ordinance. This shows that even when the Government engendered the idea of an Ordinance their

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mentality changed. They began to act on a basis which is other than the basis of democracy. Though we differ from the Communists, we stand for justice to all, even to the Communists. Sir, this Ordinance is not going to stop with the Communists alone. It is going to be used, in the very nature of things, against all the inhabitants of the Province.

"At the outset I may say that if these happenings had been tackled and checked in time there would have been no necessity for even thinking of such an Ordinance as this and the position would not have been what it is to-day. Sir, the position with which we are faced to-day is not a thing which has come upon us as a bolt from the blue. It has developed from many things which have occurred in this Province. The Government, Sir, are to a very large extent responsible for the situation to-day. Let us see what they have been doing. All of a sudden one fine morning we find them abrogating a principle on which previous Governments had been acting for years and years—I mean Sir, the action of the Government with regard to the communal G.O. This G.O. was considered by the people as a charter of their rights regarding representation in Government service and other institutions. The people therefore had a right to be consulted before this charter was abrogated, but we found all of a sudden that it was abrogated.

"Then Sir, take the educational policy of this Government. People have been thinking that a certain system of education for certain sections of the people which have been in vogue would be further developed by the Government. Here again the people are denied the fundamental right of having education according to their culture and according to their civilisation. I am mentioning all these facts to show that right after right of the people has been snatched away from them and this was causing misgivings amongst them.

"Then, take the Khadi scheme. Through that scheme the right of the people to follow their sartorial tastes were denied. It was being proposed to compel people to follow an avocation which they may not like. Then, take the textile policy which is an off-shoot of the Khadi scheme. There again people are being denied the right of following the profession which they want to follow. Their rights are being taken away without their consent and even without their being given an opportunity of having their say on the matter. For several months past people have been wondering what all this meant. They were very uneasy to find that things were not going on as they ought to go. The Communists perhaps saw that the Government were snatching the rights of the people. They probably thought that it was their right to deny and demolish the right of individuals and destroy private ownership and property. (At this stage the Deputy Speaker took the Chair.) When they found the Government invading their field, they rushed into the field so that the Government may not claim a monopoly for them. The Government by their actions have prepared the ground for them and prepared the people to think that the laws were not having that amount of force which any law

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or order should have in this Province. Thus Sir, the Government by their acts of commission and omission are responsible for the present situation. Then again, Sir . . ."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"I wish to point out that it is Madam Deputy Speaker who is occupying the Chair. The hon. Member is addressing the Chair as 'Sir'."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am very sorry, Madam Deputy Speaker, for having addressed you as 'Sir'. . . Sir, (Laughter). Madam, I beg your pardon again.

"Things happened, Madam, in this Province from the very beginning when the Congress Government came into being which rather made the people think that there need be no respect or at least much respect for law and order. I may as an illustration give some instances of how this came about. In Malabar, Madam, there is a village called Palur in Kottayam taluk. Some months ago the Muslims of the village were boycotted and they were harassed. I understand that a resolution was passed by the Congress workers for boycotting the Muslims and the boycott is still going on, and the Muslims have to bring workmen from South Malabar, because this village is in North Malabar. Again in Chananjeri in Quilandy there was a procession some months ago and it was disturbed. Complaints were made. Near Badagara a similar occurrence took place and in Quilon the Muslim League notice board was stolen. Complaints were made to the police, but no action was taken on any of these matters. So far as the Muslims were concerned they became bitter and thought that there was no law to effectively protect their rights and the others felt that they need not very much concern themselves in the observance of law.

"In other parts of the Province too, Madam, things have happened which changed the views of the people in a drastic manner so far as law and order was concerned. Madam, here is a bunch of letters which forms only a portion of the correspondence which we have had with the Government on the matter about the happenings in this Province for several months. And there have been letters from the parties concerned who wrote to the Government and there have been letters and correspondence with the local authorities. What I have got in my hand gives a gruesome picture, Madam, of the happenings in this Province.

"Now, I will mention a few facts which happened in April. I say, April, Madam, not August or September. In April the Muslims in several villages of the Tanjore District were boycotted. The Muslims in Thirunageswaram, Kumbakonam taluk, Orathanad, Ammapet, and Kamalapuram were boycotted and the boycott has been going on for months."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Did the hon. Member mention Amalapuram, Madam. I am wondering whether there was any happening in my own village without my knowing it."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was mentioning Kamalapuram, Madam. (The Hon. Premier: 'Were Muslims boycotted by the Congress?') The Muslims were boycotted by the Hindus at the instigation of the Congressmen, because they voted for the Muslim Leaguers in the general elections they were boycotted by the Hindus at the deliberate instigation of Congressmen and Congress workers.

"Then, Madam, in June in the Salem district in a village called Paparpatti the property of the Muslims was destroyed and a Muslim religious place was burnt down, all because of the hatred which the Congressmen inspire into the minds of the Hindu citizens of the place. Then in North Arcot district, even before the happenings of Vaniyambadi, there was trouble in Tiruvannamalai taluk. We addressed a letter to the Government as early as 26th June setting forth all the above happenings.

"I will now refer to an incident in Madura. One day some people went to a Muslim hotel-keeper, whose hotel was the only one which was open that day and all the other shops were closed because that was a Friday and other Congressmen were observing hartal in connection with the arrest of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Kashmir. This Muslim hotel-keeper was also asked to close down his shop. He said that he would close in about 15 minutes' time after catering to the people who were already within the hotel. They did not brook that disobedience on the part of the hotel-keeper and it was the starting point of a riot in Madura. Properties of Muslims were destroyed with an estimated loss of about Rs. 2½ lakhs. There is another instance which will show, Madam, the mentality of the people who were engaged in the work of destruction at that time. One of the houses in a certain street in the Madura town was attacked by Hindu rioters. There happened to be a girl in that house almost in labour pains."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is trying to make out that Congressmen have taken some action against other parties. How has it any connexion with the resolution?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The connection between the resolution and the Ordinance on the one hand and what I am relating is very clear. What I say is that these happenings were not sudden occurrences which have to be dealt with by an Ordinance. They have been developing in the Province for several months past. If they had been tackled in time and in the proper way under the ordinary law, these troubles would not have arisen. I am only illustrating those points.

"In Madura, as I told you, Madam, the girl in that house was almost in labour pains and the people wanted to take her away to a safer place. They went to their next door neighbour who was a Congressman. That girl was refused asylum there, and then she had to be taken away to a Muslim's house in a far distant place. This shows the spirit with which people were acting. Here the Communists were not responsible, Madam, and it was the Congressmen who were responsible.

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"Then coming to Vaniyambadi, Madam, what happened was this. They wanted only the signal. Propaganda had already been carried on. Materials were prepared and the ground was ready. Only the immediate cause and a stimulus was needed and that was supplied by an altercation between a cartman and another. Properties were destroyed to the tune of Rs. 15 lakhs. What happened when they were being burnt? The first day the burning went on. The Police might have controlled the situation, but they did not do so on the first day. Even in Madura the Police came on the scene only 4 hours after the riots started. So also there in Vaniyambadi the burnings have been going on and the Police did not take proper action and even on the second day, the Police did not do what they ought to have done. Arson was indulged in. People were going about with torches and the people of Vaniyambadi showed those torches to the Policemen, who were at a distance of 500 yards. They asked them to go and stop them or allow the people to go to the place and stop that arson. Neither the police did that nor did they allow the people to go and do it. If they say that they were not prepared for such a contingency on the first day we can understand it. Then there were a number of complaints preferred against those people who, the townsmen thought, were responsible for those occurrences. They also traced some of the lost goods to the houses of the people against whom complaints were preferred. About 250 complaints or so were preferred, but most of them were returned by the police as 'undetected'. Goods recovered from their houses were handed over to the police, who returned them to the people and said that they were not identifiable. It is equal to saying that those who steal rupee-coins and currency notes cannot be proceeded against, simply because these rupee-coins and currency notes cannot be identified. But here identification was possible and the attention of the authorities was drawn to the fact that these goods were not available in this province at all and that the agriculturists who were in possession of them had not handled such goods in their lives previously. Yet, the goods were returned. What would the people think of such a happening? Those people were saying among themselves that they had evaded prosecution successfully. Then what kind of respect will these people have for law? What kind of respect will such an action on the part of the authorities inspire on the people inhabiting the surrounding villages? This 'respect' for law and order spread from place to place. As a matter of fact, people in far away Ellore said that they were going to enact Vaniyambadi in their place. People in Pallavaram said that they were going to repeat the happenings of Vaniyambadi in their own place. These were brought to the notice of the authorities. They have not been checked in time and in the proper manner. Surely, if this had been done, the present situation would not have arisen at all and there would not have been the occasion for a discussion such as this on the Ordinance. Then in various other parts of the province, similar things happened; they are happening even to-day. Only on the Pongal day and the day following it, in a village called Pettai

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in Tindivanam taluk, South Arcot district, where the Muslims form a small minority, people of fifteen surrounding villages gathered together and invaded the village. There was arson; houses and properties belonging to the Muslims were damaged and destroyed, and jewels, utensils and foodgrains were taken away. Women were scared away and they had to take refuge in distant places of the village in pucca houses. There was a regular siege. I say, Madam, Congressmen led this invasion. Hindus were arrested and Muslims, the sufferers, were also arrested. The Hindu Village Munsif has sent a report to the Government that rioters from the neighbouring villages invaded the small village called Pettai. I do not know what action will be taken on that report. The starting point for this trouble was a Hindu cartman, who was driving his cart in a state of drunkenness on the Pongal day."

SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—"On a point of information, Madam, I want to know what these clashes are due to and why they have occurred in series among people who have been hitherto living peacefully?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"These clashes occurred because the Muslims continued to claim their rights. They said that freedom must be freedom to them as well as to the others. Those Hindus who were led by the Congress refused to yield that point. They denied that freedom to the Muslims. The Muslims value their freedom much more than their lives. When our Hindu friends and the Congress friends saw that the Muslims were definite and strong in their just claim, they thought that the Muslims could be browbeaten and crushed in these ways. They did not know that any people, and the Muslims of all the people, could not be crushed like that. The Muslims may be in a minority to-day and they have always been in a minority and historically in a much lesser minority than they are to-day. They did not go out of existence when they were even in a much lesser minority, and surely they are not going to go out of existence to-day. These truths our friends do not know. Many things happened because of the desire on the part of the majority people to crush this minority and to deny their just claims and rights. It is simply knocking against an inevitable wall, a rock, a mountain, which does not do good to the people. These things happened before a mosque in Kallidaikurichi in Ramnad district. Our Premier also knows personally the happenings in the village *Ekkakadu* near Ramnad town and in several other places. The Hon. Premier showed us some photographs the other day. When I saw them, I was reminded of the happenings in *Perunadi* where houses were burnt and damaged. Madam, there are cases too numerous to be related on one single occasion like this. I am relating all these to show that it was the Congressmen, who showed the way to the people and taught them that they need not show much respect for law and order. Occurrences took place in Chagalamarri before a mosque, which formed the subject matter of a question put the other day. What happened? The Muslims

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who were in a minority in that village—and they were also poor—protested against the taking of a procession headed by the police authorities in front of their mosque. To this the police would not yield. They said that the Muslim right of stopping music before mosque during prayer time would not be conceded, and a clash occurred. Then the Muslims, when they happened to be in a mosque debating among themselves and with the police, were shut up in the mosque. When the women saw that their men were helpless being shut up in a mosque, they came to open the mosque to let out their men. Then came the clash between those women and the police. Many women were injured. I am told that a young boy was killed on the spot. Here again the Muslims wanted only their customary right to be respected, their mosque to be respected. Even this small right, though a fundamental right, would not be conceded by our Congress friends. In Penukonda, the same thing happened. The Muslims injured there were not given proper asylum in hospitals. My friends said that they saw a number of people put on the verandahs of hospitals, and it took a lot of effort on the part of my friends to see that these people were properly cared for by the hospital authorities. This is the spirit we are meeting within various parts of the province. In Punganur in Chittoor district, a clash occurred the other day in front of a mosque. Again, in Salem it was in front of a mosque. Everywhere it is in front of a mosque. The Muslims do not go out as aggressors and cause these clashes in Hindu Mohallas or Mohallas occupied by Congressmen. It is all Muslim Mohallas that have been the scene of clash and destruction. What does this show? The people want to crush the Muslims, a most impossible thing. They do not know that this disease of lawlessness is an infectious one, that it is not oneway traffic, and that it can go this way as well as the other way. They created this disorderliness, this lawlessness, this spirit of disobedience to law. Now it has turned upon them also. What happened in Tanjore? Only a few days ago, a friend of mine who went to Tanjore and other mofussil districts during the elections told me that the poor agriculturists told him that they were not going to vote as their chief in Madras wanted them to vote but that they were going to be guided by the landlords under whom they had to serve. Therefore the agriculturists thought of their landlords in that way during the general elections. Those landlords may have voted for the Congress and the Congress had got the victory which it has today. Then why do these people turn against those landlords today, against those very Congressmen? The Congressmen thought that this lawlessness would affect only the Muslims, and that the Muslims alone would be crushed. But now it has turned upon themselves. They ought to have known this previously and been wiser. A thing which they gave birth to has become their enemy. As I told you, most of these things happened near a mosque or in Muslim areas. The significance of this is very clear. It is not the Muslims who were the aggressors. It is only others who went out of their way with the idea of teaching a lesson to the Muslims and making them give

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up the position which they have taken up in the cause of their freedom and the freedom of their countrymen.

"Again, I may ask another question. Why have these happenings occurred in such large numbers during the last ten months after the Congress Government came into office? Why were there not so many happenings in the past before, say, March or April? That again supports my contention that Congressmen are oppressing Muslims for what happened during the last elections; they want to teach them a lesson.

"Another set of circumstances supplied by the formation of co-operative societies and food committees in this province also contributed to the spread of the spirit of lawlessness which appears very much in the province now. In connexion with things concerning these committees and co-operative societies, people found that laws, rules and regulations were not being respected. They did not matter very much; as a result people lost respect for law and order. At the beginning the Government spoke only of village food committees. A little while later Congressmen of Malabar, the Kerala Congress Committee, its President and office-bearers formulated a scheme of co-operative societies—producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies—and wanted to put their scheme into operation. The Government without giving this House an opportunity of discussing it, and without allowing the people concerned to have their say in the matter, adopted that scheme. There were protests from people all over Malabar, from one end to another. To show the strength of the protest and the volume of the protest I would crave your indulgence to read only the names of places from which the Government received protests:—

'Payyanoor, Tirurangadi, Kothakurichi, Veramangalam, Perintalmanna, Eravamangalam, Enangoor, Kadakudi, Chowghat, Thycaud, Mullacheri, Mannarghat, Tannur, Kottakkal, Paliyam, Edavanna, Kollam, Taliparamba, Ottapalam, Parapanangadi, OVENcheri, Munchili, Tellicherry, Valakad and many other places.'

"The Muslims of these places protested against the scheme. They said that they were not consulted in the matter. Congressmen alone were given the right of formulating the scheme and that the scheme was put into force because Congressmen wanted it. The Muslims made an alternative suggestion. If the Government insisted that the scheme of Congressmen should be put into force in the district, the Muslims said they must be given at least proper representation on the co-operative societies and village committees. That is a thing which did not happen. The Government insisted on pursuing the scheme. They should at least have taken notice of the alternative demand of the Muslims that they must be given proper representation on these bodies. There have been various complaints from several villages saying that the Muslims in certain places, though they were in a majority, were not given adequate representation. In other places they were not given representation according to their population. I do not want to tire the patience of the House by reading out the names of the places which protested. All these things show that

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the feelings of the people were not respected. You said one thing first and you are doing something else now. People do not know whether there is any rule or law governing these matters; whatever it may be, it was not very much in evidence either in Malabar or in other places. People thought that they were to do as they pleased. That was the impression that was created in their minds.

"Outside Malabar I shall give you, Madam, one instance. Take the village of Kadayanallur. The Tahsildar goes to the village. It is a village where the Muslims are in a majority. It is one of the very few places where the Muslims are in a majority . . ."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Are we now dealing Sir, with co-operative societies and food committees?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If you do not take note of such things and if you are going to ignore them, it will be at your peril. That is what I am trying to make out. I would welcome such interruptions because they will make things more clear. Therefore, I am not fighting shy of such interruptions. We stand on justice; we want justice. We do not want either the Government or anybody else to go out of the way to do justice to us. It is justice we want; we wish to get justice. We are not afraid of interruptions or hostility.

"Take Kadayanallur; there the Muslims are in a majority. Out of eight members of the village committee, four were originally Muslims. The Tahsildar acted all right according to the Government Order. He went to the place, held a meeting of the committee and nominated four Muslims and four Hindus on the committee. That committee worked for a few months; several meetings took place. The President also was elected. He happened unfortunately to be one of the four Muslims. Then that committee was asked to elect its representative on the Taluk Committee. That representative was elected and he was sitting on the Taluk Committee. Thus things were going on. All of a sudden something happens. Three of these eight people—two Muslims and one Hindu Congressman, an August hero—find themselves removed from the committee. The people of the place do not know until to-day under what rule or regulation this was done. I know that the Revenue Divisional Officer has authority to remove the members. It was not the Revenue Divisional Officer or the Collector who removed these people. The members were originally appointed by them. To-day the people of the place are asked to elect a new member and a representative to the Taluk Committee, though such elections had taken place before. What is the effect of all these things on the minds of the people? If such things happen in this Province, what will people think? Will not people be justified in thinking that a certain section of people are allowed to have their own way and to take the law into their own hands.

"Then again in Abiramam an August hero goes there and stirs up people. Several things have happened; the Government is in possession of the accounts of all these happenings. The other day Netaji Day was celebrated there. People are told by the

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August heroes that 'agriculturists or tenants need not pay varam or kuthagai; a new Act is going to come for lessening the varam or abolishing it. The Government is going to bring forward legislation soon; do not pay any rent now.' I think there ought to be Police reports on these happenings. So far as people are concerned, they know that no action is taken. Such pronouncements as I have referred to are made in front of Police stations and before authorities. Will people be very much in the wrong if they think there is no law or order in the province?

Then in another place half a mile from Abiramam, an August hero says he is arranging for the transfer of the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, the District Collector and the District Superintendent of Police. As fortune would have it, the Revenue Divisional Officer finds himself transferred just about that time. That gave some strength to the statement that he could make and unmake things and that he could get these things done as he pleases. Unfortunately another instance also happened as soon as the Congress Government came into being. Muslim officers—very big officers were shunted here and there or transferred from one place to another. That action gave a feeling of misgiving to the people. Of all people, why should Muslims—such high officials—be transferred in such an unceremonious manner? The answer would be it is all due to the exigencies of service. Why should not that apply to officers belonging to other communities who are much more numerous? The August hero goes and boasts that he can do these things. A very good officers is transferred and people say that the August hero has made good his words. They begin to place reliance on his words. In December this very August hero goes to a place and openly says that Muslims must be boycotted. Boycott actually took place. The Muslims of Abiramam own large acres of land in the neighbouring villages; the agriculturists refuse to harvest the produce and if it is harvested, it is not procured. The produce is not accounted for and so it does not come under the procurement or distribution scheme. The people are afraid of going outside the village for fear of being man-handled, because it is a small village surrounded by a very large number of villages under the influence of our Congress friends.

"Then, Madam, the other day, the Hon. the Premier spoke of the scurrilous writings of the Communists in the papers. May I ask what are the Congress papers doing? Day in and day out they have been writing in the most scurrilous, abusive and provocative way. I shall give you an example of how provocative it is. There is an English Daily in Madras which is said to be very balanced in its views. I was reading a leading article on the occurrences in East Bengal when I was laid up with fever. That article was so abusive and so provocative—I do not want to use any other words to describe that article—and so ignorant even of the facts that were published in the same paper in an inconspicuous way, that my fever went up from 101 degrees to 104.5 degrees. That is the sort of feeling that these writings can stir up. When it can stir up such feelings in the minds of

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people like myself, then you can imagine what kind of excitement it is capable of producing in the minds of other people who are young and impulsive. As a matter of fact it has produced such feelings and people from the mufassal sent me cuttings after cuttings and I have forwarded those cuttings to the Government, and until to-day I do not know what action has been taken thereon. The public too do not know what action has been taken against such writings. They only think that these things are being tolerated by the Government, that there is no law to prevent such things and thus things are going on *in excelsis*. People do not stop with that, when they find that there is nothing to prevent them from writing in that way. They publish pamphlets; they write slogans on the walls inciting people to kill and destroy Muslim League leaders and Muslim men and women. What action has been taken by the Government, we do not know. What will be the impression that will be created among the masses by such inaction on the part of the Government? Therefore it is no wonder, Sir, that people think that there is no law and order in this Province.

(At this stage the Hon. Speaker resumed the chair.)

"Then Sir, there was a small paper called 'The Muslim League' in Karaikal. It was one of the very few papers existing in this part of this country. That paper wrote some article one day and in a subsequent issue, it apologised for the same. I do not want to relate all the facts in detail, but suffice it to say that that paper was, all of a sudden, suppressed and it had ceased publication. Now, Sir, it is a paper published in Karaikal, which is a French territory and this Government has nothing to do with it. But I know, Sir, that it is at the instance of this Government that the French Government took action, against that paper. I make that statement, because I know it for a fact. Sir, that very poor paper, which is one of the very few papers that we have got in this Province, was suppressed, while innumerable papers which write such scurrilous things that I have described, were left scot-free. What kind of impression will such things produce in the minds of the people? Will there be any respect for law and order, after they see these things?

"Then, Sir, in connexion with the Vaniambadi and Madura incidents, people have claimed compensation and are claiming compensation until to-day. Quick action has not been taken. We have ourselves seen the Ministers many times, but the matter is being postponed. People outside do not know the convenience of the Government. They only know that their cases have been pending for months and months and that the Government have not given them any compensation. They also know that in another Province, where some Congressmen had lost about Rs. 25,000 worth of property, the Government of that Province had reimbursed them more quickly than the Government of this Province. People naturally ask, why have this Government been indifferent in respect of people who have lost lakhs and lakhs of rupees? This again produces feelings in the minds of people which are not very

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much encouraging so far as respect for law and order is concerned. Here I do not mean the Muslims. It is only the other people that I am speaking of. They say 'Those are cases where Muslim properties are destroyed and so it does not matter to us if there were delays.' Therefore, Sir, if these things were handled properly and in proper time, they would have stopped there; this disrespect for law and order would not have grown and the present situation would not have developed. That is the point, Sir, that I am trying again and again to impress upon the minds of the members of this House.

"Then Sir, there is another thing that I want to mention and that is in regard to the Nationalist Muslims. I do not know, Sir, whom they represent in this Province. (A voice: 'None.') (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'They represent the Congress.') So far as the Muslim Leaguers are concerned, there is so much inordinate delay in looking into their grievances and into their complaints relating to the destruction of their properties. But as soon as a Nationalist Muslim puts in a claim, he gets the ear of the Government, or at least he makes it appear to the world like that. Some weeks ago, an incident happened near Barbers Bridge in this City. It was reported that a procession was taken with music in front of a mosque. I went to that place myself. A number of police officials were there already and the whole thing was patched up by me without any untoward incident. In connection with that procession there was a Nationalist Muslim there who got offended and he began to make complaints after complaints day in and day out against the Muslims of that place. Then we found that the Police were acting very briskly and actively, presumably under instructions from the Government to deal with the men on the spot. Scores of Muslims were being taken to the police station and they were inquired into, as to what part they had taken in connection with that incident. I ask, Sir, what impression will all these things create upon the minds of the people, when big police officials were being taken by that Nationalist Muslim. He has simply to say a word and the whole police is prepared to go with him. After all, what was his complaint? A child made a scratch on the wall—and that was his complaint—and all the big police officials moved to the place. I do not know whether the Police thought it fit to warn him against making such flimsy complaints. It was only after my earnest representations and implorings that the police officials stopped pursuing the matter.

"And now, Sir, let me refer to what had happened in Kadayannallur. There, two seats were provided for Muslims on the village committee. One of the Muslims was removed in order to give place to a Congressman who was an August hero. For some reason or other this Congressman was removed and subsequently another Muslim and a non-Muslim found their way into the committee and the former was chosen because he was a Nationalist Muslim. He represented nobody but himself. For a population of 15,000 in that village two Muslims were given representation

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and out of the two, one man got a 50 per cent representation. Sir, there are several such instances in this Province, but I do not propose to catalogue them in detail.

"Then, Sir, the other day, a question was put in the Assembly regarding the return of the deposit amount of a Nationalist Muslim."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I know the connection between the Ordinance and these things?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"These are the things, Sir, which undermine the respect for law and order in the minds of the people. If these things had been tackled in the proper way and at the proper time, the present situation would not have developed. That is what I am trying to make out. This is a very important point and thousands and thousands of rupees are involved. If a person is called a Nationalist Muslim, his case is immediately considered and he is allowed to do whatever he pleased, while that is not so in the case of a Muslim Leaguer."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I simply wanted to know the connection between the Ordinance and this. The Hon. Member may go on."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was telling you, Sir, the other day there was a question put in the Assembly regarding the return of the deposit money of a Nationalist Muslim who contested a Muslim League candidate in the Malappuram constituency during the last election. He was not entitled to the return of the deposit under the rules which were in force at the time of the elections. The Government, in their reply the other day, did not give us the whole truth about the matter. They did not tell us that the rule was amended for the purpose of this Nationalist Muslim, to enable him to get back his deposit, so that the Government could say that one at least of the Nationalist Muslim candidates that they put up against a Muslim League candidate got back his deposit. The Government even went to the extent of giving retrospective effect to that amended rule and gave the deposit back to the Nationalist Muslim. Thus the Nationalist Muslim got so much consideration at the hands of the Government. Sir, the law can be manipulated for him, but for a Muslim Leaguer, even the loss of his property is no concern of the Government! Sir, one night a representative of the 'Liberator' came to me with a just complaint that the resolutions of the All-India Muslim League Working Committee were being advised to be withheld from publication. I was very much perturbed. The Muslim League Working Committee in Karachi, passed certain resolutions and those resolutions were wired to Madras. The 'Liberator' received copies of those resolutions along with the other papers. The representative of the 'Liberator' told me that he was advised to withhold publication until the Press advice was received on those resolutions. That paper, Sir, is one of the only two non-Congress papers in this

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Presidency, and I do not know whether similar action was taken against the other papers. Whether such action was taken or not, that is not of course the material point here. The point is that so soon after the promulgation of the Ordinance, such action was taken by the Government against an organization which is the sole representative organization of ten crores of Muslims in India. It is one of the biggest organizations representing one of the biggest potential sections of people and it is not an unlawful association either. And yet such action was thought of against such an organization. You must understand, Sir, what all this Ordinance mentality can do and what all these ordinance provisions can do in this Province. While this confusion and this lawlessness were going on in this Province, we have been making representation after representation to the Government. We have been appealing to the Muslims to be patient, even under provocation, and everybody will bear witness to the fact that the Muslims have been patient to an exemplary extent, and they have kept their patience until to-day. Now, the question I would ask is, whether our Congress friends have done the same thing, including the Congress President of this Province. Did they make such an appeal to their friends when they saw that the Muslims were being treated like this? Was there a single appeal in the press or on the platform to this effect? The Hon. Premier issued a statement in November in which I also joined; it had its effect upon the people, but what did the other Congress leaders do in this Province? If action had been taken on this line by them, I say things would not have developed so as to lead to the present situation. That is what I am trying to make out again and again. While we have been writing and speaking to the people to be patient, the Congressmen have been keeping mum. What is the meaning of their action? The Hon. Premier went to Malabar in the middle of October and saw things for himself there; he appealed to the people to be patient. He promised he would attend to these things and the Muslims from that time until to-day have been keeping patient. When such action is being taken, people are being re-assured, but it is the delay that makes all these assurances weaker and lose their effect.

"Then again, Sir, the Premier said in answer to some of the statements made by Congressmen that the Government, any Government for that matter, is meant for all the people and not only for one section of the people. That is the statement he made; and what was the occasion for that statement to be made in this civilized Province of Madras? Every man must have known in this civilized Province that this Government was a Congress Government and yet it was represented to the ignorant people that this was a Congress Government and that Congressmen could do anything they pleased in this Province, that therefore they need not be afraid of doing anything against the Muslims. I think such a statement was made even within the hearing of the Premier when he was in Madura. Therefore he had to make a statement in Madura and it had its effect. Again, Sir, he made a joint

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statement in November, along with me, and it had its effect. But while the Premier issued the joint statement, I see the officials and officers of Government acting in a different way. Here, in the City of Madras, you say that the Police have no communalism in them; that they are not communal. That is the claim made for the Police; but I know from my own experience that it is not so. Policemen, mere constables, when they take hold of Muslims and take them to the police stations, they tell them that they are being taken to Pakistan. The other day in Kadiri a Sub-Collector convened a meeting of the Hindus and Muslims to patch up a misunderstanding between them; and he said there openly that if they wanted to take a procession with music before the mosque, he would teach the Muslims a lesson. That is the spirit in which he acts and that officer still finds himself in the same old place, although the matter has been represented to the Government. The other day I went to a southern district. There, an hon. Member of this House had occasion to see the Collector of that district. Here again comes the question of the Nationalist Muslims. What all great considerations they receive at the hands of the officials of this Government? By the way, it also shows the spirit which moves many of the Government officials. When my hon. Friend went to him and invited him to go to a certain place, he said: 'Appa, am I to go to that place, it is full of unruly people, ruffians.' Why? 'Because I have received a large bunch of complaints against the people of that place.' From whom? All from one man who calls himself a Nationalist Muslim. That is a place, Sir, which is inhabited by about 35 to 40 thousand Muslims and this one Nationalist Muslim is able to have the ear of the district official as against the 35,000 Muslims there. What will the people think in such a case? In the village food committee, he has his way; in other things also, he has his way as against the 35,000 Muslims."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You think these are all cases of discontent?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Discontent, disorder and lawlessness in the Province."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Please say what is their connection with the Ordinance?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have explained the connection very clearly at least fifteen times before now, Sir. 'What do you think the effect of all these things will be on the minds of the people? Is it only the Communists who are responsible for this lawlessness in this Province? Is it not the Congressmen? I want you to place your hand on your heart and say 'no' to what I say. What is it that has been done in regard to cases of which the Government know and which we have intimated to them? Then, what else do you expect? You say this is a civilized Province, and yet in this Province you have heard of murders in broad day-light and you have heard of riots. All these things could have been controlled if only things had taken

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their proper course in proper time. Even to-day the same ordinary law, if enforced properly and with consideration and rigour, wherever necessary, will have its effect and this lawlessness will disappear. Therefore, I say, this Ordinance is not necessary. This Ordinance which takes away the right, any vestige of the rights of the people, is not necessary at all to deal with the situation. You know the causes of the present situation. The Congress people thought they could have their way and that they could deal with the Muslims as they pleased. Now the whole thing has turned upon them. The spirit of lawlessness which they turned against the Muslims has been turned against them now by the Communists. What is to be done? That spirit has to be removed and it can be removed by the ordinary law of the land. We do not want this Ordinance; it is so very subversive of the ordinary liberties of the people, liberties which are precious to every man not only in this Province but in every other Province. It is wrong in principle—this Ordinance—it is wrong in its effect, wrong in its object. It will not at all achieve the object which the Hon. Members of Government have got in view. The taste for a thing on which anything feeds, grows. Therefore, it will, on the one hand, increase the desire of the Government to be more and more dictatorial, to be less and less considerate to the rights of the people. I ask them not to follow the example of the bureaucracy which they have been condemning all their lives. I want them to set an example. They claim to be popular Ministers; who are those that are against them; if they are popular, of whom are they afraid and against whom do they want to make use of this huge instrument of oppression, I ask? When they claim to be popular representatives of the people on the Government Benches, and when they find such large number of people rising up against them, they must recognize that there is something wrong and try to remedy those wrongs. That is the way to deal with the situation, not to pass Ordinances. That will make a very bad precedent for the people who will follow you; it will create a very bad taste and it will go on increasing and growing, so much so, not only you, but your posterity will have to suffer. The Government must think that there are certain things which must be ensured for the people; and there can be no question of freedom for them, any sense of freedom side by side with this Ordinance.

“Then, Sir, with regard to those people whom this Ordinance is meant to tackle, I say this Ordinance could not tackle them at all. It will not achieve its object. They will all become heroes; the people will see that they have become victims of oppression. Therefore I say the very object of the promulgation of this Ordinance will be defeated. I therefore earnestly request the Government to give up this Ordinance; I want them to see that it is very bad in its nature, in principle, in its after-math and in its effect and therefore it does not deserve to be on the Statute Book any longer.

“Then again, Sir, I seconded the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, for having a discussion on this matter,

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I cannot but second the resolution. If it was left to me, I would have preferred my resolution; my resolution would be a little different from his resolution, especially in the last part. There it says that the arrested leaders must be released. I would have changed it this way, that the arrested leaders must be put on their trial under the ordinary law. But then the resolution as it stands is not very harmful. Even though they may be released, I don't think much harm will be done. This Ordinance must be scrapped and those people can be dealt with under the ordinary law and let the things which are alleged against them be proved in a Court of law. Every citizen must have that right; every paper must have the right of free expression though in this Province we know what it means to the Muslims; and yet I say the press must have its freedom. So, I once again earnestly implore the Government to give up this Ordinance which is bad from every point of view.”

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* SRI A. VEDARATNAM P. LAI—“கனம் அக்ராசனார் அவர்களே இந்த விஷயம் இப்பொழுது ஆலோசனைக்கு வந்திருக்கிற விஷயம் முக்கியமானது. தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவை பொருத்து பெரிய பகுதி குற்றச்சாட்டுதல் வந்திருக்கிற காரணத்தால் எனக்கு கொஞ்சம் அதிக அவகாசம் அளக்க வேண்டுமென்று தலைவர் அவர்களை கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய உரையை ஆரம்பிக்கிறேன்.

“நேற்று முன்தினம் இந்த அவசரச் சட்டத்தைப்பற்றி பிரேரேபித்து பேசிய கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களும் அதை ஆமோதித்து இன்று தினம் பேசிய எதிர்க்கட்சி தலைவர் அவர்கள் பேசியபோது அவர் குறிப்பிட்ட எல்லா விஷயங்களுக்கும் நான் பதில் சொல்லாதிருந்தபோதிலும் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் அதிலும் சிறப்பாக மன்றார்குடி டிவிஷனைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் இரண்டு டொரு வார்த்தைகளுக்கு பதில் சொல்லவேண்டிய கடமை என்னுடையது என்று கருதுகிறேன்.

“அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள் அமலாபுரம் என்று மன்றார்குடி தாலுகா கிராமத்தில் ஹிந்து முஸ்லிம் சம்பந்தமான சமூக பகிஷ்காரம் நடக்கிறது என்று அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். கமலாபுரத்தை நான் அறிவேன். இப்பொழுது கூட சமீபத்தில் அந்த கிராமத்திற்கு சென்று வந்திருக்கிறேன். இந்த மாதிரி சமூக பகிஷ்காரம் என்ற பெயரையே நான் அறியவில்லை. எதிர்க்கட்சி தலைவர் கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்களுக்கு இந்த தவறான செய்தியை யார் கொடுத்தார் எப்படி வந்தது என்று தெரியவில்லை.

“அடுத்தபடியாக அவர்களை கேட்கிறேன். அந்த டிவிஷனில் எப்படி வோட் செய்தார்கள், வோட் செய்யும் நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது; தேர்தல் நடந்து அவர்களும் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டு இப்பொழுது இங்கு காங்கிரஸ் அங்கத்தினர்களாக கூடி இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் வோட் செய்த வகையை நான் அறிவேன். எந்த முறையில் நடந்தது என்று எனக்குத் தெரியும். இங்கு கூடி எதிர்க்கட்சி தலைவர் பேசுகையில் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் மிராசதார் சொல்கிறபடிதான் அவர்கள் ஆள்கள் வோட்டுப்போட வேண்டுமென்றும் அவ்வாறு வோட்டுப் பெற்றதனால்தான் இவ்வளவு பெருந் தொகையினர் காங்கிரஸ்காரர் வர முடிந்தது என்றும் கூறினார். இது உண்மைக்கு மாறானது. மிராசதார்கள் தங்கள் ஆள்களை வற்புறுத்தியபோதிலும் அந்த ஆள்களுக்கு அவர்களிடம் வெறுப்பு இருக்குமானால் விருப்பமில்லையானால் அவர்கள் இஷ்டப்படி யாருக்கு வேண்டுமானாலும் ஓட்டளிக்கக்கூடிய முறையில் இப்போதைய வர்ணப் பெட்டித் தேர்தல் முறை அமைந்திருக்கிறது. இப்போதைய தேர்தல் முறை வாக்களிப்பவருக்கும் கடவுளுக்குத் தான் தெரியும்படியான அவ்வளவு சகசிய முறையில் ஓட்டு அளிக்கலாம். எதிர்க்கட்சி அபேட்சகர்கள் வாக்காளர்களிடம் போய் பிரசாரம் செய்வதையோ ஓட்டு கேட்பதையோ மிராசதார்கள் தடை செய்யவில்லை. ஆனால்

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai] [6th February 1947]

இதற்கு நேர்மாறாக முஸ்லிம் லீக்கர்கள் தங்கள் தேர்தல்களை எப்படி நடத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைக் கூர்ந்து கவனியுங்கள். லெக்ஷமாங்குடி என்ற கிராமத்தில் முஸ்லிம் மஜ்லிஸ் அபேட்சகர் மௌலானா ஹக்கீம் சாகிப் அவர்கள் கூட்டத்திற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் கூட்டத்திற்கு வந்த உடனேயே ஒரு வார்த்தை கூடப் பேசவில்லை தொழுகை நேரமாகிவிட்டதென்று அங்கேயே தொழ ஆரம்பித்தனர். கூத்தானல்லூர் முசுல்மான்கள் கூட்டத்தை திரட்டிக்கொண்டு வந்து தொழுதுகொண்டிருந்த ஹக்கீம் சாகிப்பையும் அவர் சகோதரர் அஜீம் சாகிப்பையும் தாக்கிறார்கள். அக்கூட்டத்திற்கு வந்த பிரபல மிராசு தாரரான மூலங்குடி ஸ்ரீ கோபாகிருஷ்ணய்யர் அவர்கள் மோடார் காரை தூள் தூளாக உடைத்ததுமன்னியில் ஸ்ரீ அய்யரவர்களையும் கல்லால் அடித்து மண்டையை உடைத்து விட்டார்கள்! அக்கூட்டத்திற்கு வந்த காங்கிரஸ் முஸ்லிம் ஜனாப் யாகுப் கான் அவர்களை தூக்கிக்கொண்டு போய் தனி இடத்தில் வைத்து மோட்டாரை உடைத்த கத்திபோலிருந்த கண்ணாடி துண்டுகளால் தலையிலிருந்து கால் வரையில் வெட்டி ஜின்னா ஜிந்தாபாத் முஸ்லிம் லீக் ஜிந்தாபாத் என்றுகூறும்படி வற்புறுத்தி பிரகளை போகும் வரையில் அடித்தார்கள். இதே மாதிரி அடிக்க அங்கு வந்த எங்கள் ஜில்லா காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டி தலைவர் ஸ்ரீ டி. கே. சீனிவாசய்யரையும் எங்கோ தூக்கிக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டார்கள். அவ்வாறு தூக்கிச் செல்கையில் துப்பாக்கி வேட்டுச் சத்தம் கேழ்க்கவே திடீரென்று நின்ற நிலையில் போட்டு விட்டு ஓடிவிட்டார்கள். அவருக்கு சப்பை நகர்ந்துவிட்டது. துப்பாக்கிச் சத்தம் எப்படி வந்ததென்பதை கவனிக்கவேண்டும். இந்த கலாட்டா நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கையில் போலீஸ் சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் எங்கிருந்தோ பஸ்ஸில் வந்து அங்கு இறங்கினார். இறங்கிய அவரை இந்த முஸ்லிம் கூட்டம் துரத்தி துரத்தி அரைமைல் தூரத்துக்காப்பாலிருந்த போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷனுக்குப் போகும் வரையில் அடித்தார்கள். அடி பொறுக்க முடியாமல் ஸ்டேஷனிலிருந்து துப்பாக்கியை எடுத்து ஆகாயத்தை நோக்கி சுட்டார். துப்பாக்கிச் சத்தம் கேழ்க்கவே எல்லோரும் ஓடிவிட்டார்கள். இத்தகைய கொடுமைகளை நடத்திய முசுல்மான்கள் பேரில் ஒரு நடவடிக்கையும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படவில்லை. முஸ்லிம் அதிகாரிகளை மாற்றும் விஷயம்பற்றி எதிர்க்குறி தலைவர் பிரமாதமாகக் குறிப்பிட்டார். இக்கொடுமைகளைப் பற்றிக்கூட ஒன்றும் செய்யாமல் தடுத்துக்கொண்டு இதுவரையில் அந்த ஜில்லாவிலிருந்த ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் ஓர் முசுல்மான். இந்த சம்பவத்தைப்பற்றி இதே சட்ட சபையில் நான் கேட்ட கேழ்விக்கு கோடுத்த பதிலில் கலெக்டர் எழுதி இருந்த ரிப்போர்ட்டில் மாலைப்பொழுதாகப்போனபடியால் தாக்கிய ஆள்களின் முகம் தெரியவில்லை. அதனால் அவர்கள் பேரில் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க முடியவில்லை என்றெழுதி இருக்கிறார். இதே போன்ற பலாத்கார முறைகளைக் கையாண்டு வாக்காளர்களை அணுகுவரும் அபேக்ஷகர்களை கொலை செய்துவிடுவதாகப் பயமுறுத்தியதற்குத்தான் இங்குள்ள லீக் மெம்பர்கள் அன்றவரும் வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். வாக்காளர்களை அணுகி தங்கள் கஷ்டியை யெடுத்துச்சொல்ல லீக்கர்கள் பலாத்காரத்தி விறங்காமல் அனுமதித்திருப்பார்களானால் இங்குள்ள ஒரு லீக் மெம்பர் கூட வெற்றி பெற்று வந்திருக்க மாட்டார்கள் என்று நான் நிச்சயமாய்க் கூறுகிறேன். நாங்கள் எங்களை எதிர்த்த கம்யூனிஸ்டு கஷ்டி அபேக்ஷகர்களை வாக்காளர்களை அணுக முடியாதபடி எவ்வித தடையும் செய்யவில்லை. அப்படி இருந்தும் காங்கிரஸ் ஹரிஜன அபேட்சகரே எல்லோரைக் காட்டிலும் அதிக ஓட்டுப்பெற்றுவிட்டதால் வந்தார்.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, இது ஒருபுறம் இருக்க இதற்கு முன் இந்த அவசர சட்டம் விஷயமாக இந்த தீர்மானத்தை பிரேரேபித்த கனம் வெங்கடேஸ்வரலு அவர்கள் பல விதமாக சொன்னார்கள். அதிலும் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவைப்பற்றி சில அங்கத்தினர்கள் கூறினார்கள். ஆனால் எதிர்க்குறி தலைவர் பேசியதில் ஒரு விஷயத்தை மாதிரி கவனிக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆரம்பத்திலேயே இந்த விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுத்து சட்டங்கள் கொண்டுவந்து அவர்களை அடக்க முன் வந்தால் இந்த அவசர சட்டத்திற்கு அவசியம் இராது என்ற விஷயத்தை எதிர்க்குறி தலைவர் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். நான் அதை முழு மனதுடன் ஏற்றுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆரம்பத்தில் இதை அடக்கவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்து

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இருந்தால் இவ்வளவு தூரத்திற்கு வந்திருக்காது. இது தானாகவே அடங்கிவிடும். இதற்கு நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கவேண்டியதில்லை. அவசரச் சட்டம் பிரயோகிக்கவேண்டியதில்லை என்று சொல்வதை நான் ஏற்றுக்கொள்கிறேன்.

“இத்தகைய அவசரச் சட்டம் இப்பொழுது வருவதற்கு காரணம் என்ன? சட்டசபை கூடுவதற்கு இன்னும் 8 தினங்கள்தானிருக்கிறது. இந்த 8 தினத்தில் கூடும் சட்ட சபைக்கு முந்தியே ஒரு அவசர சட்டம் கொண்டு வருவதற்கு அவசரம் என்ன என்று எதிர் கட்சி அங்கத்தினர்கள் கேட்டார்கள். இந்த 8 தினங்களுக்கு முந்தியே இந்த அவசரச் சட்டத்தை அவசரமாக கொண்டுவராமல் இருந்தால் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவில் 25 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். இந்த ஜில்லாவில் விளையும் விளைபொருளை எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கும் ஒரு கோடி ஜனங்கள் வாயில் மண் விழும நிலைமை ஏற்படுவதாக இருந்தது. ஏனெனில் இதற்குமுன் இதேமாதிரியாக குருவை மகசூல் காலத்தில் இதுபோன்ற சட்டம் இல்லாத காரணத்தால் இருபோக கொடுப்படிக்கு சர்க்கார் அதற்கு ஒரு மூட்டைக்கு ரூ. 2, 3 போனால் கொடுக்கும்படியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்து இருந்து நிலங்கள் இருபோக சாகுபடிக்காரர்களிடமிருந்து பணம் செலவழித்து சாகுபடி செய்து இருந்த மகசூலை அரசாங்கத்தாருக்குக் கொடுக்காமல் கம்யூனிஸ்டு கொள்ளைக் காரர் போய் கொள்ளையடித்துக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டார்கள். ஒரு கேஸ் கூட தண்டனை இல்லை. எத்தனையோ அக்கிரமங்கள் நடந்தன. பெரிய காரியங்கள் நடந்தன. ஒன்று அல்லது இரண்டு விஷயங்களேமட்டும் குறிப்பிட்டால் உணர்ந்துகொள்ளலாம். அந்தமாதிரி கொள்ளையடிக்கும் காரணத்தால் இந்த சட்டம் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டது. இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் கூட்டமாக கூடிக்கொண்டு ஒரு கிராமத்தில் கொள்ளையடித்தார்கள். கொள்ளைக் காரர்கள் வீடுதோறும் சென்று தொழிலாளர்கள் என்று பார்க்காமல் வீடுதோறும் சென்று பலாத்காரம் செய்தார்கள். ஒரு வீட்டில் நுழைந்தார்கள். முன் இரண்டு கட்டுகளை பூட்டிக்கொண்டு மூன்றாம் கட்டில் போய் வீட்டில் இருந்தவர்கள் ஒளிந்துகொண்டிருந்தார்கள். உயிருக்கு பயந்து கொண்டு ஒளிந்துகொண்டிருந்தார்கள். கொள்ளைக்காரர்கள் இரண்டு கட்டு கதவுகளையும் உடைத்துக்கொண்டு உள்ளே நுழைந்து போய் மூன்றாம் கட்டில் கதவை உடைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கையில் வீட்டின் உள்ளிருந்தவர்கள் மனம் என்ன பாடுபட்டிருக்கும். அந்த ஊரிலிருந்து ஒருவரும் போலீசுக்கு சொல்லியனுப்ப முடியவில்லை பயந்தார்கள். அடுத்த கிராமத்துக்கு வந்த போலீஸ்காரர்கள் கூட்டம் இருந்த காரணத்தால் அங்கு போனார்கள். கூட்டத்தினரை கும்பிட்டு கலைத்தனர் மூன்றாம் கட்டிலிருந்து தப்பினார்கள். கனம் அங்கத்தினரவர்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். அவசரச் சட்டம் தேவையா அல்லது தேவை இல்லையா என்பதை இதை தெரிந்து கொண்டால் அவசரச் சட்டம் தேவை என்பதை உணர்ந்துகொள்ள முடியும். அந்த தாலுகாவின் பல கிராமங்களில் 5,000, 6,000 மூட்டைகள் கனத்தில் வைத்திருந்ததை அள்ளிக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டனர். இந்த சம்பா மகசூலையும் கொள்ளையிட கிசான்காரர்கள் கூட்டம் கூடி தீர்மானம் செய்திருந்தார்கள். அப்படி இருக்கும்போது இந்த அவசரச் சட்டம் வேண்டுமா வேண்டாமா என்று யோசித்துப் பாருங்கள். வழிப்போக்கர்கள் மூட்டையை பிடுங்கி இருக்கிறார்கள். அரிவாளைக் கொண்டு வெட்டி இருக்கின்றார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி ஒரு இடம் இரண்டு இடம் இல்லை. பல இடங்களில். இந்த பலாத்கார ரோட்டில் மனிதர் சஞ்சாரம் செய்ய முடியாது. இதை அறியாமல் போனால் உதைத்து இடுப்பு வேஷ்டி முதல் பிடுங்கிக்கொண்டு போய்விடுவார்கள். தாக்கப்போகிறவர்களை உங்கள் கட்சி என்று சொல்லி கம்யூனிஸ்டு கஷ்டிக்கு சந்தா கட்டிய ரகசை எடுத்துக் கொடுத்தால்தான் அடிக்காமல் விடுவார்கள். அது இல்லாவிட்டால் கையிலுள்ளதையெல்லாம் பிடிங்கிக்கொண்டு அடித்து விடுவார்கள். என்ன மாதிரி கஷ்டம் என்று யோசித்துப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். அவர்கள் மகசூலில் ஒரு மணி தான் யம் கூட நெல் இல்லாமல் கைப்பற்ற திட்டம் போட்டுக்கொண்டு பெரிய ஆர்ப்பாட்டம் செய்துகொண்டிருந்த நிலையில் இந்த அவசர சட்டத்தை அவசரமாக கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். எட்டு நாள் பொறுத்திருந்தால் ஒரு மணி தான்யம் கூட பார்த்திருக்க முடியாது. இந்த மாதிரி 10 ஆயிரம் மூட்டைகள் குருவை கனத்தில் இருந்ததை நம்பிக்கொண்டிருந்த மிராசு

[Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai] [6th February 1947]

தாராளமுதலாக பிடிங்கிக்கொண்டு போயிருந்தால் அவருடைய நிலைமை என்னவாக இருக்கும் என்று கேட்கிறேன். இந்த வருஷத்தின் மகசூல் போவதோடு கூட இல்லை அடுத்த வருஷத்து மகசூலும் போய்விடும். ஏனென்றால் அடுத்த வெள்ளாமைக்கு சேகரித்துவைத்திருக்கும் விதை களைக்கூட கொண்டுபோயிருப்பார்கள். கொளுத்தியிருப்பார்கள். இவ்விதம் எரித்துவிடுவதை கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்கள் போட்டோக்களை காண்பித்தார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி அநேகம் போட்டோக்கள் பார்க்கலாம். யாராக இருந்தாலும் பட்டினி எல்லோருக்கும் உண்டு. அதற்காகத்தான் இந்த அவசர சட்டம் ஏற்பட்டது. சட்டம்போட்டு நிறுத்தாமல் இருந்தால் ஒரு மணி தான்யம் கூட பார்க்கமுடியாது. ஒரு மூட்டைக்கு ரூ. 2, 3 போனஸ் கொடுத்து வாங்கும்படி செய்வதும் வியர்த்தம். இந்த மாதிரி சாகுபடி செய்யமுடியாமல் இருப்பதாலும் தொழிலாளர்களை வேலைசெய்யாமல் தூண்டிவிட்டுக்கொண்டிருப்பதாலும் அநேகம் நிலங்கள் இரண்டாவது போகும் சாகுபடி செய்யவேண்டியவைகள் எல்லாம் தரிசாக கிடைக்கிறது என்று நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஒரு பெரிய மிராசதார் 12 வேலி நிலம் வைத்திருக்கிறவரிடம் (வேலி என்பது 6-2/3 ஏக்கர்) அறுவடை செய்ய வர மாட்டேன் என்று முட்டுக்கட்டை போட்ட காரணத்தால் தானே அறுவடை செய்யாமல் அப்படியே சாம்பலாய் போய்விட்டது. அப்புறம் மறுபோக சாகுபடி நடக்கவில்லை. அவர்களை இந்த மாதிரி சட்டம் போட்டுத் தடுக்காமல் என்ன செய்கிறது என்ற விஷயத்தை நீங்கள் கவனிக்கவேண்டும். விவசாயிகளுக்குத்தான் நிலம் சொந்தம் என்பதுதான் தலைவர் மகாத்மா காந்தியின் கொள்கை. நாமும் சொல்லிக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறோம். அவரைப் பின்பற்றி அப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று இதை பலாத்காரமாக செய்ய முடியாது. கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக அவர்கள் சட்டம் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். நாம் கூலி குறைவாக கொடுப்பதால் அப்படி நடக்கிறது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இது கூலி விஷயம் இல்லை என்று நிச்சயமாக உணரவேண்டும். எவ்வளவு கூலி கொடுத்தாலும் அதற்காக அவர்கள் கொள்ளை கொலை செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியமில்லை. காரணம் கூலி மாத்திரம் காரணம் இல்லை. சமாதான முறையில் என்ன கூலி வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டாலும் எதைக்கேட்டாலும் அதைக் கொடுக்க அவர்கள் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். இன்று காங்கிரஸ் அரசாங்கத்தார் போட்ட திட்டத்தின்படி அவர்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு கூலி கொடுத்தபோதிலும் ஒரு காலஞ்சூட மிஞ்சப்போவது இல்லை. இது கண்கூடாக இருக்கிறது. இன்னும் மதுவிலக்கு கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். அதற்குமேல் என்ன செய்த போதிலும் அப்பால்தான் பணம் அவர்களிடம் தங்கும். கராச்சி பெய்சுப்ரீ மாணத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு அதை நடத்திக்காட்டுவதற்கு இல்லாமல் கம்யூனிஸ்ட் தோழர்களால் இது செய்யமுடியாத விஷயம். சென்ற சட்டசபை கூட்டத்தில் விவசாய வட்டி மசோதா கொண்டுவரப்பட்டது. இந்த சட்டசபையில் அநேகம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் விவாசாயிகளுக்காக ரூ. 10,000 கணக்கில் இழந்தார்கள். எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் ஒரு அங்கத்தினர் தனக்கு விவாசாயிகளுக்கு சாதகமாக வாக்களித்தார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு விட்டுக் கொள்ள இந்த சட்டத்தின் மூலம் கோடி கணக்கான ரூபாய் நஷ்டம் அடைந்து விவாசாயிகளுக்கு சாதகம் அளித்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் பலாத்காரம் மூலம் கொள்ளையடிப்பதன்மூலம் இவ்வளவு பெரும் தொகையைப் பெற தாரை ஒழிக்கும் மசோதா. இதே சபையில் ஜமீந்தார்கள் இருந்து சட்டத்தை இந்த மாகாணத்தின் 1/3 நிலத்தையுடைய எல்லா ஜமீந்தார்களுடைய நிலமும் விவசாயிகள் கையில் போகிறது. மத்ய அரசாங்கத்தார் பொறுப்பு சமஸ்தான நிலங்களை எல்லாம் குடிகளிடத்தில் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று பறையடித்திருக்கிறார்கள். நாளை வெள்ளையர் ஆட்சி வெளியே போகவேண்டும். வெள்ளையர் ஆதிக்கம் நாட்டாவிட்டு போகப்போகிறது. அதற்கும்

[6th February 1947] [Sri A. Vedaratnam Pillai]

போராடியது காங்கிரஸ் ஒன்றுதான். சமஸ்தானங்களில் நிலங்கள் விவசாயிகளுக்குத்தான் போகவேண்டும். அதற்குத்தான் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் போராடுகிறார்கள். பலாத்காரம் இல்லாத முறையில் அதற்கு திட்டம் போட்டுவருகிறார்கள். எதிர் கட்சியும் இத்திட்டத்தை ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளுவார்கள். அப்படி இருக்க 10 ஏக்கர் 5 ஏக்கர் வைத்திருக்கும் ஏழை விவசாயிகளையும் 100 ஏக்கர் 1,000 ஏக்கர் வைத்திருக்கும் அப்பாலியான மிராசதார்களையும் ஏன் இப்படி பலாத்காரம்செய்து கொள்ளையடித்துக் கொளுத்துகிறார்கள். இவர்களை காட்டிலும் எத்தனையோ மடங்கு அதிகமாக 10 ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஏக்கர் நிலங்களையுடைய ஜமீன் பிரதேசங்களுள் அல்லது சுதேச சமஸ்தானத்திற்குள் இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் ஏன் போராட்டத்தை நடத்தக் கூடாது. அங்கே போனால் அவர்கள் தலை என்னவாகும் என்று அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியும். அதனால்தான் இந்த ரீதியில் அவர்கள் மிராசதார்களிடத்தில் கலாட்டா செய்கிறார்கள். வகுப்புவாதத்தை புகுத்திக்கொண்டு இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இருக்கிறார்கள். பிராமண மிராசதார் இதுபோன்ற அப்பாலிகள் அதிகமாக இருக்கிற இடத்தில் பலாத்காரம் செய்கிறார்கள். அதை பொருக்க முடியாது. இதை ஆதாரத்தோடு கூறுகிறேன். அவர்கள் தக்க ஆதாரத்தின் மேல் நல்ல முறையில் எவ்வளவு பிரசாரம் செய்தாலும் அதைப்பற்றி ஆட்சேபிக்க யாரும் கிடையாது. கொள்ளை கொலைகளை இவைகளைச் செய்வதை எந்த அரசாங்கம்தான் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கும். அவைகளை அடக்கமுடியாத அரசாங்கம் லாயக்கா என்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஒரு கிராமத்தை ஒரு ஆயிரம்பேர்கள் வந்து சூழ்ந்துகொண்டார்கள். கொள்ளை அடித்தடி எல்லாம் நடந்தது. கிராமத்திற்கு உள்ளேயிருந்து வெளியே யாரும் வர முடியாமலிருந்தது. போலீசுக்கு ரிபோர்ட்டு செய்யக்கூட முடியாமல் இருந்தார்கள். பயந்து கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். மன்னார்குடியிலிருந்து நான் கேம்பிப்பட்டு அதன்மேல் அங்கிருந்த ரெவினியூ டிவிஷனல் ஆபீசர் அவர்க ளிடம் தகவல் கொடுத்தேன். உடனே போலீஸ்காரர்கள் வந்தார்கள். இரவு எப்படி கழிக்கப்போகிறோம் என்று கிராமத்தார்கள் பயந்துகொண்டிருந்தவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் பயம் தெளிந்து அவர்கள் போய்விட்டார்கள். இதை எல்லாம் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது அரசாங்கமா, இதுதான் அரசாங்கம் என்று கருதுகிறார்கள். இந்த கிராமத்திலுள்ள பெரிய மிராசதார்கள் எல்லாம் கிராமத்தைவிட்டே நகரங்களுக்குப் போய்விட்டனர். மில் தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலை நின்றால் பிறகு எந்த நேரத்திலும் வேலைசெய்ய ஆரம்பிக்கலாம். ஆனால் விவசாயிகளின் தொழில் அப்படி இல்லை. காலா காலத்தில் செய்யவேண்டும். போனவருஷம் மாசூலுக்கு தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. இந்த வருஷம் மேட்டூர் அணியில் கடைசிவரையில் 120 அடி தண்ணீர் குறையாமல் இருந்தது. சில வருஷத்தில் தண்ணீர் தட்டாமல் இருந்தால், தண்ணீரை பாய்ச்சுவதற்கு திட்டம் வகுக்கப்படும். ஒரு மிராசதாருக்கு முறை இரவு இரண்டுமணிக்கு மேல் 4-மணிக்கு தண்ணீர்விட திட்டம் இருக்கும். இரண்டு மணிக்கு காத்துக்கொண்டிருக்க வேண்டும். 6-மணிக்கு வந்தால் தண்ணீர் கிடையாது. தண்ணீர் இல்லா விட்டால் பயிர்கள் காய்ந்து நாசமாகிவிடும். ஒரு வருஷத்திற்கு மகசூல் கிையாது என்று சொல்லலாம். விவசாயிகள் விதை சேர்த்துவைத்து சரியான காலத்தில் தண்ணீர் இருந்தால் மகசூல் உண்டு. இல்லாவிட்டால் மகசூல் போய்விடும், விதையும் கெட்டுவிடும். இன்னும் இந்த கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் நபர் ஒன்றுக்கு நாட்டாமைக்காரர்களை கையில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு ரூ. 0-10-0 வசூல் செய்கிறார்கள். வசூலில் ரூ. 0-2-0 நாட்டாமைக்காரன் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறான். பாக்கி பணத்தை அவர்கள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். கூட்டத்திற்கு வராபல் இருந்தால் அதற்கென்று குடிகளுக்கு ரூ. 4, 5, 10 என்று அபராதம் போடுகிறார்கள். பயந்துகொண்டுதான் அவர்கள் கூட்டத்திற்கு வருகிறார்கள். எங்கள் கூட்டத்திற்குப் போகக் கூடாது என்று கட்டுப்பாடு செய்கிறார்கள். யாராவது வந்தால் அவர்களுக்கு அபராதம் போடுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய வேலைகளை பார்க்க முடியாமலிருக்கிறது. அதையெல்லாம் நாம் பாதுகாக்கவேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. சரியான காலத்தில் இந்த சட்டத்தை போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதை பிரயோகிக்கும்போது அதன் உபயோகம் தெரியும். இது பிசகு என்று நினைத்தால் 3 p.m. அது தவறு. இதுவிஷயத்தைப்பற்றி இதற்குமுன் இந்த சட்டசபையில் அப்பொழுது இருந்த தலைவர் கனம் இராஜாஜி அவர்கள் கிரிமினல் ஸார் அமெண்டு ஆக்கை கொண்டுவந்த காலத்தில் இந்த சட்டசபையில் இப்படித்

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of the Government of India Act—one of the most perfect pieces of legislation on any Statute Book. They foresaw this danger of permanent rule by Ordinance and therefore made careful provision that an Ordinance should not stand for ever.

“ You will notice, Sir, that I have not dealt with the specific cause of this Ordinance, nor have I mentioned its terms. There is no need for this and the resolution does not mention that.

“ We are to have legislation to replace this Ordinance and this House will then have an opportunity of dealing in full with what Government propose but I hope whatever legislation they bring in to replace this Ordinance, this Government will never shrink, in cases of emergency, from using their full powers under the Government of India Act to bring in yet another Ordinance, if in their opinion, the situation and the safety of the State warrant such action.

“ Let it be clearly understood that I do not object to any political party whatsoever voicing its views in any straightforward, orderly and legal manner but I do object to any party doing things which will upset the stability of the State. I do, Sir, most strongly object to political manoeuvrings which have now come to the surface as a result of the passing of this Ordinance. So far, we have clearly seen that one of the aims of this debate is the discrediting of this Government. The reports of the party meetings reveal the same mentality and politics are in great danger of being played under the guise of protecting the individual. I have no love for the Treasury Bench but I have a great love for the mass of India's dumb millions, most of whom do not know that this Ordinance has been passed. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: ‘Hear, hear.’) Every one of them wants to live in quiet in his village and because this Ordinance is protecting him at the present moment, I am supporting it. It is the poor dumb millions who would be the greatest sufferers if the rule of law breaks down. I do not say that it is in danger of breaking down, but the Government obviously believed that the danger had come and they acted with a promptness which I submit should receive the approval of every member of this House.

“ Now, Sir, through you, I wish to make one request of the Government. Never have our Police or our Military acted under any Ordinance without being accused by some of unfair treatment or excesses and I have no doubt it will not be long before questions are asked in this House about Police excesses.

“ Government must protect its constabulary and must let them know now that they will be protected against such accusations. More than one situation in India has got out of hand simply because a Police Officer in charge has remembered what happened to some colleague who acting swiftly in a critical position, may perchance have been a little too harsh. It has already been said in the Party meeting, as reported in the Press . . .”

SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“ On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Can an hon. Member refer to Party meetings as appeared in the Press? ”

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* SIR STUART TOWN:—“ Sir, I submit that anything that appears in the Press is public property. It has already been reported in the Press that in the Party meeting someone said that this Ordinance is fraught with mischief if used by inexperienced and unintelligent officials. Sir, we have experienced and highly intelligent officers carrying out the orders of Government. Strengthen them with the assurance that you are backing them up. Never before in its short life did this Government need a sound police force behind it so much as it does at the present moment. Give them your support and they will pay a dividend.

“ Now, Sir, if the members of this House will give one moment's thought to the real interest of the masses and forget politics and communalism, they will solidly vote against this resolution, which seeks to weaken the power of this, and future Governments to act in times of emergency.

“ Sir, I oppose.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I request the Speaker to give a chance to members of my group alternately.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ I am giving opportunity to one member from the Ministerialist side and one from the Opposition alternately.”

* SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA :—“ అదృష్టం . . . గవర్నమెంటువారు పెట్టిన ఈ ఆర్డినెన్సు (Ordinance) ను support చేస్తూ, మన రాష్ట్రంలో అల్లరులు చాలా ఎక్కువగా ఉండడంవల్ల ప్రజలకు శాంతి, రక్షణల నివ్వడం కోసం ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ ఆర్డినెన్సును పెట్టియన్నారని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఆర్డినెన్సు జిల్లాల్లోను అనేక మైనమిటీల దౌర్జన్యాలు జరుగుచున్నట్లు గౌరవనీయులగు సభ్యులందరకు తెలిసినటువంటి విషయమే. మా కృష్ణా జిల్లాలో జనవరి 14 వ తారీఖున కమ్యూనిస్టులు (Communist) దివి తాలూకాలో వెలవోలు అను ఒక పల్లెటూరులో చెడుగుడు పంచెములు, ఎడ్ల పంచెములు అనే పేరుతో ఒక పోటీనిపెట్టి ఆ ఆటలలో గెలుపొందినవారికి బహుమతులు ఇస్తామని అనే మిషన్, మట్టుకట్ల గ్రామములలో ఉన్నటువంటి కమ్యూనిస్టు (Communist) లందరినీకూడా రిప్పించి ఆ గ్రామములో ఈ చెడుగుడు పంచెములను, ఎడ్ల పంచెములను పెట్టారు. ఆ సాయంకాలం ఈ చెడుగుడు పంచెములు, ఎడ్ల పంచెములు అయిపోయిన తరువాత వాటిలో నేర్పినవారికి బహుమతులు ఇచ్చారు. అలా ఇచ్చి అంతటితో వారు ఊరకొనక తెల్లవారుజామున 3 గంటలప్పుడు గ్రామములోనివారందరూ గాఢ నిద్రపోతున్నప్పుడు “ దొంగలు, దొంగలు ” అని ఈ Communist లందరూ కలిసి కేకలు పెట్టారు. గాఢ నిద్రలో ఉన్నటువంటి గ్రామీణులందరూ భంగారుపడుచు, ఆ కేకలనుబట్టి నిజముగా దొంగలు వచ్చారని అనుకొని తలుపులు తీసుకొని బయటకు వచ్చారు. అలా విచ్చినవారి నందరినీ ఈ కమ్యూనిస్టు (Communist) లందరూ కలిసి చావకొట్టి ఇంట్లో దూరి ఇంట్లో భయపడుచున్నటువంటి స్త్రీలనుకూడా తమ యిష్టము వచ్చినట్లు దూసించి కొట్టారు. నేను ఆ గ్రామము వెళ్లినప్పుడు అక్కడ వారు నాకు ఒక మెమోరాండం (Memorandum) ఇచ్చారు.

“ ఆ గ్రామములోనేకాకుండా పక్కన ఉన్నటువంటి కుమ్మరపాలెం అనే గ్రామమీకూడా ఈ (Communist) లందరు వెళ్లి అక్కడ ఉన్నటువంటి కుమ్మరులను

[Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshamma] [6th February 1947]

కూడ చావమిది వారితో ఈ రోజునుంచి మీరు కుండలు చేసినట్లయితే మీ కుండలను బద్దలు కొడతామని భయపెట్టారు. వారి ఇంట్లో దూరి ఇంట్లో నిద్రపోతున్న స్త్రీలను కొట్టారు. ఈ కమ్యూనిస్టులు (Communist) ఈ విధంగా గ్రామాలలో నిద్రపోతున్న సమయంలో పురుషులను స్త్రీలను బాధలు పెట్టారు. ఆక్కడి స్త్రీలు నాకు వారికి తగిన గాయాలుకూడా చూపించారు. ఇంతేకాక ఈ పందాలు అనే పేరుతోను, యిట్టి దౌర్జన్యమగు వర్తనలనైన, గ్రామాలలో గందరగోళములను జరిపించుచున్నారు. ఇలా ఏ పార్టీ అయినప్పటికీ ఇటువంటి దౌర్జన్యములు చేస్తే ఏ ప్రభుత్వం కూడా సహించవలసిన విషయంకాదు. అందుచేత ఈ నాడు ఈ ఆర్డినెన్సు (Ordinance) మన మద్రాస్ ప్రభుత్వంవారు అమలు జరపడానికి చిల్లను ప్రవేశపెట్టడంబారు.

“ఇంతేకాకుండా, నేనీ వై గ్రామాలకు వెళ్లినప్పుడు ఆక్కడ ఉన్న పురుషులు, స్త్రీలు కూడ, మొన్నటి ఎన్నికలలో పాల్గొని, కాంగ్రెస్ కు (Congress) పాటీ చేసినటువంటి కమ్యూనిస్టులకు కాక మేమంతా కాంగ్రెస్ (Congress) వారిని బలపరచిన కారణంచేత మమ్మలను ఈ కమ్యూనిస్టు (Communist) లందరూ చావకొడుతున్నారని, ఈ విధంగా బాధలు పెడుతున్నారని, ఈ కమ్యూనిస్టుల (Communist) చర్యలను మన కాంగ్రెస్ (Congress) ప్రభుత్వంవారు అరికట్టాలని చెప్పారు.

“కాబట్టి ఏ పార్టీవారుకూడా ఇటువంటి దౌర్జన్యాలను చెయ్యడం ఆనంది చాలా అన్యాయము. అందువల్ల మమ్మలను పరిపాలించుచున్నటువంటి ప్రభుత్వం, అందులో ముఖ్యంగా కాంగ్రెస్ (Congress) వారు ప్రభుత్వంలో ఉన్నపుడు కమ్యూనిస్టులు యిటువంటి దౌర్జన్యాలు జరుపుతున్నపుడు ఈ విధంగా స్త్రీలను బాధలు పెట్టుచున్నపుడు మీ గవర్నమెంటువారు కళ్ళారా చూస్తూ పూరుకుంటారా లేక ప్రజలను రక్షిస్తారా అని అడిగారు.

“ఈ విధంగా స్త్రీలు, పురుషులు యిలా కష్టాలు పడుతుంటే సహించలేక, ఈ భీభత్సాలను చూడలేక, వినలేక మన మద్రాస్ ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ చిల్లను ప్రవేశపెట్టినవారు కాబట్టి దీనిని వెంటనే చట్టముగాచేసి, యిలాంటి దౌర్జన్యాలు అంతం చేసినాడు ఈ చట్టమును తీసివేస్తారని నేను ఆనుకొంటున్నాను. అందుచేత వెంటనే ఈ ఆర్డినెన్సును చట్టముగాచేసి స్త్రీలకు, పురుషులకు, పట్లెటూల్స్ లో ఉన్నటువంటి ప్రజలందరికీ కూడ రక్షణయివ్వడం ఈ ప్రభుత్వంవారి కర్తవ్యమని హెచ్చరిస్తూ యింతటితో విరమిస్తున్నాను.”

3-30 P.M. * K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is one of the ironies of fate that the Congress Ministry should have been responsible for the promulgation of this Ordinance. It has been claimed by the advocates of the Congress party that it has always stood for the freedom of the individual and has always and consistently opposed all attempts on the part of the British bureaucracy to promulgate Ordinances. A cynic may very well say, Sir, that the law of nemesis works. When the British bureaucracy was in power the Congress party was accused of having created situations when the authority in power was compelled to promulgate Ordinances. Now a situation has been created when the Congress party which happened to be responsible for inducing the British bureaucracy to promulgate Ordinances have themselves

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found it necessary to promulgate Ordinances against those who are supposed to be opposing the interests which they profess they are protecting and serving.

“ Sir, if I said that the promulgation of this Ordinance by the Congress Government is an irony, I feel that it is a greater irony that this Ordinance has found an advocate and supporter in no less a person than the hon. Member, Sir Stuart Town, who hails from a country which is considered to be the mother of all democratic institutions. He has stood up on the floor of this House to speak in defence of an Ordinance which even people less advanced than the people of his country have characterised as lawless law and for him to say that this Ordinance is not only justifiable but will be a precedent to be followed by other Ordinances if situations arise, is, I respectfully submit, Sir, a greater irony than the promulgation of this Ordinance by the Congress Ministry. Well, Sir, I do realize that he belongs to a nation of businessmen who know their business and know how to oppose Ordinances as well as support them. If in England they had acted like this, there would be a situation in Parliament in which it would be impossible for a party in power to continue for a day in office. If that is so, I marvel at the change an Englishman undergoes when he leaves his country and comes to this unfortunate country. (Voices ‘Hear, hear.’) I am compelled to say that my hon. Friend Sir Stuart Town is absolutely unfair when he accuses the leader of our Party of having tried to take political advantage of the situation and opposing this Ordinance. My friend does not know what circumstances compelled us to oppose this Ordinance.

“ We quite sympathize with the Ministry in being called upon to face a situation which is really grave and serious. We have absolutely no sympathy with Communists. We are bitter opponents of their programme and ideology. We feel that if their activities are pursued in this country, there is nothing for this country to gain at all but it stands to lose everything if they succeed in their efforts. But the question is whether this Ordinance is necessary to meet the Communist menace. In fact, the Communists were carrying on their activities in all the districts of the Presidency without the authorities feeling it necessary to face the menace by putting into operation the ordinary sections of the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. If only action had been taken against them when they began their lawless activities, this situation, in which the Congress Ministry finds itself in a panicky frame of mind, would not have arisen and the necessity for promulgating such an Ordinance also would not have arisen. But the Congress Ministry really proved, I am sorry to say, weak, halting and hesitating in meeting the Communist menace. Coming as I do from Malabar, I know that for several months the Communists were carrying on their lawless activities in that district. Almost every execution of decrees against property was attended by a gang of Communists who went to the spot for obstruction. Thus execution of civil processes was obstructed and they

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made it impossible for civil liberty being exercised by people but the authorities did not take any action against them under the Penal Code which could freely have been resorted to against such activities. I fail to see how these sections would have been ineffective and how it would not have been possible for Courts of Law to have convicted those who committed these offences. It is not good to clothe executive officers of any rank with unqualified authority to report against any person or arrest and detain him without trial. Clothing executive authorities with such absolute unqualified powers strikes me as a step which is fraught with very serious consequences. It seems to me that what the Prime Minister really fears is that if a man is called up before a Court of Law, lawyers might defend him and get him off. I was pained to hear this from the Prime Minister the other day when we were referring to the ordinary law and law Courts. Lawyers are also really the custodians of the liberty of the individual. I respectfully submit that to a person acquainted with the procedure of law Courts and who has a knowledge of the administration of Criminal Law in this country, this scepticism about the administration of the Criminal Law would not appear justified. Past experience of the administration of criminal justice also confirms this view of the matter. I submit, Sir, that the fear about the efficacy of the ordinary law is not at all correct. The ordinary law of the land is quite sufficient and quite adequate to protect the freedom of the individual and also the sacredness of person and property against invasion by Communists. The Law Courts have their sanction and even capital punishment may be granted for grave offences. Among the Communists there are some who were condemned to death and some for life imprisonment and who were granted amnesty by the Congress Ministry and these are the people going about leading agitation against the constituted authority of the Province. This Ordinance has absolutely no justification to exist for a minute on the statute book. I do not for a moment sympathize with or support the Communist activities. As a matter of fact, in regard to this Ordinance we felt we were between the devil and the deep sea. After all, the freedom of the individual and the sacredness of that freedom has to be protected and even in a situation like this which might make the authority a little panicky, there is no justification for promulgating an Ordinance of this type. What is it that really prevents the Ministry from resorting to the ordinary law of the land in the matter of disorders and difficulties created by the Communists? After we heard the account given by the Hon. the Premier, we feel that such situations could very well be handled by a proper administration of the Criminal Law of the land but that has not been given a trial. Matters were allowed to drift and the Communists were given a long rope and at the far end, the Ministry became panicky and helpless and took this hasty step of promulgating the Ordinance. Whether the measure is aimed at the Communists or against any other party, when the right of a person to be heard before he is condemned or convicted is violated, it is the duty of a democratic party to oppose it and all

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this talk about the real and potential danger to which the country will be subject, has no justification for the promulgation of this Ordinance.

"We had enough trouble in 1942 when subversive activities were resorted to by persons who claimed to be Congressmen. Were not they doing all that this under the very sanction and authority of no less persons than the Presidents of the Provincial Congress Committees? Were not circulars going about supporting and even giving directions for carrying on subversive activities in 1942 and if in 1942 such Ordinances or extraordinary pieces of legislation were promulgated by the Government in power in those days would it have found any justification or defence at the hands of Congressmen? If that were not so, why should you apply a different measure to the state of affairs in 1947 when persons who resort to violence and subversive activities happen to be not Congressmen but Communists? In fact, in these matters you must do to others what you wish others to do to you and not adopt different measures to different sets of circumstances when the principle involved is the same.

"Then, with reference to Malabar, I am pained to see that the Premier referred to the Communists' attempt to stir up the Moplahs. In fact the cry of Moplah rebellion was raised in Malabar after 1946 not by the Communists for the first time but by responsible Congress leaders. They began to stir up to raise the bogey of Moplah rebellion saying that the Moplahs were going to rebel. But this was an absolute fiction and not true at all. This cry was taken up by the Communists who exploited the situation to create trouble. The Communists want to create troubles everywhere. They are under the delusion that this was the fittest opportunity for them to bring about a revolution and a millennium in this country. They are under a delusion. They took up the cry of Moplah Rebellion. They thought there is some potential Moplah rebellion; even the Congress people are referring to it, why not we take this opportunity to rouse and stir up the Moplahs? But the Moplahs had enough commonsense, sound judgment and they were guided by people who really made them understand that after all this siren song should not be leading them to commit the folly and they should not be factors to disturb the peace of the district. I regretfully say that the bogey of Moplah was raised by responsible Congress workers, by persons of the status of Presidents of Congress Committees. You will be surprised to know that Mr. Kelappan, President of the Kerala Congress Committee, and other Hindu leaders were signatories to a petition presented even a month back to the Collector of Malabar stating that the Moplahs were going to rise in rebellion in Manjeri. The fact was that the Moplahs there were absolutely innocent and peaceful. There was not a whisper of any revolt or any preparation whatsoever among Moplahs. Yet these worthies addressed to the Collector such a petition. Another instance was at Pattambi. Scare was raised that a rebellion would break out there.

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Investigation proved that it was an absolute myth and an absolute falsehood. Similar stories were set afloat. About 2 or 3 years back there was a similar cry that Moplahs were going to raise in revolt. Several stories went round that they were preparing guns, swords, knives and that there were elaborate preparations going on to repeat the rebellion of 1921, but it was later on found out that these allegations were all mythical and mischievous. I should say the authorities took the right view about these insinuations. I respectfully say 'Do not lay all the blame at the door of the Communists'. In fact Communists have enough to account for and they will account for it also. This country is not going to take kindly to Communism and no country will take kindly to Communism. If Russia adopted the principles of Communism in their Government a day will come when Russia itself might regret its having taken to Communism. Even in Russia they have made compromises on fundamental principles and vital points in economic theories and Communism is fast becoming a qualified theory even in that country. So, Sir, what I respectfully say is that the Communists found the troubles in the country their ground for nursing their doctrines and experimenting their theories. They have a following simply on account of the forces of discontent that you let loose in this country. The Congress workers, the leaders also, to some extent and I am sorry to say, the Congress Government let loose forces of discontent in the country. Where the Communists would not have succeeded they have succeeded, because in the disturbed atmosphere they found they could foment and exploit every force of discontent and get a following and support. I shall refer to an instance cited by my hon. Friend, Mr. Vedaratnam, when he said that five people in a locality were attacked by the whole village. These five persons were apparently Congressmen. When a village rises in revolt against five persons certainly there is reason to think that there is discontent and legitimate room for discontent which is exploited by the Communists. The Communist finds his opportunity there. You replace ordinary sources of business, you alienate the sympathies of the minorities. You create a sort of want of confidence in the minds of the different elements in the body politic of this Province. They all become discontented. The whole country is seething with discontent and naturally the Communist finds his chance, otherwise the Communists would never have found any support in this country. Where deep-rooted religious maxims guide the actions of men and the principles of religion have become so imbedded in the minds of the people, the atheistic principles which the Communists are preaching will not find a breeding ground at all in this country but you have created a situation in which the Communists are thriving. As I said there is absolutely no justification for this Ordinance to remain on the Statute Book for a moment. If you want to continue your claim as a popular Government the first thing you will have to do is to scrap this Ordinance, this inglorious Ordinance from the Statute Book and regret the action that you have taken, consciously or unconsciously."

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* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, the point of the discussion would be considerably clarified if we keep certain admitted facts before us. So far as the question of violence and disturbance to peace is concerned, that charge seems to be substantially accepted all over the House except naturally in the Communist block. (Laughter.) It does not alter the position though a single person forms a block, it is not his fault that he has no companions. The second point is that, if there is widespread disorder, the Government is not worth its salt if it does not take sufficient measures for the suppression of such disorders and safeguard the liberty of the people at large. This principle must also be accepted by the House. But in this regard, one must ask whether the Ordinance as it is framed should have been necessary for any Government and a popular Government at that. There may be some who say that an Ordinance should not be used at all or that strong measures should not be taken. That is not the point. On the question of promulgation of this Ordinance by a popular Government, we see that this Ordinance incorporates several of the Ordinances to which we have been taking objection in the past and the European block and the Muslim League block have not been slow to take advantage of it. That is the main reason why I say in putting up the Ordinance you should not have provisions which can be so objectionable. People have been saying: 'You objected to it in 1942 and why have you enacted it in 1947?' The question is not the year 1942 or 1947; it does not matter if it was the Congress volunteer or the Provincial Congress Committee that was involved in 1942 and it is the Communist who is now affected in 1947. That has nothing to do with the present case. Everybody expects Government to take strong measures to see that person and property are not damaged and peace prevails. I do not know what would be the reaction of the Opposition Blocks if the Hon. the Premier had straightaway brought a Criminal Law Amendment Bill or possibly a Goonda Act. I know there would be objection to it from the Opposition side—I mean the Muslim League—even against the Goonda Act, all in the name of individual liberty itself. So the comments of the League cannot be taken seriously; nor can the comments of my hon. Friend Mr. Town be taken seriously as a great support. (A voice: 'Nor can yours.') I beg to differ. My comments are very important. I am in the Party and I am very much concerned with the prestige of the Party and I am also concerned with regard to liberty itself. The question that really emerges is whether really it would not have been possible to put the Ordinance in a less objectionable form with less of extreme or wide measures. We see herein many of the Ordinances being reproduced; we see the Defence of India Rules being reproduced in another form. The question which needs consideration is the framing of the Ordinance in the way I have suggested. I am no sympathizer of the Communists; we stand wide apart. They believe that good things can be brought about by force and violence. The party to which I belong has eschewed violence out of its programme; we feel that violence

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cannot bring about a good consummation; it will only lead to more violence. See what their acts have brought about. See what a liberty-loving, peace-loving party has had to do with reference to certain violent acts done by Communists. So far as this very situation itself is concerned, it affords the best example of the use of force and its attendant evils. The Congress stands for non-violence; the Congress stands for achieving things only by the doctrine of peace and high ideals. Actuated by such belief in violence and indulging in violence the Communists cannot complain that there is harsh treatment for them. But we have reason to complain in the matter of the Ordinance that it is much better that such wide and extreme powers should not find a place in it, though past Governments might have made use of similar powers. There have been suggestions from some of the members particularly from Tanjore and Malabar that as a matter of fact, far from being severe and harsh, the provisions are not sufficient to meet the needs of the situation and they should be far stricter. It is exactly there that we disagree; it is exactly there that we must be meticulous about liberty and we must not over-step the bounds of liberty and it is exactly there that we have to keep our vision clear and our ideals in full view, for it will only be there that we may slip into a course which would be emulated by others in the future and there will be an end to liberty and it may lead to autocracy. It is in that way that I have been pointing this out to the Prime Minister and have been saying to him that it is not our object to let loose people committing acts of violence on society. When we pressed this very much upon the Prime Minister, he assured us that it was generally accepted that the Ordinance need not have been so wide in its scope or so all-embracing and so extreme or objectionable. He has promised to see that all these defects are rectified when a Bill is brought before the House as soon as possible. My hon. Friend Mr. Town has pointed out the virtue of consistency in supporting the Prime Minister with regard to this Ordinance. This is sheer consistency; in the past they supported Ordinances and in the present, how can they afford to take a different line?" (Cheers.)

Mr. SPEAKER.—“People sitting in the galleries should not take part in the cheering. If they do so, I shall be compelled to clear the galleries.”

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—“They have got one law for their own homes and quite a different one where they are to rule. It is very much to be regretted that when the Premier made it clear in his opening statement that the Ordinance was brought in view of the widespread disorders of the Communists and said not a word about the Muslims or the Muslim League, the leader of the Opposition should have launched into a long tale of alleged grievances and cruelties said to have been practised on the Muslims and secondly that the lawlessness led the way and

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set the example for communal disorders. He stated that the disturbances all took place before mosques thereby implying that the Hindus were the aggressors.

“That was the charge made. I wonder how the Hon. Premier 4 p.m. received it. I have had occasion to know that the Premier had been exceptionally kind, going beyond even ordinary limits to please the minority block. During Ramzan orders were issued and the Muslims given 10 yards of cloth per head. I do not know whether he did it to set an example for others. As a result of that, we could not get even one single yard of mill cloth per head for the Deepavali or Pongal in our district. Why? Our Muslim friends had got all the available quota for themselves. I pointed out to the district officers concerned that if they were to take such a step there would not be any cloth available for the Hindus. In spite of that, the Muslim friends got mill cloth. I know of one person who got 100 yards of cloth. I say, this policy of appeasement has brought us all to the present trouble.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know of some cases where Muslims were given more than ten yards of cloth per head? May I remind the hon. Member that Ramzan came only after Deepavali?”

* SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—“I may assure the hon. Friend I showed the District Textile Officer by calculation that if he were to give cloth ration at the rate at which he was giving to the Muslims there would be nothing left after the Muslim festival. I know as a matter of fact Mr. Sinna Kaziar Haji of my district gave chits for 150 yards for some Muslims, when people of my constituency did not get even three-fourth of a yard of mill cloth per head. If the Leader of the Opposition inquires he will find it is true.

“I will give you information of what took place in Madura. In Madura there was Communal trouble. Hindus were stabbed inside their houses. A young man, while washing his hands in his house, was beaten to death. I wrote to the District Superintendent of Police for immediate protection for Hindus. But I was informed that he was somewhere on tour. Two persons were stabbed in their houses one of whom died in the hospital. In the face of such instances it is wrong to say that the Hindus were the aggressors and the troubles were only before mosques. It is no good saying that the Ordinance is bad, and it should therefore be repealed entirely. The question is whether by passing this resolution you would keep the public peace till the regular bill is brought on the statute book. However I cannot wholeheartedly agree to support this Ordinance. It is one thing to say that you condemned Ordinance rule in 1942, and it is quite another thing to say that you are commending the same Ordinance in 1947. No doubt we have to see that quick and effective measures are taken to prevent outbreaks. But to-day we are living in times

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when India will soon be not a subject nation, as she is to-day; we are having our ambassadors in all countries. In fact, India is to be the head of a future Federation of Nations, which is going to give liberty to all countries of the world, the champion of liberty to all the subject nations of the world. To-day our members are drafting the rights of human liberty. I say, if we are to confine ourselves to our legal rights, there would not have been any reason for this discussion; no harsh criticism would have been called for. Since we are going to have a Bill very soon there is no point in pressing the present resolution."

SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"On a point of information, Sir, in support of the statement made by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, I have to say, in Dindigul it was not ten yards of cloth that was given to every Muslim for Ramzan; many of them got much more than the quota."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other day, the Hon. Premier was immensely pleased to say that as far as Madras Province is concerned it was free from communal trouble. I share the views and feelings with him; and after all the credit is due, not to their side, but much more, to our side. (Interruption.) I can assure the hon. Member that I am too strong for such interruptions. Sir, incidentally I may say, if you want some more trouble in our province, the only thing is to create some more Vaidyanathans and create some Bihar in this province. It is no wonder that certain things happened in Madura district. I may say it is my duty . . ."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Sir, I object to the statement made by Mr. Raza Khan that trouble will increase so long as Mr. Vaidyanathan and people like him are there."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, the hon. Member said, 'So long as Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar is there, trouble will be there'. I may tell my hon. Friend for his information that as a matter of fact, in the middle of a big uproar of communal trouble, when people were standing face to face in thousands, it was left not to my Muslim friends or their party to prevent a general massacre, but it was left to Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar to face them for more than half an hour to prevent a general massacre." (Applause.)

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Muslim League is not surprised at the speech of Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar. We are not afraid of his attack. One thing let me say: we do not speak as a minority to deserve some charity or doles. Sir, on this occasion, we say we are not going to be taken as a minority. We are a nation by ourselves. (Interruption.) Let not members of the Congress Party think that since they are in power to-day they should speak in a sort of patronising tone to us. We do strongly object to that."

"Coming to the subject, Sir, as my friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has dealt with it somewhat elaborately I will confine myself to only certain salient points. The Premier, though

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he spoke at length and told us of the desperate times, failed to convince us of the necessity for the Ordinance. No doubt, he talked of desperate times. But he failed to satisfy us, that desperate times required desperate action. He narrated isolated cases of disturbance. But I don't think he was justified in taking drastic measures on them. We have to go into the reasons for all that has happened. If an emergency has arisen, I ask, who is responsible for that? As Mr. Seethi Sahib said, 'You alone are responsible'. Even after assuming office, you made promises after promises. Since 1945 it was Congressmen who started Communist trouble. Incidentally I may say, we do not hold a brief for the Communists. You will find very few Muslims in the Communist troubles here or elsewhere. Therefore I make it plain we have no sympathy for the Communists. In fact, Communism is incompatible with Islam. The fact is, you wanted to crush all the parties, and therefore, you fought the Communists, and therefore, now it is a tussle between the Congress Party and the Communist Party. Have you not started your labour organisations? Wherever there is a Communist labour organization, there, side by side with that, you will see a Congress labour organization. So also, wherever there is a kisan sabha, there is also a Congress kisan sabha there. So things came to a crisis. The Premier was saying that the House should understand that Government had thought over a hundred times before bringing this Ordinance. It is no argument at all. That argument amounts to this: 'If you want Prohibition to succeed, you should not entrust it to workers like Mr. Koti Reddi, but entrust it to a drunkard, as he alone knows how to enforce it.' That is no argument at all. After saying this, I may say that it is not our point of view to condemn or to criticise Government. Our Communist friends were apparently trying to exploit the miseries of the people. They thought that by doing so, they could come into power. But they have only done a great disservice to the country. If they really feel that they should assume power in the country, they, as a party should carry on propaganda, and they should convince the masses that their ideology is right, and thereby they may try to come into power. But they thought that by fomenting labour trouble, they may assume power in the Province. Incidentally, I may say that the one defect the Communist party in India is suffering from is that they have no elderly persons to advise them, and all the young men in the party are naturally apt to commit mistakes. I am sure they will take note of this."

"The Leader of the Opposition has spoken at length about some of the communal troubles which took place in the Province, and enumerated a number of instances. While just accepting the Ordinance in a way, I may say that we strongly object to the Police being given such wide powers, indeed extraordinary powers. It is not that we say that law and order should not be maintained, but in the course of actual working of such Ordinances, it is quite possible that some of the officials may take undue advantage."

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Very recently, Sir, in our own district, in Punganur town, there was an incident. A number of persons had been arrested although they had practically nothing to do in the matter—not that I speak of Muslims, but even of Hindus—several people who are quite innocent have been arrested and kept under remand. Therefore, it is possible that such . . .”

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—“Who fomented it? (Voices from Muslim Benches: ‘You.’)”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am very happy to find Mr. Varadachari jumping from his seat. We strongly object to the enactment of such Ordinances, because it is quite likely that the police officials who may have some sort of feelings against some persons may take advantage now. (Interruption.) The Ordinance is being used against Communist members to-day. But what guarantee is there that it will not be used against persons who are opposed to the Government in view in the matter of politics? Therefore, I say that there was absolutely no justification for the Government to bring such an enactment. The Premier may say ‘Now that the Assembly has met it is a matter of 8 days, and we will bring in a comprehensive bill so that we can incorporate some of the features of the Ordinance in the bill’. If that was the view of the Premier he could have waited for some time. He could have taken the Assembly into his confidence—not only the Congress members but also the Opposition—saying that the situation is such that a measure like this is necessary if law and order is to be maintained. I can assure the hon. Premier on behalf of my party that we are with him to see that law and order is maintained in this Province, because what affects Government will affect the other party also. Whenever there was trouble and we took it to the Premier’s notice, the Premier took action, and he was accommodating us in certain respects. If only we have taken proper measures earlier, the contingency for this ordinance would not have occurred. So, when we speak on this occasion, I wish to assure the hon. Premier that we are not taking sides. It is not our concern either to support the Government or the Communist party. Whatever we say, we say it on principle, that is, whether the Government are justified in bringing in such an ordinance, and whether the Communists deserve such a thing. It is on that merit that we are speaking. Taking all these into consideration, and after having heard the very long statement of the Hon. Premier and much more from his followers—who sometimes change this way and that way, and we do not know their minds—I say it was quite unnecessary for the Government to have resorted to such an ordinance. Hence I support the resolution. It is not that I support the resolution entirely, but only on principle, and the principle being that it was not right on the part of the Government to have brought in an ordinance at this time when there was no necessity for it.”

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, to-day, we find the Godless and the faithful among the opposition benches together supporting this resolution. The Muslim League which

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believes in God, and which says that it believes in God more than anybody else, is supporting the resolution brought forward by a party—let it be by a single individual—a party which does not believe in God. But to-day if such divergent people should come together and support a particular political formula, we, who were together with the Communists in 1940 and who were Congressmen all along, think that we ought to feel more in common with the Communists than the friends on the other side. Democratic leadership is no less cross than a prize. To-day when the Congress Government has undertaken the administration of this Province, it should undertake to keep law and order. As persons in charge of the State departments, it is but just that we should proceed in a manner that would give equality of justice to one and all, and see that liberty—personal and social—is not taken away, and that the Province is administered in a manner that is very desirable. But, Sir, to be ruled by ordinances, as well as to be the father of ordinances, is very difficult, especially for people—Congressmen—who have suffered long under the various ordinances. In England you know, Sir, during the war there were ordinances. In India too there were ordinances. People were detained under the provisions of those ordinances. But it was then pointed out both by the Congress and by outsiders, that in England as Parliament has got control over the executive, there was guarantee that the ordinance will not be exercised except for reasonable purposes. But in the case of India there was no responsible executive at that time which would command the support of the people. To-day we have a Government which has the support of the people. Therefore the main objection to the promulgation of the ordinance is indeed taken away, according to the democratic conventions in vogue in all the civilised countries. We are quite aware that these ordinances are not desirable as a matter of course. As a matter of fact, the Hon. Premier has told us that it was only with blood flowing as tears in his eyes that he put his signature to this Ordinance. Equally so, we are supporting this Ordinance with blood as tears in our eyes. (A voice: ‘The Ordinance was promulgated by the Governor.’) Yes, but only with the approval of the Cabinet, and my friend need not interrupt me. We know the contents of the Ordinance. Extraordinary situations only demand such Ordinances. I put myself the question ‘Why should I support this Ordinance?’ My democratic instinct, as well as that of the Leader of our party, rebels against ordinance rule. Mr. Seethi Sahib says ‘You invited all this on your head, you gave so many promises, you have provoked the people, and therefore all this tension has come’. It is not our fault, Sir. We have inherited a Government, we have inherited a legacy. We have not created the situation. This tension has come because of bitterness of unemployments, the misery of under-nourishment, and it is due to a multitude of social inequalities that arise from social instability and economic insecurity. For this we are not responsible. It is the previous Government, and the previous British rule that must be responsible. I would now put a question, Sir. What would happen if a

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similar situation has arisen in Russia? As for England our friends have answered. But what about Russia? Of course, I agree that there is an iron curtain which prevents dissemination of news from Russia, but from what we read in newspapers and in articles, we know that even in that country some red passes are gilt-edged. They have Stalin's favourite courtiers. They have got O.G.P.U., N.K.U.D. and Cheka, etc. There is an immeasurable distance which separates those who exercise power from the common people. There are different ration cards for different categories, and there are different salaries for different kinds of workers."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Wherefrom you got this information?"

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"If you come to my house, I will supply you the information. If people in Russia protested against an ordinance like this, they will be sent to Siberia. This is the position. If this situation had arisen in Russia, the Russian Government would have acted in a far more rigorous and vigorous manner than this Government."

"Sir, I do not believe in Communism. I do not believe that Communism will bring about peace and tranquillity which is the prime need of our country. I would wish, Sir, that Communism were put down. But let us not put down Communism by Communist methods, and let us not replace our C.I.D. by the Russian O.G.P.U. Let us try to bring into existence a democratic national police which will be responsible to the people and a national Government. You can put down Communists only by the creation of conditions of prosperity, by bringing about better social legislation, better relations between the communities, and by an effective propaganda and publicity. As I have mentioned in the beginning, wherever there is unemployment, under-nourishment, and desperation, due to lack of freedom, anything may occur, including Communist activities. The only way to meet them is by way of propagating the ideals of the Congress and of Mahatma Gandhi for the freedom of our great nation. By doing these things we can take away the wind out of Communist sails. The Hon. Premier has announced that he would be willing to replace the ordinance by regular legislation, taking away certain obnoxious provisions. I would just appeal to him to do one more thing. Some of us and those who held the views of Communists were there in the same Vellore Jail. Now I wish that they are removed to some other jail. To-day in answer to a question, the Hon. the Minister for Law said that the persons arrested under this Ordinance are given some or all of the privileges that are given to detenus formerly. I would appeal to the Government not only to give them all, but even more privileges. You must make their life better in the jail, and give them all facilities that are possible in a prison. Sir, I would appeal to Government to review their cases immediately, and constitute a non-official agency to go into the question of their release."

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"I would appeal to you, Sir, and through you to the House to support the stand taken by the Government to oppose the resolution moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. P. Venkateswarlu. I would also appeal to my Communist friends not to further deteriorate the situation, but to create conditions in which the matter could be reviewed without delay as it is proposed to be done immediately and I hope within a week."

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p.m.

* MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, one fact has emerged from the debate that has so far progressed and that is that the grave situation depicted by the Hon. the Prime Minister in his statement in vindication of the action of Government in promulgating the Public Safety Ordinance of 1947 has not been questioned or disproved. Our Communist friend dwelt at length with this in endeavouring to shift responsibility for the various atrocities laid at the door of his party by the Prime Minister, to the shoulders of mirasdars and Congressmen. As far as I can gather he never at any stage refuted those charges."

"The hon. the Leader of the Opposition admitted the facts. Incidentally in setting forth his reasons for objecting to the Ordinance he has made a scathing indictment against the Government and their Party. The various instances he brought before the House were a revelation to many of us. We only trust that those acts which provide matter for serious consideration by the Government will engage their attention so that the delinquents may be dealt with and the public may be reassured that excesses will not go unpunished. That is by the way."

"Sir, whoever is responsible or whatever may be the cause, the fact remains that a grave situation exists and that if it is not grappled with a firm hand and speedily, it is likely to assume serious proportions, probably get completely out of control and eventually prove a grave menace to the millions of peace-loving and law-abiding citizens in this Province. It is therefore the plain duty of the Government to tackle this problem and arrest the further progress of lawlessness in this land. It is also our duty to stand by the Government so that we may not give the impression abroad to mischief mongers and depredators that their obstructive, subversive and destructive activities are approved by us."

"But was it necessary for the Government to resort to the promulgation of an Ordinance to meet the situation? That is a question that is best answered by the Government themselves. They are in possession of facts which we have not. They are charged with the responsibility of seeing to the safety and well being of the millions of people in this Province, and they know what is best to handle the situation. As one detached from party affiliations or party sympathies it seems to me that an extraordinary measure has been called for by an extraordinary situation. Otherwise one cannot understand a body of responsible men who under other conditions opposed tooth and nail the promulgation of Ordinances in the past could now see good in evil and adopt a similar measure. Whatever it is, the Government feel that the situation

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called for a drastic step and they have taken it and I think that it is our duty to support them with this reservation of course, that the Government will see to it that excesses are not committed in the name of the Ordinance or under pretext of carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance. The hon. Prime Minister has told us that he will probably be coming before this House with a Bill incorporating the provisions of the Ordinance. I trust that he will see to it that the obnoxious provisions of the Ordinance which are objected to will not find a place in that Bill and that the Bill will provide just sufficient power to enable the Government to maintain law and order in an emergency. One word more and I shall finish.

"Police officials have as usual come in for a good deal of criticism. I think it is somewhat unfair always to be hammering at them. Theirs is by no means an enviable position. When called upon to face danger even at the risk of their lives, they have to act and act on the spur of the moment according as the situation demands and I think it cannot be seriously suggested that policemen as a whole or the majority of them wilfully and deliberately take advantage of their position to commit excesses. We must allow for the circumstances in which they find themselves. And of course, if there are excesses they should no doubt be brought to the notice of the Government and the delinquent must be dealt with. They are between the devil and the deep sea. On the one side they are answerable to the Government some of whose Members perhaps have felt their excesses in the past and they are naturally afraid to act lest they should incur the displeasure of the Government. On the other hand they are pulled to pieces by the public even when they do their duty. I say, Sir, that we should refrain from criticising that body of men lest they should fail to carry out their duties, which will only mean more danger to those around them. With these few observations I oppose the resolution against the Ordinance."

* SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR:—"Mr. Speaker, I am one of those who believe that rule by Ordinance is an unmitigated evil. There are those who believe that Government is evil, that Government with the assistance of the Police and the Military is a greater evil and certainly Government by Ordinance is an unmitigated evil. That does not mean to say that any Government who successfully function in a big Province like Madras must abdicate its functions when extraordinary situations demand extraordinary measures. Today the situation is such that it is admitted on all hands, even by the Opposition, that drastic remedies are required. It is only in such a state of emergency that this Government has come forward with an Ordinance of this kind. It is certainly not a pleasure for a Congressman much less for the hon. Premier who has fought against rule by Ordinance to promulgate an Ordinance of this kind to put down lawlessness. It may generally be asked "Why do you, being Congressmen, promulgate an Ordinance?" Well, Sir, I would like to say, that it is just the justification for it. If the Congress Government has promulgated this Ordinance, it is

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because they themselves have thought that it is necessary in the interests of the country that it must be promulgated and that there is every justification for it. Otherwise I must say there is no justification for it. Before, the Congressmen have said that an Ordinance was obnoxious and that it was not the characteristic of any civilized Government to rule by Ordinance. Even so we Congressmen now feel that without this Ordinance we cannot rule this Province, we have either to abdicate our function as a Government or resort to extraordinary measures to meet extraordinary situations. The hon. Leader of the Opposition gave a long list of events which in his opinion created such a situation for the Government. I was wondering why he was narrating such a list of omissions and commissions by the Government. I cannot help feeling that and it looked to me as if he was preparing a case in support of one of the resolutions that was recently passed by the Working Committee of the Muslim League at Karachi. He was enumerating a set of grievances and making out a case of oppression of the Muslims by the popular Congress Government of Madras. By setting out this long list of commissions and omissions by the Government in his speech for over one and a half hours, I think the hon. the Leader of the Opposition only made out a case for the Ordinance. He admitted that there was something wrong in the body politic, and that lawlessness on a wide scale prevailed. He admitted that. Then he went on to apportion the blame. According to him it seemed to me that the villain of the piece was always the Congressman, if not the August hero, and the victim in all these cases was always the pious and innocent Muslim, if not the Leaguer. Sir, to me it makes all the difference. To him it makes no difference. The two terms are co-extensive and co-terminus. That apart, it is always a Congressman who is the villain of the piece. I am not prepared to accept that position. Nevertheless he made out a very good case for the promulgation of the Ordinance and that is my point.

"Sir, the various provisions of the Ordinance, some of them obnoxious, are a verbatim repetition of Defence of India Rule 126 under which we had suffered, with some of its good effects removed. I was myself wondering whether such obnoxious provisions were at all necessary. But after hearing Sardar Vedaratnam Pillai and after he had narrated to us some of the conditions in the Tanjore district it seems to me that the provisions of the present Ordinance are not drastic enough to deal with the situation as required by the circumstances. That is the gist of the case. The main objection to the Ordinance is that it is subversive of the civil liberties of the citizens. Is it the civil liberty of those who go about defying the law or is it the civil liberty of the large mass of people which is endangered by the organised lawlessness of these people? If the civil liberty of the large masses of people is to be preserved, it is necessary that the civil liberty of the few who go about defying the law must be curtailed. I submit, Sir, that the lesser of the two evils should be chosen. If in the interests of the large masses of people it is necessary to put down lawlessness and for that purpose to some extent curtail the civil liberty of some

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people then, any Government must be prepared to do it. Otherwise it ceases to be a Government. Now, Sir, what is happening in the country? We had a partial description of the happenings in Tanjore district from Sardar Vedaratnam and some time back we had a description of the happenings in Malabar from the Hon. the Premier. The only charge that speaker after speaker made against the Government is that action drastic or otherwise was not taken earlier. If action had been taken at an earlier stage, probably things would not have happened in this manner. As the Hon. the Premier himself admitted, he waited and waited and he gave a very long rope. Yes, that is exactly the charge against the Government. But does it mean that the Government should not now enact the necessary law to protect the interests of the people? That the Government have failed to take the necessary action of the earliest opportunity is no argument to say that they should never do it. That is the point that I am driving at.

"Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition would have us believe that because here and there some communal disturbances occurred in the country and according to him in some places the Muslims were oppressed in the sense that they were not given adequate representation in some Food Committees and Taluk Committees and the newly formed producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Societies, therefore there was a large amount of discontent among the people and the people thought that all civil liberties were at stake. He would have us believe that because these minorities were oppressed, people were found in large numbers to rise in revolt against the Government and organise looting, arson and all kinds of lawlessness on a large scale. That is the extraordinary analysis of the case by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition, but I am not able to believe it is so."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR :—"On a point of information, Sir, what I said was that Congressmen taught the lesson and the Communists were following it."

SRI R. SUBBA AYYAR :—"Sir, another objection to the promulgation of the Ordinance is that all its provisions are obnoxious and they are not fit to be on the statute book of any civilized Government. To a great extent it is true, Sir. But as I submitted earlier in the course of my speech, extraordinary situations have to be met by extraordinary methods and that is the only justification for the Ordinance."

"Therefore, Sir, in the light of the assurances given by the Hon. the Premier on the floor of this House as well as elsewhere that very soon a Bill would be brought forward before the House without the obnoxious provisions of the Ordinance, we may allow the Ordinance to be in force for the short duration for which it is necessary. We all heard Sardar Vedaratnam say that the people of Tanjore felt that the Ordinance was a boon to them and that it came none too soon, and that they felt that the Ordinance should have been promulgated earlier."

"As I said, if some of the obnoxious provisions of the Ordinance are removed and a Bill presented to the House very soon."

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there can be no objection to the Ordinance continuing in force until the Bill is enacted into law. (The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam: 'Of course.') I mean, Sir, that there is no force in the objection raised by hon. Members on the other side that the Ordinance is unnecessary.

"Sir, another argument which has been advanced is that resort to an Ordinance was not necessary in the circumstances of the case and that the ordinary law would be sufficient. Now, Sir, what is the ordinary law to which the Government can resort? It is section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the security provisions, namely, sections 107, 108 and 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act. It is also said that a Goondas Act could be enacted and so on and so forth. When I heard Sardar Vedaratnam narrating the events in Tanjore district, it seemed to me that any resort to the ordinary provisions of the law would be only dilatory and the delay would not meet the requirements of the case. Sardar Vedaratnam's contention was that the provisions of the Ordinance were not drastic enough and that even the Ordinance has not been effective in restoring peace in Tanjore district. If that is so, Sir, the argument that the ordinary law of the land would be sufficient to meet the situation is pointless and has no meaning."

"It has been suggested, Sir, that we could enact a Goondas Act. Now, Sir, who are the Goondas? I have gone through the provisions of the Goondas Act enacted in some of the other provinces and I find that goondas are professional hooligans who are employed by certain parties to do certain acts. How can any Government under the conditions which have been narrated to us in this House resort to a Goondas Act, under which it would be very difficult for anybody, even for the Government, to establish that a certain person is a goonda and that the Act should apply to him? We all know law's delays! To prosecute a person under the Goondas Act, to establish the prosecution that he is a goonda, that he has been engaged by so and so, would be difficult and would defeat the purpose of the Government. I would therefore submit to the House that the ordinary law of the land—section 144, security provisions, Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, and Goondas Act is not adequate to tackle the situation. That was why the Government had to resort to an Ordinance."

"Sir, to those lovers of liberty and civil liberty it might seem that it is inconsistent for a popular Government to resort to rule by ordinance. Of course, theoretically it would seem so. But even as a political theory, there is nothing inconsistent in any popular Government resorting to rule by Ordinance if the situation demands. (N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur: 'What is his authority for this political theory?') I am myself the authority for saying that there is nothing inconsistent between the two in certain circumstances. (Sri Kallur Subba Rao: 'Experience.')

"One hon Member asked: 'Why should lawlessness break out on such a large scale all of a sudden as has been alleged?' True, there is a lot of economic discontent in the country. We all know

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that. We also know that that is being utilized by some sections or parties for furthering their own political ends. That is also admitted. It is of course the duty of the Government to find remedies to remove the economic discontent, but it cannot be said that because there is discontent, people can resort to lawlessness on an extraordinary scale and that it is open to some sections of the people and some parties to utilize these opportunities to further their political ends and create situations in the country where safety of life and property is jeopardized. Therefore, Sir, while I admit it is the duty of the Government to seek remedies for the economic discontent, it is also the duty of the Government to save people from lawlessness.

"In conclusion, Sir, having analysed some of the objections raised to the promulgation of the Ordinance it is my duty to appeal to every hon. Member of the House to strengthen the hands of the Government, support the Ordinance and throw out the resolution moved by the hon. Member Mr. Venkateswarlu."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 7th February 1947."

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 46 asked by K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 6th February 1947 at page 189 supra.]

Statement I.

Number, designation and salaries of the employees now at the station are as follows:—

Number.	Designation.	Salary of the employees per head per mensem.		Total.	
		RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
1	Sub-Officer	64	0	64	0
1	Mechanic drivers	54	0	54	0
6	Firemen-drivers	43	0	258	0
2	Ambulance drivers	43	0	86	0
3	Telephone clerks	33	0	99	0
3	Leading firemen	30	0	90	0
3	Leading firemen	28	0	84	0
23	Firemen	21	0	483	0
7	Firemen	19	0	133	0
4	Firemen messengers	21	0	84	0
2	Ambulance attendants	21	0	42	0
55				1,477	0

Besides this the personnel including Sub-Officers are drawing allowances as follows:—

Number.	Designation.	Cost of living allowance per mensem.		Compensatory allowance per mensem.		House rent.		Total.	
		RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
1	Sub-Officer	18	0	4	0	4	0	22	0
1	Mechanic driver	18	0	..	..	4	0	22	0
6	Firemen drivers	18	0	..	..	4	0	134	4
2	Ambulance drivers	18	0	..	..	4	0	44	12
3	Telephone clerks	16	0	..	..	4	0	60	0
4	Leading firemen	16	0	..	..	4	0	81	8
2	Leading firemen	16	0	..	..	..	..	32	0
11	Firemen	16	0	..	..	..	..	176	0
19	Firemen	16	0	..	..	2	10	353	14
3	Firemen messengers	16	0	..	..	2	10	55	14
1	Firemen messenger	16	0	..	..	..	..	16	0
2	Ambulance attendants	16	0	..	..	2	10	37	4
55								1,035	14

Statement II.

Monthly expenses incurred for the station and the items on which they are incurred.

Month.	Amount of expenditure.		Particulars of expenditure.
	RS.	A. P.	
			1942.
December ..	50	0	Other charges (P.A. office expenditure).
			1943.
January ..	Nil.		Other charges (P.A. office expenditure).
February ..	42	7	Other charges (P.A. office expenditure).
March ..	54	0	Other charges for new chappels.
	46	0	Other charges (P.A. office expenditure).
	96	4	Other charges (Railway freight for trailer pump).
	41	15	Other charges (P.A. office expenditure).
	119	8	Other charges (office furniture purchased).
Total ..	357	12	3

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Month.	Amount of expenditure.	Particulars of expenditure.
		1943—cont.
	RS. A. P.	
April ..	49 2 9	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	8 8 0	Other charges (two pairs stockings for Station Officer).
	45 1 0	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, kerosene, repairs to vehicles, etc.).
	37 0 0	Other charges (photo charges for warrant card of the personnel).
	39 10 6	Other charges (petrol charges paid).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
Total ..	199 6 3	
May ..	47 15 0	Other charges (P.A., electrical charges, repairs to vehicles, R.R. paid).
	117 2 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	43 0 3	Other charges (P.A., kerosene, repairs to vehicles, etc.).
Total ..	208 1 3	
June ..	36 9 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	47 7 0	Other charges (P.A., electrical charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	43 2 6	Other charges (P.A., kerosene, repairs to vehicles, etc.).
Total ..	127 2 6	
July ..	49 10 3	Other charges (P.A., electrical charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	42 9 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	48 3 6	Other charges (P.A., kerosene, R.R. paid, etc.).
Total ..	140 7 3	
August ..	43 3 3	Other charges (P.A., electrical charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	72 6 0	Other charges (building rent paid for 11 months).
	47 10 0	Other charges (P.A., mobilising board, photos, electrical bill, etc.).
	26 13 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	190 0 3	
September.	49 4 6	Other charges (chappels repair, etc.).
	27 4 3	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	76 8 9	
October ..	43 7 5	Other charges (P.A., chappels repairs, electrical charges, etc.).
	47 15 4	Other charges (building rent, electrical charges, etc.).
	401 7 2	Other charges (temple tanks adoption for fire-fighting purposes).
	50 0 0	Other charges (cost of one office clock).
	49 15 7	Other charges (chappels repair, repairs to vehicles, R.R. paid, etc.).
	45 0 0	Fire Station whitewashing and painting charges.
	66 9 9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	704 7 3	
November.	20 0 0	Other charges (Postage and Telegram).
	49 10 1	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, electrical charges, chappels repairs, etc.).

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Month.	Amount of expenditure.	Particulars of expenditure.
		1943—cont.
	RS. A. P.	
	32 0 0	Other charges (cost of hose ramps, pair 1).
	43 1 10	Other charges (paint for vehicles, electric charges, etc.).
Total ..	144 11 11	
December ..	49 15 6	Other charges (chappels repair, rent paid, etc.).
	43 10 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	285 10 3	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	379 3 9	
		1944.
January ..	46 8 10	Other charges (Fire Station rent paid, R.R. paid, etc.).
	42 6 9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	47 1 4	Other charges (electric bill, chappels, etc.).
Total ..	136 0 11	
February ..	45 11 4	Other charges (Fire Station rent, electric charges, etc.).
	128 4 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	40 7 11	Other charges (chappels repair, electric charges, etc.).
	41 13 6	Other charges (P.A.R.R. Paid, Fire Service vehicle repair, etc.).
Total ..	256 4 9	
March ..	43 1 2	Other charges (cost of black board, cotton waste, etc.).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegram).
	67 11 3	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	46 14 0	Other charges (R.R. paid, electric charges, etc.).
Total ..	177 10 5	
April ..	20 0 0	Other charges (cost of one Coconut tree paid).
	46 14 5	Other charges (electric charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	120 0 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	97 0 0	Other charges (cost of constructing ramps to No. 6 static tank).
Total ..	283 14 11	
May ..	45 6 0	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, chappels repair, electric charges paid, etc.).
	49 8 9	Other charges (P.A., electric bill paid, R.R. paid, chappels repair, etc.).
	47 15 0	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, licence fee, building rent, etc.).
Total ..	142 13 9	
June ..	48 0 0	Other charges (repairs to pump MDM. 1388).
	45 8 9	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, R.R., etc.).
	203 2 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	296 10 9	
July ..	177 9 4	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	47 3 0	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, R.R. paid, etc.).
	47 0 0	Other charges (repair charges to car No. MDX 669).
Total ..	271 12 4	

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Month.	Amount of expenditure.	Particulars of expenditure.
		1944—cont.
	RS. A. P.	
August ..	44 0 0	Other charges (repairs to car No. MDX. 669).
	49 0 9	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, R.R., etc.).
	45 11 9	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, stitching uniform charges, etc.).
	185 2 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	323 14 6	
September.	144 14 9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	48 8 9	Other charges (P.A., photos charges, R.R., etc.).
	48 4 11	Other charges P.A., chappels repair, electric charges paid, etc.).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
Total ..	261 12 5	
October ..	47 14 7	Other charges (battery charges, MTU. repair, etc.).
	47 6 0	Other charges (MDL. 130 repairs, etc.).
Total ..	95 4 7	
November.	175 6 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	48 6 11	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, electric bill paid, etc.).
	192 8 9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	416 5 8	
December ..	48 3 0	Other charges (P.A., chappels repair, electric charges, etc.).
	105 2 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	49 13 6	Other charges (Silencer for MTU. Dynamo repair, etc.).
	80 14 0	Other charges (stitching charges for uniform).
Total ..	284 0 6	
		1945.
January ..	50 0 0	Other charges (cost of ten signal posts).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	61 5 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	131 5 0	
February ..	182 4 3	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	46 6 2	Other charges (P.A., battery charging, R. R. paid, etc.).
	47 5 5	Other charges (cost of acid mixture paint, renewal of Driving Licence, etc.).
Total ..	275 15 10	
March ..	110 0 0	Other charges (Fire station rent for ten months).
	181 11 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	49 6 11	Other charges (P.A., painting charges, electric bill, etc.).
	35 5 2	Other charges (Municipal tax for F/M quarters).
Total ..	376 7 1	
April ..	105 2 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	49 5 3	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, static tank rent, etc.).
Total ..	174 7 9	

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Month.	Amount of expenditure.	Particulars of expenditure.
		1945—cont.
	RS. A. P.	
May ..	242 13 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	50 0 0	Other charges (P.A., static tank rent paid, tyre, paint, etc.).
	78 14 6	Other charges (Stitching charges of uniforms).
	49 12 8	Other charges (P.A. static tank rents, M.T.U. repairs, etc.).
Total ..	421 8 8	
June ..	117 14 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	62 4 10	Other charges (electric charges).
	49 14 0	Other charges (P.A., static tank rents, M.T.U. repairs etc.).
Total ..	230 1 4	
July ..	37 3 8	Other charges (P.A., wooden rack for store room and rear axle for MDM 1544).
	150 11 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	49 1 11	Other charges (renewal of driving licence fee, linseed oil, hydraulic bucket washer, etc.).
Total ..	237 0 7	
August ..	178 0 3	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	65 6 0	Other charges (cost of one battery).
	47 2 1	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, First-aid certificate fee, etc.).
Total ..	290 8 4	
September.	43 4 2	Other charges (P.A., kerosene, distilled water, etc.).
	133 7 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	47 7 6	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, static tank repairs, etc.).
	26 15 0	Other charges (Municipal tax for F/M quarters).
Total ..	251 1 8	
October ..	48 9 0	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, kerosene, distilled water, etc.).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	133 0 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	201 9 6	
November ..	49 8 1	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, R.R., etc.).
	154 0 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total ..	203 8 7	
December ..	139 3 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	47 0 5	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, R.R., etc.).
	198 8 0	Other charges (Municipal tax for Fire station and F/M quarters).
	47 7 0	Other charges (electric bill, ankle boot repair, etc.).
Total ..	432 2 11	
		1946
January ..	48 12 0	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, paint, repairs, etc.).
	157 3 6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	20 0 0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	47 6 0	Other charges (P.A., white washing, R.R. paid, etc.).
Total ..	273 5 6	
February ..	167 7 0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	63 4 0	Other charges (kerosene, brake oil, etc.).
	48 2 2	Other charges (P.A., electric charges, driving licence renewal fee, etc.).
Total ..	278 13 2	

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Month.	Amount of expenditure.			Particulars of expenditure.
	1946—cont.			
March	Rs.	A.	P.	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, R.R. paid, etc.).
	48	12	5	Other charges (Petrol, oil, etc.).
	185	5	0	Other charges (Cost of three batteries).
	187	11	0	
Total	421	12	5	
April	20	0	0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	45	8	0	Other charges (P.A., R.R. paid, electric bill, kerosene, etc.).
Total	65	8	0	
May	411	11	6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	186	11	0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	48	6	2	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, vehicle repairs).
	49	4	6	Other charges (kerosene, renewal of licence fee, waste, R.R. paid, etc.).
Total	696	1	2	
June	20	0	0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	231	3	6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	49	14	5	Other charges (renewal of driving licence fee, washing charges, kerosene, First-aid certificate fee, etc.).
	123	8	0	Other charges (cost of ankle boots).
	36	0	0	Other charges (welding charges of M.T.U.).
Total	460	9	11	
July	179	3	0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	178	1	0	Other charges (compensation for static tank site).
	40	4	2	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, static tank rent, etc.).
	20	0	0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	202	4	6	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	39	11	5	Other charges (P.A., kerosene, R.R. paid, renewal of driving licence fee, waste, etc.).
	84	2	0	Other charges (Municipal tax for Fire station and men's quarters).
Total	743	10	1	
August	780	0	0	Other charges (taxation of vehicles).
September.	48	10	1	Other charges (P.A., electric bill, sweeper's salary, pouch repairs, etc.).
	20	0	0	Other charges (Postage Stamps and Telegrams).
	33	4	4	Other charges (washing charges, kerosene, etc.).
	158	14	9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	283	12	9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	31	2	7	Other charges (R.R. paid, electrical charges paid, repairs, etc.).
Total	575	12	6	
October	48	8	9	Other charges (electric bill, sweepers salary, R.R. paid).
November.	28	1	1	Other charges (P.A., sweepers salary, kerosene, double shell oil, etc.).
	20	0	0	Other charges (Service Postage and Telegrams).
	62	15	9	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
	248	9	0	Other charges (petrol, oil, etc.).
Total	359	9	10	
December	32	14	4	Other charges (electric bill, double shell-oil, washing charges, etc.).

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 7th February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

*57 Q; *58 Q; *59 Q.

Government Muhammadan Training School, Guntur.

* 59-A Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN (on behalf of Muhammad Abdul Salam Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government are considering the question of abolishing the Government Muhammadan Training School at Guntur:

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that the institution is serving the needs of the entire Andhra Muslims?

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

“(a) No. The Government Secondary Training School, Guntur, the Government Muslim Training School, Guntur, and the office of the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Guntur, were located in the old Medical School buildings in that place. As the Medical School buildings were required immediately for the Guntur Medical College which has been started recently, the Government asked the Collector to make arrangements in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction for shifting the institutions referred to above to other buildings. But as no buildings were available the Director of Public Instruction was requested to consider the question of shifting the school to Madras as the strength of the schools in Guntur and Kurnool is very poor.

“(b) & (c) Does not arise.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I enquire what was the strength of the school at Guntur? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ I speak from memory. I think it was twelve.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I enquire whether the Government intend to abolish any more Muslim schools? ”

a 57 Q.—Vide page 254 infra.

b 58 Q.—Postponed for 8th February 1947.

c 59 Q.—Vide page 257 infra.

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“That question is without any basis. Even this school has not been abolished.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“Is it a fact that generally in these separate Muhammadan schools, there is not sufficient strength to warrant separate institutions?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am not in a position to answer a general question like this. But in this school, the strength was very poor indeed.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I know which is the reason of the two which was responsible for shifting the school, either want of buildings or the smallness of the number?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Want of building was the immediate reason.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If want of buildings was the only immediate reason, why was it shifted from Guntur to Madras?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“For that very reason.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is there no building available in Guntur so that it has to be shifted to Madras?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Yes, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is his policy that any particular school specially intended for Muslims should be closed on account of the smallness of the number?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“That is not the rule only for the Muslim schools. For any school, when the numbers are not economical to work, it may be closed.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it not a fact that there is a very great need for Muslim teachers in view of the fact that the Government's policy seems to be to introduce compulsory elementary education in the Province?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am afraid the hon. Member is labouring under a misunderstanding. This school has not yet been closed. If sufficient students are not forthcoming, not only training schools, but other schools also may be closed.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know when a building is available in Guntur, whether the school will be shifted back to that place?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“That is the present intention.”

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Hunger strike by elementary school teachers, Guntur.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that aided elementary school teachers in Guntur have resorted to hunger strike as a protest against inadequate grants; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

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

“(a) The Government have no information.

“(b) Does not arise.

“I received a wire as follows from Guntur after I received a copy of the notice of the question:—

“Very unsatisfactory salaries. Guntur teachers hunger strike.”

“That is the only information that the Government have. It is an unconfirmed telegram.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Are the Government aware that a news item has appeared in the press to that effect, and are they prepared to take any action regarding their scales of pay?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I have not seen the news item in any paper. About the scales of pay, I am unable to say anything at present.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“When was the telegram received?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Yesterday.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Does the Hon. Minister propose to take the initiative in the matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“It is a matter of large policy involving 80 lakhs of rupees. This is a matter for the Cabinet to decide. I am not in a position to say anything in the matter.”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Since the staff are on hunger-strike, is it not the duty of the Government to interfere in the matter to save their lives?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“This is not a method which the Government would like to encourage—fasting and strike for increase of pay.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Will the Government explain why they have made a distinction in their recommendations between the salaries of the teachers in the same grade in the elementary and secondary schools, and whether they will consider doing away with such distinction?”

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

“Government have got the deliberations of the Salaries Committee. This is a very big question that does not arise as a supplementary to this question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister, was not the illustrious example of fasting to coerce set by Mr. Gandhi, which is followed even by the teachers?”

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

“It certainly does not arise out of this question.”

Number of students admitted in the Arts Colleges.

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

(a) the number of students who were successful in the S.S.L.C. and in the Intermediate examinations this year;

(b) how many of them applied for admission to the Arts Colleges and how many have been taken in; and

(c) whether larger number of admissions have been made in the science groups in the Intermediate and B.A. classes this year as compared with last year?

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

“(a) 31,180 students appeared for the S.S.L.C. examination, 16,109 were declared eligible for University courses of study. 12,675 students appeared for the Intermediate examination. 5,254 students came out successful.

“(b) 29,325 students have applied for admission into the Colleges. Of these, 15,247 have been taken in. Considering the fact that many students have applied to more than one college, it is not possible to find out the exact number who have applied, which may be much less.

“(c) Yes.”

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any proposals under consideration for giving admission to a larger number of students in the Arts Colleges next year?”

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

“The Government is on that matter.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—Will the Hon. Minister for Education give a lead for starting more colleges next year?”

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

“The Government are considering other proposals for their increase.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“When will the Government come out with these other proposals?”

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

“I expect soon, Sir.”

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Am I to understand that the other proposals do not include the opening of new colleges?”

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

“The Government by themselves have not got any proposal to open any new college. But if private agencies are coming, that is another matter.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—

“Is the Hon. Minister for Education aware that there is a move to have a Pachayappa's College at Conjeevaram?”

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

“I am aware of it from a casual talk I had with him one of these days.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—

“May I ask the Hon. Minister to give an assurance that he would consider more favourably the question of grants to such colleges?”

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

“It is a general question involving finance which requires due consideration.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact that grants such as laboratory, furniture and equipment grants are being withheld this year?”

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

“It is not this year only. For the last some years, there has been a Government Order which does not give such grants.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask the Government to take steps to provide at least one college for each district where there are no colleges at present, for instance, Kurnool and Cuddapah districts?”

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

“I am afraid it is strayed too far away from this question.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government consider the desirability, in the event of opening fresh colleges, of adopting what is called the system of federalizing education by opening separate science colleges, separate colleges for humanities, and so on?”

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

“If the hon. Member gives more detailed suggestion, it will be considered.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I request you, Sir, to help the hon. Members of this House to see that the Hon. Minister answers the question. When a question was put whether the Government would not open colleges in districts where they did not exist, the Hon. Minister's answer was

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that such a question did not arise. I want to know from you whether such a question does not arise out of this. I wish to submit to you that the question is of finding accommodation for students whose applications have been rejected for the last two or three years, and the only way or one of the ways by which this problem can be solved is by opening more colleges. When such a question has been asked, the Hon. Minister says that this does not arise."

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

"May I point out that the question put was whether larger number of admissions have been made in science groups this year? The question does not refer to future at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister must be given notice of this question. He cannot answer off-hand."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I point out that supplementary questions have a place? I can understand his asking for notice, but it does not lie in his mouth to say that it does not arise. It is the Speaker's duty."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to the admission of students to colleges, may I enquire whether the Government have arrived at any decision about reviving the College Selection Committee?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"No, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister for Education consider the desirability of making the grants I referred to this year?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"The hon. Member may put a separate question."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—
"Will the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of constituting advisory committees for admission to Government colleges?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Yes, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the present Government Order restricting the award of grants to colleges and high schools will very soon be superseded by another order making generous grants for equipment to colleges and high schools under aided agencies?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"While I am in all sympathy with the suggestion, I am afraid I cannot give any assurance about that."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask the Government to please consider the policy of spreading out colleges in the various districts instead of concentrating them in a few places as at present, so as to make education available within the reach of all the people in areas in the presidency not served by colleges?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"Yes. That suggestion will be considered."

* 58 Q.—Postponed.

Permits issued to Coimbatore Town Bus Service.

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

(a) whether during the pendency of the criminal case against the Proprietor of Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Coimbatore, the Regional Transport Officer, Coimbatore, issued five permits for the Coimbatore Town Service for this service;

(b) whether such issue was under an order of the Government;

(c) if so, the special reasons for such an order;

(d) whether it is a fact that the same company was refused permit for Town Service by the Regional Transport Authority, and the Central Road Traffic Board, and whether the Government some time back had held that the company was criminally involved and unfit to be given any permit;

(e) whether the Government ordered expunging of certain remarks made by the Regional Transport Authority, Coimbatore, during its meeting about the company; and

(f) the reasons for expunging the remarks while the case in connexion with which these remarks were made, is still pending disposal?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" (a) Five temporary permits were issued to the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Limited. The Regional Transport Officer, Coimbatore, had no information whether a criminal case against the proprietor of the service was pending when those permits were issued.

" (b) The answer is in the negative.

" (c) Does not arise.

" (d) The company was originally refused permit by the Road Traffic Board and Central Road Traffic Board. The Government did not hold that the company was criminally involved and unfit to be given any permit.

" (e) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (f) The remarks were not substantiated and hence they were ordered to be expunged."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the prosecution ordered against this company was not for fabricating false evidence in regard to trip-sheet?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Notice."

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the District Magistrate before whom this case came up did not use the word ‘criminal’ in his remarks in connexion with the proprietor of this service?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I want notice.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government also take notice from me of this information that this very gentleman was fined by the District Superintendent of Police under the Defence of India Rules in a prosecution case for applying for replacement of a tyre when he had already obtained another tyre once before?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The Government will call for a report.”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Can an hon. Member of this House use this forum for libel?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“This is not libel.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government be pleased to state whether there were no other applicants for this route on the same day, and if so, why was this not very same applicant preferred to the rest?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I want notice. There must have been some reason.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government be pleased to state why this bus service was given extra taxi permits also, while the same privilege was refused to several other bus services in Coimbatore?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“I have no information. Notice.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Hon. Minister call for fuller information and order an investigation into the merits or demerits of this case?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The Government will call for an elaborate report.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“I am not satisfied with the answer. I want them to verify the information.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member is making a statement.”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“The Government will call for an elaborate report.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that the hon. Member, Sri N. S. Varadachari, takes special interest in the matter of motor transport throughout the province, will the Hon. Minister consult him always in matters of policy?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“It is a question worth considering. I shall consider.”

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether I did not give him certain documents for investigation by him in connexion with this very service?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“It is true that the hon. Member has given certain documents to be passed over to the authorities. They have been passed over.”

Alleged seizure of knives or daggers in Feroke in Malabar.

* 60 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a large number of knives or daggers have been recovered from certain Hindu residents of Feroke in Malabar district by the Police?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Government have received an official report that on or about 5th of September 1946 three country made swords were seized from three Hindus in a village near Feroke, Malabar district.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what action the police has taken in the matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Information would be obtained and furnished.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it a fact, Sir, that the authorities have applied for sanction of Government for prosecution?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“My previous answer covers this.”

MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. the Prime Minister whether these daggers and knives were recovered from Congressmen?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“That also would be ascertained and information furnished.”

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“Is it a fact, Sir, that they were presented by Muslim Leaguers?”
(No answer.)

Alleged prohibition to use radio in Adoni.

* 61 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Deputy Collector of Adoni prohibited the people from using or hearing publicly any radio and broadcasting programmes of the All-India Radio on or about the 15th September; and if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part of the question does not arise.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is the Government aware that reports to this effect were published in daily newspapers and why did not the Government contradict them when it was not a fact?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is so difficult for the Government to issue contradictions to the statements that appear so often in the press."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"It is not a statement. It is news published in *Andhra Patrika*?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"News published are also statements."

College of Indian medicine at Calicut.

* 62 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to start a college of Indian Medicine at Calicut?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The answer is in the negative."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether this Government has allowed the District Medical Officers to do private practice, and whether she is aware that some District Medical Officers are taking abnormal consulting fees both from the rich and poor coming to the hospitals?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"This question does not arise out of the original question."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is there any proposal to start a college of this kind in any part of this province?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, there is a proposal to start a college of Indian Medicine at the Capital City."

Number of spindles in Madras Province.

* 63 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of spindles now working in all the textile mills in this Province, and the production of yarn and cloth in this Province;

(b) the approximate quantity of yarn produced by each spindle in a shift;

(c) the total quantity of yarn despatched outside from this Province (in lb.) per month;

(d) the quantity (in yards) of handloom cloth exported to other provinces in a month and the names of the provinces;

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(e) the quantity of mill cloth produced in this Province (in yards) per month;

(f) the quantity of handloom cloth (in yards) exported to places outside India;

(g) the quantity of mill cloth sent outside the Province and the particulars with the names of the places; and

(h) the quantity of mill cloth imported from outside the Province (in yards) per month?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) The total number of spindles now working in all the Textile Mills in this province is 16.12 lakhs. The average production of yarn is 40,000 bales per mensem of which 7,000 bales are consumed by weaving sections of mills. The total production of cloth is 6,094 bales (1 bale—1,500 yards).

" (b) The quantity of yarn production per spindle per shift of 9 hours is as follows:—

Count.	Quantity ozs.
10s ..	8.5
20s ..	6.0
30s ..	3.5
40s ..	2.88
60s ..	1.51
80s —	1.05
100s ..	0.6

" (c) The export obligation of mills in this province under the All-India Scheme is 16,611 bales (66,44,400 lb.) per mensem. The average quantity of yarn despatched per mensem outside this province to other provinces and States within India during the three months October to December 1946 is 57,76,800 lb. In addition to this a small quantity of yarn, which varies from month to month, is exported to other countries.

" (d) The information regarding the average quantities (in bales of 1,500 yards) of handloom cloth exported to other provinces in the months of August to October 1946 and the names of the importing provinces is furnished in *Statement No. I placed on the table of the House.

" (e) The present average production of mill cloth in this province is 9.141 million yards of cloth per mensem.

" (f) The information for the period August to October 1946 is furnished in *Statement No. II placed on the table of the House. The export quota is administered on a half yearly basis. The information regarding the quotas allotted for the half-year ending 31st December 1946 is furnished in *Statement No. III placed on the table of the House.

" (g) & (h) The information is furnished in *Statements Nos. IV and V placed on the table of the House."

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Supply of yarn to weavers in Pudukkote, Palghat taluk.

* 64 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a large number of families of weavers are practically starving in Pudukkote, Palghat taluk, for want of supply of yarn?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“The allegation that the weavers are starving is not true. There are two factious parties in the village headed by influential persons. Each of these parties wanted to get the maximum number of yarn ration cards for members of its party. The Inspecting Textile Commissioner visited the village in company with the Hon. Member of the Council Mr. Sheik Rowther, Palghat, and his reports show that some of the unscrupulous weavers were in the habit of disposing of their yarn in the neighbouring State of Cochin at high prices without undergoing the trouble of weaving and selling the cloth. These weavers have realised a fruitful source of income in the sale of yarn as such, particularly in the districts adjoining the Indian States. To put an end to abuses of this sort, strict scrutiny has been enforced and the discontented weavers naturally resort to spreading alarming rumours that their families are starving.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister why the weavers are trying to sell yarn in the blackmarket?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“It is for those who know. They want to make money out of it. We are trying to see how this blackmarketing can be avoided.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the Harijan weavers were not given yarn ration cards in the Kistna district?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“It is not true. However, let me say that there is some decentralization effected to-day, and all the applications are now being sent to the Collectors and the district authorities for investigation.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The original question is whether a number of families of the weavers are starving. I want to know whether it is a fact or not?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I have stated that they are not starving in the sense that, though they are not getting thirty days' work, they are getting ten days' work in the month, which may be thirty days' wages. All these questions can be safely discussed when discussion on the textile policy takes place. There was a Ministers' Conference in Delhi at which the Hon. the Prime Minister and myself were present. All these matters were discussed. The Madras Government is trying to see whether we cannot get more work for the

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weavers. All these questions are still in correspondence and when a day is fixed, all the information that is necessary and available will be given to the hon. Members.”

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—“May I know whether yarn ration cards will be issued to weavers who failed to obtain them in the year 1945?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“This matter may be considered by the Collector and the District Committees.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Is it not the policy of the Government to give yarn direct to the weavers themselves?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“If they possess ration cards.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of paying bounties to weavers for weaving hand-spun yarn, especially in the neighbourhood of Palghat in Malabar?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“A separate question may be put.”

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—“Is the Government aware that in the Cuddapah district, mostly Harijan and Christian weavers are not supplied with yarn, though this fact was brought before this House last time?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“That matter also has been referred to the Collector and the District Committee.”

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—“May I know, while there are only 19,000 weavers in the Cuddapah district, why 24,000 coupons have been issued so far?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I take that information.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister what steps he has taken to prevent black-marketing?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“We are trying to take all steps possible. I have already suggested that all these questions can be discussed at great length when the textile policy comes up for discussion.”

Areas under the jurisdiction of the Sub-Courts of Ottapalam and Palghat.

* 65 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to transfer certain areas from the jurisdiction of the Sub-Court of Ottapalam to that of Palghat?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“The proposal is under consideration.”

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Franchise for elections to district boards and municipalities.

* 66 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the principle of adult franchise for elections to district boards and municipalities;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to introduce the principle of adult franchise in the ensuing elections to the district boards and municipalities; and

(c) if the answer to the first question is in the negative, whether the Government will please explain the reasons?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“(a) Yes—as a long-term policy.

“(b) The answer is in the negative.

“(c) The question does not arise.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, why the answer does not arise to clause (c) of my question? I wanted an explanation as to why adult franchise has not been introduced up till now, and I should like to know how many months or years the Government will take to introduce adult franchise at least in municipalities and district boards.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“The answer to clause (c) does not arise, Sir, because the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“My question has not been answered. I would like to know why adult franchise has not been introduced up till now and how many months or years the Government would take to introduce adult franchise in this province?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Government are not in a position to state how long or short a time they will take over it.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“Has the Government any policy in this matter?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“It has a definite policy, but it is a long-term policy.”

Alleged eviction of tenants by Agraharamdars in Kistna district.

* 67 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Vemulapalli and Alluripadu Agraharamdars are resorting to all illegal means to eject the tenants from the lands in disregard of the provisions of the Madras Estates Land Amendment Act (II of 1945)?

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The Collector of Kistna has reported that the Agraharamdars of Vemulapalli village took steps to eject their tenants and that in doing so adopted illegal means. But on a report from the police, the Sub-divisional Magistrate, Bezwada, initiated action under section 145, Criminal Procedure Code, and finally ordered that the matter should be settled in a civil court. The Collector has also reported that the senior proprietor of Alluripadu village is trying to eject a tenant but that he is not resorting to any illegal means.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know in how many cases the mirasdars and the inamdars are trying to eject tenants and trying to get possession of the land?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“This question definitely asked for information only about a particular place and not about all inamdars or agraharamdars all over the Province, Sir.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“In view of the fact that in many agraharams and mokhasas, the mokhasadars and the agraharamdars are trying to evict and take possession illegally and also to cut forests, etc., will the Government be pleased to take over the management of all these estates if necessary by introducing a Bill?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“This is too big a question, Sir. The matter will have to be considered separately.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know in how many cases tenants were being asked to go to courts under section 145 and other sections?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“I would like to know, Sir, whether it is in respect of these or any other cases. If it relates to other estates, notice may be given.”

Ayacut under Nandyal taluk fed by K.C. Canal.

* 68 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government in 1938 passed orders extending the ayacut under Nandyal taluk fed by K.C. Canal;

(b) whether it is a fact that what was done in 1938 has been slowly undone during Advisers' regime;

(c) whether any representation has been made to the Government to increase the ayacut to that of 1938; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“(a) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the ayacut under Nandyal tank. If so, the answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) to (d) The Government have referred the matter to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and his report is awaited.”

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SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government would consider the question of constructing a regulator to maintain enough water in the tank for irrigating a second crop? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" The Government are examining the proposal, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware of the representations made to the Hon. Minister for Public Works during his visit to Nandyal recently? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" The Government cannot but be aware of those representations."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know what action he has taken so far on those representations he has received in person? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" The representations are being examined, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that for the second crop in Nandyal tank ryots are experiencing great difficulty and that the construction of a regulator would remove the difficulty? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" I have had representations on that matter and the proposal is being examined."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister was not satisfied with the demands made by the ryots of that area when he visited Nandyal? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" Unless the question is examined fully, I cannot come to a definite conclusion, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know how long the Minister will take to see something is done? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" I cannot help taking the minimum time for the purpose."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" May I point out that the proposal for the construction of the regulator is at least a dozen years old and that the matter may be speeded up, especially because it affects the Grow-More-Food Campaign? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" That is so; but still, we have to examine it and we shall expedite that examination."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Are the Government aware that already about a month and a half has elapsed from the date of the Minister's visit to Nandyal? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" Yes, but still it is too short for the examination of this question."

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Post-war railway development.

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

(a) whether in the scheme of post-war railway development there is any proposal for the extension of the railway line from Mangalore to the northern part of the South Kanara district and for linking it up with the railway line going to Goa or Mysore; and

(b) whether the Madras Government have at any time urged upon the Central Government the desirability of such extension?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" (a) The post-war development programme does not at present include any extension of the kind referred to by the hon. Member.

" (b) This Government have recently addressed the Government of India, stressing the need for the construction of one or more of the following lines:—

- (1) Mangalore to Hassan (in Mysore);
- (2) Mangalore to Arsal (on the Shimoga-Sagar line);
- (3) Mangalore-Karkal-Agumbe-Shimoga; and
- (4) Mangalore-Bhatkal-Sirsi-Hubli.

" The last three lines will connect Mangalore with the northern part of South Kanara and Goa and the first line with Mysore."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I wish to inform the House that Railway is a central subject."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether any reply has been received from the Government of India in regard to this matter? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Not yet, Sir."

SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDAR:—" May I know if the Central Government have sanctioned the extension of the line from Tanjore to Pattukkottai; if so, when the line will be constructed? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" I want to know how this question arises out of the main question."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It does not arise."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" May I enquire whether this Government will pursue the matter more vigorously in view of the extreme desirability of linking South Kanara with Mysore and Bombay Northern Karnataka? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Yes, Sir."

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P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether there is any proposal to revive the Shoranur-Nilambur Railway in Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Does it arise out of this question, Sir? "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is there any proposal to revive the question of laying a railway road from Manamadura to Maniachi? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" I want notice, Sir."

Deputation of Muslim students of high schools at Bezwada to the Hon. the Minister for Education.

* 70 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether a deputation of Muslim students of high schools met him at Bezwada in order to make representation to him; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Minister got angry with them for assembling separately in a room and for desiring to make a representation?

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

" (a) Yes.

" (b) No."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister showed there the same anger to the students which he has shown in answering this question? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I don't think he has shown any anger."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Did the Minister say, Sir, that he has not shown any anger? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I as a Judge here am telling you."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What exactly was the reason, may I know, for the Hon. Minister to get annoyed or show anger to these poor boys? "

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

" When I had been on tour to Bezwada and went to the municipal high school, the hon. Mr. Baig, M.L.A., represented to me that the Muslim students wanted to speak to me separately. I did not want to encourage students assembling separately according to communities, for that will lead to no end of difficulties within the school itself, but still on the request of Mr. Baig, I agreed. In the school, a gentleman calling himself as the Secretary of the Muslim League Students' Federation, wanted to make some representations. I told him that within the school compound, I do not recognise party affiliations among the students and that while I am willing and anxious to know the problems of students in various schools, I will not encourage these fissiparous

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tendencies within the school. This, if accepted, will ultimately result in students meeting in various communities in schools when we go to see them, as Brahmins, Non-Brahmins, Muslims, Christians, Scheduled Classes and so on. This is certainly not a thing to be encouraged. There is no question of getting angry. It was a matter of a firm reply that I cannot recognize these communal party affiliations within the school."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" A particular class of students whether Hindus, Muslims or Christians may have a particular grievance; is it not the duty of the Minister at least to hear what the grievance is without showing anger? "

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

" I am always anxious, Sir, to see the students whenever I go to a place; and when I visit the schools and colleges, I myself take the initiative to contact them; but what happened in this case was that certain outsiders came in and said that the students wanted to make representations. I asked the students if they had anything to say, but they said nothing. But afterwards, the hon. Mr. Baig himself told me the same thing and I told him what I have stated now."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, will the hon. Minister tell me what he would advise if Muslims or Non-Brahmin or Brahmin students have got any grievances as such? "

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

" I will say that what they have to say should be said at the common meeting. This sort of encouraging separate meetings will lead to any number of troubles; then I will have to go to half a dozen meetings in the same school."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the answer of the Hon. Minister is not quite clear; does he not know that there are various sangams and associations in various schools, of students? "

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

" I do not refer to the subject associations, such as the philosophic associations or the history associations and such other associations; they are not formed on party or communal considerations, but on scholastic lines. If we are to begin to recognize associations according to parties, or according to communities, and if every Member of Government is to recognize parties within the schools itself, I think that will lead to a very bad situation, indeed."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, the Hon. Minister has not answered my question. I asked him, what would be his advice if, say the Non-Brahmin students wanted to represent to him their grievances as Non-Brahmin students? "

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

" I would tell them to take courage to put them before a common students' meeting or association."

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it the view of the Hon. Minister, Sir, that the students' federations or associations are not entitled to make representations in regard to grievances? Is it his view that the students' federations, such as, the Congress students' federation, the Muslim League students' federation or any other students' federation, should have no place in making representations about their grievances?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir. Students' federations, and any set of students for that matter, can make representations; but within the school itself, it is bad policy for the Government to recognise the differences, especially on communal, political or party lines?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that in this particular case, the difficulty of the Muslim boys whose mother tongue was Urdu up to third form (laughter) who were given instruction in Urdu up to the third form, they were asked to take instructions in Telugu in the fourth form—that was the grievance. The Parents' associations or the Students' associations are entitled to make representations to the Minister, and why did he get angry and was rude to them?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"My hon. Friend is quite right in saying that Parents' associations and Students' associations are entitled to make representations; but those representations can be legitimately made at the common meeting of students without bringing in politics or communal considerations."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The latter part of the question has already been answered; he says he was not angry on that day."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he does not realise or has not come across any situation where a particular class of students may have their own grievances, and is it not the duty of the Hon. Minister to hear what those grievances are and not to see that they are not given a hearing at all?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"As I said, I am very anxious to give a full hearing to anybody who wants to make a representation; but we do not want to encourage these party and other differences within the school itself. These grievances can be put forward at a common meeting of the students; and it will be dangerous to encourage these differences within the school."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it that the Hon. Minister is afraid of meeting students in separate groups in the schools?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir; I am afraid, as my hon. Friend Mr. Anwar says."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If the grievances are referred to at a common meeting of the students and the majority of students refuse to recognize those grievances and still that group of students who are complaining, persist that they have grievances, then what is the remedy? Have they not got the right to put their grievances before the authorities concerned?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, when anybody represents grievances, they are not put to vote. It is not for the other people to rule them out."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Here again, Sir, my complaint is that the Hon. Minister has not understood my question. I say a group of students, Muslims or non-Brahmins, as such, want to make a complaint that they have got certain specific grievances; and the advice of the Minister is that those grievances must be put forward by all the students. But the majority of the students refuse to recognize them as grievances. Then, have any of these particular groups the right to put forward their grievances to the authorities?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid, Sir, I shall not say that the Leader of the Opposition has not understood me; but I may assure him I have not misunderstood him. The position is that we are anxious to hear representations from students, but we are particular to see that these communal differences and party differences are not encouraged in schools. Let me assure hon. Members that nobody is more anxious than I am, to hear and attend to their grievances."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, is it not necessary, absolutely necessary, in the name of harmony, to give heed to these grievances of particular groups and remove them, so that harmony may be established?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The point is not that I did not want to hear their grievances, but that I was very anxious to hear their grievances, but only in the proper place and proper atmosphere."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, what exactly the procedure is that he would suggest the students should have adopted in putting forward their grievances?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid, Sir, more than this I am not able to express myself, especially at question time. If the hon. Member has any difficulty and if he so desires, we shall talk over the matter."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that when the Minister visited the school, he was greeted with Congress slogans like 'Jai Hind' and yet he did not think that it was a party matter; but that it was only in a case where Muslim

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students wanted to make representations and state their grievances in a separate room, that he thought it was a party matter, that they were communal and separatist?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"What is the question, Sir?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the Minister was greeted with Congress slogans by the Hindu students there?"

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

"I have not had the time, Sir, to recognize whether they were Muslims or Hindus; there were slogans no doubt, there were also flags, it is true; but I could not recognize either the Hindus or the Muslims among the students, and it is not possible for me to deny or confirm the statement of my friend Mr. Baig that these students who shouted slogans were Hindus. But at the same time it is true that 'Vande Mataram' was uttered. But what does the hon. Member expect me to do? When I went to the meeting, they said I must go to the other meeting also; and in spite of my protest that it was not a good thing, I was courteous enough to go to that second meeting with the hon. Mr. Baig. I did go to the meeting and only when I came to know that there were certain outsiders there who were not students of the school and who came to represent certain things in the name of the Muslim League Students' Federation that I said 'let the students say what they have got to'. And the students did not say anything."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the explanation, and the fact I have already allowed enough time, we will now pass on to the next question."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not an explanation at all."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has not addressed or has not met members of various associations in schools such as Sanskrit associations, Malayalam associations, Kanarese associations, and in the same way whether it was not his duty to meet the students of the students' federation in that particular school? There was no outsider there."

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

"I am not able to make my position much more clear, or understood by my friend. I am afraid I cannot add anything more to what I have already said."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the importance of the subject, will you allow us, to have debate under the half-hour rule, because the position has got to be made clear. This is a question affecting the life of the students."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall read rule No. 14:

'Provided that on notice given to the Speaker at question time, the Speaker may, in his discretion, allow half an hour after 5 p.m. or after the conclusion of the business of the day, whichever is earlier, to enable a member to raise a debate on any matter of urgent importance which has been the subject of a question on that day. No division shall be taken on such debate and such time shall not be available for the transaction of any other business.'

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Questions have been put over a matter which did not require so much of excitement.

I was wondering why this course has been adopted. Are we to import so much of heat in simple matters like this? On this matter a statement was made by the Hon. Minister for Education and that must be accepted. When he said that there was no insult or offence offered to anybody, that ought to be accepted. After all, we have to do much work, and therefore I would earnestly request the hon. the Leader of the Opposition not to ask for a debate. What is there for a debate over this matter? There is nothing so far as I know; once, twice and thrice he has been repeating the same answer, but questions were sprung on him on the same matter. I would appeal to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and others to put a stop to this and let us get on with our other work."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I also appeal to the Leader of the Opposition, in view of the information given, it is better to drop the matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall explain my position. It is not only a question of insult offered to students who have had some grievances to put forward before the Minister. Now, Sir, as the result of this debate, it has developed into a question of the rights of students to organize themselves on denominational lines. What to do if there is any grievance among the students; simply because they belong to a certain group, whether it is to be remedied or not, whether they should get the consent of all the students to put forward all their grievances—all these are fundamental questions which have been raised. And the Hon. the Minister for Education says he is not going to yield to these denominational demands for redress of grievances. Therefore, we want to have a clear idea of this matter and we want to know where we are. Education, Sir, you know is a very important subject and we have agitated over this question for long; this is only an offshoot of that policy which the Education Minister has been following all this time regarding education, particularly the education of the Muslims. Therefore, Sir, it is not such a small matter as it is represented to be by the Leader of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"But it is not an urgent matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It deserves a discussion. Therefore, I would appeal to the Leader of the House to agree to this discussion for half an hour, and I also appeal to you, Mr. Speaker, since you can allow this discussion, to allow us to have the right of this matter being considered."

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I am very sorry, Sir, that the Leader of the Opposition has introduced a new element into the matter."

M. MUHAMMD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have not, it is the Education Minister."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Denominational representations, etc., such things cannot arise."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It has arisen, I beg to submit."

MAHBOOB ALI BATU SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I may be allowed to say what I have to in this matter. Denominational representations cannot be made by the students themselves. The students wanted to make certain representations with regard to their grievances and the Hon. Minister stated clearly that he would not receive representations about grievances of any section of students from anybody. I think, Sir, no one is entitled to say that he would not even hear any representations."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He spoke of fissiparous tendencies and all that."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"In view of what he has stated here in this House, I should think this matter should stop there. The point that was referred to was, the Hon. Mr. Baig wanted the Hon. Minister to go separately into a room and hear the grievances of the students. It is a school in which both the Muslim students and other students have been studying. That is a good thing that is going on so far as this Government is concerned and it is also the policy of this Government. I must state once and for all here that that spirit would try to promote unity among the students and among the communities as far as possible. Unquestionably that will be the policy of the Government and that has been our policy; we would not allow these denominational distinctions to be drawn. Therefore, let us not drift on unnecessarily and I would appeal to hon. Members that this matter does not require so much importance except on the point of the hon. Mr. Baig that the students were insulted. I may state here that no such insult was intended and representations could be made not in a separate room but in the same place. If the students of a school have got any grievance to say against others who are studying with them in the same school, it will be more effective if such representations were made openly in the school itself in their presence, because that by itself will produce the desired result more than the decision of any Minister."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That would have created chaos."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, no. It depends on the spirit in which the elders who represent the communities approach in matters of this nature. The broader questions raised by the leaders of the communities would be dealt with

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separately when they come in proper form. I would therefore earnestly request hon. Members to close the matter, because I feel that for everything a proper reply has been given by the Hon. Minister."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, we wanted a debate because we were charged impliedly with creating fissiparous tendencies . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Do you want a ruling on that?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No, Sir. I only want to mention one or two points. When the Muslims put forward certain grievances, they were charged with creating fissiparous tendencies. Therefore, I want to know who it is that is really developing this fissiparous tendency. I thought it was a subject worth discussing about, so that we may know the position and cure the ills. But, however, since the Premier has appealed to us in the fashion he has done, we yield to him, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of Order, Sir. I shall be very grateful to the Speaker if he could give us a definite ruling on the question."

MR. SPEAKER:—"In view of the fact that the Leader of the Opposition has accepted the explanation of the Hon. the Premier, the matter is closed."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Speaker whether it is his definite ruling, that when a question under rule 14 has been raised in order to raise a debate, it is absolutely necessary that the Leader of the House should give his consent?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"What I stated was that I should like to have Hon. Prime Minister's view before I gave my decision."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Can we have the rule read out, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"First of all, it should be an urgent matter. In all these matters of discretion I would like to take all the leaders including the Hon. Prime Minister with me as far as possible. There seems to be no purpose in having a debate under rule 14 unless the Leader of the House is in possession of information to reply to the debate."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I submit, Sir, if it is the convention here that the consent of the Leader of the House should be taken, I bow to the suggestion. I do not have a copy of the rules on hand."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I never said that it was in the rules."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I submit, Sir, you may be pleased to consider the suggestion which I am now going to make before you. Rule 14 is rule 14 as printed in the rules; that as a convention you would like to get the consent of the Leader of the House, then it will be a very nice suggestion. I submit this for your kind consideration."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"It is necessary to have the approval of all the Leaders of parties including the majority party of which Hon. the Prime Minister is the leader, in all matters as far as possible."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. May I submit that rule 14 is intended to safeguard the rights of minorities in this House and when that minority, under the rule, wanted to raise a debate at a later stage in the afternoon, where is it stated, Sir, that the consent of the Leader of the House is necessary."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is not stated here. I have made my position clear already. I do not propose to repeat it."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On that particular matter, Sir, the Speaker may say that there need be no debate; it may be your ruling on that particular occasion and for that particular matter. But is it a general ruling you give that without the consent of the Leader of the House, no debate shall take place and if it is so, under what rule, your ruling is based? Or, is it not based on any rule at all?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"You were good enough to explain the position clearly, and stated that it is not in the rule but is a matter of convention or as a matter of understanding. On that, no controversy need arise."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is my discretion. The rule is clear here; discretion is allowed to me. My discretion will be used after consulting the Leader of the House."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"Mr. Speaker, if we accept the position you have now taken, we are faced with the fact that you have vacated your own powers to the Leader of the House. You have told us practically now that you will not allow us to bring up any matter for discussion unless you got the permission of the Leader of the House. Is he the decider or you?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am the final deciding authority. But, for the amicable working of the House, it is necessary, as I have already clearly stated, to take with us the Leader of the House also, because he represents a big party and in my discretion, I have asked him for his view in this matter."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"In this matter, it is all right. But, if you are going to put it as a policy, it means that unless you get his permission he can overrule you."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir. I think the Leader of the European Group has not understood it properly. When the Hon. Speaker has put it before the House that it is a matter in his discretion, discretion means, what? It is his discretion to consider whether a debate of this nature should be taken up and whether others who are sitting here should be consulted."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"That means holding up."

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That is where the hon. the Leader of the European Group is making a mistake. There is no question of holding up. The Speaker has given his final ruling. It is a simple thing; you have stated Sir, 'It is my discretion, I ask other parties present here.' Is there anything wrong in it or is there any violation, either in spirit or in law? He is perfectly justified. If he goes beyond that stage and if you say that he holds it up because other Party Leaders have not been consulted, then it is a matter for argument . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is the point I raised, Sir, at the very beginning, whether the Speaker was exercising his discretion and using it in a particular way on this occasion, whether he will consider every question on its merits or whether he was giving a perpetual ruling vacating his powers of discretion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The rule is clear. I have used my discretion. The matter is not urgent. Sufficient information has already been elicited during the question time. So the matter will close. Every question will be considered on its merits."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On the matter of consulting the Leader of the House, do I understand whether the Speaker is bound to listen to the advice of the Leader of the House or is he to give his own decision?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"My own decision."

"Answers to the rest of the questions will be printed in the proceedings."

Introduction of bifurcated courses in high schools.

* 71 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state when the proposed bifurcated courses will be started in high schools and whether it is proposed to introduce them in selected areas or all over the Province?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is expected that the bifurcated courses of studies will be introduced in 1947-48 in as many schools as possible and in the remaining schools in due course."

Composition of village and taluk committees.

* 72 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAFEEUDDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state whether instructions will be issued to Parliamentary Secretaries to consult the members of the Legislature concerned before finalising the composition of village and taluk committees?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government do not think it necessary to issue any such instructions to

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Parliamentary Secretaries as they are themselves likely to consult all the members of the Legislature available before finalising the composition of Village and Taluk Committees."

Conference convened by the Collector of Malabar.

* 73 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Malabar issued an invitation in writing to all M.L.As. and leaders of political parties in Malabar to attend a conference held at the Huzur office, Calicut, on 24th June 1946;

(b) whether there was any such invitation to those gentlemen to attend the conference of officials held at the Huzur office, Calicut, on 25th June 1946;

(c) whether the President of the Town Muslim League, Calicut, Syed Abdurahiman Bafaky Thangal sought permission to attend the said conference held on 25th June 1946 which was attended by Mr. K. Kalappan, the President of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee;

(d) whether he was permitted to attend the conference; and

(e) if the answer is in the negative the reason why permission was refused?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Vide answer to Legislative Assembly unstarred question No. 124 (c) and (d).

“(c) No.

“(d) Does not arise.

“(e) Does not arise.”

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

II.—RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 114 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES RE DISAPPROVAL OF MADRAS ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1947—cont.

MR. SPEAKER:—“Regarding the debate on Mr. Venkateswarlu's motion, I wish to know from the Leader of the House whether it is his intention to continue the debate tomorrow also.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“This debate ought not to go on till tomorrow.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I want to know how many are going to participate in the debate from each of the groups.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“If it is necessary, it may be extended tomorrow also because it is such an important subject.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I do not say that as a rule it should close to-day but it is my opinion that it should come to a close before this evening. If it is found inevitable that it should go on till tomorrow or the day after or to some other date, it may go on.”

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S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Hon. the Premier is giving a command or a suggestion here?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We shall try to finish it to-day; if not, we may carry it on tomorrow also.”

* SRI P. NATESAN:—“Sir, I rise to support the Public Safety Ordinance that has been promulgated by the Government of Madras. Sir, I have got to support this Ordinance because I want to see that the peace of the country is maintained at all costs. I want peace for the agriculturists; I want peace for the industrialists; I want peace for the well-being of the citizens of this country. That is why I am supporting this Ordinance.

“Sir, the Premier gave a graphic statement of the conditions which existed before promulgating the Ordinance. They reveal such a grave state of affairs that steps to prevent further anti-social acts being committed have to be taken without delay. We are passing through a very acute food shortage. Now you do not want the lands to lie fallow owing to the mischief of some anti-social elements. You do not want the harvest that is there not to be harvested owing to the mischief of outsiders. I will not say who is responsible for the mischief. The fact remains that it is there and the Government must see to it that steps are taken for the prevention of such acts. There have been cases of murder and looting. These are details within the personal knowledge of the members of this Assembly. When there is such a planned attack on society, I think, Sir, the Ordinance has come none too soon. But, in assessing the value of some of the drastic provisions of this Ordinance, some of the members of the Assembly seem to show a good deal of sentiment. There is no need for showing sentiment in this case. It is only a question of looking at the facts. The Congress members themselves have been the victims of such an Ordinance but what the Congress did was, they based their propaganda, their movement and their fight on non-violence and they were successful in obtaining the sympathy of the public. But, these virtues cannot be said of the present section of people who are trying to do acts against the Government. No one will deny that at this critical juncture, the Government has got to take some drastic steps. One thing I must say in regard to the way the Congress Ministry is working in the Province.

“Sir, unfortunately we find that there are wheels within wheels inside the Congress Party. The unfortunate trouble is that there are parties inside the Congress Party which do not agree with the action taken by the Ministry. It is really creditable that the Government promulgated this Ordinance just in time before the meeting of the Assembly. Sir, they have given the House an opportunity to consider its provisions, but if action had been taken long ago, the Ordinance would have been in force for over two months now and members would have been powerless and helpless to criticise or examine the provisions of the Ordinance. The course taken by the Government just a week before the Assembly meets is, I think, the best method of getting the views

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of hon. Members. But, this occasion, as I said already, has been taken full advantage of by certain sections of the House for ventilating their grievances against the Government.

"Sir, communal troubles have become really serious in this Province, but still they can be put down by a strong Government. I would take this opportunity of making request to the Congress members not to divide themselves on this question and indulge in carping criticisms of the actions of their own Government. (A voice: 'What have you to do with the Congress Party?') Well, I have got everything to do with the Party. The stability of Government depends upon the stability of the Party. If there is always a rift inside the Party, the general public cannot understand how public peace can be maintained by the Government. In that way, I am concerned with what is going on even inside the Party. Members of the Congress Party seem to think that we have got nothing to do with what is going on inside the Party. I say, Sir, we, as detached people, have got a right to expect that there will be no talk about reshuffling the Ministry or the displacement of the Ministry. To that extent, I say that as detached members of the House, we come in into the actions of the Congress Party. Sir, it is necessary."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"You are not an outsider; you are a member of the House."

* SRI P. NATESAN:—"I am a Member of the House, but I do not belong to the Congress Party. (Mr. Speaker: 'You were once.') It is necessary as I already said for the interest, safety and welfare of the country, the Congress members themselves should support their policy. Sir, there is a feeling in the House that the Government should not have promulgated this Ordinance and that if people were found guilty of offences, they could be put up for trial before a Court of Law. But the Court of Law takes action only on the actual commission of an offence. What is wanted at the present moment is the prevention of the offence and to that extent, I say, the Premier has taken a very bold step in promulgating this Ordinance."

"Sir, a section of the House complains that civil liberties are being curtailed. I ask, Sir, is not the civil liberty of the poor agriculturist curtailed when he is prevented from going to his land and reaping his harvest? Is not the civil liberty of the industrialists curtailed when you find two groups of workers arraigned on both sides? Have there not been cases of stabbing of workers? Then, how do you expect the industrialists to go on with their work? Where is the liberty for the industrialist? If there is no Ordinance, naturally people will take the law into their own hands. Now, the Premier is going to come forward with a Bill and I only hope, Sir, that whatever drastic or obnoxious provisions there may be in this Ordinance, would be watered down when the Bill is actually brought before this House."

"Sir, one or two points I forgot to say. Much has been made of the point that detention without trial has been made part of the provisions of this Bill. Much of the subversive and let

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us not call it 'Underground'—it is far too sacred a word as the Premier once pointed out—and secret preparations made by these unsocial elements in our society are not something apparent to law. With the best of intentions law is only retributive but this measure is preventive. Read in the context of popular and responsive Government and the background the Congress Party has, there is no reason to believe that this measure will be used against anybody except the real disturbers of the peace, so that from the agriculturist point of view, from the industrialist point of view and from the point of view of the well-being of the citizen, I say the Ordinance has come in time. As I said before, Sir, I would only request the members of the Congress Party to see that rumour about reshuffling or displacement of the Ministry does not go about the City of Madras. Therefore, I say that Congressmen must consolidate their Party and try to help the Ministry. I am not interested in any other thing except the peace of the country. If you want peace in the country, Government has got to take such powers as will enable them to maintain peace and order."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது சட்டபூர்வமாக அமைக்கப்பட்ட சர்க்கார் அவர்கள் இதைக் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தச் சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவந்தவர்கள் மக்களிடம் வாக்குப் பெற்று அவர்களால் பிரதிநிதியாக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டு இங்கு அரசாங்கம் நடத்திக்கொண்டு வருகிறவர்கள். இவர்கள் பொதுஜன நம்பிக்கைபெற்ற கட்சி. ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட திட்டத்திற்காக இந்த கட்சி வேலைசெய்துகொண்டு வருகிறது. இந்த அரசாங்கம் செய்துவருகிற வேலைகளிலும் திட்டங்களிலும் மாறுதல்கள் வேண்டுமென்றால் நிச்சயமாக செய்ய மக்களுக்கு அதிகாரம் இருக்கிறது. அவைகளை அவர்கள் சட்டமூலமாகவோ அல்லது அமைதியான முறைகளின் மூலமாகவோ செய்யலாம். தொழிலாளர்களும் விவசாயிகளும் இந்தக் கட்சிக்கு ஆதரவு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இந்தக் கட்சி பல திட்டங்கள் அவர்கள் நன்மைக்காக வைத்து இருக்கிறது. அவர்களும் முன்னேற்றம் அடையவேண்டுமென்றால், சட்டபூர்வமாக காரியங்கள் செய்து கொண்டு போகவேண்டும். யுத்தத்திற்கு பிறகு தேசத்தில் அதிகமாக அதிருப்தி இருந்துகொண்டு வருகிறது. உணவு பொருள் உடை இவைகளில் பல குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. ஜனங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு கட்சியார் மக்களிடத்திலிருக்கும் அதிருப்தியை தங்களுக்கு பயன்படுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய குறைகளை நீக்குவது ஒவ்வொருவருடைய கடமை. அவர்கள் படும் கஷ்டங்களை உபயோகப் படுத்திக்கொண்டு அமைதியாக நடந்துவரும் அரசாங்கத்தை ஸ்தம்பிக்கச் செய்வது அக்கட்சியினுடைய நோக்கமாக இருக்கிறது. இந்தக் கட்சியின் வேலையைப்பற்றி நான் சொல்லவேண்டியது அவசியம் இல்லை. எந்தக் கட்சியும் சட்டபூர்வமாகவோ அல்லது அமைதியாகவோ வேலைசெய்தால் அதை குறைகூற முடியாது. சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக இருந்தாலும் அதை ஆட்சேபிக்க முடியாது. ஆனால் இந்தக் கட்சி ரகசியமான நடவடிக்கைகளில் ஈடுபடும் கட்சி. ரகசியமான காரியங்களைச் செய்துவருகிறது. இந்தக் கட்சி ஒருவித திட்டங்கள் போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த திட்டங்களை எப்படியாவது நடைபெரச்செய்ய பாடுபடுவேண்டுமென்பது அவர்களுடைய நோக்கம். அவைகளைப் பலாத்காரத்தின் மூலமாக பரப்பமுடியுமென்றால் அவைகளைச் செய்ய தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுடைய பிரசாரமும் பேச்சும் சாதாரணமாக விரும்பக்கூடிய முறையில் இல்லை. நியாயமாக இருந்தாலும் சரி அல்லது நியாயக் குறைவாக இருந்தாலும் சரி உண்மையாக இருந்தாலும் சரி தவறாக இருந்தாலும் சரி தன் கட்சியை வளர்க்கக் கூடியதாக இருந்தால், எதையும் எழுதவும் எடுத்துப்பேசவும் செய்யவும் தயாராக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஜனங்களை தூண்டிவிட்டு அவர்கள் அதிருப்தியை வளர்த்து ஒரு பெரிய பலாத்காரமான புரட்சி உண்டாக்கவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் அவர்களுடைய நோக்கம். இவ்விதப் புரட்சியால் அவர்கள்

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

[7th February 1947]

அதிகாரத்தைக் கைப்பற்றவேண்டுமென்பது அவர்களுடைய கருத்து. பலாத்காரத்தினால் எவ்வளவு செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு செய்து வருகிறார்கள். தங்களுக்கு பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் ஆதரவு இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். விவசாயிகளிடத்திலும் தொழிலாளர்களிடத்திலும் பூரண ஆதரவு இருக்கிறது என்று நினைத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். இவர்களிடத்திலாவது அவர்களுக்கு அதிக ஆதரவு இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லமுடியாது. உண்மையில் ஆதரவு மிகவும் குறைவாகத்தான் இருக்கிறது. குறைவான ஆதரவை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய எண்ணத்தைச் சாதிக்கவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் என்னென்ன காரியம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று விரும்புகிறார்களோ அவைகளை பலாத்காரத்தின் மூலமாக வாளாலும் கம்பாலும் சாதித்துவிடமுடியும் என்று நினைத்து காரியம் செய்கிறார்கள். இந்த முறையில் பல காரியங்கள் பல ஜில்லாக்களில் நடந்து வந்திருக்கின்றன. மலபார்மையும் தஞ்சை ஜில்லாவையும் பற்றி நான் விஸ்தாரமாக சொல்ல வேண்டியதில்லை. கனம் பிரதமர் அவர்களும் ஸ்ரீ வேதரத்னம் பிள்ளை அவர்களும் சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். இரண்டொரு ஜில்லாக்களில் மாத்திரம் இல்லை. மற்றும் பல இடங்களில் இதேமாதிரி காரியம் நடத்திவந்தார்கள். இவர்களுக்கு ஆதரவு குறைவாக இருந்தாலும் பலாத்காரம் மூலமாக காரியத்தை செய்துவருகிறார்கள். சாதாரணமாக மக்கள் சமாதானமும் அமைதியும் விரும்புகிறார்கள். ஆனால் இவர்கள் கையில் வாளும் கம்பும் வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஜனங்களை பயமுறுத்தி தங்கள் காரியத்தை நடத்திக் கொண்டு வருகின்றார்கள். அதை எதிர்த்தால் தங்களுக்கு ஆபத்து வரும் என்று ஜனங்கள் பயப்படுகிறார்கள். இம்மாதிரி இவர்கள் தங்களுடைய காரியங்களுக்கு பயப்பட்ட ஜனங்களை கட்டுப்படுத்தி வருகிறார்கள். இதனால் பொது ஜனங்கள் பயந்துகொண்டு அவர்களோடு சேர்ந்துகொண்டதுபோல் இருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதமாக அவர்கள் தங்களுக்கு ஆதரவு இருக்கும் படியாக பல இடங்களில் ஏற்படுத்தி இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்கள் தங்களுடைய காரியங்களைச் சாதிக்கும் முறையே ஒரு தினசரி, பலாத்கார முறையை வெளிப்படையாக கையாண்டால் ஜனங்கள் ஒருவிதமாக தெரிந்துகொள்ள முடியும். ஆனால் தங்களுடைய பலாத்கார முறையை கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியாத நிலையில் நடந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். தங்களுடைய கட்சிக்கு ஆதரவு இல்லை யென்றால் எந்த முறையிலும் தாக்குவார்கள். இரவு நேரத்தில் தங்களுடைய காரியத்தை சாதித்துக்கொள்வார்கள். தனியான இடத்தில் தங்களுக்கு ஆகாநவர்களை தாக்குவார்கள். வந்து தாக்கும்போது ஆளுடைய கண் மட்டும் தெரியும். முகமோ தலையோ உடம்போ தெரியாது. மூடி போட்டுக்கொண்டு வந்து தாக்குகிறார்கள். இவ்விதமான தாக்குதலால் பலபேர் இந்தக் கட்சியை ஏன் எதிர்க்கவேண்டும் என்றும், எதிர்த்தால் கஷ்டம் ஏற்படும் என்றும் பயந்துகொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த பயத்தால் அவர்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் ஆதரவு இருக்கிறதாக வெளியில் தோன்றுகிறது. உண்மையாக இந்தக் கட்சியை பொது மக்கள் விரும்பவில்லை. பலாத்கார முறையை கையாளுவதால்தான் ஆதரவு கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சம் இருக்கிறதாக தோன்றுகிறது. இவ்வளவு தூரம் இந்தக் கட்சி அளவுக்குமீறி வந்திருப்பதால்தான் சர்க்கார் இப்பொழுது இந்த அவசர சட்டம் போடவேண்டியதாக நிர்ப்பந்தம் ஏற்பட்டுவிட்டது. இந்தக் கட்சி பல மாதங்களாக சர்க்காருக்கு விரோதமாக நடந்துகொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் அந்தந்த காலத்தில் வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கும் பட்சத்தில் இப்பொழுது இவ்வளவு நிர்ப்பந்தம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்காது. இதை காலா காலத்தில் செய்யாத தவறுதலுக்காக அவர்கள் நிலைமையைப் பயன்படுத்திக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுதுதான் அதை தடுக்க வேண்டும் என்று சர்க்காருக்கு நிர்ப்பந்தம் வந்திருக்கிறது. கனம் பிரதமர் முன்னால் சொன்ன பிரகாரம் அவர்கள் காரியங்களில் தாம் ஒன்றும் இடையூறு செய்யவேண்டாம் என்று விட்டுக்கொடுத்திருந்தார்கள். அதனால் அவர்களுடைய காரியங்களை நாளுக்கு நாள் பிரமாதமாக நடத்திக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். இந்தக் கட்சியை இப்படியே இன்னும் காரியங்களை செய்ய விட்டு வந்தால் தேசத்திற்கே பெரிய ஆபத்து வரும். நாட்டில் சமாதானம் ஏற்படாது. குழப்பம் ஏற்படும். உணவு பொருளுக்கு பெரிய ஆபத்து ஏற்படும் என்று நினைத்து சர்க்கார் இந்தக் காரியத்தை உடனே செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவசர சட்டத்தைப் பார்த்த

[7th February 1947]

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

வுடன் ரொம்பப் பேருக்கு ஆச்சர்யம்தான் விளைந்தது. என்ன இருந்தாலும் சர்க்கார் பொது ஜனங்களுடைய நன்மையை உத்தேசித்து இந்த மாதிரி காரியங்களைச் செய்ய முனைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இனிமேல் இந்தக் கட்சியார் இந்த மாதிரி காரியங்களைச் செய்யாமல் இருந்தால் தேசத்தில் அமைதியும் சட்டபூர்வமான முன்னேற்றமும் இருக்கும். எந்தக் கட்சியும் பலாத்கார காரியங்கள் செய்யாமல் இருக்கவேண்டியது மிகவும் அவசியம். அதற்கு வேண்டிய சட்ட திட்டங்கள் தயார்செய்ய வேண்டியது சர்க்கார்தான். அவ்விதம் செய்யாவிடில் சர்க்கார் இருந்தாலும் ஒன்றுதான் இல்லாவிட்டாலும் ஒன்றுதான். ஆகையால் பொது மக்களிடம் உண்மையாக உழைக்கவேண்டுமென்றால், மக்களுக்கு நன்மைசெய்யவேண்டுமென்றால் இன்னும் என்ன செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதை அமைதியான முறையில் செய்ய சர்க்கார் அதிகாரம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். இந்த சட்டத்தில் பல குறைகளிருப்பதாக எல்லாரும் சொல்லி யிருக்கிறார்கள். இதில் மிகுந்த அதிகாரங்களுக்கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. சாதாரண போலீஸ் உத்தியோகஸ்தர் எல்லாம் அந்த அதிகாரங்களை உபயோகப்படுத்தலாம் என்றிருக்கிறது. இருந்தாலும் நம்முடைய பிரதமர் அவர்கள் குறைந்தபட்சம் எவ்வளவு அதிகாரம் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமோ அதற்காக தனி சட்டம் ஒன்று கொண்டுவரப்போகிறார்கள். ஆகவே ஜனங்களுடைய அமைதிக்காகவே இந்த அவசர சட்டம் கொண்டுவந்திருப்பதால் இந்த சட்டத்தை எல்லோரும் ஆதரிக்கத்தான் வேண்டும். இந்த விவாதத்தின் மத்தியில் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் ஷயத்துடன் மத சமூக விஷயமும் வந்தது. எதிர் கட்சி தலைவர் அவர்கள் பல விஷயங்களை கூறினார்கள். அதில் அவர் கூறிய அடிப்படையானது சிறுபான்மை கட்சியை இந்த அரசாங்கம் நசுக்கிக்கொண்டு வருவதாக கூறினார்கள். அவ்விதம் சொல்வது மிகவும் சலபம். பொறுப்புள்ள கட்சியின் தலைவர் இவ்விதம் பேசுவது நம் கட்சியிலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு ஆச்சர்யமும் வருத்தமும் உண்டாக்கியது. அவர் பல விஷயங்களைக் கூறினார்கள். அதற்கு ஆதரவாக பல ஊர்களின் விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி நான் சொல்ல சொல்லமுடியாது. பத்திரிகைகளில் வருவதற்கு மேல் அதிகம் தெரியாது. ஆனால் எங்களுடைய ஊரில் நடந்த விஷயத்தை ஒருவாறு சொல்லமுடியும். கனம் வைத்தியனாதையர் மதுரையில் நடந்தவைகளைச் சொன்னார்கள். அதிலிருந்து எதிர்க்கட்சித் தலைவர் கூறியது எவ்வளவுதூரம் உண்மையல்லாததை சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை தெரிந்துகொள்ளலாம். மதுரையைப் பொறுத்தவரைக்கும் நேராக அங்கிருந்து நான் வருவதால் எதிர்க்கட்சித் தலைவர் சொன்னது கொஞ்சம் கூட சரி இல்லவே இல்லை. காங்கிரஸ் கட்சித் தலைவர்களும் நண்பர்களும் கலகம் ஆரம்பித்தகாலத்தில் அவர்கள் நடந்துகொண்ட முறையில் நடந்திருக்காவிட்டால் பெரிய குழப்பமும் கொலைகளும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும். கனம் வைத்தியனாதையரை ஜனப்ரசாக்கான் குறைவாக கூறினார்கள். அப்பொழுதே நான் ஆட்சேபித்தேன். இவ்விதம் ஒரு கட்சியை குறைகூறுவது சலபமாக இருக்கும். கனம் வைத்தியனாதையர் மட்டும் அந்த நேரத்திலிருந்திருக்காவிட்டால் எவ்வளவோ பேர்கள் செத்துப்போயிருப்பார்கள். காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் வேண்டிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்காவிட்டால் அந்தக் குழப்பத்தையும் கலகத்தையும் நிறுத்த வாரக்கணக்கிலும் மாதக்கணக்கிலும் ஆயிருக்கும். அவர்களுடைய முயற்சியால் சமாதான நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டது. ஏதோ ஒரு இடத்தில் கொஞ்சம் குறைவு ஏற்பட்டால் அதை மிகப்படுத்தி சொல்வது தவறு. நாம் பொறுப்பாளர்களாக இருக்கிறோம். நம் நடவடிக்கைகளை பின்பற்றி நடக்க தேசத்தினர் இருக்கிறார்கள். நம் பேச்சு ஒத்துழைப்பு ஏற்படும்படியாக இருக்கவேண்டும். காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் உண்மையாக நடந்து வருகிறார்கள். இவர்களின் அரிய சேவை ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம் ஒற்றுமையை வளர்ப்பதாகத்தானிருக்கிறது. மதுரையில் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் இல்லாவிட்டால் இப்பொழுது அங்கு சமாதானமாக இருக்கமுடியாது. கலகம் எவ்விதம் வந்தது என்பதைப்பற்றி ஒருவாறு எதிர்க்கட்சித் தலைவர் சொல்ல ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். ஒரு ஹோட்டல்காரரிடம் போய் கலையை மூடச்சொல்லி பலவந்தப்படுத்தினார்கள் என்று எதிர் கட்சித் தலைவர் சொன்னது சரி இல்லை. அந்தக் கலையில் சிறு பையன் போய் கலையை மூடச்சொன்னபோது, மரியாதைக் குறைவாகவும் கேவலமாகவும் பேசினார். அதனால் அங்கே இருந்த ஜனங்களுக்கு வருத்தமும் கோபமும் வந்தது. அதனமேல்தான் இந்த சண்டை ஏற்பட்டது. விஷயங்களைச் சொல்லும்போது சரியாகச்சொன்ன

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

[7th February 1947]

னால்தான் நன்றாக இருக்கும். தன் கட்சிக்கு மட்டும் ஆதரவான முறையில் சொல்லி பூரா உண்மையையும் சொல்லாவிட்டால் அது நியாயமாக இருக்காது. அதனால் சமாதானம் ஏற்பட்டுவிடாது. அபிராமத்தைப்பற்றி சொன்னார்கள். கூலி குறைவின் காரணத்தால் விவசாயிகள் விவசாயத்திற்கு வரவில்லை. ஆனால், அதை வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் ஜாதி சண்டை மத சண்டை ஏற்பட்டது என்று கூறினார்கள். ஆனால் வாஸ்தவத்தில் விசாரித்தால், பொதுத் தெருவில் செல்லவிடாமல் ஹிந்துக்களையும் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களையும் முஸ்லீம்கள் தடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். பொதுத் தெருவுகள் எங்கெங்கே இருக்கிறதோ அங்கே நடக்கலாம், ஊர்வலம் போக வரவும் எல்லாருக்கும் உரிமை இருக்கிறது. முஸ்லீம் மக்கள் அவர்களை அங்கே விடாமல் தடுத்தால் சச்சரவு ஜாஸ்தியாகிக்கொண்டு வந்தது. இந்த சச்சரவை ஒருவிதமாக அதிகாரிகள் விசாரித்து தீர்த்துவைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம்கள் அதிகமாக இருக்கிற இடத்தில் மற்றவர்கள் அந்த தெருவில் வரக்கூடாது என்று தடுத்தால் அதேமாதிரி மற்றவர்கள் அதிகம் இருக்கிற இடத்தில் தாங்களும் போகக்கூடாது என்ற நிலைமை வரும் என்பதை முஸ்லீம்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்வது இல்லை. முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஆதரம் உண்டாகும். ஆகையால் முஸ்லீம்கள் தெருவில் வரக்கூடாது என்று தடுத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். எதிர் கட்சி தலைவர் விஷயங்களை சரியாக சொல்லவில்லை. அறைகுறையாக சொல்லியதைத்தான் காட்டி விரும்புகிறேன். கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சியைச் சேர்ந்த நண்பர் இந்த அவசர சட்டத்தை எதிர்த்து தீர்மானத்தை பிரேரேபிக்கையில் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் மீது பல விஷயங்களில் குறை கூறினர். 1942-ல் ஒரு இயக்கம் ஆரம்பமானது. அதற்கு முன்பும் பல இயக்கங்கள் ஆரம்பமாயின. அமைதி குறைவை ஏற்படுத்துவது காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுடையவும் நோக்கமாக இருந்தது என்று அவர் கூறினர். அமைதி குறைவை எப்படியும் ஏற்படுத்துவது நியாயமாகாது. அமைதி குறைவு ஏற்படுத்தி அந்த உணர்ச்சியை தவிரான முறையில் போகும்படியாக எந்தக் காலத்திலும் காங்கிரஸ் செய்யவில்லை. மக்கள் முன்னேற்றம் வேண்டுமென்றுதான் காங்கிரஸ் உழைக்கிறது. ஜனங்களிடத்தில் விழிப்பு எழுச்சி உண்டாக்கி அதை சட்ட பூர்வமாக கொண்டு செலுத்தவேண்டுமென்பது காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் கருத்தாக இருக்கிறது. 1942-ல் பலவிதமான பலாத்காரம் நடந்ததாக அவர் குறிப்பிட்டார். பலாத்காரத்தை மகாத்மா காந்தியோ காங்கிரஸோ ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளவே இல்லை. அவர்கள் பலாத்காரமில்லாத முறையில்தான் காரியங்களை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்று அடிக்கடி கூறி இருக்கிறார்கள். வல்லபாய் பட்டேல் அவர்கள் கத்திக்கு கத்தி என்று அவர் சொன்னதாக குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். அவர் சொன்னது வேறு இடத்தில் தங்களுடைய காரியத்தை சாதித்துக்கொள்வதற்காக அல்லது கொள்கையை பரப்புவதாக கத்தியை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு போகவேண்டுமென்று அவர் சொல்லவில்லை. அவர் சொன்னாலும் காங்கிரஸ் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளாது. கத்தியால் பலபேர் தங்களுடைய காரியத்தை சாதித்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று நினைக்கிறார்கள். அவ்வித நிலைமை வந்தாலும் ஒருவரும் பயப்படவேண்டிய அவசியமில்லை. சமாதான முறையில் தங்கள் நிலையை காத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சச்சரவை நியாயமான முறையில் தீர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அந்தமாதிரி அஹிம்சை முறையில் தீர்த்துக்கொள்ள முடியாமல் இருந்தால் தற்காப்புக்காக வாளை எடுத்தாலும் பரவாயில்லை என்றுதான் சொன்னார்கள். வேறு ஒன்றும் சொல்ல வில்லை. கனம் வெங்கடேஸ்வரலு சொன்னமாதிரி சொல்ல வில்லை.

“ஜனங்களிடத்தில் ஒருவிதமான அதிருப்தி இருக்கிறது. உணவும் உடையும் மற்ற செளகரியங்களும் போதிய அளவு கிடைக்காததால் அதிருப்தி உண்டாகி இருக்கிறது. அதிருப்தியை போக்குவதற்கு வேண்டிய யோசனை செய்து காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் தகுந்த நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றார்கள். இவ்விதம் இருக்க இந்த அதிருப்தியை தங்கள் நன்மைக்கு உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு சமாதானத்தை குலைத்து அரசாங்கத்தை மாற்றி அமைத்து ஸ்தம்பிக்க செய்ய வேண்டுமென்றும் ஒரு கட்சியார் விரும்புகின்றனர். அவ்விதம் செய்யும்போது சர்க்கார் தடுத்து இவ்வித சட்டம் செய்தால் என்ன தவறு? அந்நிய ஆட்சி இருந்தால் இதில் ஓரளவு நியாயம் இருக்கமுடியும். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது அந்நிய ஆட்சியா இருக்கிறது? நம்

[7th February 1947]

[Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman]

கட்சி பிரதிநிதிகள் ஜனங்களின் வாக்கு பெற்றுக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். இவ்விதம் இருக்கும்போது இந்த ஆட்சியை குலைப்பதானது நியாயம் அல்லவே அல்ல. இந்தக் கட்சி சட்ட பூர்வமாக ஜனநாயக முறைப்படி நடந்துவருவது. இந்த முறை இல்லாமல் பலாத்கார முறைமூலமாக மாற்றி அமைக்க முற்படுவதை ஒரு காலத்திலும் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியாது. பலாத்காரத்தை அரசாங்கம் என்று வைத்திருக்கும் பெயர் எந்த ஒரு ஸ்தாபனமும் அனுமதிக்க முடியாது. இந்த அரசாங்கத்தை ஸ்தம்பிக்க செய்யும்படி பல காரியங்களையும் பல வேலை நிறுத்தங்களையும் பல இடங்களில் செய்கிறார்கள். பொது ஜன வேலைநிறுத்தம் நிர்ப்பந்தம் வரும்படி செய்து வந்தால் தேசம் பூராவிலும் கஷ்டமும் நஷ்டமும் ஏற்படும். அந்த நிலைமை வரும்படி இந்த அரசாங்கம் அனுமதிக்க முடியவே முடியாது. எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் மேலாக ஜனங்களிடத்தில் எதுவரை அதிருப்தி இருக்கிறதோ அதுவரை குழப்பங்கள் வரும். ஜனங்களுடைய கஷ்டத்தை தீர்க்க நாம் எல்லோரும் பாடுபடுவேண்டும். காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் தொழிலாளர்களுடைய நன்மைக்காகவும் விவசாயிகளுடைய நன்மைக்காகவும் பல திட்டங்களை வகுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவைகளை படிப்படியாக சட்ட சபைக்கு சட்டமூலமாக கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள். காங்கிரஸ் பொது ஜன நன்மையைக் குறித்து ஆட்சி செய்து வருவதால் இவைகளை செய்யாமலிருக்க முடியாது. காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியின் வேகம் போதவில்லை என்றால் சட்டத்திற்கு விரோதமாகவோ பலாத்கார மூலமாகவோ காரியங்களை செய்துகொள்ள முடியாது. இவர்கள் செய்யும் பலாத்காரத்தையும் விரட்டல்களைப்பற்றியும் புதிதாக சொல்ல வேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லை. ஸ்ரீ வேதரத்னம் பிள்ளை அவர்களும் பிரதமர் அவர்களும் சொன்னார்கள். மதுரையில் நடந்த சம்பவங்களில் ஒன்று இரண்டு சொல்லலாம். தொழிலாளர்கள் ஸ்தாபனத்தில் இந்த மாதிரி பலாத்காரம் ஓரளவு நடக்கலாம். ஆனால் இவர்கள் இந்த பலாத்கார முறையால் தேசத்தில் ஆட்சியை ஸ்தம்பிக்கசெய்ய விரும்புகிறார்கள். பொது ஜன பஸ் சர்வீஸ் சென்னையில் இருப்பது போல் மதுரையிலும் ஒடுகிறது. மாலே நேரம் 4 மணி இருக்கும் ஒரு பஸ்ஸில் ஆள்கள் ஏறி இருந்தார்கள். அந்த பஸ்ஸில் இஷ்டப்பாதவர்கள் ஏறியிருந்ததால் அதை இவர்கள் போய் சுற்றிக்கொண்டார்கள் எல்லோரும் கையில் வாள் கத்தி வைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் சேர்ந்து உள்ளே இருந்த ஆள்களை தாக்க ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். உடனே டிரைவர் பஸ் கண்டக்டர் மற்ற பாசஞ்சர்கள் எல்லோரும் ஒடிவிட்டார்கள். பாக்கி 2, 3 பேர்கள் தான் பஸ்ஸில் இருந்தார்கள். இவர்களை வெளியே வர விடவில்லை. பொது ஜன பஸ் என்றும் ஜன பஸ்ஸும் கவனிக்காமல் வாள்கள் கையில் 2 அடி நீளம் இருக்கும். அதை வைத்துக்கொண்டு சுற்றிக் கொண்டார்கள். உள்ளே உள்ளே 1, 2 பேர்கள் போய் அங்குள்ள ஒருவரை வெட்டினார்கள். இன்னொருவரை கல்லால் அடித்து மூர்ச்சையாக விழும்படி செய்து வெட்டினார்கள். இந்த சம்பவத்தால் ஊரெல்லாம் பயந்து போய் விட்டது. எல்லோரும் வீட்டை அடைத்துக் கொண்டார்கள். இவ்விதம் நடந்ததால் அரசாங்கம் ஏன் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் அரசாங்கம் ஏன் கவனிக்கவில்லை என்றும் ஜனங்கள் எல்லோரும் ஆத்திரம் அடைந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் பலாத்காரம் செய்வது மற்ற யாராவது பலாத்காரம் செய்தார்கள் என்று சொன்னால் அதைவிட இவர்கள் பலாத்காரம் பல மடங்கு அதிகம் இருக்கும் இந்த பலாத்காரம் ஒரு பெரிய பிரமிப்பை உண்டாக்கியது. இன்னொரு சமயம் ரயில் பாலத்தின் மேல் இருந்து கல் எறிய இருந்தார்கள். ஒரு கல் குறைந்தது 1½ அடி அகலம் இருக்கும். ரயில் வரும்போது போட ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். போலீஸ்காரர்கள் சரியான நேரத்தில் கண்டுபிடித்து அதைத் தடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். இந்தமாதிரி காரியங்களை அவர்கள் செய்தார்கள். இந்தமாதிரி நடந்து வந்தால் அரசாங்கத்தை நடத்த முடியாது. இவைகளை அவசியம் தடுக்க வேண்டும். இதை காலாகாலத்தில் செய்திருந்தால் இப்பொழுது ஒரு அவசர சட்டத்தை கொண்டுவந்திருக்கவேண்டிய அவசியம் இல்லை. இவ்வளவு தூரம் பிரதமர் விட்டுக்கொடுக்கலாமோ அவ்வளவு தூரம் விட்டுக்கொடுத்ததால் இப்பொழுது இந்த மாதிரி நிர்ப்பந்தம் வந்து விட்டது. இனிமேல் இந்த மாதிரி நிர்ப்பந்தம் வராத முறையில் செய்யவேண்டியது எல்லாருடைய கடமையாகும். இந்த அவசரச் சட்டத்தில் நான் சொன்னபிரகாரம் விரும்பத்தக்க பிரிவுகள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளை நீக்கி அவசியமாக ஜனங்கள்

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பாதுகாப்புக்காகவும் தேசத்தின் பாதுகாப்புக்காகவும் அமைதிக்காகவும் எவ்வளவு குறைவான அதிகாரத்தை வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டுமோ அதை வைத்துக்கொண்டு தகுந்த முறையில் திருத்தி, அதை அவசியம் சட்டமாக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்கின்றேன். இந்த வார்த்தைகள் சொல்லி இங்கு வந்திருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தை எதிர்க்கிறேன்.”

2-30
P.m.

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the motion of the hon'ble the Comrade member of this House. Generally, an Ordinance is an obnoxious thing for the majority party of this House but I am not one of those who think it necessary to give an apology when an Ordinance had to be promulgated by the Hon. Premier, the Leader of this House. We are taunted by the other side that we who had been fighting the Ordinance rule for the last quarter of a century, we who had been the victims of Ordinance rule for a long time, we ourselves had to promulgate Ordinances at this time. I do make a difference between the Ordinance issued by a bureaucratic, irresponsible and unrepresentative Government and an Ordinance which has been issued by a popular Ministry. Here the Ordinance is not issued by the rulers and the masters of the land but by the servants of the people. I remember the Leader of the House, on the very first day, said that he was the first servant of the people of the Province and if an Ordinance had been promulgated by him, it is promulgated by the servant of millions of the Province for their safety. There is this distinction between an Ordinance by foreign rulers and an Ordinance issued by the popular Government of this country. The question is asked why was there the necessity for the promulgation of an Ordinance and why he did not come before the Legislature. Sir, the Ordinance was issued by this Ministry just on the eve of the Assembly session as a temporary measure. The Hon. the leader of the House has assured us that he will bring forward a legislation which will be placed before the Legislature for scrutiny and discussion by the House, clause by clause and line by line. This is the entire difference between an Ordinance by a foreign ruler and an Ordinance issued by the servants of the people. If it had been issued by the bureaucracy, they would not have placed it for scrutiny before the Legislature. Here the Ordinance is promulgated by His Excellency the Governor of the Province at the request of the Hon. the Leader of the House, the Premier. It is an Ordinance not by an irresponsible, unrepresentative bureaucracy but an Ordinance issued by the popular Ministry. It is prepared to place all the cards before the House at the earliest opportunity. So, Sir, no apology is necessary from the Congress Benches to justify an Ordinance which has been issued by a popular Ministry.

“ Then the question is asked, why we did not wait till the Legislature met and pass a legislation and why an Ordinance was found necessary? This question is asked by those who do not know the ways of Communist friends. I come from Malabar and I had been in contact with my Communist friends. Suppose an Ordinance is not issued and legislation had been contemplated and the fact is published in the Gazette and then we meet and discuss, then the Superintendent of the Vellore Jail will not have

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any Communist leaders in detention. We know the Communist leaders. If they get a hint of their arrest, they will go underground and would not be available. They will be enabled to carry on their activities from a safe and distant place and communiqués will be issued from Communist headquarters somewhere in the forests of Malabar.

“ The question is asked, Sir, is not the criminal law sufficient for the purpose? Criminal law provisions were made for the purpose of meeting crimes and offences committed by individuals or groups of individuals within a particular place, but what is the situation here to-day? The whole thing is planned and campaigned by a very disciplined party, a very well-knit party, a party who know how to conceal themselves and conduct a campaign. Against such a party, the ordinary provisions of criminal law would be insufficient. Even if this criminal law is applied, who will be the victims? They will not be the Communist leaders; leaders will not be available but, people misguided and misled by the Communists. They can be punished, but at the same time, the campaign will be conducted from a safe distance by the leaders of the movement. This Ordinance is well-timed. There is absolutely no necessity for the Congress Government to feel ashamed of itself for having to promulgate an Ordinance of this type in the existing circumstances.

“ Now, was the Congress Government against propaganda by the Communist party? Sir, when we went into the general elections last time, the only party who opposed the Congress in this Presidency was the Communist party. After the elections, when the Congress party came into power, what was the attitude of the Congress party towards them? The Hon. the Leader of the House did not want to take advantage over his political rivals. On the other hand, he released all political prisoners in the Province, including the Communists. Among those who were released was my friend, K. P. R. Gopalan Nambiar, who was sentenced to be hanged for committing brutal murder of a Police Sub-Inspector. The sentence was reduced to transportation for life by the intervention of influential leaders of the Congress party. The Premier and the Government were tolerant towards the Communists and gave all liberty for carrying on their propaganda. This Government is not against carrying on of Communist propaganda in the land. And yet these were the very Communists who went on abusing the leaders of the Congress party and yet the Government was tolerant. I remember an incident in Malabar when the Premier was stoned in Badagara. His life was in danger. At Kundoti, he himself was not aware that the Police officials of the district were bringing the Malabar Special Police in lorries to protect his person. When the Premier reached there, his car was surrounded by Communists and his person was in danger. Nationalist Muslims saved his life at that critical time. In spite of all this, this Government did not take any action. Now that there is a desperate situation, desperate action has to be taken. Sir, I speak for Malabar; I do not know of conditions in other districts. There was a

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time when the Communist menace was considered a menace peculiar to Malabar. Even then, I had warned my friends that this contagious disease will spread to other districts. It spread to Tanjore, Madura and other places. In Malabar, what did the Communist leaders do? It is not propaganda against the Government, as alleged, that was objected to. It is taking of the law into their own hands that was objected to. In Chirakkal, in Northern Malabar, which the Communists call the Red taluk, there are areas where they have established a parallel Government and there they not only did not care for the authorities but also fought against the poor people who were residing there and terrorised them. They committed murders. In a village, the Communists came into clash with the Police. The reason, Sir, was that a rival landlord was removing paddy with the permission of the officer concerned. The Communist friends did not allow him to do so. The Police had to come to the scene and there was a clash and an actual battle was fought between the Police on the one side and the Communists on the other. The Communists fought, not with knives and stones, but with guns, with the help of trained ex-service soldiers who had joined their fold. If it is necessary to abolish landlordism, I am one with them. We must bring in legislation for that purpose in a constitutional manner. Even now, the Government are trying to abolish the zamindaris. We people in Malabar want changes in the Tenancy Act. We have to fight for many other reforms, but all this will have to be achieved through constitutional means."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member might continue his speech after lunch."

The House then rose for lunch interval.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to the pitched battle between the Communist forces and the Malabar Special Police in a village in Chirakkal taluk. Just after the battle, what happened was, all the Communist leaders and their forces—mind you, trained forces, ex-soldiers fully armed—disappeared, and this time they disappeared not underground, but disappeared at the top of the hills and in the forests. Goondas trained by Communists came down on the villages, collected forced levies from the people, and if they refused they were bodily taken away and their heads chopped off. This kind of terrorism was going on in Chirakkal taluk for a long time. Then, the people of Malabar were asking, 'Is a Government functioning at all; are the Congress people unfit to govern; if that Government is not able to give protection to the humble villagers, what is the use of that Government functioning?' Now, Sir, this thing was going on for a long time, and so the Government was compelled to take action. In this House, I am surprised to see, what I would call, an unholy alliance, an unholy Mecca-Moscow alliance, when the Leader of the Opposition stood up to second this motion. I was under the impression that

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Communist principles and Communist propaganda were not approved by the leaders of the Muslim League. At least from my experience in Malabar I was led to believe that they were not countenancing the violent propaganda of the Communists, at least when they were taking the law into their hands.

"In this connection, though it is not relevant, I am compelled to refer to some of the facts adverted to by the Leader of the Opposition. He was speaking of the background of the events in Malabar. In the formation of food committees, as far as my constituency, the Malappuram constituency, a famous constituency of the Moplahs of Ernad and Walluvanad is concerned, I will satisfy Mr. Seethi Sahib, by saying, that in the formation of food committees, the Muslim Leaguers and Hindus sat together and with the aid of the census report gave representation to each community on the committee. If there was any weightage shown, it was in favour of Moplahs only. Of the eighteen committees we formed, whenever we differed, we abided by the decision of the Revenue Divisional Officer in toto, though it was mostly against my proposal. Malabar had the fortune to work the new experiment of procurement and distribution of food. It was good for the masses of the Moplah people. Our population is 41 lakhs and odd; of these, some might be minors, and about eight lakhs of people are shareholders of the producers-cum-consumers societies. Where there were Moplahs in a large number in a village, the shareholders were preponderatingly Moplahs. I am living in the midst of a Moplah area, and even if Moplahstan were to be conceded I will remain there only. (Mr. Moideen Kutti: 'We will make you happy.') I am glad a welcome is extended to me. In that area I travelled and attended all the meetings of the formation of the producers-cum-consumers societies. We began at Mannarghat; there are three Moplahs and three Hindus on the society, all of them were unanimously elected; the president is Mr. Unnikammu Sahib, a pro-Muslim Leaguer and an ex-President of the Malabar District Board. At Perintalamanna, seven Moplahs and three Hindus were elected, and the election was unanimous. At Melattur, four Moplahs and three Hindus were elected; the president is a Hindu and the vice-president is a Muslim. In every society, election of members was unanimous, and I was present there. There was no disappointment and no quarrels. If there is any disappointment it is manufactured from the top and not from the bottom. I request the leaders to realize the significance; for the Communists will carry propaganda to-morrow throughout Malabar. In Kundotti, Mr. Uppi Sahib referred to the difficulty experienced in executing a decree of Civil Court. There is an unholy alliance between the Muslim League volunteers and Communist volunteers. When the Premier went to Malabar, the Moplahs staged a demonstration for welcoming the Premier, but the Muslim Leaguers were obstructing them. I had to protest against this to Mr. Moideen Kutti and Mr. Seethi Sahib. The Muslim League volunteers helped the Communist volunteers in preventing a peaceful demonstration. They told the Communists that they would help them.

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"Then, Sir, the Communists wanted to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Moplah Rebellion of 1921. Sir, I come from that constituency, the notorious constituency. (A voice: 'Why notorious, famous constituency.') Do you know who suffered in that rebellion? Not the Hindus; perhaps in the first round, the Hindus suffered. Later on,—I was then living in that area—Moplah women and children suffered; Moplah women were insulted; their children were bayoneted; their houses were burnt. I had to see all this horrible sight; and yet to-day that party wanted to celebrate the event. Is it right, I ask?"

"Sir, the Communists are running a newspaper called '*Desabhimani*,' in Calicut. I have a great grievance against this Government, because that paper is being allowed to be continued. That newspaper published a cartoon of the 1921 rebellion depicting Kunhi Haji, the leader of the Moplahs, cutting the head of another gentleman, an ex-Inspector of Police, mind you, not a Hindu, but a Moplah, and parading the streets of Manjeri with the head hoisted aloft on a pole; and the cartoon asked the Moplahs; 'are you not brave, are you not ashamed not to celebrate this?' Sir, in every village in that area, Communist workers are going round and preaching the cult of violence: 'Why can't you go and loot the shops; why can't you take sugar and kerosene oil by force; don't you know old Prakasam is the Chief Minister, and he will not take action against you!' Sir, do you want to encourage such a thing? This is the thing that is being done by the Communists. Sir, Pakistan or no Pakistan, we have to settle our differences and live in our country. I am not going to desert Moplahstan. Are you going to support a party which gets its support, moral support, spiritual support and financial support from a far-off place, from Moscow? Mecca-Moscow Axis, whether this is so or not."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"You have not understood the position."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I would like to be enlightened, and I would like the Leader of the Opposition to make the position clear, so that my unintelligent, illiterate and ignorant Moplah friends may understand the Muslim Leaguers very clearly, so that Communists may not exploit the situation, which, of late has been taken advantage of by them for political purposes. We were passing through anxious days in September last when the Interim Government was set up in New Delhi. I remained in my constituency as I have got a duty to do so. When we were passing through those anxious days, there was a joint statement issued by the hon. the Leader of the House and the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. I thought that we were very lucky in having such leaders. That statement had its effect. Whatever the *Desabhimani* wanted to do was undone by that happy joint statement. I would request the Leader of the Opposition to continue in the same strain. I ask him this question. Has the Prime Minister ignored any request of the Leader of the Opposition? Has he not given weightage to all the minorities here? You may

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call yourself a nation. All right, you may do so. I know five constituencies from each of which hon. Members of the League are represented here, sometimes ignoring the members of the other community. When this is so, is it advisable, for the purpose of political advantage, to encourage the Communist menace in the district of Malabar?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is a misrepresentation, Sir. Taking advantage of the . . ."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"I would not admit it as misrepresentation, but it may be a mistake. I can stand any amount of interruptions."

"Now, Sir, people talk of civil liberty. What civil liberty, Sir? You want to grant civil liberty to a few hundreds of Communists. What about the civil liberty of millions of peasants, labourers, illiterate and ignorant people of this Province? I ask: Are not the people of Chirakkal taluk—those poor people for whom Police stations are far away and who are being terrorised by the Communists—entitled to civil liberty? I say the Communist fellows in Vellore jail have greater civil liberties than those poor villagers of Chirakkal taluk."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member is using a most unparliamentary language. They are not fellows; they are gentlemen."

MR. SPEAKER:—"All right; they are gentlemen."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Sir, civil liberties are denied to these villagers. I do congratulate the Hon. the Premier and the Government of Madras for taking courage in both hands and for promulgating the ordinance. If they had not taken care to protect the people, I would tell them with all respect: 'If you can govern, govern; if you cannot, abdicate; do not leave the villagers at the mercy of the Communist terrorists'."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, all upholders of individual rights and liberties in this land have been thunderstruck by the promulgation of the recent ordinance by the Madras Government known as the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, but which may well be designated as the Strangulation of Civil Liberties Ordinance. Indeed, it is inconceivable how these very people belonging to the Congress Party, namely, the members of the Treasury Benches, who profess to be following or rather to be wedded to the ideology of non-violence, these very people . . ."

[At this stage someone from the balcony took a photograph of the sitting of the Assembly.]

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, can people take photographs?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have permitted that."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is inconceivable how these very people who were so vociferous and

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so clamant in regard to their condemnation of the rule by Ordinances should themselves, on assuming power, promulgate a measure even more drastic, more rigorous than any they condemned. How is it that the present Ministry have so soon, in but nine or ten months, forgotten their clamour, their declamation, their indignation in regard to this matter? I ask, how can they reconcile their present act with their past utterances? Is there, Mr. Speaker, any difference between section 93 regime and the present one? When Congressmen expressed horror and indignation at the promulgation of Ordinances during the Advisers' regime when war was on, it passes one's comprehension how they can now be true to their conscience, and justify so drastic, so rigorous a measure as had been recently promulgated in peace-time? During war-time it might sometimes be necessary to invest the executive with certain extraordinary powers to deal with critical situations, with fifth-columnists, spies and enemies of the realm. But there can be no justification for a drastic invasion of individual rights and liberties in peace-time, and the elimination of the rule of law.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to make it clear that we, the members of the Muslim League Party, deplore and deprecate the recent enactment simply because the cherished rights of free men and women are in jeopardy, and not because we are in any way interested in the Communist Party. The Communists and the party to which I belong have no ideologies in common, no similarities in aims and aspirations. Far from this, we are poles asunder. The differences between them and us are manifold, and we are not concerned with them at all. But, Mr. Speaker, as members of this august representative body, we have a responsibility to discharge. We owe a duty to humanity and to our electorate to see to the preservation of that cherished freedom to which every human heart clings. Rightly has the British poet proclaimed, 'Ah! freedom 'tis a noble thing, beloved from Pole to Pole,' and rightly did Bowles declare when addressing himself to that famous lover of liberty, Burke, 'the cause of freedom is the cause of God.' Mr. Speaker, Sir, the speech that was delivered by Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was indeed astounding. I was surprised to find that a gentleman of his age and maturity should have indulged in such an inciting, such a provocative speech against the Muslims. I should have thought that a man of his age would set a better example to others.

"Sir, the statement of the Hon. the Prime Minister in justification of the promulgation of the recent Ordinance, I am afraid, has not been convincing. He gave us a catalogue of incidents that have been occurring for a long time past. But he did not make out a case as to why the Ordinance was promulgated about eight days before the meeting of this Assembly. He did not give us the reason why the present Government acted in a manner which was tantamount to an insult to the Legislature; he did not state why the ordinary procedure, the ordinary method of legislation, was not adopted instead of having recourse to this extraordinary ordinance. If the plea is put forward that the Communists would go underground, I am afraid, such a contention

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cannot be sustained, because, Mr. Speaker, we are living in modern times. In these advanced days, with a vigilant police, an active Intelligence Department, and all available means of transport and other resources at the disposal of the Government, it is not so easy for any organization to go underground. Sir, we are not living in the days of ancient Rome. When I visited Rome, I was taken round certain places called 'catacombs,' which are located in the outskirts of that City.

"These catacombs comprise underground cells that had been dug deep ages ago by the Christians of ancient Rome where these Christians used to carry on their activities against the then non-Christian Government of Rome and activities in connection with the propagation of the Christian faith. When we visited these catacombs we had to prowl about, each of us with two candle lights in our hands, as the entire place was immersed in utter darkness, the cells having been dug deep underground. Such catacombs could exist in the days of the ancient Romans but such underground and hidden places, I may point out, cannot escape attention, detection and destruction in these modern days of improved means and methods of vigilance and of improved means of transport and aerial development.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been pointed out that the Communists are indulging in excesses. But I wish to ask, who is responsible for teaching them to do so? The responsibility devolves upon Congressmen themselves for it is they who taught the Communists to disregard law and order by their activities in 1942. These Communists are only following the example set to them by Congressmen in the year 1942. Sir, after all, who are these Communists? Many of them are no other than Congressmen themselves. A disgruntled Congressman who fails to receive the attention and favour at the hands of the authorities that he covets turns a Communist.

"I was surprised to find my friend Sir Stuart Town,—I am sorry to notice that he is not in his seat at present—a gentleman who was born and brought up in the land of liberty, opposing the resolution and supporting the Ordinance. I wish to ask: would Sir Stuart Town have adopted such an attitude had he been a Member of the British Parliament and was living in his land of freedom instead of being in this country? Mr. Speaker, it is amazing how an Englishman changes his frame of mind the moment he crosses the Suez Canal.

"The reason for the extraordinary procedure that was adopted seems to me to be that the present Ministry wanted to reinforce their position by means of a '*fait accompli*.' They wished to come forward with something which had already been accomplished so that opposition from among the Members of their own Party might be more difficult. They thought that they could make the Members of their Party acquiesce to this measure once it had been promulgated on the ground of preserving the dignity and prestige of the Government; they probably felt that it would be more difficult

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for the Members of their Party to oppose an Ordinance that had already come into force than to oppose a Bill to be brought in to this House.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Members of the present Government indulge in high-sounding phrases about democracy. But is it democracy to suppress the liberties of the people in so drastic, so rigorous, so violent a manner? Is it democracy to empower police officers to arrest a person without warrant? Is it not repugnant to the ideal of democracy, and above all, to the principles of justice, to declare that the only appeal from an order of detention can be to the person making the order, and to detain a person without informing him of the charges against him? Such serious and such grave encroachments on the elementary rights of human beings, I must say, nullify the claims of the present Ministry to be governed by high and democratic ideals. Let it be remembered that mere lip homage to high-sounding phrases will delude nobody.

"In the Constituent Assembly, Mr. Speaker, the Members of the Congress Party talk glibly about fundamental rights, but these very people trample upon the elementary rights of human beings wherever they have secured power. In conclusion, Sir, I wish to point out to the Government that it is not wise to ride roughshod over the liberties of the people; it is not wise to have recourse to the policy of repression against anybody for a glance over the pages of history reveals that invariably the result of repression and suppression has been to enthrone into power those suppressed and repressed. I, therefore, hope that better counsels will prevail with the present Government and that they will very soon take steps to repeal the new Ordinance."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the resolution moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu and welcome the Ordinance which has been promulgated by the Government. Sir, after hearing the long speech of the Hon. the Premier in which he has given all the facts, no hon. Member of the House can say that the Ordinance has been passed too early. Of course, Sir, it was not possible for the Government to consult the Legislature as the stage at which matters stood was of an urgent nature. I speak here for the agricultural labourers who are drawn mainly from the Scheduled Castes and inform the House of the plight to which they have been reduced. I have to refer to the condition of not only the agricultural labourers, but also of other Scheduled Caste people who are living in the cheris where these Communists have started their game. Sir, the activities of the Communists are not of recent origin; they have been going on for many months. Many hon. Members who represent the Scheduled Castes in this House have spoken at public meetings and have otherwise also drawn the attention of the Government to the way in which the Communists have been playing their part in far off places. Many of the hon. Members living in towns may not know what is exactly happening in the cheris. When I was touring in the

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"Sir, if we consider the relationship which exists between the landlords and the labourers, it is a matter of great sorrow to us to find that the friendly relations which existed between them before have all gone and it is not possible to re-establish cordial relations between the labourers and the landholders. Recently, Sir, I met many of the landlords and explained to them the grievances of the agricultural labourers in regard to their wages, habitations and so many other things. I found them to be very generous and in a conference with the labourers they agreed to give higher wages and other amenities. With all that I found the hand of the Communists working there in the cheris and the agricultural labourers were not allowed to approach the landlords and place their representations before them. This was the state of affairs in the months of November and December.

"Recently, Sir, my Hon. Friend, Mr. Giri was touring in the plantation districts of Malabar. I also happened to be there. Even the Hon. the Prime Minister had gone to Meppadi a place adjoining Malabar. I know, Sir, the state of things in the plantations. We had a great gathering of the planters and had a heart-to-heart talk with them with regard to the removal of the disabilities of the labourers in the plantations. Fortunately for us, the planters agreed to comply with everything that was asked of them by the Hon. Minister for Labour, who had had consultations with the labourers both in Malabar and in the Nilgiris. But the Communist hand was already there at work and it would not allow the labourers to go to the fields. Strikes were the order of the day. The labourers were not allowed to pluck the tea leaves.

"Recently, Sir, the Hon. the Labour Member of the Government of India came here and I had an opportunity of touring with him in the Anamalais and other places. It was pointed out to him that the peasantry were very discontented as the landlords were not giving them higher wages and other amenities. The Hon. Member told the labourers that he had already taken up the matter of reviewing the wages and other facilities of the agricultural labourers, that as a matter of fact, he had already drafted a Bill which would not only be placed before the Central Assembly but also passed into law at any moment.

"Sir, the Communists have been trying for months and years past to find out a field where they could play havoc and they have found that it is easy for them to deal with the agricultural labourers and that these ignorant and illiterate people would fall

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an easy prey to their activities. Sir, their work has been successful in the district of Tanjore. Sir, last week I had to go to Tanjore in connection with the temple entry matter, and there I found that the labourers were still affected by the Communist activities. Therefore, it is not correct to say that the Hon. the Prime Minister should not have brought this ordinance, that it is no good to the people, that he has acted hastily and so on. Just at this time the whole country is facing acute starvation: instead of 16 ounces of rice, we are getting only 8 or 10 ounces. If the Government had not taken firm action now, what will be the position of the Province in a few months' time? Starvation will be the order of the day. I am told, Sir, that by this Ordinance it has been possible to arrange for the harvesting of the crops already on the field. Last week, I found thousands of acres of land ready for harvest, but not being harvested, because the labourers were afraid to go to the fields on account of the activities of the Communists.

"Sir, the activities of the Communists which have been established in some parts of Tanjore have also spread to other districts. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, has been studying this thing in his own district. We should see that the activities of the Communists are not extended to other districts. So, Sir, I say that the Ordinance has come in time to save the situation created by the food problem in the Province.

"My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, speaking yesterday referred to the Press. He said that some time back when he was not well, he read in the newspapers about the state of affairs in Noakhali in Bengal and that his temperature rose. I may tell you, Sir, that the papers did not give you a correct picture of things which happened in Noakhali in Bengal. Recently, while I was in Delhi, I spoke to some of the members who had seen the real havoc done in that place to the Harijans. I find fault with the Press for not giving a full account of the oppression, the exact position of the women and children of the Harijan community in Noakhali during the recent troubles there. Taking into consideration all these matters, I should say, Sir, that the ordinance has come in time to save not only the agricultural labourers of the country, but the entire people of the country, so that they may have at least a half-dole to enable them to keep their body and soul together. With these words I oppose the resolution."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am extremely sorry that the Congress Government should have thought it fit and necessary to promulgate this ordinance. I wonder whether this ordinance was examined or even looked into by all the Members of the Treasury Bench. Evidently they did not have an opportunity of looking into it or see what they were doing. Otherwise I do not think that an atrocious measure like this would have been promulgated by this Government. It seems to me that they were utterly ignorant of the provisions of this measure.

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"Sir, this measure has a family resemblance to similar measures which have been promulgated in other Congress Provinces. This ordinance for all intents and purposes is intended not so much to preserve law and order in this Province, as, to be frank, it is intended to suppress the rights of some party or parties, as is the case in other Provinces. It seems to be the policy of the Congress throughout the country. They seem to be rather panicky. Sir, I do not think that there is any need whatsoever for a strong and firm Government, for a Government which believes in law and order and for a Government which believes in justice more than anything else, to get panicky. After all who are these Communists? How many of them are there? It appears as if they are spread throughout the Province, that every individual is a Communist and that their number has become so large that it is impossible for the Government with the aid of the Police to preserve law and order and to put them down. If they have grown to such an extent and if their number has become so large, how did it happen and who is responsible for it? There is need for some amount of caution on the part of the Government. The Government are dealing with a rival party which contested the elections in the last general elections and is growing from strength to strength and getting the support of the poor people and the masses and the peasantry and are a menace to the existing Government. So it would have been far better for this Government to remove the causes of this danger which is facing them instead of trying to suppress the party. They, more than anybody else, have known the results of oppression and suppression. They have known in the past that when the Imperialist Government tried to suppress the Congress movement, the Congress movement grew strong and that the attempt on the part of the British Government to suppress the Congress made the Congress grow more and more popular and stronger and stronger. The people who supported the Congress believed that they were going to get a Government of their own, a people's Government which would relieve them from their misery and bring them all possible facilities. They believed that it would give them economic relief and social relief as well. But what is their fate? They have been disappointed. If they were satisfied that the measures that this Government were introducing would ameliorate the condition of the masses and the poor peasantry, the Communists would not have been accepted by the masses and the poor classes. The fact is there that the Communists are becoming more and more popular and more and more powerful and that they are becoming a great menace to the Congress Government. The Congress Government will have to think twice and thrice before suppressing them by means of ordinances. They would rather do well to think and devise ways and means to ameliorate their conditions. The more they ameliorate the conditions of the poor the better for them because the people can be weaned away from the Communists.

"As I have stated earlier this ordinance has a family resemblance to the ordinances made in other Provinces in the country. Sir, it is also not very different from the Black Act which was

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condemned by my Congress friends themselves when it was promulgated by the British Government. It is a tragedy that the very people who condemned the Rowlatt Act, the Black Act, the Lawless Act and the British Government, are now coming forward to promulgate a similar Act in the shape of an ordinance. Sir, no popular Government anywhere in the world can govern by means of ordinances. If any Government claims to call itself a popular Government, a Government which exists with the support of the people, it must carry on the administration of the Province and the country with the support of the people and with the consent of the people's representatives in Parliament or the Legislature. What has been done in this case, Sir? When there was so much agitation in the country with regard to so many things that the Congress Government was doing we wanted that the Legislature should meet early in order to discuss and debate upon the questions which were agitating the public mind and this Assembly was not called. Perhaps there were good reasons for it. After all what would have happened if the Government had waited for the Legislature to meet and then brought forward a measure and took the Members of the House into their confidence and told us that extraordinary things were happening in the Province and that strong measures of the kind of the ordinance or a better measure was absolutely necessary and that it should be passed by the Legislature? Without waiting for the Legislature to meet and just a few days before the Legislature is meeting an ordinance has been promulgated. That shows, Sir, that there is a totalitarian spirit in this present Government. In the first instance they feel that they can go on without the consent of the people's representatives in whatever they do. The present Government has a very large number of members in its party. It has got a vast majority. Perhaps it is the fact that they command such a majority in this Province that makes them believe that they can twit the Opposition and that they can act in a high-handed manner and that they can rule this Province through ordinances and not by law. Sir, this policy will not do good to anybody, it will do good neither to the people in this Province nor to the Government.

"Sir, I am not concerned with what is happening in the Congress Party. It does not make any difference to me or to my party whether anyone is a Member of Government or not. Possibly changes are likely to be made. The newspapers give one news to-day and another news another day. They publish many things. Whatever that might be, it does not concern me. What concerns me is that I want a good, just, firm and strong Government. To be merely strong and firm, groping in the dark without any definite policy in regard to various things is not the kind of Government that we want in this Province. We want a Government which knows its mind, which is just, which goes out of its way to satisfy the needs and aspirations of the minorities, which is willing to satisfy the masses, and which does not ignore the rights and claims of the various nationalities in this Province.

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Instead of promulgating this ordinance, the Government could have used the ordinary laws of the land which are adequate to suppress any rising of a rival party here and there. Reference was made by the Hon. Premier and some hon. Members to the extraordinary things that happened in Malabar and other parts of the Province, particularly Tanjore. I do not know much about what happened in Tanjore and what the Communists did there. But I know what happened in Malabar. A beginning was made and a start was given for trouble by the High Command of the Congress in that district. They created unnecessary panic that the Mappillas were making preparations to rise in rebellion with the result that the Hon. Premier, who is in charge of the Home Department, felt it necessary to send an European officer with the military to Malabar. For what purpose? To suppress the Moplah who was expected to rise in rebellion. The European gentleman goes there with his army and finds that there is no such fear. On the other hand, he finds that the Moplah is calm and peaceful and was not threatening to rise in rebellion. He comes back with his army telling the Hon. Premier that there is nothing to fear from the Moplahs. The Congress friends in Malabar themselves not only got unnecessarily panicky, but created panic throughout the district. The panic was utilized by the Communist friends, arson, loot and murder on a large scale having been perpetrated by them. They indulged in loot, arson, destruction of life and property. I am second to none in the desire to put down with an iron hand any such attempt on the part of any people, whether they are Communists or Congressmen or whoever they might be. It is the duty of the Government to put it down with a strong hand in a just and fair manner forgetting that they may supplant us. This Government knows the constitution under which we are working. The Government knows that the Muslims are a minority in this province. The Muslim League is a minority in this province, and it will be a minority for all time. The constitution does not give the right to this minority to ever come into power by itself. The majority will always remain a majority with occasional changes here and there with one Minister going out and another coming in, unless and until the Communists become strong and supplant this Government. If the Congress Government fails to do its duty by the people, the Communists will succeed. That is the fear and that fear should be removed from the minds of the people. The other day, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition narrated the tragedies that took place in various parts of the Province in which Muslims suffered in life and property on a very large scale. I will only mention the case of Vaniyambadi."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Having told the House about the incidents, it is better the hon. Member avoids them and gives some new points."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would not narrate all the incidents, but I cannot help mentioning one very clear instance of colossal loss of property which took place in Vaniyambadi. Who did it? I will not be surprised if the

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Hon. Premier or some other member gets up and says that it was the work of the Communists. I went there along with the Premier. I think all that has been done has been done by Congressmen, resulting in loss of property to the tune of 15 lakhs of rupees. What has the present Government done? I can narrate instance after instance to show that the present Government has lost the confidence of the masses. They have been playing with the economy of this province. The merchant is dissatisfied, the peasant is dissatisfied, the mill owner is dissatisfied, the producer of cloth is dissatisfied, the consumer is dissatisfied. In the first instance, he does not get enough to eat and to have the other bare necessities of life. They are all dissatisfied. If the dissatisfaction and discontent due to mishandling of things by the Government in this province create disturbances, are only the Communists responsible? The responsibility is entirely Government's. To carry on the Government is not an easy thing; it is a very onerous task. It is a great responsibility that the present Government have taken upon themselves. They have not discharged their duties satisfactorily to anybody in this province. All classes of people are dissatisfied to such an extent that discontent is spread all over. What is it that will happen to this province? There will be disturbances, arson, loot, naturally as a result of discontent. I do not support for a moment that any individual or party should take the law into his or its own hands. But when a group of people become desperate, they go about and do things which ought not to be done. How is the Government going to prevent it? They must bring forward constructive measures to ameliorate the conditions of the people, to satisfy the demands of the various sections of the people who have been disappointed. Therefore I believe that the Government will create satisfaction if, instead of having this measure, they take the people into their confidence and do things which will inspire confidence in the people. On this occasion I wish to tell you that you have been seeing day after day in this very House how the Ministry, without a single honourable exception, have been rejecting the demands of the Muslims in a most rude, most discourteous and most deplorable manner. Our demands have been rejected, kicked and treated with contempt. If I may single out an Hon. Minister who has been deliberately trying to incite the Muslims and the Muslim League in this House, it is the Hon. Minister for Education. Sir, in spite of all that incitement to violence on the part of the Ministry and particularly by the Education Minister, we have been patient."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"On a point of information. How is this relevant to the ordinance?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Absolutely relevant. My friend has to remain long in this House to learn what is relevant and what is not."

"If there is disturbance in this Province and, as a result, discontent, and if the Government thought that as a result of the disturbance, ordinance rule was necessary, I say, Sir, there is no more better example than the way in which we Muslims have

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been treated by this Government, particularly by the Minister for Education. Sir, we are unhappy. We do not want to create any trouble for the Government. We have been patient. We want to co-operate and we have co-operated."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Ordinance is not against the Muslims."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I thank you very much for reminding me about the usefulness or otherwise of this ordinance. This Ordinance has got many edges. It can cut both ways."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Probably the cap fits them, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My friend never wore a cap. If he wears, he will know better. A bare-headed gentleman with something, I suppose, substantial in his head, ought to know whether the cap fits and how it fits. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank him for reminding me of his existence in this House. He has done a good deal of damage to the peace and harmony in this province and in this House during this session and previous to that, and it does not require anybody to remind me of his existence in this House. He has not only done damage to peace and harmony in various parts of this province, he has done a good deal of harm in this House as well."

SRI K. VARADACHARIAR:—"How is all this relevant to the discussion?"

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"On a point of order, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member is not yielding. I will allow the hon. Member to speak afterwards."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have already said, the attention of the present Government has been drawn to the wrongs done to the communities and parties in this province on many occasions. I must admit that the Hon. Premier, with all his good intentions, wanted to be good to the Muslims and other people. The Hon. Premier's intentions are good. I do not know whether he is helpless; the present Government is divided. It may be that the present Congress party and the present Government are not strong and able to stand on their own legs. I believe these things might have been responsible for not giving effect to his good intentions. The Hon. Premier wants to do some justice to Muslims."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Not for the moment."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am extremely sorry that the Hon. Premier is not able to do good to the Muslims. I am charitable and I hope that he had good intentions. Even that hope has been shattered by the Hon. Premier. I thought he intended to do good to the Muslims and to the Muslim League. I am sorry I am disappointed that he has admitted that he has no good intentions."

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I said nothing of that sort. The hon. Member made many allegations; none of these reasons ever interrupted or embarrassed me."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have referred to events which have taken place in different parts of the province which resulted in damage and loss of life and property so far as Muslims are concerned. The Hon. Premier saw and witnessed what happened in Vaniyambadi. I thought he was going to take strong action in the matter and give relief and compensation to people who suffered. The Hon. Premier every time counsels patience to us. There is a limit to our patience. I have shown beyond a shadow of doubt how we have been waiting patiently so far as our education is concerned. We have been waiting patiently for relief from the Hon. Premier in cases where we have suffered in life and property. I must admit that he has no time to attend to such matters. Evidently his hands have been full with the trouble which hon. Members of this House have been giving him. He has no time to attend to the great responsibility. . . ."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I can assure the hon. Member that there has been no trouble."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He is a very patient gentleman; he has got lot of wisdom; mere wisdom and patience will not do; we want hard cash . . . (An hon. Member: Rs. 60 lakhs.) I have said that the present Government is very strong. So far as we are concerned, we know how we have been treated in this very House by hon. Ministers of the Government and particularly by the Education Minister.

"Even this morning when a question was raised and we wanted to debate a question, the hon. Minister was not there and he is not here now. This question of ordinance is not one which affects only one hon. Minister or two; it is a question which affects the entire Ministry. I think it is due to the hon. Members of the House that hon. Members of the Government—Ministers—should be here when speeches are made. This Government is carried on on collective responsibility. It is not as if only the Hon. Premier is responsible; responsibility devolves upon every hon. Minister, to remove the discontent of the people; people should become more and more satisfied and contented, so that the Communists who are supposed to want people to indulge in arson and wholesale destruction can be put down and kept at bay; both the Muslim League and the Congress can keep them at bay. There is no desire on the part of the Congress Ministry to take the Muslim League and others into confidence by satisfying their elementary demands on education and other demands. By taking them into confidence and by satisfying their demands, the Congress and the Muslim League can fight the Communists and show them their way. On the other hand, what is it that the Government is doing. Some hon. Ministers are responsible as I have already said, for creating discontent; what will happen

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is they will swell the rank of the Communists. Even Congressmen are discouraged and disheartened, because some of them did not get Ministership or Parliamentary Secretaryship. When the demands of Congressmen legitimately made on their Government and party are not granted, they become disappointed, disheartened and discouraged and they swell the ranks of the Communists. How are you to prevent it? It is not by this ordinance and lawless laws but by your conduct, by your just and firm administration, and by using the police—if it is not enough, strengthen it. The Criminal Procedure Code is enough for the Government to put down any rising. Although at present the ordinance may be used against Communists, one will not be surprised if it is used against innocent people other than Communists"

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"Even against Muslims, if they misbehave."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The hon. Member says it will be used against the Muslim League. He is a representative of the Congress and he says it will be used against Muslims if they misbehave. I think it will be used against Congressmen also if they continue to misbehave"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No such implication should be made in regard to this matter; neither the speaker nor anyone of us should make such implications."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was not saying it; the Hon. Premier may tell my hon. friend Mr. Kallur Subba Rao, not to take up the responsibility of the Ministry so far as the administration of this ordinance is concerned. I do not know whether the hon. Member Sri Kallur Subba Rao will administer this ordinance in this Province or the Hon. Premier or the Government. I am not surprised that every Congressman, every president of a Congress Committee believes that he is the Government and he can command the Collector, the Inspector of Police, the Inspector-General of Police, etc. The hon. Member, Sri Kallur Subba Rao, believes that he is the ruler of the Province and it is not the hon. Member, Sri Prakasam, who is the Premier of the Province. If that is the attitude what is to happen to people who do not belong to the Congress? We have been trying our utmost"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The hon. Member is not open to make any statement like that."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am glad to be corrected. I hope the Hon. Premier will cow down every member of the Congress. It is very necessary that we should all feel that we have a Government separate from ourselves. We know the Government is there to carry on the administration not by means of ordinances, not by means of lawless laws but by just laws. That is what we want. I am sorry that this ordinance has been promulgated by the Congress Government which is supposed to be a popular Government, a People's Government and a

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democratic Government. It should not do anything which will disturb the equilibrium and the peace of this Province. Here are some provisions of the ordinance; I shall read only one of them. The ordinance provides for control of essential services. The liberty of an individual is sought to be taken away. Under section 8 (1) in an emergency an individual can be got hold of . . .

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member can discuss the general principles and not clause by clause."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Under clause 8 (b) any person engaged in any employment to which this Ordinance applies who without reasonable excuse abandons such employment or absents himself from work, can be taken hold of against his will and can be taken away from his house; his liberty is taken away. Many objectionable provisions are there in this lawless law. I hope that the Bill that the Government is threatening to bring up will be free from the obnoxious provisions which this Ordinance contains. I am sorry, Sir, that we had to say so much about this ordinance. I must make it clear as the hon. Member, the Leader of the Opposition said, other hon. Members of the Muslim League have stated very clearly—that we have not much in common with our Communist friends. Our Communist friends sometimes join the Congress; they sometimes support the Muslim League; they did so in the last elections. They tried to support the Muslim League in some places. Now they are not with the Muslim League. But they stand for the poor man and in that respect we are one with them. We are one with those who try to help the under-dog and to raise the under-dog from his present position. We are certainly opposed to the various ideologies which govern the Communist Party. Theirs is a Godless party; we believe in one God. We cannot join the Communists so far as their ideologies are concerned. They are trying to help the poor man, to help the under-dog and to raise the standard of living in this poor Province by good measures and by peaceful measures. We are one with them in such matters. Sir, I support the resolution, and not the Ordinance."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Sir, I want to make a point of explanation because I was personally attacked. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member said that it was I who was mainly responsible for creating Hindu-Muslim trouble . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He did not say 'mainly' responsible, 'one of those responsible'."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"I must first mention to the hon. Member that ever since troubles arose, I have been one who is trying to see that there is no Hindu-Muslim tension. For, in 1940 there was Hindu-Muslim trouble. A Hindu was killed; another man was almost murdered; there was a death sentence against a Muslim. I made efforts to have the death sentence commuted. I had a memorial sent with the signatures of respectable men for commuting that death sentence."

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"The other day I mentioned about the Hindu-Muslim troubles in Madura. The wonder is I had to step in and not anybody from the Muslim League in the middle of the trouble. In Bodinayakanur there was widespread Hindu-Muslim unrest. I stepped in and brought the two parties together and had the cases withdrawn. To-day the Muslim block asks me whether as a matter of fact I am not responsible. Is this the position which the Leader of the Opposition should take? The Hon. Premier mentioned only about Communist troubles; he never mentioned Muslims or the Muslim League. The hon. Member, Leader of the Opposition, has given a long catalogue as if to make out that there is Hindu-Muslim trouble. Not only that; he said that in every case when the trouble arose, Hindus were the persons who were aggressors. He was speaking in an irrelevant way. I was expecting the Hon. Premier to intervene. The hon. Member, the Leader of the Opposition, went on and said that the Congress was responsible for the trouble . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member will resume his seat. I want to inform the House that the hon. Member, Sri Vaidyanatha Ayyar, is making his remarks in explanation to what Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan said about him."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I did not mention his name at all." 4-30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allowed Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar to speak as he wanted to make a personal explanation in regard to certain remarks made by Mr. Hameed Khan. He has taken only three or four minutes."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He was replying to the debate, Sir. If that is so, we should also be allowed to have our say."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition began with a long story. As a matter of fact he was referring to the Hindu-Muslim trouble and he was putting it before us as if the Hindus were the aggressors and also unnecessarily pointing out that the Congressmen were responsible for this . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Such long explanations will not be allowed."

SRI A. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR:—"Therefore, Sir, it was necessary to say that his statement was not only incorrect, but thoroughly irrelevant to the occasion."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In his personal explanation he has attacked me, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He has not attacked you. He simply said . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, he has spoken once and he has been allowed to speak again. Therefore I also claim the same right of replying to him at the end of his speech."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Leader of the Opposition was not perhaps here at the time. Mr. Hameed Khan accused Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar that he was responsible for this split. There is of course the official proceedings which can testify to this . . ."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, he said something about the 'cap fitting'. Then I said that the cap fitted him. I never said anything of the sort that you say."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You said that by his speech he was responsible for this split among the Hindus and Muslims . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, what about my request? I never uttered a word against Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow you one or two minutes if you want to make any personal explanation, but you have not got a right of reply. If you are going to explain, please do so now."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar strangely enough, referred to certain statements made by me during my speech. I stand by every word of what I have said and I am prepared to prove them and I have already proved them to the Government. Sir, I have with me all those papers which I referred to yesterday and they are even now here and I read also from his utterances which had been put in writing. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said that he stood between the Hindus and Muslims and that there was no Muslim Leaguer present. All those people who were molested, all those people who were harassed and all those who lost their property—every one of them—belong to the Muslim League. Therefore it was the Muslim Leaguers who were molested and it is the Muslim Leaguers who, on our advice and at our request, are doing their best to maintain peace until to-day. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's coming here and saying that Congressmen were not responsible for such occurrence will not hold water. There are facts and figures to prove the points which I have placed before the House. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar might have done great service; I would only request him to continue the same service hereafter also, but I would also advise him not to be hard-headed to deny the facts which occurred before his very eyes and in his very place."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, there are four more members on this side who want to take part in this debate. But in giving the list, the Leader of the Opposition said that he is going to add some more speakers. From the Congress block 12 members have given their names to address the House. The list of the Leader of the Opposition is not also exhaustive. Therefore, at this rate, it will not be possible to finish the debate even by tomorrow."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"We can sit till 8 o'clock to-day and see if we can make any . . ."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Relying upon the fact that the Assembly would not sit after 5 o'clock to-day, we have fixed other engagements; otherwise we will have no objection to sit a little longer."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall sit till 5-30 p.m. to-day."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have no objection, Sir."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shakespeare in a moment of inspiration once declared that desperate situations require desperate remedies. I believe the Government have had to resort to this ordinance as a matter of pure necessity. The Hon. the Premier himself was not willing to be a party to the promulgation of this ordinance, but for the threats of fomenting troubles in the various parts of this Province. When unexpected things happen, we have to do things out of the ordinary law to meet the situation. It is not easy in such cases to act with conviction because it goes to the root of the ideals which have all along been cherished by the party in power. Therefore, when brought face to face with complications, the patience that is exercised by this Government in the administration of the ordinary law, might have given occasion for the Communists or any disrupting parties to consider it to be a weakness on the part of the Government, and to make the position obnoxious."

"But, Sir, we must realize that communism has come to stay in this world. Here again, it is the economic disorder that is the root-cause of communism. It has been an opinion with some; with others, it is an ideal. With some few, it has almost become an obsession. People who have thought about the ideals of socialism and communism have come to realize that there is a great deal of truth in them, and particularly those of us who have studied economics all our lives, when we feel that there is a great economic inequality in any particular state or country, we are inclined to be in sympathy with communistic ideals. But, however great our sympathies may be, the whole problem takes a vicious form when political or economic ideals begin to thrust themselves on us in the garb of violence and force. The ideal loses its force and its power and its influence for good and therefore, Sir, while my sympathy goes with the communists in their eager desire to better the condition of the underdog, I cannot help registering my deepest disapproval and my strongest condemnation when in a country like India, wedded to non-violence as a great political and religious principle, this economic ideal is thrust before the public with violence and deep-seated hatred. If our communist friends will only realize that in a country like India, great sympathy for the underdog can be achieved if they adopt a more reasonable, a more accommodating and a more negotiating attitude rather than recourse to violent methods of propaganda, I am sure they would achieve greater success."

"Sir, violence at one stage or other cannot help getting response in the shape of violence on the part of the State. No State

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can afford to keep looking on when wiser counsels do not prevail and violence is thrust upon individuals and upon the community. But we know that some of our friends who are eager to set things right soon have been losing their balance. Of course, such things do occur in a country where there has not been a square meal for the average man throughout the length and breadth of the land, because in an economically depressed country like India, the haves and the have-nots have felt the irony of the situation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member's speech is not at all audible."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"In a country like England and America where even the poor and the labouring classes have enough to eat and to spare, this communistic ideal has not been such an obsession as in this country where poverty and want have been practically the lot of the average man or the average woman. I remember, Sir, years ago in the City of London where I had to stay once with a friend of mine in an Eastend district where a great many labourers lived, a small incident that took place at the time. One day I happened to be travelling in a bus and, to my horror, I found every person staring at me all the time and particularly at a book that I held in my hand. It was lent to me by a friend. It was artistically bound with conspicuous gilt edges. The others in the bus had only scraps of newspaper of ordinary print. I found that almost every eye was directed at my book and I could feel that discontent and jealousy glinted out of their eyes. In a few minutes, I realized the situation that in that district a book like that could not be had, and, therefore, a person who held a book like that was the centre of staring and hatred. Even in a district like White Chapple where a great many poor people and Jews live, after 6 o'clock and particularly on a Saturday or Sunday, no well-dressed gentlemen or ladies could pass through the streets, except the doctor or the nurse. Well, that has been the envy and jealousy of the have-nots towards the haves, even in that country. We cannot blame them. We have got to understand the situation. Therefore, Sir, in a country like India, with different traditions hitherto, our well-to-do people, even if they had more than enough, had not expressed it in terms of luxury or tried to parade it or vulgarly display their wealth and luxury, nor had the poor people, even if discontented, express their discontent in terms of violence. We find that now the tables have turned. We are in contact with the western world and we have declared ourselves to be friends with Russia and we are trying to get into diplomatic relationships with a country which has communism as its great ideal. Therefore, we cannot expect old things to move in the same way and it would be to the interests of the State as well as of the people if our communist friends would realize that any settlement of dispute would take time, and that they should, instead of using violence of language or violence of methods, come round in a Round Table conference and try to place all their cards on the table and ask the State to do its utmost to raise the standard of the poorer

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classes, give them suitable habitable habitations, good sustaining food and enough of clothing, more than the five yards of rationed cloth. In such a case, the problem can be solved. I am sure, the Government knows as much as the communists that repression would not save the situation. It will only drive it underground. But in extreme circumstances, when danger faces us, when people come to realize that danger is imminent, the State cannot altogether abdicate its powers. Therefore, though it may be unfortunate, perhaps through compelling circumstances, earlier steps were not taken to gauge the extent of the danger to meet the situation to the extent it deserved,—perhaps the waig of Government responsible for law and order did not realize the extent to which this danger had extended and taken steps to prevent its extension to this gigantic proportion in which we see it to-day—still, when in an emergency the Government takes steps even temporarily to meet the situation, I think, we, who expect the Government to keep peace and to take responsibility for the safety of property and the lives of the people, must give, to some extent, the powers that it needs. In the light of the criticisms and the suggestions that were made at the party meetings the other day and also by the opposition and the friends on the opposite benches, I appeal to the Government that before long a Bill may be placed before this House bereft of all the points which seem to terrorise or frighten the weak-minded, which would not interfere with the liberty of the average citizen. In the course of the administration unexpected complications do come in. Though we may have a giant's power, we must not use it always with all the strength and tyranny of a giant. The Government, I am sure, will realize, in the light of what has happened here and at the party meeting, that a *via media* should be found out, which, while protecting the innocent and guaranteeing the liberty of the average individual will ensure stern steps being taken to quell disorders. I hope that in the long run, repression would be done away with and steps taken by both sides for negotiation; and they would march hand in hand—the communists and the Congress Government—since both of them are interested in the amelioration of the underdog, so that that great object would be realized in peace and concord and in good will."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to enter my emphatic protest against this ordinance, against this lawless law, against this undemocratic ordinance, to say the least, this obnoxious measure. Sir, I am glad and I am proud that the party to which I have the honour to belong, that is the Muslim League Party, has taken the leading opposition to such lawless laws, not only in this Presidency, but elsewhere also. It gladdened my heart, Sir, to read in the *Hindu* of the 31st January, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's letter condemning this obnoxious law, but I find that he is not so emphatic in his condemnation of this ordinance here. I don't know the reason why he has changed. I expected many Congressmen, Sir, to set their face against this ordinance. I was very much disappointed. And so, the only party that is opposing this ordinance, which denies

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the citizens the right of being tried before being found guilty and sent to jail, a law which denies the right of a man to be told what his offence is—the only party that is opposing such law, is the Muslim League Party of which I have the honour to belong.

“ Now, Sir, let me preface my observations on this resolution by making it clear that we, the Muslim Leaguers, have no truck with the communists. Our ideals differ; our ideologies differ; and our methods differ. We have nothing to do with the communists. May I remind this House and you, Sir, that on many occasions the Muslim League has stated clearly—and its Leader, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, has stated clearly—that Muslims cannot belong to any other party and much less to the Communist Party. There were instances where certain investigations were instituted against some members of the Muslim League to find out whether they had communist leanings in order that they may be expelled from the League. That must be the guarantee, Sir, that the Muslim League, does not belong to or has anything to do with the communists. We are forbidden to have anything to do with the communists. I know, as a matter of fact, their ideals are, abrogation of all laws of property and the disruption of society. We can never be a party to those ideals.

5 p.m. “ But why, it may be asked, we are supporting this resolution. I do not propose to cover the same grounds which were covered by the previous speakers. I do not also propose to enter into a controversy with the members of the Treasury Bench who have spoken on matters which cannot be described as true or untrue on the floor of this House. I do not want to bandy words with them; it is no use one member asserting that it is a fact and another member denying it. But, Sir, I will make a few observations which are relevant and which go to the root of the matter.

“ The first point I would like to submit is this. It must be admitted that there is unrest, possibly unrest of the nature that would disturb any Government. It must also be conceded that it is the duty of the Government to set things right and to protect the lives and properties of all persons concerned. But, may I ask the Government whether they have diagnosed the disease and found out the causes therefor and whether they have given serious consideration to finding out the remedy therefor? The Congress Government must have known that while they were opposing the previous Governments, they had done propaganda to the effect that if anybody's civil liberties were affected, jeopardized, they had the right to resist such an unholy law. That spirit was engendered in the country. I do not say it is wrong; it is bad and it is that spirit that is prompting us now to combat this ordinance as far as the Muslim Leaguers are concerned. Let me go to the time when this Congress Government took up office, elected by a majority by having done propaganda amongst the people and representing to the people to realize that they had made sacrifices for the sake of the country and liberty. They were returned to power, and others who contested the elections

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did not come to power. Whether the people sent the Congressmen to the Legislature or not or whether they sent or failed to send them, what would be their position? All over the country, respect for law, as it stood at any time, must be admitted. It certainly takes some time for a party in the midst of its propaganda to settle down and to get used to the law. Congressmen, communists or any other party that contested the elections and sent their representatives to the Legislature were of the view that they need not very much care for law. When the Congress came into power, the Congressmen in the country—I am sorry to say that on the floor of this House it has been repeated very often—even members belonging to this House, and even the office-bearers of the Congress institutions in the country, thought that the executive of the Congress Government, that is the Government, was in their pockets. As if to prove their claim, certain orders were passed by Government which made people believe that the Secretary of a primary Congress Committee or District Committee can get anything done. Not only that, Sir, the officials who shall be left severely alone to administer the law and the executive orders as issued by Government, were at their wit's end. They were bamboozled and coerced and I know as a matter of fact, many of the officers in the districts reported to the Government to that effect. That is the way in which Congressmen in the country have been exercising their influence all along. I am sorry to submit, Sir, that many Congressmen, responsible men have told me personally, “we are not sure what is going to happen to us; we are not sure whether a certain order will be adhered to . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ What has that to do with the Ordinance?”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I am pointing out, Sir, that law and order and the rules passed by the Government have not been adhered to. People were making promises. They were saying that they could do anything they pleased. So, Sir, that was the position in the country. Added to that, Sir, you might remember that at the time the Food Committees were proposed, we on this side of the House said that it would be a source of disunity.

“ Sir, in the country to-day, there are not only three parties, the Muslim League Party, the Communist Party and the Congress Party, but there are parties among the Congressmen themselves. The net result of all this is this. Many people who belong to the Congress honestly believe that only some Congressmen have caught the ear of the Government and so justice is not being done to others. I may point out to you, Sir, many instances where Congressmen were supporting . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ You are bringing things which have nothing to do with the ordinance.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ I am coming to the point, Sir. Such discontented members of the Congress swelled the ranks of the Communists. That is a fact. The Premier knows, I think, something about these matters.”

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SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"On a point of information, Sir. Have you fixed any time limit?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have fixed the time-limit."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In the country, as it now exists, respect for law has become very very weak. The Communists have taken advantage of this. There are rival parties among agriculturists, among labourers and among all ranks of society. Clashes are bound to occur between these parties whenever one party is favoured by the Government. I have known instances, Sir, where the police were at their wit's end, either to support the Communist Labour Party or the Congress Labour Party. Sometimes, they found that the point of view put forward by the Communist Labour Party was right and that the point put forward by the Congress Labour Party was wrong. Thus, Sir, in the country, there are two groups in most of the institutions, among agricultural labourers and factory labourers, peasants and so on. You know also, Sir, that there is another party, the Kisan Party, led by, I think, the Communists. This position was aggravated, I may submit, Sir, by the fact that an impression has been created in the country that the Congressmen, especially the office-bearers in the districts can get things done. I am not sure whether that impression is correct; I hope it is not.

"As I said, Sir, the Communists are very clever propagandists and they would like to take advantage of any discontent among men and to organize violation of the law. Sir, I have no sympathy for the Communists at all, but you have given them the opportunity to utilize the position, the discontented position, of the people in the country. Now, Sir, grave concern was exhibited over matters related by the Premier and supplemented by many members of the Congress Party—sorrowful some of them have been—which have been corroborated by the members of my party. The position is really very grave. The unrest is there. The Leader of my party has represented to the Government time and again that this lawlessness in the country must be put down in time. Our accusation of the Government is that it has not done its duty earlier; if only it had done so, it would not have spread at all. Now, the question is, whether in the present circumstances, it is necessary that this Ordinance should be promulgated. My submission is that without recourse to this extraordinary measure, Government could have controlled the situation. Sir, there is one difference between the ordinary law and an ordinance. In the ordinary law, there is provision that any person who has any plan to commit an offence can be arrested even without a warrant, under section 149 of the Criminal Procedure Code. But, in the case of an Ordinance, any man who might belong to any party and whom the Government may think is a potential offender, even a class of persons belonging to a party who may have committed any offence in the past, say five or six years ago, when all Congressmen committed the offence, these persons can be shut up and kept without trial. I am reading to you, Sir, the provisions

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which are very wide under the present law. I am referring to Chapter XIII of the Criminal Procedure Code, in which preventive action is defined. There is also another Act, the Police Act. I invite the attention of the House to section 23 of the Police Act which gives wider powers than all these sections in the Ordinance. I would only read one section, Sir: 'Police officer may of his own authority interpose to prevent any injury attempted to be committed in his view to any public property, movable or immovable, or the removal or injury of any public landmark or buoy or other mark used for navigation.' Again, section 151 runs as follows: 'A police officer knowing of a design to commit any cognizable offence may arrest, without orders from a magistrate and without a warrant, the person so designing, if it appears to such officer that the commission of the offence cannot be otherwise prevented.' To add to these provisions, Sir, there are the security sections in Chapter XIII of the Police Act. You can completely prevent the committing of an offence if only your subordinates are vigorous and are doing their duty. In fact, as I said, the difference between these laws as they now stand and the provisions of the Ordinance, is that in the case of the Ordinance, if the local Government themselves think that a certain person is dangerous, he might or might not have committed an offence, they can straightway detain him and there is no provision for bringing him to trial. No court of law is entitled to investigate into his case and see whether the arrest was correctly made, whether he was liable to be arrested and whether the commission of the offence could be prevented. That is the difference, Sir, between the ordinary law and the Ordinance. My submission is this. In the first place, as I said, no person should be judged an offender unless he has been tried by a court of law, and in the case of a person who is about to commit an offence, you can prevent him from committing it and you can go to the extent of arresting him and putting him into jail. You can take him before a Magistrate, establish your case and then punish him for making preparation for committing an offence. So, the citizen will have the right to know why he has been arrested and he will then adduce evidence that he is innocent. The Government can prove the case against him and judgment of the Court will be given whether he is innocent or really culpable. That is what we expect from any civilized Government, especially from the Congress Government.

"Now, Sir, another point which I would like to submit is this. You want to arrest a man and detain him merely because he belongs to a particular institution or a political party—I heard, Sir, some members say, No. That is all right. But, they could have tried to put into effect the provisions already in existence; I do not know whether they had recourse to that at all. Even in these circumstances, do you believe that a man can be shut up, his liberty taken away, without his being brought to trial and found guilty or not guilty. If that is your view, I must submit, Sir, that no man or woman of any civilized country or of any country, can allow such a thing to be done.

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"I will just read the provision in the Ordinance which says:—
 'The authority making the order shall communicate to the person affected by so far as such communication can be made without disclosing facts, which the said authority considers it would be against the public interest to disclose.'"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Mr. Hameed Khan has already quoted the passage."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am quoting a different portion, Sir. It goes on:—

'disclose, the grounds on which the order has been made against him and such other particulars as are in the opinion of such authority sufficient to enable him to make if he wishes, a representation against the order and such person may at any time thereafter make a representation in writing to such authority against the order.'

"So, Sir, the authority that arrested a person will be furnished with only so much of information which the Government thinks not dangerous for the Government to give and although he can make a representation to the authority that arrested him, what happens then? Is that authority going to be a court of law? No. It is only a representation against the order and it is stated that—

'It shall be the duty of such authority to inform such person of his right of making such representation and to afford him the earliest practical opportunity of doing so.'

Thus, if A is arrested and detained in Vellore jail, information goes to him through the District Magistrate or some one else to the effect that he circulated some paper some four years ago. . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think the hon. Member may go into details when the Bill is considered clause by clause."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am only giving details from the ordinary law of the land. What I submit is that there is provision even under the existing laws that these cases must be referred to some judicial tribunal. I know that when the Congress was in the Opposition it clamoured that such cases should be investigated into by a tribunal presided over by a High Court Judge or the like. Is it not fair to ask for the same privileges here? Sir, I am the last man to say that anybody should infringe the law; I am the last man to say that a man has got the right to break the law and create trouble in the country. Peace and order must be there. What I humbly ask is this. If a person is about to break the law and is planning some conspiracy to disturb the conditions in the country, should he not be given an opportunity to state his case? What is the opportunity you are giving him? Are you giving him an opportunity to state his case before a judicial tribunal?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The same point has already been repeated by many hon. Members previously."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am sorry, Sir. I have absolutely no objection to a law being enacted, but what I am anxious about is that a man must be given an opportunity—that is his natural right, the just right of a person who

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is put in jail—and that opportunity is taken away under extraordinary circumstances. Give him an opportunity to go to a court of law. Is it just to shut him down merely because some information goes to you about the committing of an offence by him? I have no objection to your putting him in jail if he is going to commit a murder or a riot or anything of the kind. But my point is, let him be given an opportunity. That is the natural right of any person to be tried by a tribunal. He must establish his innocence. As a matter of fact, even under the ordinary law, there are certain sections, such as section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, under which you can take action against such a person. Besides this, there are also sections 107 to 109—for dealing with habitual offenders. You may bring them to trial and if necessary, take security from them. But, why incur the displeasure of the people by promulgating this Ordinance which takes away the right of an individual of being tried and of establishing his innocence. I may be excused for using the word 'honest'—it is not in any bad sense. I say that at least there must be some intellectual honesty in thinking about these matters.

"If really you are aiming at putting down the movement, which is inherently wrong—it clearly shows that these Communist institutions cannot stand—where is the honesty in your going about the thing? Do not be under any misgiving or belief that you can utilize it for any political purpose. I know the gravity of the situation. I only say that your judgment is wrong. It is a misplaced fear and you are panicky.

"Then, Sir, there is one more point which I would like to develop. It was in regard to a very extraordinary statement which the Hon. the Prime Minister made. I little expected the Prime Minister to say that the offender can be defended and proved innocent with the help of lawyers. I do not know how far that is proper on the part of the Hon. the Prime Minister to say that. If there are lawyers, there are judges also to get them off."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"What was said just as a retort, I am afraid, the hon. Member has taken seriously and spins something out of it."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I thank the Hon. Minister for the information. I want to know why this Government fights shy of the courts."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member can finish his speech within a minute or two, I shall allow him to do so; on the other hand, if he wants more time, we will have to adjourn the debate."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I may require about five more minutes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will therefore sit for a few more minutes."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Let the cases 5.30 p.m."

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law Courts decide their innocence or guilt. That is the way in which civilized Government is carried on and we have an additional advantage in that we will be creating confidence in the minds of the people. They will be re-assured that nothing will be done off-hand and that the guilt or innocence of a person shall be judged by a court of law impartially. That is what I want the present Government to do, to create the impression in this country that whoever it may be, to whichever party one may belong, his innocence shall be established by a court of law. Then only you will create the confidence amongst the people and that will be the source of your continuance in office; that will be the basis on which the bedrock of good Government will be founded. The bedrock of good Government is not this sort of Ordinance.

"I would like to refer to one more point. Reference was made—I do not know the name of the hon. gentleman who did it—by an hon. Member coming from Malabar to the 'Mecca-Moscow Alliance.' I thought from his speech that he is a very learned person and he must have known better. He should have known that in no Muslim country in the world Sovietism finds favour. Unfortunately, I find that in this House people throw aspersions over others unnecessarily and that brings a retort from the other side. I wish the hon. gentleman had not used these words knowing as he must know, the history and present conditions of Muslim countries.

"My very last point is a very simple one, and I request Hon. Ministers to pay more attention to matters like this. I know many Ministers must have travelled through the length and breadth of the country because the Ministers are almost always on tour. They would have known conditions in the Province. As the previous speaker, Mr. Ramachandra Rao, has put it, we can serve the very same purpose by doing propaganda and by creating confidence in the people in the just administration of the country and make each feel, whoever it may be, if he has got a right case he would get justice, if he is qualified, he will get a licence, and if he satisfies the rules, he can get permits, whether he is a Congressman, Communist or Muslim Leaguer or a person who belongs to no party. He will get a permit for a car if he has a right to get it."

MR. SPEAKER:—"What has that to do with the question under discussion?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am coming to it presently, Sir. My submission is that the confidence is more important than all these Ordinances. If people have got confidence that this Government, its individual Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, heads of departments and all the rest of the paraphernalia—will deal fairly with them and not be partial to this or that man, then I am sure, Sir, as my hon. friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, has put it, any party who may be opposing you on

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high politics will co-operate with you. As far as the Muslim League is concerned, it will certainly assist you and co-operate with you as long as the subjects under your charge are administered fairly and in matters that are vital to the parties. I suggest you take them into your confidence. It is only then that co-operation will follow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-morrow the House will have to sit probably up till ten o'clock in the night and finish its business."

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

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 63 asked by Sri K. Ananda Nambiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 7th February 1947, page 261 supra.]

STATEMENT I.

Statement of average quantity of handloom cloth exported from Madras to other Provinces and States in India during August to October 1946, in bales of 1,500 yards.

Serial number and areas.	August 1946.	September 1946.	October 1946.	Total.
1 Mysore State	248½	178½	72	499½
2 Travancore	33	24½	78	135½
3 Cochin State	13½	15½	20	49
4 Pudukottah	6½	9	29	44½
5 Civil and Military Station ..	5½	16½	8½	30
6 Coorg	..	..	..	..
7 Pondicherry	..	..	..	..
8 Bengal	416½	294½	153	863½
9 Bombay	287½	122½	131½	541½
10 Central Provinces and Berar ..	63½	100	60½	224½
11 United Provinces	37	86	38½	161½
12 Punjab	25½	25½	9	60½
13 Sind	9½	16	½	26
14 Delhi	16	4½	29½	50
15 Orissa	11½	13	15½	40
16 Bihar	31	2	26½	59½
17 Kolhapur	3	..	..	3
18 Rajputana	..	..	..	..
19 North-West Frontier Province ..	1½	..	..	1½
20 Assam	..	..	..	..
21 Hyderabad	93½	37½	15½	146½
22 Indore	2½	..	..	2½
Total ..	1,305	945½	687½	2,938½

Average exports per month works out to 970½ bales. (1 bale = 1,500 yards).

STATEMENT II.

Statement showing the average quantity of handloom cloth exported to places outside India during the period August to October 1946 in yards.

Serial number and areas.	Grey.	White.	Coloured.
1 Ceylon	..	4,101	1,820,806
2 Straits Settlements	..	..	179,992
3 Kenya Colony	..	..	..
4 Burma	..	..	249,698
5 Zanzibar	..	..	1,600
Total ..	..	4,101	2,252,096

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STATEMENT III.

Statement showing the quotas allotted by the Government of India for export of cotton piecegoods to destinations outside India during the half-year ending December 1946 in yards.

Serial number and destination.	Total quotas allotted.	Quotas allotted for	
		Mill goods.	Handloom goods.
1 Ceylon	8,077,000	957,000	7,120,000
2 British East Africa (including Nagaland and Italy Somaliland).	80,000	40,200	39,800
3 British West Africa (including Nigeria)	1,060,000	1,001,200	58,800
4 British Pacific Island (including Fiji Island)	30,000	26,590	3,410
5 Australia	184,070	184,070	..
6 Aden	98,600	..	98,600
7 Persian Gulf Ports	5,370	..	5,370
8 Mauritius	120,000	107,700	12,300
9 Hong Kong	10,000	10,000	..
10 Burma	1,460,000	141,740	1,318,260
11 Malaya including Straits Settlements	2,080,000	256,150	1,823,850
Total ..	13,205,040	2,724,650	10,480,390

STATEMENT IV.

Statement showing the average quantity of mill-made cloth exported to other Provinces during August to October 1946.

Serial number and areas.	Quantity in yards.	Serial number and areas.	Quantity in yards.
1 Mysore State	360,000	14 Sind	21,000
2 Civil and Military Station	69,000	15 Baluchistan	4,500
3 Travancore	228,000	16 Bihar	15,000
4 Cochin State	69,000	17 Orissa	27,000
5 Pudukottah	39,000	18 Rajputana	7,500
6 Pondicherry	3,000	19 North-West Frontier Province	49,500
7 Coorg	12,000	20 Rajkot	15,000
8 Bengal	292,500	21 Hyderabad	177,000
9 Bombay	523,500	22 Assam	42,000
10 Central Provinces and Berar	148,500	23 Central India States	4,500
11 United Provinces	82,500	24 Western India States	19,500
12 Punjab	210,000	Total ..	2,481,000
13 Delhi	61,500		

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local bodies in regular dispensaries may be granted the scale of pay of Rs. 80—5—150 as against the existing scale of Rs. 40—85 provided the finances of the local bodies permit the grant of this increased scale of pay. They have also increased the subsidy paid to L.I.Ms. in charge of rural dispensaries from Rs. 500 per annum to Rs. 600 per annum. The fifth year L.I.M. students (apprentice Physicians) of the School of Indian Medicine have been permitted to undergo clinical training in the Government Royapettah Hospital. The question of permitting them to undergo training in Midwifery in the Rajah Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar Lying-in-hospital and in Ophthalmology in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital is under consideration. Order have been issued declaring lady L.I.Ms. eligible for appointment as Medical Officers in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres of local bodies.

"The other matters are under consideration."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister for Public Health and Medicine whether their demand that they should be given the status of L.M.Ps. has been conceded? If not, why not?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The status of the L.I.Ms. has been declared to be equal to that enjoyed by the L.M.Ps. in certain matters and not in all matters."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether there are any students that are attending the school? If so, are they prevented by the students that are now on strike?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I am not aware of the position, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, in what respects these L.I.Ms. are not given the status of L.M.Ps.?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"In respect of granting of certificates by the L.I.Ms. in cases of wounds and drunkenness. A proposal is under the consideration of the Government and they expect to issue orders very soon."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know what prevents the Government from putting the L.I.Ms. on an equal footing with the L.M.Ps. straightaway?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The L.I.Ms. demand that they should be put on a par with the Allopathic practitioners on the same register under the Madras Medical Registration Act of 1914 but that cannot be done straightaway unless the Act is amended and proposals are under consideration and a Bill is under preparation for putting them on a common register."

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the coaching in the School of Indian Medicine is not satisfactory and the students are agitating for a better coaching?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"There is a proposal to start a Central College of Indian Medicine."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question is that the teaching is not good and there is an agitation for improving the same."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yes, Sir, that is my question."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"My answer is in conformity with the question, that is, that arrangements will be made for better teaching in the proposed College to be started."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, if this School of Indian Medicine itself will be converted into a College or another separate College will be started?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"This school will continue to operate until all the students pass out. The College is proposed to be started independent of this, some time in July."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it not necessary for Professors to have an adequate knowledge of Sanskrit if they should give efficient teaching in the ancient system of Ayurveda? Do the Professors now employed in the L.I.M. school possess the requisite qualifications?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question you have put concerns qualifications and it is better that you put a separate question."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In the answer given by the Hon. Minister she said that the salaries of the L.I.Ms. will be the same as that of the L.M.Ps. in the local bodies provided funds permitted. May I know from the Minister whether the same difficulty does not arise in the case of even L.M.Ps., so far as salary is concerned, seeing that there ought to be no difference between this class of medical men and the others."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, the same difficulty with which the L.I.Ms. are faced will be applicable to the L.M.Ps. if the local bodies are not in a position to pay the salary recommended by the Salaries Sub-Committee. It depends upon the financial position of the local bodies."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"What steps have been taken to induce the students to go back to the school?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The present position is this. I am not able to get any definite information whether they have called off the strike. I understand, according to the latest information, that the students are meeting in order to consider the withdrawal of the strike. Recently, Government passed orders that all L.I.M. women apprentices who

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are undergoing training in the Gosha Hospital and those who have already had training, should be employed in local board service in the Maternity and Child Welfare centres."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister how many times the students of the School of Indian Medicine have gone on strike during the last two years? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" I can say this much. During the Advisers' Regime there was a strike which went on for a considerable time and after the Congress party took up office, this is the first time that they have gone on strike."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" The Hon. the Minister has not answered my question. What attempts were made to induce the boys and girls to get back to school? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" As far as possible, the demands of the L.I.M. Association and also the students of the school are being met."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is this strike also engineered by the Communists? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" I would advise the hon. Member to put that question to Sri P. Venkateswarlu."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" I refer it back to the Hon. the Prime Minister."

Subsidies for wells.

* 73-B Q.—SRI M. BAPINEEDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why in the statement on well subsidies scheme there is no information about the amount of subsidies paid for wells and the number of wells completed in West Godavari district; and

(b) the number of applications received for subsidy for new wells and repairs of the old wells and the amount granted?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" (a) & (b) According to the progress reports received from the Collector, no applications for subsidies, either for sinking new wells or for repairing old ones, were received in the West Godavari district, within the prescribed time. Hence the 'nil' entry in the statement. A report on the matter has, however, been called for from the Board and the Collector."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that there are a good many applicants from the Chintalapudi taluk? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" I am not aware, Sir. But when I found, it is stated that there are no applicants from the district, I thought there was something wrong, and therefore I have called for a fresh statement."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, as there were heavy rains recently and wells could not be sunk, may I know whether Government will allow some more time for wells to be sunk, more especially for those that are in progress, and will similar concessions be given to the Ceded districts considering their backwardness? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" Time has already been extended to the end of June for the scheme already under execution."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" As regards June, Sir, are Government aware that there was heavy rain in the month of June? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" I am mentioning, Sir, of the month of June to come, and not the June that has passed." (Laughter.)

Applications for boarding grants and scholarships. [400]

* 58 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received for boarding grants, scholarships and residential scholarships and the number sanctioned for 1945-46 and 1946-47 districtwar; the number of applications rejected and the reasons for the rejection;

(b) the amount that is spent on the Labour department staff including the Labour school teachers and the amount spent on boarding grants, residential scholarships and non-residential scholarships; and

(c) how many residential scholarships and how many non-residential scholarships were granted to Harijans and to converts to Christianity?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" (a) Statements^b showing the number of applications received for boarding grants and scholarships (non-residential and residential) and the number sanctioned for 1945-46 and 1946-47 are placed on the table of the House.

" The number of applications for scholarships and boarding grants rejected during 1945-46 and 1946-47 and the reasons for rejection are given below:—

Scholarships.		
1945-46	1946-47	
189	199	These applications were rejected for any one of the following reasons (a) Overage, (b) detention in the same class (c) receipt of scholarship from other sources, (d) poor progress, or (e) non-eligible communities.
1,390	4	These applications for scholarships were not considered for want of funds.
Boarding grants (Individual).		
1945-46	1946-47	
2	4	These applications were rejected on account of the failure of the pupils to secure promotion to the next higher classes.
674	649	These applications were not considered for want of funds.

^a Postponed from the list of questions dated 6th February 1947.
^b Printed as Appendix on pages 400-401 infra.

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"(b) A statement* showing the amount spent on the Labour department staff including Labour school teachers and the amount spent on boarding grants, residential scholarships and non-residential scholarships is placed on the table of the House.

"(c) The residential and non-residential scholarships granted during 1945-46 and 1946-47 are as follows:—

	1945-46.		1946-47.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
Residential ..	237	64	257	89
Non-residential ..	5,275	1,018	4,543	845 "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, from the statement placed on the table of the House, why there is no increase, at least a recognizable increase, in the grant? From the figures furnished for 1945-46 and 1946-47, it is seen that much of the amount given has been spent only on staff and not for the purpose for which it was intended."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The hon. Member can clearly see from the figures that the amount sanctioned in 1946-47 is greater than that sanctioned in 1945-46, and the amount spent for the staff of Labour school teachers is also greater than that in 1945-46."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With reference to answer to clause (c), may I inquire, Sir, on what basis is the number and amount of scholarships and boarding grants given to Harijans and to converts to Christianity? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Sir, this question was raised by Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, M.L.C. Same amount is allotted to Harijans and to converts to Christianity, and from the amount so allotted scholarships are awarded."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I inquire, Sir, is it on the population basis or disabilities of the communities concerned that these things are given? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Government think the disabilities of the converts are also the same as those of the Harijans, and so a sum is allotted to the two respective communities on the basis of the applications received by Government."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, whether any separate allotment has been made for the converts to Christianity, or are any sums taken away for them from the fund allotted to Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" From 1945-46 a separate fund has been allotted for them."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether one can call himself a Harijan even after he takes to Islam or some other religion? Supposing to-morrow I take to Islam, can I still be called a Harijan? " (Laughter.)

* Printed as Appendix on pages 400-401 infra.

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Harijans converted to Christianity or Islam or Buddhism are all placed under this class by the Labour department for help."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Does the Hon. Minister know that if a Harijan becomes a Muslim, he is not a Harijan, but he is an Allahjan? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I am not aware of the statement made by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. But for this purpose, it is clearly laid down by the previous Government that Harijans converted to any other religion are eligible for help from the Labour department."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that Christians have got better facilities for education than Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I know Christians were under better conditions when Missionaries were helping them. But now when compared to Harijans' position, they are not generally better. So they also deserve the help of the Labour Department."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of discontinuing, or rather, handing over the schools now run by the Labour department to the district boards, and spend the amount so saved on hostels for the elevation of this community, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" If all Harijan members of this House represent so to Government, it will be considered."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" In view of the fact that Christians have a larger percentage of literacy, is it not better to give more facilities to Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" It does not mean that we should not give more scholarships to Harijan converts."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, why all these schemes relating to Harijans, or Scheduled classes are placed under the Labour department? Is it the idea that all the Scheduled class people are labourers? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Yes, Sir. Most of the workers, both converts and eligible communities, are placed under the Labour department. The Commissioner of Labour as the head of the Labour department is to look after the conditions and the facilities of the converts and non-converts who come under eligible communities."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of bifurcating the Labour department into Harijans Uplift Department and Industries Labour Department? "

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The hon. Member is informed that the Government has been actively considering the separation of Harijan Uplift Department from the Labour Department."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, what is the degree of action that is under consideration of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The hon. Member himself can understand as a member of this House."

Alleged raids on villages by the Police and military.

* 74 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state—

(a) whether during the August movement in 1942, systematic raids on villages were carried out both by the Malabar Police and Military in Tiruchendur taluk, Tinnevely district, and Devakottai and Tiruvadanai in Ramnad district; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action on the police officials who committed excesses?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) In the districts of Tinnevely and Ramnad, the disturbances during the Civil Disobedience Movement, 1942, were considered very serious and to restore law and order in the worst affected areas and to apprehend certain persons who were involved in serious cases of rioting, etc., certain villages were raided by the Malabar Special Police. A section of the Military was also used for bandobust purposes. All these were under the supervision of responsible police officers.

" (b) If any excesses can be proved against officials, the Government will certainly consider what action should be taken."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government have received any representations from responsible bodies in Tinnevely and Ramnad districts?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They must have been received; I cannot remember them now."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Sir, is the Hon. the Prime Minister aware that a number of houses were burnt at Tiruvadanai by the Malabar Special Police during 1942, and two Congressmen were killed by revolver shots by the Police?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They may have occurred; they must have occurred."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If it is proved that the Police committed excesses, will the Government take action against such Police under the new Public Safety Ordinance?" (Laughter).

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Action will be taken without any reference to the new Public Safety Ordinance."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"Will the Hon. Premier call for a report from the Ramnad District Police, as to whether two Congressmen were killed and whether a number of houses were burnt?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They must have been received, and a lot of things have been received."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to the report received from responsible bodies from Tinnevely and Ramnad districts, will Government be pleased to go through the report and let us know what action has been taken?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes; that would be done."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know before whom are the excesses to be proved? Is it before the Police officers who committed these murders?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Before the officers to be appointed by the Government."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government will take action against those people also who committed lawlessness in 1942?" (Laughter).

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"If a complaint is made it would be examined."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether Government will consider the question of giving compensation to the affected people in the 1942 movement in the Presidency?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Notice, Sir; Government will not give any such general undertaking."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the odious name associated with the Malabar Special Police, will Government be pleased to abolish that force?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The question does not arise. Government do not propose to do any such thing."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Inasmuch as the Hon. Premier has assured some hon. Members of the Congress Party, that so far as the alleged excesses are concerned in those two districts, action will be taken, may I know whether the same will apply to the excesses in other parts of the province during the Congress regime?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That would apply to all cases."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, who the officers are that were appointed for investigation in this case?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I said, officers would be appointed; I did not say, officers had been appointed."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know why a particular police force is called Malabar Special Police. Will Government consider the question of creating a force coupling its name with every district in the province? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" I don't remember exactly. I think there is a proposal in our files regarding the creation of a police force called the Madras Special Police. "

[Harijan clerks in Secretariat.]

* 75 Q.—**SRI K. SHANMUGAM:** Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Harijan graduates and Harijans that are serving as lower division and upper division clerks in the Secretariat;

(b) how many of them have been promoted as Superintendents so far; and

(c) whether there was any recent case of a Harijan's claims being overlooked in favour of a non-Harijan, in filling up the post of a Superintendent?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a).

(1) Upper division clerks—

Graduates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

(2) Lower division clerks—

Graduates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

" (b) One.

" (c) The answer is in the negative."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of recruiting all the Harijan graduates as gazetted officers, as there is very poor representation of Harijans in Government service, so that it may give a fillip to Harijan youths to take to higher studies? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" The rules will be applied to Harijan graduates equally with others."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government has not come out time and again saying that there are no suitable candidates from this community to be appointed as gazetted officers? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" No such thing happened time and again."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is the Government aware of the Press Communique recently issued sticking to the ratio of 1 : 12 as regards Harijan candidates on the plea that there are no suitable candidates coming forward? "

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" I do not know in what department it was, and in what service it was; but if really there was no suitable candidate forthcoming, that would be the only reply that could be given."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" In view of the negligible percentage of Harijans in the Secretariat, may I request Government, Sir, to consider some way whereby they could get more clerks and others? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Government have been anxious to get suitable candidates. If there are Harijan candidates, they will not be treated differently."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" If the members of the Assembly give a list of the Harijan graduates, will the Government, Sir, be prepared to appoint them as gazetted officers within a short time possible? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" As a matter of fact, I have been anxious to get a list of all qualified men, graduates or otherwise, from all the communities including the Harijans."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that one-fifth of the population of this Province is not given even one per cent of representation? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" No reply can be given without an examination."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Is the Government aware of the Press Communique issued by the Madras Government on November 26th saying that there are no suitable candidates, and hence they do not want to change the proportion in respect of Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" When there are no suitable candidates that is the only answer that would be given."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, what special facilities Government are proposing for the upliftment of Harijans so far as services are concerned? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Notice, Sir. No special effort has been made with reference to Harijan candidates. The same effort is being made with regard to Harijans, with regard to Muslims and with regard to all others."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I bring to the notice of Government, Sir, the Press Communique issued by the Madras Government saying that suitable candidates are not forthcoming from this community? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" For various purposes, when applications are called for, and if no suitable candidates are forthcoming, the only reply that can be given by this Government or by any reasonable person is that."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, out of the 600 appointments that were made by the present Ministry how many were given to Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" Notice."

Strike notices issued by Andhra Provincial Municipal and Local Boards Employees' Union.

* 76 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received copies of strike notices issued by the different branches of Andhra Provincial Municipal and Local Boards Employees' Union; and

(b) if so, what action do the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Orders have been issued sanctioning 25 per cent increase in the basic pay prevailing before the first August 1946 of all scavengers and conservancy menials and the compulsory institution of Provident Fund arrangements at the rate of Re. 1 per head per mensem in first and second grade municipalities and annas 8 per mensem in other municipalities and panchayat boards. These orders take effect from 1st August 1946. The remaining grievances referred to in the strike notice are under consideration of Government."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that 25 per cent increase means only Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 3 and that the total amount they will get will be Rs. 8, Rs. 9 and Rs. 12, respectively? If this is so, is the Government aware that there is terrible discontentment among the workers; and is the Government prepared to take any steps to satisfy them?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" It is true, Sir, that the scales of pay range from Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 per month in the case of menials and conservancy menials attached to the local bodies. A Committee of Conciliation was appointed to go into the question of increasing the basic pay of these menials, and the Conciliation Board has recommended an increase of 25 per cent in the basic scales. The question is being examined whether the local bodies will be in a position to give a further increase."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that these associations are under the leading strings of Communists who would not allow them to accept any terms that are proposed by Government."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Possibly, Sir."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know Sir, whether the Hon. Minister and the Government are satisfied that the increase suggested is equal to the living wage under the existing difficult conditions?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" It is true that the recommendations made by the Conciliation Board are absolutely inadequate considering the increase in the prices of commodities. A further increase in the basic pay will depend upon the financial position of the local bodies."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" If the local bodies are not in a position to pay the increased wages, may I know, Sir, what the Government propose to do to satisfy the demands of the workers because the wages are scandalously low?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Notice."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government consider the advisability of subsidising local bodies for paying increased wages to these poor labourers, Sir?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" In fact there is a proposal for considering the ways and means of augmenting the resources of the local bodies. Government have already been subsidizing the local bodies in various matters. In fact, the subsidies to be given to the local bodies in respect of maintenance of child welfare and maternity centres have been increased from one-fourth to one-half of the maintenance charges. In various ways, therefore, Government have been subsidizing and helping local bodies."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government is aware that most of these strikes by subordinate employees are mainly due to economic causes, and that if a minimum standard wage or dearness allowance is given, there will not be this strike wave?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Yes, Sir. There has been a demand for several years that the minimum wage of menials should be Rs. 15 per mensem. Considering the inadequacy of the increase under the basic pay, the matter may be considered by the Government."

Stipends given to students of the School of Indian Medicine.

* 77 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state the number of stipends given by (i) the Government and (ii) the local bodies to the students of the—

- (1) Unani section,
- (2) Ayurveda section, and
- (3) Siddha section of the School of Indian Medicine?

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THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(i) Number of stipends paid by Government are—

	Each year.
(1) For women students (irrespective of the sections in which they study) ..	4
(2) For proficiency in Sanskrit Ayurveda section. ..	4
(3) For proficiency in Tamil Siddha section ..	2
(4) For proficiency in Urdu Unani section ..	2

“(ii) Number of stipends paid by local bodies are—

(1) For Ayurvedic section	3
(2) For Siddha section	Nil.
(3) For Unani section	Nil.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know, Sir, why the number of stipends for the Unani section is so poor as compared to the number of stipends given to the Ayurvedic section?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“It depends upon the strength of the Muslims in the Unani section. Two scholarships have been awarded in view of their numbers.”

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What is the amount of stipend, Sir?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I am not aware.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I inform the Hon. Minister that strength also depends upon the stipends offered?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is a statement. The question need not be answered.”

Profits earned by Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society and the primary societies.

* 78 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society and its 300 odd affiliated units have earned a profit of Rs. 50 lakhs; and, if so,
- whether the Government propose to start a spinning mill with this sum to be run on a co-operative basis so that the societies may get more yarn at cheap rates?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) The profits earned by the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society and the primary societies during 1943—44 and 1944—45 are—

	RS.
1943—44	7·87 lakhs
1944—45	13·50 lakhs

“(b) No, Sir.”

“The figures for 1945—46 are not yet available as audit has not been completed.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know, Sir, whether a spinning mill on a co-operative basis will not help the poor weaver to get yarn at cheap rates instead of the profits going to the capitalists?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“This question is about the textile policy, Sir. We have rightly decided to give time for discussion of that policy and during question time this cannot be discussed either usefully or expeditiously.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“In view of the fact that this is going to be discussed we may pass on to the next question.”

Arbitration under the Trades Disputes Act.

* 79 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government propose to refer to arbitration the dispute between the employers of co-operative societies and their employees under the Trade Disputes Acts as was done in the case of dispute between Federation of Union of bank employees and 21 major banks in Bombay?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“If the reference is generally to all disputes (other than those relating to disciplinary cases), the Registrar of Co-operative Societies will take action to settle the dispute under the powers vested in him by the Madras Co-operative Societies Act. The Trade Disputes Act does not provide for arbitration.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I suggest to the Hon. Minister, Sir, that as the District Registrar of Co-operative Societies happens to be the head of the department there will not be any justice done to the employees of the department if he is entrusted with this work?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I do not agree, Sir.”

Percentage of convicts given hard labour employed in industries.

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

- what percentage of convicts who were given hard labour were employed in industries for the last five years or in the year for which accounts are available; and
- the reasons for not employing more?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“(a) The percentages of such convicts during each of the years 1941 to 1945 were 37·68, 39·05, 39·35, 41·63 and 45·09 respectively.

“(b) The reasons for not employing more convicts are that they are required for other prison services such as prison offices, prison servants, guarding, sanitation, jail repairs, etc., also sick and convalescent convicts are not allowed to work.”

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Harijan convicts are compelled to do scavenging work inside the jail? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ I do not know of any such rule, Sir.”

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I enquire when honest citizens are unemployed what is the advisability of giving work to the convicts? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ Well Sir, they will have to earn their keep, at least a portion of it.”

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of calling for a report as regards the compulsion of the Harijan convicts to do scavenging work? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ If the hon. Member gives me any specific instance, I will certainly enquire into it, Sir.”

Increase of seats in local bodies.

* 81 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to accede to the request of Madras Corporation to enhance the number of members of the Corporation to 55;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of seats in the District Boards and Municipalities to ensure greater representation;

(c) whether the Government propose to make the Commissioners and Health Officers for the Municipalities to be subordinate to the Municipal Councils concerned; and

(d) whether the Government propose to give representation to the registered Trade Unions in the Municipal Councils; if the answer is in the negative, whether the Government please state the reasons.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ (a) The Government propose to increase the number of divisional councillors to 65. I may add that the full proposals of the Government for the reconstitution of the Corporation Council are published in the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act and that Bill will come very shortly before this Assembly.

“ (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (c) & (d) These proposals are under consideration.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ In view of the reply, no supplementary questions need be put. When the Bill comes before the House, hon. Members may express their views on the question.”

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Muslims in the Local Administration Secretariat.

82 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the number of hands in the Local Administration section of the Madras Secretariat not below the rank of clerks and the number of Muslims among them?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The sanctioned strength of the subordinate staff of the Local Administration Department of the Madras Secretariat as on 20th January 1947 is as follows:—

	Permanent.	Temporary.
(i) Superintendents	6	7
(ii) Upper division and lower division clerks	23	12
(iii) Typists and steno-typists	8	3

“ Two of the members of the above establishment are Muslims (one is a superintendent who is now on other duty and the other is an upper division clerk).

“ I may add, Sir, that I have a Muslim as my personal clerk, a Hindu as my personal assistant and a Christian as my Secretary.” (Laughter.)

Cultivation of Mangait paramba in Chirakkal taluk.

* 83 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether a large number of peasants in and around Mangait paramba in Chirakkal taluk asked for permission to cultivate part of the Government waste land in the said paramba;

(b) whether the leaders of the local Kisan Sangam were promised by the Tahsildar that they would be allowed to organize a Cultivators' Co-operative Society to cultivate a plot out of the said paramba;

(c) whether in anticipation of ultimate Government sanction the Kisan Sangam brought 21 acres out of a total of over 300 acres of the paramba under cultivation;

(d) whether after it was brought under cultivation orders were issued for eviction from the said plot of land along with standing crop; and

(e) if the facts are true as stated above, whether the Government will be pleased to see that Kisans are encouraged to bring the waste lands in the said paramba under cultivation?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“ (a) Yes.

“ (b) No. In May, the local Kisan Sangam (a Communist organization) applied for permission to cultivate the land. The Tahsildar informed the Secretary that if individual applications were put in, temporary occupation of plots would be permitted. Several applications were received and the Deputy Tahsildar arranged a local inspection for 3rd July 1946 with a view to fixing up assignment of individual

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plots. On 2nd July 1946 the Sangam put in a petition signed by those who had applied for individual plots, and other persons, stating that they intended to form a co-operative society for collective farming of the Mangait paramba. The Tahsildar told the petitioners that they might form and register a co-operative society and then apply to the Collector for the lease of the land, as the extent was in excess of the Tahsildar's powers of leasing. The kisan leaders were clearly told by the Tahsildar, and also on 21st August 1946 by the Revenue Divisional Officer that they could not enter upon the land unless and until it was leased by the Collector.

"(c) In view of what is stated under (b), there could be no question of anticipation of sanction. The Kisan Sangam without waiting for orders fenced about 21 acres and planted tapico in about 7 acres.

"(d) The Sub-Collector ordered eviction of the encroachers and forfeiture of the crop. The intention was to evict the encroachers but to carry out the eviction only after the crops were off the ground.

"(e) Does not arise."

Irrigation scheme in Malabar district.

* 84 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state what all irrigation schemes have been decided upon after his tour of investigation in Ponnani and Palghat taluks of Malabar district?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"No scheme relating to Ponnani and Palghat taluks of Malabar district suggested after the Hon. Minister's (Public Works) tour in Malabar has yet been finally decided upon. Two such schemes in Ponnani taluk, viz., storage tank in the swamps on the Cochin border and a reservoir on the Thootha river (or an anicut across it) are being examined by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) besides other schemes already taken up for investigation in both taluks. The Government have sanctioned special staff for the purpose, and specific proposals regarding the schemes are awaited from the Chief Engineer."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know, Sir, if a list can be placed on the table of the House which will give us the number of works that have been decided to be taken after this Ministry has come into office in all the districts?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I shall consider the question, Sir."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any irrigation scheme for Ramnad district under consideration?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Surely that question does not arise out of this question which is about Ponnani and Palghat taluks."

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Construction of new railway lines.

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

(a) what proposals about the construction of new lines of railway in this Province have been sent up by the Madras Government to the Railway Board; and

(b) which of them have been included in the basic ten-year plan of the Government of India?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" (a) (i) The following proposals for the construction of new lines were tentatively recommended in October 1944 to the Railway Board by this Government:—

- (1) Construction of Arantangi-Karaikudi line;
- (2) Construction of Kollengode-Trichur-Cochin Port line;
- (3) Extension of Morapur-Hosur line (when restored) to Bangalore;
- (4) Construction of Dharmavaram-Nellore line via Badvel and Cuddapah with extension on the Dharmavaram side to Chitaldrug (in Mysore), and on the Nellore side to Donakonda via Kanigiri and Podili;
- (5) Construction of Tanjore-Pattukkottai line; and
- (6) Construction of Dindigul-Gudalur line.

" (a) (ii) Subsequently in October 1946, the Government of India were requested to take up one or more of the following four lines:—

- (1) Mangalore-Hassan;
- (2) Mangalore-Arsal;
- (3) Mangalore-Karkal-Shimoga; and
- (4) Mangalore-Batkal-Hubli.

" (b) The question of restoration of dismantled lines and construction of new lines was discussed at a Conference held in the Secretariat on the 1st November 1944 with Sir Kenneth Mitchell, War Transport Department, and Sir Lakshmipathi Misra, Member, Engineering, Railway Board. As a result of this discussion the Railway Board have included the following new lines in their tentative programme of post-war development of railway communications for this Province, forwarded in July 1945:—

- (1) Construction of Dindigul-Gudalur line;
- (2) Construction of Kollengode-Trichur-Cochin Port line;
- (3) Construction of Tanjore-Pattukkottai (Priority); and
- (4) Construction of Arantangi-Karaikudi (Priority).

The Railway Board have subsequently been asked to give high priority to the Dindigul-Gudalur line. The orders of the Railway Board in regard to the proposals mentioned in answer to (a) (ii) above are awaited.

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"The Government have no information regarding the period of the basic plan of the Government of India referred to by the Hon. Member."

MR. SPEAKER:—" 'Railways' is a Central subject. Hon. Members can put one or two questions so far as this Government is concerned."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, if the proposals recommended by the Provincial Government are for broad gauge or metre gauge?"

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Metre gauge, Sir."

Extension of compulsory education in districts.

* 86 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the members of the Legislature are consulted by the District Boards in the matter of the selection of areas for the extension of compulsory education in the districts;

(b) whether in extending compulsory education the claim of the backward communities for priority in this regard is borne in mind;

(c) the reason why Welfare Officers have not been appointed by the Government to implement their scheme of compulsory education;

(d) up to what age compulsory elementary education is being enforced on (i) boys and (ii) girls; and

(e) whether religious instruction is provided for Muslim pupils in areas where compulsory education has been introduced?

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

"(a) No.

"(b) It is open to the District Board to select such areas which contain a large number of people belonging to the backward communities.

"(c) The Government have not found it necessary to appoint Welfare Officers for the present, but a proposal to appoint attendance officers is under consideration.

"(d) Compulsory elementary education is enforced in respect of boys up to the age of 14 and up to the age of 12 in respect of girls. In the areas served by separate girls' schools, compulsion is enforced up to the age of 14 for girls.

"(e) The hon. Member is referred to the provisions of section 49 of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, under which no guardian will be compelled to cause a child to attend a school in which attendance at religious instruction in a faith other than that to which the child belongs is compulsory. Provision of religious instruction is left to the discretion of the managements. In the Special Schools for Muslims, religious instruction can be imparted within school

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hours by a member of the staff. In non-Muslim schools a part-time religious instructor may be employed if there are sufficient numbers of pupils and if religious instruction is imparted out of school hours."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I request the Government to see that at least the Muslim Members of the Legislature are consulted by the District Board with regard to the selection of areas for the extension of compulsory education in the districts? My idea is that the Muslim Members of the Legislature in the various districts concerned should be consulted by the Presidents of District Boards before the latter decide about the areas to which compulsory education should be extended."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid this House would not like to make a distinction between one Member of the Legislature and another."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Then the rule may be made applicable to all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Members themselves could make their suggestions voluntarily."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"My idea is that not only Muslim members but all the Members of the Legislature may be consulted."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Hon. Members of this House have great influence with the District Boards and it is not necessary for the Government to recommend to the District Boards that they may be consulted."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that discrimination has been made against the Muslims in the choice of centres and that they have a grievance in this respect?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am not aware, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now that it has been brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister, will he issue instructions to the Presidents of District Boards to consult the Muslim M.L.As. of the district in the matter?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Muslim as well as non-Muslim M.L.As."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is not possible for the Government to issue instructions to consult certain class of M.L.As. as against other class of M.L.As."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister is aware that it is not the President of the District Board alone but also the Educational Officer who is responsible for the selection of these areas? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Yes, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I remind the Hon. Minister that it has been specifically recommended by the Post-War Reconstruction Committee that backward communities should be given preference in the matter of the extension of compulsory education? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am obliged to the hon. Member for the information."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" Will the Hon. Minister for Education issue instructions to the Educational officers that the local Members of the Legislature should be consulted in the matter of selection of areas for the extension of compulsory education? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" No, Sir, it will not be possible. It will not work. This responsibility has been entrusted to institution which is elected on a different basis. If we connect both it will lead to confusion."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" With reference to clause (c), may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware that that renowned Educationist the late Sir Meverel Statham has suggested in the Post-War Reconstruction Committee report that welfare officers should be appointed with the idea of making compulsory education effective. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he would bear this in mind and appoint welfare officers? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I have referred in my answer to the appointment of attendance officers. They will be almost welfare officers also."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" With reference to clause (d), I find that a differentiation is made between boys and girls. May I request the Hon. Minister to look up the Sargeant Report and other reports in regard to this matter? He will find that in none of these reports has it been recommended that differentiation should be made between boys and girls. May I therefore request the Hon. Minister to see that no difference is made between boys and girls? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am afraid this differentiation is made in deference to the wishes of the parents."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have not called the hon. Member. We shall proceed to the next question."

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Emergency training course for general education.

* 87 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of additional students that have joined the emergency training course this year as compared to the number of students that joined the secondary-grade training course in the preceding year; and

(b) whether the Government propose to revive next year the two-year secondary training course that has been suspended?

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

" (a) There are now 1,782 students undergoing the emergency secondary-grade training course this year, as against 1,241 students who underwent the course in the preceding year.

" (b) No. The matter is under consideration."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" In view of the fact that a large number of potential women teachers is lost to the teaching profession, will the hon. Minister consider the desirability of reviving the two-year secondary training education course and continuing it side by side with the emergency training course? "

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

" The matter now under the consideration of Government is to go back to the old system of two years, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" What are the further steps taken by the Government to increase the number of students for training as teachers? "

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

" The present revision of salaries, Sir."

Price of rice in deficit districts.

* 88 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon'ble the Minister for Motor Transports and Food be pleased to state in which deficit districts, the price of imported rice exceeds the price of local rice?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" The price of imported rice exceeds the price of local rice in the districts of Tinnevely, North Arcot and Chingleput as shown below. The prices are for rice of second sort which is the sort commonly consumed.

District.			Locally produced rice.	Imported rice.
			(Per Md.)	(Per Md.)
1 Tinnevely	..	..	9 4 0	9 10 0
2 North Arcot	..	..	9 3 0	9 10 0
3 Chingleput	..	..	9 2 7	9 11 1 "

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is the Government aware of the fact that in fixing the price of paddy the merchants were given a greater margin after purchasing the paddy from the ryot, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The margin is carefully calculated before the prices are fixed, Sir."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Abolition of posts of Executive Officers to panchayats.

1 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government propose to abolish the posts of Executive Officers to panchayats?

A.—No.

Road from Anakayam amsam in Ernad taluk to Perintalmanna.

2 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the road running from Anakayam amsam in Ernad taluk to Perintalmanna through Panthalur and Mudikod is in a neglected and unsatisfactory condition;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Malabar District Board has practically abandoned this road; and

(c) whether the Public Works Department propose to take it up and improve its condition?

A.—(a) The road is not in a good condition.

(b) The allotment made by the Malabar District Board during the previous years for maintenance of the road was about Rs. 1,000 per annum. During the current year an allotment of Rs. 6,000 has been made by the district board and it is expected that it will be possible to improve the side drains and section the road and make it passable.

(c) No proposal has been received from the Highways Department to take over the road as it is not an important road.

Improvements to Badagara-Cochin canals.

3 Q.—MUHAMMAD EBRAHIM COONHEE SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government propose to make the necessary improvements to Badagara-Elathur-Kallai-Ponnani-Cochin canals to enable the passage of large size vessels between Badagara and Cochin?

A.—The Government have worked out detailed schemes to improve the West Coast canal system, during a period of five years. If they are all carried out the biggest country

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boats can ply the entire length from Badagara to Cochin Harbour. But the Government have now under consideration the question of dropping all or some of the schemes, in view of the need to reduce expenditure on account of the introduction of Prohibition, etc.

Amendments to the Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1938.

4 Q.—MUHAMMAD ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from all districts requesting the Government to amend Act IV of 1938 (Agriculturists' Relief Act);

(b) what the important amendments proposed in these representations are; and

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the Act suitably in the light of the representations?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The important amendments proposed are—

(i) Provision should be made for scaling down of all decrees, whether *ex parte* or contested and passed after the Act came into force, and also for scaling down of debts renewed after the Act came into operation;

(ii) that necessary provision should be made in the Act for scaling down the debts and decrees even if the prior applications for scaling down was unsuccessful for one reason or other;

(iii) that in the case of fraud the persons responsible for fraud must be made penally liable and the decrees obtained by them be declared void and unenforceable;

(iv) that the Act should be amended for scaling down of debts outstanding prior to 1931 under property liability concerning second mortgages;

(v) that kaivasam, panayam and patta chit transactions should be brought within the purview of the Act; and

(vi) that the proviso to section 3 prohibiting the benefits of the Act to persons who are paying profession tax should be deleted.

(c) The question of amending the Act in the light of the several representations, is under the consideration of the Government.

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Price fixed for sugarcane.

5 Q.—SRI GONA SITARAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the prices fixed for sugarcane is common to all villages irrespective of their distances from the factories;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to pay proportionately higher rate or grant a subsidy to distant villages in order to meet the higher transport charges;

(c) whether the price is uniform for all varieties of cane; and

(d) whether the Government propose to consider the question of paying a higher rate for early maturing varieties of cane (less yielders) than for late maturing varieties (higher yielders) for encouraging ryots to cultivate proportionately equal area under the two varieties so that factory may work for longer periods and produce more sugar?

A.—(a) Yes. The price fixed is, however, only the minimum price of sugarcane and it is open to the cane growers not to supply cane to the factory if they consider that the price is not remunerative. It is also open to the factories to pay a premium over and above the minimum price fixed for cane supplied from distant villages and for better varieties of cane.

(b) In view of the answer to clause (a) this does not arise.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. Please see the answer to clause (a).

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

II.—ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF INDUSTRIES.

12 noon. MR. SPEAKER:—“I have to announce to the House that Sri M. Bapineedu is the only candidate duly nominated to the seat in the Board of Industries. I hereby declare him duly elected.

“The House will now resume the debate on the motion of Mr. Venkateswarlu.”

III.—RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 114 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES RE DISAPPROVAL OF MADRAS ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 1947—*cont.*

* M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the resolution moved by the hon. Member, Mr. P. Venkateswarlu. For the last two days we have been hearing speeches on the floor of this Assembly in support of the resolution and against the resolution. I have heard the speeches of the hon. Members, particularly the Congress Members who have been speaking against the resolution. When I listened to the reasonings in the speeches of the Congress Members, I felt that their tongues were giving utterances to sentiments and feelings to which their hearts protested. There is a gulf of difference

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between their professions and their practices. There is my hon. Friend Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar who was speaking one day against the Ordinance and the other day we found him supporting the Ordinance. Perhaps when I make this statement he may jump up and say that consistency is the virtue of a donkey.

“Sir, we have found among the Congress Members people who have been supporting the Ordinance and also opposing it. Unfortunately on this occasion this question has become almost a Party question and the Party is moving more as a machine. The speech of the hon. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar was very unfortunate. He has made references to things which were not correct. He has been telling the House that the Muslims have been given 10 yards of cloth which is far from truth.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Mr. Raza Khan has already answered those points.”

* M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Then I need not go into this question, Sir. I wanted to make a reference to that because it was said that the Hon. Premier was adopting a policy of appeasement towards the Muslims of this Province. Sir, a well-established educational policy which has been in vogue in this Province for the last so many years is being departed from. I ask the hon. Member: Is that a policy of appeasement? An assault is made upon the cultural and religious entity of the Muslims of the Province by the activities of the Ministry. I ask the hon. Member whether it is a policy of appeasement? Representation of Muslims on vital committees and boards is neglected in the name of nationalism. I ask the hon. Member whether that is a policy of appeasement? Even in all democratic countries when a non-official moves a Bill, at least leave is granted by the Ministry as an established parliamentary convention. Unfortunately, Sir, in this House, a non-official Muslim Member is not given even leave to move a non-official Bill. I ask the hon. Member whether that is a policy of appeasement? Sir, I need go no further into that question of appeasement.

“Sir, while seconding the resolution moved by Mr. Venkateswarlu, my Leader, the Leader of the Opposition, has said that Muslims and Communists are strange bed-fellows. Indeed we are strange bed-fellows. We as a nation and as a party do not agree with the fundamentals of the Communist Party or with the methods by which those fundamentals are implemented by that party. I need not on this occasion expatiate or elaborate on what those fundamentals are or what those methods are. Sufficient for me to say that we are supporting the resolution purely on the principle involved in it. Therefore, even an hon. Member of the status of Mr. Kala Venkata Rao cannot accuse us of saying that we as a people believing in the oneness of God support a Member whose party does not believe in the existence of God. Sir, that question does not arise. Number of speakers on my side of the House have said that we are to-day supporting the resolution purely on its merits, and the principles involved in it.

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“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, ordinances are justifiable and sustainable only when there is a grave disorder and danger to the State. When the activities of anti-social elements assume huge proportions as to endanger the very foundations of society and as to endanger the very structure of State, then there is justification for an ordinance. The statement the Hon. Premier made on the floor of this Assembly, the other day, revealed no doubt a state of affairs which any reasonable man who is really interested in the welfare of this Province cannot but say was grave and dangerous. When there is a crisis it is reasonable for any responsible and responsive Government to inform the people of what was taking place in the Province. Of course, people knew that something was happening from the scanty news that was being published in the Press but they never knew the gravity of the situation as alleged in the statement of the Premier. If the Government thought that the crisis had reached such a stage that it was beyond the control of the ordinary laws or if the Government thought that by giving wide publicity to what was taking place in the Province, they would only further endanger the safety and security of the Province the next natural course ought to have been for the Ministry to inform the representatives of the people. I mean, Sir, that the hon. Members of this House should have been called and the whole House should have gone into a Committee and in camera decided upon the course of action.

“ Sir, I ask whether the hon. Members of this House are mere stones. I ask whether we are senseless and heartless creatures that we could not have given support or that we could not have sympathised with the action of the Government. Sir, the Government have acted in a manner derogatory to the dignity of the House. I still believe that the Government should have taken this House into their confidence regarding any important action which they were going to take. The Premier's statement contained no doubt graphic details of what was taking place in the Province and those details were based upon Police reports. Mr. Speaker Sir, police reports are police reports and I need not go into their merits. The murdering of innocent people, destruction of private property, looting of private property, disobedience to established law and authority are no doubt matters of grave concern. But when these things assume such a magnitude is it reasonable for a Government to simply depend upon police reports? Sir, a public enquiry ought to have been instituted and on the findings of the public enquiry the Government could have passed any number of Ordinances with the full support of the people. The sickly haste with which this Ordinance has been passed merely indicates that the Government has lost its confidence in the people's representatives or any people who support them. We are here to give our fullest support when we are fully apprised of the things that are taking place in this Province. I say, Sir, that the Government seem to have lost confidence in the people. That shows another thing also namely that the Communists are every

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day gathering strength and momentum in this province and that a big landslide is taking place in the Government's much-paraded popular strength. If these agitations were true, the members of this Assembly could have been called and we could have given the Government all possible support. But the addition of this extraordinary weapon of oppression to the armoury of the Government merely indicates, so far as I see, the growing strength of the Communists and the falling strength of the Government. When the Hon. Premier said that even the two hon. Communist members were able to get into this House due to curious circumstances, he meant that the Communists were losing power. But when we see this Ordinance, we cannot help saying that they have got the strength. I believe that this very Ordinance is a standing proof of the popular strength of the Communists. The Hon. Premier also said that he had to bring this Ordinance only with a view to prevent the Communists from misleading the people and goading them to acts of violence and lawlessness. Arguments are advanced which are not justifiable and sustainable. It will be more honest for the Government if they come forward and say on the floor of this Assembly that they do not want people who do not agree with them and that they want this inquisitorial implement to destroy the people who do not agree with them. Sir, arresting people without warrant and sending them to jail without trial are methods of Government that have ceased to exist. We do not have the concentration camp to complete the picture. By this sort of oppression and repression, you cannot suppress a legitimate agitation of the people. If to-day you are sitting in the seat of power and authority, it is because you were once the victims of oppression. To-day if you are going to set up this machinery of oppression and try to suppress people who do not agree with you, I say, you are indulging in very dangerous acts. Therefore I cannot but appeal in the name of freedom, in the name of the civil liberties of the people of this province, to the Government or the people who support that Government to give up this Ordinance. By having this Ordinance, you are only suppressing the individual liberty of the people, you are going to arrest me without warrant and send me to jail without trial. What I want is, if I commit an act of violence, let me be hauled up before a court of law, and let that court of law decide upon my action. That would be the right thing that any democratic government or any government that call themselves popular should do. Without informing the people, without even informing the representatives of the people in this House, you have brought this Ordinance into existence overnight. This has perturbed us. You say: 'After all we are going to bring forward another Bill.' ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The hon. Member has already taken 12-15 fifteen minutes, and he will finish soon. We have already taken P.M. two and a half days on this.”

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M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Speaker wants me to close my speech, and I am confident that there are also other Members of my party who are going to speak on this subject.

“What I would like to say on this occasion is that let us not resort to methods which have failed in the past. By these methods, you are going to create still more agitation. There is discontent among the people on account of the educational policy of the Government and the textile policy of the Government. People are starving and suffering for want of food and clothing. It is up to the Government to do things which will remove this discontent from the people, and thereby establish peace and order in this province. As I said, you allow this discontent to gather more strength and momentum by bringing in this Ordinance. I once again appeal, in the name of the civil liberties of the people of this province, to the Government to withdraw the Ordinance which they have passed.”

***SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM:—**“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் வெங்கடேஸ்வரலு அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தை எதிர்த்துப் பேச விரும்புகிறேன். தற்போது பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களால் போடப் பட்டிருக்கும் அவசர சட்டத்தை தக்க காலத்தில் போடக்கூடியது அல்ல, போடவும் கூடாது என்று கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அவர்கள் கூறுகிறார். ஆனால், போடுவது அவசியம்தான் என்பதை வற்புறுத்தி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்ல வேண்டிய அவசியம் எனக்கு இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. காரணம், என்னவென்றால் நான் கூட பல வருஷங்களாக இந்த தேசத்திலே பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் பழகிவருகிறேன். அப்படிப் பழகிவருகிற காலத்தில் ஜனங்களிடத்தில் எந்த விதமான பிரச்சுரங்கள் செய்யவேண்டும், எப்படி பழகவேண்டும், ஒரு உண்மையான ஊழியன் எப்படி நடந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும் என்பதை உணர்ந்து நடந்து வந்திருக்கிறேன். ஆனால், பல வருஷங்களாக பொது உடமை கட்சிக்காரர்கள் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ளும் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் செய்யும் காரியங்களை எல்லாம் அறிவாளிகள்கூட இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் வெறுக்கிறார்கள் என்றால் அதைப்பற்றி நான் அதிகமாக விவரித்துக்கூற வேண்டியது அவசியமல்ல. ஆனாலும் கூட இப்பொழுது பல விஷயங்களைச் சொல்லிப்பலாத்காரம் சம்பந்தமாகவும் பேசப்படுகிறது. குறிப்பிட்ட முறையில் பேசுகின்றகாலத்தில் காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்களைப்பற்றியும் கூட சில அங்கத்தினர்கள் இந்த இடத்தில் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். அதாவது ஸ்ரீமான் வல்லபாய் பட்டேல் அவர்கள் கத்திக்குக்கத்தி கொண்டு போர் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் பலாத்காரம் தான்சிறந்தது என்றும் காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்கள் பேசினார்கள், என்றும் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்கள் எந்தக் காரணத்தைக்கொண்டு எந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் அவ்விதம் நடந்துகொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள் என்பதை அந்த அங்கத்தினர்கள் விவரித்துக்கூறவில்லை. ஆனால், ஒரு விஷயத்தைமட்டும் நான் இங்கு சொல்லிக்கொள்ளவிரும்புகிறேன். அதாவது ஒருவன் அவன் மனைவியுடன் தெருவில் போய்க்கொண்டிருக்கும் போது ஒரு முட்டான், அறிவற்றவன் அல்லது வேறுகெட்ட நோக்கத்தோடு வந்து மனைவியை பலாத்காரமாக கையைப்பிடித்து இழுக்கிற காலத்தில் நமக்கு அஹிம்சைதான் பிரதானம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருந்தால் அவனைப்போன்ற கோழையோ முட்டாளோ ஒருவரும் இருக்கமுடியாது. அந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் கையில் கிடைத்ததை எடுத்து அவனை அடித்து அந்த மூர்க்கனை விரட்டிவிடவேண்டுமென்பது தான் அவர்களெல்லாம் சொல்லும் வார்த்தைகளின் கருத்து.

“இன்னொரு உதாரணம் சொல்லுகிறேன். நானும் ஒரு நண்பனும் சேர்ந்து ஒரு காட்டின்மார்க்கமாகவோ அல்லது, வேறு கனி வாயியாகவோ

[8th February 1947] [Sri A. Subramanyam]

செல்லும்போது ஒரு திருட்டு அல்லது ஒரு புலியோ வந்து என் நண்பனை துரத்துகிற காலத்தில் அவன் மரத்தின் மீது ஏறிக்கொண்டான் என்பதாக வைத்துக்கொள்வோம். எனக்கு மரம் ஏறத் தெரியவில்லை என்றும் அஹிம்சைதான் பிரதானம் என்றும், அஹிம்சையுடன் அங்கே இருப்பேனான் நானும் ஒரு பெரிய முட்டாளாகத்தான் இருக்கமுடியும். விஷயங்களை நன்றாக தெரிந்தவனாகமாட்டேன். ஆகவே எந்தந்த காலத்தில் பலாத்காரத்தை உபயோகிக்க வேண்டும் என்றும் எந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் அஹிம்சையுடன் நடந்து கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றும் தான் காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே இந்த அவசரசட்டத்தை அவர்கள் (கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள்) மீது போடக்கூடாது என்று சொல்வதற்கு அவ்வளவு பொருத்தமானதாக இல்லை.

“இதைத் தவிர கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் பாமர ஜனங்களிடத்திலும், ஏழை தொழிலாளர்களிடத்திலும் எதைச் சொல்லவேண்டுமோ அதைச் சொல்லாமல் ஆசை வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்லி அவர்களிடம் பிரசாரம் செய்கிறார்கள். ஏழை தொழிலாளர்களே! நீங்கள் நடைபிணங்களாக இருக்கிறீர்கள், எலும்பும் தோலுமாக இருக்கிறீர்கள், வத்தலும் தொத்தலுமாக இருக்கிறீர்கள், கந்தல் துணிகளை உடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றீர்கள் என்று சொல்லி அவர்களுக்கு எதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அதைச் செய்யாமற்படிக்கு ஆசை வார்த்தைகளை புகட்டுகிறார்கள். அதனால் அவர்கள் வார்த்தையில் பாமர ஜனங்கள் நம்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். நம்பினவுடனே பொது உடமைக்காரர்கள் தங்கள்நோக்கத்தை சாத்தித்துக்கொள்ள ஒரு சந்தர்ப்பத்தை தேடிக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். இந்தமாதிரி செய்கிறகாலத்தில் பலபலாத்கார செயல்களையும் அவர்கள் செய்கிறார்கள். சேலத்தில் பல மாதங்களுக்குமுன் மில்லின் எதிரில் ஒரு முக்யஸ்தர் சென்று கொண்டிருந்தபோது கத்தியால் வெட்டப்பட்டதாக நான் கேள்விப்பட்டேன். யார் வெட்டினது என்று கேட்டேன். கம்யூனிஸ்டு நண்பர்களால் குத்தப்பட்டு அடிக்கப்பட்டு, வெட்டப்பட்டார் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஆகையால் தான் இந்த மாதிரியான அவசரச் சட்டங்கள் அவசியமென்று தோன்றுகிறது. இதைப் போட்டது தப்பா தவறா என்பதை யோசிக்கலாம். அவசரச் சட்டம் தப்பு என்பதை எல்லோரும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். ஆனால் எந்தெந்த சமயத்தில் அது தேவை என்பதை நாம் அறிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். திருடன் ஒருவன் திருடுவதற்கு வந்தால் ஆயுதத்தைத்தேடிக்கொண்டிருக்காமல் கையில் கிடைத்ததைக்கொண்டு அடித்து அவன் திருடாதபடி வெறுட்டி அவனுக்கும் புத்திவரும்படி செய்யவேண்டும் என்பதுதான் அறிவாளிகளாய் உள்ள பல பெரியார்கள் சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமையில் நம் பிரதமர் அவர்கள் தற்போது தேசத்தில் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கும் நெருக்கடியை சமாளிக்கவும் உணவு கஷ்டத்தைப் போக்கவும் அறுவடையாகி களத்திலிருக்கும் நெல் விரையமாகாமல் இருக்கவும் பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் பொய் ருக்கும் நெல் விரையமாகாமல் இருக்கவும் பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் பொய் பிரசாரங்கள் செய்து ஏழைகளை வற்புறுத்தி அவர்கள் போலீஸ்காரர் களுடைய துப்பாக்கிகுண்டுகளுக்கு இரையாகாமல் இருப்பதற்காகவும் இந்த அவசரச் சட்டத்தை போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நாம் தெரிந்துகொள்ள வேண்டும்.

“ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற அவசர சட்டத்தில் சில மாறுதல்களை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று எல்லோரும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். இந்த சட்டம் அப்படியே இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று யாரும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை. சில மாறுதல்கள் அவசியம். அதைப்பற்றி பிரதமர் அவர்களும் கண்டிப்பாக சில மாறுதல்களைச் செய்கிறோம், அதற்காக ஒருகமிட்டியையும் நியமிக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். அதை நம்பி நாம் கண்டிப்பாக இந்த அவசரச் சட்டத்தை ஆதரித்துத்தீர்வேண்டும் என்பதை நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன்.

“அதுவும் தவிர, இப்பொழுது மாயவரத்தில் ஸ்ரீ நாராயணசாமி நாயுடு என்கிற ஒரு உண்மை காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியரை கம்யூனிஸ்டு என்று சொல்லிக் கொண்டு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவரை எனக்கு சுமார் 25 வருஷங்களாக தெரியும். அவர் சிறந்த காங்கிரஸ் ஊழியராவார். இம்மாதிரியான பலாத்கார செயல்களில் அவர் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கமுடியாது, ஈடுபடவுமாய் யான பலாத்கார செயல்களில் அவர் ஈடுபட்டிருக்கவும் முடியாது. அப்பா, சதியாலோசனையும் செய்யமாட்டார், செய்திருக்கவும் முடியாது. அப்படிப்பட்டவர் விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் கொஞ்சம் கவனம் செலுத்தி

[Sri A. Subramanyam] [8th February 1947]

எம்மாதிரி குற்றம் அவர் செய்திருக்கிறார் என்று அதிவேரமாக அறிந்து குற்றம் செய்யவில்லை என்று தெரிந்தவுடன் அவரை உடனே விடுதலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்று பிரதம மந்திரியார் அவர்களை நான் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“நேரமில்லாததால் இத்துடன் நிறுத்திக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஆகவே கனம் வெங்கடேஸ்வரலு அவர்கள் தீர்மானத்தை நான் எதிர்க்கிறேன்.”

12-30 p.m. M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the motion of the hon. Member, Mr. Venkateswarulu and I oppose the Ordinance. It has been stated by more than one hon. Member of my party that there is no unholy alliance between the Communists and Muslim Leaguers.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“That point has already been dealt with by other hon. Members. It may be left out.”

M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What my Party has done is it has supported the resolution moved by the Communist Member. It has not accepted the principles of the Communist Party. The Ordinance has been condemned by a large section of the Congress people themselves. The hon. Member Sri Govinda Menon said yesterday that we were in alliance with the Communist party, and that the Muslim League was in alliance with that party. He must understand that we have nothing in common. We are only standing for the liberty of the citizens. I wish to make it clear that the allegations made by the hon. Member yesterday are unfounded.

“Sir, I oppose the Ordinance on this ground. According to me, there is no necessity for an Ordinance at this stage. Some hon. Members have been expressing the view that the sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code are not sufficient to meet the contingency. They have forgotten one thing. The arms of law are too long and they can be extended to any length. There are sections dealing with conspiracy. If the Government were fully confident, they could have had recourse to them. If the Communist Party is bent upon acts of disloyalty, acts of cruelty, acts of murder and looting, they could have registered cases against them and arrested them, instead of using the provisions of this Ordinance. That has not been done here. The Ordinance was promulgated just seven days prior to the meeting of this Assembly. I submit that this Ordinance is untimely. I do not think that this Ordinance which has been promulgated is directed against the Communists only. I oppose the Ordinance on this ground also. If the Government were sure and if they were satisfied that the Ordinance had to be promulgated only for the purpose of suppressing Communists, they could have very well declared that party as unlawful. On the other hand the Hon. Premier himself stated the other day that it is directed against Communists as well as other parties. On this ground also I oppose the Ordinance. The Ordinance seeks to curtail the civil liberty of not only Communist organization which is a violent organization now bent upon creating mischief; it is directed against other people also, against every citizen in this province.

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“You are aware, Sir, that in this Province there are the old remnants of the old bureaucratic system of Government. There are the Police officials in this Province who are accustomed to their old game. Whenever they have a grudge against an individual they can make a report and jeopardise his life and security. I say in the hands of some unscrupulous officials—I do not mean the district official—this Ordinance will be a dangerous weapon.

“It is said that Communists are committing acts of disloyalty and acts of violence; they have obstructed people from their lawful enjoyment of their properties. I remind the House that such acts were committed in 1942. Murders were committed; severe damage to property was caused. Still there was no Ordinance. The Defence of India Rules were there. I believe some Rules (Defence of India Rules) are still in force. Where is the necessity for this Ordinance at all? As the Hon. Premier has stated, this Ordinance has been directed not only against Communists but also against every citizen of this Province.

“Coming to some allegations made by some hon. Members from Malabar yesterday, I have to say that things there are not as they were depicted. As stated by my hon. Friend, Mr. Govinda Menon, so far as the Moplah taluks are concerned, no doubt there has been some agreement relating to the choice of members of some of the Food Committees. There are only a few cases like that. There have been several occasions when the Muslim Members of the Legislative Assembly and Members of the Legislative Assembly of other constituencies could not agree and the matter was left to the Revenue Divisional Officer. In most cases what has been done is, a Muslim who is a renegade from our political party is put on the committee. The rule is that influential and representative people should be put on committees. On the other hand what has been done is this; I shall give an example. There was one man in my constituency whose name is Azad. Merely because his name happens to be that he is put on the Committee; he has no political stake. He has nothing to do with the Muslim League or any other party; he is known to some Congressmen. He was put on the committee because his name is Azad. Moplah taluks are not at all satisfied. They have been making so many representations not only to the Government but also to Members of the Legislative Assembly and even to the district authorities. But for the timely tour of the Hon. the Premier to Malabar, things there would have been something different. I hope he will be good and courteous enough to remedy the grievances of people in my district.

“I come to Ponnani and Palghat taluks. The grievances are still there. Memorials have been submitted to the Hon. Premier.

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I have assured people that their memorials will be attended to. Then coming to co-operative societies, I have a word about them. . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate is on the motion of Mr. Venkateswarulu."

* M. V. HYDROSS SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am giving a reply to what an hon. Member said yesterday, that things are all well in Malabar. That was the statement made by Mr. Govinda Menon. With regard to co-operative societies there have been instances where elections were postponed and directors were nominated by the authorities. Whenever they found that the Muslims would carry the day and were in a majority, it has been the practice of some officials in Malabar to nominate members for three months. I know one case where 300 people wanted admission into a co-operative society; the directors refused to admit them. They had to observe satyagraha at the gates of the office. On the intervention of some of us, the directors gave up their original position and 300 persons were admitted into the society. People are trying to keep Muslims away from all such institutions. It is not true to say, Sir, that all is well in Malabar.

"Regarding the present resolution I have had my say; I wholeheartedly support the resolution moved by Mr. Venkateswarulu and I believe that this House will accept it."

* SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am here to oppose the motion tabled by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarulu who belongs to the Communist Party. The hon. Member, the Leader of the Opposition supported the resolution. I am not going to refer to all the points raised by hon. Members. I shall confine myself to what happened in my own district. What are the acts of violence committed by people who were induced by the Communists? To what extent have they done damage to life and property of the people. There are Communists in the mill areas in Salem. There are two mills, Jawahar Mills and Rajendra Mills. I shall give categorically so many things done by the Communists. They take very many women students on the pretext of teaching them; but they spoil them; parents have made complaints in this matter. They take these girls to lonely places and there they are seduced.

12-45 p.m. "A person wanted to organize people for Congress work; he asked them not to take to violence; he advised them to observe non-violence; he said they could ask for more wages, better accommodation and other conveniences. A member of the Communist Party was provoked and he took that man out of the town and stabbed him all over his body. I saw with my own eyes the stab wounds of the man in the General Hospital at Salem. That man told me 'Sir, because I have advised people to observe non-violence, the Communist has stabbed me; he even threatened to

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"Then Sir, let me give you another instance of their activities. There is a village called Ganguvalli, about forty miles from Salem. The Communists went there and told the agricultural labourers, 'The whole land belongs to you. You are stupidly giving away the paddy to the landlord. You must take all the paddy yourselves. The Government is the Congress Government, and if you say that the land is yours, they will issue the patta in your name.' Saying this, they bought all the paddy at Re. 1-1-0. giving receipt for one anna only, appropriating the one anna for themselves. They were advised not to give paddy to the landowners on the pretext that they measure the paddy with a big measure and thus cheat the labourers. These landowners met the local Members of the Legislative Assembly and told us 'Sir, these Communist leaders came here and told us that the Government are going to issue pattas to the labourers and that we are not entitled to the produce, etc.' They were told that no Government would be so foolish as to do such things, and that they should get on with their cultivation, and should try to redress the grievances of the peasants. Even then they were not easily convinced. These Communists also advised the labourers to resort to violence, assaults and murders, if disputes were not settled in their favour. Sir, that is the policy of the Communists and that is their motto.

"Sir, in this connexion I want to say one important thing for the information of the Leader of the Opposition. In his speech yesterday, he referred to an incident in the Paparappatti village and said that a Muslim worshipping place was burnt. That was not a correct statement. I will tell him the full facts of the case, because I know it myself. In the Paparappatti village, the Muslims are in a very small minority. A Muslim shop-keeper there borrowed Rs. 10 from a ryot. The ryot was not a Congressman; he was not even a four-anna member. He did not know what the Congress is. The Muslim shop-keeper did not repay the loan for a long period in spite of repeated demands by the ryot. He was running a mango shop in a particular place and there was a room attached to it, where the Muslims kept 'puncha.' When he was repeatedly urged to repay the amount, he said to the ryot one day, 'I have no money, if you want you can take my mangoes.' A quarrel ensued over this affair. That day happened to be a shandy day and a number of people who had come to the village were witnessing the quarrel. In the course of the quarrel, the shed in which the shop was situated was set on fire. It was a shed and not a place of worship as it was represented in the papers. Afterwards the shed was rebuilt by the Hindus of the place. Not only that, the site was also given gratis,

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by my hon. Friend Mr. M. G. Natesan Chettiar. Myself and Mr. Ataullah interfered in the matter and patched up the quarrel, and obtained a very decent compensation for the shopkeeper. After all, the amount involved was only a few hundreds, but a substantial compensation was paid. Therefore, Sir, this small incident should not be mistaken for a big conflict between the two communities so as to estrange the feelings of both. Sir, I submit, that when the Leader of the Opposition commits himself to a statement, he must be very careful to verify the facts, as otherwise, these statements will appear in the Northern India papers as a major conflict and the League Leaders would make a political capital out of this stray incident. Therefore, Sir, I request the hon. the Leader of the Opposition not to commit himself to such statements on the floor of the House unless he is sure that they are not based on truth."

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend has given his version of the occurrence at the Paparappatti village. I don't find that it is different. What I said was that such things happen and they ought to be taken note of. What is the reason for these happenings? That was my contention. Similar things have taken place, not only in one place, but in several places in the Province. A warning should have been taken of such things."

* SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Well, Sir, in this big country, crores of people are living. In some unknown quarters, something may happen; somebody may create some trouble, but it should not be attributed to any communal feelings, or said that the Congressmen are responsible for such things. That is my request to the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. Of course, there is bound to be some quarrel between man and man. We are not living in an ideal world. This is not heaven. Quarrels in life are common; otherwise, it cannot be human life. We don't presume for one moment that we can live on this earth without any quarrel throughout our lives. But we must forget them as soon as the quarrels are over. It is only men of low level that will never forget a quarrel. We should forget our petty quarrels and get on with our daily avocations. Therefore I request the hon. Leader of the Opposition again not to bring in the plea that Congressmen are responsible for these quarrels. Wherever there is a quarrel, and wherever there is any strife brewing on some important issue, there is the Government and there is the hon. the Leader of the House, who takes special interest to see that the Muslim interests are safeguarded. In fact what my hon. Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said yesterday was cent per cent true, namely, that the Muslims receive greater consideration from the Government than the Hindus. After hearing my hon. Friends Messrs. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, Vedaratnam Pillai and Govindan Nair, no speech is required of me. I oppose the resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu. My object in rising to-day is to

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give the House the truth of what happened in Salem and to show how we, the Congressmen, helped to restore peace and normal conditions there. Even to-day, in the Salem district, if you make inquiries among the people how much Congressmen have done to restore peace—you need not depend upon police reports for that—you will find that they have done more than any other organization or individual. If the hon. the Leader of the Opposition will only take the trouble to travel in that district to verify my statement, I shall be prepared to accompany him and do whatever he wants to satisfy him."

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"தலைவரவர்களே இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மென்டார் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் அவசரச்சட்டத்தை நான் எதிர்க்கிறேன். காரணமென்னவென்றால் நமது காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் மக்களுக்கு இழைத்துவரும் கஷ்டங்களையும் நஷ்டங்களையும் எனது இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் நடந்த விஷயங்களையும் பார்த்துத்தான் அவைகளை நான் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இராமனாதபுரம் ரயில்வே ஸ்டேஷனுக்கு அருகாமையில் ஏழை முஸ்லீம் மக்கள் சாயாக்கடை வைத்து பிழைத்து வந்தார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு காங்கிரஸைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் பலவிதமான துன்பங்களையும் துயரங்களையும் இழைத்து வந்தார்கள். அவர்கள் கடைகளில் காங்கிரஸ் கொடிகட்டு, இல்லாவிட்டால் உங்கள் கடையை கொளுத்திவிடுவோம் என்று திட்டம் செய்தார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்கள் மனப்பான்மை காங்கிரஸ் கொடியை கட்ட இடம் கொடுக்காததன்பேரில் அவர்களுடைய கடைகளை, அவர்களுடைய வியாபார ஸ்தலங்களை கொளுத்தி அக்கினிமயமாக்கி விட்டார்கள் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள். இதுவுமல்லாமல் பள்ளி மாணவர்கள் சின்னக் கடைத்தெருவில் ஹை ஸ்கூலுக்குச் செல்லுகிற சிறுவர்களை வேஷ்டியைப் போத்திக்கொண்டு அடித்து துன்புறுத்தி உதவியுமில்லாமலேயே மாணவர்களை கஷ்டப்படுத்தி போட்டுவிட்டு வந்துவிட்டார்கள். அப்பொழுது ஒரு மனிதனுடைய உதவியுமில்லாமலேயே இருக்க, அவர்களை சில ஜனங்கள் தூக்கி ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் கொண்டுபோய் சிகிச்சை நடத்தினார்கள். சுமார் 15 நாள்வரையில் பிரக்ஞையில்லாமலே மாணவன் துன்பமும் துயரமும் அடைந்தான். டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் மெடிகல் ஆபீஸர் அவனை பலவழிகளிலும் எப்படியாவது பிழைக்கவைக்க வேண்டுமென்று பணிவுடன் கவனித்து வந்ததை நேரில் நான் பார்த்தேன்.

"இது நிற்க, சமீபத்தில் இராமனாதபுரத்துக்கு அருகாமையிலிருக்கும் பனைக்குளம் கிராமத்தில் ஒரு மாணவன், பாவம், கடைத்தெருவில் சென்று கொண்டிருக்கும்பொழுது அவனை பலவாறாக அடித்து துன்புறுத்தினார்கள். அப்பொழுது அவனுக்கு உதவியில்லாமலேயே கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு சிரமப்பட்டான். பனைக்குளத்திலுள்ள பெரிய செல்வவந்தரும் பணக்காரருமாக இருக்கும் பகருதின் என்பவர் நம் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்களுக்கு இஷ்டமான தோழன், அன்புடனே நடந்துகொள்ளும் ஒரு மகா மேன்மை பொருந்திய கனவான், அவருடைய மருமகனை துன்புறுத்தினதை நான் பார்த்து சகிக்க முடியவில்லை. அவர் சென்னைக்கு வந்திருந்தார். அந்தப் பையனுக்கு ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் சிகிச்சை நடந்தது, இராமனாதபுரத்திலிருக்கும் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்களிடத்திலே இப்படிச் செய்வது நியாயமில்லை, நாங்களும் நீங்களும் சகோதரர்களல்லவா, இப்படி அநியாயமான செய்கை நடப்பதை கேட்க வேண்டியது உங்கள் பொறுப்பல்லவா என்று நான் கேட்டதற்கு—இந்தப் பனைக்குளத்தில் சில மத துவேஷிகள், மத விரோதிகள், மதப்பற்றற்றவர்கள், சில முஸ்லீம்கள், அவர்கள் காங்கிரஸிலுமில்லை, உதரம் வளர்ப்பதற்காக காங்கிரஸிலிருக்கிறோம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு தேசிய முஸ்லீம்கள் என்று பேசிக்கொண்டு ஜனங்களை துன்புறுத்துகிறார்கள்—முஸ்லீம்கள் இப்பொழுது பீதி அடைகிறார்களே என்று எனது காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்களிடத்தில் முறையிட்டதன்பேரில், அவர்கள் விசாரிக்காமலும் உண்மையை தெரிந்து கொள்ளாமலும் தேசிய முஸ்லீம்களை, துன்புறுத்தக் கூடிய அயோக்கியர்களைவிட்டு நம்மை அழித்துவிட வேண்டுமென்று, மாண

[M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur] [8th February 1947]

வர்களை, பள்ளிக் கூடத்திற்குச் செல்லும் ஒன்றுமறியாத பிள்ளைகளை, துன்புறுத்தும் நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டதை நான் பார்த்திருக்கிறேன். இராமனாதபுரத்துக்கு அருகாமையில் தேவிபட்டணம், கீழ்க்கரை, பனைக்குளம், எக்ககுடி முதலிய அநேக கிராமங்களிருக்கின்றன. அவர்கள் இராமனாதபுரம் செல்லவும், ரயில்மார்க்கமாகச் செல்லவும், உணவு பொருள்கள் வாங்கவும் இராமனாதபுரத்துக்கு வரவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அந்தப்பகுதியிலுள்ள முஸ்லீம்கள் இராமனாதபுரத்துக்கு வந்தால் அவர்களை மறித்து அடிப்பது, அவர்களை கஷ்டப்படுத்துவது, துன்பப்படுத்துவது முதலிய சகிக்கமுடியாத கஷ்டத்தை நாங்கள் அனுபவிக்கிறோம். கனம் மேன்மை பொருந்திய பிரதம மந்திரியார் அவர்களிடமும் நாங்கள் முறை யிட்டிருக்கிறோம். ஒவ்வொரு சமயத்திலும் தந்திகளும் மனுக்களும் கொடுக்கோம். கனம் மேன்மை பொருந்திய பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களும் விஜயம் செய்தார்கள். அவர்களிடமும் நாங்கள் எங்கள் கஷ்டத்தை தெரிவித்திருக்கிறோம். எங்களுக்கு ஒருவிதமான உதவியுமில்லை. எக்ககுடி கிராமத்தில் சுமார் 300 முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு கிராமத்தில் இந்து சகோதரர்கள், காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் முற்றுகைபோட்டு முஸ்லீம்களை உணவு, ஆகாரம் அருந்த விடாமல் 8 நாள் கஷ்டப்படுத்தி சிரமப்படுத்தி வந்தார்கள். நம் கவர்ன்மெண்ட்டாரவர்கள் உதவிபுரிந்ததின்பேரில் அவர்களுக்கு ஒருவாறு உணவு கிடைத்தது. நம் மேன்மை பொருந்திய பிரதமரவர்கள் மழை பெய்தபோது கஷ்டப்பட்டு ரோடுகள் சரியாக இல்லாததால் சிரமப்பட்டும் கூட அவர்கள் அங்கு விஜயம் செய்தார்கள். அவர்களை நானும் போய்ப்பார்த்து அவர்களிடம் விஷயங்களை தெரிவிக்க என் காரில் நான் சென்றதில், ரோடு பழுதாக இருந்ததால் அவர்களை சந்திக்க முடியவில்லை. அவர்கள் கார் புறப்பட்ட பிறகுதான் நான் போய் சேர்ந்தேன். அவர்கள் கார் சேரியிலும் சகதியிலும் செல்லக்கூடியது. என் கார் அப்படி இல்லாததால் நான் போய் அவர்களுக்கு நாங்கள் படும் கஷ்டங்களை எடுத்துரைக்க முடியவில்லை. அந்த ஊரில் நாங்கள் போய் பார்க்கும்போது பெரிய சமாதி தர்க்காக்களையும் பள்ளி வாசல் களையும் நொறுக்கியதையும் ஜனங்களை துன்புறுத்தியதையும் பார்த்து சிக்க முடியவில்லை. அதைப்பார்த்து நாங்கள் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்கிறோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். பல இந்து சகோதரர்கள், நண்பர்கள், நீங்கள் என்ன செய்ய முடியும். நாங்கள் உங்களை அழித்து விடுவோம், ஒழித்துவிடுவோம் என்று பிரமாதமாக பயமுறுத்தினார்கள். என் நீங்கள் எங்களை துன்புறுத்தவேண்டும், கஷ்டப்படுத்தவேண்டும், நீங்களும் நாங்களும் சகோதரர்கள், ஒரு பகுதியிலேயே பிறந்து வளர்ந்து வாழக்கூடியவர்கள், உங்களுக்கும் எங்களுக்கும் துவேஷ மில்லையே, கொள்கை வித்தியாசமிருந்தாலும் மற்ற பகுதிகளில் எவ்வளவு ஒற்றுமையுடனிருக்கிறார்கள், எங்கோ நடக்கும் துன்பத்தை இங்கே நாம் ஒன்றாக வாழும் இடத்தில் செய்ய விரும்பினால் அது நியாயமா? பாமர மக்களை துன்புறுத்துகிறீர்களே, இந்தமாதிரி மைனாரிட்டிகளை பாதுகாக்க வேண்டியது உங்கள் கடமையல்லவா, ஏன் துன்புறுத்துகிறீர்கள் என்று நான் எவ்வளவோ சொல்லியும் அவர்கள் கேட்கவில்லை. அதன் பேரில் Peace Committee என்று ஒரு District Committee ஏற்படுத்த நாங்கள் தீர்மானித்தோம். இராமனாதபுரம் டிவிஷனில் Peace Committee தலைவராக இராமனாதபுரம் சேதுபதி மகாராஜா அவர்களையே தலைவராக அமைத்திருந்தோம். அது வரையில் Divisional Officer தலைமை வகித்து வந்தார். Peace Committee மகாராஜா அவர்களும் நாங்களும் கூடி இந்த அக்கிரமத்தை அநியாயத்தை ஒடுக்க விரும்பினோம். மகாராஜா! நாங்கள் படுகிற கஷ்டத்தை தீர்த்து வைக்கவேண்டும். எங்களை துன்புறுத்தாதீர்கள், கஷ்டப்படுத்தாதீர்கள், ஆண்மக்களெல்லாம் மலேயா, சிலோன், ரங்கோன் சென்றுபிழைக்கக்கூடியவர்கள், பெண்மக்கள் தான் ஊரிலிருப்பார்கள். பெண்மக்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் தாயல்லவா, தாய், தங்கை, சகோதரி இவர்களை நீங்கள் துன்புறுத்துவது நியாய மில்லை என்று நாங்கள் சொன்னோம். மகாராஜா அவர்கள் நான் வந்து கொடியேற்ற விரும்புகிறேன் என்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டார். அதற்கு இணங்க நீங்கள் எங்கள் ஊரில் வந்து கொடியேற்றுவர்கள், எங்களால் ஆட்சேபணை இல்லை என்று ஒப்புக்கொண்டோம். நாங்கள் Peace Committee யில்

[8th February 1947] [M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

முஸ்லீம் பள்ளிவாசல், முஸ்லீம் தர்க்காக்கள் இருக்கும் தெருவில், ஹிந்து சகோதரர்கள் வீடு ஒன்றுகூட இல்லாமல் இருக்க எங்கள் முஸ்லீம் தெருவில் நீங்கள் ஏன் போகவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறீர்கள் என்று தலைவர் அவர்கள் கேட்டார்கள். அப்பொழுது எங்கள் முன்னோர் காலத்திலே அது வழியாக சென்றிருக்கிறோம். நாங்கள் வசித்து வந்த இடம் எங்கள் அனுபவத்தை விட்டுக் கொடுக்கமாட்டோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். ஹிந்து சகோதரர்கள் வீடு ஒரு வீடுகூட இல்லாமல் முஸ்லீம்கள் வசிக்கும் தெருவில் அவர்கள் பள்ளி வாசலும் தர்க்காவும் இருக்குமிடத்திற்கு சென்று எங்களை துன்புறுத்துவது நியாயம் இல்லை, நீங்கள் செல்லவேண்டிய வழி வேறு இருக்கிறது என்று நாங்கள் கேட்டுக்கொண்டும் அவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. Peace Committeeயே அந்த வழியில் செல்லக்கூடாது, கூட்டம் போடக்கூடாது என்று மறுத்து மகாராஜா அவர்களும் அங்கு விஜயம் செய்தார்கள். நானும் சென்றேன். மழை அதிகமாக இருந்தது. போக்கு வரத்துக்கு இடஞ்சலிருந்தது. அப்படியும் ஜனங்கள் ஏராளமாக கூடியிருந்தார்கள். மகாராஜா அவர்களை வரவேற்பதற்காக எல்லா ஜனங்களும் முன் சென்றார்கள். முஸ்லீம்களும் ஹிந்துகளும் ஒன்று கூடி இருக்கும்போது எங்கள் பள்ளிவாசல் வழியாகச்சென்றுதான் கொடியேற்றவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். அந்த ஊரில் ஹிந்து சகோதரர்கள் ஜாஸ்தி இல்லை. இரண்டொரு வீடுகள் அங்கே இருக்கிறது. அப்படி இருந்தும் எங்களுக்கு ஒரு மேடை போட்டு அங்கே கொடியேற்றவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டார்கள். மகாராஜா அவர்களும் நான் வந்ததற்காக நீங்கள் விட்டுக்கொடுக்க வேண்டும். இந்த ஒரு முறை விட்டுக்கொடுங்கள், நாங்கள் இனி எப்பொழுதும் இந்த வழியில் வரமாட்டோம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். அப்படி இருந்தும் நாங்கள் 'நீங்களும் நாங்களும் சகோதரர்களே, ஒன்றாக இருக்கக்கூடியவர்கள். அதனால் பணிவுடன் இருக்கவேண்டும். இதில் நமக்கு கஷ்டமும் நஷ்டமும் ஏற்படாது. மகாராஜா இந்த ஊருக்கு மேலதிக காரி. அவர்களுக்கு கௌரவம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று' நான் கெஞ்சிக் கேட்டு அதேவிதமாக பள்ளிவாசல்முன் செல்லக்கூடிய ரோடில் சென்று நாங்களும் கூட இருந்து கொடியேற்றிவைத்தோம். இப்படி நாங்கள் பணிந்து ஒத்துழைத்தோம். சகிப்புத்தன்மையுடன் நடந்து கொண்டோம். அப்படி இருக்க அங்கே இப்பொழுது ஒரு கேஸ் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இந்த மாதம் 25-ம் தேதி வாய்தா வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். கேஸ் விசாரணை நடந்தவுடனேயே இந்த கேஸை நிறுத்தவேண்டும். இல்லாவிட்டால் மறுபடியும் உங்களை அழித்து விடுவோம் என்று அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள்."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" கேஸ் நடக்கிறது. அதைப்பற்றி பேசக்கூடாது."

*M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—" ரொம்ப சந்தோஷம். வாய்தாவில் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஒருவரும் உதவக்கூடாது. ஒத்தாசைசெய்யக்கூடாது. அவர்களுக்கு பல துன்பங்களை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்று ஒப்பந்தம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். சிக்க முடியாத துன்பத்தை அடைகிறோம் என்று ஒரு லெட்டர் வந்திருக்கிறது. (Hon. Member showed the letter to the House.) கனம் பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களிடத்தில் சொல்லி நன்மையை தேடிவையுங்கள் என்று அவர்கள் எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள். இதே விதமான லெட்டர் நம் கட்சி மாகாண தலைவர் மேன்மை பொருந்திய முகம்மது இஸ்மேல் சாகேப் அவர்களுக்கும் எழுதியிருக்கிறார்கள்."

"இன்னும் பெருநாழி கிராமத்தில் நாங்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் கொஞ்சம் இருக்கிறோம். (சுபாநாயகர் நேரமாகிவிட்டது என்று சொன்னார்.) இராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவுக்கு நான் ஒருவன்தான் பிரதிநிதி, எனக்கு கொஞ்சம் அவகாசம் கொடுங்கள். பெருநாழி கிராமத்தில் முஸ்லீம்கள் வசித்து வருகின்றார்கள். அவர்களை பல வழிகளிலும் கஷ்டப்படுத்தினார்கள். அப்படியிருக்க நான் எங்கள் முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களை நம் ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களோடும் ஒத்துழையுங்கள், அவர்கள் நமக்கு கஷ்டம் ஏற்படுத்தினாலும் ஒத்துழையுங்கள் கடவுள் நம்மைக் காப்பாற்றுவார். நீங்கள் அவர்களுடன்

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ஒற்றுமையாக கட்டுப்பட்டு நடவுங்கள் என்று என் முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களை கேட்டுக்கொண்டேன். அதற்கு இணங்க நமது மேன்மை பொருந்திய மகாத்மா காந்தி தின் கொண்டாட்டத்திற்கு முஸ்லீம்கள் கூட ஒத்துழைக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டார்கள். நாங்கள் உங்களுடன் ஒத்துழைக்க தயாராயிருக்கிறோம், அப்படியே வருகிறோம் என்று முஸ்லீம்கள் யாவரும் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் ஹிந்து சகோதரர்கள் சொல்லும் திட்டத்திற்கு உட்பட்டுச் சென்றோம். அப்படி இருக்க முஸ்லீம்கள் கடைத்தெருவில் யாரோ ஒருவன் கொள்ளை யடிக்க விருப்பப்பட்டவன் ஒரு கல்லீலத்தூக்கி எரிந்து விட்டான். நாம் ஒத்துழைத்து வர, முஸ்லீம்களாகிய நாங்கள் மைனாரிட்டியாக இருக்க அக்ரம செயலில் ஈடுபடுவோமா? ஒரு போதும் முஸ்லீம்கள் செய்யமாட்டார்கள். குழப்பம் விளைவிக்கவேண்டுமென்னும் எண்ணத்துடன் ஒரு நபர் கல்லீல தூக்கி எறிந்தார். எறிந்த உடன் கடைகளும் வீடுகளும் வியாபாரஸ்தலங்களும் தவிடு பொடியாய் போய்விட்டது. முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களுடைய சொத்தெல்லாம் பறிமுதலாகிவிட்டது. கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! நான் கண்ணால் பார்த்தேன் அந்தக் கஷ்டத்தை சிக்க முடியவில்லை. எல்லாம் பாழாகி விட்டது அப்படியிருக்க நீங்கள் ஒற்றுமையாக வாழங்கள் ஒத்துழையுங்கள் என்று கேட்க அவர்கள் பணங்களையும் காசுகளையும் பறித்து தங்களிடத்திலேயே வைத்திருந்தார்கள்—நாம் சமாதானம் பேசுகிறோம் இப்பொழுது எங்கள் முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களிடத்தில் நீங்கள் கொள்ளை யடித்த ரூபாயை கொடுத்து விடுங்கள் என்று சொன்னோம். அதற்கு அவர்கள், முன்பு எடுத்துக்கொண்டவர்கள் இப்பொழுது கொடுக்க முடியாது, முஸ்லீம்கள் இருக்கும் வீடுகள் எங்கள் கோவில் இடம், சொந்த இடம் அவர்கள் வெளியேறவேண்டியது. பல வருஷங்களுக்குமுன் கட்டப்பட்டு எங்கள் முன்னோர்களால் அனுபவிக்கப்பட்டுவந்த வீடுகளை காலி செய்து விட்டால் இந்த நஷ்டத்தைக் கொடுப்போம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது எங்கள் Peace Committee-யில் எங்கள் ஜில்லா காங்கிரஸ் தலைவரையும் என்னையும் அங்கு சென்று நியாயமாக ஏற்பட்ட நஷ்டத்தைக் கொடுக்கும்படி திட்டம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கு முஸ்லீம்கள் வசிக்கக்கூடாத நிலைமை இருக்கிறது. நாங்கள் அங்கு போய் வேண்டியதை செய்யலாம் என்று எண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். கேஸ்கள் நடக்கின்றது. பல வித துன்பங்கள் விளைவிக்கின்றார்கள் எனது நண்பர்களாகிய காங்கிரஸ் M.L.A.க்களையும் சுவாமினாதன் அவர்களையும் டாக்டர் சுப்ரமணியம் அவர்களையும் நான் ரொம்பக்கேட்டுக்கொண்டேன். ‘சகோதரர்களே, நான் டிஸ்ட்ரிப்ட்டு போர்டில் 25 வருஷமாக ஒரே மனதுடன் ஒற்றுமையாக நடந்துவந்திருக்கிறோம். நம் ஜில்லாவில் நடக்கிற அக்ரமத்தை ஒடுக்குவது உங்கள் கடமை, வாருங்கள், தீர்மானத்தை செய்யுங்கள், அமைதியை உண்டாக்குவது கள், சகோதரவத்தை உற்பத்தி செய்யுங்கள். ஒற்றுமையாக வாழுங்கள்’ என்று நான் கேட்க எங்கள் நண்பர்கள் தாமதித்துக்கொண்டே இருக்கிறார்கள். காரணம் தெரியவில்லை எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் 5, 6 M.L.A.க்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அமைதியையும் நியாயத்தையும் நிலைநாட்டும் பட்சத்தில் அயோக்கியர்கள் ஓடிவிடுவார்கள். நியாயம் கிடைக்கும். அப்படியெல்லாம் இல்லாமல் துன்பப்படுகிறோம், துயரப்படுகிறோம் சகோதரர்களே, மதுரையிலிருந்து இராமநாதபுரம் வருகிற வழியில் திருப்புவனம் என்ற கிராமம் இருக்கிறது. முஸ்லிம்கள் இருக்கிற கிராமம் அது. அங்கே இந்து நண்பர்கள் மெஜாரிட்டியாக இருக்கிறார்கள். Trunk Road, முதல், நம்பர் ரோடுக்கு இரண்டு சயிடிலும் ஊர் இருக்கிறது மேன்மை பொருந்திய பிரதம மந்திரியார் கூட அந்த வழியாக சென்றிருக்கிறார்கள் ரோடுக்கு தென் பக்கம் முஸ்லீம்களும் வட பக்கம் சுமார் ஒரு மைல் தூரத்திற்கு ஹிந்துக்கள் தொடர்ச்சியாக இருக்கிறார்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் மதுரைக்கு செல்ல வேண்டுமானாலும் வியாபாரத்திற்கோ தொழிலுக்கோ போலிசுக்கோ சப்-ஜிஸ்தாரர் ஆபீசுக்கோ மற்ற ஆபீஸ்களுக்கோ பஸ் ஸுக்கோ எங்கே செல்ல வேண்டுமானாலும் அதே வழியாகத்தான் செல்ல வேண்டும். ஹிந்துக்கள் கட்டுப்பாடு செய்து முஸ்லீம்களை அந்த வழியாக செல்ல விடாமல் மறித்தார்கள் இதற்குக்காரணம் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஓட் செய்யாதார்கள், காங்கிரசுக்கே ஓட்டுச் செய்யுங்கள் என்று

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அவர்கள் திட்டம் செய்தார்கள், நாங்கள் முஸ்லீம்களுக்குத்தான் ஓட்டுச் செய்யோம் என்று ஓட்டுக் கொடுத்ததற்காக இந்த ஒப்பந்தம் கொண்டு வரப்பட்டது. இதனால் ரொம்பக்கஷ்டம், சிரமம். ஏழை பெண்களும் ஆண்களும், வயிற்றுப்பிழைப்புக்காக வெற்றிலை பாக்கு காய் கரிகள் வைத்து சில்லரை வியாபாரம் நடத்தக்கூடிய இந்த முஸ்லீம் ஆண்களுக்கும் பெண்களுக்கும் மறுப்பு, எதிர்ப்பு, அடி, உதை, வெள் ளாமைக்கு ஒருவரும் செல்லக்கூடாது என்று திட்டம் செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். நீங்கள் அப்படி செய்யக்கூடாது, உங்களுடன் நாங்கள் ஒத்துழைக்க தயாராக இருக்கிறோம் என்று எவ்வளவு கெஞ்சிக்கேட்டும் அவர்கள் சமாதானத்திற்கு வரவில்லை. வெள்ளாமைக்கு வரும்போது முஸ்லீம் பெண்களை அடித்து அவர்கள் கட்டிக்கொண்டுபோன கஞ்சி, சாப்பாடு உணவுகளையும் பாத்திரங்களையும் சாமான்களையும் பறித்து உடைத்து துன்புறுத்தி கஷ்டப்படுத்தினார்கள். போலீஸில் கூட சொல்ல முடியவில்லை. இவ்வளவு கஷ்டத்தையும் துன்பத்தையும் பார்த்து முஸ்லீம்கள் அலறிப்போய் விட்டார்கள்.

“எனக்கு அருகாமையிலிருக்கும் மதுரை M.L.A. சின்னக்காஜியார் அவர்கள் முஸ்லீம்களை துன்புறுத்துகிறார்கள் என்று கேள்விப்பட்டு இராம நாதபுரத்திற்கு செல்லுகிற காலத்தில் அவர் காரில் இளம் பிறை பச்சைக் கொடியை கட்டிக்கொண்டு போகும்போது வழி மறித்து அந்தக்கொடியை ஒடித்து கஷ்டப்படுத்தினார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இழைத்த கஷ்டத்தை சொல்ல முடியாது. அவர் இப்பொழுது இங்கு ஏதோ காரணத்தால் வரவில்லை. அவர்களும் வந்திருந்தால் அவர்களே சொல்லுவார்கள். அவர் போலீஸில் போய் ரிபோர்ட்டு செய்தார்கள். ஆனைப்பிடித்துக்கொண்டு வந்து கொடுத்தால் கேஸ் எடுப்போம் என்று போலீஸ்காரர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். 10 பேர் கூடி அடித்தால் யாரைப் பிடித்துக்கொண்டு வருவது? கொலை செய்கிறவன் சொல்லிவிட்டா செய் யப்போகிறான். கவர்ன்மெண்டு போலீஸ் நியாயத்தை கவனிக்கவேண்டாமா? ஏழைகளையும் மைனாரிட்டிகளையும் துன்புறுத்துவது நியாயமா? இதை கவனிக்க வேண்டாமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். மதிப்புள்ள சின்னக்காஜியார் அவர்களுக்கு இப்படியானால் ஏழை மக்கள் பெண்களை எவ்வளவு துன்பப்படுத்துவார்களென்று நீங்களே உணரலாம். அக்ரமத்தை ஒழிக்கவேண்டும், அநியாயத்தை தொலைக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி செய்தால்தான் தேசம் முன்னுக்கு வரலாம், நாம் சந்தோஷத்தின் வாழலாம், ஒற்றுமையுடன் இருக்கலாம். இப்படி கஷ்டங்களெல்லாம் இருக்கும்போது எப்படி எங்களுக்கு நிம்மதி இருக்கும்?

“அபிராமம் என்கிற கிராமத்தில் முஸ்லீம்கள் கொஞ்சம் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களில் ரங்கன், மலையாவுக்கு ஆண்கள் போய்விடுவார்கள். பெண் மக்கள் தான் ஜாஸ்தி அங்கே இருப்பார்கள். அந்த இடத்தில் ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களும் இருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருக்க முஸ்லீம்கள் தெருவில் கூட்டம் போட்டுக்கொண்டு கொட்டு முழக்கத்துடன் கூக்குரலிட்டுக்கொண்டு வந்தார்கள். இது வேண்டாம் உங்கள் தெருவில், நீங்கள் எல்லா சந்தோஷத்தையும் கொண்டாடுங்கள் எங்களை துன்புறுத்தாதீர்கள் என்று கேட்டால் முடியாது என்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். நாங்கள் பயப்படுவது எதற்காக என்றால் கூட்டமாக வந்தால் யாராவது ஒரு பெண் என்ன வேடிக்கை என்று எட்டிப் பார்த்தால் ஒரு கல்லீல எடுத்து எறிகிறார்கள், உடனே ஆத்திரமும் ஆங்காரமும் வந்து விடுகிறது. இது சகஜம். அப்படி இருந்தால் உடனே புகுந்து கொள்ளை யடிக்கிறார்கள், குரையாடுகிறார்கள், அடிக்கிறார்கள், துன்புறுத்துகிறார்கள், சொத்துக்களை பறிக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் சகோதரர்களே, நீங்கள் கொஞ்சம் கொஞ்சமாக செல்லுங்கள், கூட்டமாக வராதீர்கள், துன்புறுத்தாதீர்கள் என்று சொன்னால் கேட்கமாட்டேன் என்கிறார்கள். போலீஸ், அவர்கள் தெருவில், சப்-ஜிஸ்தாரர் ஆபீஸ், கார்ஸ்டான்டு, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு எல்லாம் அவர்கள் தெருவில். பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு கட்டிடம் முஸ்லீம் களால் கட்டப்பட்டு அவர்களிடமிருக்கிறது, எங்களுக்கு கஷ்டத்தை உண்டு பண்ணுகிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் 107-வது பிரிவின்கீழ் அரஸ்டு பண்ணி காவலில் வைத்த ஒரு முஸ்லீமுக்கு சாப்பாடு கொண்டு போக ஆள் இல்லை. போலீஸ் உதவியின் பேரில் சாப்பாடு கொண்டு

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போகும்போது அடித்தார்கள். போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷனுக்குள் புகுந்தும் அடித்தார்கள். இவ்வளவு கஷ்டங்கள் இந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டில் நடக்கலாமா? ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்கள் ஒன்று சேரவேண்டும், பீஸ் கமிட்டி மூலம் சமாதானத்தை உண்டுபண்ணவேண்டுமென்று திட்டம் போட்டிருக்கிறோம். ஆனால் ஆகஸ்டு தியாகிகள் வந்து கஷ்டத்தை உண்டுபண்ணி இருக்கிறார்கள். பாக்கிஸ்தானை அபிராமத்தில் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். கோவாப் ரேடிவ் ஸ்டேர்ஸ் ஏற்படுத்த ஹிந்துக்களும், முஸ்லீம்களும் ஒத்தாசை செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்கள் கொஞ்சம் பணக்காரர்கள்; செல்வவந்தர்கள், ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இருக்க இந்த ஸ்டேர்ஸை பிரிக்கவேண்டுமென்று ஹிந்து சகோதரர்கள் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒரு காரணமும் இல்லாமல் விசாரணையும் இல்லாமல் ஹிந்துக்களுக்கு தனிப்பட்ட ஸ்டேர்ஸ் ஏற்படுத்திவிட்டார்கள், பிரித்துவிட்டார்கள், பிரிக்கவேண்டாமென்று சொல்லியும், இது நியாயமா என்று பார்க்கவேண்டும்.

“அபிராமம், நத்தம் என்று இரண்டு கிராமங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளில் அண்மையிலுள்ள வடக்கூரிலிருந்து முஸ்லீம்கள் வந்து தங்கி இருக்கிறார்கள், சிலர் பெரிய வீடுகளைக் கட்டியிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் வடக்கூரில் இருக்கிற காலத்தில் ஒரு பள்ளிவாசலும் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைச்சுற்றி கம்பவுண்டு இருக்கிறது. நிலங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. அப்படி இருக்க எனது நண்பர் ஆகஸ்டு தியாகி ஒருவர் இப்பொழுது வந்திருக்கிறார். அவர்தான் சர்தார் முத்தய்யா. அவர்கள் பாமரமக்களை தூண்டிவிட்டு பள்ளிவாசலில் கொடியை கட்டிவிட்டார்கள், மேலதிகாரிகள் காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர்கள், டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு காங்கிரஸ் காரியதரிசி இவர்களிடம்போய் சொன்னோம்; சமாதானம் பண்ணிவிட்டீர்களே, பள்ளிவாசலில் கொடி பரக்கிறதே, இது நியாயமா என்று கேட்டோம். பாமர மக்களை விவரம் தெரியாதவர்களைக் கொண்டு பள்ளிவாசலில் கொடியைக் கட்டச் செய்துவிட்டார்கள் என்று சொன்னோம். அவர்கள், பள்ளிவாசல் இல்லை மடம் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்! பள்ளிவாசலில் என்பது நன்றாக தெரியும். அங்கே மெஹரபா கட்டாயம் இருக்கும். அது பள்ளிவாசல்தான். நாங்கள் சொல்வதை நீங்கள் மறுக்கிறீர்கள். நாங்கள் படும் கஷ்டங்களை பிரதம மந்திரியார் கவனத்தில் வைத்து சீர்திருத்தம் செய்வார் என்று நம்புகிறேன்.

1-30 p.m.

“எப்பொழுதும் எனக்கு ஸ்நேகிதமாக உள்ள கனம் வைத்தியனதய்யா அவர்கள் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஸ்பெஷலாக அனுதாபம் காட்டுகிறார்கள் என்று பிரதம மந்திரி அவர்களப்பற்றி சொன்னார்கள். அவர்கள் (Sri A. V. Ayyar) நல்ல தியாகி, பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு உபகாரி, சிறந்த காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர். கௌரவம் வாய்ந்த மதுரை தலைவர், அவர்கள் மனதில்கூட இந்த மைனாரிட்டிகளுக்கு அதிகமான சுதந்திரம் கொடுக்கக் கூடாது என்று தோன்றி, சொன்னதைப்பற்றி நான் ஆச்சர்யப்படுகிறேன், விசனிக்கிறேன். அவரெல்லாம் தலைவராக இருக்கப்பட்டவர் மைனாரிட்டிகளுக்கு பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு உதவி புரிந்து சமாதானத்தை உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டிய மகான். இப்படிச் சொல்லலாமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். சமாதானத்திற்கு நீங்கள் உதவி பண்ணவேண்டும். மதுரையில் நடந்ததையும் இன்னும் அநேகம் சம்பவங்களைப்பற்றியும் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் time கொடுத்தால் சொல்லுகிறேன். காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் இழைக்கக்கூடிய கஷ்டம் அதிகம். காங்கிரஸ் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்த பாடத்தைதான் கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் இப்பொழுது நடத்துகிறார்கள், வேறு ஒன்றுமில்லை. ஆகையினால் கனம் வெங்கடேஸ்வரலு அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானத்தை ஆமோதிக்கிறேன்.”

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

Sittings of the House.

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Before proceeding further, Sir, may I know until what time we are going to sit to-day? My suggestion would be that we rise at 5 o'clock as usual. The second point is that members of the House, many of them, want to have an adjournment of the House on or about the 15th of this month.”

[M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur] 8th February 1947]

Mr. SPEAKER:—“They want an interval also?”

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Yes, between this and the Budget Session.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“You mean about the 15th. We will first decide the question whether we can sit to-day till 5 o'clock or till 6 or 7. I wish to know what the hon. the Leader of the House has got to say in this matter.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“As long as you find it necessary, this debate may go on.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“My suggestion is that we shall go on till 5 o'clock to-day and then adjourn to Monday.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“What the Premier said was that if it is convenient for Members, we can proceed till 6 or 7 o'clock to-day.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I took him to mean, as long as the debate goes; that means even the following days.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I said, as long as the debate can be permitted by you and by this House.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Therefore it is clear, Sir.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“I want to consult the convenience of Members also in deciding this question. I do not want to say anything for or against it. If the Members prefer to sit till late in the evening, I have no objection. If their opinion is that they should sit till 6 or 7 o'clock, I have no objection. Shall we sit till 6 o'clock to-day?”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“By 6-15, I have to leave the House, Sir.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“Shall we sit to-day till 5-30 p.m., because it is the sense of the House to sit till 5-30 p.m.?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Sir, it is left to you.”

Mr. SPEAKER:—“Regarding the other question, they want a holiday after the 15th. Members had a long holiday previously and so I think we shall sit till we finish our business.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The holiday which they had previously will not count now, because members have come with the idea that the House will not sit for more than ten or twelve days. They had arranged their business accordingly and now they have to go again and arrange their further programme. Therefore, it is very necessary that they should have some holiday after the 15th.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I may appeal to the Leader of the Opposition to make it convenient to get through our work in this session and in the coming session also. There should not be much interval between the closing of this part of the work and the beginning of the rest of our work.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall have a continuous session till the close of the Budget Session. There will not be another break. Members already know that there are a number of Bills which have been circulated long ago and if you want a long holiday, it means we will have to sit in the hot weather during the months of April and May. Instead of that, I consider it is more convenient to have one sitting at a stretch and finish the work."

M. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not about the weather, Sir, but our responsibility to our constituencies, where our presence is required for at least five or six days in the month."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Your responsibility to your constituency lies more in your being here than there."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"In the beginning, the House was adjourned for some time to suit the convenience of the hon. Leader of the Opposition and his Party. He said, that for some time they would be going to the Constituent Assembly and the session could not commence here. That was agreed to."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I remind the Hon. the Premier that it was not so much for the convenience of the Leader of the Opposition or the Members of his Party but it was because circumstances at that time warranted it?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"I postponed then because you have requested me that there was some religious festival."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That was only one day affair; the interval of all these months, you should not lay at our doors, but anyway, those holidays have been there; Members have enjoyed them well or ill. Now, we are speaking of the present session and it will be a great hardship to have a continuous session for about 2½ months together. Therefore it is I request that a few days off may be given from this sitting of the Assembly."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then, we shall take up this question on Monday next and decide it, because nobody is prepared to decide it off-hand at present. My opinion is, it is not possible for us to do our work in the hot weather and so it is far better if we sit now and finish the work. However, we shall decide this question on Monday next."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Can we not decide it now, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day we shall sit till 5-30 p.m. Regarding the holiday, we shall consider the question on Monday next and decide it."

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been listening to the speeches of Members on both sides of this House for these three days and the debate as it developed into mere party politics, irrespective of the relevancies arising from the resolution itself, bewildered me to an extent which is rather disconcerting."

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I found that the resolution was pitched upon as an occasion to foist upon the Congress Party in the Province all the ills that have arisen on account of the activities of the people in the position of Goondas on the one hand, and of people in the position of partymen like the Communists.

[Mr. W. J. Fernandez occupied the Chair at this stage.]

"Our friends in the Muslim League, sitting in the Opposition, have made it an occasion to narrate almost all the serious, as well as the most trivial, incidents occurring here and there in the Province for supporting this resolution of my hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu. The Government came forward with legislation by an Ordinance in respect of the very serious disorders whose cumulative effect through all this period of nearly nine months after the elections, has been to make any Government apprehend that, if strong action was not taken, the Government would not have fulfilled their duty that was cast upon them by law, to preserve law and order in the country and in a time of crisis when both food and cloth problems were facing us as if they would by themselves create a crisis in the social and political conditions in the country. It was just at this crisis that advantage was taken of by our Communist friends to foment trouble. Their central doctrine, that no man should be allowed to exploit another, is a thing which is well-known and accepted by all well-meaning politicians in the world in the present order of things; but with this central doctrine, and around this doctrine, several methods of achieving this end have gone to the extent of taking advantage of every situation to create nothing but disorders. If these disorders have gone to the extent of even unsettling the peace and order in the country as well as good and orderly Government too, then it was high-time for the Government to wake up. All our friends on the other side argued that if you had taken measures early enough it would have been better; you need not have passed an Ordinance for this purpose; you could have used the regular ordinary law itself and the several preventive sections contained in the Penal Code, on the one hand, and the preventive sections contained in the Criminal Procedure Code on the other from the very beginning itself. It is easy for an Opposition functioning as such and belonging to a party which has already, for several months past, revealed itself in all its bearings and has fomented trouble in our Province also, of which we have had enough, it is very easy for them to talk glibly on the necessity for having taken early action in this matter."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Which is that party, Sir?"

* SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"I am sorry to see that my friend, the Leader of the Opposition is even unable to understand whom I am referring to. That is real tactics. I must say it is the party which my friend is leading on the other side. (A voice: 'Then you are very much mistaken.') People who want to oppose every good measure, every measure that is brought forward for the

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purpose of preserving person and property in this land are mistaken. Our friends in the Opposition have narrated several details. In fact, my friend Mr. Raza Khan, representing as he does Chittoor, though living far away from it and not knowing anything about that district, has been quoting some incident in that district. I was wondering what that incident had to do with the subject on hand here, an incident in Punganoor town where for several ages Hindus and Muslims have been living amicably. They never had any communal troubles there. They had no troubles with regard to processions before mosques or anything. They had themselves regulated their conduct by agreements, registered agreements, but the advent of League politics has for the first time fomented trouble in that place, very recently. I do not wish to talk about details of that incident because it may be that by this time the whole matter is *sub judice*. It illustrates that incidents which ordinarily occur whether there is an Ordinance or not, whether there are regular disorders in the country or not, by reason of the trouble created by the Communists themselves, these processions, these riots, these unlawful assemblies and these skirmishes which formed minor items in our daily life in this country, have become so vast to our leading lights of the Muslim League. These things are pitched upon as a thing for which the Congress is responsible. I wonder to what lengths our friends on the other side would go for the purpose of supporting Sri Venkateswarlu's resolution. Sir, every speech that was delivered on the other side was a speech that supported the Ordinance and not the resolution of my Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu. The incidents that have been narrated are themselves proof of the very necessity for passing an Ordinance of this kind, or a legislation on the lines covered by the Ordinance. Yet, we find they say at the end of their speeches "because of these things, Sir, I support the resolution of my hon'ble Friend, Sri Venkateswarlu." That is the sort of argument that we find here. Now, Sir, they have been complaining that it is Congressmen in the rural areas that have been responsible for encouraging the Communists to do all these things. To what extremes our friends go in supporting a resolution of this kind? Very well, Sir, let me accept that argument that Congressmen have been responsible for making the Communists more dangerous than they were before. Let us grant that. Is it a case for their supporting the resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu? Rightly or wrongly, or mistakenly, the Congressmen have allowed, let us take it, the Communists to become as dangerous as they are reported to be today. Is that an argument to say that no legislation is necessary for combating these disorders in the country? On the other hand, it must be plain even to the common man that even if you have been lenient or generous or even charitable to the so-called enlightened political organization, the moment it becomes dangerous to the life and property of the ordinary man in this country, should you keep quiet by excusing yourselves by saying "I have been lenient so far and shall be lenient for centuries and allow this country to be swamped by disorders?" I do not understand this argument coming from the other side. I found not only did they

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attack Congressmen in general but pitched upon revered leaders like my hon'ble Friend, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, who has dedicated his life for noble ends under his political programme, the chief item of which is Hindu-Muslim unity and that gentleman has been dragged into this debate as one of the greatest offenders that this Province has known. Most irrelevant things have been said to support this resolution. On the other hand, they supported only the Ordinance in their speeches and yet when we try to reply to the unjust remarks made by them, we are said to be irrelevant in these matters. We have listened patiently to all the virulent propaganda aimed against the Congress Party. They have taken advantage of this resolution which has been admitted even though the Government have promised that they would bring in a bill before the Legislature, to be made into an Act. I do not wish to take credit for saying anything with regard to the contents of that Bill, but I suppose our revered leader, the Leader of the House, and Premier of the Province, who has been a lover of liberties, will take care to see that there are no obnoxious provisions in the Bill and if public opinion is really against some of these provisions, he will certainly soften them down. I do not know the facts, he must be in possession of all relevant information regarding the disturbances, and he is the best judge to decide which provisions should be retained in the bill and which are to be omitted. Yet it is rather funny to hear speeches as if we are ignorant of civil liberties and how it should guide us in the conduct of Government. We are given sermon after sermon on civil liberties. Even prohibition is taken advantage of as a ground for the disorders prevailing in the country. What more absurdities could people commit in arguing against the Ordinance and supporting the resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu? I request, Sir, that our friends on the opposite side should cultivate a sense of charity and a sense of truthfulness in the conduct of their programme, on behalf of the League. It is not on an occasion like this when the whole country is seething with disorder by reason of the propaganda and the programmes of the Communists, that we should forget ourselves so much as to say that this resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu should be supported and the Ordinance opposed on the general principle of securing civil liberties to these Communists. The civil liberties of the Communists has become a fond subject for the Muslim Leaguers today, even though they are a minority in this Province. They themselves are likely to be the victims of Communist disturbances yet they think it fit to adopt the same programme like the Communists themselves. My friends on the opposite side said that Congressmen were responsible for all these disorders in the countryside also. Very well, does this Government make a difference between a Congressman, Muslim Leaguer and Communist? When this Ordinance becomes law in the shape of a regular enactment, there will be no differentiation between one political organization and another. There are no doubt men who are real Communists at heart, masquerading in the Province as Congressmen. It is difficult to prevent them. Nobody on earth can distinguish what a man's

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principles are at heart and what he professes outside. There are several men like that. Those men also will come under this Ordinance. My friends on the opposite side need not have any apprehensions that this Ordinance or any legislation coming afterwards, is going to let off anybody, whatever be his political colour, scot-free, if he is a person who is engaged in fomenting disorders.

"The ordinary law of the land is not enough. Some of my friends opposite—many of them are big lawyers—know the law not only under the Penal Code but also under the Criminal Procedure Code. In Malabar, for how many cases can they apply either the Criminal Procedure Code or the Indian Penal Code? That I wish to know from them. Let them illustrate to us how the law under the Criminal Procedure Code or the Indian Penal Code can be applied to the set of circumstances that have been stated by the Premier in his statement. If a man asks a class of people or a whole population not to harvest a crop that is ready for it and which if not harvested would be destroyed, which is the law of the land, ordinary law of the land, which can bring the offenders to justice under these two enactments? I ask my friends to tell me which is the section. When the British Government was applying the ordinary law, viz., the Criminal Procedure Code, they used the trick of using the ordinary law of the land for nefarious ends, were not we, to whatever political party we belonged, condemning their action saying that the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code were being prostituted for nefarious ends and yet our friends do talk of the ordinary law of the land. We, on both sides of the House, have listened to the gruesome and harrowing tales narrated by my hon. friend, Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai. We have heard the harrowing tales narrated by Mr. Govindan Nair who comes from Malabar. We have heard stories of how certain officials in some of these districts have been helping the formation and development of Communist organizations for the purpose of creating trouble. All this has to be countered only by a legislation such as an Ordinance that has been passed. We have been twitted with the argument that you people who have been agitating against Ordinance rule and you who have thundered forth that Ordinances were characteristic of Imperial and despotic Government, you have yourselves used an Ordinance for this purpose. Yet, Sir, we are not ashamed to use such a weapon if it is necessary. I belong to the Government party which comes here with the vote of the masses. The masses have to be protected. This is a popular Government, it is a democratic Government and cannot afford to be irresponsible. The Government has to discharge its functions for the purpose solely of preserving the life and property of the ordinary men in this country and to secure the peace and happiness of the millions that inhabit this Province. The mere fact that I am doing it by an Ordinance should not stand in the way of my doing my duty in this respect.

"The second thing that our friends say is that before issuing this Ordinance you should have consulted the Legislature. You

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must have taken the Legislature into your confidence before you came with an enactment like this. Yes, if our friends are ever destined to rule over the destinies of this Province, they would certainly reveal what they are going to do, for the purpose of driving all these disorderly men underground without being caught by the Government. They are teaching us elementary principles of Government. Also it is a wonder to me that people have attacked us from all points of view, relevant, irrelevant, good and bad. My only prayer is that our friends on the opposite side would make themselves more responsible for securing the happiness of the people. They are not securing the happiness of their own community, of what they call a nation, in this Province. This 8 per cent of mankind, the Muslims, they call themselves a nation also. Here they say that our lives will be preserved if they support the resolution of my hon. friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, with their whole heart, mind and brain."

* P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, 3 p.m. in supporting the resolution before the House, may I, at the outset, submit that the remarks of the Leader of the European Group who unfortunately is not present in the House, that certain political parties are trying to take political advantage of the situation and opposing the Ordinance, are totally uncalled for, unwarranted and untrue. Strangely enough, the allegations were made by a representative of a community who claim to have perfected a system of democracy through the ages and built up the Mother of Parliaments which symbolizes the liberty of the individual. It is curious that while people in England are very careful to preserve human rights and individual liberty and while the British Parliament is ever apprehensive of the executive getting more and more dictatorial, representatives of the British community in this House should support this Ordinance—an Ordinance which even my hon. Friend from Madura, Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar and Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai, have not hesitated to condemn stating that there are very many objectionable features and that the Hon. the Prime Minister has also confessed that the provisions of the Ordinance are very severe and that he would either modify them or remove them altogether. But straightway this champion of British democracy says that the Ordinance is not severe enough and that the provisions are not objectionable enough and that he wants more and more Ordinances of this type. May I ask whether with the decline of Britain from a first-class to a third-class power, even the British people have lost their sense of human values and their love for ordinary human liberty? What surprised me was the claim of the Leader of the European Group that it was not his love for the Treasury Benches that has influenced his decision to support the Ordinance but his great sympathy for the 400 million people of India that persuaded him to support the Ordinance. We have tasted enough, during the last 150 years of British rule in India, of that sympathy and we need not have any more sympathy and that the Indian 400 millions can perfectly get on without their sympathy. We have been charged that we are engaged in a political game. May I, in his absence, ask him whether he is not

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interested in some other game; may I ask whether he is not and the European Members of this Assembly are not adopting such tactics for some advantage of their own and whether they are not trying to make the best of a bad situation in which they find themselves to-day?

"Further what pained me immensely is that the hon. Member representing the Malappuram constituency said that conditions in Malabar warrant such severe measures. Coming as I do from Malabar, I can say that conditions in Malabar do not require such a measure. It is, however, admitted that Communists have been giving some trouble here and there; but generally conditions in Malabar do not require such complete abrogation of the rights of the individual. My hon. Friend Mr. Varadachari was saying that the ordinary provisions of the criminal law of the land would not be enough to meet the situation and he specified the ordinary provisions of the law concerning conspiracy as not being effective against them. A lawyer of such standing as Mr. Varadachari ought to know that there are provisions of the law to prevent destruction of property, trespass and such like activities against which the measure is intended. In respect of cognizable offences, persons can be arrested straightway, charges could be framed and prosecution launched against them.

"Another thing that I wish to take exception to is the reference made to Moplahs—that Communists are trying to incite the Moplahs to rebel. I can say as a member of the Muslim League Party that Communists have no sort of influence with the Muslims; they cannot and do not have any influence with the Moplahs and the Moplahs will not be and are not excitable by Communists. They know only one authority and that authority they will follow; they know only one leader whom they will follow blindly. The Leader is Quid-e-Azam Jinnah and the authority is the All India Muslim League. They have experience enough and they have intelligence enough not to let themselves be duped by whatever Communists or others might say or do. Therefore, the assertion that the Communists are trying to incite the Moplahs to rebellion is not a justification for the promulgation of the Ordinance.

"My hon. Friend representing the Malappuram constituency was exaggerating the difference between the Ordinance promulgated by the British bureaucracy and the one promulgated by the popular Government and he felt very complacent that the measure was innocuous in that they were the servants of the people who did it; but he lost count of one serious and essential difference between this Ordinance and former Ordinances. The Ordinances of the British Government issued previously were intended to prevent certain parties from indulging in acts of violence but were never intended to increase the political power or interests of any party. But not so, the measures taken by this Government; from the experience of how they were utilized by the party, from the fate that befell them, it is not impossible to see how these Ordinances would not also be used by the members of the Congress Party to further their own interest. When I was going through

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the provisions of the Ordinance, I was wondering how sections 6, 7 and 9 would be used by the members of the Congress Party to further their own interest with the help of local officials who are always terrorised by them. I was also imagining while going through section 16 and other sections how with the assistance of their party men they could have their political opponents arrested and detained. If that is the attitude that Congressmen are going to follow in the future also, I may at once tell the Premier that the Ordinance will not be the end of the trouble; this will be the beginning of further fresh and serious trouble. Sir, take for example the food scheme of the Government. Certain modifications were brought into force in Malabar. That measure was brought into existence in Malabar by the authorities without even giving us the courtesy of consultation. My hon. friend Mr. Govinda Menon was referring yesterday to the very satisfactory conditions in Malabar, and said that the Moplahs have received their proper share. The Prime Minister who had toured in that district will be able to tell you how dissatisfied they were and how far from truth, the facts stated by him were. I may tell you that the Congress Party have deprived the Moplahs of their fair and rightful share both in the village committees and co-operative societies and very many representations have been made to the Premier and he has promised to remove the cause for grievance. We were told by Mr. Govinda Menon that in certain places Muslims were given equal representation with others, three for them and three for the Hindus. The Muslims in those places were in such a huge majority that three is not their correct share but must be double that number and even to Muslim quota of three, their own Majlis were thrust in. In one place, namely, Ponnani, the Muslim League had to start satyagraha to get the authorities to receive their application for shares. He was also saying that the people were perfectly satisfied but that it was the instructions from the top that had created all these misunderstandings. God knows if the top had not been there and if the top had not restrained their activities and had not curbed their feelings, what would have happened in Malabar. Above all Mr. Govinda Menon must know that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition who is also the President of the Provincial Muslim League exercises a very great influence with them and his influence was always available to the Government on the side of restraint and moderation. The Prime Minister would be able to testify to what would have happened in Malabar but for these healthy influences. My hon. Friend said that it was the instructions from top that were responsible for the disturbances. I feel that such an ungrateful and uncharitable remark as that ought not to have been made against such good and humane work that was done by the Muslim League in this Province. My hon. friend referred to the Mecca-Moscow alliance. I listened to the speech very intently and I felt as I was listening to that speech, that it had not better been made and that it was his own guilty conscience that was at the root of it. Could any one forget that the Congress people abetted and aided the Communists in their acts of violence and murder in 1942? Could any one say that Communists were not actively assisted and

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supported by the Congress people in the disturbance that took place in North Malabar which resulted in Mr. K. P. R. Gopalan being sentenced to death for murdering a Police Sub-Inspector? To atone for it, they pleaded for his life and his sentence was commuted into transportation for life. Why should they now change their colour and make wild charges against the Muslim League that they are in alliance with Communists? Islam and Communism are poles apart; we have nothing in common with them; past history and experience will prove this fact. But from the facts of past history, you can draw only one conclusion, that this alliance was all between Communists and the Congress Party.

3-15 p.m. "Reports have come from different parts of Malabar that in the matter of distribution of food and other articles or even in the matter of receiving rations daily from ration shops, Muslims are put to very great difficulty by the Congress people who manage the shops and who are in charge of the distribution of food. They are offering the gravest provocation even to members of this Assembly who belong to the Muslim League. After having insulted the Mappillas, after having provoked them, after spitting at them, you injure them also by saying that they are preparing for a rebellion, when the facts are that leaders have counselled patience and they have followed it. On the 2nd December, a petition was presented by Mr. Kelappan to the Collector alleging that the Mappillas were preparing for a rebellion. These are not the methods to maintain peace; I may tell the Hon. Premier that if this Ordinance is meant to preserve law and order, it cannot do that, nor can hundred Ordinances do it. Be just, fair and good and see that the people are contented; then you will have in your own time a land of peace and harmony. So my personal opinion is that an Ordinance of this type, if only directed against the members of the Congress Party, would produce peace and tranquillity in this Province. If the Ordinance is directed to curb their activities, their behaviour and to see that nobody is provoked and insulted, then you will have much more peace and tranquillity, than an Ordinance passed against the general community. Sir, the general community has been provoked, the general community has been suppressed and the general community has been oppressed by members of the party who form the Government to-day. Such being the case, there is no use of complaining against the general community. If the Ordinance is directed against their own men, then alone you could have peace and tranquillity. In conclusion, I would like to say, as has been already said, that it is an irony that those people who were all along condemning Ordinance rule and were promising to the masses to win them freedom, should be responsible for passing this Ordinance, which is the very negation of freedom. Sir I have done."

* SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not like to intervene in this debate, because I knew the Premier would deal with the main aspects of the situation. But there are some matters of detail, which I thought I ought to place straightway before the House. I have often heard the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. He talks in a balanced way generally, and he

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is also very conciliatory in his speeches. But it was a great surprise to me the other day when he was doing a job, I believe, which was not to his heart; but on account of some considerations was obliged to support the resolution moved by the Communist member. It was a very strange thing for him also. But the strangest part of it was that he should have made it an occasion to discuss Hindu-Muslim questions, and he made a speech which he is not accustomed to make generally and which we were not accustomed to hear from him generally. I do not like to repeat the words which were said with regard to Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar's speech, which was, he said, an unfortunate speech. If his speech was an unfortunate speech, it was made only in self-defence against some allegations made in a more unfortunate speech made by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. But I am not going into all the aspects of that. In the very beginning of his speech he said, one fine morning the communal Government Order, which was the general charter of liberties of all Muslims, had been abrogated by this Government. He used the word 'abrogated.' I was wondering whether I misheard him. I noted the word and verified it from the typescript in the office, and I found he used the word 'abrogated.' Let me here at once say that the communal Government Order has never been abrogated. Probably it is not to the liking of Congressmen. But as you know, Sir, the communal Government Order has been there, has been put into operation all along, and possibly it is being widened and extended from day to day, and so there is absolutely no justification for the hon. Leader of the Opposition to spring forward a proposition before the country that this Government has abrogated it. (At this stage the Leader of the Opposition rose in his seat to interrupt.) I think the Leader of the Opposition had his say and he will have more opportunities to speak hereafter. I do not yield to him, Sir. He was narrating a number of instances to show that this Congress Government was harassing the Muslims and over-riding them in the Province. Several friends have already replied to him and the Hon. Premier will deal with it. He referred to several events to show that the grievances of the Muslim Leaders are not heard; but that if a Nationalist Muslim came forward with a request, immediately his request was conceded. It is a very strange proposition. As an illustration he said, in the case of a Nationalist Muslim candidate in the Malappuram Constituency who would under the ordinary rules of election have lost his deposit, this Government saw to it that he did not lose the deposit; how, they framed a rule and gave retrospective effect to it for his sake. I do not use any adjectives about his remarks. But I would place before this House certain simple facts; for statements of this kind made in these days have a bearing on the general relations between Hindus and Muslims. So I would like to explain the position with regard to the constituency of Malappuram. He said, in order to accommodate the Nationalist Muslim candidate, this Government altered the rule. Let me at once tell you, Sir, there was no request from that gentleman, no letter from him requesting that the rules should be altered to suit his case. As a matter of fact, what happened was, when the election rules were framed in 1936, this Government pointed out to the Government of India that there was an anomaly

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with regard to the election rules regarding dual constituencies. They pointed out that in a single member constituency a man will not lose his deposit if he gets one-eighth of the total votes polled. In a constituency where three members are to be elected, if a candidate gets one-eighth of the total votes polled divided by the number of candidates he will not lose his deposit; but the language used was such that the rule as it stood would mean that in the dual constituency, a candidate would lose his deposit unless he got nearly one-fourth of the votes voting for him. Of course, this Government was not responsible for the rule. They made a reference to the Government of India, who said, they did not exercise their mind on the implications of the rule, when they framed it, but they simply copied it from the Peoples Representation Act, 1918; and if any hardship arose the Provincial Government had the liberty to amend the rules. And the case actually arose, not with regard to any Muslim friend at all. It arose really in the case of a Scheduled Class candidate. In fact, that candidate did not come in with an application at all. It was the District Collector who drew the attention of the Government to the injustice done to defeated candidates in dual constituencies. In this Province there are 24 dual constituencies, and there were ten candidates who would lose their deposit, if this inconsistent rule were to be followed. So Government, who had applied their mind already in 1936, pursued the matter further, again looked into the matter and set right the injustice, by seeing that a candidate in a dual constituency was not at a greater disadvantage than a candidate in any other constituency. That was all that was done. Because the whole thing was considered in 1936, the benefit of the new rule was given to the candidates in the elections held in February last, and thus came about the retrospective effect. I may also tell you, Sir there were ten members from the several constituencies, who would have lost their deposits if the rule had not been amended and it so happens that the Nationalist Muslim candidate in the Malappuram Constituency is one of the ten. I do not wish to bother the House with reading the names of the ten candidates. Two of them are from the Anglo-Indian Constituency and two from Muslim Constituencies, of which one is from Malappuram and one is from Palghat. Therefore I want to make you clearly understand that there is no such thing as accommodation of the Nationalist Muslims by this Government against the Muslim League. As the Hon. Premier has said, people occupying the Treasury Bench have no such idea of making a distinction between one person and another so long as they hold the reins of office. On that point I have said enough.

"There is another point, which, in an interpellation, was repeated by Mr. Hameed Khan and was raised by the Leader of the Opposition; and that is with regard to the Chagalamarri incident. In spite of denial by Government, it was alleged that certain Muslims in Chagalamarri were shut up in a mosque and when certain women went there to open it, they were shot by the Police. Two or three days back the Hon. the Premier was answering a question in which the entire incident was explained to the House.

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There was absolutely no suggestion either in the question or anywhere else that any Muslim men were shut up in a mosque and that Muslim women came only to open the mosque and the Police got angry and fired at them. Even my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, who went to Chagalamarri on receipt of a telegram from that place, and who had written a letter to the Prime Minister from that place, did not make any mention or give any indication of any such thing as having happened at all. But all on a sudden yesterday, when you had to support the resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu, this shutting up of Muslim men in a mosque came. I am sorry that such a statement should have been made without verification. We are here always to explain facts as we know. We are friends. We are not in an inimical mood. We could meet and ask and look into things together instead of saying these things on the floor of the House in the manner they have been said. I do not like to go into other details. I thought I could give a few facts like these, so that they may not go into the press as uncontradicted statements about the atrocities committed by the Congress Government against Muslims. I was obliged to say this because yesterday a friend, who does not belong to the Madras Province, happened to read the speech of the Leader of the Opposition in the newspaper, and he asked me 'what are these things; have you obliged a Nationalist Muslim by a change of rule for his sake?' Then I thought I should explain to the House a few of the instances. Sir, I have done."

S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. 3-30 p.m.
Speaker, Sir, before I speak about the Ordinance I want to make it clear that ever since we came into this House, we have been conservative, we have been liberal, and we have been lenient in our policy towards this Government. But now our Congress friends fling calumnies upon this Opposition, which is reasonable and which is very logical in its statement. I do not know whether they really mean that we are here as radicals or Communists or whether we are ambassadors of peace. I want to have a specific answer from the Hon. the Premier whether we are so or not before I proceed with my speech in regard to the promulgation of the Ordinance."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. the Premier will reply to this in his reply to the debate."

S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now I come to the statement made by the Hon. the Prime Minister. What does it contain in justification of his promulgation of the Ordinance? It deals with instances scattered over a period of six months. This is a very big Presidency—the biggest Presidency in India—where we can expect some turmoil, trouble and violence, and you, as the Premier, responsible for the tranquility and peace of this Province, ought to have enforced this law beforehand and subsided all this. In his statement, the Hon. the Premier said that there were agrarian troubles, strikes by students, murders of Inspectors of Police and Police constables, tannery strikes and

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publications of exaggerated accounts in the newspapers. I beg to submit that those are all facts, but may I know from the Premier whether our Leader of the Opposition has made any unreasonable statement or any statement that contains any untruth? Members from the opposite side flung calumnies and said that what our party leader said was all untruth. On the other hand I want to make it clear that Mr. Vedarathnam Pillai has made a statement which contains nothing but out-and-out untruth. He said that because the Hon. the Premier is lenient towards Muslims, they have taken this opportunity to blame this Government, and they (Muslims) have been given 10 yards of cloth. May I know, Sir, whether this is a fact or an untruth? The Textile Commissioner has issued orders in the month of Ramzan to issue two yards of cloth, and contrary to his orders how can Muslims be given 10 yards of cloth? On the other hand, since they have been given the Ramzan quota, they have not now been given a single yard of cloth. Yesterday, during question time, the Hon. the Education Minister said that he was not going to encourage communal affiliation in schools. May I point out, Sir, that recently in the P.R. College, Cocanada, one lecturer asked the Muslim boys and the Hindu boys to write an essay on Noakhali. The teacher asked the Muslim boys to get out of the school when they refused to write. Is not then, Sir, this Government encouraging communal affiliations and politics in colleges and schools? Is it not fair and proper that this Government should take immediate action to see that such things do not happen.

"There is another thing which is really horrible in its nature, and that is, Mr. Pallam Raju, an hon. Member of this House, has proposed a Muslim to the Food Committee without giving his name. Is he thinking to bring in a Nationalist Muslim in the Food Committee? Is it not disrupting the Muslims, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Government do not make any differentiation between a Nationalist Muslim and a League Muslim."

S. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am only bringing the fact to your notice, Sir. (A voice: 'He is harping on this.') I am not harping on this, Sir. I represent Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts. I have to go and represent my grievances in the Food Committee of Vizagapatam district. Although I wrote several letters to the District Collector of Vizagapatam district, he has not replied me. Since the formation of Food Committees he has not called me. On the other hand a Nationalist Muslim has been brought in. I want to ask whether he is representing your community or my community. I want to make one thing clear to this Government, and that is, do not be led into party politics when you think of the happiness and peace of this Province; be moderate and reasonable in your criticisms so that we may also adopt such a policy."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have already allowed 2½ days for discussion. I find there is very much of repetition. Therefore, hereafter, I will allow only 10 minutes to every speaker."

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* SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, rising as I do at the fag end of the discussion, I do not wish to repeat what members on this side have said. I just wish to confine my remarks to certain salient points in connexion with this resolution. Most of the members who have spoken are under the wrong impression that this measure is intended or aimed at a particular party, namely, the Communist party, and the entire discussion throughout has been based on that view. I wish to state that there is absolutely no justification for such an inference, and much less is it intended to have been aimed at any Muslim League party or any other political party. The provisions of the Ordinance clearly show that they are aimed at lawlessness, and against persons whose activities are subversive of law and order. It will be affecting equally the Congressmen, Muslim Leaguers, or Communists. In view of that fact, I feel there is absolutely no justification or any reason for a misapprehension on the part of hon. Members on the Opposite side. Till now, they have been speaking on the injustices done to the Muslim League or to Muslims as a whole in the Province. The policy of the present Government and also that of the past Government has been to give very good preference to Muslims in this Province as a whole. They know, if only they just feel their hearts, what is the real treatment they have been receiving from this Government, and whether it is not for the purpose of the present debate they have been saying things in this manner. My hon. Friend Mr. Ismail who has just spoken said that he was left out and he was not given a seat in the District Food Committee of Vizagapatam. I too, like him, represent two districts, and I do not have a seat in the District Food Committee of the East Godavari district. Should it then be inferred by that that it is on account of the present policy of the Government that either myself or he as a member of the Muslim League is excluded. He is an ex-officio member. No one need extend an invitation to him. These are all things which should be viewed dispassionately. Our Chief Parliamentary Secretary has, in this connexion, clarified certain facts which should go to show that this is all distorted for the purpose of discussion in this House. I regret very much for such state of affairs.

"The Hon. the Premier has announced to the House that he is going to introduce a Bill. He has the real interests of the public at heart. He is one who suffered under the Ordinance rule. We have all just emerged from the Ordinance rule. Those people who sit on the Treasury Benches are the worst victims of Ordinance rule. Nobody will be more unhappy than the Premier to promulgate an Ordinance. You have this lengthy discussion going on for 2½ days so that it may not be said that we have shut out public opinion. It is for the same reason we have to-day declared that a Bill will be introduced with necessary safeguards. Now certain instances have been stated in this House. They only go to show that they justify the existence of the Ordinance. In those circumstances whether there should be an Ordinance of this type or whether there should be a Bill, is a thing that should have been

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considered. In view of the statement that a Bill will be introduced in this House, I would rather wish hon. Members concentrate on that aspect, that is, what are the safeguards that are to be taken in this connexion, instead of merely raging over the promulgation of the present Ordinance. Really there is acute discontent in this country, and that is due to the fact that at the time the Congress assumed office, we were in a state of depletion, we had no food, we had no clothing, and everything has been emptied, and was in a state where Government themselves felt that there will be any amount of trouble.

3-45 P.M. "Sir, the situation is being exploited by certain interested persons for political purposes and that is the thing against which we have to safeguard.

"We are to-day in a safer position. It is not the rule of an irresponsible Government promulgating Ordinances. It is we, the people's representatives who have promulgated the Ordinance and we are answerable to the constituencies. Therefore it is a matter about which we need not have any apprehension. It is for that reason that we have been allowed to discuss this for two and a half days, a thing which was never done before in the case of Ordinances which were promulgated. Under these circumstances the best thing we could do is to suggest the necessary safeguards which would be a real protector against the excesses of the Police. I do know that in this country, at least so far as our Province is concerned, the officials have not risen up to the mark. There is any amount of corruption. That is the very reason why the Government have created to-day a special department to put down corruption. That being so, it is really dangerous that these officials should be empowered with such absolute powers which give them complete immunity for whatever they do in pursuance of this Ordinance. That is what the provisions of the Ordinance go to show and in respect of which necessary safeguards have to be suggested in the Bill that is to be introduced by the Hon. Premier.

"We just emerged from an Ordinance, namely, the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance which died with the War and the provisions of that Ordinance have been inserted in this Ordinance to-day by which the legitimate right of contract has been taken away. That is a thing which I suggest should be considered at the time of drafting the Bill. The Bill should be so worded that the right of contract which has been taken away by this Ordinance is provided for and that the individual is not tied to a particular concern and the concern given the right to exploit the individual. Unfortunately to-day most of the labour troubles are due to the fact that they were tied to a particular concern and they could not contract. We have suffered under the provisions of the Essential Services (Maintenance) Ordinance for the last four of five years during the war and we have emerged from it. Now we find that the Essential Services Ordinance has been brought in again by inserting a clause in this Ordinance. We have to safeguard the right of the individual to contract.

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"Moreover we find that power has been given to the police officials to arrest a person without warrant and even a constable has the right to arrest without warrant. That is also a thing against which we should safeguard.

"I would also wish to say that in this Province there are political parties who have certain aims and aspirations. Even the Muslim League has got its noble aspirations. Every legitimate pursuit of any organization, be it for the sake of the agriculturist or for the sake of the labourer or for the sake of any other class so long as it is legitimate, it should be safeguarded so that the lawful pursuits may not be affected. I see in this connexion we are also going to give powers to even officials who have not come up to the mark, and they are liable to be abused. In a corrupt society there is necessity for any amount of safeguards so that the innocent people may not suffer. In view of the fact that a Bill is going to be introduced I do not wish that the hon. Members on the other side should now feel it necessary to oppose the Ordinance. It has already been made plain that this measure which is now in operation is only temporary till such time when the Treasury Benches are able to introduce a measure with the necessary safeguards. In this connexion I would suggest that there is no necessity at all for a long discussion in this house and I hope that hon. Members on the opposite side will consider the matter and see if they can drop the resolution altogether."

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not have intervened in this debate at this late hour but for the few remarks made by hon. friend and colleague, the Hindu Member from the Malappuram constituency. Unfortunately he painted a picture of Malabar which may appeal to the imagination of the hon. Members of this House as perfect. I am sorry to say, Sir, that he has been responsible for making certain very untrue remarks and stating half-truths and making misrepresentations to this House. To serve his purpose he has pointed out certain exceptions in his constituency and in the district so that it may appear to the hon. Members here that all is well in that part of the province. In fact, I do not want to repeat things that have been said here and to rake up old memories, but for the unfortunate speech of my hon. colleague in this House.

"As far as the working of the food scheme is concerned, we the Members on this side of the House had occasion and are going to have occasion to dwell at length . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That point has already been dealt with. As we are going to deal with it again the hon. Member may please leave that and go to another point."

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Coming to the Ordinance my friend seemed to argue on the basis that a thing done by the Communists—outcastes for the present—is always bad. He also seemed to argue that a thing done by a popular ministry is always good. Sir, this argument is based on a fallacy.

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always bad. Therefore, it does not mean that a thing brought forward by a popular ministry if it is inherently bad should not be bad. He seemed to argue that simply because this resolution has been brought forward by the Communist friend it should not have been supported by the hon. Members on this side of the House. I would request—to use a stronger word I would even challenge—any hon. Member of the House to give us an instance in the history of the Muslim League Party where we have supported an Ordinance in the history of ordinances in this country. We oppose this Ordinance because it is in the very nature of things bad. We feel that this Ordinance, the lawless law, should not be supported because it has been brought forward by a popular ministry. In the same sense I assert that even if the resolution is brought forward by a member of the Communist Party, simply because of that, we are not going to oppose it.

“Then my friend referred to unholy alliances. Reference has also been made about it by previous speakers. I have now . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“That has also been answered by the other side. The hon. Member need not touch that point.”

* P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I have to say this much, Sir. If there is an unholy alliance, it is Allahabad-London unholy alliance.

“As for Sir Stuart Town, I have not much to say as the previous speakers have already replied to him. I have only to say this, that the Englishman lives here because of our disputes. And that is his game and he will continue to play that game as long as we live in this atmosphere and continue in this mentality.

“Referring to Malabar again when I consider the situation that is prevalent in Malabar, I recall the days when the Hon. Premier had occasion to visit Malabar, namely, the Kotakal Conference days. The Hon. Premier, I must say, has always an instinctive soft corner for things even where they don't deserve. I must say frankly that the situation that prevails in Malabar is due to that inherent nature of his character. If there is such a situation in Malabar it is of your own making. As far as the district administration in my district is concerned respect for law is simply non-existent. In any small matter, the so-called Congressman who dons khaddar—not the real Congressmen—but anybody who dons khaddar has only to go to the official and he is simply at his mercy and does things that one cannot dream of in any civilized administration.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member has one more minute.”

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In the matter of food administration in the district again, I have to state here that but for the discipline and common sense of the people of Malabar and their leaders things would have gone out of control long ago. The lootings and the rebellion sought to have been incited by the Communists were there but the

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Mappillas were a people and are a people who will not easily fall a victim to the incitement by outsiders. In this connexion, I have to refer to one point more. Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, a gentleman, who professes to be the friend of the Muslims and who lives and swears by Satyagraha and non-violence seems to have insinuated that the Premier's conduct towards the minorities is unwarranted. He is again, a disciple of the apostle of non-violence and himself a Satyagrahi. Is it the method, I ask him, of a Satyagrahi to ask a man to be vindictive to a party or individuals even supposing those individuals have misbehaved? That is not the method of a Satyagrahi.”

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—“Mr. Speaker, 4 p.m. Sir, I wish to oppose the resolution. Before coming to the main point, I wish to take up the challenge just now thrown by an hon. Member on the opposite benches, one of the followers of the Quaid-e-Azam. He referred to Sardar Vedaratnam Pillai instead of to Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar. He challenged him to prove whether 10 yards of cloth were given anywhere in the Presidency to Muslims during the Ramzan. Sir, I come from Dindigul. My constituency is a big taluk and the headquarters of that taluk—Dindigul—is a Muslim centre. There, just before the Ramzan for three months no cloth was given to anybody whether Hindu or Muslim. It was not done by any order of the Government, but it was due to some trouble between the textile officer and the cloth dealers there. When cloth was released for Ramzan whether by the orders of the Assistant Textile Commissioner or the District Textile Commissioner, not only 10 yards but more than 10 yards of cloth were given to every Muslim in the town of Dindigul and round about Dindigul. It was given to every child and to every lady. Sir, I am not sorry that they were given. I have worked in Dindigul for the last 25 years. That was the stronghold of the Congress in the Khilafat days and all the Muslims there were Congressmen in those days. Only now a large number of Muslims have become the followers of the Quaid-e-Azam owing to their propaganda. When the matter of cloth distribution was brought to the notice of the textile officer he said that he would take action against the dealers. I and many of my friends, many Congressmen, thought that he would not push the matter further. We did not want also. Most of the cloth merchants there in Dindigul are Muslims and they managed to give 10 yards of cloth to every Muslim there. We asked the textile officer to gloss over the matter and hush up the affair. I would have refrained from mentioning this matter now had it not been for the challenge which has been thrown from the opposite benches.

“I do not know how it happened in Madura taluk. The hon. Member Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar referred to the distribution of cloth in Madura taluk which he represents. But in Dindigul I know that no villager in a village containing less than 5,000 people got any cloth for Deepavali. Only those living in villages containing 5,000 people and more got any cloth for Deepavali

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and that too either two yards or much less. For Pongal no one ever got one full yard in the Dindigul taluk. I have now answered the challenge and it can be verified.

"I must say, Sir, that my hon. Friend Mr. Moideen Kutti Sahib was wrong when he said that Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar insinuated against the Premier. I believe what Mr. Vaidyanatha Ayyar said was simply this. He used the unfortunate word 'appeasement' but he did not say that the Hon. the Premier was personally responsible for it. But he is the responsible head of the Government. When we see that Muslims get so much and Hindus get so little, the Government is to be blamed for it. He did not say that the Premier was responsible for it. Anyhow, Sir, we are working a machinery which we have inherited from the previous bureaucratic Government and we have had no time to revitalise it. I believe what could be done at this time is only to try to mend these things. I cannot say that the Hon. the Premier is responsible for it. So much for this matter.

"Sir, the debate on the resolution has developed into a debate between the Muslim League and the Government or the Congress Benches. Shorn of all verbiage, we find that two arguments have been put forward against the Ordinance. One was that an Ordinance was an inherently wrong thing and no Ordinance should ever be promulgated by any Government. Now, Sir, taking into consideration the present state of affairs which has been so fully and artlessly narrated by Sardar Vedarathnam Pillai and so passionately put before the House by Mr. Govinda Menon, taking into consideration all these facts, if the Government had not tried to protect the people, can the Government call itself a Government at all? The primary duty of any Government is to protect the people. That has been laid down by our ancient law-givers. All other duties come only afterwards. If we fail to protect the people, we have no right to rule at all. Anybody who takes the taxes but is unable to protect the people should be hanged, not merely hanged but killed like a mad dog. That is what our ancient law-givers have said. We will be robbers here, if we do not protect the people who pay the taxes.

"Hon. Members on the other side say that Government should not have promulgated this Ordinance at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member should finish in one more minute."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"Am I not allowed ten minutes, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, ten minutes. The hon. Member has already taken nine minutes."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"I shall finish soon, Sir. If the Government after issuing the Ordinance, have postponed bringing the matter before the House deliberately, then we can attribute wrong motives to them. But they have taken the earliest opportunity of bringing the matter before the House and they have promised to bring forward a Bill after modifying

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or removing anything which may be considered to be obnoxious . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member may please resume his seat."

* SRI M. S. PATTABHIRAMA AYYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is admitted that Communists created trouble and now too they are creating trouble, but the point is whether the promulgation of an Ordinance is necessary to put down the trouble created by Communists when they could be put down by the application of the ordinary law. Sir, in 1930 or 1931, the activities of the Congress were at their zenith in South Kanara district. They were picketing liquor shops and cloth shops and boycotting schools and colleges and law courts. They went in processions and stopped students from going to schools and colleges and lawyers from attending the courts. They occupied the seats of the judges in the courts and prevented them from taking up their seats. Sir, all these activities were stopped under the ordinary law. I was then in service in the Police department and was then taking an active part in connection with the struggle. Congressmen who created trouble were arrested and sent to jail and they were also beaten when it was absolutely necessary. The action of the police was taken under the ordinary law and there was no necessity for the promulgation of an Ordinance. Although I was taking severe action against Congressmen they were very friendly with me. I sympathised with them. They used to come to my house and take tea with me. They were friends in my house and enemies in the field. They used to say: 'You are doing your duty and we are doing our duty.' They also used to say: 'Now you are beating us; a day will come when you will work under our control and you will be asked to beat our enemies.' Sir, that day has actually come. The Congress has assumed the Government and now they want to beat their enemies even by promulgating an Ordinance. Sir, this Ordinance is not at all necessary for putting down the activities of the Communists. It will be required as a safeguard against the Muslims when they rise against the Government and create troubles which will be more serious and dangerous. To put down the troubles a more serious ordinance may have to be promulgated. At present Muslims are working in peace. Sir, this Ordinance is not necessary to put down the activities of the Communists.

"Therefore, Sir, I strongly oppose the Ordinance and support the resolution."

* MR. JOHN MOSES WILSON:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to answer my friend who spoke just now that this Ordinance was not intended against Communists. It need not be intended against the Communists. But in fact he agreed that it was actually an Ordinance against the Communists. There need be no misconception regarding that. I have been following the discussion for the past three days, and I would just like to place before you a few thoughts that come to my mind, and it is not my purpose to take any definite stand in the matter.

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"There seem to be three reasons that necessitated or justified the present Ordinance against Communists. First, that acts of violence were committed by individual members of the Communist Party, that they have been going about the Province making the maintenance of peace impossible by preaching hatred and violence. Second, that these acts were committed not as isolated acts by certain unconnected individuals, but by a particular party as part of their programme or ideology. Third, the argument that the liberty of the few has to be sacrificed in the interests of the liberty of the many. This third argument has not been advanced as a circumstance that necessitated the Ordinance, but as an answer to the argument of the suppression of individual liberty, that is hurled against this Ordinance.

"I take the second consideration first, namely, the preaching of hatred and violence by the Communist Party as a part of its programme. I consider this important because of the view some members of this House and also the Communists hold regarding it. The Communist can never consider his ideology as something apart or separate from practice. He considers that they go together, and in fact, that was referred to by Mr. Venkateswarlu, the other day. He was saying that just as the rebellion of 1857 was supported by Gandhiji or just as the rebellion of 1942 was owned by Pandit Nehru, so also the Communists had their own ideology and that they were not shy of acting up to that ideology. That is the view that the Communist himself takes of his ideology. I am one of those who cannot reconcile myself to believing that any stable, just and equitable society can be built upon hatred or violence. I am not one of those who believe that by appealing to brute force or lower instincts of man any just society can be built. I quite see the inherent weakness of man. When a particular ideology which is itself based on hatred or violence is sought to be translated into action by human beings with their inherent weaknesses, I quite see that there is bound to be too low a level of morality or ethics in the methods they employ. But all the same, when you criticise those methods and when you are threatened with certain conditions created by such methods, is it morality, is it justice, is it ethics to apply the same methods which you yourself resent against that party? For example, take this Ordinance. Is not this Ordinance a thing which is based upon brute force of man? Does it emphasise or at least presume that man is essentially one with certain moral force, but that he is only a man with brute force and low instincts? This Ordinance which gives power to the most irresponsible and heartless executive, is most extraordinary. Is it not against morality? Does it not fail to take cognizance of the great values of mankind for which wars have been fought in the past? That is the point I want to make out.

"Apart from the moral aspect of it, I come to the practical aspect. Is it wise? Is it expedient? Does it accomplish the purpose for which it is intended, namely, suppression of violence? Can violence be suppressed by counter-violence? History will show that there have always been strife and unrest where there was economic misery or social insecurity. Violence has always

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been the comrade in arms of social and economic insecurity. What I say is that the proper solution of this problem lies not so much in suppressing a particular party as in creating such conditions as would remove this economic unrest, when there may not be scope for any mischievous party to preach violence or hatred or to rouse people against people.

"I come to the third point that the liberty of the smaller number has to be sacrificed in the interests of the liberty of the many. We have instances of so many innocent people being persecuted in the name of justice. There are very many instances of the executive, being invested with large powers, accusing innocent men and foisting cases. Is it the purpose of this Ordinance to safeguard the liberty of the many? Whenever the Communists come out and say: we are suppressing their political liberty, because we want to promote the interests of the many we say that they are totalitarian and undemocratic. If you are going to have resort to the same argument as the totalitarians urge, in order to attack the basis of that very policy, that is, something which I cannot understand. I now take the first reason. It is said that acts of violence have been committed, and to maintain law and order, it is necessary to have this Ordinance. May I tell you that in the name of law, many barbarous and uncivilized things are done in our own country. The recent history of our country is an evidence of this, and it is still green in our memory. I want this House to note that law is a feeble thing; it is not absolute, it is not perfect. We should strive to make laws as perfect as possible and to conform as approximately as possible to the hopes and aspirations of the people. And when you have to deal with a whole people which is groaning under poverty and misery to bring their actions under definitions of law and say this is illegal and that is illegal, it is something which lacks imagination. It is an elementary principle of criminal law that an accused is presumed to be innocent, and the prosecutor has to prove his guilt. In this case, the Government is the prosecutor, and they have not even made out a *prima facie* case against the accused. The prosecutor has to bring in disinterested evidence to establish the guilt of the accused and to prove beyond doubt that the accused are guilty. Therefore I urge that those imprisoned may be released, that an impartial investigation be made in the matter, and that suitable action may be taken against the offenders."

* N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Communist menace is a misfortune, but the Ordinance is a calamity. Hence it is I have got to support the resolution moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkateswarlu. I do not see why this Communist menace should loom so large in our imagination. Coming as I do from the countryside, we see very little evidence of that menace. What do we see here? Even as we follow the proceedings of this House, speaker after speaker on the other side seems to be obsessed with this imagination that the Communist is a nightmare and a bugbear. But really I feel the Communist has not come into the picture so violently, so

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disastrously as he is imagined to have. It is unfortunate that we should have created a situation and feel that this extraordinary measure is required to deal with this menace. But actually, I think, you will not be suppressing the Communist movement, but you will be allowing it to go underground and come up with a vigorous growth, and I am afraid you are only allowing them a chance to capture more seats in the next elections. That is why I feel that the Hon. Prime Minister has invited a very serious calamity upon this province by undertaking this adventure against the Communists. I have no brief, I have sympathy for the Communists. Time and again I have viewed them with contempt and condemnation. These people who have no faith in God, these people who have no respect for God, you can never trust them to respect authority. But believe me, Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand why at all an extraordinary measure is required to meet this menace when after all, I think, these Communists are a few handfuls scattered over the countryside. From the deliberations that we have been witnessing on the floor of this House for these three days, one gets the impression as though the Communist monster is abroad and that he has got such wonderful following that Moscow can seek inspiration from this Province. I tell you they are not so many; they are but a few and far between. It is our Hon. Prime Minister who has given them a new lease of life. They should have died a natural death, these Communists, but they are now allowed to exercise their importance by virtue of this Ordinance. Ordinance raj and popular regime go ill together. In fact, it is a contradiction in terms to think that a popular regime can rule by ordinances. The moment you have launched an ordinance, you have abdicated your right for moral authority. You have given the impression that in the countryside many people are communistically inclined and that a few who need protection from these Communists require this extraordinary measure. We do not want this protection against the Communists. The ordinary laws of the land would be sufficient to meet the Communists and to see that they are wiped out. We shall be wholeheartedly behind the Hon. Premier if his viewpoint is that he should meet this menace which disturbs our industrial peace. But the greatest guarantee for the preservation of peace is not so much coercion as co-operation. Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that nothing has created that excellent impression in the countryside so much as that statement which the Hon. Leader of the House and Hon. Leader of the Opposition had jointly issued some months ago. When it looked as though a crisis was impending, when the relations between the Communities in the Province were not cordial, what was required as a panacea was only this joint appeal from the two great leaders whom the countryside holds in utmost esteem. It is our good fortune, it is our pride, it is our privilege that we should have in the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition two excellent gentlemen whom the country is prepared to follow, provided they can work in co-operation, they can concert ways and means together, and see that by co-operation and cordiality they can sustain their popularity.

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"It is because, time and again in the countryside ever since the inception of this popular regime the members of the Congress party have arrogated to themselves a sense of superiority complex, that we find that it is not so much the Communist menace from which we have got to ask for freedom; it is now the Congress menace that is agitating our minds. Unfortunately you do not have men of talents; you do not have men of character who will exert their influence in the countryside so much as your great organization. Let me tell you we should have an excellent band of men who can exert popularity in the districts. The District Committees, and the Town Committees are dominated by men who do not enjoy popularity of the different communities. They exert so much authority over the administration that they have given the impression that there can be no respect for law or order now in this Province. The minorities are asked to believe that the Congress party can time and again enact rules, if only they want to displease the minorities. It is in that plight that Muslims in particular have been placed. If we speak on this occasion it is only to express our grievances; the Communists get into the picture because there is no love lost between the Hindus and Muslims ever since this Congress has come into power. You never had this trouble when the Advisers were in power. What is it that has brought about this change in the course of a few months ever since you accepted power? It is because behind you are a hierarchy of men who seem to think to be privileged, who seem to be intoxicated with power. Let me tell you: Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. It is in that mood that Congressmen in the Province everywhere are creating the impression and trying to exercise their authority. Sometimes they have exhibited their insolence, indifference and impertinence to the minorities: and no self-respecting minority as the Muslims can ever accept that position. In the formation of Village Committees, Taluk Committees and even District Committees and in the creation of co-operative agencies, efforts have been made in so many centres to see that Muslims of influence and effective support were kept behind. Don't you think, Mr. Speaker, that these are things which will embitter the relations between the two Communities? If Communists are exploiting this opportunity, why do you hold them responsible for this disorder? Why don't you go to the roots of the matter and own responsibility for the chaos that is now prevailing in this Province? I only urge upon the Government to see that they do not allow opportunities to widen the gulf between the communities.

"Wherever there have been disorders, wherever property had been looted, I must now bring to the notice of the Hon. Premier the example from my own constituency, Vaniyambadi. The Hon. Premier himself witnessed it; properties worth several lakhs of rupees had been destroyed; all he could say was to appeal to the Muslims to preserve patience and to preserve peace. They have stood by his appeal, but with what result. To this day, he has not passed orders with regard to compensation. In fact, we know that the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition have time and again discussed this subject and that the matter is now

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under negotiation. But how are people in the countryside to understand that actually the matter is still under negotiation and that together the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition are going to settle matters very soon. I say that in these matters justice delayed is justice denied. Let the Hon. Premier realize the gravity of the situation; let him know that there are many more difficulties which the Muslims are feeling. In fact their faith is shaken; they are already feeling that the Congress regime is out to see that every time the Muslims are denied the rights which belong to them. Mr. Speaker, I only urge upon the Hon. Premier to see that very soon he comes with his announcement with regard to the compensation which every hon. Member of my party has urged upon him. I feel now that if this Ordinance should be resorted to, it is because there is not much love between the communities in the countryside. People are now feeling and feeling for obvious reasons that the Congress party is not disciplined. I tell you that members of the Congress party are responsible by their acts for the Communists spreading their menace. It is not their menace that is horrible as this Ordinance. I wish the Hon. Premier arranges to withdraw this Ordinance and deals with the Communist menace under the ordinary laws of the land."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been listening to the speeches from both sides for the last three days. What I understand is that none of them have touched any point which is most important. Why has this Ordinance been promulgated? Who are responsible? What were the causes for the agrarian trouble in Tanjore and Malabar districts? I tell you, Sir, that nobody is happy, not one of the members of this party, not even the Hon. Premier is happy over promulgating this Ordinance. Hon. Members must know that he has promulgated this Ordinance under tears of blood. He was one who was opposed even from his younger days to the repressive laws of British imperialism. During the days of the Simon Commission this grand old man was the victim of British imperialist repression. He offered his chest to the British imperialist bullets in the streets of Madras. Such a man, a man who has suffered in jail for several years—for more than three or four years—such a man who has had many young Communist friends inside the jail has taken up this weapon. You better imagine why he has taken up that weapon. It is only as a last resort. I tell you, Sir. This grand old man would not have taken hold of this weapon if those boys had behaved well. Most strangely enough they were the agents of British Imperialism in the year 1942. When the National revolution was in its height then, when the whole country was up for the final fight and for freedom, the Communists joined British imperialism and supported the war, the war which has taken away our food, which has taken away our men and which has caused death and damage to this country. They have given their little finger to the imperialist machinery by way of helping the war efforts and it has devoured them completely and they have to-day arrayed themselves—against nationalist forces. You know, Sir, when this old man came to

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power. What is it that the Adviser regime did? They left empty treasuries, no food, no money. At such a situation you know his anxiety. I saw his anxiety when he came to Bombay soon after assuming his office. I went to see him at 11 o'clock at night. When he saw me, he opened his eyes and asked me whether rains have fallen in our parts. I asked him what was it that he was dreaming. He replied 'We have to give food to our starving millions. Those fellows have taken away all our food. There is no food. We are now responsible for the scarcity caused by British Imperialists and their lackmen and agents, the Communists.'

"I do not call them Communists; there is no Communism in them. Communism is something great. Communism is something higher and nobler. The Communists in India have become tools in the hands of the British Imperialists. They have become Imperialist Communists; they have no Communism in them. I have been in the land of Communism. I know what Communism is. There they do not tolerate any opposition. Even after thirty years of revolution there is no other political party in that country.

"I was in a Communist University in Moscow. There was a teacher who gave a lecture the previous night. Next day he was arrested; immediately after three days I heard that he was executed. Even the wife of Lenin was interned. One day I went to see *Isvestia* office. There I saw Bukherin, the greatest theoretician on Communism. Next day that old man was arrested and afterwards executed. I say Stalin was correct in his methods; otherwise he would not have made Russia what it is to-day. In the same way this grand old man (Hon. Premier) rightly promulgated the Ordinance at a very critical time. The emergency was such. Circumstances were such. Suppose I see a snake in my room. There is a tarred stick in my room. I do not hesitate to beat the snake immediately with that dirty stick. I would clean my hands with kerosene oil afterwards; so also the Premier is now going to wash off his hands of this sin by bringing up an Act before this House without the obnoxious provisions in the Ordinance and deal with the situation."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it parliamentary Sir, that the hon. Member should point his finger at any hon. Member?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"No, he is not doing that; he is speaking like that; it has become his habit."

* SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Do not think that you have any human feelings better than that old man. I know his heart. I have lived and moved with him for the last 25 years. I used to fight with him like a devil in the All-India Congress Committee meetings; I was condemning Mr. Batliwalla's arrest during the last Congress Ministry. He wanted to defend the cause in the meeting of the Calcutta All-India Congress Committee. I told him I would not allow him to speak and finally I succeeded. After coming out

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of the meeting, he said 'You are a mischievous fellow'; I told him I was his disciple. You cannot have such a leader. You do not know his ways. He has weathered many storms. He has got popularity and people are behind him. Go to the countryside and see to-day how he is worshipped. Really I agree with one of my hon. Friends who said that there was no shedding of tears about this Ordinance. Nobody in the countryside has shed a tear for the promulgation of the Ordinance, it is because Communists have become unpopular after 1942. In my constituency, by a difference of 16,000 votes, I defeated the Communist candidate; he lost his deposit; I know how to really workers; I am not a zamindar; I am not a man of the zamin or zamindar, I am a man of the have-nots and I am a have-not. I have suffered for ten years, nearly six years, in prisons and underground.

"The hon. Member Begum Amiruddin asked 'what is this emergency' and 'how people can go underground'. Madam, 'you do not know how one goes underground. I have suffered. I was underground. I disappeared from internment and went underground and all the Police force in the country was not able to capture me.' I tell you 'I was moving about near the Flower Bazaar Police station. I was living near Police stations but I was not caught.' How can you expect the Policeman to be vigilant? For every 20,000 or 10,000 people you have one policeman. How can he see everybody?

"I have many more points to urge. I shall leave them. I wish to urge only one point. I appeal to the Hon. Premier to be magnanimous. The harvest season is closing; it is better we release them. Let us go into the causes of unrest and remedy them rather than keeping them in prison. Some people who are not active have been arrested. There is no indication why they are arrested. One Tanikella Chelapathi of West Godavari has been arrested who was a mere clerk in a college. So also many people who are not at all active have been arrested. I request the Premier to appoint a committee of non-officials consisting of jail birds like Madduri Annapurniah and Sri Narayana Menon to visit the jails and go into their grievances. Give their families allowances; treat the prisoners well. Wherever they have done mischief, if it can be proved; book them under the ordinary law and under the new Bill."

* H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no sympathy for the Communists; but I find that, by force of circumstances, I have to support the resolution brought forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarlu, who belongs to the Communist party, not because I have any sympathy for the activities of the Communists in this Province, but because an Ordinance has been promulgated ostensibly to put down the Communists, which is so reprehensible as to imperil the rights and liberties of the people of the Province, as a whole. The speaker who spoke just now, Sir, praised his own leader. Of course, it had a personal touch about it; but all the same, when his leader was following the methods of the Communist leaders of Russia, I began to wonder, Sir, if this

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Government also is following the methods of those Communist leaders in promulgating an Ordinance to put down the Communists in this Province. If that is so, then it is all the more reason why such an Ordinance should never be encouraged by any section of the people and much less by Congressmen.

"Now Sir, I should like to say that we have been for the last three days performing, as it were, a *post-mortem* dissection of the Ordinance which has already come into force. This may no doubt help us to prepare the ground for the coming legislation which, we are told, will be based on this Ordinance itself. It has been admitted on the other side by many of the Congress members that portions of this Ordinance are obnoxious. If portions of the Ordinance are obnoxious, then, it must be said that the Ordinance, as a whole, is obnoxious. Sir, anything that is obnoxious is reprehensible. I may remind the House that there was a time when Congressmen themselves regarded all the repressive laws as not only reprehensible but characterized them as satanic; they also went a step further and said that the Government that passed such laws or promulgated such Ordinances at that time was a satanic Government. No doubt, it may now be said that the circumstances have changed, that the conditions have changed and that the times have changed. But does that mean that the character of a legislation like this has also changed? Nobody, not even a popular Government like this, can change the character of a reprehensible law.

"Then, Sir, why is it promulgated? The reasons advanced in this regard are not at all convincing. I do not want to make this a very narrow issue as has been sought to be made in the course of these discussions. It has been stated that the purpose of the Ordinance is only to put down Communist activities and that the issue is not one between the Muslims and the Hindus, or to be more precise, between the Muslim League and the Congress. It is not so. It is a broad issue. It is an issue between the Government on the one side and the people of the Province, as a whole, on the other. It infringes the rights and liberties of the people, even though the Ordinance for the time being is directed against the Communists only. I am glad, Sir, that one member on the opposite side—I believe it was my hon. Friend, Mr. K. Varadachari—said that the Communists were masquerading as Congressmen. I perfectly agree with him. It is only in the Congress organizations that the Communists can find room. Nobody can say that the Muslim League has given any shelter or room to the Communists in its organizations. If at all the Communists breed, it is only in the Congress soil that they can breed and therefore, it is only natural that the Congress elephant with all the power and strength that it has, would like to crush such a creature which it breeds within its own soil, if it gets frightened at it. Therefore, Sir, it might have been due to a mistaken panic or it might have been out of nervousness, that this Government has rushed with an Ordinance and brought it down over the head of the people of the Province. It is the sword of Democles that hangs and will hang over the heads of innocent millions of this Province if it is allowed to continue.

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"I say, Sir, that no cannon is necessary to kill an ant, and that too by a Congress elephant with its weight and its feet. Do you require a sword to cut a melon or a pumpkin? No, Sir. This Ordinance is out of all proportion to the needs of the situation. If you are so much afraid of the Communists, then declare their organization unlawful and be done with it for all time. If you think that the Communists will capture the masses and fight you at any future elections, then declare that body illegal and shut up all the Communists in jail or even detain them without trial. Why should you require this strong measure? If you simply pass this Ordinance which is menacing our public life and come here and say on the floor of the House, 'We have done this only to suppress the Communist activities,' it will not satisfy us. It will satisfy nobody. Take a plebiscite on this issue alone. It is very easy for party members to come together on the basis of some understanding or assurance given to them at party meetings to support the Government on the floor of this House for the sake of party discipline, whatever may be their private feelings or whatever may be their inner voice, even though they admit that, portions of the Ordinance are obnoxious. Sir, we really want to see them act according to their inner voice, their inner feelings and their sentiments, in supporting their leader and supporting the Ordinance which their leader has sponsored in this Province. It is not very easy to do that. Go outside and find out from the masses how they are feeling about this Ordinance, whether they are in favour of this Ordinance which severely imperils their rights and civil liberties, or whether they are against it. Sir, you cannot change the nature of an enactment, simply because you call yourselves a people's Government. No doubt, the masses are at your back. But if you have the support of the masses, then why should you be afraid of the handful of Communists? On the other hand, if you feel that your Government is based on the popular will, if you feel that it is based on the support of the people, then you must feel that strength. Sir, this enactment, this Ordinance which was promulgated by His Excellency the Governor on the advice of the Congress Ministry, betrays your weakness. It shows that you have become panicky; it betrays your fear complex. Therefore, on this ground alone, I would request the Ministry, even though this is a sort of *post-mortem* examination, that in the future at least it will take courage to see that no such Ordinances are promulgated, whatever the form of the Government might be. This Government may be highly democratic, but let it not be said that the Government has become tyrannical. We can understand if a despotic Government comes and passes this ordinance but we can never understand a popular Government, which claims to represent the people, passing such a measure. That makes no difference at all between a despotic Government and a Government claiming itself to be democratic.

"Therefore, Sir, I have no sympathy at all for the Ordinance rule. But I want to make it clear that I have no sympathy for the Communists either. It was stated that the Communists are Godless. That is beside the point. Do we not commit more sins

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of omission and commission in the name of God Himself? We do that. Let us not therefore accuse the Communists that they are godless. Should we have a godless law or a lawless law? That is the question. At any rate, why should we interfere with the God-given liberty, the natural right of a man? We must be just to ourselves. What is sauce for the goose must be sauce for the gander. If the same law was sauce for the Congressmen once, surely they must now think that it is sauce for the gander also,—the Communists. If Congress-men regard it as poison, do they not know that a pinch of poison is sufficient to spoil a whole bowl of milk? Therefore, Sir, let not the Congress Ministry tarnish its name by advising the Governor to promulgate this Ordinance.

"Sir, we have made this an occasion for ventilating our grievances on this side of the House. Of course, we have had to do that, but I am not going to enter into all such matters, because the members of my party have sufficiently dealt with the difficulties that the Muslims in this Province have been suffering; but this much has to be said to the credit of the Muslims, that they had no touch with the Communists at any time. We have no interest in the Communists, unlike the Congress who have taken them in their fold. My hon. Friend, Mr. K. Varadachari, referred to the Muslims in the Province as forming an insignificant minority of 8 per cent of the population, and though he first called us as a community, at once he referred to us as a nation. Sir, let me remind him on this occasion that though we are 8 per cent of the population in the whole province, we form part of a mighty ruling nation that rules independently in many countries of the world."

SRI K. SUBRAMANYAM:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the resolution before the House. I represent a constituency in the City of Coimbatore which is a big industrial area. There has been a good deal of trouble there, and I need not go into details as to how it has been found that with the ordinary law it was not possible for the authorities concerned to ensure peace there. Rival labour organizations, clashes between them and night attacks by unknown persons coming from different parts of the district—these things and many other subtle activities have made it impossible for the authorities to detect crime and also check them. Apart from other things, day after day, the menace grew and the climax was reached when there was a regular pitched battle between the police and the labourers led by the Communists. There was a railway line level-crossing near the C.S. and W. mills which was picketed by the labourers belonging to the communist organization and as a premeditated plan the picketers came armed not only with stones but also with lathis and faggot-bundles forcibly taken away from near-by fuel depots. The leaders of the party there were all absent from the place, because soon after the pitched battle, as they themselves described it, none of them could be found there. Workers were all railway people incited to resist the police, and if necessary, use stones as well as these faggot-bundles, and the leaders were not there to direct them. They knew there was going to be a battle, they knew they would

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be arrested and they all became absent. I went to the spot immediately after this affair had taken place and I was openly challenged and the Congress Government were accused and abused even. I was the victim there, as though I was representing the Congress Government, as a Congress M.L.A. myself. I met the District Magistrate and I thought he had to do the onerous duty of maintaining law and order. He was an Englishman, a very good Englishman so far as I know him; he had been all along very considerate towards these Communists and these labourers, but he was abused there. In spite of his persuasion, he could not succeed; he went to them while they stood armed with these faggots, i.e., the fuel sticks and asked them to disperse, pleaded with them, but they refused to do so. And as soon as he turned back to do his duty, stones and even these faggots were hurled at him. Under such provocation, law and order had to be maintained; first tear-gas was used and then only firing was resorted to. In short, it has been found impossible to maintain law and order or ensure safety of person and property by the use of the ordinary law. I think such reports have reached the Government, reports not only from Coimbatore but from other districts and centres, that the authorities concerned were unable to cope with the situation and the emergency, with the use of the provisions of the ordinary law. This House might have heard what my friend and colleague Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai said that the promulgation of this Ordinance came as a boon to the people in Tanjore district. Under such circumstances, nobody need apologise, I think, especially the Congressmen or the Congress Government for the emergent promulgation of this Ordinance, because it was found necessary and it was as a matter of fact welcomed as a boon by at least a section of people in the province. Sir, I do not wish to speak at length; I will conclude with only one or two more sentences. I am very sure in my mind that an ordinance like this is the most humane and non-violent method of dealing with the situation and but for this Ordinance which has been resorted to, more violence by the authorities, to meet the violence on the other side, should have been used. A few days ago a pamphlet was circulated and I got one in this very House after the House had adjourned for lunch and there violence is referred to; and the question 'whose' is asked. A number of clashes between the police and the labour organizations have been detailed. In every case it is made out that the Government had used their superior violence and crushed the violence of the labourers under the Communist organizations. It is possible also that in the future this Government, because it is in command of the police and the military, will use violence and crush wherever violence of this sort occurs—it is stated there. But I think Government do not wish to meet violence with violence, and it is because they want to deal with the situation as non-violently and as humanely as possible in the discharge of their duty of protecting life and property, in the duty of maintaining law and order, that they have promulgated this Ordinance under extraordinary circumstances. And we have got the assurance of the Hon. Premier that it is going to be replaced by a Bill which we are going to debate upon. We are going to see that this Ordinance is repealed at an early date, not because, Mr. Venkateswarlu, my comrade, has moved this resolution, but because

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we ourselves are very sensitive about it and we are going to do the right thing. Only because of an emergency the Ordinance was promulgated, and as soon as the emergency is over, the absolutely necessary provisions will be brought forward in the shape of a Bill to which we are going to give our whole-hearted consent, as far as it may be found necessary. With these words, Sir, I oppose the resolution."

* Sri K. T. KOSALARAM :—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, இப்பொழுது இரண்டு கட்சியிலிருந்தும் இந்த Ordinance தேவையா தேவை இல்லையா என பதைப்பற்றி பிரமாதமாகப் பேசி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இவ்வளவுக்கும் மத்தியில் நமது முஸ்லீம் லீக் நண்பர்கள் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கும் மீது பலவிதமான குற்றச்சாட்டுகளைச் சாட்டினார்கள். இது இந்த இடத்தில் வருந்தத்தக்கதுதான். ஆனால் காங்கிரஸ்காரர்கள் பல வருஷங்களாக சிறைச்சாலைகளிலே இவ்விதமாக Ordinance களை எதிர்த்து சிறைகளுக்கு சென்றவர்களே, இந்த சட்டத்தை, Ordinance-ஐ பிரயோகிக்கவேண்டுமா என்பது ஒரு பிரச்சினைதான். ஆனால் இந்த நாம யோசிக்கவேண்டுமா என்பது ஒரு பிரச்சினைதான். கம்யூனிஸ்டு நண்பர்கள், வருந்தக்கூடிய பல விஷயங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. கம்யூனிஸ்டு தத்துவத்தின் நண்பர் காமேஸ்வர ராவ் பேசியபடி, உண்மை கம்யூனிஸ்டு தத்துவத்தின் படியோ திட்டங்களையுமோ அவர்கள் இந்த நாட்டில் நடந்துகொள்ளவில்லை. அவர்கள் 1942-ம் வருஷத்தில் பிரிட்டிஷ் ஏகாதிபத்தியத்தின் கையாட்களாக இருந்து இந்த நாட்டு சுதந்திரத்திற்கு முட்டுக்கையிட போட்டார்கள். அவர்கள் உண்மையிலேயே தங்கள் தத்துவத்தை நிலை நாட்டவேண்டுமானால் வர்க்கரீதியாக தொழிலாளர்களிடத்தில் புரட்சித்திறம் அவர்கள் வளர்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அதற்கு மாறாக நாட்டில் அமைதி நிலவவேண்டாமல், கலகத்திற்கு தாக்கத்துடன் முன்னேறிச் செல்லும் காங்கிரஸ் மகா சபைக்கு இடஞ்சலப் பண்ணக்கூடிய வழியில் இன்று அவர்கள் ஒரு புறத்தில் முஸ்லீம் லீக் நண்பர்களை தங்களுடன் சேர்த்துக்கொண்டு அவர்கள் கொடியையும் போட்டுக்கொண்டு மற்றொருபுறத்தில் அவர்கள் எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் முதலாளிகளை எதிர்த்து தொழிலாளர்களை ஒன்று திரட்டுகிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு சில கிராமங்களில் அமைதி நிலவவிடாமல் மிகக் கேவலமாக அரசியல் நீதிக்கு விரோதமாக கட்டுப் பட்டு இல்லாமல் நடந்துகொள்ளுகிறார்கள். இந்த முறையிலேயே திடீரென்று பிரதமர் அவர்கள் இவர்களுடைய அரசாங்கத்தையையே அடக்குவதற்குத்தான் இவ்விதம் சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டிய வந்தது. உண்மையில் கம்யூனிஸ்டு கட்சியினமீது எந்தவிதமான தடுவையும் இல்லை. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள் மீது காங்கிரஸ்காரர்களுக்கு எந்தவிதமான தடுவையும் இல்லை. அவைகளை அடக்கவேண்டுமென்பதும் இல்லை. ஆனால் அவர்கள் அரசாங்கத்தைப் பொறுத்தாக்கொண்டு இருக்கமுடியாத நிலைமை ஏற்பட்டதால்தான் இந்த நேரத்தில் இந்த சட்டத்தை செய்யவேண்டியவந்தது. ஆனால் அதற்குப் பின்னால் இப்பொழுது புதிதாக ஒரு பில் நாம் செய்யவேண்டிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறோம். அதில் இப்பொழுது உள்ளதுபோல் அவ்வளவு அதிகாரம் இருக்கவேண்டுமா அல்லது எவ்விதம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்பதுதான் பெரிய பிரச்சினை.

"ஆனால் மத்தியில் இன்னும் ஒன்று. முஸ்லீம் லீக் நண்பர்களுக்கு சொல்லுகிறேன். காலையில் ஒரு நண்பர் அந்நிலைமையில் அப்படி யெல்லாம் நடந்திருந்தால் அது வருந்தத்தக்கதுதான். திருச்செவியிருந்து 'சமரசம்' என்ற ஒரு முஸ்லீம் லீக் பத்திரிகை வருகிறது. அதில் பாகிஸ்தானை எதிர்ப்பவர்களின் கதி என்ன என்று ஒரு கேள்வி வந்திருக்கிறது. அவர்களுடைய தலை இல்லாமலே தெருக்களில் காட்டி அளிப்பதுதான் அவர்களுடைய கதி என்ற பதிலும் அந்த பத்திரிகையில் வந்திருக்கிறது. அதுமட்டுமே அல்ல. ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம் கலகம் நடப்பதாகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு கிராமத்திலும் 5 முஸ்லீம்கள், 10 முஸ்லீம்கள், 20 முஸ்லீம்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கே எல்லாம் எந்த விதமான பாதுகாப்பும் இல்லை. கலவரமும் இல்லை. இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் எத்தனையோ கிராமங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. சில இடங்களில்

[Sri P. Kakkan] [8th February 1947]

நான் அவர்களுக்குச் சொல்லுகிறேன். எந்தெந்த ஊர்களில் முஸ்லீம்கள் அதிகமாக இருக்கிறார்களோ அங்கேதான் குழப்பம் ஏற்படுகிறது. சிறிய கிராமங்களில் இல்லை. புளியங்குளம், பாலவளத்தம், பந்தலத்தடி, இந்த ஊர்களில் முஸ்லீம்கள் வீடுகள் 4, 5 தான் இருக்கின்றன. அங்கெல்லாம் ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ஹிந்துக்களிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஆதரவாகவும் ஒற்றுமையாகவும்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம்கள் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கும் இடங்களில்தான் கலவரம் ஏற்படுகிறது. ஒரு ஊரில் தண்ணீர்ப்பாய்ச்சலில் சண்டை வந்தால் அது கூட ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம்கள் கலகம். மதுரை ஜில்லாவில் சக்கிமங்கலம் என்ற ஒரு ஊர் இருக்கிறது. அங்கே உள்ள ஹரிஜன ஆண்களையும், ஹரிஜன பெண்களையும் மருமமதியர்கள் மிகவும் கொடுமையாக நடத்திவந்தார்கள் : கொடுமை செய்யக்கூடியது என்று சொன்னால் அதை ஹிந்து முஸ்லீம் கலகம் என்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். ஹரிஜனங்களை காப்பாற்ற ஹிந்துக்கள் போகிறார்கள் என்றால் அதை ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம் கலகம் என்று பறைசாற்றுகிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம் வசிக்கும் இடங்களில் ஹரிஜனப் பெண்களை மிகவும் கஷ்டப்படுத்துகிறார்கள். அவர்களைக் காப்பாற்ற ஹிந்துக்கள் போனால் ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம் கலகம் என்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் இந்த தீர்மானமானது மிகவும் ஒழுங்குக்கு விரோதம். நான் இதை மிகவும் அழுத்தமாக எதிர்க்கிறேன்.

* SRI V. PONNUSWAMI GOUNDER :—“ தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த அவசர சட்டத்தைக்கொண்டு வரவேண்டிய நிபந்தனையானது பிரஜா உரிமையை காப்பற்றுவதற்கும் ஜீவாதாமான பொருள்கள் நஷ்டமடையாமலிருக்கவும் சரியான சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் சர்க்கார் கொண்டு வந்தார்கள் என்பதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களால் கடுமையான ஷாத்துக்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படும் ஷாத்துக்களை நீக்கவேண்டிய விஷயங்களை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஆனால் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நான் ஒன்றை ரொம்ப வருத்தத்தோடு தெரிவிக்கவேண்டிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறேன். அது என்னவென்றால் எதிர் கட்சி தலைவர் ஒரு நாள் சொன்னார் கனம் அன்வர் சாஹீப் அவர்களும் இப்பொழுது தெரிவித்தார்கள். வாணியம்பாடி கலவரத்தைப்பற்றி. ஆனால் அங்கு இப்பொழுது என்ன நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறது என்று எனக்கு அவர்களை விட அதிகமாகத் தெரியும் என்று சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். அங்கே ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம்கள் இப்பொழுது ஒற்றுமையாக வாழ்வென்பது தற்கு செய்யவேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளில் ரொம்ப ஊக்கம் உடையவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். சமரச கமிட்டிகளை ஏற்பாடுசெய்து அதன்மூலம் அங்கங்கே நல்ல ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் ஏதோ ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம் கலவரம் ஏற்பட்ட அந்தக்காலத்தில் ஒருவித நிர்ணயமும் செய்துகொள்ளாதபடி அவர்கள் ஆத்திரத்துடன் இருவகையானினையிலும் கலகங்கள் நடந்ததால் எத்தனையோ நஷ்டங்களும் கெடுதல்களும் உண்டாக்கப்பட்டன. ஆனால் அதை இப்பொழுது வெளியூர் முஸ்லீம் நண்பர்களும் உள்ளூரிலுள்ள சில முஸ்லீம் நண்பர்களும் ஹிந்து-முஸ்லீம் ஒற்றுமைக்கு பங்கம் ஏற்படுத்தக்கூடிய வேலைகளில் ஈடுபட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சிலர் வெளியூர்களிலிருந்து பயில்வான்களையும் ஆண்களையும் அழைத்துக்கொண்டு வந்து ஒரு கோஷ்டியாக வைத்து விதைகளையும் கற்றுக்கொடுத்து ஹிந்துக்கள் பயப்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்று இயக்கத்தை அங்கங்கே ஏற்பாடுசெய்துகொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அதையொத்த வெளியூர் ஹிந்துக்கள் சாங்காலங்களில் டவுனிலிருக்க மிகவும் பயப்படுகிறார்கள். டவுனில்கூட ஹிந்துக்கள் பயந்துக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள் என்றே அறிவிக்கப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் அந்த செய்தியை கண்ணியம் வாய்ந்த முஸ்லீம்கள் மறுக்கிறதாகவும் தெரிவித்துவருகிறார்கள். தெரிவித்தாலும் கூட இந்த செய்கைகள் நின்றபாடில்ல. இந்த மாபிரி செய்கைகளிலிருந்து என்ன தெரிகிறது என்றால் அந்த இடத்தில் ஹிந்துக்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் என்று சொன்னாலேயே பயப்படுவாண்டு மென்பதை நிலைநாட்டவேண்டுமென்று இந்த ஆயத்தங்களை செய்கிறார்கள் என்று நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இதற்காக நான் பெரிதும் வருந்துகிறேன். ஒற்றுமையாக வாழ்ந்துவந்த அவர்களிடையே ஒற்றுமை களையும்படி செய்வது மிகவும் பாவமாரும் என்று அவர்கள் பணிவாகக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

8th February 1947] [Sri V. Ponnuswami Gounder]

“ நண்பர் அன்வர் சாயபு அவர்கள் இன்னொன்றை தெரிவித்தார். வாணியம்பாடியில் கலவரம் நடந்தகாலத்தில் ஏற்பட்ட நஷ்டங்களுக்கு ஈடுசெய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். சந்தோஷம், நான் அதை ஆட்சேபிக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் அந்த நஷ்டங்களை சர்க்கார் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது நியாயமாக இருந்தால் தாராளமாக கொடுக்கட்டும். தனவந்தராகவும் செல்வாக்குக்காரர்களான முஸ்லீம் நண்பர்களுக்கே இந்த நஷ்டத்திற்கு ஈடுசெய்யவேண்டியது நியாயம் என்று சர்க்காருக்கு தோன்றினால் ஏழைகளாகவும் வாணியம்பாடியில் மைனாரிட்டியாகவும் இருந்து பயந்துகொண்டு இருக்கும் ஹிந்துக்களின் நஷ்டங்களுக்குக் கூட ஈடுசெய்யவேண்டுமென்பதை சர்க்கார் கவனத்திற்கு நான் கொண்டுவருகிறேன் என்பதையும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ On Monday, we meet at 2-30 p.m. After question time, the Hon. the Premier will make his reply. Now I adjourn the House to Monday, the 10th February 1947.”

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m. on Monday, the 10th February 1947.

APPENDIX

[8th February 1947]

[Vide answer to starred question No. 58 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of Legislative Assembly held on 8th February 1947, page 325, supra.]

(a) Statement showing the number of applications received for non-residential scholarships and residential scholarships and the number sanctioned.

Serial number and district.	1945-46.		1946-47.		1945-46.		1946-47.	
	Number of applications for non-residential scholarships.		Number of applications for residential scholarships.		Number of applications for non-residential scholarships.		Number of applications for residential scholarships.	
	Received.	Granted.	Received.	Granted.	Received.	Granted.	Received.	Granted.
1 Anantapur ..	105	92	7	3	162	91	10	9
2 North Arcot ..	369	327	10	6	466	297	17	13
3 South Arcot ..	460	364	16	13	385	300	16	11
4 Bellary ..	62	56	3	..	81	62	6	5
5 Chittoor ..	239	157	2	1	172	114	7	4
6 Chingleput ..	398	370	28	29	629	402	55	22
7 Coimbatore ..	187	173	26	14	189	114	14	6
8 Cuddapah ..	147	142	1	1	119	83	..	..
9 East Godavari ..	273	248	20	16	458	322	48	19
10 West Godavari ..	136	130	3	..	189	105	23	3
11 Guntur ..	292	193	29	12	311	154	108	17
12 Kistna ..	112	104	20	4	201	138	54	9
13 Kurnool ..	106	101	2	..	189	94	..	..
14 Madras ..	777	580	109	95	868	590	141	78
15 Madura ..	695	603	42	18	826	505	67	23
16 Malabar ..	304	211	12	10	194	141	13	11
17 Nellore ..	122	97	42	28	184	111	43	34
18 Nilgiris ..	274	237	..	..	282	200	..	..
19 Ramnad ..	245	209	7	3	302	167	9	5
20 Salem ..	614	482	1	..	477	340	2	1
21 South Kanara ..	89	73	5	3	64	53	5	3
22 Tanjore ..	384	356	14	7	415	344	24	15
23 Trichinopoly ..	350	227	29	18	255	151	33	13
24 Tinnevely ..	862	573	41	17	747	400	36	22
25 Vizagapatam ..	98	88	4	3	125	110	10	3
Total ..	7,700	6,293	473	301	8,289	5,388	739	326

Statement showing the number of applications received by the Commissioner of Labour for boarding grants, the number sanctioned during 1945-46 and 1946-47.

Serial number and district.	1945-46.		1946-47.	
	Number received.	Number sanctioned.	Number received.	Number sanctioned.
1 Anantapur ..	55	54	53	10
2 North Arcot ..	58	46	23	14
3 South Arcot ..	39	9	30	8
4 Bellary ..	64	47	11	6
5 Chingleput ..	237	189	94	41
6 Chittoor ..	19	14	6	4
7 Coimbatore ..	52	46	23	3
8 Cuddapah ..	19	10	11	9
9 Guntur ..	304	206	143	52
10 East Godavari ..	136	119	31	14
11 West Godavari ..	96	91	14	7
12 South Kanara ..	141	123	17	14
13 Kistna ..	156	149	56	6
14 Kurnool ..	107	95	6	1
15 Madras ..	153	92	68	36
16 Madura ..	352	227	171	65

[8th February 1947]

Serial number and district.	1945-46.		1946-47.	
	Number received.	Number sanctioned.	Number received.	Number sanctioned.
17 Malabar ..	49	31	37	27
18 Nellore ..	260	163	124	66
19 Nilgiris ..	99	99	..	..
20 Ramnad ..	84	53	32	13
21 Salem ..	44	43	2	2
22 Tanjore ..	37	16	51	16
23 Tinnevely ..	74	54	62	21
24 Trichinopoly ..	123	116	20	2
25 Vizagapatam ..	22	12	17	9
Total ..	2,780	2,104	1,099	446

(b) Statement showing the amount spent on the Labour Department staff including Labour School teachers and the amount spent on boarding grants, residential scholarships and non-residential scholarships.

	Preliminary accounts, 1945-46. Rs.	Budget Estimate 1946-47. Rs.
47. Miscellaneous Departments— <i>a. Labour—</i>		
A. Direction—		
1. Pay of officers ..	38,351	42,000
2. Pay of Establishments ..	32,215	31,700
3. Other charges ..	43,660	41,700
B. District Staff—		
1. Pay of officers and establishments ..	67,558	1,00,600
2. Allowances ..	79,694	82,900
3. Contingencies ..	32,610	31,000
D. Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department— <i>Education—</i>		
1. Pay of Establishments ..	7,12,338	7,36,600
2. Construction and repair of school buildings ..	65,621	1,08,500
3. Allowances and contingencies ..	12,73,355	16,67,900
4. Scholarships and schooling charges ..	1,72,813	1,70,200
5. Equipment for schools ..	41,842	41,000
6. Maintenance of hostels ..	61,009	67,900
7. Grants-in-aid (Boarding grants) ..	2,32,376	2,71,200

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, the 10th February 1947.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at 2-30 p.m. Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. SPEAKER:—The short notice question (88-A) of Mr. S. K. Govindaraju Nayagar is not ready for answer.

Alleged orders against the hoisting of red flags in Guntur district.

* 89 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the hoisting of red flags at Gollamoodipadu of Bapatla taluk and Chilakalurpet of Narasaraopet taluk in Guntur district has been prohibited under section 144, and if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the elementary civil liberty of holding a public meeting in the Municipal Park of Guntur is denied to a legal political party, the Communist Party, by the Municipal Commissioner at the instance of the Deputy Superintendent of Police?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) Yes. Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

“(b) The Municipal Commissioner, Guntur, after consulting the police, passed orders disallowing the communists from holding meetings in the Municipal Park.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“May I know why the hoisting of the red flag is prohibited in those two places?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“The hoisting was prohibited because it was considered necessary to prohibit it.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“I want to know the reason why they considered it necessary to prohibit the hoisting of the flag of another party. Is it the policy of the Government to prohibit the hoisting of flags other than that of the Congress?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“It was done by the local authorities having due regard to the situation there.”

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—“Is it not a fact that the people in that locality objected to the flag and nobody wanted it and since trouble was expected, the authorities had to resort to section 144 in Chilakalurpet?”

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Yes. It is on record that the local people objected to it.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ Is it the local mass of the people who objected to this or is it the local leaders who are interested in factional fights who objected to this and created trouble and on account of this, the police authorities had to yield to them? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ The general public were against it. The general public are also represented by the legislators.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ May I know, Sir, why a Russian flag is allowed to fly in India? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ The persons who hoist the flag must account for it and give reasons.”

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government will send a circular explaining the distinction between the Russian flag and the flag of the workers and peasants, so as to educate and enlighten the Members? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ The Government was not taking any notice of the fact whether it was a Russian flag or an Indian flag. But the site upon which this flag was attempted to be hoisted belongs to the local panchayat and the panchayat objected to it.”

Smallpox attacks in Madras Province.

* 90 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) the number of smallpox attacks in the Madras Province districtwar for the last five years;

(b) how many of them ended fatally in each of the years; and

(c) how many of the attacks were among the vaccinated and how many among the non-vaccinated?

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Hon. Mrs. Lakshmipathi) :—“(a) & (b) A statement^a is placed on the table of the House.

“(c) Information is not available.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ May I ask whether the Government are conducting any research to find out means of preventing deaths from smallpox? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I think, Sir, that the Director of Public Health who is in charge of the department is doing his best.”

^a Printed as Appendix on page 440 infra.

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SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“ May I ask, Sir, what steps he has taken to wipe out smallpox once for all? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ I have stated that the Director of Public Health who is working on the question is doing his best in this matter.”

Colleges of Indian Medicine in the Province.

* 91 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAFFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BARRADUR (on behalf of Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to open Colleges of Indian Medicine at Bezwada, Tanjore, Calicut and Mangalore;

(b) the cost that the Government will have to incur, both recurring and non-recurring, in respect of the above proposal; and

(c) whether the necessary equipment, personnel and books in the different regional languages are available at present for the starting of the above Colleges?

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR (on behalf of Hon. Mrs. Lakshmipathi) :—“(a) The Special Officer for the Reorganization of the Department of Indian Medicine has submitted *inter alia* proposals for the opening of Colleges of Indian Medicine at some centres. The proposals are under the consideration of Government.

“(b) The approximate estimate of the cost as submitted by the Special Officer on the above proposal is as follows:—

Recurring—Rs. 4,12,400.

Non-recurring—Rs. 24,000.

“(c) The matter is being examined and all these factors are being taken into consideration.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—“ May I request the Hon. Minister to repeat the answer to clause (a) because I was not here then and I have just come? ”

(The answer was repeated.)

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—“ May I enquire when the Government will arrive at a decision in regard to this matter? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ The Government are actively applying their mind to this question.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN :—“ May I ask whether the Government are taking steps to see that the Unani section of the Indian School of Medicine is raised to the status of a college? ”

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ The Government have proposed to open a College of Indian Medicine in the City of Madras and in that college the Unani section also will form a part.”

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SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" May I ask whether the proposal submitted by the Special Officer includes the starting of a college for Rayalaseema? "

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" That is one of the suggestions which the Government is bound to examine."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask whether it is not advisable, before opening new colleges, to satisfy the demands of the students of the existing school? "

SRI V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" The demands formulated by the students of the existing school are being considered by the Government and in some respects orders have been passed."

{ *Production of silk cloth in this Province.*

* 92 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the total production of silk cloth in this Province for the last five years;

(b) the value of such production; and

(c) what portion of it is consumed in the Province and what portion of it is exported by sea and rail?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) & (b) Statistics are not available regarding the quantity of silk cloth produced in the Province. It is, therefore, not possible to state the exact quantity and the value of the silk fabrics produced.

" (c) Statistics of local consumption of silk cloth are also not available. From a report received from the Collector of Customs, Madras, the following figures regarding the quantity and value of silk piecegoods exported to places outside this Province are gathered:—

Statement showing the quantity and value of silk cloth exported from this Province during the last five years ending 1945-46.

Country of final destination.	1941-42.		1942-43.		1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.	Yds.	Rs.
Ceylon	5,486	21,037	1,510	3,373	11,776	1,45,873	NIL	..	NIL	..
Burma	3,096	6,220	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Straits Settlements ..	848	2,334	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Federated Malay States	1,453	2,039	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	10,924	31,630	1,510	3,373	11,776	1,45,873	NIL	..	NIL	..

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister why from 1942-43 onwards nothing has been exported from this Province? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Because of the war."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—" In view of the cloth scarcity may I ask whether Government will take steps to increase the production of silk by encouraging the starting of more silk factories? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" Notice Sir."

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Registration of Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies.

* 93 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that registration was being refused for new Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Societies by the Advisers' Government;

(b) if so, how many societies were refused registration like that; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reverse this policy?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The information is not readily available.

" (c) The Government have since directed the registration of new societies formed by weavers having ration cards."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know, Sir, if the Government is aware of the fact that certain persons who are anxious to form societies, even though they fulfil the requisite conditions, have been refused registration on political grounds? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" I take the information from the hon. Member and I shall make enquiries."

Accommodation in the sub-jails at Tiruchendur and Kokkaraikulam.

* 94 Q.—SRI K. T. KOSALARAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) what the usual accommodation in the Tiruchendur and Kokkaraikulam sub-jails in Tinnevely district is;

(b) how many prisoners were locked up, during the months of September, October and November 1942 in the Tiruchendur Sub-Jail, and in November and December 1942 and January and February 1943 in the Kokkaraikulam Sub-Jail; and

(c) whether he has any intention of taking action against the officials responsible for the overcrowding, if any, in those sub-jails?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" (a) The approved accommodation in the sub-jails at Tiruchendur and Kokkaraikulam was 20 and 40 respectively. The accommodation in the sub-jail at Kokkaraikulam has been raised to 69.

" (b) The average daily lock-up in the sub-jail at Tiruchendur during the months of September, October and November 1942 was 21.4, 84.3 and 100.9, respectively, and that in the sub-jail at Kokkaraikulam in the months of November and December 1942 and January and February 1943 was 63.9, 74.4, 86.4 and 94.9, respectively.

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"(c) The answer is in the negative. No records are available to show what action was taken to relieve the overcrowding and no useful purpose is likely to be served by pursuing the question at this distance of time."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"Is it a fact that in the small rooms of the sub-jail at Tiruchendur there is no provision for answering calls of nature by the prisoners?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I do not believe so, Sir, because there is separate latrine accommodation for this purpose."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it not a fact that very often two prisoners are locked up in one and the same cell?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"If the cell is intended for more than one, two people are locked up in it."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the prisoners in the Tiruchendur sub-jail were beaten by the police authorities to make them confess to the police statements in 1942?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I do not know anything about it now. Notice, Sir."

[Mr. SPEAKER:—"As Mr. Ananda Nambiyar is absent the answer to Q. No. 95 will be printed in the proceedings."]

Elections to the district boards and municipalities.

* 95 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government propose to conduct the elections to the district boards and municipalities; and

(b) whether the Government propose to make any change in the present administration of the district boards and municipalities till the elections are conducted?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) The dates for the conduct of elections have not been fixed yet.

"(b) The district boards have been placed under special officers. A Bill to enable the Government to place municipalities also under the administration of Special Officers is before the Legislative Assembly."

Sanction to dig wells as a famine relief measure.

* 96 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAFFEUDDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to sanction the digging of wells in the dry areas of the Nellore district as a famine relief measure;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the silting up of the existing tanks in the Nellore district; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to improve their condition?

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"In the Nellore district, Rapur taluk alone was affected by the adverse seasonal conditions during the year 1946. Ten well works were proposed for execution as a measure of relief of unemployment in the taluk. No well work was actually taken up as skilled workmen required for the work were absorbed in employment throughout the taluk under the subsidy scheme for sinking wells. The seasonal conditions considerably improved in the area and all relief works were closed. The Government have no proposals to sink wells in the district as a famine relief measure.

"There is normal silting up of reservoirs and tanks due to impounding flood waters charged with suspended silt. Smaller delta and non-delta tanks are also getting silted up gradually though not to the same extent on account of soil erosion during rains. Experiments to prevent silting up of supply channels and tanks are being done in various places and if they prove successful, they will be expanded."

MUHAMMAD RAFFEUDDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government pay more attention to the improvement of the agricultural conditions of the district rather than spend money on futile propaganda?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I do not understand the question. The hon. Member may kindly repeat it."

(Question was repeated.)

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"A more useful and definite question may be asked rather than the general one which has been put."

Construction of a tank near Panchapalli village, Salem district.

* 97 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any scheme awaiting sanction of Government for the construction of a tank near Panchapalli village in Oddavapalli firka in Harur taluk;

(b) if so, how long has the scheme been before Government; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to call for information and proceed with this scheme?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) There is no proposal for the construction of a tank near any village of the Harur taluk bearing the name mentioned by the hon. Member. There is, however, a village called 'Panjapalle' in Hosur taluk, near which a reservoir could be constructed, on the Chinnar. The proposal to construct such a reservoir is being examined by the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) in consultation with the local Public Works Department officers.

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"(b) The proposal has not yet come before the Government."

"(c) No. If the Chief Engineer finds the scheme feasible, he will submit proposals to Government."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"The mistake in the name of the taluk (Harur for Hosur) is a printer's devil and not the hon. Member's devil. May I know whether the recent Irrigation Conference held in the Dharmapuri submitted a proposal in respect of the Chinnar project and whether this has come under the consideration of the Government for immediate attention?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice, Sir."

Unbridged rivers on coastal and other important roads in South Kanara.

* 98 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of unbridged rivers on the coastal road and on other important marketing roads of South Kanara; and

(b) which of them are proposed to be bridged in the post-war plan?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) Twenty-two on the coastal road and six on other important marketing roads.

"(b) Provision exists in the post-war road programme drawn up by the previous Government for constructing bridges for all the crossings referred to in answer to clause (a) except that at M. 59/7 of the Mangalore-Baindur Coast road. It is found necessary to curtail the post-war road programme and a revised programme is being prepared. It is not possible now to say whether all these works will find a place in the revised programme, but the fact that there has been neglect in the past in regard to communications in the district will be given due consideration in fixing priority for the works."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether there is a separate bridge programme apart from the road programme?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Bridges are included in the road programme."

Post-war railway development.

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

(a) whether the South Kanara District Board had sent up any proposals to the Post-war Reconstruction Committee to extend the railway line beyond Mangalore;

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(b) whether the Madras Government have sent up this proposal to the Railway Board; and

(c) whether the post-war railway extension plan includes any line to link South Kanara with Mysore and Bombay?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" (a) The district board sent up to the Government in connexion with post-war development of railways, proposals (1) for a line from Mangalore to Udipi via Karkal, and (2) for a line from Mangalore to Arisekere (in Mysore territory).

"(b) & (c) The proposals were not sent up to the Railway Board and at present the post-war railway extension plan does not include any line to link South Kanara with Mysore and Bombay.

"This Government have, however, separately addressed the Government of India stressing the need for the construction of one or more of the following four lines which will link South Kanara with Mysore and Bombay:—

- (1) Mangalore to Hassan (in Mysore);
- (2) Mangalore to Arsal (on the Shimoga-Sagar line);
- (3) Mangalore-Karkal-Agumba-Shimoga; and
- (4) Mangalore-Bhatkal-Sirsi-Hubli.

"Their reply is awaited."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask the Government to suggest to the Central Government the construction of a railway from Kurnool to Cuddapah via Nandyal?"

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"The suggestion is noted."

Applications for posts of fieldmen.

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

(a) the number of applications received for the posts of fieldmen for the last five years; and

(b) how many of them were appointed?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" (a) The number of applications received for the post of fieldmen for the last five years (1941 to 1945) is 696, and the number selected for appointment is 516.

"(b) The Deputy Directors of Agriculture are the appointing authorities. The actual number of appointments made by Deputy Directors is not available. It is, however, incumbent on them to appoint the candidates selected according to vacancies."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Out of the candidates who have been appointed, may I ask, whether there are any Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—"Notice, Sir."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask whether it is a fact that a Harijan by name Mr. V. Nagappa from Kurnool who applied, has been disappointed and he has not been appointed, even to-day? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" Notice, Sir."

Ration shop-keepers in Malabar district.

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

(a) the total number of ration shop-keepers in Malabar district before 1st October 1946;

(b) the number of Muslims among them;

(c) the total number of employees in charge of ration shops after they were taken over by the co-operative societies under the new scheme; and

(d) the number of Muslims among them?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—

"(a) 2,916 } Excludes figures for 33 ration shops in Palghat municipality which were taken over by the Society only on 20th November 1946.
 "(b) 1,511 } Of these 4 shops were being run by Muslims.
 "(c) 2,594 } 111 shops in Kurumbranad taluk remain to be taken over by the P.C.C. Societies. Of these 59 shops are run by Muslims. The change has not yet been effected in British Cochin.
 "(d) 1,045 }

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the difficulty experienced by Harijans in procuring rations, may I ask whether the Government will consider the desirability of encouraging Harijans to become ration shop-keepers? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" A Government Order has already been passed to the effect that Harijans should be given preference in the matter of licences for ration shops in certain places."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know the number of licences given to Harijans? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—" May I know, why the normal trade channels have been disturbed and ration shops handed over to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" The producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies were started for the purpose of supplying people with rations of good quality at proper prices and the middlemen had to be eliminated. So there is no question of normal trade channels being tampered with."

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SIR STUART TOWN:—" May I know why the middlemen had to be eliminated? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" Because they were not doing their duties satisfactorily."

SIR STUART TOWN:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement showing the manner in which they were not carrying out their duties satisfactorily? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" Will the hon. Member please repeat his question, Sir? "

SIR STUART TOWN:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to inform this House the exact manner in which they were not carrying out their duties satisfactorily? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that in very many cases the licences of ration shops were taken away from merchants without assigning any reasons or good reasons? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" Ration shops were taken over by the co-operative societies as a matter of policy for sufficient reasons."

SIR STUART TOWN:—" Is it not a fact that the failure of the ordinary retailer to carry out his duties is a figment of the imagination of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" This is a question which cannot be answered."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether these co-operative societies are manned by human beings or angels? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" We are looking to a time when angels will be managing co-operative societies. Now human beings only are managing." (Laughter.)

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is the policy of the Government to eliminate middlemen in all spheres of life? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" It is a very wide question which requires further consideration to answer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know how the co-operative societies have succeeded so far? "

MR. SPEAKER:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider that in the event of the ration system being

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discontinued and normality restored in this country the elimination of middlemen at present would lead to very considerable hardship?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"That is a thing which has not happened now. When it happens we shall consider it at that time."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that innumerable complaints are being received with regard to the working of these co-operative societies?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is not a fact, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to know which of the two assertions of the Hon. Minister is correct—whether the ration shops were taken over as a matter of policy or on account of their bad working?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is very difficult to answer, Sir. The wholesalers and the old ration shops were not working properly and co-operative societies had to be started. When co-operative societies had to be started certain number of wholesalers had to be sent away and ration shops taken over. They had to be taken over only where it was found necessary. So, that question cannot be more specifically answered."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the co-operative societies, wherever they are in charge of ration shops, are disbursing only to their members and not to the general public in respect of certain commodities like cloth?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government is not aware that co-operative societies are doing like that."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Would it not be proper for the Government to take action only in the case of proved delinquents and not indiscriminately against all, so that the even flow of trade may not be jeopardized?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have not, as a rule, sent away every retailer who was in the trade. Most of these retail dealers were able to get licences only after the control system was introduced, so that it cannot be said that removing some retailers or middlemen would ruin the trade altogether."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the Hon. Minister know the fact that middlemen have been existing in the society because they were doing an indispensable service to it?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If they were so indispensable, they would not have been removed."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether there is any objection to retailers or middlemen becoming members of consumer co-operative societies?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"They are welcome. They can become members of co-operative societies."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government is aware that even the existing co-operative societies and stores are not allowed to trade by purchasing and selling on account of the new societies coming in?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I am not able to understand the hon. Member when he says that societies are not allowed to trade."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"The existing co-operative societies and stores in all places are not allowed to purchase or sell on account of the new imaginary producer-cum-consumer societies?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"First of all, imaginary societies cannot do anything. My friend only means the producer-cum-consumer societies started. The rule is that wherever efficient co-operative societies or stores were in existence before the starting of the new societies, they are allowed to function. Where such societies do not adapt themselves to the new requirements, new societies are formed."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does not the Hon. Minister admit, from the answers he has given just now, that the middlemen have been removed arbitrarily from the field of their operations?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"My answer was that if they were only indispensable, they would not have been removed. Because they were not doing their duty properly, they were found not only not indispensable, but even troublesome."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Arising out of the answer to the previous question given by the Hon. Minister, will the Government be pleased to state categorically if all the retailers, who have been given licences under the control scheme, were not really in the trade even prior to the control scheme?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I said that only some of them were not."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"Will the Hon. Minister categorically tell this House how the retailers were not carrying out their duties? We are entitled to know why they have been removed—not a mere statement that they were not doing their duties."

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I will have to get reports regarding all shops. I request notice."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"Is there no such report already in possession of Government? If not, how has Government arrived at the conclusion that the middleman is inefficient?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The questions are going beyond the mark, particularly the question of the Leader of

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the European Group and also one or two other Members. When a system is introduced, in the working of that system, certain things will happen and there will be elimination of wholesalers, quotawallas and other gentlemen who have been carrying on the trade for a very long time. You may take it that it is only because of the oppression caused to the common people on account of these intermediaries existing and continuing to work in the manner in which they have been doing, earning any amount of profit for themselves, leaving almost nothing to the consumers and the people at large, a new system which is acknowledged to be the best system of serving the masses and the millions, has been introduced. In the course of that, elimination is bound to come and they have to go out. At the same time, they have to reconcile themselves and co-operate with the Government in doing service to the people generally. There is no good saying that we are eliminating them. They have been making abnormal profits at the cost of the masses. It is only to eliminate them, this system is introduced, and it is only for that purpose that this system will be continued also by the Government."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir. In view of the fact that the Hon. Speaker allows questions to be put which, according to him, are not objectionable, is it in order to raise any objection to any of the questions which have been allowed?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Premier is not objecting to the questions. He has enunciated the policy of the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Premier stated certain things, which are not facts and which have not been substantiated. Does the Hon. Premier know that the House wants substantiation of those things which he called facts?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir. There will be an occasion when they will be substantiated, when all the details will be given about the results of the new system that has been introduced. To what extent it has benefited the masses, and to what extent it has removed those people who have been standing between the masses and the Government, all these things will be placed before this House in due course."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. the Additional Minister for Food whether he has made the system of co-operative societies, which he has introduced in the place of the usual trade channels, fool-proof and whether he is not merely experimenting on this question?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"We are not merely experimenting, we are getting results also. It is not for the sake of pleasure that we have introduced this system or merely to cause loss to any people unnecessarily. All the

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gentlemen in the country who have been making enormous profits hitherto have to come in and co-operate with the Government in executing this new system."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I now know whether any thought or consideration has been given to the thousands and hundreds of thousands who are being eliminated?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Thousands or hundreds of thousands may be eliminated, but millions may be benefited. Millions have been starving in this country, and we have not been able to get anything in the country under the system of Government that has been prevailing here. It also becomes necessary to help those who go out of employment on account of service to the millions. That also will be taken into account by the Government."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is not justice due even to a single man?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Justice is due to everybody. When the Government has to govern millions of people, they should see that the people do not starve. It is the duty of the Government to eliminate those people who have been making enormous profits at the cost of the millions, and make the common people realize the benefit of it."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"Are we to expect a reduction in the cost of living as a result of the introduction of the co-operative movement?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"My hon. Friend is not perhaps able to realize the difference between the cost of living in his country and that in this country, and the conditions in which the people here are living."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that in the past, more than 50 to 60 per cent of the co-operative societies have failed on account of the fact that they have been managed for the benefit of individuals?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"My hon. Friend, along with others also who have studied this question closely, will have to understand that during the period of forty years of the existence of the co-operative movement, what result has been produced. A statement will be placed before the House within a few months how these new societies have been working and with what results."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not the fact that innumerable complaints have already been received by the Government regarding the working of the co-operative societies?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Not at all; innumerable complaints have not been received. Some complaints were received, and they have been attended to. Complaints are

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bound to come when a new system comes into operation, and it will be the duty of the Government to remove those complaints."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"In view of the importance of this question, may I ask that the hon. Members of this House be given an official report before the end of this month?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Not before the end of this month; in due course, it will be given."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The budget will be placed before the House next month. Hon. Members will have an opportunity of discussing this question then."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"I want the official report from the Government for the purpose of the budget debate. There are fifteen days more, and I submit there is plenty of time."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It will not be possible to give within that time."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"The Hon. the Prime Minister said that enormous profits had been made by the previous merchants. We would like to have a statement from the Hon. Premier before the end of this month how much money they have made, and by what methods, and how the present system of co-operative societies has lessened the burden on the poor?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The budget is bound to refer to various matters, and also the co-operative societies. The hon. Member who puts the question might as well understand for himself how certain things cannot be found out."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the Hon. Prime Minister seriously think that by eliminating middlemen, he is not breaking the backbone of society?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Not at all. On the other hand, it is strengthening the backbone of the country. It is the millions that constitute the country and not a handful of people, even if they are thousand or fifteen hundreds."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Is it not a fact that under the State Trading Schemes in 1944-45, the Government lost as much as 4 lakhs of rupees and that it had to be written off, and what guarantee is there that this co-operative system will work satisfactorily from the financial point of view?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The results of the system itself will show."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"Recently I saw a Press Communiqué that the Government have suspended starting new societies in the southern districts. May I know why?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"There is no design or plan not to start them in the southern districts. We have been at it, and it will come into the southern districts as soon as the special officers in charge of the work are a little free."

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P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government aware that blackmarketing is on the increase in Malabar after the introduction of the new scheme?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Before that it was high; not afterwards."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government aware that by inaugurating this policy of destroying trade, commerce and industry in this Province, they are directly or indirectly affecting the social economy of this Province?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir, not at all."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Is it not a fact that to benefit the co-operative societies, the present price of paddy has been reduced and that of rice increased?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Certainly not."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Do the Government know that after the introduction of this new scheme in Malabar, a number of people are starving for a number of days because they are not given rations regularly?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"A general answer cannot be given. Whatever complaints have been received are being considered very carefully. As soon as possible, relief will be given to those affected."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it not the policy of the Government to encourage the co-operative movement in all fields of life and that only in pursuance of that policy that the shops have been taken over?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir. It is recognized all over the world that it is only through the co-operative system that the masses can be benefited."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that there seems to be much opposition to this policy from Congressmen, as is evident from the number of questions put, will the Hon. Premier reconsider the whole policy?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No question of reconsideration. If they have not understood it, they will be enabled to do so very soon."

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know from the Hon. Premier whether these co-operative societies cannot exploit the public, and whether there are not a number of co-operative societies which have made profits ranging from 30 to 50 per cent?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the explanation of the Hon. Premier and particularly when questions have been put from this side and that, from this group and that, is not this policy not so much democratic, but dictatorial?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is unfortunate that some of us are not able to understand what democracy is."

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and what service to the country means. What service to the millions is has not yet been understood by some of us, perhaps by many of us who profess to be professors and experts in these matters. As a matter of fact, they have not understood even the elements of it."

SRI ALLURI SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—"When the purpose of the Government is to eliminate middlemen and black-marketeers, why the Government have nominated some of the blackmarketeers, mill-owners and middlemen as directors of these societies in the West Godavari district?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"We take notice of what the Hon. Member has said. Blackmarketeers have been creeping in almost every place. They will be found out and eliminated in due course."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the working of the scheme is taken out of the hands of the Co-operative department and placed in the hands of a special officer?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir. The initiative was taken by the Co-operative department. It is the Co-operative department that did everything in Malabar. It is this department that is in charge of the business, although special officers had to be employed for carrying on this business."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"In view of the various questions put and answers given, may I know from the Hon. Minister for Food whether he will kindly issue instructions to the co-operative societies to conduct themselves properly towards the public?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Wherever there are mistakes, if they are pointed out by hon. Members like Mr. Natesa Chettiyar, they will be attended to."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government aware that there is a good deal of agitation among businessmen and merchants and that there are also proposals to launch Satyagraha against this particular policy of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I do not expect those people to be so unreasonable as the hon. Member imagines."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know what stands in the way of these merchants and middlemen joining the co-operative societies and working them satisfactorily with their business knowledge?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"They have been joining in good many places after doing their best to preserve their old position. They have not been altogether a heartless people. They have been trying to move with the times."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have allowed twenty minutes for this question. I pass on to the next item on the agenda. The Hon. Premier will make a reply to the debate on the resolution about the Ordinance."

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II.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

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

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I renew the request I made on Saturday that the House may adjourn for about ten days after the 15th of this month?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Regarding this matter, I wish to inform the House that there are eight Bills before the House. I think all of them will be referred to select committees. Then we have got the resolution of the Hon. Mr. Karanth. If the Bills are referred to select committees, the House need not meet. Then we can have holidays. This is my opinion. It is in the hands of the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, and other group Leaders."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Some of this business may be taken in April. Members came prepared only for ten days' business. Therefore, I would request you to adjourn the House on the 15th for about ten days. Then they will come on or about the 24th or 25th, and go on till the end of March."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will place before you the other alternative. We will go on at a stretch and finish the business by about the 22nd. We shall disperse then and meet again for the budget. Then we shall have six or seven days holidays."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The other day, your expression that we are more responsible to this Hon. House than to our constituencies has created a sensation everywhere. I would seek a ruling from you."

SRI KALLURI SUBBA RAO:—"The Mail has written a leaderette."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall go through that paper."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit that the arrangement of business is entirely in the hands of the Speaker in consultation with the Leader of the House and the other Leaders, without a discussion on the floor of this House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"My own opinion is that we will be able to finish the business by the 20th. From the 20th to 28th we shall have holidays. On the 1st March, we will meet for the budget. I wish to know the view of the Hon. Leader of the House?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"My own feeling is that, if 19th is a holiday, we may adjourn on the 18th."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Till 18th, we shall work."

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III.—RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 114 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES.

DISAPPROVAL OF MADRAS ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 1947—cont.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“ Sir, after the very exhaustive debate on this resolution on all sides, I do not expect to detain you and the hon. Members of the House for a considerable length of time. I had originally taken time to place the whole situation before this House, and whatever I said then has been, I take it, very substantially corroborated by the discussion launched by each one of the members of this House against this proposition. Those who supported it also spoke at considerable length and nothing has been left out in regard to the matters I placed before this House at the outset. Member after member rose and spoke with reference to what was happening each in his own district. I am not expected to put things more exhaustively and more clearly than what has been done by the hon. Members of this House who opposed this resolution.

3.30 p.m. “ This is one of the few debates which may be characterized as a full-dress debate. This Government never wanted to shirk the responsibility of placing the matter before the House and having the measure tested and passed. In that way, I feel gratified, Sir, that this debate has been conducted in a masterly way having due regard to the actual situation in the country. The Opposition on this occasion consisted of the opposition of the Leader of the Opposition and others of his party mainly. One has to consider very carefully this matter: what induced the hon. Leader of the Opposition to second this proposition and to speak in support of it and also why should his colleagues in his party have also followed it up? It was a matter for thought, at any rate, so far as I am concerned. I did not wish to obstruct the Leader of the Opposition when he threw himself on the other side, on any technical ground, on the ground that what he was talking and what he was referring to as the sufferings of the Muslim population of this Province had no bearing upon this resolution. I did not wish to object to his doing so, although he and I knew many more things, perhaps, than what he had referred to, and many more things than what I am going to refer to just now. I am anxious, Sir, that what has been maintained in this Province of ours during all the troublesome months that have preceded, should be maintained hereafter also. It is a miracle that made us escape certain consequences in regard to this matter; the miracle did not come from heaven, the miracle came from out of the people themselves. Members of both the communities, or to put it more correctly, members of the Muslim community and members of other communities put together—it is they that had realized the danger of losing their way, going off the track. I say, Sir, deliberately with full responsibility and consciousness, that it is the people concerned mainly and the leadership next, that managed to keep things within proper limits. After what had happened in East Bengal and after what had happened in Bihar and also what was threatened in some other areas in some

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other parts of the country, one might have expected here also things to go wrong. I never wanted to subscribe to any proposition to the effect that everything was so smooth here in this Province, although the percentage of the Muslim population here is not so much as in other areas. We have been threatened sufficiently from all sides, but we have been keeping our eyes open, ever vigilant to deal with any little situation. Therefore it is, Sir, that we must be very cautious in weighing our words, in dealing with the situation and in speaking on occasions like this. I did not expect however the Leader of the Opposition to go to such a length as to state so many things. If I take them all in order and if I am to be replying to each one of those things, the task will become very difficult and very complicated also. On the main result, on the general result, he and I are agreed; not only he and I, but all of us are agreed; not only all of us in this Province, but others in other Provinces also. Everywhere it was a matter of wonder, surprise and appreciation that Madras had been so quiet during these troublesome days. There were days and occasions on which some of the good friends living in this City ran up desperately saying the whole thing was coming upon them, that they were going to disappear from this world on account of the fears they were entertaining. I could tell them to go and sleep quietly in their homes, that we were here charged with the duty to look after these matters and that we would be doing it. In one quarter, then in another, and the same thing happened with regard to the Leader of the Opposition also, the same panic was created all round. Those days we have got over and I am hoping that by the goodwill and co-operation of all, the rest of the period also would be good so far as we here are concerned. More than once, I believed, with the Leader of the Opposition, that Madras might be giving the lead not only in one direction, but in several directions, even with regard to this communal tension that had been prevailing in other parts of the Presidency. But, Sir, everything is in the mind. It is the mind that creates; it is the mind that destroys. According to certain scientists and according to certain doctrines, it is the mind that creates the world, and it is the mind that destroys this world also. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, although he looks like a lay man seeming to know nothing of this world, is a man who is up to date with regard to the latest developments in science also. He knows it and I, Sir, happened to know it only recently during my incarceration for three years. I came to know the truth about all these religions and religious differences and the contentions of the various parties. Either in religious matters or in political matters, one thing that everyone of us should remember is this, that this world with which we are concerned is not the only thing in this universe. What is called earth here, is one of seven worlds, even according to the latest scientists. The worlds above are described in detail; how all these worlds have been going on and what it is we are all doing here, science has not been able to say—in which of the worlds there are human beings, whether similarly constituted as ourselves, whether fighting over nothing and attempting to create new worlds like ourselves. Now,

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Sir, what is it that man has got to do peculiarly in this world? Man has got to carry out certain duties which he has laid down and enjoined upon himself for the purpose of regulating society. For all men of all religions, of all nationalities, there is only one God, one religion and one duty and that is, to serve mankind first and himself afterwards and then leave this world. This has been the doctrine in almost all the religions, but now that is said to be in conflict. As a matter of fact, Sir, there is no conflict and there should be no conflict, strictly speaking. Everything has centered round that, but has now shifted from its original place, its ancient place, from which people were discharging their duties according to the laws of God. Man was made for serving humanity in whatever he did by way of working the laws of God; he did it in the ancient days on the lines laid down by God, that man should serve all others first and serve himself next and that it is only through that service that he would be able to understand God and reach Godhood. That was the real fundamental principle. Now, Sir, changes have crept in from generation to generation, from *Yugam* to *Yugam*, from century to century and all the old principles have been abandoned. We have now been reduced to this position of each man for himself, each country for itself, each group for itself, never mind all the rest, let each one take care of himself. It is a very unfortunate position, Sir. It is this position that we are now obliged to tackle in this Province and also in other parts of the country, people have been trying to do it—everywhere the same thing has been the rule. Karl Marx, the author of the communist doctrines lived for thirty years in exile in England, because he was not allowed to live in his own country and even in his place of adoption. During those thirty years, he evolved certain doctrines which centered round competition and profiteering. The rules he laid down are rules which will last for ever so long as the world lasts. Karl Marx's communism has been dealt with by the best of professors in this world. They have commented upon it, they have written treatises upon it, they have dealt with all the doctrines in all possible manner. Karl Marx's doctrines have not however been adopted in the country for which they were evolved, and they were proscribed and could not be adopted in other countries which wanted to adopt them. We have now come upon communism in this country of ours. We know the origin, the growth and the present position of communism in this country. There have been evolving communists within the Congress in this country from time to time. The present communism in India and in our Province cannot be said to be the communism recognized by Karl Marx or by any of the countries in the world. What has happened to communism now? There is no rule, no regulation, no toleration, and nothing is to be recognized in this world although that gentleman, the Secretary of this Association in Bombay has denied recently a statement that had been published. What is that statement? He is the one gentleman who had been giving instructions to all his followers in the country to carry on this programme of his. Up to a point he was alright. Then he changed his attitude and went over the country and taught them, "well, the methods you have been adopting will not be sufficient; without violence we will not succeed in

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these matters; you must take to violence."—That was his preaching. From that date it was, that this violence of a brutal nature came into being and has been carried on. Violence of what kind? Ultimately it will come to this, I have been pointing out. We have been charged here. 'You ought to have taken care already. You must have applied the criminal laws, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Civil Procedure Code and the Criminal Law Amendment Act. You have got so many laws; you ought to have exhausted all of them before coming to this ordinance.' My friends who are arguing like this, are detaching themselves from actual facts. Theories could be argued by non-lawyers as well as lawyers. Theories have got their own place. But this is past the stage of theory. What is it that we have omitted to do during the last ten months of our existence here? When we saw signs of deterioration in communism, we tried our best to dissuade the communists and also to persuade and convince them of the futility of their propaganda and of their actions. We failed; we applied section 144 wherever it was necessary. I may tell you, Sir, that in this Province of ours, the police officers have been serving not this Congress Government alone during the last ten months or during the two years and four months some ten years back, when Congress was in office, but other Governments as well that had been in existence; they were serving several other Governments also according to the policy laid down by those Governments, according to directions given by them. In that way, I may tell you, Sir, the people of Police department have become expert in these matters. When anything is suggested by some Members of Government, say, a man like myself, a layman, they know what to do. They know every section of every Act, every Code; and files will show how they were pointing out that you cannot lay your hands upon a man unless you are provided with this power and that—that we cannot do any such thing. All these things, they knew so well, and therefore they wanted in every way to give effect to the law as it stood and to the law as usually applied. It was not until the very end that the Police department itself came to realize that it was no good adopting absolutely constitutional methods. Constitutional methods, I knew as a lawyer, as a pleader when I was practising in this High Court and in all the courts of this Presidency, I knew about all laws. I knew all about the methods also. But those things are different from the administration of a country. The Police department has been trained in such a manner that it would consider well whether the law should be applied as in the statute or we should go beyond it and that department also would suggest wherever amendments have to be made. Therefore no method open to any Government in the world was left unapplied in this Province of ours. It is unfair to say, 'Where were you, what were you doing, why did you do this or that, why did you not put them in a Court, why did you not give them a trial.' It is all very easy to say that and the reply has been given by all those members who have come from the districts, who have actually witnessed what is going on there. Cases are pending to-day; I have not placed the number of cases that are actually pending

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to-day before you. On the Golden Rock discussion, I referred to various matters which I have been avoiding to repeat in detail. Cases have been pending from then until now. What is it that we have not tried to do? What is it that we have omitted to do in the matter of doing things properly? Nothing has been left undone, you may take it from me. When the hour of trial comes for us, there will be evidence on record here to show that all that was humanly possible has been tried, that all existing laws have been applied and that all that was legal has been tried. You will find many documents showing how in the various Provinces mischief had been done by a section of the press by writing all kinds of things. Except in Madras, I do not think in any Province the mischief done by writings in the Press has been tolerated as it has been tolerated in this Presidency of ours. What is it that has been done? We had provisions to apply against these writings of the Press. But even those writings were tolerated. We thought, "Let them write, perhaps after writing, they will find out very soon that they are wrong and they will change." Unfortunately that was not the case. One Malayalam paper, one Tamil paper in the City of Madras and one Telugu paper in Bezwada, all the three linked together, all the organizations were roped in—what on earth has been going on, you have no idea. Descriptions have been given. You have heard how people entered houses openly, how they stabbed people to death. Do you think, Sir, all these things could have happened if there had been anything like a Government going on here? I take the charge when you say, 'You ought to have applied this Ordinance long ago.' I say we did not wish to apply the Ordinance earlier because we knew you are all intelligent men; if for a single act or acts in certain districts, we apply this Ordinance, why should you not wait sufficiently long without trying other methods—I know you would all say that. We waited because we have gone through the whole of this mill ourselves for the past 26 years, we have suffered in the past, we have suffered in silence; we tolerated all this. But here it is not toleration; it is trying all other methods in the hope that nothing untoward may happen in this Province. It was only when all methods were tried and all of them failed that we had recourse to this. I was very very anxious, Sir, and I was feeling when certain points were referred to by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. Now, if I take chapter and verse in reply to him, what would we find? We would find that writings in the Press were largely responsible for the situation in this Province. Allow me to tell you, Sir, no one can claim at this hour to have known more about the Hindu-Muslim riots in India than myself. From the first Multan riots in the South Punjab, 22 or 23 riots I attended and witnessed. I knew everything immediately after the occurrences. What would have happened in other parts of the world if such things had been going on? The Press is responsible for the whole thing, I may tell you, as I have recorded in those days in a paper which I was then in charge of and which I was editing in those days. I had gone and witnessed everything in the first Multan riot, in the second Meerut riot, in the third Shahjehanpur riot and so on. How all these things came up, I

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know, on account of the writings in the Press. After all about what? Not about the full freedom of this country. I can really understand riots happening and people ranging themselves on this side or that for securing full freedom for this country. But these happened for the sake of jobs and jobs alone and nothing else, I may tell you. Look into the objects! Those files are there still, if not in our library, in other places. Inadequacy of jobs, for this community or that community! Where is the freedom of the land? And what have we been doing? We are all educated men, as we call ourselves. All these 26 years, this thing has been going on in this country and for the sake of a few seats, a few places, a few Executive Councillorships or some other jobs. That is the whole secret of the history of this Hindu-Muslim trouble in this country as in other countries. Even to-day, take this Province, or any other Province and find out how much time we are wasting over these questions, how vindictive we are becoming over each other. In the whole of India, there are parties and parties. We have heard in one Province, four groups, five groups, and six groups being formed when all of them have been returned to one Legislative Assembly to carry on business on behalf of the people who have sent them there. We have forgotten the important point. We have been taken away from our moorings and we have been drifting on. That is why all this misery and all this trouble have come about. These Communists came, became a party; they wanted to take the whole of the country from the hands of the Congress; they started their work; they applied themselves at psychological moments to certain methods; they have developed their position and it has become an uphill work now for the Congress people after they came out of jail to control these Communist organizations and Communist activities.

"Up to a point, they were also within the limits so long as they 4 p.m. contended themselves that they were Communists, and they wanted to go ahead with the Congress programme saying, we want to get freedom to the people much earlier and that we are part of the Congress. I still remember Communist leaders getting upon the Congress platforms, stating their case and fighting their cause from the Congress platform itself all under the creed of truth and non-violence. Then they broke off at a particular point. After having broken off, they tried to see whether they would be able to carry these things easily, without having recourse to violence; but they found it difficult to dislodge the Congress organization which has spread all over the country, amongst all people. Failing that, they had recourse to these violent methods.

"Now, Sir, the General Secretary of the Communist Organization in Bombay was reported to have stated in the instructions given by him to his followers in the country,—these are the words, and I am giving only the substance and not the actual words—'Those who reap the harvest of this year, those who can succeed in reaping the harvest of this year will be the real victors in the political struggle.' What does it mean? I do not want to persist in repeating the statement, which he has considered necessary

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to issue either yesterday or day before yesterday. I do not wish to say anything like that. Such statements we have heard on the floor of this House also—statements to the effect that the Prime Minister's hands would be cut off, his head would be cut off, his legs would be cut off and he would be thrown to the winds and so on. Is this the kind of literature that should be spread in this country and is this the kind of teaching that should be given to the masses in this land of ours? No, it is not. Therefore, I am pointing out to you how this Communist menace has come upon this country and how we, of all men in this world, have been forced to take up this question irrespective of consequences. What are the points urged by some of my hon. Friends, good friends on the other side sitting, friends like hon. Mr. Hameed Khan and others? In their eloquence, they said, well, Sir, you have forfeited the confidence of the country; you have forfeited the confidence of certain sections of your own party. You have dissatisfied those people against whom you have passed orders; you have dissatisfied those people against whose interests you have introduced co-operative societies and you have dissatisfied so many other people, and all around, you have made enemies and how are you going to survive in this land, how are you going to hold office? I ask, is this office worth holding for five minutes if we are going to sell ourselves for the sake of purchasing some votes and for purchasing the support of a few people. I cannot reconcile myself to this. I have lived so long in this country. I feel absolutely strong enough to-day (Hear, hear) to accept any challenge and to prove that you are wrong and not myself, and the truth is like that. If I am wrong, I do not hesitate for a moment to withdraw and apologise, because I have been doing my business clearly so that nobody can say that I am doing things unreasonably and unnecessarily. It has been said in this House, you have dissatisfied everybody, you have done this and done that. I am not afraid of that. I may tell my good friends that if I am doing the right thing and if I am really serving the masses, I am prepared to prove beforelong that what I am putting forth is true and so I must go on with my work. For Heaven's sake, do not imagine that we have dissatisfied so many people, because so much is being written every day—true or false—it does not matter, we have not been taking the trouble of even contradicting the statements that are appearing in the Press and which are not actually correct,—we are leaving them alone. Let us see to what extent they can go and what trouble they can create against us and when the final stage comes, we will see whether it is not possible to prove that everyone of them is doing the wrong thing. If we have been doing wrong, we would certainly regret and withdraw; we will not hold this office for one day longer if it is proved that we have been doing anything wrong in this country or in this Province of ours. I can be fighting the Leader of the European group on many matters; I can believe that his heart is in its proper place and that he is sound and his judgment is sound. Similarly, I can be fighting the Leader of the Opposition and

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his party, but I am absolutely certain that the fighting will be only up to a point; I know their hearts and they cannot do anything wrong by themselves when questions of principle and service to the country are concerned. It is only with that hope that we have been working on this side. We are not in the least deflected by what has been said wrongly by some of my own misguided friends. I have to look at everything. I attribute everything to ignorance which is a human weakness. Human weakness is such that it cannot rise above. I say, well, I am not above all these things. I know I have not been treated by some properly because they have not estimated me properly; it is only natural that they should become opposed to me and it is only natural that they should work against me. If they are in the right, I will yield and if they are in the wrong, they must yield sooner or later. In this country of ours, the Communists say, you are wrong, you have trampled under foot the elementary human rights when you have promulgated this Ordinance and rounded up all these men. If you establish that we have failed, we shall walk out and you will take this place and we have no objection to it. On the other hand, we have established—and we have been establishing—that whatever step was taken by us in this direction was perfectly justified and only justifiable things have been done by us.

“Sir, so far as this proposition is concerned, Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai of Tanjore spoke at great length and those who could understand the language, his words, would realize the situation in Tanjore. From Coimbatore, Mr. K. Subramaniam and from Salem, Mr. Kandaswami Pillai spoke about what happened in their respective districts. What did Mr. Kandaswami Pillai say? He said, yes, there was some trouble between Hindus and Muslims; but they made up the quarrel and even money compensation was paid, not by consulting the Prime Minister or the Government but they made up the whole thing themselves and they paid money compensation also. Big matters of non-compoundable cases came up before the court and although the law says that certain cases cannot be compounded—they were laws enacted by the British Government after they established their rule here—what did they do? The parties who quarrelled among themselves, who tried to destroy one another's property, even without going to courts and asking for compensation, realizing exactly who suffered the loss they arranged for the payment of compensation to the party concerned and thus they settled among themselves. Nothing is of greater significance to me and to all those who are associated with this Government to see that matters like this are settled in that manner.

“Sir, a description of what happened in Madura was given and in regard to what happened in Ramnad, the position has been explained clearly. I was clearly following what the hon. Muslim member representing Ramnad was feeling with regard to the matter. I am a man, Sir, who is not confined merely to the papers placed on my table here in the Secretariat but I am one of those who is trying to understand the papers placed into my hands.

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Within this short period there is no place which I have not covered. Although I have not undertaken tours in the districts where I was anxious to go and see the people and where the people also were anxious to meet me, yet, I have been confining myself to visiting the troublesome places and acquainting myself with the happenings. I am one of those who is trying to understand, not merely from the papers or the literature that we get here but from actual facts also. I have always got the hope that when we come face to face with the people against whom we are fighting, everything will be solved. Take for instance, the case of Vaniyambadi. (Interruption.) I am sorry it is a habit which cannot be mended; I am talking about Vaniyambadi because I went there to see personally what things were happening. Nobody can feel more than myself after witnessing what had happened there. I suppressed myself and I was endeavouring to suppress the Leader of the Opposition and all the friends sitting behind him also. Things had gone wrong there, but not to the extent that had gone wrong in other parts of the country. Although damage to property had been made, Sir, deaths did not occur. It is unimaginable, unthinkable that people could restrain themselves to that extent and keep peace ('hear, hear' from the Muslim group) and the moment the trouble started, they formed peace committees themselves—ten Hindus and ten Muslims formed themselves into a peace committee from the very beginning of the outbreak, as it were, and they tried to go round all places and maintain peace. It is they that have maintained the peace and order in the place and not the Ministry in Madras or even the Police which they have got or even the military which they could command. That is why I argued among friends and told them, how can you stand against the Communists, how long can the Police protect you and your homes; how long can even the military be protecting you? The so-called freedom, the provincial autonomy, or Indian independence is sought for. For what purpose? It is to enable people to stand on their own legs, to manage their own homes properly, to maintain discipline in their own homes, to maintain discipline in the neighbourhood and to give protection not only to families but also to the neighbourhood. It has been the duty cast upon us by the ancestors from whom we have inherited it. Because we had taken to something frivolous and useless and lost ourselves, we have not been able to apply ourselves to it. What happened in Vaniyambadi? We have to go through law: we have to go through so many formalities before compensation could be given. What compensation could be given, I am asking in a place like Noakhali and Tipperah and in other places like Bihar, where thousands and thousands have been massacred? What law can provide for all these things? It is the duty of the people to maintain law and order, and not merely the duty of the police nor that of the Ministers who can be taken on hand and tossed up like a toy with all kinds of attacks. Therefore, it was with regard to Vaniyambadi we have not been sitting idle. But because of the time taken, people lost their patience and they got into it. The matter is pending before the court and I do not like

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to say anything more at the moment. At the same time, I must say that so far as the Hindu-Muslim question is concerned, there are various items.

"I was in Salem where I was cross-examined by some of the public. There was shooting by the Police—I am supposed to be a policeman also because I am in charge of the subject. (Interruption.) In one of the papers, a description was given of me as one with a string of skulls round my neck; though anything could have been done with regard to the papers which published it, we kept quiet. Never mind; they will soon understand what the truth is about all these things.

"Therefore, I am submitting to you, Sir, let there be no miscalculation, no wrong understanding or wrong impression created in people's minds. Excitement is caused when matters of religion are concerned and it will lead to various troubles. But I do congratulate the people of the Province as a whole, particularly the Muslim population ('hear, hear' from the Muslim group) and the population of the other communities for the way in which they have been co-operating with this Government and for the way in which they have been trying to maintain law and order. The Communists alone said, go to hell all of you put together; you have no land here. If it is the Government land you have got rules and regulations; revenue laws provide for the assessment of those who encroach upon the land. The Communists challenged the Government and occupied land extending to 600 or 700 acres and said, we have got possession of the land and we are the masters. It is a challenge to the existence of the Government itself. That is so far as Government land is concerned. With regard to private lands, they challenged the people saying, we are the people who have come with so much force and who on earth can prevent us; can your police prevent us or your military prevent us; we occupy the land; we take away all the crops and so on. That is the sort of thing that is going on. The other day in Delhi one responsible member said to me what things you described as going on in your province, are going on in my province as well. There was a meeting of Prime Ministers on one occasion where we had to compare notes with regard to each province with a view to find out what we were doing and what we should be doing hereafter. It is easy for people to say, well, did you consult or take advice; you have done everything yourself. I have learnt much during the last 14 or 15 months more than what I have learnt during all my lifetime. Mistakes I may be making but I do not make mistakes in the manner in which some of my wise friends imagine that I would be making. I might not have consulted or taken the help or advice of others but with the full knowledge of facts we are going on with our business.

"Therefore, I am submitting to you, Sir, and to the members of this House that this is a measure on which I wanted to avoid a discussion. I wanted to have a full discussion on the Bill that we would be introducing shortly. The Bill is getting ready and we have been anxious also to take note of all the criticisms that have

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been made by my hon. Colleagues in what is called the Congress Legislature Party and also on the floor of this House and we have been trying to produce a measure which may give, and I hope, will give, satisfaction to all. This measure, let me assure you, will not hold the field or will not be law for one day more than the required period. No undue severity will be shown to any of those gentlemen who have been dealt with under this Ordinance. When matters are brought about the arrest or detention of a certain person, we give the closest attention to all such matters. So, let nobody carry any ill-will or ill-feeling against this Government, against anyone of us on account of any misunderstandings that may have been created in the past. Let no one go under a wrong impression; let no one go wrong in arriving at the correct judgment on this matter.

"Sir, this is a measure which has received such a great discussion on the part of the whole House and I should have been very glad even if the Communists had recognized that what we say is true, though they might differ from us in regard to details. The main things are not new creations; the main things are there. What are the main things? The main things are looting, burning and doing every such thing even with regard to foodstuffs that are essential for the people's living. What is this Communism, I do not really understand. You destroy everything that man produces for his purpose and for the benefit of other people. They ought to admit to this extent: we have gone wrong, we are sorry for it, we cancel that from our programme; hereafter, we shall not be doing that. Every effort has been made to get something out of them so far as I am concerned but such a disillusionment never came upon me as it has happened in this case. Therefore, we were obliged to take up the matter because it was a challenge thrown by the Communists on a Government duly constituted and to the people who live in peace and to all others—a reign of terror can have no place in this country of ours. They say they have thousands of dumb people who can march with them and do everything. It is a challenge that we did accept and we will see that this state of affairs does not continue in this Province. This state of affairs ought not to continue in any province if there should be any Government at all. Therefore, Sir, I am submitting that this proposition of the hon. the Communist Member may be rejected."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Mr. Venkateswarlu, do you like to have the right of reply? If so, how much time you would like to take?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I would require two hours because I have to reply to so many of the allegations that have been made."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow you only 45 minutes."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Sir, it is difficult to reply within that time."

MR. SPEAKER:—"To-day the House will rise at 5 o'clock."

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I would like one hour to-day and one hour to-morrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It is impossible. The hon. Member may finish his speech before 5 o'clock. If there is any repetition, I will pull you up at any time."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, while moving my resolution, I have categorically said that it is not at all the policy of the Communist party to indulge in violence or incite people to violence or to commit murder, or to loot or do any such thing. All these are wrongly attributed to us. Never did we indulge in such things."

"Again, Sir, what I want to drive into the minds of the members of the House is that these things, the agrarian, economic, and industrial unrest, are mainly due to the economic factors that are prevalent in our country. To substantiate my statement, I would refer the Hon. the Revenue Minister to the *Hindu* editorial also. But even though in some of the speeches made by the hon. Members of the Opposition, they were forced to accept that this was due to the economic unrest, they accused me or my party saying that we were trying to exploit the situation. The point is they have agreed that there is discontent among the people and that it should be rectified. At the same time, they say that we have exploited the people. They have not brought any facts to prove but, merely hurled charges against us without giving facts and figures. Some hon. Members have gone to the extent of saying that the Communists are none other than goondas and that they are going to attack kisans and eject them. Even such allegations, I may say, which have been referred to Mahatma Gandhi previously and which had been refuted, are now referred to on the floor of this House. I expected the Hon. the Prime Minister to check the members of his party and put them in their proper places, but that did not happen. They are repeating the same thing even when they were definitely told that it is not due to us, but due to the mirasidars, the capitalists and other vested interests that such things are happening. Though I mentioned these things to the Hon. Prime Minister, I am sorry to say, he did not even refer to them in his reply. On the other hand, he went on saying that Mr. P. C. Joshi, the Secretary of the All-India Communist Party, has issued a statement asking the kisans to take away the crop, do not yield and so on. Sir, I have got a copy of the statement made by the Secretary of our Party and I can say definitely that he refuted such incorrect and false statements which were being attributed to us. Sir, this is not the first time; so many times, false statements have been attributed to the party, though we have refuted those statements over and over again. The Leader of the House and the members of his party did not even care to go through our statements but they simply based things on the Police reports and took a sentence here and a word there and commented upon them and attributed them to the policy of the Communist party."

"Now, I come to the question of taking away of lands and other things about which the Hon. Prime Minister referred. How

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did that happen? The point is this. Let us start from the beginning, say Tamil Nad and take district by district as was referred to by the hon. Members. What happened in Tanjore and Ramnad, let us go into details in regard to these matters, because this is a vital issue. Even though my resolution is not accepted, I would have done my duty if I am able to convince the Hon. the Prime Minister that the allegations made against us are due to extraneous reasons or perhaps due to his High Command. That is why I would like to go into all these things more clearly, and I want to convince hon. Members of this House that there is no need either for this Ordinance or for any such legislation which the Hon. the Prime Minister proposes to bring in.

430 "There is no necessity for this Ordinance much less for any
4m. regular legislation on these lines, or even for a Goonda Act. I wish to say that he is wrong when he says that the Communists have been responsible for all these troubles. Take the land system in Tanjore, how the land is distributed among a few people. In Tanjore district, Vadapathimangalam Thiagaraja Mudaliyar owns 15,000 acres of land; Kunniyur Subramania Ayyar and Sambasiva Ayyar own 5,000 acres each; Rao Bahadur Subbarathna Mudaliyar, 2,500 acres; K.G. Estates, 4,000 acres; K.T.V. Estates, 3,000 acres; K. C. Desikar owns 15,000 acres and he got nearly Rs. 25,000 as bonus this year. It is evident that the land problem particularly in Tanjore is acute because it is the monopoly of a few individuals. Not only that, vast expanses of land are under Devasthanams' management. People have no lands, those who till the soil have no rights. In these places even the Inamdar's Act does not apply. At any moment these people may be ejected and when they are ejected they will have no place to live in. Regarding the rent also, it is very high. Peasants are being treated worse than slaves and their condition is much worse than those in Andhra Desa and they do not enjoy the ordinary civil rights of individuals. In spite of all this, the position of the mirasdars is supported. It has been agreed by the Hon. Minister for Revenue that the condition of tenants and peasants is miserable. Have any steps been taken by them all on a sudden? Though they are conscious of their own rights, which have been explained to them by the authorities, they approached the Prime Minister, the Revenue Minister and others. When an adjudicator is appointed, I mean the District Judge and he gives his award, it is not accepted by the mirasdars, but we accepted it. But we regret to find, though we have accepted it, it has not been implemented. I do not know why the Hon. the Prime Minister, or the Minister for Law or Industries has not cared to implement it. On the other hand, they went there and they played into the hands of the mirasdars. The actual position is that the mirasdars and landlords are creating this trouble and the situation has become very acute when people have no food and these mirasdars go to the extent of driving away all tenants from their houses and holdings and bring in other people from elsewhere. This they call their right to employ whomsoever they want. When it means that people should be left starving, is it right that they

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should do all this? Is it right that these people should be denied their food and be thrown into the streets? When such is the position, what would anybody expect from a popular Ministry? We could expect at least that the Adjudicator's award will be acted upon. Has the Minister for Law or the Minister for Food cared to try to impress upon the mirasdars the justice of the case? I expected the Hon. the Prime Minister at least to refer about it in his reply. I regret to find that no reference was made to this. On the other hand, various charges are levelled. When the Prime Minister was on his feet, I wished to draw his attention to this aspect of the matter but I restrained myself for the fact that I may be considered as disturbing and I do not like to create that impression. I have yet to learn why the Adjudicator's award has not been acted upon and why those who have been acting through legal channels are branded as breaking the law and doing all sorts of things and why such a crop of allegations are made against them. I submit that it is not Communists who have been doing all this. It is the landlords, mirasdars and zamindars. These people are doing all sorts of mischief but the Government without correcting that mischief and without placing them in their proper places, have been keeping quiet all these months. Even when the Congress was ruling for two and half years it did not do anything. This land problem has to be solved. Without solving the problem they want to shirk their responsibility and throw the responsibility on the Communists and others. It is an economic question, this is an agrarian question but a political colouring is being given to it. I submit that it is entirely wrong. We are working for the benefit and in the interests of the masses of people, and not for these mirasdars who keep their land in their own grip for their own selfish ends. We should therefore not take their interests into any account. If we take the interests of the tenants and peasants into consideration, what would we have done? What you would have done, we too have done. We have done the same thing, not a bit more or less. Our overriding concern has been the welfare of the masses of people. Let me give you another example of how we have been throughout influenced by a desire to stick to peaceful means in achieving our ends. In Kistna district, in Tallapelle estate, people approached the Prime Minister and asked him about their rights. The Hon. Prime Minister gave them the assurance that the zamindars had no right to evict them. It is only on that assurance that they went and sat on their lands but the police, the judiciary and all the forces of the Government were let loose upon them and resort is being had to section 144 to put down the accepted rights of the people. Is it justice, is it law? Agrarian discontent is there; that is admitted on all hands. The problem has to be tackled. Without discharging that duty, charges are levelled against us. We are not at all exploiting the situation to our advantage. It is not the policy of the Communist Party to do so. The policy of the Communist Party is to work for the masses and in all legal ways. We approached the Ministers, we approached the officers in the interests of the masses and for this our record will bear evidence. So many petitions were being

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sent to the Hon. the Premier but not a single one was answered but in so many words he has said that he had been lenient towards us. This view and attitude is being accepted even by the Opposition. The police have been there and they had been responsible for thirty deaths so far. I ask is this leniency? Is it leniency to ask for security of our paper *Desabhimani*? It was forfeited and it was asked once again. People immediately came to our rescue. They subscribed the amount required immediately. One member, whose name I do not know, told the House that we had no support of the people. It is not my point now to prove that I have the support. That is not a question to be proved now. This fact will open his eyes if he is here that we do command support. My point is that people will not become our supporters if we are against them. The fact that people have come to our rescue shows that we are working for the people. We are not trying to incite the people against the Government. He is wrong if he says so. Take the case of Golden Rock, Madura and other places. I wish the Hon. the Minister for Law had been here so that he can agree with my statement that everyone of the Adjudicator's award was acted upon by us but capitalists and mill-owners violated the award and went away scotfree. All these things are there for anybody to see but instead of taking all these things into consideration the Prime Minister goes on saying that he can prove that we have been responsible for disorders. On the other hand, I can prove even today or tomorrow, if only he does not consider himself for a moment to be the Minister in-charge of the police; I can take him to certain places and put before him facts and prove to him how the police have been committing excesses. The Prime Minister has been saying that he had to issue this Ordinance as a servant of the people. I fail to see how the interests of the people have been served by these means. On the contrary, this was done perhaps to suit the wishes of His Excellency the Governor, more appropriately the Congress High Command, the right wing of the Congress, which is out to crush people so that they can emerge as a ruling party and that is why this has been given a political colouring. Repeating of lies does not prove a statement . . ."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"Mr. Speaker, is it not unparliamentary to use the word 'lies'?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is so, he must immediately withdraw."

(Cries of 'withdraw, withdraw'.)

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I withdraw it, Sir, though I am not sure what I have withdrawn. I was only saying that by repeating lies he cannot prove his statement."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member might continue his speech without any argument about this."

* SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I am particularly impressing upon hon. Members of the Congress Party that it is an agrarian problem and that this has to be looked into

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seriously. There is no use merely saying that the Communists wanted to create trouble and to take advantage of the position. The people are suffering enormously. They are being crushed. They are starving. Their backbone is being broken and they are made helpless. This will be patent to anybody who visits a village. I wish to bring to the particular notice of the Prime Minister that Communists alone are not carrying on this Kisan agitation. I thought I would be speaking on this subject tomorrow and therefore I have not brought records concerning this, but I may say this much that Professor Ranga, the President of the Andhra Provincial Kisan Committee, has issued a statement concerning this. Even in Ramnad, Tanjore and Madura, Congress leaders have been going about from place to place urging four-fifths for tenants and one-fifth to the owner.

"Hon. Members will know that the Kisan Conference in Tirupattur was presided over by a member of the anti-Communist party, Dr. Subramaniam, who is a Congress M.L.A. and under his presidency it was resolved not to pay *waram*. They demanded four-fifths to tenants and one-fifth to the landowners. Sri Vallatharasu, who is a Congressman is leading the movement. Whether it be the Congress, Communist or the League or any party, if a member goes to the people, he cannot but take up this question. What Congress leaders are saying he also has been saying. We are only asking three-fourths to the tenants and one-fourth to the owner. We have approached through all the legal channels. For all this, charges have been made that we have been taking advantage of the present situation. I wish to ask what is there to take advantage of? It is agreed that we are all fighting for independence. We are not independent yet. Under those circumstances, we do not wish to take advantage of any situation; the masses are to be trained, they have to be educated. This has to be attended to. I do not like to put it that the Congress by means of this Ordinance wants to take advantage over us, to deny us an approach to the people. If the Congress party were to adopt this measure, this is a blow to the national movement. It is a blow to the future Congress movement and in the movement which the Congress is expected to conduct, it is going to be smashed.

"It has been asked by the Muslim League friends why the ordinary provisions of the law could not be used against the movement. My point is that we do not want to be repressed by any law. Not a single strike up till now was spared from section 144. I am putting another question to my League friends. There, in the Punjab, 74 of the 79 League Members were arrested. As far as we understand, they were fighting for a civil liberty. In that context the question of choice between an Ordinance or the ordinary Criminal Law of the land does not arise. Any repressive legislation which is enacted by British imperialism should be shunned by a popular Government. The struggle for civil liberties, so long as it is based upon principle, should not be curtailed. I feel friends who have said 'use the ordinary law' were wrong. After all, against whom were our

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activities directed? They were against the black-marketeers, the mirasdars, mill-owners and the capitalists. We exposed so many black-marketeers but it is not they that have been punished but instead we are punished for getting hold of them. I can prove that there is no use of saying 'go to the court and prove your case.' I shall give you one instance of how the court and the police are functioning in this country. In Ellore, the Progressive Writers wanted to have their conference. Progressive Writers include from Justice Rajamannar to an ordinary Communist. It includes all sorts of people. Against such a Conference the Police force immediately came up with section 144. We did not do as the Punjab Muslim League party decided to do and we did not want to stage a revolt against the popular Ministry. We applied to the District Magistrate and he replied that we could not hold the Conference. This matter has been reported to Government without getting any reply so far. The tragedy is that the Hon. Premier is paying tribute after tributes to the Police. They can suppress any popular movement as they have done even the Progressive Writers' Conference. This is how civil liberties are being denied. Even during the course of the last Budget session, I venture to suggest to the Law Minister regarding the lifting of the ban on *Moodadugu*; that has not been accepted. The Progressive Writers' Conference was held under the presidency of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajamannar, who is neither a Congressman nor a Communist. There was a demand for the lifting of the ban. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajamannar has as much legal tenets as the Hon. Law Minister. They why should such a literature be banned? You see how the Ministry is functioning. It is evident that our civil liberties are not protected. It is an illusion to say that the Congress Ministry is very lenient, conciliatory and tolerant. Go through the history of each strike or every agrarian trouble. You will see that tolerance, forbearance and restraint were exercised by the Kisans though they had a right for land and they had been ejected. We tried to conduct our struggle in the most legal way possible, we made repeated representations and said that we were prepared to co-operate with Government in each and every case provided we had an opportunity to represent our case. As a matter of fact, the Kerala Communist party leader, Mr. Nambudripad, wrote to that effect. No reply was received. Co-operation was not forthcoming. Mr. Dixon, Officer in charge of Revenue, was sent to enquire into the matter; within four or five days he submitted a report. The Hon. Prime Minister quotes from that report. I regret to say that it was not placed on the table of the House so that all can read it and find out what sort of report it is. I wish to impress upon the House, that, up to now, no strike, no popular movement was dealt with leniently. Nobody need complain that the Congress has been lenient. If at all any complaint has to be made, it has to be made about excesses. During question hour, even the Hon. Prime Minister was forced to accept that some Committee would be appointed to enquire into the matter. It is plain so far that the Congress Ministry did not show any forbearance and severity was its motto. Industrial disputes ended with

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labour accepting the award. Kisans accepted the award of the Adjudicator. Mirasdars and mill-owners violated the awards. For all the misdeeds of capitalists, mill-owners, landlords, and zamindars, we are being taken to task and this is how Law and Order in the Province is being carried on. The necessity for the Ordinance was questioned. For that, the Hon. Prime Minister has catalogued all these charges. When matters are at least allowed to be taken to court, we can carry on some agitation and we can make some representation but by means of this Ordinance the Prime Minister has set his face against a national movement and against the people's movement. The worst of it is that it is to be reproduced in the form of a regular legislation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has taken 36 minutes. May I know, whether he will finish his speech if he is given five minutes more."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"No, Sir, I request at least an hour."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is impossible."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I have not exhausted all my points. I request I may be given sufficient time to answer all the points. So many people have thrown charges against us, and we are not protected. If there is any minority, it is only you and I. (Laughter) The Muslim community is not really a minority. So, at least I should be allowed to get up in this House to show that those charges are not correct. We, Communists are not inhuman. We are human like Congress people. Our policy is not violence. We are as non-violent as the Congress or the Muslim League is. I have got so many things to refer to. I request the House to give me a patient hearing."

MR. SPEAKER:—"How many minutes more you want? I will allow you to speak not today, but tomorrow."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"One hour more, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I will allow you 24 minutes more, so that altogether you would have addressed the House for one hour. So, after question time tomorrow, you can continue your speech. After that the Hon. the Premier will reply." (An hon. Member: 'Has he got a right of reply?')

SRI T. VISWANATHAM:—"He will reply to the new points raised."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"At this rate, where is the end for Communism?" (Laughter).

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. tomorrow the 11th February 1947."

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 90 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 10th February 1947, page 404 supra.]

The total attacks and deaths from smallpox for each district for each of the years 1941 to 1945.

Districts.	1941.		1942.		1943.		1944		1945.	
	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.
1 Vizagapatam ..	2,023	286	3,140	340	3,264	1,177	9,781	1,763	7,075	1,093
2 Godavari, East ..	773	174	1,013	157	1,173	190	5,697	1,147	4,076	832
3 Godavari, West ..	1,266	264	1,319	335	1,200	200	1,632	290	3,402	622
4 Kistna ..	689	135	1,202	213	1,376	312	2,613	474	2,326	363
5 Guntur ..	38	46	590	134	2,994	480	7,737	1,376	10,006	1,443
6 Nellore ..	107	19	87	14	2,427	411	3,995	674	3,363	615
7 Chingleput ..	78	12	39	6	555	497	1,942	519	2,778	666
8 South Arcot ..	989	205	310	46	2,682	442	11,223	2,097	7,938	1,604
9 Trichinopoly ..	145	17	24	5	225	23	2,522	385	3,477	739
10 Tanjore ..	314	69	94	88	369	112	6,504	1,650	13,065	3,560
11 Madurai ..	907	194	384	79	358	63	1,676	386	3,531	647
12 Ramnad ..	130	22	279	41	46	5	500	97	3,637	709
13 Tinnevely ..	32	9	88	10	374	81	3,156	530	1,904	283
14 Kuruool ..	24	23	40	7	1,107	250	2,957	576	1,113	192
15 Cuddapah ..	3	1	12	1	1,344	380	897	206	1,010	165
16 Bellary ..	658	30	2,063	230	1,025	164	579	76	58	10
17 Anantapur ..	93	12	463	71	2,311	314	2,022	355	470	64
18 North Arcot ..	40	15	311	48	3,058	592	7,193	1,465	3,755	706
19 Chittoor ..	172	24	312	28	1,030	157	1,890	326	2,476	333
20 Salem ..	111	27	133	23	1,326	401	3,346	937	3,441	786
21 Coimbatore ..	935	159	401	49	298	53	1,324	327	3,401	665
22 The Nilgiris ..	12	1	16	5	70	17	183	67	121	29
23 South Kanara ..	493	246	212	42	401	103	1,576	349	1,681	344
24 Malabar ..	1,147	298	213	44	996	232	2,359	823	4,000	1,269
25 Madras City ..	23	5	60	13	65	13	545	123	1,649	193

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, the 11th February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

(Short notice question.)

Hunger-strike by two handloom weavers at Madras.

* 101-A Q.—SRI M. KANNIAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the hunger-strike by two handloom weavers of North Madras Handloom Weavers' Congress A. M. Lokanatham and V. M. Shanmukham opposite this Assembly Chamber from 9 a.m. this morning;

(b) if so, what action he is going to take to end the strike immediately; and

(c) whether the G.O. Ms. No. 3551, Development, dated 17th September 1946, regarding handloom weavers is being properly enforced in the whole of Madras Province without delay?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) & (b) The Collector of Madras who has been asked to take immediate action on the requests of the North Madras Handloom Weavers' Congress, has stated that 86 applications of coolie weavers received through the North Madras Handloom Weavers' Congress were disposed of as shown below:—

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of applications on which ration cards have been issued | 40 |
| (2) Number of applications rejected as not eligible | 24 |
| (3) Number of applications returned with check-slip to the Circle Committee for further particulars | 22 |

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The Secretary of the Congress admitted having received the orders in respect of the first two items mentioned above but not the applications covered by the third item. These applications were returned to the Chairman of the Circle Committee No. I. It is possible that the Secretary is not aware of it. The Secretary has however promised to send to the Collector fresh applications in respect of these 22

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cases as also a few specific cases of injustice caused to the weavers by the orders passed by the Textile Control Officer. The Collector has promised to deal with the applications expeditiously on receipt and has also agreed to look into any specific allegations that may be made against the Textile Control Officer. The Government understand that the hunger-strikers have agreed to call off the strike, and they called off the strike as a result of all these investigations.

"(c) There is no reason to believe that the orders in G.O. Ms. No. 3551, Development, dated 17th September 1946, have not been properly enforced?"

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the policy of this Government to encourage such hunger-strike for trivial and ordinary reasons, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Certainly not, Sir."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it to be said that the Collector has delayed in this matter, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I do not think there is any reason to think so. A great deal of decentralization has been effected recently, and the Collectors and other officers, after issue of these orders, are taking action as expeditiously as possible."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that with regard to the grievances of the North Madras Handloom Weavers' Congress, the Minister has been approached a number of times and informed that the Textile Control Officer in charge has been reported as not doing anything, and that the Minister has not taken adequate steps?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I have taken adequate steps, and therefore it is that the hunger-strike has been called off. Though I informed the hunger-strikers that they need not come to me, yet they waited at the gates of the Secretariat. I do not know why. In fact, Government took every opportunity to see that the hunger-strike was called off. Government have taken all steps necessary in the matter."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that after giving several notices, and after making representations to the Hon. Minister, that they undertook the strike, since they did not get proper redress?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It is quite possible, Sir; but that does not mean a hunger-strike should take place."

[*Exemption for Harijans from the seniority rule observed in promotions.*]

* 102 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to exempt the Harijans from the seniority rule now observed in promotions?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The answer is in the negative."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that there is very poor representation of Harijans in Government services, what prevents Government from exempting these Harijans from these rules, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"What prevents in all other cases, the same thing here prevents."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Harijan community is said to be a favourite and privileged community that deserves the sympathy of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That is the reason why, in exceptional cases, if there is competence also, exemption will be made and not otherwise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of granting such exemptions only in fit cases?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes Sir; otherwise it will lead to serious trouble. If any imbecile is to be exempted or an insane man is to be exempted, the world will come to great troubles."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the same rule applies to Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The same rule applies to all."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state how many intecile and incompetent Harijans are there in the service of Government?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"That is why, Sir, such people could not find a place in Government service."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether between Harijans and Muslims there will be chances for others?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes; chance for everybody who deserves."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Will not efficiency go down, Sir, if concessions are allowed to go on like this?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It will go down, Sir, but such exemptions generally exist all over the world."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the answer just now given by the Hon. Prime Minister, may I know, Sir, whether Government will at least relax some of the rules?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The answer given already covers this also."]

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Communal clashes in Salem district.

* 103 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of communal clashes in Salem district since May 1946;

(b) how many of them were between Hindus and Muslims and how many otherwise; and

(c) whether any attempts were made by the Government to investigate into the causes of such clashes?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a), (b) & (c) The Government must decline to answer these questions as it will be against the public interest to answer them.”

Homeopathic dispensaries.

* 104 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state the names of the local bodies which are permitted by Government to open and maintain Homeopathic dispensaries?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The East Godavari, West Godavari and Ramnad District Boards have been permitted to open and maintain Homeopathic dispensaries.”

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether, in view of the fact that many of the rural dispensaries are not functioning for want of L.M.Ps., the Government will open Homeopathic dispensaries?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The question of developing and encouraging the homeopathic system of medicine is still under the consideration of Government.”

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, what qualifications these people in charge of Homeopathic dispensaries are having? What are the qualifications recognized by the Government for this purpose?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“A Board consisting of a few members was constituted to go into the question of encouraging Homeopathic system of medicine. So far as I am aware, no specific qualifications have been laid down yet. The committee will be asked to go into this question when the proposal fructifies.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received any representation in the matter from any one of the Municipalities from Rayalaseema?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Not so far as I am aware of.”

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Supervision over the distribution of iron in Tellicherry.

* 105 Q.—K. M. SEETHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the President of the Tellicherry Village Committee is authorized to supervise the distribution of iron in Tellicherry without reference to the members of the Committee; and

(b) if so, the reason why he is given the said authority?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) & (b) There is no village committee for Tellicherry. There is a rationing advisory committee for Tellicherry town. The President of this Committee and the Presidents of three other village committees were asked by the Taluk Supply Officer to issue permits for agricultural implements which were available with the Agricultural Demonstrator, Tellicherry. They were not informed that they should issue permits without consulting the other members of the Committee. The Presidents of the Committees have since been instructed by the Collector to issue permits in consultation with the members of the Committee.”

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—“May I know, Sir, what prevents the Hon. Minister from getting this information from the Tahsildar or the Collector of the district concerned?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“Nothing prevents, Sir.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that generally the issue of permits are delegated to be issued by one of the members of the village committees in various taluks and districts?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We are in Tellicherry now. Notice?”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“I want to make a submission to you, Sir. I am not questioning your ruling, but your direction now that the supplementary question was not in order rather takes me by surprise. Allow me to submit to you that I can understand the Hon. the Minister asking for notice as he will not be able to answer the question. But a supplementary question need not be ruled out from the Chair on the ground that it refers to another district.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We are in a particular division of a district. Therefore proper notice should be given to the Hon. Minister.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“It may be, Sir, that the Hon. Minister may be in a position to answer the question. I would beg of you to allow the Minister to ask for notice, if need be.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“When I say it is not in order, it is not in order. The Minister will require notice.”

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Registration of Co-operative Employees' Associations under the Trade Union Act.

* 106 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have any objection to the non-official co-operative employees forming themselves as Associations on Trade Union principles and getting those Associations registered under the Trade Union Act instead of getting their recognition from the institutions in which they are employed?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Government have no objection if the provisions of the Indian Trade Union Act, 1926, are satisfied."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No supplementary question by Sri S. Nagappa! This is a miracle!"

Number of 'habituals' in jails.

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

- (a) how many 'habituals' are now in jails;
- (b) how many jails are set apart for accommodating them;
- (c) how many 'habituals' such jails are intended to accommodate;
- (d) whether there is any excess in the number of 'habituals', and, if so, how many; and
- (e) what steps the Government are taking to make the necessary provision of accommodation for such 'habituals'?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" (a) On 9th November 1946, there were 2,213 'habitual' prisoners of whom 1,039 were classified as fit for detention in special jails intended for 'habitual' prisoners.

" (b) The Central Jails, Salem and Vizagapatam, are set apart for accommodating them.

" (c) The Central Jails at Salem and Vizagapatam are intended to accommodate 1,231 and 554 prisoners respectively.

" (d) The answer is in the negative.

" (e) The question does not arise."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government has considered any move to prevent these habituals from going to jails?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"There are Probation Officers who look after these habituals when they get out of jail and see that they conduct themselves properly outside."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know what is meant by the word 'habituals', Sir?"

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THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"One who commits an offence and is convicted and when let out, again committing the same or similar offence and comes again to the jail."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, the distinction in treatment between habitual criminals and persons arrested under the new Ordinance?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"If they commit the same offence over again, they become 'habituals'."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"My question has not been answered." (The hon. Member then repeated his question.)

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Only the other day I placed a Government Order on the table of the House, showing the treatment meted out to political prisoners. They are classed as 'special class prisoners' and they are entitled to the treatment of 'special class prisoners', whereas 'habituals' are mostly 'C' class prisoners, and they are entitled to 'C' class privileges."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I enquire, Sir, if there are Probation Officers to look after juveniles as well as adult habituals?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"In some cases adults also; generally for juveniles only."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, what community is represented most among the habituals?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"The matter has not been investigated. It will be investigated if it is worthwhile."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, if the persons detained under the new Ordinance were being locked up during night time?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"I have asked for information; I have not got it."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Will Government consider jail reform in the direction of making jails more a place for correction than for punishment?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"It is a question of policy under the consideration of Government."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Would not this much-desired reform prevent many of the habituals returning to jail again and again?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"It may be so; the question of policy involving large expenditure is under the consideration of Government."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government have under consideration any more scientific system of dealing with habituals than that of accommodating them in special jails?"

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THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"If the hon. Member suggests any means, it will be considered."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"May I know, Sir, as the 12½ annas worth of food per day now given to the detenues is wholly insufficient, whether the Hon. Minister for Law will consider to increasing it to at least at the rates given to Congress detenues previously?"

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"If the food is insufficient or unnutritious enough, it will be considered by the Government."

[Sri Pillalamarri Venkateswarlu rose in his seat to put one more question.]

MR. SPEAKER:—"You are asking questions regarding detenues. You should put a separate question."

[*Application of the Madras Prevention of Begging Act, 1945, in municipalities.*]

* 108 Q.—SRI M. KUMARAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Madras Prevention of Begging Act, 1945, has been made applicable to any municipal area outside the Madras City;

(b) if so, the names of such municipalities; and

(c) if not, whether the Government have any intention of extending the area of its application, in the near future?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Ootacamund.

" (c) Coimbatore has constructed a beggar home and Madura has started a scheme. The provisions of the Prevention of Begging Act will be extended to these municipalities in due course. The Government would extend the Act to other municipalities as and when they start homes for beggars."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I know, Sir, the progress that has been made in the enforcement of this Act after the present Government came into office?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"As I said, Sir, the home in Coimbatore is about to be opened, and the one in Madura has already started to function. These things have occurred after the advent of the Congress Ministry."

M. S. ABDUL MAJEED SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In spite of the operation of this Act, we find lot of beggary in the City. May I know why this is happening?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"We want more beggar homes, Sir."

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(SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government have given any subsidies to such of the municipalities that have taken to work this Act?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Starting and running of beggar homes is a social service, and therefore, we expect municipalities, with the contribution of the generous public, to start and carry on these beggar homes."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I enquire, Sir, from the Minister that the Ootacamund Municipality is not in a position to maintain the beggars' home and that the municipality is going about begging for funds?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I suppose, Sir, begging is proper for starting a beggar home."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government are prepared to make a statement of their policy with regard to this measure?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It is the well established policy of the Government, Sir, that they do not wish to encourage but discourage begging; therefore they encourage Municipalities to start beggar homes."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will Government take proper measures to remove these social evils in a short time?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Long established social evils cannot be removed in a short time."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When there are not sufficient beggar homes in the City of Madras what is the point in enforcing this Act, as so many beggars are to be found in the City?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The difficulty, Sir, is to keep these beggars in beggar homes. They are unwilling to stay in beggar homes, because they find it a more lucrative trade to beg in the streets."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that measures for the economic amelioration of these beggars should go hand-in-hand with any measures for removing this evil?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Government, Sir, are wedded to a long-term policy of economic uplift of the masses of the people in this country."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask if this Act applies to princely beggars?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" 'Princely beggars' appears to be a contradiction in terms."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer, may I enquire whether it is advisable or reasonable to allow local bodies to beg to maintain beggar homes." (Laughter.)

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising out of the answer may I ask the Hon. Minister, whether he does not expect 'princely beggars' after the passing of the Zamindari Act?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Princely, Sir, in rank and not in economic status."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister Sir, as to what the conditions that are to be fulfilled for extending the Act to the various municipalities are?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Prevention of Begging Act refers to special homes and workhouses. Diseased beggars have to be committed to a special home. Beggars who are able to work have to be sent to the workhouses. Before the Act could be enforced, it is necessary that these special homes and workhouses should be started by the local bodies concerned."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the finances of the local bodies do not permit them to start beggar homes, what action do Government propose to take in order to give them some financial assistance?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Government are exploring every avenue for the purpose of augmenting resources of the local bodies."

SRI K. A. NACHIAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask, Sir, whether any representation or request has come from Salem Municipality with regard to the extension of the Act there?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am not aware of it."

SRI K. SUBBA RAO:—"Will Government be pleased to make an equal amount of grant to all local bodies to encourage them to start beggar homes?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"That can be considered, Sir, when the financial position of the Province improves."

[*Creation of panchayats in villages.*]

* 109 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to establish panchayats in all the villages; and

(b) if so, how far this policy has been carried out?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" (a) The general policy of Government has been to constitute panchayats for revenue villages where the population is not less than 1,000; and to combine under the jurisdiction of a single panchayat two or more villages where the population of each is less than 1,000. The Government have now under consideration proposals to reorganize village panchayats and to

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establish them in every village or groups of villages throughout the Province. A Bill to carry out these objects is under preparation.

"(b) So far 670 major panchayats and 6,700 minor panchayats have been constituted in this Province."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of amending the Local Boards Act so as to enable Harijans to become Presidents of the Panchayats on the lines of the convention that is now existing in the Madras Corporation?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"A convention is a convention, and cannot be enforced by Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, whether a convention cannot be made in the constitution by amending the Act?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"That is only a convention; not a constitution."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—"May I enquire whether Government will take steps to give proper and adequate representation to Harijans in all village panchayats?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There is a provision in the present Village Panchayats Act, which is part of the Local Boards Act, that wherever there are Harijans, separate seats should be allotted to them."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—"May I know whether any Harijan has been elected as President of any village panchayat?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I think there are some. Notice."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I enquire whether in view of the dissatisfaction, that Harijans are not able to get into panchayat boards, whether Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of constituting a separate electorate for Harijans?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I suppose Mr. Pocker is pleading as an advocate."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether under the present condition of feuds in villages, the Government do not consider that the grant of large powers to village panchayats will tend to increase the factions that are already prevalent?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The hon. lady Member will have an opportunity of discussing this question in full when the Village Panchayats Bill comes up before this House."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILIAI:—"Is it not a fact that members of the Scheduled castes are also to stand for elections to get themselves elected?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Yes, Sir."

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Amount spent for wells in Nellore district.

* 110 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what amount was spent for new and old wells in Nellore district under the new scheme; and

(b) how many wells have been completely constructed and how many remain still to be completed?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“(a) The following subsidies were paid:—

Rs. 8,59,848 for new wells.

Rs. 3,61,295 for old wells.

“(b) The following are the figures as on 31st December 1946:—

			Number completed.	Number to be completed.
New wells	..	..	933	1,939
Old wells	..	..	582	1,709

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister what is the extent of land that has come under wet cultivation due to the digging of these wells?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Notice of a separate question may be given, Sir.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“May I ask, Sir, why the number of incomplete wells both in respect of new and old wells is so large?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“I understand, Sir, that it is due to the paucity of labour and also on account of the early rains, the wells could not be completed within time.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know if any of these subsidised wells in Nellore district were affected by floods and rendered useless?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“It is too big a question to answer now, Sir.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government give us an assurance that in the event of both new and old wells which are still remaining incomplete after a prescribed time-limit, prescribed that the subsidies paid for the sinking of these wells will be asked to be refunded?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“Steps have already been taken, Sir, where substantial work has not been done in respect of these wells the Board of Revenue will ask for a refund of the subsidies by the parties. Where substantial progress has been made further time has been given till the end of June next.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“My question is in respect of Nellore district, Sir. Since the Government have

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invested money and subsidies have been given in respect of sinking and repairing of wells, are they not in a position to state how many wells were affected by the recent floods in the Nellore district?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The number of wells concerned is very large and I cannot say off-hand how many of them have been affected by the floods.”

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—“Will the Government consider the question of extending the scheme to the Ceded districts for some more years in view of the fact that it will help the ‘grow more food’ campaign?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“A new scheme is under consideration and orders will be issued soon.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know what the policy of the Government is in respect of the subsidised wells that were affected by the recent floods?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“I shall enquire, Sir, if there are any such wells which have been affected.”

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to state if in the new scheme at least parts of Chittoor district, which were parts of the Ceded districts before, will be included?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“The new scheme is to cover the whole province. Certain areas where the work is more difficult, that is areas similar to the Ceded districts, such as portions of the Chittoor district referred to by my hon. Friend, will be considered for enhanced subsidy.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government tell us if before the new scheme is introduced, their report of the working of the present scheme will be placed on the table of the House?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“I cannot say anything just now. But later on it will be done.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“What I want to know is not in respect of any individual case, Sir. I want to know the general policy of the Government in respect of the subsidised wells that have been rendered useless due to the recent floods in the Province?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“I will have that matter considered, Sir.”

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—“Is it a fact, Sir, that the Hon. Minister has given stay orders against the orders of the Collector that the subsidy given to the District Board President, Guntur, be recovered . . . ?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—“If a separate question is put I shall give the information.”

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SRI P. NATESAN:—"In view of the fact that they have invested Rs. 12 lakhs on these new and old wells in the Nellore district will the Government say whether these have brought in sufficient land under extra cultivation?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Yes, Sir. Because it was so considered that the scheme was put into operation by the previous Government and we have continued it. The Government of India also want us to continue the scheme and they have promised a half subsidy."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that a new well costs about Rs. 1,000 according to the figures given by the Hon. Minister, has the Government taken care to see whether that figure represents the usual cost of a well in the locality?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"No hard and fast rule can be laid about Rs. 1,000. I have myself seen wells which cost only Rs. 500 in the Ramnad district and elsewhere. No definite rule can be stated. The subsidy covers 50 per cent of the cost subject to a certain maximum."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know if the Hon. Minister can say how many extra acres of land have come under cultivation on account of this subsidy to the wells in the Nellore district, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Is the Government keeping in view the desirability of avoiding much waste of money before putting the new scheme into operation by assuring themselves about the success of the scheme at present in operation?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Yes, Sir, that has been done."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question, Sir, was that in view of the fact that these new wells which are now the subject of discussion have already cost about Rs. 1,000 to the Government according to the figures supplied by them—the Hon. Minister said that about 900 wells cost Government by way of subsidy about Rs. 8 lakhs and odd—whether the Government has taken care to see if this Rs. 1,000 per well by way of subsidy has got any relation to the real cost of sinking wells in the locality?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"There is some misapprehension, Sir. It is not correct to say that 900 wells have cost Rs. 8 lakhs. The subsidy was given on the basis of about Rs. 300 to Rs. 310 for a well and not more than that."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government or the department concerned to increase production?"

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"That was done, Sir. A new well was expected to help to raise crop in a definite number of acres. Only in cases where such crop was expected to be grown the subsidy was paid."

SRI T. S. PATTABHIRAMAN:—"Is it a fact that this well-digging scheme of the Government has proved to be a gold-digging scheme for many of the officers concerned?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"It is said so, Sir, in some quarters, but wherever possible I have taken steps by asking the public and Members of the Food Committee to report of such cases. Mere generalisations are of little help to us."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I crave your indulgence in asking the Hon. Minister to repeat the figure regarding cost of the new wells, the number of new wells and the total subsidy spent on the new wells?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The answer is very clear, Sir: For new wells, both completed and incomplete wells the total subsidy given is Rs. 859 lakhs. This works to about Rs. 300 per well and not more."

Establishment of the office of the Board of Revenue.

* 111 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the number of (i) permanent and (ii) temporary junior superintendents, senior superintendents and upper division clerks in the Board of Revenue, specifying the number of the above posts held by each community?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"A statement^a containing the particulars is laid on the table."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why so far as the Muslims are concerned the figures are not given under the heading 'Land Revenue Branch'?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I take it, Sir, that there are no Muslims in that branch."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, what is the reason for the paucity of Muslims in the Board of Revenue and may I know the reason why the key posts in the Board of Revenue are held by Brahmans?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The only reason can be that there were no sufficient number of Muslim applicants at the time of recruitment and consequently promotions have been slow in their cases."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether it is a fact that even unqualified Brahmans in the Board of Revenue have been promoted in preference to qualified Muslims?"

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I am not aware of that, Sir, because when they are recruited as clerks they are recruited on the recommendations of the Public Services Commission. Therefore they cannot be unqualified."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"From the answer I find that there are no scheduled caste men both in the Excise and the Statistical branch. Will the Hon. Minister find out the reason for there being no members of that Community and see what can be done?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Yes, Sir. I shall get the necessary information."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of seeing that the Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the Revenue Board are appointed from the various communities in rotation and not give it to one community for so many years at a time?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I can give no such undertaking, Sir, but as far as possible opportunities must be given to all."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, what is the reason that consecutively for three terms of three years, i.e., nine years, the post of Secretary to the Board of Revenue has been held by a Brahman?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Certainly it does not arise from this question which relates to superintendents and clerks. If a separate question is put, I shall answer it, Sir."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether in view of the fact that over-representation is given to a particular community called the Brahman community, the Government will stop recruiting Brahmans hereafter?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I am afraid the suggestion cannot be seriously considered, Sir."

Buildings and other structures constructed for the army in this Province.

* 112 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the Government propose to do with the buildings and other structures that were constructed during the war for the use of the army in this Province; and

(b) how the Government intend to utilize in future the building erected for the Hope Club and other such clubs?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) A Cabinet Sub-Committee has been constituted to consider the question of taking over from the Government of India, the camps buildings and equipment used for military purposes and no

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longer required for their purposes and utilizing them for housing Government servants, for public institutions or for other purposes. The Sub-Committee is considering the question.

"(b) The question is under consideration by Government and has not yet been finally decided."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask how long the Cabinet Committee will take to arrive at a decision in this regard?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We have to deal with the Government of India in this matter and it takes some time."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, whether it is not a fact that the Cabinet Committee has been dealing with this question for a long time past?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"That is so. But I have already stated that the delay is also due to our having to deal with the Government of India."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of allowing some of these building materials to be given to the scheduled castes for putting up their habitation?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The Government will consider that question along with other questions."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the paucity of housing accommodation in the cities will the Government take steps to expedite the matter with the Government of India?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We are doing everything to expedite the matter."

SRI GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:—"Is it a fact that the meat dehydration factory is offered for sale to the public? If all the properties are sold away, will it not be that the Madras Government will not be able to get any property by the time they make up their mind?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I would like to have notice of the question, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government see that as far as possible these structures and buildings are used and that they are not dismantled?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Certainly, we shall have that in view."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Does the Hon. Minister consider that all these structures will be fit for housing people?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We will only consider such of the buildings as will be fit for that purpose."

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SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know if the Madras Government have taken any steps to stay any future sales and destruction of buildings that were contemplated to be so dealt with? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" Yes, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" In view of the shortage of houses in the city of Madras and elsewhere will the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of seeing that building materials are made available for construction of new houses much easier than what it is at present? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" That question does not arise out of this."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of granting to the Harijans some buildings that are suitable for Harijan hostels? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" We shall consider that question too."

[Compulsory education to backward communities.]

* 113 Q.—SRI K. BOKKAI GOWDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce compulsory education in the rural parts mainly populated by backward communities throughout the Province; and

(b) whether compulsory education will be introduced in the firkas selected for rural development?

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

" (a) Compulsory education has been introduced in selected villages in each district. The selection of villages is made by the Inspecting Officers in consultation with Presidents, District Boards. It is open to the District Board to select areas which contain large number of people belonging to backward communities.

" (b) The selection of villages is made on certain principles adopted by the Education Department. If the Firkas satisfy these principles, villages will be selected from those firkas also."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state if any sums have been left unspent out of the allotment for the year 1945-46 for compulsory education? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" The hon. Member may kindly put a separate question."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I enquire whether the term 'backward communities' includes the new term known as 'eligible communities' ? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" 'Eligible Communities' includes backward communities also."

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BEGUM SUITAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" May I ask, Sir, what steps the Government are taking to see that the backward communities are not neglected by the district boards in the matter of extension of compulsory education? I want to know what specific steps the Government are taking to see that due justice is done to the backward communities in this regard? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" We expect the district boards to take this into account in the matter of the selection of the areas."

SRI A. SATYANARAYANA RAJU:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister is aware that on account of the hopelessly low salaries of school teachers, no self-respecting man can be expected to take to the profession of teachers? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" That question does not arise out of this."

SRI K. RAJARAM NAIDU:—" May I ask, Sir, whether this compulsory education will be introduced in all the villages selected for rural development? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" No, Sir. If the hon. Member has followed my answer, he would have caught the point."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I ask, Sir, how compulsory education can at all be effective in rural areas when it has not been a success in a place like Madras? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" That question does not arise. The present question relates to selection of areas for the introduction of compulsory education."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" We are spending money on compulsory education and we should see that it is spent effectively. I want to know how the Government expect the scheme to be successful in rural areas when it has not been successful in a place like Madras."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" I do not think this House will accept the position that it should be enforced in Madras alone and not in rural areas."

SRI P. NATESAN:—" I do not say that. I only ask: when it has not been effective in Madras, how is it going to be effective in the rural areas? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
" We hope so, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask, Sir, if it is the policy of the Government to encourage minorities and backward communities in the matter of compulsory education and whether they have issued explicit instructions to local bodies and their officers to select areas which are inhabited by backward communities? "

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

“I am not quite sure about the instructions issued in this matter. If the hon. Member desires, the Government will be glad to issue a circular.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that some district boards are showing discrimination and neglecting the backward communities in the matter of extending compulsory education?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“No, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to call for a report about this matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Will the hon. the Lady Member kindly put down a specific question where discrimination has been made?”

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of asking district boards to submit periodical reports on the extension of compulsory education so that Government may see whether the district boards have exercised their powers in such a manner as to do justice to all the communities?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Periodical reports are received even now, but it is difficult for Government to know to which communities the people of the villages belong.”

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, in spite of the fact that Compulsory Education Bill was passed several years ago and the position with regard to compulsory education is so unsatisfactory as it is at present, how many decades does the Hon. Minister for Education think it will take before compulsory education is effectively introduced in this country?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The Government are very anxious to spread compulsory education as soon and as effectively as possible. If the hon. Member has any suggestions to make in this direction, they will be welcome.”

Students deputed for training in Metallurgy.

* 114 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that physics students of B.Sc. course were deputed to Sheffield or any other foreign countries for training in Metallurgy by the Government, and if so, to what places and what are the costs involved in the same;

(b) whether such training is practical or theoretical; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take steps to provide facilities for such training here itself?

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

“(a) No student has been sponsored by the Government, under the Government of India overseas scholarships scheme, for advanced studies in Metallurgy in any foreign country.

“(b) Does not arise.

“(c) The Government of India have under consideration the establishment in India of two high grade institutions for advanced technical education on the lines of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States of America. They have also sanctioned a four-year development plan for the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; and His Majesty's Government have lent the Institute three eminent experts for Aeronautical Engineering, *Metallurgy* and Applied mechanics.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, training in Metallurgy is given in the Benares Hindu University. May I know how many Madras students are studying Metallurgy there?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am not able to answer the question off-hand. The hon. Member may please put a separate question.”

Scholarship for Harijan pupils.

* 115 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number, districtwar, of Harijan pupils enjoying for the last three years

(1) Labour department scholarships for ordinary education, commercial education, professional education and industrial education;

(2) special scholarships awarded by the Director of Public Instruction and District Educational Officer;

(3) boarding grants awarded by the Labour Commissioner; and

(b) the amount allotted to the Collectors this year for giving non-recurring grants towards fees, books, cloths, etc.?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“(a) (1) A statement showing the number of the various kinds of scholarships awarded by the Labour department for the last three years is placed on the table of the House. Districtwar figures are available only in regard to non-residential scholarships.

(2) No special scholarships are awarded to Harijan pupils either by the Director of Public Instruction or District Educational Officers.

(3) A statement* showing the number of individual boarding grants awarded by the Commissioner of Labour for the past three years is placed on the table of the House.

(*) Printed as Appendix II on pages 514-516 infra.

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- (b) A statement showing the amount allotted to the Collectors this year for giving non-recurring grants towards fees, books, clothes, etc., is placed on the table of the House."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"From the statement placed on the table of the House I find that the number of non-residential scholarships granted for collegiate education was 112 in 1943-44 and has been reduced to 76 in 1945-46. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to give reasons for this decrease?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The statement placed on the table of the House this morning is a big statement and it has not been possible for us to study it. Will you kindly allow supplementary questions to be put to-morrow?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes. It will be done."

Harijan uplift work.

* 116 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state whether the Government propose to do propaganda and educate the masses in Harijan uplift work through radio?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The question is under consideration of the Government."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—"As the Government are now allowing fifteen minutes every day for rural propaganda, may I ask whether the Government would allow some time for Harijan uplift propaganda also?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Harijan propaganda is now considered to be political one and the Government are considering the question of carrying on this propaganda on social disabilities through the radio."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister if 10 or 15 minutes will be allowed every day for social propaganda?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"As regards social propaganda such as the improvement of the slums, education of the children and so on, 45 minutes have been set apart for the Government of Madras for the rural propaganda."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister if time will be set apart for propaganda regarding communal harmony as well?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"As regards communal harmony, the programme is not yet decided. It is under the consideration of the Government of India not of the Government of Madras."

(a) Printed as appendix II on pages 514-516 infra.

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"As there are no radio (receiving sets installed) very near the habitations of the scheduled castes, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of putting up a few near their habitations?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Government of Madras are actively considering the supply of communal receiving sets to important revenue villages. It is now under consideration. If the question is decided, the hon. Members suggestion will be considered."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Harijan community is socially a very backward community and requires more social propaganda?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I am aware of the social disabilities of the Harijans. To remove social disabilities, radio propaganda is one of the most effective ways. As I said, the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Will the Government carry on this propaganda in English or in Indian languages?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mainly through Indian languages and occasionally through English when it is considered that we can reach the people concerned effectively through English."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Before Question No. 117 is taken up, may I request that it may be taken up to-morrow, as we want time to go through the long list placed on the table of the House."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes, this question (Q. No. 117) will be taken up to-morrow."

II.—RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 114 OF THE MADRAS ASSEMBLY RULES RE DISAPPROVAL OF MADRAS ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1947—cont.

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yesterday it was said that I would be allowed 24 minutes. I would like to have some ten more minutes." (Mr. Speaker: 'All right.')

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may inform the House that the Communist Party of India never advocated violence. It believes in non-violence (hear, hear) as much as the Congress or the League Party. If my hon. Friends have got some patience to hear me, I will explain how my statement is perfectly correct. If the Congress Party goes through the past history of the Congress itself, it will also come to the same conclusion as I have just now come to. Even to the members on the League benches, my request is the same. As regards violence in the Congress organization, as I have said in my opening speech, Sardar Vallabhai Patal in the Meerut session of the All-India Congress Committee clearly advocated the sword for sword policy and said that when there was no government and anarchy prevailed, everybody must protect himself. I do not know how the friends on the Congress benches

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accuse us of violence when their own leader, who is dictating the policy to the Congress Ministries throughout India, has clearly said so in so many words. Let us take the development of the national movement, particularly in the year 1942. We know what all had happened in 1942, and how the British Government accused the Congress of violence and disorder. Because there were some disturbances and acts of violence, does it mean that violence is the creed of the Congress? I request the Hon. Premier to apply the same code to the Communist Party. If he does so, I am sure, he will have no basis to accuse us of violence. Even the Leader of the Opposition said that he did not believe in violence, and pointed out violence in some of the Communist activities. I am sorry I have to contradict him and say that there was no violence on the part of the Communists. On the other hand, violence was used against the Communists by the agents of the blackmarketeers, the goondas and the mirasdars. Violence is not at all committed by the Communist Party nor was it advocated by it. If we are to accuse parties of violence because some incidents take place, then any party, including the League and the Congress Parties, is subject to the same accusation. In the recent disturbances on the so-called Direct Action day, we found so many riots taking place. Are we justified in putting the blame for the acts of violence on the League? If some acts of violence had been committed, it does not mean that the policy of the party is violence. In carrying on our day-to-day economic, agrarian and industrial activities, I can say without any fear of contradiction, we never advocated violence. When the goondas attacked us, we had to retaliate in self-defence. Self-defence is not new to the Congress members. Let me remind the Hon. Premier that the previous Speaker Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti gave good beatings to the goondas on the Madras beach when women were about to be assaulted. The Hon. Premier quoted the instance of an assault on a ration officer. I will let you know how it happened. The ration officer and the purchasing inspector entered a house in the Koram village in Chirakal taluk one day and searched for rice. They found that there was no extra rice and went away. The next day at about 3 a.m.—I would ask the House to particularly note the hour—they went to the same house again to search for the same rice. I do not know what necessitated them to go there at 3 a.m. They went there with 10 or 12 goondas. Three grown-up girls were sleeping in the house. They broke open the door and entered the house. The girls shouted. The neighbours came to the scene and gave them a good beating. I ask the lady Members sitting here what advice they will give to such grown-up girls when these goondas break open the door, enter the house and attempt to molest them. I request every Member to consider the details of each and every case in which the charge of violence has been levelled against us, and he will find that the Communist Party and its sympathisers were not responsible. The responsibility for violence rests with the goondas. The Police officers who are now let loose to have their own way, it is they who are doing all this mischief. The other day some member quoted the incident in which two servants of a mirasdar were killed. How did

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it happen? The tenants and the agricultural labourers were holding a big meeting as a protest against the atrocities of the mirasdars. Then the mirasdars sent goondas to disturb the meeting. A scuffle ensued and in the course of it, two people were seriously injured, and later on they succumbed. Why should the goondas disturb the meeting? Under the Congress regime, are the goondas given power to disturb meetings? We submitted a petition to the Government but it was of no avail. I would like to bring to the notice of the House that the charge of violence and looting was previously hurled against the 1942 movement by Churchills and Amerys. Now you are hurling the same charge against us. These are stories which the profiteers and hoarders invent to hide their black acts, to confuse the people and thereby continue to exploit them.

“Again, the Karivellur incident was referred to. There the jenmi wanted to take away some paddy to sell in the blackmarket. The peasants there asked him not to do so. A scuffle ensued and in that incident two or three people were killed by the Malabar Special Police.

“Which of our activities are condemned? Is it our activities in getting hold of blackmarketeers? Is it our activities among the kisans, particularly when the question of land and food has become so acute? I may make it clear that we always used to pass through all the legal channels. When all these channels are exhausted, and when it becomes inevitable for us, then only we resist. I request every one of you to view with an unbiassed mind. Then you will realize quite clearly that what I say is truth and nothing but truth.

“The hon. Member Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai said that he was not allowed even to hold a meeting in a particular place. To-day in Bengal, Mahatma Gandhi goes from village to village and addresses meetings even in Muslim areas, and nobody can prevent the people from attending them. Our Congress leaders visit so many places. If people do not turn up at their meetings, does it mean that the Communists are responsible for the people not attending them? All these questions must be carefully considered. Even to-day, let Mr. Muniswami Pillai come with me and hold a meeting anywhere he likes where we are strong, and I assure him that there will be no disturbance. We are not the persons to curtail expression of opinion. Our party does not want to keep the masses in darkness. Every man has got the right to do propaganda for or against Communists or any party. There is no use saying that the Communists are not allowing other parties to hold meetings. We never believe in such things. On the other hand, if I remember aright, during the individual satyagraha campaign, it was the Congress leaders who advised their boys not to go and attend Communist meetings fearing that they would be converted to the Communist ideology.

“As regards violence, I have explained the attitude of my party. In this connexion, a young gentleman of the Muslim League Party—I mean Mr. Raza Khan—gave elderly advice to my party. As though we lack some elderly advice, he advised

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us. We are prepared to take advice from every quarter. But what are we to learn from his party. Is it how to go to jail and how to sacrifice our lives and property? I think it is the Muslim League party that requires advice and guidance and not the Communist party in that connexion. The Communist party has shown in action before how to undergo these troubles and how to sacrifice. There is no use of viewing it with prejudice. Prejudice should not stand in the way of politics, particularly when we are judging such an important measure as the Ordinance.

"Let me bring to the notice of the House another matter. Some hon. Member referred to Mecca-Moscow alliance. I welcome that alliance. Mecca-Moscow alliance or Delhi-Moscow alliance will help our people's movement. These alliances will not stand in the way of democracy. Our leaders are aiming at an alliance with London. That is an alliance which will go against our people, which will enslave us for ever. There is no use of saying that there is a Mecca-Moscow alliance, simply because the Leader of the Opposition supported this motion. The Mecca-Moscow alliance should stand and increase every day.

12-15 p.m. "Now, let us see who have all supported this Ordinance now? The hon. Leader of the European Group supported this Ordinance; the President of the Chamber of Commerce, the hon. Mr. P. Natesan, supported this ordinance. What does it indicate? What is the point of the hon. Member of the European Group? He said that this is a perfect piece of legislation. Referring to the Act of 1935, he said that because there is a provision in the Act for promulgating an Ordinance, there is no objection to this Ordinance. Sir, it was only against the 1935 Act that the Congress leaders carried on an agitation in 1936 and refused to accept office. But all the same, we hear the Leader of the European Group saying that it is a perfect piece of legislation, because he knows that this Ordinance will certainly hamper the development of mass movement and stand in the way of mass development. He is jubilant over this Ordinance, because it will enable him to go on making his exorbitant profits; because it will put down all labour struggles and so on. Only for that reason, he is jubilant over this Ordinance. What would an honest patriot think when a European member comes forward to support an Ordinance like this? What would it mean? It means that his interests are safe and it will go against the interests of his country, if he does not do so.

"Sir, I remember the Hon. the Premier saying that the Communists are out to overthrow the Congress Government, not only here, but throughout India. There are disturbances and troubles going on all throughout India and particularly in those provinces where there are Congress Governments. Even though the Congress party is in office, even though the Congress party is carrying on the Government, it is not the Congressmen that are actually governing this country. Instead we find the hand of White Hall and the Viceroy in every action of theirs. To-day, we are seeing that the Muslim League and the Congress are quarrelling among themselves and there is no unity and

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Government may break up at any time. In these circumstances, there is no meaning in saying that it is the Congress Government that is running the administration of the country. It is not the popular Ministry that has the final say in these matters. Therefore there is no point in the Congress Government accusing the Communists that they are out to overthrow the Congress Ministry in this or in any other province.

"What is it that the Communists want? They want the Congress Ministry to fulfil its election pledges. We want the Congress Government to carry out their pledges to the people. For that only we are agitating. The Congress Government was in office for over two years and half previously and they are now in office for the last ten months. No legislation has been passed to improve the conditions of the kisans and workers. That is why the peasants are agitating. Is there anything wrong in that? Even the Hon. the Premier has been stating that it is not right on the part of the landlord or the zamindar to evict his tenants. When the landlords refuse to follow that advice and the peasants approach them with their demands, the Police are there to issue section 144 and suppress their agitation. This is how the peasants are being treated. It is not the mischief of the Communists or of any other party. The root cause of the trouble is discontent.

"Now, Sir, some of the hon. Members of the Congress benches, while supporting this Ordinance, stated that because 'his is a popular Government, a people's Government, the Ordinance that is passed by them is a popular piece of legislation. I am amazed at this argument. Suppose a popular Government enhances the tax on the land or suppose a popular Government reduces the salary of the lowest paid official, then does it mean that that particular section of people should view that measure as popular? Can it be a popular measure? After all, the peasants and workers are only demanding better living conditions. A Government calling itself popular must fulfil its election pledges and see that the demands of the workers and peasants are met. This Ordinance, whether it is promulgated by the popular Government or any other Government, is an Ordinance; the Congress flag has been hoisted over the Ordinance. I object to the provisions of the goonda act because it curtails civil liberties. This Ordinance curtails mass movements and hampers the progress of our country. Under this Ordinance, all sorts of atrocities are going on throughout the Province. Innocent people who have nothing to do with the Communists are being charged and taken to the police stations and detained there, without trial. Sir, according to the latest information, Mr. K. V. Narayana Rao, who was a Congress M.L.A. in the previous legislature, has been detained under this Ordinance. I can assure the Hon. the Premier at once that he is a person who has nothing to do with the Communist activities. He is as much an outsider as the Hon. the Premier. Perhaps he may be a sympathizer. If it is the intention of the Ordinance to arrest all the sympathizers of the Communist party, I may at once tell the Hon. the Premier that he will have to arrest 250,000 people

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in the Andhra districts alone. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not a popular legislation at all for the Police are arresting people indiscriminately. They are taking even those people who took part in the Congress movement previously. I request the Hon. the Premier to place all the charge-sheets of the persons who were arrested and detained under this Ordinance before the House. Then I am sure, even my hon. Friend, Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai, who is differing from me now will agree with me that there is nothing in the charge-sheets to justify their detention. I will presently give you, Sir, some of the charges contained in those charge-sheets.

"Sir, one charge is 'Responsibility for organizing strikes and taking part in picketing.' This is one of the items in the charge-sheet. Is it unlawful and one that requires detention?"

"Another accusation is 'Taking keen interest in the activities of the Communist party.' I ask, Sir, what is meant by taking keen interest in the Communist party? Is it taking actual part in the movement or in guiding it or doing what?"

"Another charge that has been levelled is 'Criticism of the Hon. the Minister of Labour and Industries.' Sir, I ask, is criticism of a Congress Minister a serious offence? Is this the sort of civil liberty we are having under this Government?"

"The next is, 'Organization of volunteer corps.' Is it wrong; has it been banned? Organization of volunteer corps is being done even by the Congress organization. It is not a new thing. In fact, every community is organizing some kind of volunteer corps. How can that come under this Ordinance?"

"One charge against a student is 'He is a good speaker.' Is that a fault, Sir? Perhaps our Hon. Premier wants that the students should be dummies."

"Another charge is 'He criticized that the Congress Ministers have not carried out the election manifesto.' Is it a sin? Before issuing this ordinance, you should have issued an ordinance previously saying that nobody should criticize the Congress Ministers. If a student, who is a good speaker, criticizes the Congress Ministry for curtailing civil liberty, or for failure to carry out election pledges, he comes under this ordinance. Even Congressmen themselves were not detained because they criticized the British Government's policy. But now the Congress Ministry wants the students to be detained under this Ordinance for criticizing their policy. Is this the way the Congress Ministry is going to rule over this Province?"

"Another charge is 'He was the Secretary of the Students' organization.' Is it unlawful for students to organize a Union among themselves and elect a Secretary to carry on its activities?"

"Then, Sir, the charge against one is 'He took part in the Friends of the Soviet Union Organization.' Many of our great leaders and public men, like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru took part in that organization and are members thereof. Are people like them to be detained?"

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"Another charge is 'Organized a strike to compel the Government to concede some demands.' Sir, every member of the Treasury Bench must be aware of the fact that strikes are not banned up till now."

"Another charge, Sir, is 'He is the Joint Secretary of the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress.' Sir, this organization is a legal one, consisting of Liberals, Labour, Congress and League and everybody who chooses to join the same."

"The next charge is 'Participated in the Communist party meeting.' Sir, according to this Ordinance, the Police can lay their hands upon any people who participate in any meeting or take any activities in public life. I do not know how many people are yet to be detained for attending the Communist party meetings."

"Now, Sir, the only charge that has been made against us by the Hon. Premier in this House, even though it has not been mentioned in the charge-sheet by the police is that we have committed acts of violence. Sir, if an impartial tribunal is appointed by this House, and these charges are placed before it, then I am sure we can prove to the hilt that there is no truth in that allegation. Nowhere did we take any initiative to commit acts of violence, Sir. All these things are the activities of the zamindars and landlords to put down the agitation and unrest among the peasants in the country."

"Sir, in this connexion, I wish to bring to the notice of this House, one incident, and my hon. Friend, Mr. Bapineedu, who is sitting on the other side will testify to what I say. In the village Pedapadu near Velur, there was a boy by name Raja Ram Mohan who was working under a landlord. This landlord Chirakalukaya, did not allow the peasants to take water for the use of fields and this boy protested against that, and he was actually killed at the instigation of the landlord. He is a boy who belonged to our party. Therefore, Sir, it is our people who are being killed; it is not the zamindar or landlords that get killed."

"Sir, it is clear from the beginning that there are communal differences in this country; the Congress throws the blame upon the League and the League wants to throw the blame on the Congress. It is evident even from the debates. In this atmosphere of hatred, it is the Communists who have become the target of the Ordinance, and it is being directed solely against them."

"Lastly, Sir, there is another point that the Hon. the Premier has made, and that is against our party leader, Mr. P. C. Joshi. Even two or three days ago, he has issued a statement contradicting a report which appeared in the 'Andhra Patrika.' I do not know, whether the Hon. the Premier has taken the report referred to by him, from the 'Andhra Patrika' or the 'Janmabhumi.' This contradiction also has appeared in the Press which I have here in my hand. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want this to be circulated among the members of this House, so that I can save the time of the House by not reading it in full."

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12-30 p.m. Mr. SPEAKER:—"Where is it, please?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Yesterday the Hon. Premier referred to a statement of the General Secretary of the Communist party issuing a circular to the members asking them to go to the lands, take away paddy and all that. He has since issued a statement denying any such circular. I want that statement to be circulated to the Members of the House. It may be circulated so that I may avoid reading the statement just now."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Have you got copies of it?"

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I have only one copy, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"If you want, you may give me a number of copies; I will ask them to be kept in the library from where the members can take them."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"It may be printed and circulated, Sir."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"Government cannot do it."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Then I shall just read a few lines connected with this matter. He says in his statement to the Press:

"My attention has been drawn to the report in 'Andhra Patrika,' Telugu daily of Madras (issue of 4th February) that I had issued a secret circular to all our party members asking them to make trouble for Congress Ministries, foment strikes and seize crops. It even quotes from the alleged circular that I had said 'power will be in the hands of those who seize crops in fields. Hence even use violence and confiscate crops.' The report says that the Interim Government had got hold of this circular and that it sent copies of it and they had instructed all provincial Governments to take action to prevent this mischief.

"Any unprejudiced person can see this story as false on the face of it."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You print it and give copies to me and I shall see that they are placed in the Library."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I shall finish with two or three more sentences, Sir.

"This is not the first time our party has been slandered on the basis of false and forged documents."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"You asked for thirty minutes and I have already given you 35 minutes."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"I want five more minutes, Sir. This agitation has been going on and the Prime Minister knows that in Bengal and other places this Tebhaga movement has been going on. It has been approved by many people and has even been blessed by the Mahatma. In certain provinces, even legislation has been brought forward accepting on the basis of the demands of the peasants. This economic unrest and agrarian unrest are the signs of the day; they are not the creation of any particular party. This Ordinance of course cannot continue for more than six weeks; but I appeal to the Prime Minister not to bring in legislation based on the lines of that

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Goonda Act. You can bring in such legislation only for encouraging a struggle for the independence movement; and unless the struggle for independence is over, such a legislation, if passed, will be a power in the hands of the British Government and of the Governor to put you also in jail and do whatever he wants to do. If you believe that independence can be achieved through mass struggle and mass movement, then I request you to withdraw the Ordinance and do come forward with such legislation as will help the people to have their grievances redressed. I say an Ordinance of this kind is no solution; even thousands of ordinances of this type cannot stop the movement. In spite of the worst repression, we all know our national movement thrived. Does the Prime Minister think that mass movement can be suppressed by Ordinances? Then, I say, Sir, the Prime Minister is very much mistaken. I request him to withdraw this piece of legislation and bring in a new legislation which will concede the demands of the workers and the peasants. I appeal to the Prime Minister not to suote the reports of the Police or of the Collectors; such reports always go against us; and, on the basis of those reports, send us to the courts constituted by British Imperialism. I am sure if he goes into the charges against the Communists, even Mr. Vedaratnam Pillai will come forward and say that these people have done nothing; and I am sure he will vote against such legislation. I appeal to all those members who have objected, in all conscience, to this Ordinance—not even Gandhiji will bring in such an Ordinance—to vote for this resolution. Ordinance, as everybody knows and feels, is against the interests of the people, against all organizations and against the mass movement itself; it takes the life out of the mass movement itself. With these words, Sir, I appeal to the Members of the House to vote for the resolution. This is not a resolution against the Congress Ministry or the Congress Government; it is against the Ordinance which is against all mass movements, and even against the Congress movement itself. I appeal to Members to support the resolution."

Mr. SPEAKER:—"If the Premier wants, he may make a short reply."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Sir, I do not propose giving any lengthy reply. In spite of the promulgation of the Ordinance, violence is continuing. From Malabar, the Collector's report shows that on the night of the 1st February, eight of the accused in the Ulleri shooting case of December 1938, attacked and beat to death C. Krishnan who had been assisting the Police. Another informant was seriously injured by the same gang on the same night.

"Sir, the mover of this proposition said 'Do not attach any value to the police reports or to the Collector's reports or to any official report' and that somebody, an independent man or an independent body may be appointed to enquire into the allegations against them. But anybody who may be appointed by the Government will be characterized in the same terms by these Communists. The Communists must have some reasonableness about them when they make proposals. If there is a total denial that nothing is

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happening in spite of the whole list of events that have been placed before this House and before the public, nothing more need be said about Communist intentions. It is only by taking the necessary action even at this late hour that the country can be saved from the menace of these Communists."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I am going to put the resolution to the vote of the House. The resolution of Mr. Venkateswarlu reads—

'This House disapproves the Madras Ordinance No. 1 of 1947 and recommends to the Government that a request be made to His Excellency the Governor to withdraw it forthwith and to release all the persons arrested under it'."

The resolution was put and lost.

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS HINDU WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO PROPERTY (EXTENSION TO AGRICULTURAL LAND) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Sir, I move this Bill which is intended to benefit Hindu women. A little history about this Bill is necessary for the proper understanding of what is being done or is sought to be done under this Bill. Perhaps many of the members know, that under the Hindu Law, if a male member of a Hindu joint family dies intestate, all the other members of the family get a share of the property, but that the widow gets nothing, except a maintenance from the joint family property. For the first time in the year 1937, the Central Assembly passed an Act called the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, under which if a male member of a joint Hindu family died, his widow was entitled to the share which he would be entitled to, if at the time of his death he had entered into partition with the other members of the family. What happened then was this: the question as to whether this Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act was operative so far as agricultural land was concerned was raised in the courts; because the subject of 'agricultural land' is a provincial subject and the Central Legislature had no power or authority to legislate on it. Therefore, this question was being debated in courts and finally in April 1941, the matter went up to the Federal Court. That Federal Court finally decided that this Act which was passed in 1937 by the Central Legislature was inoperative so far as agricultural land was concerned. That is to say, though under the Central Act, it was intended that the widow should have a share in the whole of the property—not only property other than agricultural land, but also agricultural land by a technicality, she was deprived of that right to a share in agricultural land as well. It was pointed out in 1941 and the Advocate-General who was really in charge of the arguments at the time, suggested to the then Government that there should be an amendment of the Act directly after the judgment of the Federal Court, for including agricultural land also in the property to be inherited or taken share of by the Hindu widow. But some provinces such as the United Provinces and Sind and others, the

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Governments that were then in power as well as the Advisers who were then ruling the country, took action at once and passed Acts in 1941 and 1942 for the purpose of including agricultural land also within the operation of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act of 1937 which was passed by the Central Legislature, somehow in Madras, the Advisers did not choose to take such action. They really put it off saying that it was much better done by the Ministry that would come into power later on, either after the war or some time thereafter. Therefore, this matter has been hanging for a long time from 1937 to 1947 in this province, while other provinces have taken the necessary action to give this right to the widow in the family property. Therefore, this Bill is merely trying to put on the Statute things which were really conceded to women, but could not be given effect to under the Act as it then stood. This Bill gives the right to the Hindu widow which is rightfully hers.

"I may also here mention that the question of giving retrospective effect to the operation of this Bill has been gone into. Originally the Government came to the conclusion that if any question of retrospective effect was taken up, all transactions in respect of agricultural land from 1937 up to date would have to be brought under review by the courts and there would be inconvenience in setting up titles and also disputes would result from such a provision. Since then, Government have come to the conclusion that retrospective effect may be given and the principle has been accepted. The question, however, is, how to give effect to it? The amendments given notice of by hon. Members of the House have in a way tried to give effect to this principle of retrospective effect, but still they are not precise. I think in respect of drafting also, they would seem to require considerable modifications.

"The Government, therefore, have come to the conclusion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, so that the Select Committee may consider the various suggestions made and also for the purpose of giving retrospective effect to this Bill and how it ought to be done and to what extent. These are questions which will have to be considered by the Select Committee. I therefore move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once."

12-45
a.m.

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—"1946 వ సం॥ నవంబరు 26 వ తేదీన భారత్ నేషనల్ జ్యూరిస్ జెనరల్ చక్రవర్తి వారిచే ఆంధ్రా ప్రదేశ్ సర్వేయింగ్ చట్టాన్ని సవరించిన సవరణలు.

1. 1 వ సెక్షన్ లోని 3 వ క్లాజును తొలగించవలెను.

2. 3 వ సెక్షన్ ను తొలగించి ఆ స్థానములకు ఈ క్రింది హాంశములను చేర్చవలెను:—

"1937 వ సం॥ ఏప్రిల్ 14 వ తేదీ నుండి ఈ చట్టము అమలులోనికి రావలెను."

ప్రతివాదం:—"ఈ నిబంధన ప్రకారం మమ్మను పొందిన స్త్రీకి 1937 వ సం॥ ఏప్రిల్ 5 14 వ తేదీ, 1946 వ సం॥ నవంబరు 26 వ తేదీల మధ్యకాలంలో వివాహం చేసిన ఆంధ్రా రాష్ట్ర మహిళలకు చెందిన ఆస్తులు సర్వేయింగ్ చట్టానికి లోబడి ఉంటాయి."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The present motion is for consideration of the Bill. The hon. the lady Member is dealing with amendments."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I do not know what she is speaking about because I do not know the language. Will the Hon. the Prime Minister tell her that this is not the time for moving her amendments?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"పాతర్లు కమిటీవారి అవార్డు ఎప్పుంది. ఆ తరువాత మీరు మీ సభితులను మూవ్ చేస్తే చాలుంది. కనీస మీరు ఆయన చేయగలగ్గాను. (The hon. Member may move her amendments when the Bill comes up again after passing through the Select Committee.)"

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was carried.

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"Sir, I move—

that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

- 1 The Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam (Mover),
- 2 Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshamma,
- 3 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin,
- 4 Sri V. M. Ramaswami Muttaliyar,
- 5 „ R. Subba Ayyar,
- 6 „ A. Kaleswara Rao,
- 7 „ M. P. Govinda Menon,
- 8 Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal Sankara Ayyar, and
- 9 The Hon. Sri K. R. Karanth.

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under section 78 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I appoint the Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam to be the Chairman. I leave it to the discretion of the Chairman the time by which the report of the Select Committee may be submitted. I hope, however, that the report will be submitted as soon as possible."

(2) THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, I beg to introduce the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, and move—

that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The proper thing for the Hon. Minister will be to move for consideration of the Bill and after it is passed to move that it be referred to a Select Committee."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"On a point of order, Sir. I would refer you to rule 75 (1) of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, which says—

'At any time after the expiry of six days from the publication in the Gazette, the member in charge of the Bill may make one of the following motions in regard to his Bill, namely:—

(a) that it be taken into consideration by the Assembly either at once or at some future day, to be then specified; or

(b) that it be referred to a Select Committee of the Chamber'.

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"I, therefore, submit to you, Sir, that the proper course, as laid down under the rules, is either to move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once or to move that it be referred to a Select Committee."

MR. SPEAKER:—"That is all right."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I beg to introduce the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, and move—

that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

- 1 M. Muhammad Ismail Saif Bahadur,
- 2 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur,
- 3 Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin,
- 4 Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiar of Chettinad,
- 5 Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai,
- 6 Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao,
- 7 Sri G. Rajamannar,
- 8 Sri M. Bapineedu,
- 9 Sri M. Kannappan,
- 10 Srimathi C. Ammannappa Raja,
- 11 Sir Stuart Town,
- 12 Sri R. Venkata Reddi,
- 13 Sri T. Viswanatham,
- 14 The Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam, and
- 15 The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas (Mover).'

"In making this motion, Sir, I would just say a few words explaining the objects and purposes of this Bill. The object of this Bill is twofold. In the first place, the area of the Madras Corporation was about 30 square miles. With effect from 1st April 1946, new areas have been included within the boundaries of the City comprising about 20 square miles—Saidapet Municipal Council and the Sembiam Panchayat Board. The total area now comprising the Corporation of Madras is about 50 square miles and obviously, the necessity arises to provide for representation of the residents of the new areas also on the Corporation. It is therefore proposed in the Bill to increase the number of members of the Madras City Corporation Council and to provide for representation of the residents of the newly-included areas on that Council.

"The second purpose is to provide for representation by way of reservation of seats of certain minority communities like Adi-Dravidas, Muslims, Indian-Christians and Anglo-Indians. It is also proposed to give reservation for women. It is curious that though we are in an advanced stage of democracy in our country, there has been no lady member elected to the Corporation Council till recently. I find that except an alderwoman, there has been no woman elected to the Corporation Council. In these circumstances, we intend to provide . . ."

SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"There were four women members elected in the last election."

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I find that in the 1936 elections, there was no lady member elected to the Corporation Council. Anyway, it is found necessary to provide for reservation of seats for ladies also. So, in the proposed Bill, we intend to reserve three seats for women in the Corporation Council. It is also proposed to reduce representation for certain commercial interests. The general principle on which the Bill has been based is as follows: to increase popular representation and to reduce special representation. It is proposed to increase the total membership of the council to 75—the present strength is only 60 plus 5 aldermen. It is proposed to increase the number to 75 plus 5 aldermen and in order to provide for this increased representation, it is proposed that there should be 50 general seats and 15 seats by way of reservation for communities—5 for Adi-Dravidas, 4 for Muslims, 2 for Indian Christians and 1 for Anglo-Indians and 3 for women. It is also proposed to increase the representation for Labour from 2 to 4, so that the total strength according to present proposals will come to 75 and with the aldermen, it will be 80.

"Sir, I would submit that the reservation of seats for minority communities is to be on the basis of joint electorates. The principle of joint electorates has been accepted and has been worked out with reference to the elections under the District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts. So far as the mufassal areas in this province are concerned, the system has been found to work fairly well. Therefore, it is that we propose to extend the same system of reservation by way of joint electorates for these minority communities also. Certain amendments have been proposed by my hon. Friends of the Muslim League that separate electorates should be provided. Some representations have also been received in regard to the number of seats which are allotted to commercial constituencies. In order to decide all these things, it is proposed that we go into a Select Committee of the members whose names I have already proposed. I request that the Select Committee may be asked to make their report within three days. I move, Sir, that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now, Sir with reference to the Bill before us, I have to take exception to the principles on which the Bill has been prepared. First, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration referred to the decrease in the representation given in the new Bill for commercial interests. It is very unfortunate that he has brought forward such a proposal, because there is an increasing volume of opinion not only in this country but also elsewhere that the proper form of representation to be given to people on such representative bodies is through interests and functions and that when the principle of functional representation is being accepted more and more in the country and elsewhere, as I said, it is very unfortunate that the Hon. Minister for Local Administration should have taken this retrograde step of cutting down even the representation which the commercial bodies have already been enjoying and which even the Corporation had placed before the Government.

"Then, Sir, coming to a very much more important question, I have to refer you to the absence of the principle of separate electorate in the provisions of this Bill. We have been agitating all along that the principle of separate electorate must be conceded with reference to the elections to the local bodies as well as to the Corporation. Sir, that agitation is based on a very sound principle, because it is only through separate electorates that harmony can be achieved in this land of different nations. Sir, our friends who are fighting shy of separate electorates think that separate electorates make for disharmony. I want to tell them that they are very much mistaken; it is not that separate electorates that create conflicts and clashes, but it is the opposition to separate electorates that has created this misunderstanding and ill-will amongst the people. There is no denying the fact that there are fundamental differences between the Muslims and the other communities. There is no use denying this fact and shutting our eyes to this fact, but the question is, what do we really want? Do we want a fusion of these two different groups of people into one group or one nation? If that were so, I may tell them that it is an impossibility that our friends are dreaming of. If, on the other hand, they want harmony, they want amicability, they want friendliness, they want amiability among the different people who are inhabiting this land, so that every one of them may live happily and progress forward, then I say, it is the separate electorate that will achieve that aim.

"Now, Sir, this principle of separate electorate was conceded when the Lucknow Pact was concluded, but there they made the mistake of not extending this principle to local bodies as well and confined it only to the legislatures of the various provinces. Then, when even that restricted principle of separate electorate was being put into operation, what happened? Our friends who subscribed to that principle so far as the legislatures were concerned, began to oppose it. It was then that this disharmony came; it came not on account of the separate electorates but because of the opposition to it to which our Congress friends put up. It was thus that disharmony and disputes arose again over the question of representation. Therefore, Sir, I appeal to the Government and to the members on the other side to see that the reasonableness of our demand for separate electorate and to see that we achieve harmony which every one in this House and every one in this Province wants. It is only through this proposal of ours that we are going to achieve that harmony. Therefore, I once again appeal to the House to agree to this principle of separate electorate and help us in getting this Bill remodelled on this principle of separate electorate and also on the principle of giving increased representation, that is, sufficient representation to the functional interests, such as the commercial bodies. With these words, I oppose the Bill that is placed before us."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, in rising to support the motion of the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, I would like to point out that he has been able to gauge the public opinion not only in this Province but of the provinces outside the Madras Presidency. Sir, the salient point

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on which I would like to feel proud to-day is that the Minister for Local Administration has been wise enough to include a provision for joint electorates for the Scheduled Castes. I may tell you, Sir, in my humble experience not only of municipalities but of the district boards, that the joint electorate has been of yeoman service for fusion of my community, the Scheduled Castes, with other communities. Wherever this system of election had been adopted, it has given a certain amount of stability and it has aided to create friendliness. It will not be out of place, Sir, if I tell you that I started my political career by getting elected, in the general elections, to a general seat of the Ootacamund Municipal Council. Though I was opposed not only by a Brahman gentleman but by Christians and others, it was possible for me to top the polls.

"Sir, this matter of joint electorate has been before the country for more than two decades. The great epoch-making fast of Mahatma Gandhi has given an impetus not only to my community but to another community and to-day, Sir, if there are thirty members of my community representing this Honourable House, it is by this system of joint electorates. Unfortunately, Sir, the City Corporation had no opportunity of having this system, and you yourself, Sir, having occupied the Mayoral chair in the City Corporation, know the relationship that exists between the Harijans and other communities there. So, with all the force in me, Sir, I have to press that on no account, this august Assembly or the Select Committee can go back or take a retrograde step in accepting anything such as the separate electorates for Scheduled Castes. Therefore, I appeal to every member of the Select Committee to view this matter with grave concern and to accept the principle which was so nobly included in the Bill that is on the floor of the House.

"Sir, the Hon. Minister having the portfolio of Local Administration said that he has conceded five seats for the representation of the Scheduled Castes in the Corporation. Though I would rather press for two more seats, it is a matter for the consideration of the Select Committee and I am sure, they will accept to increase the number at least to six, if not seven. With these few words, I support the motion before the House."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has brought forward his Bill primarily to give representation to newly-added areas of the City of Madras. He has not stopped with that. He has introduced a certain amount of innovation. He has taken away the separate right of election that the Depressed Classes and the Scheduled Classes enjoyed hitherto from his proposed new Bill. As things stand at present, the Scheduled Classes, in fact, have separate electorates and they are able to elect their representatives themselves from their own localities. But, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has denied that right of the Scheduled Classes which they enjoyed all along of sending their own representatives themselves to the Corporation of Madras. He has not paid any heed to the demand which has

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been made by the Mussalmans for a long time for the introduction of separate electorates in local bodies and also in the Madras Corporation. It is true, Sir, that it is possible for Muslims to be elected under joint electorates from certain divisions. It is true, Sir, that some of my hon. Friends may get up and remind me that I was elected to the City Corporation on a joint electorate basis against a very influential and able gentleman, in the first instance when I was elected from my division. Sir, unless I am a Congressman, I have no place in the City Council under the joint electorate system. I have to change my political outlook; I have to change my political creed in order to get a seat in the City Corporation for, it is then alone that I can be elected to the Corporation on a joint electorate basis."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I think it is without reservation."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is without reservation, Sir. Apart from the fact that it can be possible for Muslims to be elected on joint electorate basis only if they are either nationalist Muslims or Congressmen, I wish to point out—it has also been pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition—that the view held by some gentlemen and particularly the gentlemen who are of nationalist outlook that separate electorates have fissiparous tendencies and they are responsible for division in the Province is altogether unfounded. It has been stated times without number that separate electorate has caused disorder in this country and that it has been responsible for dividing this country into various communal compartments. Sir, I have had experience of public life in this country and I have known from experience that this is altogether a wrong view. Separate electorates do not in the least divide the communities but they make it possible for the real representatives of the various sections of the people to be elected to particular bodies. After all, what is it that we want? We want that we must send in representatives of our people who can look after our interests. By taking away the right of separate electorate, you are taking away the right of a particular community to send its representatives. After all, we are all one; undoubtedly, we are all one as people of this country, as people of this Province, in many respects; but we must admit that there are differences also. For, any Muslim elected on a joint electorate basis or even a Hindu elected on a joint electorate basis, will have to think twice or thrice before he speaks for the members of his community and for their rights. If a Muslim or a Hindu after having been elected on a joint electorate basis to a particular local body fights for the rights of that particular community, he will have to suffer a good deal before he can get his rights recognized.

"He cannot speak freely for his community. For, if he does, 1-15 he will lose the chance of being elected from that particular constituency because he is not elected by a separate class of persons. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister for Local Administration is following a definite principle at all in providing for representation of various classes in the Corporation of Madras. We see, Sir, in this very Bill that representation is given in fact, though in

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theory on the basis of joint electorates, to certain classes of people. They are given the right of representation in the Corporation. For instance, four seats have been reserved for Labour. Four seats have been given for labourers themselves; they will have the right to elect their own representatives; no one else will have the right to interfere in that election. Labourers alone will have to elect.

" My Hon. Friend the Minister for Local Administration is reserving seats for women, is reserving seats for Christians and is reserving seats for others. There was no representation for women or reservation for them in the City Corporation up to this moment. What does it mean? What does this reservation mean? Reservation has become necessary even according to the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, belonging as he does to the Congress Party. He has come to realise that there is need for reservation of seats for minority communities. In the first instance he recognized that unless and until the right of representation of a particular community is protected by reservation, there is very little chance of a member of that community being elected under joint electorates. As I have already stated, according to the system of joint electorates there is very little chance of the elected member being a free man.

" Then comes the most important point, Sir, that although he is elected as a representative of all the people, he does not represent the people for whom he is going to the City Corporation. He will represent the whole lot of voters; he will not represent his own people for whose interest reservation has been made. Why should there be Muslims in the Corporation of Madras? Why should there be Christians in the Corporation of Madras? Why should there be labourers? Why should there be reservation of seats for various communities? Why should not all of us be one? Are we not one? Are not Hindus, Muslims, Christians, etc., one? Why exactly does the question of having reservation of seats arise for particular communities? Sir, the basic principle of giving representation to various communities on the various bodies is recognized even by our friends of the Congress Party, particularly by the Hon. Minister for Local Administration. He believes and rightly believes in the principle of satisfying various classes of people. You have to recognize the fact that there are different classes of people. If you recognize in the first instance that there are various classes of people, why don't you legitimately give them their proper share and their proper representation? Why don't you give them the right of electing their representatives themselves? . . . "

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—" Does the hon. Member speak of classes or masses? "

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I was stating that you recognize that there are various classes of people."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is requested to face the Chair."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I shall not question your ruling. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was stating that as long as you recognize that there are various classes of people and various interests in this city, you recognize the hard fact that you wish to give representation to various classes of people, the Scheduled Classes, labourers, women and others and you recognize the existence of separate classes of people, you also concede the right of the various people to send in their representatives themselves to the Corporation of Madras. You cannot satisfy them by giving them reservation of seats. When you concede the basic principle that there are different classes of people and that therefore they should send in their respective representatives, you should not change that principle for your advantage by saying that these classes cannot have separate electorates but only joint electorates with reservation of seats. What is the use of reservation when you cannot give them the right of separate election? After all, reservation does not give the right to particular classes or communities, to send their own representatives themselves. Neither Muslims, nor Christians nor Scheduled Classes nor others can do so. I would plead with the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, with the Government and with Congress friends now to recognize the claim which is put forward by various classes of people to send in their own representatives themselves, not with a view to divide one people from another, not to introduce fissiparous tendencies and to create bitterness, but with a view to bring about good understanding, unity and harmony which is very badly needed not only in the city and the province but in the whole country. So far as this Legislature is concerned, we have been elected on the basis of separate electorates. Have we not been getting on together harmoniously and in a most friendly manner as brothers? Of course we have our differences so far as fundamentals are concerned. We may have differences so far as party politics are concerned. Even among people who have been elected on the joint electorate system and even among hon. Members of the same party in this House there are differences. Is it only because of the fact that people are elected by separate electorates, differences have come in? Even in the same group one member opposes the other. Is it because there are separate electorates, differences are there and they arise? Do not differences arise among members elected by joint electorates? Is it on account of the fact that there are separate electorates, that differences have arisen between Hindus and Muslims? I wish to ask whether it is not a fact that separate electorates have been conceded so far as the Legislatures are concerned. Why should there be differences throughout the province and the country although municipal elections and elections to local bodies have long been held on the joint electorate basis? Muslims have felt and possibly other minorities have felt that they do not get their due share and proper representation on the joint electorate basis; they have grievances that they are not getting their due share in the various local bodies in the province; they have got grievances that they do not get adequate representation on the joint electorate basis. Under the old Municipal Act—Dr. P. Subbarayan's Act—certain percentage of seats was reserved for

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various minorities. It is a very sad tale indeed. I wish that that reservation was not made. I wish that adequate representation by separate electorates was given to them; that alone will satisfy them. Although the first principle is that proper representation can be achieved only on the basis of separate electorates, if separate electorates are not conceded, I state, Sir, on the floor of this House 'do not have any reservation at all'. For, reservation without separate electorates is a farce, is a political enigma. Rather allow various communities to go through the door of joint electorates, whether they get proper representation or not; to give this charity of reservation is certainly a degrading principle, degrading to the community to whom this reservation is given . . ."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Did the hon. Member support the legislation which was passed in 1926?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My hon. Friend was not here then. If he was there, he would have known facts. He can refer to various books and find out what it was. I want my hon. Friends of the Congress Party to take things seriously. It is not a matter to be taken lightly. This is a matter on which the future of this country is to be decided; the future and well-being of this province has to be decided. There are certain fundamental questions on which there is difference between the two communities. There are many tests. Election on the basis of separate electorates is one of them. After all, they will not lose anything by conceding this very harmless right that a particular community is asking them to give. You are in a very big majority to-day; you can force anything on the minority communities, even if it was not wanted by them. It is not only not proper but also not just and politic. You are anxious no doubt to please minorities and to befriend them. I believe you are anxious but you must implement that anxiety, that desire and that wish by doing something practical. This is one of such things. For God's sake do not think that separate electorates will affect the community. You think that the separate electorate system is responsible for dividing us; you make us feel that you want to monopolize everything, that you do not want to share things with other minorities in this province and country. On very high principles, on the very high object and sacred desire to introduce harmony and unity in this province, I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Local Administration and this Government to concede the right of separate electorates so far as local bodies are concerned. I know, Sir, that the last Government did not give the right of separate electorates for local bodies . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"If the hon. Member can finish his speech in one or two minutes, we can go on. Otherwise he can resume his speech after lunch."

The House adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we adjourned I was trying to make . . ."

There was no quorum and so the bell was rung.

There being a quorum now, the Speaker asked Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur to resume his speech.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before lunch I was making an appeal, an earnest appeal to the Government in general and to my Hon. Friend the Minister for Local Administration in particular, to recognize this very hard fact, that, a very strong and important minority wants some thing to be recognized and that is to concede separate electorates so far as local bodies are concerned. There is no danger in it of disruption or of disunion or a disintegration of the people of this Province and if at all it will do anything it will be for the good and it will bring together the two important people in the Province on a common platform so that they can each attend to the well-being of his community and also of all the communities. That was my appeal, Sir, but in the Bill the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has not conceded separate electorates. I said already that it has taken away the right that was enjoyed by the scheduled classes over which my hon. Friend, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai, was very glad and very happy; in view of the general opinion, as he alleged, among the scheduled classes that they wanted only joint electorates. Therefore, the Hon. Minister has very rightly recognized that fact and removed that separate right of election to the scheduled classes which they enjoyed all along. I do not know, Sir, whether that point of view is correct. Well, I know if a referendum is taken in the City of Madras, so far as the scheduled classes are concerned, I have no doubt in my mind that there will be a vast majority for separate electorates, so far as elections to the City Corporation are concerned. That is the look out of the Government and of that community. I find that the Hon. Minister has introduced very kindly reservation of seats for minorities.

[At this time the Chair was occupied by the Deputy Speaker.]

"Madam Deputy Speaker, I have been trying to plead with the Government in general and with my esteemed friend, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, to concede our right, our birth-right, for separate electorates. I tried my best to convince him and I hope he is almost convinced, but there is what is called, the party discipline and then the party principles and the belief in the so-called nationalism. These things are perhaps there which might stand in the way of his recognizing our claim and our birthright. Madam, I leave it there but I find from the Bill that he has very kindly, undoubtedly in a half-hearted manner, conceded the right of certain communities in the city to have some reservation of seats given to them. He has given five seats to the scheduled classes. Perhaps he has done it on the basis of population. He has given as many seats as four to the Muslims of Madras City. I might tell him, as I have tried to assure him and pointed out to him in this House, that without separate electorates,

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reservation is a farce. They have no meaning. It is true that their community will be assured of at least those four seats but those four seats are equal to nothing so far as the community is concerned. Because what happens in practice is that these four seats which are reserved will be allotted to areas and wards where Muslims are in a minority and if they are allotted to areas and wards where they are in a minority, the kind of Muslims who will be elected will not be the true representatives of the Muslim community and if they are allotted to areas where the Muslims are in a majority, you are depriving the Mussalmans of seats which they would have got even without reservation. So reservation of a seat in an area where Muslims are in a majority is equal to nothing. As I said before, it is a farce, a representation non-existent. Bothways, it is unnecessary and produce mischievous results. As it is, to-day in the City Corporation we have seven Muslims out of a total of 65. Seven Muslims, that is inadequate. From even the census report of 1941, I think the Muslims are 12 to 13 per cent in the City of Madras, but according to my own contention and that contention is based on hard facts, our population in the City is not less than 20 per cent."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"What about the Census figures?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My figures are based on hard facts.

"My friends have drawn my attention to what is called the Census. So far as the Census report is concerned, it is a very sad tale. The Census report is wrong for various reasons. For one thing, when the Census Enumerator goes to a gosha house he is not able to get correct information. Then there is a tendency on the part of people not to give correct information for they sometimes fear that it will affect the household adversely or they believe that it will bring disaster to the number of people living in that house. Thirdly, people who go about taking the census report are not very careful. I have come to the conclusion, on these hard facts, that the population of the Muslims in the city of Madras is not less than 20 per cent. If you recognize the fact that we are 20 per cent, we should get at least 20 per cent representation but that has not been given to us. My Hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, may come forward and say that we have given you reservation, a minimum representation of four and you have a right to contest seats in the general election elsewhere also, but as I have pointed out to you, Madam, it is a dangerous thing. In the first instance, the moment the idea of reservation is introduced in any local body or Legislature, the impression that is gained or rather feeling that begins to prevail in a local area is, that whereas a community has reserved seats, it need not contest and there is no need for any more representation than the seats that are reserved for them. That is a natural feeling on the part of a majority community or majority of the electorate in any area to see that that particular community should not get anything more than the seats reserved for it and any candidate who wishes to contest a seat other than in a ward where a seat is reserved, he is told 'You have to go to the area or

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ard where a seat is reserved for you and why do you come here? You have no place here. These are seats which are intended for non-Muslims.' That is the feeling, Sir, that comes over the people of a locality. For these various reasons, I would rather request the Hon. Minister if he is prepared to give adequate representation on the basis of joint electorates for the Muslims. I believe, Sir, not less than 12 seats will satisfy the Muslims even on the basis of joint electorates. Twelve seats for us and 12 for the scheduled classes will make both ends meet and will satisfy us."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"How do you arrive at this?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On the basis of population. I said we are 20 per cent in the City of Madras. Madam, if the Hon. the Minister is not prepared to give us separate electorates and if he insists on reservation, nothing less than 12 out of 85 will satisfy us or will be just to us. That is one thing, Madam, and if he is not prepared to give 12 seats I would ask him to scrape the reservation that is given to the Muslim community. That bare four seats will not only be inadequate but will certainly be disastrous to the Muslim community. In the absence of reservation there is a chance of the Muslim community getting more seats. If you pin them and confine them to four seats they will have to be satisfied with these four seats alone. I wish to point out also that representation so far as the major communities are concerned, should have been on the basis I have already suggested, and it has been rightly recognized. In the Act that was framed by the late Srinivasa Ayyangar it was rightly recognized that representation should be given on the basis of functions and interests. On that account adequate and very proper representation was given to various trade and various Chambers of Commerce and various other interests in the City Corporation. Now, what the Hon. Minister is seeking to do is to reduce that number to a despicable position. So far as the European group is concerned, the number has been reduced to two."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"As a point of information I may say, Madam, that there is no European group in the Corporation of Madras."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My friend is talking theory but I am talking practice. Practically, it is the Europeans who are there as representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations. I suppose things might change hereafter. That is another thing. They are not known as Europeans but they are Europeans all the same. In so far as other Chambers of Commerce and other trade interests are concerned, my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Bodies, has put his axe very heavily. He has reduced the number to two, whereas the number was very much larger and even that representation of two that is sought to be given to these Chambers is done in a very arbitrary manner. He is seeking to combine all the various Chambers of Commerce, of course with the single exception of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. He has combined certain Chambers of

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Commerce and certain Associations and given all of them together jointly two seats. I think a worse wrong could not have been done to those interests."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"What is their total?"

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"If you like to give an answer you may do so."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like to give an answer, Madam."

[At this time the Speaker occupied the Chair.]

"I think the mentality which speaks those words is the mentality which has affected the Government which he seeks to displace.

"I have been trying to point out to this Hon. House that it is not numbers that count, it is the interests that were seeking representation so far as the Corporation was concerned. If your mind is not working in the direction of the various interests or so far as the people of this country are concerned, well I cannot say anything more. Merchants have a good deal to do with the City Corporation and its finances. It is they who pay the largest amount of taxes. These merchants have got the largest share of property, so far as the City Corporation is concerned. They have got great interest in the administration of the City of Madras. Although the sales tax may be a provincial subject, yet it is the merchants who pay the largest amount of the sales tax but this in no way helps the finances of the Corporation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to point out to the hon. Member that he has spoken for half an hour in the morning and he has now taken twenty minutes."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will try to be brief. I am practically on the last point.

"The representation that is given to these interests is inadequate and given in a left-handed manner. On the other hand, I plead that each of these Chambers should have at least one seat. Further, there is the very remarkable omission and that is of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. So far as the membership is concerned, I can say without fear of contradiction that the Muslim Chamber of Commerce has got the largest number of members. I do not know—perhaps it might be by oversight that it was left out. I do not know on what basis he has included certain Chambers of Commerce and excluded the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. I do not think any purpose will be served by clubbing these Chambers of Commerce. It will have the effect of one Chamber with a large number of members having a sway over the rest. I plead that if you are going to give representation on the basis of membership, it would be better you give representation on the basis of importance and its place in the civic life of the City of Madras. I hope that the Select Committee to which the Bill is being referred will rectify these defects, which are, separate electorates for the Muslims and Scheduled classes, secondly the inadequate reservation that has been given to the Muslims and Scheduled classes and the omission of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and the representation is given for the various interests in the City of Madras.

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I hope that the Select Committee will examine these questions and come to decision on the basis of justice, on the basis of fair play and on the basis of rights and so alter the constitution of the Corporation as laid down in the amending Bill that it will be acceptable to all concerned."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"Mr. Speaker, any legislation which can improve the Madras Corporation must be welcome; but I am not quite sure whether this amending Bill will do that. I look forward to the day when all claims for communal representation and reservation of seats will cease and the whole of the people will elect their representatives as Indians. For the present, however, Sir, we have to put up with this communal representation, etc.

"Now, Sir, I wish to make it quite clear that the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association are not European organizations. They both have Indian members and the Trades Association has more Indian members than Europeans. I think it is a pity, although I am not going strongly to object, I think it is a pity that this Bill seeks to reduce representation of the commercial bodies on the Corporation."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, is it the idea of my hon. Friend that the two associations, the names of which he has mentioned, should also have been clubbed with other Chambers and Associations?"

SIR STUART TOWN:—"I do not mind whether they are clubbed or not. I simply say this: that I think it is a pity that the representation of these commercial bodies has been reduced. They formed a very small body in the Corporation; but they are a very well informed body; they are a people with a knowledge of business and business problems; they have a stake in the City and they have a growing interest in seeing the administration of the City properly run. Whereas—I do not wish to tread upon anybody's toes in saying this—you cannot say that every other member of the Corporation has the knowledge that this small body can bring to bear on the problems of the City of Madras; and I think it is a great pity that in these difficult times, the Corporation is going to be deprived of the services of a body of men, many of whom, at great sacrifice of their leisure time, go to the Corporation and give their opinions freely and without any bias aiming at getting the Corporation to see things in the right light and for the good of the City. I understand some of the other Chambers have been badly treated; but I have heard no particular complaint from my Chambers or Trade Association. I merely record our feeling that it is a pity that the Corporation is being deprived of what, in our own estimate, we believe to be really useful representation."

SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister on two aspects of the Bill, namely, the reduction of European members from eight to two and providing general electorate for Harijans. I know, Sir, Sir Stuart Town has disclaimed that the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association are European bodies. I would like 3 p.m.

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to ask him, whether in recent history these two associations have returned European members or Indian members? I know there was a time when one Indian Member was returned from the Madras Trades Association, but yet the general rule was, that in spite of the fact that Indian members formed the majority, as he says, most often they returned only European members; so much so, with the addition of the member for the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway and three members for the South Indian Railway, there are altogether eight European members in a body of 65. On previous occasions objection was raised to this, but it was said that the time was not opportune for the change. Even now, Indian trade associations, all of them put together, including the Nattukottai Nagarathars Association, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce and the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, get only two representatives; while the other two European Associations get two seats, even though there are big businessmen in the several Indian Commercial Associations.

"As regards joint electorate for Harijans, that is a matter on which I have to congratulate the Hon. Minister. Unfortunately, the City Municipal Act was the only Act under which Harijans had separate electorate. For under the Madras Local Boards Act and the District Municipalities Act they had all these years joint electorate. But in the City of Madras, unfortunately for certain reasons, from 1936 onwards they are having separate electorate. Recently, quoting the example of Madras, Dr. Ambedkar presented a memorandum to the minority advisory committee of the Constituent Assembly stating that what obtains in the City of Madras might be followed in the Central and Provincial Assemblies of the country. We know, Sir, the history of joint electorate for Harijans; it started from the days of Poona Pact and Gandhi's epic fast. I need not deal with that here.

"But on one aspect of the Bill I cannot congratulate the Hon. Minister, namely, communal representation, which is introduced in this Act for the first time. All these years, Muslims, Christians and women were enjoying not separate representation but they were coming in through common electorate. For the first time, communal representation is introduced, evidently under the pressure of our Muslim friends (Cries of No, No, from Muslim bloc). Evidently they wanted some reservation of seats, and the Hon. Minister has yielded to them. Already without reservation, there are seven Muslims in the city corporation, with a strength of 65. This works out to a good proportion. So there is no need for this communal representation. Even for Christians, I know there are good representatives for that community from North Madras. So for the first time I do not know why the Hon. Minister has given separate representation for Muslims and Christians. As regards women, it is a fact they were elected from the general constituency. In 1936 there were four women members in the City Corporation. They were Mrs. Swaminathan, Mrs. Rukmini Lakshmipathi, Mrs. R. V. Sastri and another woman, whose

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name I do not readily remember. But now they are being given three seats; and if it is to be strictly on population basis, out of 65 seats, 30 seats should be reserved for women. If population basis is not taken into consideration they will get only a meagre number of three seats. Sir, the question of separate electorate has a long history behind it and it has divided this country into two on this very issue. I know in the Legislature they are enjoying separate electorate. In no other Congress province, nor even in district boards and municipalities, do the Muslims enjoy separate electorate. If separate electorates are given, they cannot contest in other seats. Even in the Legislature they can command only 29 seats. At no distant date can they expect more than that. Thus there are certain drawbacks in this. For instance, on a population basis, they are entitled only to six seats, and they cannot contest for other wards; and they will never be able to increase their strength, and they will never be able to make themselves felt in the councils or local bodies. Perhaps they may not agree . . ."

MR. RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I object strongly to what Mr. Gopala Reddi says. We Muslims are trying to increase our population by all means. We do not feel it is going to be stationary for all time. It is for the information of the hon. Member." (Laughter.)

SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I do not grudge my hon. Friend increasing the population of his own community. But as regards their representation in the Legislature, as long as they have 29 seats, they can have only 29 members even if the Muslim League captures all the seats. My own experience of the municipalities and local boards is, it is good for the Muslims to have joint electorate. Because, in my town of Nellore, where the Muslims form only 16 or 20 per cent of the population, yet they have elected a Muslim as the municipal chairman. And how did it happen? Though the Muslims are scattered over the whole area they made their influence felt on other communities in most wards, and by a thumping majority a Muslim Chairman was elected. So under separate electorate, if Muslims have a separate electoral college, as it were, they will not be able to influence the candidates of other wards. Possibly all the other wards will be captured by the Congress and the Muslims will not be able to influence the general constituency voters. We have already seen how the late Abdul Rawoof was chairman of the Bellary Municipality. In all areas except Adoni the Muslims are in a definite minority, and under separate electorate they cannot influence general wards. So in their own interest, separate electorate ought not to be granted. Let them have separate electorates for the present to the Central and Provincial Legislatures; but I say, it is not in their interest to do it.

"Another objectionable thing is that all the members are obliged to take the oath of allegiance when they are returned to

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the council. In no other province, in all the eleven provinces, in the councils or corporations, does this obtain. It is only here, in Madras, from 1923 onwards, are the members asked to take the oath of allegiance. I request the Hon. Minister to remove it at an early date."

MD. RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration, Mr. Daniel Thomas, feels very happy just now because of the heaps of congratulations showered on him by the former Minister. It is no wonder that congratulations were showered on him, because something was done against the Muslims. (Laughter.) Of course, while congratulating the Minister, Mr. Gopala Reddi took strong objection for giving four seats to Muslims. It is open to the Minister to bring an amendment in the Select Committee and take away that, and we would not feel sorry for it. (Laughter.)

"Coming to the main issue of separate electorate, I wish to say that it is not a simple issue. For, you should understand why we want separate electorate. For that you should go into the historical background. It was in 1908, when, for the first time, this was brought up. We said, 'if you want real Muslim representatives reflecting the feelings, ideas and sentiments of Muslims, it is only by separate electorate this can be achieved.' It is all right to talk about joint electorate in academic discussions. But in practice you should know how it works. Wherever you may go, municipalities or local boards, Hindus do not represent Muslims adequately. It is all right to quote one or two instances. Mr. Gopala Reddi quoted Nellore and Bellary. But Nellore and Bellary do not comprise the entire province. Such being the case, how do you expect Muslims to accept joint electorate?

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m. "Indeed for the matter of that you know the suffering of the Muslims in the district boards and municipalities. It is all right saying 'we should have no separate electorates; let us be very good brothers'. I am prepared to be your brother, but when it comes to a question of getting representation, you get 50 votes and I get 1. Our only feeling, Sir, is that we should have representatives who will really look after the interests of the Muslims. When this right of separate electorate has been conceded for the Central Assembly and for every representative body, I do not see any reason why the Minister should say 'No, no; as far as the question of separate electorates is concerned, let us not touch the district boards and municipalities'. Sir, it is going to be a very bad thing. In the bill we find that 4 seats have been reserved for Muslims, and they also are given the right to contest the general seats. The Hon. Minister and his supporters may say that they have been very charitable to Muslims. But I can assure my friends that Muslims will not succeed even in one you can go through the records. For instance take the University Constituency, or the Trade Constituency. Even last year, if

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I can just refer to this matter, for the only seat of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, a very big business man contested the election, but he was defeated, his only fault being that he was a Muslim. You go through the records of all these bodies—the Assembly and Council, and you can find whether a Muslim, however well qualified he may be, whatever requisite qualifications he may be possessing, will still be unable to succeed in the election under joint electorate. Therefore, what guarantee is there that Muslims, apart from getting 4 seats reserved for them, will have at least 2 or 3. I really endorse the views of my friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan when he says 'all right, reserve some seats for us, but it should be by separate electorates and not by joint electorates'. Because we are quite sure what the results are going to be.

"With regard to other matters, I think this is the occasion for me to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that unless and until he is satisfied that the electoral rolls are correct and complete, there is no point in having elections, because when we were going through the electoral rolls last time, on the eve of the Assembly elections, we found that there were more dead persons on the rolls than live people. We should not conduct elections on such faulty rolls. Even in the matter of delimitation of divisions in the City this tendency always comes up. In a particular area Muslims may be in a majority, and if there is a seat for that area in the Corporation, it is likely that a Muslim succeeds in the election for that area. But, Sir, attempts have been made in the past, and I can prove by instances also, where that division or area has been split up into two or more areas so that in all these areas Muslims always remain in a minority and the Hindus in a majority. Of course it is Sir Stuart Town who said 'let us all give up these things.' It is all right, and we are also for that. It is not only we Muslims who demand such things. Even in the Hindu community there are so many differences and interests. Don't you find, Sir, Mr. Nagappa every day raising at least 50 supplementary questions, asking for this and that for Harijans? I do appreciate his community should have several things. Even in the Hindu community, whenever the matter of representation comes, you will find a number of conflicting interests, e.g., Mudalivars, Nayudus, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, etc. When we Muslims also want proper representation for similar reasons, there is no point in saying it cannot be done; you should simply be satisfied with what is given to you. Now, Sir, I have drawn the attention of the Hon. Minister to the defects in the electoral rolls, and I am sure he will pay due attention to that matter.

"The third thing is with regard to the delimitation of the various areas or divisions. I have said, and I am repeating it, Sir, that delimitation also should be carried on on a proper

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basis. Sometimes it was left to some persons who, according to their fancies, have split up the areas where Muslims were in a majority so that no Muslim could come up from that division at any time.

"Another thing which I may say is this, that is, whatever we may say about these municipalities and local boards, they have now become hot beds of politics. They are not worked in the way in which they ought to for the general good of the masses. We find more of politics there rather than civic responsibilities. There is always a clash of interests between the Congress Party, Justice Party, etc., whichever party is in power, so much so they forget their responsibilities to their divisions. One day the Madras Corporation will carry on a debate for a long time over such a thing as the hoisting of a national flag or any other flag. When such is the situation how do you feel that the Madras Corporation will discharge its duties by the public? They forget their responsibilities to their divisions because politics take the upper hand. Incidentally I will draw the attention of the Hon. Minister as to why we want more seats. Take the Washermanpet area. I happened to visit that area many times, where Muslims are residing. It is the worst slum area one can find in the City of Madras. I say that place is quite unfit for human habitation, but unfortunately thousands of Muslim families mostly beedi workers reside there. We tried our best to bring this state of affairs to the notice of the authorities so that something might be done. We took the matter to the Corporation Councillor in the division who happens to be a Hindu. To him it is no consideration whether Muslims are living there or not. We would have taken the man to task if he were only a Muslim. We would tell him 'we have not sent you to the Council for the fun of it, but only for doing something tangible.' Therefore, it is, Sir, for this reason we want that Muslims also should be properly and adequately represented in the Madras Corporation. I am sure the Hon. Minister, coming as he does from the Indian Christian community, will appreciate our sentiments and feelings in the matter. It is for this very same reason that in the course of the debate on Public Safety Ordinance a number of speakers drew the attention of the Hon. the Premier as to how things were going on in the taluk and district committees. It is not right on my part to digress on that. Even in that small matter where there was a question of taking a Muslim or a Scheduled Caste or an Indian Christian, attempts were made to see that only show-boys were brought into the committees so that they will dance to the tunes of the Hindu members. We said 'after all, as Muslims we can give you better representation'. But they said 'as we are in the majority, it is our right to nominate anybody whom we like'. These are facts which you cannot ignore or omit. I hope the Minister will pay due consideration to all these, and particularly in the select committee he will see that the changes brought forward are effected in the bill so that it may be

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to the satisfaction of all interests. I do not like to go into the general aspect of the question, as we shall have enough time to go into that in the select committee."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion that is before the House. In doing so, I just like to bring a very few points for the consideration of the House as well as the Minister and the select committee that is going to be appointed. Out of the 65 seats that have been allotted, Harijans get only 5 seats. The population of Harijans in this Province as well as in the City is more than one-fifth of the total population. I want only that my community should be adequately represented. It must get its due share. I do not want the Hon. Minister to rob Peter to pay Paul. I want that my dues should be set apart. If you take the population into consideration, Harijan representation should be 13 out of these 65 seats. Now the Hon. Minister has been kind enough to give only 5 seats. The community is thereby losing 8 seats.

"Now, Sir, I come to other things. There is a provision in the Act which says not more than one-fourth of the seats should be reserved. I ask them when there are not ample chances . . ."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"On a point of information, Sir. There is no provision in this Bill. He refers to another Act."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I know that Sir, my Muslim friends have been objecting to joint electorates and have been pleading for separate electorates. I have experience of both the electorates joint and separate. By experience they will be in a position to tell the House that joint electorate is the only electorate by which they can represent better and achieve their objects. At the same time, I would request the Hon. Minister not to take away the voice of the community once for all by tacking us to the caste Hindus. Take for instance in a locality only one seat has been reserved for the Harijans, where the Harijans form 20 or 25 per cent and the rest belong to other communities. When it is the joint electorate, even if all the Harijans vote, he will get only 25 per cent of the votes. Further most of the Harijans are not voters—most of them are illiterate and they are not tax payers. So it is very difficult. The Minister has not been kind enough to introduce adult franchise yet, and so it is very difficult for Harijans to get in unless the community has secured the protection of any other political party to serve the needs of its own community. I would request the Hon. Minister to see that a kind of joint electorate, as it is done in the Legislative Assembly, is introduced here. There is a panel of election. I would not ask you to introduce two elections. It is a burden on this community to have to fight twice. I suggest to the Hon. Minister to take into consideration a particular thing which we have been trying especially in the case of the Constituent Assembly. For instance if there are four or five Harijans contesting along with

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the other candidates, let there be two votes given. As there will be section two voters, they will be differently classified, and these section two voters will have, for this purpose, two votes in order to make them to poll one for the Harijan community and the other for the non-Harijan community. For purposes of distinction let the two ballot papers be of different colours—one pink and the other white. The Polling Officer must instruct the voters that the pink ballot paper is intended for the reserved candidate, and that the white paper is intended to be placed in any one of the boxes intended for the other candidates who are contesting the general seats. In that case, you will be able to make out how many Harijans, how many Christians, or how many Anglo-Indians have practically voted from that community to the candidate who has been seeking election. If a candidate wants to qualify himself to stand for the general election, he must get enough number of votes, that is, he must get from that community 35 per cent or more of the votes that have been polled by that community."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You mean the system that is to be seen in Hyderabad?"

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"No; in Hyderabad 55 per cent obtains. But I mean only 35 per cent.

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"I say that only those that get 35 per cent and above are qualified and only for such candidates general votes are to be counted.

"So to say when you count the votes you will have to find out what is the total number of votes polled by the particular community. Then again out of the total you will find out what percentage each candidate belonging to that community has secured. Then, only those candidates who obtain 35 per cent and above may be counted. And then the general votes will be counted and whoever gets the topmost number of votes will be declared elected. This system will work well and at the same time it will give voice for the particular community from which he is coming. Now practically the minorities are at the mercy of the major communities . . ."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"According to you. 'No.' You are for joint electorate."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"My hon. Friend has no knowledge of it. Having worked that system, and from my experience I can tell Mr. Hameed Khan that the joint electorate system will work well. There we will adopt the policy of give-and-take. If you had been returned on separate electorate, can you expect to be the Speaker of this Assembly, can you expect to be a Minister of this Province? Unless we join together and understand each other and unless we meet together we cannot do well and we cannot champion the cause for which we stand. Joint electorate is the electorate which will champion the cause of the particular community and also the whole country. So, Sir, I would congratulate the Hon. Minister for having made such a move, but at the same

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time I request him to give due representation to minority communities. He need not give anything gratis but I would request him to give them representation according to their population and not to manipulate figures.

"I have been seeing, Sir, that the figures regarding the population of the minority community has been manipulated. According to Malthusian theory where there is poverty the population would be increasing, but now I see from the population figures our community has been dwindling day after day. God only knows who have been doing mischief and in what respect . . . (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"Order, order. Let the hon. Member continue his speech."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to reserve one-fifth of the seats in the Council for the Harijans. Sir, we deserve it. We do not ask, crave or beg for it. As we are one-fifth of the population of this Province we demand it.

"I am thankful to the Councillors of the Corporation for entering into a convention that a member of every community should have an opportunity to be the administrative head of the Corporation. So also, I would request my hon. Friend the Minister to remember this in mind when he brings an amending Bill to the Local Boards Act."

"Then my hon. Friends have been saying that we are representatives of representatives, just as in the case of Legislative Assembly. My hon. Friend, Mr. Raza Khan, has been saying 'You are a show boy.' I question that, Sir. We were selected by a Parliamentary Board of which a member of my community was a Member. He selected us, because we could champion the cause of our community to its best interests. We are not show boys as my friend, Mr. Raza Khan . . ."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I did not say that, Sir. I do not know why he wants to make himself a show boy."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"I am sorry, Sir. Probably I did not hear him properly.

"If my friend thinks of joining any electorate the joint electorate is the best. Then his association will have a voice in selecting its own candidates and the major political party with which he is going to join hands will have only to approve that particular candidate. This is just how selection will be made from his community if he is in alliance with any major political party. That is what is happening to us, Harijans. We are having our separate association called the Adi-Andhra Sangham. The association selects the candidate for election and recommends the name of the candidate to the Congress Party and the Congress Party only approves of it. We have been filtered, filtered and filtered by our community and the best people of this community have been brought to this Assembly. Therefore I would tell my hon.

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Friends who have been doubting about the working of the joint electorate system that they will not do good and that their intentions will not be carried out. I would request all the members of every minority community to join hands with the Hon. Minister and see that the Bill is passed without any obstruction as early as possible and get adequate representation to all the minority communities on a population basis."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to oppose this Bill and the reason for opposing this Bill is that election to the Corporation is based on the principle of joint electorate and reservation. The object enunciated in the Bill states that the method of election by joint electorate has been working very satisfactorily in the other local bodies and that is the reason why the Hon. Minister advocates a joint electorate with reservations. I do not think he is correct either in principle or in practice.

"Although I am not convinced of the benefits enunciated by the ex-Minister, Mr. Gopala Reddi, from joint electorate, I very much appreciate his line of argument in rejecting reservation. He is correct in principle. I wish that the advocates of joint electorate and reservation gave some thought and considered the logical implications of this method. I can understand if it is said that there should be no reservations at all and the election should be based on joint electorate. That is the only correct view that can be taken on this matter. If you must have some representatives of the community in a local body you cannot achieve that end by introducing reservation and joint electorate. What is your object in giving representation to some communities and to some classes? Your object is to see that those members of the communities are returned who really voice the sentiments, and the views of the particular community. They are the true representatives of those communities. Whether that can be achieved by this method is the question. I am one with Mr. Gopala Reddi and such of those gentlemen who say that there ought not to be any difference between one man and another so long as he is a citizen of this country or of this local body. He must be elected not with the help of the reservation principle but straightaway on his own merits. That is the only logical way in which you can think about these representations.

"I was hearing with great interest the remarkable speech made by Mr. Nagappa, one of the representatives of the Scheduled castes not only in this House but in the Constituent Assembly. I was hearing it with great interest. At the end I came to the conclusion, although he recommended joint electorate to all of us minorities, that he gave up his case . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"He said 'a qualified joint electorate'."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He gave up his case by saying that there should be some other method than the method adumbrated in this Bill or the method adopted in other

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local bodies. He feels that as it is joint electorate and reservation won't do good to his community. The real Harijans would not be returned by this method. Although he finally said this, he said that joint electorate was good.

"I also heard with some interest the speech of our Knight Sir Stuart Town. May I tell him that this country is different from his country. There is a homogeneous population in his country and therefore the question of separate electorate or separate representation does not arise there. Possibly some functional representation or the representation of some interests may arise. But our country is different. He is hoping that a time might come when all these questions of reservations or separate and joint electorates might be brushed aside. We also hope the time might come, but we are not very much hopeful, at least at the present moment as things stand. Here in India there are separate nations, separate peoples who have got different cultures, different traditions, different points of view, different outlooks on life, etc. These are the conditions prevailing here. There have been leaders from 1916 up till now trying in vain to solve this problem. We could not come to any conclusion with regard to that. Whose fault it is, whether it is that of the League Leaders or the Congress Leaders is a long history. There have been suggestions and proposals made as early as 1927 before the Nehru Report by the late lamented Moulana Mahomed Ali and placed before the Congress. Some such method which was mentioned at that time is perhaps in the mind of Mr. Nagappa. But we could not come to any conclusions with regard to that. We could not conciliate ourselves.

"Now both the parties have acceded to the principle which is adumbrated in the Cabinet Mission's proposals. The two nations are there and in order that they might come together and work out the destiny of this country, a certain method has been suggested and that method has been adopted by the Congress and the League. It is too late in the day now, Sir, to say 'Well, you must agree to joint electorates now in these elections and separate electorates are bad.' You must have the authority of the parties to make a suggestion to the effect that we must have joint electorates. Sir Stuart Town is now saying that. But the Congress have now stated that separate electorates shall stand and that is in fact the whole basis. Partition according to the Muslims and qualified partition according to the Congress—that is what it means.

"Another point Premier mentioned was about unity. We certainly want unity. We want harmony in diversity. It is possible for us. But it does not mean that all of us should become one. In the body politic as in the physical body there are different components which go to make up the whole. There is composition in diversity, harmony in diversity. That is the only thing which we can achieve in India, not homogeneity or oneness as in England. Let not therefore our friends trot out false and misleading propositions inside and outside this House.

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"As I said, if you want to give no separate representation for this community or that community—the Harijans, the Christians, the Muslims and so on—and say: let us all go to the polls not as Muslims, Christians, Europeans or Scheduled caste men, but as residents of a city or town or village, that is consistent. A suspicion arises in the minds of the minority communities. Then we want reservations. Whom are you getting into the Councils through reservation? Not the real representatives of the minority! No doubt such a representative is a Muslim or a Christian or a Scheduled caste man. But he usually happens to be the representative of the influential moneyed man—the zamindar or the capitalist or someone who holds the key position in the city or the village—who aspires to become the president or the chairman of the local body and which is possible for him because his co-religionists are in a majority in the constituency.

"In practice what happens is this. I do not know whether these things are brought to the notice of the Minister at the Secretariat. These are inequities. In practice the seats are reserved in a ward or a division where the voters of that community are the least in number. In the municipality of Gudivada, whereas in the past, two seats were reserved in wards in which the Muslims were in a majority, now I may tell you, Sir, and the Hon. Minister might make a note of it that in spite of the fact that the municipal council passed a resolution that the reservation should be made in the ward where Muslims are in appreciable numbers, and the Government also have passed the necessary orders the seats have been reserved in the fifteenth ward where out of 600 voters only ten are Muslims. Then another seat has been reserved in the second ward where the Muslims are in a minority."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"May I point out, Sir, that these observations seem to have no relevance to the discussion of this Bill?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My point is, you are introducing the same system here and I am giving this illustration to show what will happen in practice. The agents of the Party—I am not referring to your Party, it may be any party, the Justice Party or any other party—may manipulate the reservation of seats in such a way that they are reserved in wards in which that particular community is in a minority. These are happening now and these would happen hereafter also. Either scrap altogether the separate communal representations and reservations of the kind or, if you must give representation to the people, give it straightaway. That is the only logical way to look at things. I wish the Government bear this in mind. You cannot deceive the minorities now. It is said that a man cannot be deceived at all times and on all occasions. You cannot deceive the minorities now. They know the implications of these arrangements. Who will be the man who will be returned by these arrangements? I do not want to use strong words, but I may say he will according to me be a henchman of the other party or a henchman of the person who proposes to become the chairman or

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president or the mayor or whatever it may be. Therefore I am very much opposed to this Bill on the ground that it adopts the method of election which is not reasonable and is very very misleading. It would not do justice to the minorities and the minorities would not be satisfied."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heartily congratulate the Hon. Minister for Local Administration for having courageously removed separate electorates for Harijans and introduced joint electorates and for having reserved seats for other communities and women in joint electorates. I do not agree with the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that the present quarrel between the Congress and the Muslim League or between the Muslim League on the one side and all the other communities on the other is over the question of separate or joint electorates. It is on the issue of the partition of India into Pakistan and Hindustan. The Muslim League adopts the theory of partition of India into two portions and then it develops the separatist tendency and insists on separate electorates in each and every stage. Separate electorates are the mischief, the great mischief introduced into this country by British Imperialism in the days of Lord Minto and Lord Morley, in order to divide one community from another. The communities are all divided and there is no meeting ground. There is nothing in common and disharmony has been introduced. My hon. Friend has been asking that real Muslims must come and real Harijans must come. Whom will he consider to be a real Muslim or a real Harijan? A Muslim who is extreme in his separatist tendencies—he is a real Muslim! A Harijan who is extreme in his separatist tendencies—he is a real Harijan! But that is not what we want. We want to live as a nation, to be together and to get on happily. After all, the Muslims in this Province are only 7 per cent and they have to get on very well with the 93 per cent of the other communities—Hindus and others—and the other communities have to treat Muslims with affection and friendliness . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, on a point of information, by asking for separate electorates, our friend should not understand that we want to go away anywhere. We want to remain here and we want to live happily and amicably. That is why we want separate electorates."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, in order to live happily and like brothers it is necessary that we should have joint electorate. Now what is my position? I represent honestly and straightly Harijans also. Suppose there is no joint electorate between caste Hindus and Harijans. I have nothing to do with them. I am not bound to help them. I am not bound to take their case into consideration. Now I am as much a representative of the Harijans as of the other Hindus. I got their votes. When two caste Hindus are opposing each other it is the Harijan votes that decide. Therefore I as a caste Hindu represent Harijans and the Harijans also represent caste Hindus. The responsibility has fallen on both of us and we have to help one another.

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I have a responsibility to all my voters including Harijans. I am bound to remove the curse of untouchability as early as possible. Otherwise why should I care? If they are separate it is a question of charity, mercy, a question of high principle. But now I am bound politically also. Similarly Muslim friends going to the Hindus and getting votes and Hindu candidates going to Muslims and getting their votes will keep us in better and more harmonious and friendly relations. Therefore joint electorates are always conducive to better friendship and promoting solidarity of national life. Therefore we nationalists always feel that joint electorate is the life principle of nationalism. Of course as my respected friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, has pointed out if we have no reservation of seats at all anywhere, it will be an ideal state of society. But situated as we are and considering the limitations in which we live we have to make compromises and reserve some seats to minority communities and at the same time allow them to contest other seats also. This principle was introduced in the District Municipalities Act by myself and my friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, when we were members of the old Legislative Council. My friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, was a whole-hearted supporter of that principle then. We introduced it together. There was a Bill on behalf of the Congress Party. Of course we did not take up office then. There was another Bill on behalf of the Government of Dr. P. Subbarayan. Both of us joined together as against the Justice Party and introduced the joint electorate. Before that, one-fourth of the members were nominated. We abolished nomination and threw open all these one-fourth seats for election and introduced joint electorate. Therefore he was a real Muslim then. (Laughter.) And now also representing as he does a joint electorate without even reservation of seats in the Madras Corporation he is a real Muslim there. Therefore you need not be afraid that simply because a Muslim is elected to any Legislature or local body through a joint electorate he loses the reality of Islamic principle or life in him. All other communities are now going towards joint electorates. The Harijans have it, though the British Imperialism wanted to separate them from the other Hindus. Thanks to Mahatma Gandhi's labour, his historic fast and the Yerrawada Pact, which introduced joint electorates among the Harijans and the other Hindus; it solidified the Hindu society. We want the Indian society to be solidified like that. We want joint electorates with the Muslims, Christians, Anglo-Indians, with certain seats reserved and even with Europeans. We want that we should live amicably and represent one another. This principle of joint electorates is, as I said, the life principle of nationalism. Now we are passing through a struggle between nationalism and communalism and I hope that this question of Pakistan and this communal struggle will end soon in a proper way and that we shall have no more trouble. The Mussalman friends who are now representing the Muslim League—let them have the Muslim League. I have no objection, or a political party by any other name—will themselves agree to joint electorates and try to be on more harmonious

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relations with the other communities. In the Municipal Council of Bezvada, three seats are reserved for Muslims, but actually they have got six. That is because Muslims contest other seats also. If you insist on separate electorates, fight on this issue, and develop separatist tendencies, I tell the Mussalman friends that the Hindus also will become like that. Then you would not have six, but only three seats. Therefore it is not good for you also. Pakistan or no Pakistan, it does not matter. Let us be together in joint electorates at least. Of course an ideal state of things cannot be had at this stage. Therefore let us have reservation of seats and at the same time have joint electorates. That is a good compromise. With these words, I support the Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill, because it proposes to have joint electorates. Whether the party in power agrees or not, it is an admitted fact that the representation is sectional—Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Europeans and Anglo-Indians. So also in another way, it is labour versus capital, Chamber of Commerce and labour seats. The present representation is not satisfactory, and to make it more satisfactory, the Bill introduces reservation of seats for certain minorities. We Muslims claim that it is logical that representation should be effective and more satisfactory. Only by separate electorates, that object can be achieved. It is a proven fact that in Simla a challenge was thrown at us whether the Muslim League represented the Mussalmans of India. The recent elections held throughout India have proved beyond all doubt that the Muslim League alone represents the Mussalmans of India, and therefore in this House also, 29 Muslim Leaguers have come out successful. By what means, I ask. It is by separate electorates. Therefore, the system of separate electorates alone will pick out the really representative Muslims throughout India. Therefore it is natural justice that the same system should be introduced in the local bodies and the Corporation of Madras. One day or other we have to get our natural justice, even though to-day we may be denied such justice. On the ground of logic of facts, I oppose the Bill which is based on joint electorates, and support the attitude taken by our Leader of the Opposition."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not wish to debate the question of electorates, for the scope of the present Bill is very restricted and it deals only with the structure and framework of the Council and not with its large powers. The City has expanded and there ought certainly to be more divisions. One good step taken is the avoidance of all functional representation. Sir Stuart Town disagreed with this part of the Bill and said that we were losing an excellent body of people whose opinion counted in almost all matters in the Corporation. I wish, Sir, he stays down in this country and lives to see a time when the excellent opinion that he has built up will not be lost sight of but will be followed up, and in fact he will see it exhibited in abundance in the business of the Corporation in future years. Expert opinion is not always obtained through functional representation. I do

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not know what the position is in other countries. But I am sure the most democratic body is that which avoids functional representation, like the British Parliament which, but for its eight University seats, has no other seats reserved for functional representation. In fact, I wish to see the day when even the two seats allotted to trades and other associations are merged in the general seats, so that the people in the trades may go to the general constituencies, fight their way through, and with the aid of their expert knowledge on matters connected with the Corporation secure proper and adequate representation on that body.

"A second difficulty arises here, Sir, and I wish the Hon. Minister had brought in a more comprehensive Bill to deal with this aspect of the problem. The insistence on separate electorates and the necessity to drive them down to the last limit, the panchayat board even, voiced by the Opposition here are due to the fact that we do not cease to be politicians even in limited spheres of work but will carry the colour of our politics into every municipality small or big. I want to see the day when municipal politics is treated not on the footing of politics in this House or in other bigger bodies such as the Central Legislature, but on a totally different footing applied as it is to the small domain of municipal administration which deals mainly with sanitation, communications, education and connected matters.

"I wish we on this side took the lead in declaring that in future all seats in the local bodies, whether it is the City Municipal Council or the district boards outside, could be contested not on any party labels, but purely on the issue of municipal service. I tell you, Sir, there are men eminently fitted to render municipal service and this service is a distinguished piece of service. People often think that service in certain forms is not quite good. They seem to assume that municipal service is a very small thing. It is not so; in fact, if the members of the municipal councils or the City Municipal Council, for instance, think of bringing less pressure on the administration in routine matters, there would be a toning up of the whole system of administration in those bodies. I do not know if other members agree, but I certainly feel, having served for many years in the Madras City Corporation, that some kind of legislative enactment would be necessary to free the administration of those bodies from the constant and unrelenting pressure even on small matters brought to bear on it by the members of those bodies. (Sir Stuart Town: 'Hear, hear.') I am one of those who welcome the omission of functional representation even in standing committees for certain purposes like the examination of contracts, etc., because most of the contractors find a place in these standing committees. Judging from the experience of standing committees which I have had, I wish the Government take note of this point that they be completely rid of the kind of pressure of which I have talked. If members would think, for instance, as to how a road made or a bridge built would be useful say for five years instead of three years without repairs, then is the golden day for our municipalities and the Corporation. Every pie spent there must be looked upon not as the property of this or that party to seize advantages

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therefrom, but as coming from the common purse of the masses of people for whose benefit that money is being spent, be it in respect of any matter, housing, making bridges, educating children or laying roads. If this new vigour is shown by the members freed from bias of all kinds, then, I tell you, Sir, there will be a marked improvement in the administration of the local bodies of our province.

"I want to say this deliberately. I have seen very often on the agenda of the Corporation trivial matters which ought to have been omitted therefrom, such as whether a man should get an increment of five rupees or not. (Mr. Speaker: 'How is this relevant to the present Bill?') Sir, I am suggesting that the Hon. Minister should bring in a more comprehensive Bill, that he should not merely touch the framework or structure of the body with which we are concerned but that he should go to the very roots of corporate life and think of remedies for the evils from which we have been suffering.

"As I have told you, I have seen many trivial matters appearing on the agenda of the Corporation, which had better been left out. If you do not trust the officials whom you appoint and whom you have power to censure, and if you take the responsibility on yourself, I tell you, Sir, you are encouraging every official in that body to divest himself of his responsibility for doing acts. The responsibility of the official must be fixed and we must in the last resort find out whether he is carrying out the responsibility properly. It is not as if every small complaint should be allowed to go to the Council. Even on large matters what do we find? Very often in debates on matters of vital policy—for instance how best to house in the limited space in certain areas the largest number of people in healthy surroundings and environments—we are seeing a veritable scramble in order to get at, how each one will work for himself or for others known to him. That is what I mean when I request the Hon. Minister to look into these matters and frame a Bill which would remedy all these defects and improve the life and not merely the structure of the Corporation."

MR. W. J. FERNANDEZ:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the merits or demerits of joint versus separate electorates so far as the Depressed Classes and other communities are concerned, in the case of the Anglo-Indian community I personally feel that the very object which the Hon. Minister seeks to achieve by joint electorates, will be defeated. My community is a small minority in most, if not all the municipal divisions of the City heavily outnumbered by the electors belonging to other communities. A candidate who is considered as the real representative by the major part of the community and is put up to contest the elections, can in all probability be defeated by one who does not represent the community simply because he can command the support of the electors who do not belong to that community, so that instead of being the real representative of the Anglo-Indian community, he in fact becomes the representative of the community that returned him to

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the Corporation. While I appreciate the desire of the Hon. Minister for Local Administration to reserve a seat for my community, I venture to assure him, if he insists on joint electorates, that in 9 cases out of 10, the wrong man will be returned to the Corporation.

"I have noticed on more than one occasion that the suggestion has been made in this House that separatist tendencies militate against unity among the communities. So far as my community is concerned, I venture to say that it is far from the truth and I see no reason to doubt the sincerity of the assurance given by my hon. Friends of the Muslim League in this direction. It seems to me it is a real pity that, whenever a major proposition is brought forward before this House, it very soon takes a political turn the moment some people on this side begin to express their difficulties and objections thereto. Arguments become very hot soon and if free fights are allowed in this Assembly, we will witness a very interesting boxing match. I would appeal to hon. Members on the opposite side to bear with us on this side; after all, we are a minority, a helpless minority in your hands; more often than not, we venture to place before you what we feel are our real difficulties and we leave it to you not to put a political tinge on them, not to imagine that we are objecting for the sake of objection, but to take us at our true value, and think that we are placing before you what we feel are our real difficulties. I ask you to view them dispassionately, detached from party considerations and then by all means come to a decision. Do not run away with the idea that we are opposing for the sake of opposition and then apply the weight of your numbers against us in ruling us out mercilessly."

MUHAMMED RAFAEUDIN AHMAD ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that, if the whole question of separate and joint electorates is examined by our friends on the other side in a calm and detached spirit and if they do not bring into play preconceived notions emanating from the All-India policy, there can be no real objection to separate electorates. If you concede the principle that local bodies should be based upon election, if you concede the principle that these bodies should contain elected representatives of the people, then the only logical conclusion should be that the representatives of the minorities should be elected only by members of those minority communities. I fail to see any objection to the separate electorate system. If the argument is advanced that it engenders separatism between the communities and does not bring about communal harmony, I say that the Local Bodies Bill is not a measure intended to bring about communal harmony. There are other methods by which you can allay the fears of the minority community. In fact, the record of this Government and of the Congress Governments in the other Provinces has been to increase the fears of the minority. In that case, how can you with any reason ask the minority community to place implicit trust in you and ask it 'You trust us; we will return your representative also.' How can anybody say that with any reason? Some of my hon. Friends said if the Muslim candidate has to go to the Hindus for their votes and if the Hindu candidate

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has to go to the Muslims for their votes, the two communities will be brought together. But actually in working, the Hindu candidate need not go to the Muslim for his vote; actually the Muslim minority is far outnumbered; in practice what happens is that the Hindu candidate need not care at all for the Muslim voters. On the other hand, the Muslim candidate has to depend entirely upon the Hindu electorate. That is what is happening now-a-days. I ask the question 'Will the House agree to this proposition that only such Hindu candidates should be declared elected obtain the majority of the Muslim votes?' On the one hand you ask the Muslim to lay implicit trust on the Hindu voters. What is the risk that you undertake? You can completely ignore the Muslim voters. The Muslim candidate also who wants to be successful in the election can ignore the Muslim voters. Is that the method by which you give due representation to the minorities? You say you do not know how to safeguard your own interest; we will reserve seats for the Muslims and other minorities; we are better educated people; you are backward people; we are enlightened; we know what is best for you; why this fear about reserved seats under joint electorates? If you concede the principle that these bodies should be elected bodies and that they should represent the wishes of the community to whom it is sought to give representation, the only logical conclusion should be that the candidate should be elected only by the community concerned. If you want to restore communal harmony in the Province, there are various other methods. As I said just now, the record of this Ministry has been, on the other hand, to increase the fears of the Muslim community. We have been asking that the medium of instruction to be given to us should be in our mother tongue. You do not agree to that. We have been asking due representation in the services; nothing has been done in that respect also. During the short period of 7 or 8 months our fears have increased ten-fold. After all, how can the Congress expect that we will agree to joint electorates? Is it not reasonable for us to demand separate electorates for local bodies? One of my hon. Friends said that the demand for separate electorates is the outcome of the All-India Muslim League's demand for Pakistan. May I remind that hon. Friend that separate electorates came into existence long before the demand for Pakistan came? In fact the demand for separate electorates arise out of the legitimate fears of minority communities. Hon. Members, Messrs. Nagappa and Fernandez have given expression to the fears of other communities. All these facts prove that our arguments are just and our demand for separate electorates is also a just demand."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill moved by the Hon. Minister for Local Bodies. Hon. Members who have been speaking on this side of the House have, in the clearest terms explained the reasons why they are opposing the principle of joint electorates. Sir, I can convince people whose mind is open. But it is impossible for me to convince people who are determined not to be convinced. To say that the Muslims and Hindus of this country are one and the same

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and that joint electorates alone will solve the problem and establish peace, harmony and tranquillity in this country, is not to realise the existing state of affairs and the differences that exist between the various communities and nations in this country. Take for instance the history of Europe. If fight has been going on in that continent and if great wars have been waged in that continent, it was because the rights of the minority nations of that continent were not recognised by people. Even in conventions and covenants that have been agreed to in Europe they have conceded this right of separate electorates for different nationalities living in that continent.

"Our hon. Friend Mr. Kaleswara Rao has said that it is because of British Imperialism, it is because of their policy of divide and rule that to-day there exist in this country two different people fighting each other.

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"Sir, the British Imperialism was not only in this country, but it was also in countries like Africa and America. Were the British with their policy of divide and rule able to divide the Boers of Africa? Was British Imperialism able to divide the Americans by adopting the policy of divide and rule? They were not able to do so because the people that live in those countries belonged to one single community or nation. In this country, Sir, we live as different nationalities. Our differences are great. Fundamentally we differ. Why not recognise those fundamental differences in the very constitution of this country? If that is recognised and set right, then our troubles in this country will be over and then we can carry on the freedom struggle of the country shoulder to shoulder and drive out the foreign power that may still be dominating in this country. Because you are not conceding these elementary principles, because you are still out to suppress the vociferous nationality which you call the Muslims, the trouble is still there. Therefore concede that principle and then we shall close up our ranks. You are not conceding it: you want joint electorate. We are not having it even in our Legislatures, then why should we have it in our own local bodies, and in our municipalities and panchayat boards?

"Sir, it has already been pointed out by hon. Members that by joint electorate, we would not be able to get the real representatives of the people. But, Sir, through joint electorate the people whom you may get may be the betrayers of their own nationality, may be traitors of their own cause and interest. I ask hon. Members not to depend on such traitors. People who are prepared to betray their own community, men who are prepared to betray their own class, will not fail to betray you any day. Depend upon the real representatives of the people.

"Sir, I say, we Muslims are large-hearted and broad-minded and you can know that from the very history of ours and from the history of Muslims in other parts of the world. We are not a narrow-minded nation. We are outspoken; we are frank and we will join with you as brothers, as friends and fight the battle of this country.

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"Therefore, Sir, it is in the best interests of our own Province that we on this side, urge upon the Government to recognise the principle of separate electorate. Separate electorate is not going to create a separatist tendency in us. Let us first divide ourselves and then join hands. That is the only thing that is emphasised in the speeches of the members on this side of the House.

"Another important matter which I would like to refer to, is this. I have gone through this Bill. The Government are prepared to give representation to the various Chambers of Commerce. The Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association get two separate seats in the Madras Corporation. But the Government have combined a number of Indian Chambers together and have given them only two seats. Sir, you are here recognising communal representation. The Europeans are a very clever people. They do not call their Chamber of Commerce a European Chamber of Commerce. They do not call their Trade Association a European Trades Association. They simply call them 'Madras Chamber of Commerce' and 'Madras Trades Association' and you recognize them as such. Are you not giving them separate seats because they are a separate nation? Then why deny the other Chambers of Commerce in this Province the same representation? Unfortunately, Sir, the name of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce is omitted. I tell the hon. Minister, I tell the members of this Honourable House, that the Muslim Chamber of Commerce has rendered immense service to the people of this Province. That is not communal. What we say here is, we have been vitally contributing to the trade and commerce of this Province. Therefore we want also to exist separately to represent our difficulties, our hardships and our disabilities not only to you, the Government of Madras, but also to the Government of India or any other authority. We have been existing for the last ten years and you have simply neglected us. Therefore, Sir, I make an earnest appeal to you to recognize the Muslim Chamber of Commerce as a separate entity and provide a separate seat for that organization. I might also say with some emphasis with regard to the representation of other commercial organizations in this Province, that you cannot simply put together a number of Indian commercial organizations and give them two seats and at the same time give one seat for each of the two European organizations that exist in this Province. Sir, I would make an earnest appeal to the Government to amend or to modify the Bill in such a manner as to recognize the existence of the various separate commercial institutions in this Province.

"Once again, Sir, I say that separate electorates must be conceded to the Muslims in order that we may establish lasting peace and tranquillity in this Province."

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with considerable diffidence that I rise to speak on this question. What has really happened in the past is an inspiration for the present. I cannot possibly believe, Sir, that in this year 1947, the

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conditions are such as to necessitate the protection of minorities in the Corporation of Madras. One should have hoped and one should have thought that enlightened public opinion is such that all communities should have joined together to solve the civic problems of this great metropolis of this Presidency.

“ But, Sir, from the nature of the speeches that have been made here, one is inclined to think that unless minorities have special representation, the civic affairs of the City would not be properly solved. When we look at the question in all its bearings, it makes no difference whether a man is a Hindu or a Muslim or a Christian or a Scheduled class man, to realise the importance of civic affairs, in matters of sanitation, in matters of health and in matters of education and in cleaning up and putting on really good roads. After all, what is wanted is a robust sense of citizenship, some common sense and sympathy for the underdog. If these characteristics are granted it makes no difference who are at the head of affairs. It is only when we begin to talk in terms of separate communities, that for some reason or other, people get a bit nervous. But, Sir, we have been told that those who come as representatives of communities, but who are elected or supported by the majority party, won't be real representatives of those communities. Such a view, in my opinion, is erroneous and I beg to differ from it, because we have an example of it in this very House. We have here nine representatives of the Indian Christian Community, three of whom have come from the non-Congress party and six from the Congress party. Our nominations have been due to the Congress party and we have come in from the districts and also from the City of Madras itself which contains the most elite and intellectual section of the community. Are we to suppose that just because we have, to some extent, depended on the support of other communities, we should not represent the Indian Christians, much less than others? (Mahboob Ali Sahib Bahadur: ‘It is separate electorate that we ask for’.) May be, Sir, but you know the nomination and influence go together. Sir, we believe that we represent the community that we come from, as much, if not more than, the others and after all, what is it for; to clean the streets, to educate a few children or to serve people of different religions and different communities. As an Indian, I ought to feel ashamed, whatever the circumstances may be, that even in small parochial things like this, we should be differing and putting ourselves under different labels. But once you allow such a difference to creep in, it will go on increasing and the fault will lie, not only with the major party, but with others as well. If the majority community had shown a broad spirit of sympathy, accommodation and goodwill, this discord would not have arisen.

“ But at the same time, Sir, I am glad that what the major community has not expressed itself in concrete acts of consideration and kindness to the minority communities, the Congress Ministry has come forward to remedy. That defect has been remedied by the Ministry by seeing that certain representatives of the various ideas and ideals could come together and express their

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views. In this moment we are told by the members of the Opposition that they have come to represent their own community and yet they say that they have been powerless to do so and that their voices do not carry. But, on the other hand, if give and take is the policy, we need reckon our influence not by the counting of hands, but by the appreciation of the heart and the head. It is possible for the few who belong to the minority to influence, however small in numbers they be, the doings of the majority party. For instance, the very inception of a Bill of this kind by a gentleman belonging to a minority community who has come forward to sponsor it, proves that it is not the numbers that count, but that it is the work, the solid work and the straightforwardness and sincerity with which that work is conceived in seeking to serve the community and the country, that really counts. Sir, this kind of fright against the majority is not the monopoly of Madras alone. I have heard it said over and over again in Hyderabad; I have heard it said in the Punjab and also in Bengal. Those who get power are very different from those who crave for power and when they themselves get it, unless the human heart is somewhat remodelled and changed for sympathy towards the masses and the world at large, all this talk about the majority overriding the minority is not true, because every community that gets power does it. Every nation does it. Then, why blame others when we ourselves sit in glass houses? In consequence, Sir, I believe that though the scope of the Bill is narrow, it is on right lines. I can say one thing, that I represent not myself, but a community. At one time that community wanted very much special electorates; but we have seen the evil of special electorates. The great majority of the people have now changed over and are inclined to do everything for us. We have burnt our bridges behind, and we have now come forward to say that we do not want to call ourselves in any way separate from others. We are part and parcel of the great Indian nationality. We do not believe in two or three and even ten nations; we believe in only one big nation of India. If you cannot agree to that, it is not worth living in this land. Therefore, this is only a beginning of things. I trust in the Select Committee, all the criticisms that have been levelled here would be taken notice of and the Bill will be so framed that the fears of the very frightened people would be assuaged and done away with, and that scope will be found for real representatives of the people, not like me and not like my friend the Hon. Minister and others, but for the so-called real representatives of the real people to come in. We do not mind the real representatives coming in; but I think we who have stood on the majority ticket and elected by our own community, represent our people as much as others, and this method has not therefore failed. It cannot fail if the majority community sought to see that the minorities were properly represented even without proper safeguards for them by the Government. Since however that is not to be done, the next best thing that could be done is the Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister for Local Administration. Sir, I support the motion and I trust that when it comes out of the Select Committee, if it should be

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referred to one, it will be bereft of the obnoxious points and make the civic sense really robust, true and human and that the Corporation of Madras will have the service of not one particular community, but all the resources of all the communities, so pooled together, as to render really good service by all communities to the city at large."

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, we form the main Opposition in this House and we always oppose in a helping spirit and our criticism is always constructive as far as possible. But on this question, I would like to make it perfectly clear here that we oppose on a certain definite principle, a principle which has been put before the House in the matter of representation of Muslims on local bodies. It is a question that vitally concerns the Muslims.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the wearer who knows where the shoe pinches. We have got the right to say that we do not want a particular thing which is not beneficial to us. Therefore, we shall fight on, though against very heavy odds, and with very little hope of success, but fight on, we shall. This is a matter which concerns the future of the Muslim community or the Muslim nation, to call it by its proper name. Now, Sir, what is the human tendency? What is the natural instinct in man? So far as I can see, it is the separatist tendency. Just a little while ago, copies of resolutions tabled by the Hon. Premier were distributed among the members of this House. What does that resolution show, what tendency does it disclose? It is a resolution which asks this House to recommend to the Constituent Assembly to see that in the future constitution of India, formation of Provinces is based on language. What does it signify? It signifies this thing, i.e., the natural tendency of man to segregate himself into a group where there is a common feature. And here the common feature is the language of a compact area. Therefore, this natural tendency cannot be removed by make-shift arrangements like joint electorates with reservation of seats. We have had enough experience, especially in the mufassal, of reservation of seats for Muslims in constituencies where the non-Muslims preponderate. My hon friend Mr. B. Gopala Reddi, for whom I have the greatest regard and who was our Minister for Local Administration in the last Congress Government, stated that even without reservation, in some parts it was possible for Muslims to capture seats on the local bodies. True, but we have also to see from which wards. It is from wards where the Muslim population and Muslim voters preponderate. These are all instances which are isolated, but the main question is there; we cannot prove a case by quoting some instances from here and from there. That is not it; we have to view the problem from a different point of view and view it as a whole. Therefore, even in the matter of the Corporation of Madras, no doubt the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has, as it were, conceded by reserving four seats for Muslims, something for us. But I would say, we shall not have any make-believe representation. What we want is effective representation; we want our own men to go there to represent our interests. It is the

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interests and the sections that a measure like this should protect by giving proper representation. If trade is to be given representation, we have got a constituency for trade. So far as this House is concerned, why do we have a constituency for the University and another for the Chamber of Commerce? The different interests should be represented by people who command the confidence of those particular interests. That is the idea of giving effective representation. It is that thing that we want. It is not make-believe representation that we want, which is being forced on us by means of legislation such as this. We must always respect the natural instinct of man. If you have got any respect or regard for human instinct and human nature, I say instead of reserving seats and getting people there to represent the Muslim community, who will be always at the behest or at the command of the non-Muslim majority, you must concede separate electorates. If they are honest about the business, I would request the Government to accept this simple matter of granting separate electorates for the various interests and the various sections of people. That will be what is called proper administration of local bodies for their proper functioning. For the proper protection of various interests and sections, it is quite essential that you must give separate representation by means of separate electorates to the various interests in the country. No doubt, we are now on the threshold of freedom and when we are preparing the ground for freedom, it must not be said that we have been trying all sorts of methods with a view to unify the people and then get the freedom that we want and afterwards find ourselves in a very difficult position when that freedom is achieved. Therefore I say we must have a far-sighted policy, not only a policy but a vision, as to what things you must have now itself, and what things we desire we should have in the future when we achieve complete independence. Every section and every interest must have proper representation and that is what is called democracy. It is not rule of one party over another that is called democracy; even in Germany they say there was democracy, but was it democracy in fact and in practice? It was not. If you want to go back to the good old principle of real democracy, you must give representation to every section and interests. If you want to develop the villages and make each village autonomous, then you must see that every village gets real autonomy. It is not the autonomy of a Province that will make it really progressive or improve the village. Just as in the body politic, every group, every village should receive its due share of autonomy, similarly every group that constitutes a separate interest should be given effective representation and should be given the natural right to improve on its own lines. That will be real democracy. We have tried joint electorates; but has it done any good? On the other hand, the remedy has proved worse than the disease. You have not achieved the object for which joint electorates were devised. To add to that, reservation of seats will make it worse; because a person in whom a particular community has full confidence will not get elected as he will have to depend on the tender mercies of non-Muslim majorities in every one of

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the joint electorates. That has been our experience. Therefore, do not try to achieve your end—I do not question your conviction in the matter—but what I say is: in practice, you have failed, and you are going to fail. Therefore, I strongly urge that especially in the case of local bodies you must provide for representation of separate interests and sections by means of separate electorates. Sir, I oppose this Bill on that principle and on that principle alone."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Tomorrow is a non-official day. The Upper House sits at 11 o'clock; therefore, we will meet at 2 o'clock."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m. on the next day.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 111 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 11th February 1947, page 455 supra.]

Statement.

Class or category.	Land Revenue branch.					Excise branch.					Statistical branch.				
	Brahman.	Non-Brahman.	Indian Chrs- tians.	Banned/Caste.	Strength.	Brahman.	Non-Brahman.	Indian Chrs- tians.	Muslim.	Strength.	Brahman.	Non-Brahman.	Indian Chrs- tians.	Muslim.	
Senior Superin- tendents.	3	2	1	..	2	1	..	1	..	2	1	1	..	..	
Temporary	4	1	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	4	1	3	..	..	
Junior Superin- tendents	4	2	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	
Temporary	3	2	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	
Upper division	15	17	..	2	13	3	7	..	3	16	7	6	3	1	
Temporary	54*	55	..	..	5	2	2	..	1	16	7	6	3	1	
clerks.	18	11	2	..	9	2	2	..	..	16	7	6	3	1	

Upper division { Permanent
Temporary
clerks.

	..	18	5	11	2	..	b	2	..
Upper division clerks.									

e Out of the 64 permanent upper division posts, only 34 posts are actually held by Upper division clerks and the remaining 30 posts have not been filled up pending a decision regarding the claims of certain men who have returned from war service and the actual dates of completion of their probation in the lower division. They are either held by permanent or non-permanent clerks in the lower division. They are, however, expected to be promoted to the upper division. Hence, statistics for said 30 posts are not furnished.

f Including lower division clerks who have not yet been promoted regularly to the upper division. Hence, statistics for said 30 posts are not furnished.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 115 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 11th February 1947, page 461 supra.]

(a) (1) Statement showing the number of non-residential scholarships for ordinary education granted for the last three years.

Serial number and districts.	1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Anantapur	94	22	95	24	72	19
2 North Arcot	370	21	279	21	267	30
3 South Arcot	350	16	245	23	332	28
4 Bellary	96	10	64	4	54	2
5 Chingleput	320	72	305	53	315	51
6 Chittoor	200	10	148	11	145	11
7 Cuddapah	119	21	97	30	98	44
8 Coimbatore	184	20	180	28	122	43
9 East Godavari	283	19	259	37	292	36
10 West Godavari	131	26	105	40	74	55
11 Guntur	150	38	146	33	113	30
12 South Kanara	64	..	55	..	71	..
13 Kistna	151	27	122	19	83	21
14 Kurnool	94	19	85	36	64	37
15 Madras	387	66	480	80	472	60
16 Madura	556	119	528	67	540	60
17 Malabar	347	1	244	9	204	3
18 Nellore	82	29	87	28	72	22
19 The Nilgiris	239	67	216	92	169	68
20 Ramnad	161	45	171	60	151	58
21 Salem	650	16	610	15	454	28
22 Tanjore	275	91	238	118	249	104
23 Trichinopoly	194	40	190	30	194	28
24 Tinnevely	402	196	500	146	442	124
25 Vizagapatam	134	9	112	13	75	8
Total ..	6,033	1,000	5,563	1,017	5,124	968

Number of residential scholarships for ordinary education for the last three years.

Serial number and class.	1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 M.A.	..	..	..	..	2	1
2 B.A. Senior	10	1	7	2	7	4
3 B.A. Junior	12	2	7	4	7	2
4 B.Sc. Senior	3	1	..	1	..	..
5 B.Sc. Junior	..	..	1	1	..	..
6 Inter Senior	6	..	34	9	24	6
7 Inter Junior	25	8	30	7	30	3
8 B.A. Hons.	3	1	3	2	3	2
9 B.Sc. Hons.	..	..	..	..	1	10
10 High School IV to VI Form	22	4	73	6	94	29
Total ..	81	17	155	32	169	29

N.B.—District-war details are not available for these scholarships.

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Number of residential scholarships for professional education for the last three years.

Serial number and class.	1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 B.Sc. (Agri.)—III Year	..	..	..	..	2	..
II "	..	..	2	..	1	..
I "	1	..	2	..	3	..
2 M.B.B.S.—V Year	..	..	..	..	1	..
IV "	..	..	2	1	1	2
III "	2	2	1	..	2	..
II "	..	..	1	1	..	..
I "	1	1	..	..	3	3
3 Pre-Registration	2	..	1	2	3	2
4 L.I.M.—IV year	1	..	1	..	1	..
III "	..	..	1	..	1	..
II "	..	..	1	..	1	..
I "	2	..	1	..	..	..
5 Sanitary Inspector's Course	5	..	2	..	1	..
6 B.E.—IV year	1	..	1	..	..	..
III "	2	..	..	..	1	1
II "	1	..	4	2	..	1
I "	4	2	..	..	3	1
7 Licentiate Class	3	..	1	..	2	1
8 Midwifery	6	4	12	11	16	17
9 Compounder's training	..	..	..	..	1	..
10 Sericulture	..	..	..	..	4	1
Total ..	31	9	33	17	43	29

N.B.—District-war details are not available for these scholarships.

Number of commercial and other scholarships granted for the last three years.

Serial number and class.	1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Commercial	10	..	7	1	3	1
2 Physical Education	1	..	1	..	1	..
3 Madras Sevasadan	10	..	7	1	9	..
4 Stipend for Koya boys	2	..	2	..	..	..
5 Industrial—Residential	13	8	11	7	15	6
6 Industrial—Non-residential	66	22	74	29	72	42
7 Public Works Department Apprentice	3	..	2	..	..	..
Total ..	105	30	104	38	100	49

Number of non-residential scholarships granted for collegiate education for the last three years.

Serial number and class.	1943-44.		1944-45.		1945-46.	
	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Collegiate	112	25	43	19	76	7

N.B.—District-war details are not available for these scholarships.

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(a) (2) Statement showing the number of individual boarding grants awarded by the Commissioner of Labour for the last three years.

Serial number and districts.	1943-44.			1944-45.			1945-46.		
	Non-con-verts.	Converts.	Total.	Non-con-verts.	Converts.	Total.	Non-con-verts.	Converts.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1 Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
2 North Arcot	14	..	16	12	..	12	11	1	12
3 South Arcot	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	9
4 Bellary	8	..	8	10	..	10	10	..	10
5 Chingleput	10	8	18	16	3	19	27	9	36
6 Chittoor	..	1	1	..	2	2	2	2	4
7 Cuddapah	2	4	6	2	5	7	3	7	10
8 Coimbatore	2	..	2	..	1	1	1	2	3
9 East Godavari	2	3	5	12	6	18	15	4	19
10 West Godavari	3	4	7	3	1	4	1	2	3
11 Guntur	17	5	22	21	3	24	39	9	48
12 South Kanara	5	..	5	13	..	13	13	..	13
13 Kistna	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3
14 Kurnool	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1
15 Madra	33	9	42	4	7	47	39	12	51
16 Malabar	33	..	33	23	..	23	27	..	27
17 The Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18 Nellore	28	2	30	35	5	40	43	13	56
19 Ramnad	10	4	14	9	3	12	9	9	18
20 Salem	..	2	2	1	2	3	..	1	1
21 Tinnevely	5	1	6	11	2	13	11	6	17
22 Trichinopoly	2	..	2	5	1	6	5	..	5
23 Vizagapatam	10	..	10	8	..	8	5	..	5
24 Madras	16	12	28	25	13	38	29	12	41
25 Tanjore	8	..	8	12	1	13	13	3	16
Total	208	57	265	259	55	314	315	94	409

(b) Statement showing the amount allotted to the Collectors of the district where Labour staff are working including the Collector of Salem during this year for giving non-recurring grants towards fees, books, clothes, etc.

Serial number and districts.	Amount allotted	
	Non-converts.	Converts.
(1)	(2)	(3)
	RS.	RS.
1 Anantapur	400	100
2 North Arcot	350	130
3 South Arcot	200	20
4 Bellary	500	130
5 Chingleput	300	30
6 East Godavari	350	30
7 Guntur	200	70
8 South Kanara	250	20
9 Kistna	300	100
10 Malabar	350	..
11 West Godavari	300	70
12 Nellore	150	40
13 Salem	100	10
14 Tanjore	100	50
15 Trichinopoly	100	20
16 Head office for Madras, Vizagapatam, Nilgiris, Ramnad, Madura, Tinnevely, Kurnool, Chittoor, Cuddapah and Coimbatore	1,250	480
Total	5,200	1,300

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, the 12th February 1947.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Fort St. George, at 2 p.m. Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUKHAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS.

* 115 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"Question No. 115 left over yesterday will now be taken up."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I have already answered^a the question No. 115, Sir."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"The question asked is about Harijan pupils and the answer given is about converts and non-converts. Will the Government be pleased to use the term 'Harijans' instead of the term 'non-converts' which is very nauseating?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It has been under the consideration of the Government to use the term 'Harijan' for all Hindu Scheduled Castes."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know the total number of applications received from the Harijans and the converts for the different scholarships in the year 1945-46?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know, Sir, why the number of non-residential scholarships for ordinary education granted in Kurnool has fallen from 94 in 1943-44 to 64 in 1945-46?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The fall is due to the increase in the number of boarding grants as may be seen from the answer to clause (b)."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask, Sir, why there is only one boarding grant awarded to Kurnool?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"If the hon. Member sees the replies to all the items, he will notice that the number of boarding grants awarded in 1945-46 is greater than the number awarded in 1943-44."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, why no individual boarding grants were awarded by the Commissioner of Labour for all the three years in the Nilgiris district?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Notice, Sir. Probably there were no applications from that district."

^a Vide pages 461-462 of Assembly Debates, dated 11th February 1947.

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister why the number of residential scholarships granted to converts is increasing from year to year while the number granted to Harijans is decreasing? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" That is what I see from the list submitted by the Commissioner of Labour. This will be investigated into."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I enquire, Sir, who scrutinizes the applications and recommends the grant of scholarships? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Generally applications are submitted by the students with the recommendation of the heads of the institutions where they are studying. They have also to produce poverty certificates. The Commissioner of Labour is the final authority to award the scholarships on the question of merit and poverty."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Government consider the desirability of appointing a small committee to scrutinize these applications and recommend awards if the existing Provincial Labour Advisory Committee is not functioning? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The Provincial Labour Advisory Board is still functioning. The question of reconstituting it is under the consideration of the Government. The Government have not come to a final decision in the matter. A separate committee suggested by the hon. Member is not at all necessary."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—" May I know, Sir, why the total number of non-residential scholarships granted in Nellore district has fallen from 82 in 1943-44 to 72 in 1945-46? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The policy of the Government is to encourage the education of the Harijans and to give more money to the students studying in the various schools and colleges. The hon. Member may not perhaps know that the amount of an ordinary scholarship is small while the boarding grant sanctioned to individuals is about Rs. 12 per mensem. The hon. Member may see that Nellore gets more boarding grants in 1945-46 than in 1943-44. The number is nearly double."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I request the Government to reconstitute the Provincial Labour Advisory Board as early as possible so that the Board may scrutinize the applications and sanction the awards? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I ask, Sir, why the number of non-residential scholarships granted for collegiate education has fallen from 112 in 1943-44 to 76 in 1945-46? "

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" It is true that the number of non-residential scholarships has fallen from 112 to 76, but at the same time it should be noted that the number of residential scholarships has increased from 81 to 169."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that the present Commissioner of Labour is more inclined to help the converts than the Harijans and also uphold the policy laid down by the previous Adviser regime? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" It is a matter of opinion, Sir. The Commissioner is there to look to the interests of all the applicants and consider all the applications on their merit."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" In view of the fact that great injustice is done to the Harijan community, may I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of bifurcating the Labour department and have a separate Harijan Uplift Department which will be confined only to the Harijan work? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The Government are seriously considering the question of having a separate Harijan Uplift Department. As regards the other part of the question put by the hon. Member, the interest of the Harijans will never be ignored or overlooked by giving concessions to other communities. The fund allotted to the Harijans may be utilized for Harijans and converts and Christians may be allotted funds separately. I have already said the other day that a separate allotment has been made for converts."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" Sir, I see from the facts and figures furnished by the department quite clearly that the interests of the Christian community are more favourably considered than the interests of the Harijan community while the department exists for the Harijan community."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Is the hon. Member making a statement or putting a question? "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" I am putting a question, Sir. I am asking why it is so."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" From the facts we quite see the thing. The point mentioned by the hon. Member will be noted."

SRI K. SHANMUGAM:—" May I know, Sir, the reason why the scholarships granted to B.A. senior students have fallen from 10 to 7 when compared to 1943-44 and 1945-46? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The scholarships awarded to students will continue when they are promoted. The senior B.A. students to whom the ten scholarships were granted might have passed their examination and got their degrees. The same scholarships will be granted to other students."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Is it not a fact that Harijan students find it very difficult to get admission to the colleges first of all?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The question may be put to the Hon. Minister for Education."

* 116 Q. * —

Permits to purchase new cars.

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

(a) the number of persons who applied for permits to purchase new cars after the Ministry took office; and

(b) the names and designation of persons to whom permits were given?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" (a) Four thousand and seventy-eight applications have been received by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller between 1st May 1946 and 31st January 1947.

" (b) A list^b of persons to whom permits were issued between 1st May 1946 and 15th January 1947 is placed on the Table of the House."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the existence of a widespread scandal that at some stage in the process of getting permits people have to pay about Rs. 1,000?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have not been informed of that."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I ask, Sir, what was the object of Government in introducing the system of permits?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The object of the Government was that the essential users in the province who needed cars might get them without paying high prices."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"In the light of the list furnished by the Government, may I ask if the Hon. Minister is satisfied that only essential users have been given permits?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are of opinion that only essential users have been supplied with cars."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to remove this control?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"That point is under consideration."

^a Answered on 11th February 1947.

^b Printed as Appendix on pages 561-587 infra.

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister satisfied that permits for cars have been given strictly on the basis of priority?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"On the basis of priority and essential need. That is the correct position." 2-15 p.m.

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does the Hon. Minister regard Mr. B. Gopala Reddi as an essential user? He applied for a permit in August 1946, and still he has not got it."

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Mr. Gopala Reddi must be taken as an essential user."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"When the control is working effectively, may I know why the Government are considering to remove it?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Now cars are coming in larger numbers, and effective administration of controls is a troublesome business."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister said that permits were given according to priority coupled with essentiality. May I know what are the other elements that go to make up the priority?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Instructions as to the principles he should follow in settling priority have been given to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller. The guiding principle is that, if a man has got a car or if one can manage without it, he will not be taken as an essential user, and no permit will be issued to him."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the question of retaining price control and giving up only the permit system?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"When the Government consider the removal of controls, certainly this point will be considered."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is satisfied that the I.C.S. officers, the enormous number of Government officers, and the High Court Judges were without cars when they applied for permits?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If the I.C.S. officers and the Government officers, especially touring officers, own cars which are in a very bad condition, they have to be given permits. As regards High Court Judges, some of them sold away their cars before we took up office—and that is a matter with which we are not concerned—and they were given permits."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know to what extent the policy of giving permits only to officials was changed with the advent of the Hon. Minister?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The list placed on the table of the House will show that permits to non-officials are more than to officials, perhaps a little less than double."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether any gentleman has been given permits for more than one car?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Not to my knowledge. Notice."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Is not the primary object of control to make life more bearable for the poorest classes of people?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is difficult to understand this question with reference to motor control, because the poorest classes of people do not go in for motor cars."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Arising out of the answer of the Hon. Minister, may I suggest that, since the motor car is a luxury product, the control may be altogether dispensed with?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"That is one of the points that will be seriously considered when we think of removing the control."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Has the Hon. Minister scrutinized the list placed on the table of this House, and, if so, has he not found any person who has been given permits for more than one car?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Not ordinarily. It is within the discretion of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller. Suppose there are big businessmen who require more than one car as a matter of necessity, they might have been given. Otherwise, there is no justification for giving permit for more than one car to the same person."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"From the list, I find that 21 permits have been given to the Chief Secretary to Government. May I know whether there are 21 Chief Secretaries to Government or only one Chief Secretary?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Permits for the cars used by the Hon. Ministers and others are issued to the Chief Secretary to Government."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the price of cars in provinces where there is no control is double the listed price?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I do not know what exactly the proportion is. I have heard that the price in such provinces is slightly higher."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the Government have passed any order to the effect that those who have purchased cars through permits should not sell them without the sanction of the Government and at a price not higher than that fixed by the Controller?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Yes. The Government have passed a rule that the cars purchased through permits should not be sold without the permission of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller and at higher than the price fixed by him."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"May I know whether members of the Constituent Assembly are allowed to buy cars in Delhi?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I am told that they are allowed to purchase cars in Delhi."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"In such a case, is it necessary to give a permit to Mr. B. Gopala Reddi in Madras also?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If Mr. Gopala Reddi has no car, as a Member of the Madras Assembly, he is entitled to a permit here. If in his capacity as a Member of the Constituent Assembly, the Delhi Government were to give him a permit, the Madras Government will not give him a permit."

SRIMATHI C. AMMANNA RAJA:—"Is there no car available for his use at present?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I do not know."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know how many gallons of petrol per month will be allowed for the M.L.As. in future?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The M.L.As. are expected to tour in their constituencies, and there is no fixed quantity that each Member is entitled to. That depends upon the work that each Member does, and the Area Rationing Officer will issue supplementary coupons accordingly. But each Member is allowed 25 gallons per month when in Madras to attend the Assembly meetings, as per the circular placed in the hands of the hon. Members."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether there are cases of members of the Constituent Assembly applying to the Provincial Government, after they were granted permits by the Government of India?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The fact that they are members of the Constituent Assembly will be known to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller, and he uses his discretion in the matter."

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SRI P. NATESAN:—" May I request the Hon. Minister to see that at least 30 gallons per month are allowed to the Members of the Legislative Assembly resident in Madras? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" That suggestion will be considered."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" May I ask the Government whether it is not a fact that the Government of India lifted this control long ago and that other provinces followed suit, and whether by the lifting of this control in our province also, a saving in expenditure would result? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" I know the Government of India lifted the control, and also the Punjab and some other provinces. Madras retained control so that the average rich men who really needed motor cars may get them. The point put forth by the hon. Member will be considered."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that there is a general complaint that the present Provincial Motor Transport Controller is very discourteous to the applicants who appear before him? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" If he is discourteous, I shall see that he is not discourteous."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" As the Hon. Minister admitted that the price of cars was higher in other provinces, will the Government be pleased to continue the controls in this province? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" I have already said that there were 4,078 applications after the Ministry took up office. But only 600 cars had been received. However scrupulously the applications are scrutinized, there will be a lot of complaints and it will be very difficult to avoid them. Since the number of applications is soaring up, it is for the Government to see whether it is worth while continuing the control or not."

MR. SPEAKER:—" I have already allowed a number of supplementary questions. I will allow only one or two more."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is advisable to continue control for the sake of a very small number of people who can afford to pay higher prices, when it involves recurring expenditure to Government? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" There is no question of expenditure because the Provincial Motor Transport Controller looks after it. The point put forward by my hon. Friend will be duly considered."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister what control he has got over the sale of old cars made over to the Controller after the purchase of new cars under permits? "

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" When a permit holder has an old car, it is placed at the disposal of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller so that it may be given to an essential user holding a permit. He is allowed to sell the car to the essential user at the price fixed by the Controller."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether Kumararaja M. A. Muthiah Chettiar, Leader of the Independent Group, applied for a permit, giving up his right to apply from the Constituent Assembly and whether he has not been provided with a permit? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" I think he has applied; I am not quite sure."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" The Chief Secretary has been issued 21 permits for the cars used by the Hon. Ministers. May I know how many cars are used by the Hon. Ministers? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" This question has already been answered by the Hon. Premier."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know how many cars are being received and whether the Government cannot manage to get a larger number of cars? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" This province has no control over the allocation of cars."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" With regard to the proposal of lifting the control, is the Hon. Minister satisfied that the needs of the essential services are satisfied in the province so far as motor cars are concerned? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" No, Sir; I do not think all the needs of essential people who require cars, are satisfied."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to institute an enquiry in the matter of people who have obtained permits and purchased cars whether they are retaining their cars in their hands and not passing them on to others? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" If what the hon. Member says is a fact, it is a matter which must be enquired into and it will be done."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to scrutinize every application that comes up before the Provincial Motor Transport Controller? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" It will be such a difficult task. I cannot promise that a Minister will scrutinize it."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he does not recognize the need of the public and on that account give more permits to taxi-owners? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" The Provincial Motor Transport Controller has been instructed to allot some cars to taxi-owners also every time."

Disconnecting Waltair Railway Station from the main line.

* 117-A Q.—SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether any communication has been received by this Government that the Central Railway Board has decided to disconnect Waltair Railway Station from the main line in respect of Mail trains running to and fro, with effect from 1st April 1947 from Madras to Calcutta;

(b) whether the Government have ascertained the difficulties of the public of Vizagapatam and Waltair in this matter; and

(c) whether the Government propose to recommend to the Railway Board not to disconnect the Waltair Railway Station?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" (a) No.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—" May I know whether the Government is not aware that recently there was a discussion about the disconnection of the line in the Central Legislative Assembly and it was then stated that the contemplated disconnection of Waltair from the main line is due to the reason that it would save time? "

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—" I have already answered that question. The answer is 'no'."

Retirement of the present Surgeon-General, Madras.

* 117-B Q.—M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether Major-General Huban, the present Surgeon-General is taking long leave preparatory to retirement and the office is falling vacant shortly;

(b) whether any I.M.S. Officer who was in Civil employment in or before 1928 is available in the province for appointment in the ensuing vacancy of the office of the Surgeon-General; and

(c) if answer to clause (b) is in the negative whether the Government propose to consider the claims of the seniormost officer in the Madras Provincial Service in preference to any one from outside the province?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) The officer has applied for leave but not preparatory to retirement.

" (b) No such officer is available in this Province at present.

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" (c) Under the rules in force the claims of all the I.M.S. officers of the 1928 protected category throughout India have to be considered first. When there are no such officers available for appointment, the claims of all senior Medical officers including I.M.S. and Provincial Officers will be considered."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister has considered the question and will see that rules are revised in order to enable senior officers of the Provincial Government to get prior chances? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Under the existing rules, unless de-reservation takes place and the Secretary of State for India gives the necessary permission for de-reservation, the claims of I.M.S. officers have to be considered and the claims of men belonging to the Provincial Medical Service cannot be considered."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Government be pleased to obtain necessary permission from the Secretary of State for making appointments from amongst the seniormost officers in the province? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" The question of the abolition of the Civil Branch of the I.M.S. has been referred to the Secretary of State and we are awaiting orders from him."

Number of vacancies of Indian Sergeants in the Police Department.

* 118 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of vacancies of Indian Sergeants in the Police Department that arose and were filled up in 1945; and

(b) the number of Muslim applications for those vacancies?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" There were 97 vacancies, permanent and temporary, for Indian Sergeants. None were filled up.

" (b) No applications were called for."

Officers and clerks in the office of the Inspector-General of Police.

* 119 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of officers and clerks in the office of the Inspector-General of Police and the number of Muslims among them?

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The number of officers and clerks and the number of Muslims among them, are as follows:—

Gazetted officers	...	4	..	Muslims	Nil.
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Non-Gazetted officers—

(a) Managers	..	2	..	Muslims	Nil.
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(b) Superintendents..	14	..	..	Nil.
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(c) Clerks	..	80	..	..	8"
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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the absence of Muslims in the higher ranks of the service in the office of the Inspector-General of Police, will the Government take the earliest opportunity to give chances to Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes; it will be enquired into and the needful will be done."

[*Superintendents and clerks in Secretariat according to communities.*]

* 120 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of (i) permanent and (ii) temporary Junior Superintendents, Senior Superintendents and Upper Division clerks in the Secretariat specifying the number of the above posts held by each community?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (i) The total number of Superintendents including Assistant Superintendents and Librarian in the Secretariat is 199. Of these 62 are permanent and 137 temporary. Seventy-two posts are held by Brahmans, 84 by Non-Brahmans, 31 by Indian Christians and 12 by Muslims.

" (ii) The total number of upper division clerks in the Secretariat is 476. Of these 139 are permanent and 337 temporary. One hundred and fifty-seven posts are held by Brahmans, 216 by Non-Brahmans, 68 by Indian Christians, 32 by Muslims and 3 by Scheduled Castes."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, what is the reason for the number of Muslims being so poor in these posts?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It is difficult to answer the question without notice."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Arising out of the answer given just now that only 3 Scheduled Castes clerks are there, will the Government consider the desirability of recruiting more and more Scheduled Castes people for the Secretariat Department?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Certainly; if there are persons forthcoming suitable to hold the posts, every preference will be given to them."

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I enquire whether there were not qualified applicants of the Scheduled Classes for these posts so far?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I presume they were not available at the time of selections."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask why the communal Government Order is not strictly enforced with reference to these appointments?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I am anxious, Sir, to enforce the communal Government Order to the utmost limit and to distribute the posts amongst all the communities."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"In view of the paucity especially of Scheduled Classes in the Secretariat, will the Government consider the necessity of altering the communal Government Order making greater provision for the Scheduled Classes?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No such extension will be made under the present circumstances."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I ask the Hon. Prime Minister whether one Sri Rajagopal, Sub-Inspector, was ousted from service for no fault of his?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Such questions should not be put by the hon. Member; whether there were sufficient reasons or not, he could not have known."

Location of the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce.

* 121 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce is now located in the grounds adjoining the compound of the Gosha Hospital, Triplicane, which were intended for the expansion of the above hospital;

(b) whether the Gosha Hospital is in need of the building where the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce is at present located; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to shift the abovementioned office to some other place?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Yes. The building occupied by the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce is required for providing quarters for the nursing staff of the hospital which is one of the items of work included under Post-war Scheme No. 39.

" (c) The Collector of Madras has been asked to provide alternative accommodation for the office of the Director of Industries and Commerce under section 3 of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946. Owing to dearth of accommodation, however, this may take some time."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"In view of the urgency of the matter, will the Government be pleased to see that some unimportant offices that are in the City of Madras are transferred to the mufassal as was done during war-time, so that the building which is occupied by the Director of Industries may be given to the Gosha Hospital and the office of the Director of Industries shifted to the building of some other office transferred from Madras to the mufassal?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I am afraid that the question put by the hon. Member does not arise directly from this question; I do not know whether I am competent to answer this question."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the provision of accommodation for the requirements of the Gosha Hospital is not a subject to be dealt with by the Minister and whether that hospital is not in her charge?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, Sir."

Rural water-supply.

* 122 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) what scheme the Government have drawn up with regard to rural water-supply;

(b) the amount of money that the Government intend to spend for this purpose during the current year and the amount spent under this head during each of the five preceding years;

(c) whether the Ceded districts will be given precedence in regard to this matter; and

(d) the number of years within which the scheme of rural water-supply would be completed throughout the Province?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) A ten-year plan for the provision of protected rural water-supply in the villages was prepared in 1938. That part of the first half of the plan which remains unexecuted will be taken up for execution during the first five post-war years. The balance will be executed in the second quinquennium. The supply sources to be provided in the villages will generally consist of—

(i) borewells with iron and steel or cement pipes;

(ii) masonry dug wells according to an approved type design; and

(iii) wells infiltration galleries, etc.

"The types of supply to be provided are left to the discretion of the District Collector.

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"(b) An amount of Rs. 25,75,425 has been distributed to the Collectors of all districts for expenditure during 1946-47 under the Provincial Rural Water-supply Scheme. The amounts spent during the preceding five years are as follows:—

	RS.
1941-42 ..	4,67,442
1942-43 ..	9,67,217
1943-44 ..	9,03,217
1944-45 ..	10,93,400
1945-46 ..	17,09,169

"(c) The Board of Revenue has issued special instructions to the Collectors of the Ceded districts to pay particular attention to the provision of protected water-supply in their districts and to launch an intensive drive in the matter.

"(d) Ten years."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I submit, Sir, that the answer is long and very useful. This may be taken up tomorrow."

MR. SPEAKER:—"It will be taken up tomorrow. By that time the answer will be printed and placed on the Table."

Supply of electric power to South Kanara.

* 123 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government propose to make provision in the next budget for any scheme of supplying electric power to South Kanara?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Extension of supply of electricity to South Kanara district has been planned and provided for in the Moyar Hydro-Electric Scheme already sanctioned by the Government and no provision on this account will be necessary in the next budget.

"Other alternatives for supplying power to the district earlier such as taking bulk supply from the Mysore Government are being examined."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the South Kanara district is not one of the few districts which have not so far had the benefit of cheap electric power and whether in view of that fact the Minister will be pleased to see that early supply is given?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Certainly. I am myself most anxious to see to it."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister how long it will take to supply electric power to all development firkas?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"That question does not arise out of this."

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* 124 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the member is absent this will be printed in the proceedings."

Coimbatore Co-operative Sugar Manufacturing Society.

* 124 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Coimbatore Co-operative Sugar Manufacturing Society is locked out since July 1946; if so, why;

(b) whether production of sugar is affected by this lock-out; and if so how much; and

(c) the number of workers in the factory and the number thrown out of employment by this lock-out?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) No. The Sugar Factory which went by the name of the Coimbatore Co-operative Sugar Manufacturing Society, Limited, was closed for the annual overhauling on 5th June 1946. On account of labour difficulties, the overhauling work could not be finished quickly. It was completed only on 16th October 1946. The society was then negotiating to sell the factory, as it had been working at a loss. It sold the factory to the Coimbatore Agro Industries, Limited, on 23rd November 1946. The management of this company do not propose to work the factory for the present as they do not expect any cane-grower to take his cane to the factory of his own accord after the removal of the restriction on the disposal of sugarcane.

" (b) The factory was producing about 900 bags of sugar a month. That much production is lost on account of the factory not working.

" (c) There were 113 workers at the time when the factory was closed for overhauling. Now there are 19 workers."

Service conditions including the pay of non-official co-operative employees.

* 125 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Madras Provincial Non-official Co-operative Employees' Association and its affiliated District Units requesting that the scope of enquiry of the Cabinet Sub-Committee appointed by the Government to consider the question of the revision of scales of pay of non-gazetted Government officers be so extended as to include non-official co-operative employees also; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to enquire into the service conditions of non-official co-operative employees with particular reference to their salaries and tenure of office?

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) No.

" (b) The Government have received certain representations from the Madras Provincial Non-official Co-operative Employees' Association and the Nellore District Association for bettering the service conditions of non-official co-operative employees. They are under examination. No specific request was made for enlarging the scope of the enquiry undertaken by the Cabinet Sub-Committee so as to include non-official co-operative employees."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know when we can expect these non-official co-operative society employees being placed on a par with the non-gazetted officers? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" It is not possible for me to say at present."

Gun licences in South Kanara.

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

(a) the number of crop protection gun licences issued in South Kanara in the year 1938-39; and

(b) the number of such licence-holders in the district at present?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" (a) Four thousand four hundred and thirteen crop protection licences were issued during 1938 and 4,368 during 1939.

" (b) The number of such licences at the end of 1945 was 4,238. Figures for 1946 will be available only in April 1947."

SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" May I request the Hon. Minister to see that sufficient number of licences are given to ryots living near reserved forests where the ravages of wild beasts have increased very much of late? "

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" Taking all that into consideration, the Government are issuing the licences."

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will instruct the magistrates to give licences liberally in the Palni and Kodaikanal Hills where food crops are being regularly destroyed by wild animals? "

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—" General instructions have been given to be more liberal than before in the matter of issuing licences for purposes of crop protection."

Hereditary system of village officers.

* 127 Q.—MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of N. Muhammad Anwar Sahib Bahadur): Will the

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Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the policy of the Government with regard to the continuance of the hereditary system of village officers?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The whole question of reorganizing the present system of village establishments on more efficient and economical lines is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI NIVARTHI VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Does it include the abolition of the hereditary system?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"That is also one of the matters that will be considered."

[Area under tobacco cultivation in the province.

* 128 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the area under cultivation of tobacco in this province for the last three years?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The information is furnished below:—

Fasli 1353 (1943-44).	Fasli 1354 (1944-45).	Fasli 1355 (1945-46).
ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
238,219	328,185	363,036 "

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether in view of the food scarcity the Government will consider the desirability of banning tobacco cultivation for some time to come until the food situation eases?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The matter will be considered, though it will be difficult to ban all tobacco cultivation."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that representations were made to the Hon. Minister from the Godavari district to delimit the area under tobacco companies chiefly those which are dealing in virginia tobacco?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Just now I am unable to say."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister who comes from South Kanara aware that if he restricts the area under tobacco cultivation, the whole of Andhra districts will rise in rebellion?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I don't think so, Sir. Even during the current year, tobacco cultivation has been prohibited in certain areas in the Andhra districts."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Does it mean that tobacco is not classed among essential articles?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"It is certainly not essential as compared with food."

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SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—"Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, may I suggest, Sir, that an expert committee be constituted to go into this question of systematic crop control throughout the Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The matter will be considered."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Have the Central Government anything to do with tobacco growing in this or in any other Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Not so far as I know."

SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether tobacco crop is best fitted in rotation crop?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"It may be so, but the need for food crops is ever so great now."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before restricting the growth of tobacco, will the Government see that all available cultivable lands are brought under cultivation?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"That will certainly not be possible because there are millions of acres which are not under the plough now."

SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:—"May I know whether tobacco crop will be continued without detriment to the food crops according to rotation crops?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I cannot give an off-hand answer to this question."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that tobacco is a harmful substance for health and therefore its cultivation should be discouraged?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The question may be addressed to the Hon. Minister for Public Health."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact that the growth of tobacco is necessary for industries in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"All that may be true, but the need for food is much great now."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the excise revenue that the Government gets from this tobacco growing?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"We do not get anything, Sir. Under an agreement with the Government of India, we get about Rs. 20 lakhs."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the question of restricting tobacco cultivation on a percentage basis to the total area under cultivation of that commodity?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"That will be considered."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister satisfied that there are no other lands available for putting into operation the Grow More Food Campaign—lands other than those used for tobacco cultivation?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"All available lands have from year to year been brought under the Grow More Food Campaign, but we find several lands which were under food crop cultivation diverted to tobacco cultivation because of the heavy income derived from it."

Construction of river dams and channels in Salem and Attur taluks.

* 129 Q.—SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received memorials from the agriculturists of Salem and Attur taluks praying for the construction of river dams and irrigation channels in the above two taluks to help them in the Grow More Food Campaign; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

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

" (b) The memorials have been forwarded to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and they are being examined by him."

Improvements to Negapatam-Vedaranyam canal.

* 130 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken by Government to dredge the Negapatam-Vedaranyam Canal;

(b) whether any representations were made to improve the canal; and

(c) if so, what action was taken by Government on the representations?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) Improvements to the Negapatam-Vedaranyam canal at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.10 lakhs is one of the schemes included in the Post-War Programme relating to 'Inland Waterways.'

(b) & (c) A memorial signed by some of the residents of Topputhurai and Vedaranyam villages, Tanjore district, was received in October last and a report thereon is awaited from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation)."

Construction of a bridge at Chettuvayi, Ponnani taluk, Malabar.

* 131 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have at any time considered the question of constructing a bridge at Chettuvayi in Ponnani taluk in Malabar district?

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THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Yes. The construction of a bridge over the Chettuvayi river on Kootungal-Ala road at a cost of about Rs. 2 lakhs was provided for in the Post-War Road Programme previously drawn up in phases III and IV, i.e., in the list of works to be executed after the first five years. That programme has had to be curtailed since and a revised road programme is being drawn up. The inclusion of the bridge work in question (which is now estimated to cost about Rs. 5 lakhs) in the revised programme will be considered on its merits, having regard to all the circumstances, inclusive of the existence of the Ponnani-Cochin canal which runs parallel to the Kootungal-Ala road within a distance of 4 furlongs and is navigable throughout the year."

Educational facilities for Muslim girls in Guntur and Kurnool.

* 132 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have provided facilities for

(1) higher secondary education; and

(2) secondary training

for Muslim girls in (1) Guntur and (2) Kurnool; and

(b) whether there are any hostels attached to the educational institutions provided for Muslim girls in the above-mentioned places?

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

" (a) No. As there are other schools providing for these needs.

" (b) Yes. In Guntur attached to the higher elementary training school cum middle school."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to explain what he means by saying that there are other schools where Muslim girls may receive instruction?"

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

"There are two main high schools for girls in Guntur, namely, Guntur Girls' High School and the St. Joseph's Girls' High School. In Kurnool there is a Government High School for girls."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask what the medium of instruction is in those schools?"

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

"Possibly, Sir, the regional language." (Laughter.)

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has not yet realized even to this day, the need that has arisen even for him for answering questions satisfactory to the Opposition?"

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I would suggest, Sir, that that is not a very pertinent question. The Hon. Speaker must rule out the question.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister how he expects Muslim girls who have received education in Urdu in the middle schools at Kurnool to prosecute their higher studies in the same language, if a Muslim high school is not provided in that place?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I suggest, Sir, that this question may be elaborately discussed on the occasion of the resolution which is to come up before the House.”

Middle and high schools in Pathapatnam taluk, Vizagapatam district.

* 133 Q.—SRI G. KUMARASWAMI:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any high school or middle school in the whole of Pathapatnam taluk of Vizagapatam district;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to open any high school in the taluk;—

(c) whether there is any proposal to convert some higher elementary schools into middle and high schools; and

(d) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to see that they come into force?

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

“(a) No.

“(b) No. The District Board has proposed to convert the Higher Elementary School at Hiramandalam into a middle school.

“(c) & (d) Yes. The Government propose to permit the District Board to convert three higher elementary schools into middle schools from the next school year.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“There are only three more questions. We shall finish them in five minutes.”

Salaries to the staff of the Hindu College High School, Guntur.

* 134 Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what the Government grant paid to the Hindu College High School, Guntur, is;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Committee pays very poor salaries to the teachers;

(c) whether it is a fact that those that draw Rs. 40 and above get only Rs. 6-8-0 as Dearness Allowance and those that get below Rs. 40 per mensem are paid only Rs. 5 and

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(d) if it is so, whether the Government propose to take steps to see that they are paid at the rates admissible to the Government servants?

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

“(a) A teaching grant of Rs. 6,954.

“(b) & (c) The hon. Member's statement is correct except that the clerks who are paid a dearness allowance of Rs. 6-8-0 per mensem and the menial staff at Rs. 9 per mensem irrespective of their pay.

“(d) The Government cannot compel managements of aided colleges to pay dearness allowance at Government rates to the members of their staff. They have already taken steps to see that their share of the allowance is paid in full.”

Newspapers in Malabar to which Government advertisements are given.

* 135 Q.—M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state the newspapers in Malabar to which the advertisements of the Madras Food Department and other Government advertisements are being given by the Madras Public (Information) department and other departments?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“(1) The following are the papers of Malabar district to which Government advertisements are being given:—

- (1) *Champion.*
- (2) *West Coast Spectator.*
- (3) *Malabar Herald.*
- (4) *Mathurbhumi.*
- (5) *Manorama.*
- (6) *Chandrika.*
- (7) *West Coast Reformer.*
- (8) *Harbinger.*
- (9) *Janasakti.*
- (10) *Powrasakti.*
- (11) *Mithram.*

“The Public (Information) Department is issuing advertisements on food matters to two dailies in Malabar—The *Mathurbhumi* and *Powrasakti*.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In the number of advertisements given to these papers, is any preference shown to any paper or class of papers?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“No, Sir.”

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SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—“ We shall take question No. 136 to-morrow, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ All right, we shall take it up to-morrow. Regarding the last question, I think it is better, the Hon. Minister sends the answer to the Secretary for being printed and placed on the table to-morrow.”

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

II.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS HINDU BIGAMOUS MARRIAGES PROHIBITION AND DIVORCE BILL.

3 p.m. * SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Madras Hindu Bigamous Marriages Prohibition and Divorce Bill. In doing so, I wish to submit briefly a few words. It has been already before the public for some time. Of course people have expressed various opinions. I want to submit that the Nationalists in the Eastern countries have all suppressed bigamy. The great Mustapha Kemal Pasha, one of the greatest leaders of Asiatic freedom and renaissance, has suppressed bigamy in independent Turkey. So also the Koumintang party led by Gen. Chiang-kai-Shek has also suppressed bigamy. The time has now come for the Nationalists in India to suppress bigamy. Sir, bigamy is a great handicap and hardship upon the women of this country. This Bill is not introduced in any irreligious spirit; I am a religious-minded man myself; I have written a book on the Upanishads; I have read the Quoran and the Bible. Therefore, it is not in any irreligious spirit that this Bill has been introduced. Now we are on the eve of establishing one of the greatest republics of the world for the forty crores of this ancient country, a democratic republic; and it is necessary that there should be no inequality between man and woman, between Hindus and Mussalmans, between Brahmins and Harijans. The time has come when the inequalities under which the Hindu women have suffered for some time—it may be for some centuries even—should be removed both with regard to marriage as well as with regard to property rights. This Bill for suppressing bigamy is a charter of freedom to the women. The ideal of Hinduism is absolute monogamy. Indian women, Hindu, Muslim and Christian, are famous for their chastity. We have as our ideals in Hindu society the God Shankara, in whom both Shankara and Parvathi are in one body together.”

* M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ On a point of information, Sir. The hon. Member Mr. Kaleswara Rao was saying that he was not irreligious and I thought he would tell us how he was not contravening religious principles by proposing the abolition of bigamy. But now, he goes on to other points; we would like to be elucidated further; at the same time, Sir, I would request him to leave the Muslims alone.”

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* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ Yes, Sir; according to our religion, monogamy is the ideal. In the Brahadaranya Upanishad it is stated that woman has come out of the body of man. They are not two separate forms; that is why our God Shankara is Ardhanariswara, with one body, both man and woman. Our great ideal, Sri Rama and Sita and Siddhartha and Yasodhara and Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturbai—these remain as ideals for ever to Hindu society. Therefore it is time these ideals are kept up. Many people, out of irreligious conduct, violate these ideals. It is necessary that we should bring them back to religious ideals by a law prohibiting a second marriage during the life of the wife. As women are already under a monogamous rule—they do not marry a second time during the lifetime of the husband—I am anxious to see they are on the same par with men. A woman does not marry a second time during the lifetime of the husband; similarly a man should not marry a second time during the lifetime of the wife. In that way, I am trying to bring the law of marriage on a par for both. Then the only question is whether some sort of law for divorce is necessary. In certain unfortunate cases and exceptional cases—I think they will not be many—after all it is only a permissive measure and nobody will be compelled to take advantage of the divorce law—there may be some trouble; I am therefore introducing some stringent provisions with regard to divorce. Already a committee has been appointed by the Government of India to tour the country and codify the Hindu law.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ On a point of order, Sir. I thought my hon. Friend was asking for leave to introduce the Bill. He cannot speak so long on the merits of the Bill.”

* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ Therefore, I have provided only a very few provisions for divorce, viz., when the man keeps a concubine or the woman becomes the concubine of somebody else . . . ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Mr. Kaleswara Rao, rule 72 (1) of the Assembly Rules says—

‘ If a motion for leave to introduce a Bill is opposed, the Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement from the member who moves and from a member who opposes the motion, may without further debate, put the question thereon. If such a motion is agreed to, the Bill shall be deemed to have been introduced.’

Just be brief.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“ The other provisions relate to cases of desertion, habitual cruelty and incurable lunacy or incurable leprosy. I have confined myself to these cases for permission for divorce. I have also made other provisions regarding maintenance, etc. I hope the House will give me leave to introduce this Bill.”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—“ Sir, all that I want to say is that the Government does not want to oppose the Bill at this

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stage. They may perhaps ask for circulation, after publication, for eliciting opinion. At present, the Government does not propose to oppose."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I wish to know whether the motion has been seconded by anybody."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"I second it, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"All right then."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"As I said, Sir, so far as the Government is concerned, it does not propose to oppose the Bill at this stage. At a later stage, it may be possible for the Government to ask for circulation of the Bill for opinion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I shall put the motion to the vote of the House."

The motion was put and carried and leave to introduce was granted.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Bill will be published in the Gazette."

(2) THE MADRAS KALAVANTHULA NAUTCHES PROHIBITION BILL.

SRIMATHI V. SEETHAMAHALAKSHMAMMA:—"అధ్యక్షా, Kalavanthula Nautches Prohibition Bill నేనెప్పుడు move చెయ్య వలదు కోలేదు. దేశదానీ లిలును రేపు గవర్నమెంటువారు పెట్టవలచినారు కాబట్టి దాని తో దీనినికూడ చేర్చి ఒక బిల్లు తయారు చేస్తారు కాబట్టి దీనిని ఇప్పుడు move చెయ్య వలదుకోలేదు."

RESOLUTION.

INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES THROUGH THE
MEDIUM OF URDU FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS.

MR. SPEAKER:—"You are continuing your speech now, I suppose?"

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Yes. Shall I read my resolution, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not necessary; you have already done it."

8-15 P.M. * BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, last Wednesday I referred to a matter vitally affecting the interests of the Muslims of this Province. The question with which I dealt last week was that of the regional language which the present Government are enforcing on the Muslims, despite the fact that this language does not happen to be their mother-tongue in large areas of this Presidency.

"The policy of the Government, to make the regional language the medium of instruction, I wish to point out, is fraught with far-reaching and disastrous consequences so far as the Muslims of this Province are concerned, because the effect of this policy will be to retard their progress and educational advancement. It is evident that the result of the policy of forcing upon a body of people a language which is not theirs, cannot be anything but

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to push them backward. Muslims are already in a state of backwardness so far as their education is concerned. Last week I narrated to you Sir, the reason why Muslims were to be found in their present plight, namely, the imposition of a foreign language upon them. The same hardships to which they were subjected in the past by a foreign Government are imposed upon them by the present Ministry. It is apparent that the result of the new educational policy of the present Government will be that those Muslim students whose mother-tongue is Urdu but who are studying in schools where the regional language is the medium of instruction will be subjected to a severe handicap because they will be forced to cope with a language which is not theirs. The consequence will be that the Muslim pupils of those schools will always lag behind, in their studies whereas the Hindu pupils there will be placed in an advantageous position.

"The medium of instruction, Mr. Speaker, is the means to an end. That end is the easy grasp of the subject. This end can be realized only when the subject is taught in the child's mother-tongue and not otherwise. Is it then fair, is it just, is it proper, is it reasonable on the part of the present Government to compel Muslims to learn a language which is not theirs, and thereby endeavour to retard the progress of the Muslims in this Province? Whereas in former years, under the guidance and advice of the late Sir Meverel Statham, measures were launched for the uplift and educational advancement of the Muslims of this Province, unfortunately during the present regime plans are made, policies formulated, and measures devised to relegate the Muslims to a state of complete backwardness and to undo all that the late Sir Meverel Statham, that friend of the Muslims, achieved in the past years—is it then not pertinent, is it then not appropriate that the Muslims of this Province should raise their voices in protest? Mr. Speaker, the first point that I wish to urge is that the Government should concede our demand that the education of the Muslims should be imparted to them not through the medium of the regional language, but through their mother-tongue, which in large areas of this Province, happens to be Urdu.

"My second point is that the Government must realize that the regional language and the mother-tongue are not identical, nor interchangeable in large areas of this Presidency; hence the difference between the two should be recognized. When we, the Muslim representatives in this House, have informed the Hon. the Minister for Education that the mother-tongue of the Muslims of the Andhra area is Urdu and not Telugu, it passes one's comprehension why he should persist in his adamant attitude and declare otherwise. After all, we, the Muslim representatives in this House, are a body of responsible people, and we would not be making an assertion if it had not been correct; but the Hon. Minister refuses to pay heed to our statements. Sir, it may be that the Telugu language is spoken in the Andhra districts by some Muslims, but that language does not by that reason become the mother-tongue of the Muslims. It does not follow that because

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a person happens to speak a language, he would be able to assimilate his studies in that language and reproduce with facility what had been taught to him in that language. Herein lies the distinction, between the mother-tongue and a language which is not one's own. A person who studies through the medium of the mother-tongue is able to grasp the subject-matter better, assimilate his studies quicker, and reproduce what has been taught to him, with greater ease and facility than he would be able to do if he had been taught through a different language.

"I ask, Mr. Speaker, did not Congressmen themselves clamour that the mother-tongue should be made the medium of instruction? Then why has this change come about in their ideas with reference to the Muslims? Members of the Congress talk glibly about fundamental rights when sitting in the Constituent Assembly, but the moment they leave that hall, they forget all about fundamental and elementary rights of human beings, and even on a simple issue such as this, viz., the imparting of instruction to a body of people through the medium of their mother-tongue, they fail to see eye to eye with the cause of justice. Mr. Speaker, the Hon. the Minister for Education may regard himself as omnipotent with reference to educational matters. He may regard himself as omnipotent because he happens to wield the reins of Government for the time being, but surely, Sir, he cannot claim to be omniscient as well; and he cannot declare that he knows all the facts about Muslims better than the Muslims themselves. Why should he base his conclusions upon certain representations of non-Muslims rather than upon the preponderating evidence of Muslim representatives? Why does he not concede the just and fair demands of the Muslims and show regard for Muslim public opinion, however intelligent and well-informed it may be? Is it not reasonable, Mr. Speaker, that those who are affected by the present policy of the Government should be consulted about it rather than others? If the Hon. Minister has any doubts about the matter, namely, as to whether the mother-tongue of the Muslims of the Andhra area is Urdu or Telugu, why does he not appoint a fact-finding commission to investigate into the question and submit a report? Why does he adopt this adamant attitude towards the Muslims with reference to a problem that affects them so vitally? The reason, Sir, seems to be that the Hon. the Minister is determined to relegate the Muslims to a state of backwardness; perhaps he wants them to become hewers of wood and drawers of water in the course of years. There can be no gainsaying the fact that his present policy will push backward the hands of the clock of Muslim progress. This, Mr. Speaker, is very disconcerting indeed. After all, what is it that we are demanding? It is nothing new, it is nothing extraordinary, it is nothing unheard of or unknown, our demand is nothing more than what Congressmen have themselves demanded, viz., that our children should be taught through the medium of the mother-tongue. This is a very simple matter, but even this simple request is brushed aside by the Hon. Minister for Education. On the other hand, he seems to

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determined to exterminate the Urdu language from this Province and along with it the culture of the Muslims. But, this, Mr. Speaker, the Muslims of this Province will never allow, for the Urdu language is the repository of Muslim culture, Muslim traditions, Muslim hopes and aspirations. It is through the medium of this language that Muslims can preserve their ancient culture and their past heritage; it is through the medium of this language, that the knowledge of the holy Quoran is brought home to the Muslims of this Province. The holy Quoran is no doubt written in the Arabic language, but translations of this book abound in Urdu. Similar, is the case with the 'Ahadis' or the additions of the holy Prophet. But, I may point out that there is not a single translation of the holy Quoran to be found in the Telugu language. It is through the medium of Urdu language that the Muslims can hope to attain their full growth and development in consonance with their genius and their requirements. Hence the attitude of the present Government to exterminate the Urdu language from this Province and thereby destroy Muslim culture, is bound to meet with opposition from the Muslims of this Province.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, the argument advanced by the present Government for pursuing their present policy is that they do not wish to encourage what they call fissiparous tendencies and separate institutions. But, Sir, in a land of diversity like India, is it possible not to have differences? In India, time and clime have diversified the cultural pattern and enriched the tints. Sir, this is not a thing to be regretted, for, let me tell you, humanity would be much poorer if all peoples were fashioned and moulded after the same pattern. In a land like India inhabited by people belonging to different races, different religions, different languages and different cultures, I may point out that it is futile to expect uniformity. But, despite the differences, I assure you, the Muslims are ever desirous, ever anxious, ever ready to extend their hand of fellowship and friendship to others, for the basis of Islam is the fellowship of all men and women. It has been proclaimed in the holy Quoran that all people are a single nation (hear, hear) and all those who know their religion and who have studied the holy Quoran and act up to its injunctions, I may tell you, are animated with a fraternal spirit towards the different sections of humanity. Mr. Speaker, despite differences, it is possible for people belonging to different ideas and different outlook to get on. Differences can continue, but they need not stand in the way of harmony, in the way of concord, in the way of fellowship. I understand, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Education intends to bring about in this Province a fusion of cultures. I believe the idea underlying his mind is to evolve a syncretic culture for this Province, but I may tell you, this is an utter impossibility. That syncretic culture of his ideal is nothing but tantamount to Hindu culture. It is the desire, I may point out, on the part of the majority community, to make the minority community submerge its culture, its language, its identity, its individuality, in that

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of the majority, that creates conflicts and discords. No people, Sir, should suffer from the delusion that they alone have the monopoly of the good, the true, the beautiful, for, of all dangers the most terrible are those invisible ones where men's souls are imprisoned in self-delusion bred by vanity. In the words of that famous British poet, Robert Bridges—

' Each race and tribe is as a flower,
Set in God's Garden with its dower
Of special instinct. And man's grace
compact of all must all embrace.'

Thus, Mr. Speaker, it is essential that not only Hindus, but Muslims also should exist in this world; each race and each community must be allowed to make its contribution to the world. This is what the famous British poet, Robert Bridges, preaches.

" Mr. Speaker, Sir, with reference to the desire of the Hon. the Minister for Education, to evolve a common culture, I may point out that in the years gone by, an attempt was made even to evolve one world language. Some leaders of thought tried to produce one common language for the world. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of it. That language was called Esperanto. The idea was to get rid of the various languages for the sake of world unity but their attempt in this direction completely failed. On the other hand, as a result of the growth of nationalism greater differences cropped up among the various languages. I shall give you an instance. In the olden days, when a person visited Afganistan, he found much affinity between the language of the Afgans, which is Pushtu and the Persian language. But now, you will find that Pushtu, is something quite different from Persian. Each nation wanted to retain its individuality, its culture and language, therefore, the attempt towards creating a world language met with complete failure. Similarly each community in India is anxious to retain its own culture and its own language, hence the ideal of the Education Minister can never be realized. It is futile for the Hon. Minister to expect the Muslims to give up their language and along with it their culture, traditions and heritage. This indeed is an impossibility. Differences there are, there have been, there will be and they must continue; no one can abolish differences. But, in spite of the differences in outlook, in culture and in language, I must reiterate that it is possible for different people to get on with one another and live in concord and peace, provided a spirit of understanding, a spirit of sympathy and a feeling of respect is inculcated in them; and above all, provided the exclusive complex is got rid of from the minds of people—a complex which indeed is an anachronism in the modern civilized world.

" With reference to special institutions for Muslims, I wish to point out to you, Sir, that Muslims have never demanded that these special institutions where they are being educated should be entirely exclusive for them; they have never preferred such a claim, for Islam teaches us to admit of no exclusions, no exceptions, no reservations in the whole compass of life. Islamic history

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will bear this out. When we glance over the pages of Islamic history, we find that in the days of old, it was the Muslim Universities of Spain that afforded shelter and refuge, to the Christian scholars who fled from the persecution of the Inquisition. Muslims were never exclusive; they never said, 'we shall not admit these men, because they happen to be Christians'; on the other hand, they extended their hand of friendship, sympathy and help to those Christians who were in a dire plight; they accommodated them in their own Universities and they treated those foreign scholars on equal terms with the Muslim students. In those days, I am referring to the Muslim Universities of Spain, no fees were charged from the Muslim students. When the Christian scholars sought refuge in these Muslim Universities, it was decided that likewise no fees should be levied from Christian students. Thus you see that in the days of old, the spirit of exclusiveness was non-existent among the Muslims. In consonance with their past traditions, and the injunctions of the holy Quoron, we find that the Muslims of to-day are also not adopting an exclusive attitude—but that, the same old policy is being pursued by them. As an instance of this, I may inform you that in the Aligarh University, which is considered by some of our friends on the opposite side to be only a communal institution, 14 per cent of the students happen to be Hindus; likewise in the Government Muslim College at Madras we find that 25 per cent of the students are Hindus."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member has taken about 45 minutes to-day; she took about 45 minutes the other day; and it is better she finishes her speech as soon as possible."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I shall finish soon. I was mentioning, Sir, about the Government Muslim College at Madras. As the Hon. Minister himself is aware, 25 per cent of the students there happen to be non-Muslims, but unfortunately we find the attitude of the Hindus is diametrically opposite. As an instance, I may point out, Pachaiyappa's College is an out-and-out communal institution, fostering an exclusive spirit where Muslims cannot gain admittance.

"I understand that the Vivekananda College is also intending to foster an exclusive policy. I am not sure on the point, but I believe that it is so. As I have stated above, despite all differences that are prevalent among the members of the various communities, it is possible for them, Mr. Speaker, to live in concord and amity provided—and the proviso is an important one—the major community in the land deals justly and fairly with the minority; otherwise I may tell you, no matter how many common institutions the Hon. the Prime Minister and the Hon. the Minister for Education may open, no matter how much they may try to abolish differences, they will never succeed in establishing harmony in the land, on the other hand they will aggravate the situation. Sir, we are living in an age when everyone should realize the significance of the words of that great Teacher, Jesus Christ, whom we Muslims revere, 'We are members of one

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another'. In consonance with that teaching it is the duty of those who are in power, those who constitute the majority party, to remember that the happiness and wellbeing of the minority is as necessary for the prosperity of the Province, as those of the majority. Sir, the educational progress of the Muslims of this Province is in a state of jeopardy because of the new policy of the present Government, a policy which I may point out is in total violation of the principles and privileges recognised by previous Governments, and an invasion of the elementary rights and interests of the Muslims of this Province. This policy of the present Government has perturbed the minds of the Muslims to a considerable extent because they apprehend that their mother-tongue, the Urdu language, will be completely obliterated from this Province, which indeed will be a disaster for us. I have therefore brought forward my resolution to focus the attention of the present Government on this important matter and urge upon them not to ride roughshod over the sentiments of Muslims, not to act in the teeth of the unanimous opposition of the Muslims but to show due regard to the force of Muslim public opinion.

"The other day the Hon. the Prime Minister remarked that if our demands were conceded, it would not be possible for any Government to carry on. But I wish to inquire, if it was possible for previous Governments to carry on with the establishment of separate institutions, why should it not be possible for the present Government to do likewise? After all, we are not asking for anything unreasonable. We do not wish to place obstacles and difficulties in the path of the Government. We Muslims, I may tell you, are reasonable people. (A voice: 'Hear, hear.') What we want, Sir, is that if in a place there is a sufficient number of Muslim pupils and they demand that instruction be imparted to them in Urdu that demand should be conceded. Such a demand, I may point out, is perfectly legitimate. It is absolutely reasonable.

"In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind those who constitute the majority party in this House that it is the duty of the majority to carry with it the confidence and goodwill of the minority. It is no use Congressmen talking glibly about fundamental rights when sitting in the Constituent Assembly. They must act up to their proclamations, implement their speeches and not merely pay a lip-homage to high-sounding phrases. I, therefore, hope that the righteousness of our cause will appeal to those who constitute the majority party in this House and that they will not turn down my resolution feeling overintoxicated by their strength in numbers, but will, on the other hand, accord their full support to it and thereby demonstrate their sense of fairness. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I move my resolution which runs as follows:—

'This Assembly recommends to the Government to make provision for Muslim students to receive instruction in schools and Colleges through the medium of Urdu, wherever they desire to do so.' "

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is with great pleasure that I second this resolution so ably moved by the Begum Saheba. I am afraid, Sir, that this subject is being discussed on the floor of this House in the view of some people *ad nauseum*. May be it has created headache to the Minister for Education."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Not at all."

[At this stage the Deputy Speaker occupied the Chair.]

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The fault is not ours. The fault is totally on the part of the Education Minister who perhaps may be following a policy, I do not know how far that is true, approved by the Government holding power at the present moment. I do not know whether it is a case of the Education Minister not being able to understand the Muslim point of view or he is pursuing a policy which is dangerous. I am here, Madam, to speak on behalf of the Muslims of this Province, the unanimous verdict of the Muslims of this Province, to warn the Education Minister that by pursuing a policy in this regard, he is making matters very very difficult for the Muslims of this Province. We are trying to take all possible measures to bring home to the Education Minister the seriousness of the situation. We will pursue the matter and exhaust all means of making our views recognized, and if necessary take the course that any honourable people like the Muslim of this Province will be entitled to take, under the circumstances. It is a warning that I am giving him, Madam. It passes one's understanding why this Government is pursuing this policy. I thought that the Government would have hesitated before making a statement of the kind which was made by the Prime Minister the other day. 'How can any Government get on if every class of people make a demand that separate arrangements should be made in regard to their education?' That is a statement which I cannot understand as far as the Muslim minority is concerned. As I have been reiterating, Madam, the Muslims stand entirely on a different footing from the Hindus which might consist of different classes and creeds. When the Government is so solicitous, rather it demands that the big Province should be divided into three, four or five Provinces because the people of those localities speak different languages, does it not stand to reason that the Muslims of a particular area should be taught in their mother-tongue and not in the regional language? When they make that demand is it not reasonable that the Government should concede that? Is it an answer that the Muslims cannot be provided facilities for education in their own language? Then, Sir, where was the necessity for vernacularization of studies?"

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"On a point of order. Can you use the expression 'vernacularization'?"

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SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"On a point of order. Can you use the expression 'vernacularization'?"

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The expression has been in vogue for many decades."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"You yourself raised this question on this point some time ago in the last Assembly."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is for the Government to say whether they have banned that word."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"They have passed an order to that effect."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Whatever it is, it is not taken out of the dictionary."

"The reason why you want education to be given in your own mother-tongue is that your education will progress in your own language and you will be removing an additional burden of learning a foreign language from off the shoulders of pupils. May I ask whether this Government with any show of reason say that Muslims, whose mother-tongue is Urdu, shall be educated in a language which is not their mother-tongue? I want reason to prevail rather than convenience, expediency or even financial obligations. If they say so, what happens to the claim of the Congress that if they come into power and if the Congress frames its own constitution and if the Congress is allowed to have its own way, it will secure to the minorities all their rights; it will safeguard their religion, their tradition and their culture? Are all those words mere pretensions? Should I be allowed to believe that they are all mere pretensions? I take the Congress by its word and I put it to the Hon. Minister to substantiate his promises; it is time for you to substantiate the promises; substantiate not by mere words, not by mere slogans. I know you have passed resolutions on fundamental rights as early as 1927. One of the resolutions was concerned with the rights of minorities, the language of the minorities, the religion of the minorities and the culture of the minorities and the tradition of the minorities and the peculiar life of the Muslim will be guaranteed and safeguarded and they say constitutionally safeguarded. That is what the Congress has said but now the Muslims are told that for the sake of a particular class—there may be several such classes, if special arrangements are to be made, no Government will be able to get on. I suppose when this statement was made by the Prime Minister, he little thought of the implications of that statement, the harmful implications of the statement. I am charitable enough to say that in the stress at question time when question after question was put in a heated manner, answers may have been given without much thought. I wish I am right. As has been ably put forward by the Begum Saheba, the mover of the resolution, this raises the question of fundamental rights. The Minister for Education may be incapable of understanding the implication of the statement—I do not think it is correct as he is an intelligent man, he is a man possessing many degrees. I am told and I think he has also been a member of the Central Legislature; I do not believe he is incapable of understanding it and if he is incapable of understanding this fundamental matter, if that is true, he has no place in the Government.

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He cannot be a Minister for Education if he cannot understand the view-point of a minority which was given a guarantee by his own party, a solemn guarantee that the language of the minorities would be safeguarded. Can he be true to his Congress creed; can he be a true Congressman when he has said 'No I am not going to allow medium of instruction in Urdu although that may be your mother-tongue'? As for myself, I am conscious of the difficulties in making Urdu the medium of instruction; but he is not charitable enough; he is not courteous enough to call us in a round table conference where all the Muslim representatives might meet him and the Secretaries and the other officials; the Director of Public Instruction and others may also be present. We will talk over the matter; you tell us your difficulties: we will tell you our difficulties. I may tell you, Madam that when a similar situation arose in 1937 Congress Government, I represented the matter to Mr. Varkey, who was the Education Minister; he was courteous enough to call us in conference; we exchanged views and some conclusions, tentative though they may be, were arrived at. That is how responsible Ministers have to behave; that is the way how you can raise in the minds of minorities confidence and that is the way gentlemen should behave towards gentlemen. Now what do you find in this Government, especially with regard to the Education department so far as Mussalmans and Muslim education are concerned? This expression irritates the Minister in charge."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"Are you sure?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was myself a witness to an incident which occurred at Bezwada. The only fault was that the subject-matter of the grievance was that the Muslim students of the Fourth form could not get on with their studies because suddenly the regional language was introduced for the first time in the Fourth form and already they had suffered from that disability for some months. That was the situation that was brought to his notice. We took the opportunity of seeing him. Despite the fact that he was greeted with Congress flags and slogans like 'Bande Mataram,' 'Jai Hind' and all such sort of things. . ."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I ask the hon. Member if cries of 'Allah ho Akbar' were also used on the occasion?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If that were used, I believe, he would have said: 'you are out of the school'."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"This Government considers that 'Allah ho Akbar' is no more different from other Congress slogans like 'Bande Mataram' or 'Jai Hind'. We refuse to believe that it is a communal slogan."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Myself and a responsible elected Member of the Council, Mr. Abdul Haq, both of us went to him, in spite of his hesitancy. My purpose was to

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show him that the strength of the high school was about 200 to 300 so far as the Muslim boys were concerned so that he may have an idea of the number of boys that were educated according to the old scheme and who suffered on account of the introduction of the regional language. They wanted to demonstrate to him and to give him an ocular proof that the education of the Muslims in that part of the land was through the medium of their language. He was kind enough to go upstairs. A memorandum was prepared by the Students' Federation, the Secretary of which was an Intermediate student, which I am sure the students are entitled to make on behalf of the Muslims. That memorandum was without any party colour."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"May I point out that during question time the other day all these things were discussed. Therefore you need not refer to it but might speak on the resolution which is before the House."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am on the question of how the Minister for Education is irritable, how he is unsympathetic and deaf to the appeals of the Muslims. This is a very good illustration to prove my case—may be he is very young and therefore young-blooded. Whatever it is, there is no justification for his attitude.

"The only fault was that the Secretary of the Students' Federation, who is a student of the Intermediate class in the same town, prepared the memorandum and it was sought to be presented to him. What happened? There is such a thing as good treatment, I will not go so far as to say good manners; there is such a thing as courtesy to be shown to everybody, a person has to deal with. What did he do? In an insulting manner, he said: 'Nothing of the sort here; you get away; I will not hear you.' I am not telling you any more and I pass over it. Thereupon, a responsible M.L.C. and I wrote a letter to the Minister at once stating that he has no right to refuse the representation made by the Secretary of the Students' Federation on behalf of the pupils. A very difficult situation was created. I was on the spot to control the situation. I did not want to create an awkward situation, and I am glad to say I succeeded in it. That is how we are behaving. You ought to behave in the same way; and you should reciprocate in the same way. But what do we see here? We see a person who is incapable of understanding our difficulties. It is due perhaps to either of two things. Either he is obsessed with the power that is put in his hands, and he thinks to do things as he pleases—I do not want to use stronger words—in the teeth of opposition of the Muslims for the introduction of this regional language and wants to force it down the throat of the Muslims or, he does not understand at all. I remember when we were interpellating about this at question time, the Chief Minister was kind enough to say, when asked by us 'are you going to compel Muslims to learn in a language which is different from their mother-tongue', there would not be any compulsion. I hope the Premier will stick to it and see to-day that no compulsion is made. Now, this is the position of

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Muslim education. May I, in this connexion, refer to the demands made by the Muslims during budget time. We sincerely believe that certain things are necessary for the Muslims. We want education should be imparted to us in our mother-tongue. Secondly, we want there must be separate schools for Muslim boys and girls. Thirdly, we want religious education. Fourthly, we want a Muslim education board consisting of certain members of both Houses of Legislature, members from Muslim educational institutions and some Government educational experts. In spite of our repeated demands, nothing has been conceded. What are we to think of the responsible man in charge? We are not irresponsible people. We not only represent the Muslims in this province, we belong to that great institution of All-India Muslim League, which is not a half-penny, two-penny institution; it is one of the two institutions that has been recognized not only by the British Government but by all over the world. When certain responsible people of this League are making certain demands, those demands are flouted. Madam, I am not in the habit of speaking with such vehemence. Madam, you must have noticed me speaking very often, and I have never lost my temper. I was always very calm. But on this occasion, I am forced to lose my temper; for these things go to the root of the matter. If this thing is to go on, the Government will be losing the confidence of the minorities. I say, it is to save your own reputation you have to concede our demands. I say it is in your own interest to implement your promises, solemnly made, and to prove to the world that although the Congress is predominantly a Hindu body, it finds a place in its heart for the minorities also. If, after eight months of agitation over this matter on the floor of the House, the Minister does not think of calling us to conference, do you think we can have confidence in that Minister? No. Things must be done in the right way. We the not children to be patted on the back with sweet words . . ."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Is the hon. Member now keeping his temper?"

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The gravity of the situation is such, I would expect a calmer man than my friend to question me. You should admire I am speaking with restraint even in spite of the seriousness of the matter. I was saying that although for eight months we had been reiterating to summon a conference of Muslims. . ."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I think, Madam, the leader of his party will have something to tell him on this point."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was told about this only to-day. My leader has told me that the great Minister for Education has condescended to have a sort of conference. I am glad that at last after eight months, after all the heat that has been created, after all the agitation throughout the length and breadth of this country (Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'Under what conditions?') under very trying conditions, the Minister has condescended to co-operate."

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THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—"So you knew about it already; then why grow so vehement now about a thing which has been granted?" (Laughter.)

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is one thing to know a thing privately and it is another thing to speak on this resolution."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"May I request my friends on the other side not to confuse the issue. Let them not think that because of this resolution, we are calling a conference on Muslim education. It will be a very interesting thing if they think so."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I know. One thing more, Sir, I would like to say. The question of minorities is a very vexed question. I do recognize that. There are minorities in this province and there are minorities in all Congress provinces. There are Hindu minorities in some other provinces. There are minorities not only in this land; there are minorities even in Europe. And the only wise way, the human way, of treating these minorities is, firstly, to create confidence in them, that although they are in a minority, their special interests will be safeguarded. Till now, I did not find any sign of that, I mean, any sign of safeguarding the interests of the Muslims, especially in the matter of education, other matters apart. And now, to create confidence, two things are necessary. You must respond at least. The beginning is, to respond to the call, to the request and to the appeals made. And the second thing is, when that hope is created, to keep it revived and continued. And then, the Government in power should not think, should not get irritated, and say, 'what is all this, these minorities coming up always with this thing and that thing?' I am glad Mr. Nagappa and Mr. Muniswami Pillai are here. Although the Hindu community claims them as Hindus, they are battering this Government with demands, questions. Muslims. . . (Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'You also batter them.') We can look after ourselves, and we are proving to the world in Lahore we can look after ourselves. May be, we have taken lessons from you. That is a different matter. (Sri Kala Venkata Rao: 'Then why complain to us?') You must beware or else your own lessons will be repeated against you, as the Telugu proverb goes. At question time a responsible Minister should respond, and if he does not really respond it is a serious matter. He and I are good friends; we have a lot of talk with each other outside this House; and that is a different matter.

"Madam, in international politics, as far as I am aware, the League of Nations has treated this problem to some extent satisfactorily. The League of Nations said, 'wherever there is a minority in a country, it is the duty of the majority Government to provide facilities for the education and safeguarding the rights of the minorities, and whatever amount is necessary for that, it must be earmarked, and that is how you can create confidence.' The majority should tell the minority, 'we are your brothers; we won't let you down.' After all this experience of eight months

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one is forced to think—I wish it is not true—is there any considered plan on the part of the Congress Government regarding Muslim education? Do they want our culture to be obliterated, do they want our tradition should go down, do they want our language to be effaced, do they want, even in worldly matters, our people should lag behind others? What is it that you are contemplating with regard to Muslim education? The Hon. Minister says nothing; he is impervious. Do you really want that in India, after some generations, some decades, this separate Muslim community, with its culture, religion and learning should go out of existence and it should become Hindu?

"Is it what you want? (Kala Venkata Rao: 'No.') I am glad you say no. Perhaps it is a long-term plan. Our children go to Hindu schools where the medium of instruction is the regional language. Many a parent has asked me 'what is it that they learn there; do they learn anything about Quoran; do they learn anything about our Prophet; do they learn anything about our religion and culture and literature?' No, they do not. It is all full of Hindu mythology, Hindu Gods and Goddesses, and Hindu point of view. We have no objection to learn them in order to understand the viewpoint of the Hindus. It is even necessary for us to understand you in that way. But, why do you push it down the throats of young Muslim boys and girls to the exclusion of Islamic literature? I am not exaggerating, Madam. You may be conversant with these school affairs, college affairs, and educational officers. You can investigate into the matter. Let anybody go into this question and see what it is that is taught in the schools. You persuade us to learn the Telugu language. What is it that you find in this Telugu language? Have you got any literature, in which Muslim literature, Muslim point of view and culture, has been translated? Not to my knowledge. The only attempt made was by a Muslim villager named Omam Ali Sahib."

* SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Madam, Deputy Speaker, one Narayana Rao of Anantapur College has translated the whole Quoran into Telugu. My friend who knows better Telugu than myself can understand it."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The next question is there is no literature which I am aware of. If there is any, it is dramas like Roshanara and Noorjahan wherein all vituperative ideas have been placed. These dramas were rightly prohibited by the Government in 1927. It is a challenge to my Hindu friends and the conference that is to be held will decide this matter. I am stating these things with authority. As a lawyer, I do not go beyond facts. I remember in 1937, the Government passed a rule that all schools under municipal, district board, or Government management, including Muslim schools also, must perform the birth-day celebrations of Gandhiji, a photo of his must be hung, it must be worshipped, etc. Books were printed at the cost of the public money, thousands of rupees were spent, and those books include all slogans like Vande

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Matharam, and they said they must be repeated by all. When the students refused, and, when the teachers, who knew better, also refused, they were taken to task; absence was marked. An agitation was carried on. Because of these things, Madam, I want to know whether there is any deep-rooted plan behind the policy of Government. Let us clearly understand each other. If your idea is to make, by slow process, Muslims forget their traditions, you are very much mistaken that you will succeed in that. Therefore, I would suggest to Government that whenever it is a question of Muslim education, we also sit with them together and solve the problem as best as we can.

“Madam, in the beginning, I did not propose to take so much time, but the interruption has prolonged it, and I suppose it is to the advantage of both that several points have been brought out in the speech of the hon. Mover and, in a humble way, in my speech also. One may say Government can do anything. But if you do so, you would be alienating the minority of Muslims. The All-India Muslim League is there, and we will do our best to resist your attempts by only the best possible means that any honourable nation can adopt. With these words, I second this resolution, a very modest resolution, which seeks to introduce Urdu as the medium of instruction wherever it is demanded, and wherever it is possible. The question of population may be raised, but I say it is only a farce. It may be asked if Telugu becomes the official language, how Muslims should be helped to get their share of the offices if they do not learn it. (Interruption). Two wrongs do not make one right. If at all, it is all bad logic, and ought not to occur in a fair-minded man.”

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“Madam, I am sorry to oppose this resolution moved by the hon. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin. For one particular reason, I have stood up. My friend Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig has depicted in vivid terms a small incident that is supposed to have taken place in the Municipal High School, Bezwada. I was also present at that time, and, therefore, I must say something about the matter. I was present myself when the hon. Minister for Education went to the High school. Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig requested the Minister to go into a separate room and hear some supposed grievances of the Muslim students. Then it happened that some outsiders began to talk on behalf of the Muslim students. The hon. Minister said ‘I would like that you tell me something at my lodgings; I do not like that Muslim students should come in a separate group in the school’.”

SIR STUART TOWN:—“On a point of information, Madam. This question has been dealt with during question time.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER:—“I said in the beginning that this need not be referred to. Since, however, Mr. Baig referred to this incident, Mr. Kaleswara Rao also thinks it proper to refer to it and contradict it.”

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* SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—“There is nothing special that occurred then. What the Minister said was that on communal lines these students should not come and represent in the school. But if they came to his lodge, they could tell him anything; and also outsiders also could tell him something. I do not feel anything special or particular about it. I do not know why my friend Mr. Baig has made so much of this thing during question time and also in this debate. That is my explanation about the incident. Nothing stood in the way of these friends going and seeing the Minister and talking to him for any length of time in the travellers' bungalow in which he was put up.

“With regard to the resolution, I submit that I do not know why these friends are making so much about this subject. The situation was that till one or two years ago, the whole instruction was through the medium of English. History, geography, mathematics, science, and everything was taught through English only. There was, however, a second language; it may be Telugu, Urdu, and also Tamil, if there are a sufficient number of Tamil boys. Only recently the medium of instruction has been changed from English to Telugu. The Government have rightly decided that the medium of instruction should be through the provincial language. Madam, we are on the eve of getting Andhra Province. We want Andhra province and we want the administration of that province to be carried on in the Andhra language and therefore our education should be imparted in the Andhra language. If the boys in that Province do not know Telugu, be they Muslims, Christians or of any other community how can they get on either in the class or as officials in the administration itself? Therefore Telugu is necessary for them. They should know as much Telugu as the Hindu boys. Otherwise it will be a handicap for them. There cannot be a Pakistan in the Andhradesa and there cannot be a Urdu administration there. The administration must be through the Andhra language, i.e., Telugu. Our Telugu Muslim friends are supporting the demand for a separate Andhra Province. There is no greater supporter of the demand for the separation of the Andhra Province than my revered friend Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig himself. Therefore it is necessary and right that the medium of instruction should be Telugu, the language of the Province to come, and there is nothing wrong in it. In mathematics there is nothing like religion, in science there is nothing like culture and geography has nothing to do with religion. So the resolution requiring that the medium of instruction for Muslims in the Telugu country should be Urdu is unreasonable and impossible. By all means let them have their second language as Urdu. Nobody objects to it and the Government would not be wanting in providing for that. Munshis can be appointed for that. Supposing there are some Tamil friends in Andhra and if there are sufficient numbers of pupils they can have Tamil as their second language just as some of the Andhras in Tamilnad may have Telugu as their second language. But the Andhras in Tamilnad cannot insist upon Telugu being the medium

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of instruction in Tamilnad. Hitherto they were willing to have English as the medium of instruction. Now that Telugu is made the medium of instruction they are raising this hue and cry and are trying to create a sort of impossible situation. That is on account of the separatist tendencies and the quarrels. If the Muslims have Urdu as their second language they can have their religion taught in Urdu and their boys can have lessons about the Muslim heroes and they can learn anything about the great Islamic countries. There is nothing to prevent them from having all this. Therefore I do not understand why our friends are insisting on the resolution. Madam, the Government have taken the only reasonable course that they should adopt.

"Of course in Hyderabad it is a different matter. As my respected friend Mr. Baig has said, one wrong cannot be corrected by another wrong. Because Hyderabad is following a wrong course, this Congress Government cannot adopt a wrong course. The course adopted by this Government is the bold, clear, straight and natural course and my Muslim friends should be glad that their children would know Telugu and that they would be as good officials in the Andhra Province as the Hindus, Christians, Harijans and others. Of course in Hyderabad they are compelling the Andhras to learn Urdu and they are making Urdu as the medium of instruction even for Andhras and Maharashtra. But it is irrelevant to this discussion. Therefore I oppose the resolution moved by the hon. Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Madam, hon. Members who proposed and seconded this resolution have stated the case fairly, clearly and very exhaustively. I do not think, Madam, that much argument is necessary to support the case that has been so ably made out by both the previous speakers.

"Madam, it is unfortunate that it became necessary for Muslims in this House to table a resolution of this kind and speak upon it and appear to speak with a certain amount of feeling and sometimes with a certain amount of vehemence. I am really sorry that it became necessary. Of course you are aware who is responsible for this trouble. The Hon. Minister for Education, the moment he became a Member of this Government, the moment he became a Minister for Education in this Government ceased to be a Hindu politically and he ceased to be a Congressman. But he seems to think that he is there to satisfy the demands only of the majority and to reject summarily and unceremoniously without any courtesy all the most reasonable demands made by a minority. After all what was the demand, Madam, that was made by a particular minority in this Province. They did not want a place in the Ministry. They are not for it. They did not want a share in the Government. They did not want a share of the emoluments of office. After all what is it that they want? They wanted their birthright. They wanted to safeguard their language, their culture and they wanted that education should be imparted to their children according to their needs, according to

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their religion and according to their culture. That is all that they wanted. Madam, it is not a very tall order. It is not a big demand. It is a natural and simple demand. Question after question was put to the Hon. Minister for Education on this issue and I need not repeat, Madam, what kind of answers we received and what was the attitude and the manner in which the answers were given. As I said there was no courtesy, there was no patience and I shall say nothing more, as regards the attitude of defiance with which the answers were given to questions relating to this subject in this hon. House. We have been patiently bearing and enduring all that was heaped on us by an Hon. Minister of this Government, obsessed as he is not only with power but the belief that he has a very large majority behind him who will support him both when he does good as well as when he does wrong. That was the reason why he was treating us with scant courtesy. Madam, is it not the duty of the Government which knows its mind, which realizes its duties and responsibilities to all the people in this Province, to discharge those duties and responsibilities with thought and with a certain amount of precision and consideration for the various classes and communities that are inhabiting this part of the country? Possibly even according to the answer given to one of these questions by the Hon. Premier himself, it is the desire of this Government, the Hon. Premier as well as the Minister for Education to introduce or to make all the people of an area receive education through the language of their religion. Perhaps they do it with a desire to have uniformity in a certain part of the Province so far as language is concerned. [At this stage the hon. Speaker took the Chair.] It may be that they are anxious that all the people Hindus, Muslims, Christians including I suppose Europeans should learn the language of the Province to receive their education in that language. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if that is the object and if that is the intention I have no quarrel with that. I have also heard the Hon. Minister for Education telling some of us that it is in the interests of the Muslims themselves that he is adopting this attitude towards our education. My hon. and esteemed old friend Mr. Kaleswara Rao tried to argue the case from his own standpoint and he also tried to shed crocodile tears for Muslims and he also came forward expressing a desire that Muslims should become as good officials in the Andhra Province as the Hindus. I have said on a former occasion and I would repeat it here that we are not so bad as that . . . "

MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will sit to-day till 5-30 p.m."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"Some of us have got Committee meetings, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have told the Leaders of Parties yesterday that we would be sitting till 5-30 to-day."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"We have a Cabinet meeting at 5-30 p.m."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"Then shall we rise at 5-15?"

(Hon. Members: 'Five, five.')

MR. SPEAKER:—"If it is the general desire of the House I have no objection to adjourn the House this minute. Then we shall adjourn exactly at 5 o'clock."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education and the Hon. Prime Minister expressed their good intentions so far as our education is concerned. They also offered certain remarks and brought forward certain arguments in support of their contention. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to state one thing on this occasion and that is that we are not the people who are anxious to live only for our bread. If we were anxious to live only for bread perhaps we might have agreed to the proposition of the hon. Member, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, but the foremost consideration for us is not that."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on this resolution will continue on the next non-official day. It being five of the clock, I now adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

The House adjourned.

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APPENDIX

[Vide answer to starred question No. 117 asked by P. K. Moideen Kutti Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 12th February 1947, page 520 supra.]

(I)

Names and designation of persons to whom permits were granted by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller for the purchase of cars between 1st May 1946 and 11th September 1946.

1. Capt. D. S. McIntyre, Planter, Madras.
2. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras
3. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras
4. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
5. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras
6. Mr. K. Moller, Royal Danish Consul, Madras.
7. Mr. I. Rhys Jones, I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
8. Major P. J. Kelly, District Medical Officer, Coimbatore.
9. Dr. R. V. Rajam, General Hospital, Madras.
10. Mr. A. Dorairaj, Special Assistant Collector, Madras.
11. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
12. Hon'ble Sri T. Prakasam.
13. Lt.-Col. J. Eapen, Government General Hospital, Madras.
14. Sri Diwan Bahadur T. Anantachari, Special Officer for Departmental Enquiries, Thyagaraj Nagar, Madras.
15. Sri V. Govindarajachari, B.A., B.L., Advocate and Judge designate, Madras.
16. Mr. E. H. Colebrook, C.I.E., M.C., Commissioner of Police, Haddows Road, Madras.
17. Sri V. Dattatreyan, Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.
18. Mr. J. F. Jamieson, National Bank of India, Madras.
19. Sri N. Tirumurti, I.F.S., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tiruppattur.
20. Khan Bahadur Zinda Sahib Bahadur, Special Officer for Training of clerks, Thyagaraj Nagar, Madras.
21. Sri Rao Sahib E. Virabhadra Pillai, Deputy Controller of Food Rationing, Madras.
22. Mr. J. Franco, Principal, Teachers' College, Saidapet.
23. Principal, Loyola College, Madras.
24. Dr. H. Bartlett, M.D., Medical Practitioner, Cathedral P.O., Madras.
25. Lt.-Col. C. K. Prasada Rao, Government General Hospital, Madras.
26. Mr. P. W. S. Skinner, Chartered Bank, Madras.
27. Sir Gerald Priestley, Board of Revenue, Madras.

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28. Mr. R. L. Molloy, I.S.O., Assistant Engineer, Highways Subdivision, Nilgiris.
29. Mr. J. U. Body, Rousdon Mullai Estate, Devala P.O., Wynaad.
30. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
31. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
32. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
33. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
34. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
35. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
36. Sri Rao Sahib C. H. Venkateswaran, Assistant District Medical Officer, Coimbatore.
37. Dr. Willoughby Grant, Kempstone, Nursing Home, Ootacamund.
38. Dr. M. K. Saraswati, Medical Practitioner, Gray Town, Coimbatore.
39. Sri A. T. Devaraja Mudaliyar, Government Contractor, Coimbatore.
40. Mr. N. Cottrell, Planter, Richmond Estate, Mango Range P.O., Nilgiris.
41. Mr. W. A. Holmes, Planter, Cardoora Estates, Meppadi, South Wynaad.
42. Khan Sahib E. K. Hajee Md. Meera Sahib & Sons, Peria Agraharam, Erode.
43. Col. G. B. Howell, M.V.O., M.C., Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras.
44. Maj.-Genl. J. B. Huban, O.B.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
45. Khan Bahadur Sir Bazulullah, C.I.E., O.B.E., St. Thomas Mount, Madras.
46. Mr. R. M. Sundaram, I.C.S., Additional Secretary to Government, Development Department, Madras.
47. Mr. E. S. Treasure, Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.
48. Sri K. Sankaran Nayar, Indian Police, Madras.
49. Lt.-Col. C. R. Krishnaswami, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
50. Dr. R. Subramaniam, Assistant Director of Public Health, Madras.
51. Dr. S. Ramakrishnan, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
52. Messrs. Phipson & Company, Wine Merchants, Madras.
53. Messrs. Crompton Engineering Company (Madras), Limited, Madras.
54. Messrs. India Cements, Limited, Madras.

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55. Messrs. Ajax Products, Limited, Madras.
56. Atta Hasan Sahib, Representative to the Board of Trade, Madras.
57. Sri M. N. Nair, Businessman, Kerala Textiles, Kallai.
58. Sri V. V. Nathan, Businessman, Ralli Brothers, Madras.
59. Sri Rao Bahadur K. Gopala Ayyangar, General Superintendent, P.W. Workshop, Madras.
60. Sri T. M. Veeraraghavan, Assistant Engineer, Highways, Salem.
61. Mother Superior, Good Shepherd Convent, Madras.
62. Sri G. Janakirama Chetty, First-class Bench Magistrate, Suidapet, Madras.
63. Sri R. N. Manickam, Personal Assistant to the District Superintendent of Police, Madura.
64. Khan Sahib G. Abdul Sattar Sahib Bahadur, Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue, Chepauk, Madras.
65. Sri P. N. Chamu Nair, Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations, Madras.
66. Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, Madras.
67. Mr. R. E. Chambers, Businessman, Chrome Leather Company, Madras.
68. Sri S. Ramasam Sarma, Assistant Chief Operating Superintendent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
69. Sri R. K. Murthi, Businessman, Director, c/o Messrs. Taylor & Company, Madras.
70. Lt.-Col. A. A. Russell, Resident, Gwalior States, Ootacamund.
71. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
72. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
73. Sri Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Member, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
74. Mr. A. R. Jakeman, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, Madras.
75. Lt.-Col. S. P. Sarbhadhikari, Postmaster-General, Madras.
76. Dr. P. Rama Rao, Radiologist, Madras.
77. Col. P. A. Clausen, Deputy Chief Engineer, Headquarters, Madras Area.
78. Dr. C. M. Burnie, Medical Officer, Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, Mudis P.O.
79. Mr. P. C. Mathew, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Pollachi.
80. Dr. S. Ganapathy, Medical Practitioner, Coimbatore.
81. Syed Bashiruddin Sahib Bahadur, Division Engineer, Highways, Erode.
82. Haji P. I. Kunnamekkutty Sahib, Businessman, Calicut.
83. Lt.-Col. O. Garrett, Planter, Kilkunda P.O., Nilgiris.

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84. Mr. R. C. C. Hunt, I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
85. Sri S. Rajagopalan, Executive Engineer (Public Health), Madras.
86. Sri Rao Bahadur K. Gangadhara Rao Nayudu, Assistant Commissioner of Excise, Madras.
87. Sri S. Ramachandran, Sanitary Engineer to Government, Madras.
88. Sri C. Karunakara Menon, Personal Assistant to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.
89. Lt.-Col. M. K. Krishna Menon, Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar Hospital, Madras.
90. Messrs. Eason Engineering Company, Madras.
91. Sri R. M. Koppikar, Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Madras.
92. Messrs. Jupiter General Insurance Company, Limited, Madras.
93. Messrs. Maconochie & Company, Madras.
94. Sri P. Kota Reddi, Mica Miner, Gudur.
95. Mrs. P. Parijatham Nayudu, Commandant, Indian Women Civic Corps, Madras.
96. Rafiuddin Ahmed Sahib Bahadur, Chief Judge, Small Cause Court, Madras.
97. Mr. N. St. Claire Browne, Businessman, c/o E. Barnes, Opticians, Madras.
98. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
99. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
100. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
101. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
102. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
103. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
104. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
105. Mr. A. Mc. M. Webster, I.C.S., District Supply Officer, Coimbatore.
106. Mr. N. Subramanyam, I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Trichinopoly.
107. Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. C. Horwill, Madras.
108. Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. A. Bell, Madras.
109. Sri K. Raja Ayyar, Advocate-General, Madras.
110. Major Sangham Lal, General Hospital, Madras.
111. Dr. S. Rajagopal Nayudu, Chemical Examiner to Government of Madras.
112. Dr. (Mrs.) N. Ganapathy, Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore, Madras.
113. Messrs. Caltex (India), Limited, Madras.

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114. Sri Rao Bahadur V. Natesa Ayyar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Madras.
115. Mr. S. Y. Krishnaswami, O.B.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary, Development Department, Madras.
116. Sri K. Hariharan, Secretary, George Oakes, Limited, Madras.
117. Sri P. Rathnavelu Thevar, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Trichinopoly.
118. Mr. S. Ranganathan, O.B.E., I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
119. Mr. J. P. L. Shenoy, I.C.S., Commissioner, Corporation of Madras.
120. Mr. C. K. Vijayaraghavan, I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour, Madras.
121. Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar, Madras.
122. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Shahabuddin, Madras.
123. Mr. J. A. Master, Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras.
124. Mr. A. N. Sharma, District Forest Officer, Anantapur.
125. Mr. R. Hume, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.P., Commissioner of Police (on leave), Ootacamund.
126. Mr. D. C. T. Cameron, Indian Police, Central Intelligence Officer, Madras.
127. Sri Rao Sahib M. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Commissioner, Traffic and Licensing, Madras.
128. Sri K. Achuthan Nair, Assistant Commissioner, Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, Madras.
129. Sri V. A. J. Vasnaik, Director of Telegraphs, Madras.
130. Sri Rao Bahadur P. V. Raju, Superintending Engineer, Madras.
131. Sri Rao Bahadur G. Sundaram, Chief Engineer for Electricity.
132. Sri P. Subba Rao, Assistant Engineer (Highways), Conjeevaram.
133. Sri C. Ramasubban, Agent, Imperial Bank of India, Guntur.
134. Major E. E. Copcutt, Medical Officer-in-charge, Government House Hospital, Government House, Madras.
135. Capt. R. D. Rao, District Medical Officer, Anantapur.
136. Dr. R. Venkata Rao, District Medical Officer, Guntur.
137. Dr. R. K. K. Tampan, Stanley Hospital, Rayapuram.
138. Dr. (Miss) A. Marikar, Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women, Vizagapatam.
139. Dr. A. Srinivasan, General Hospital, Madras.
140. Khan Bahadur J. D. Bhote, Deputy Chief Accounts Officer, M. & S.M. Railway, Madras.

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141. Manager, "The Hindu", Madras.
142. Sri G. A. Natesan, Editor, "Indian Review", Mylapore, Madras.
143. Sri S. Vijayakumar, Personal Assistant to General Manager, "The Mail", Madras.
144. Messrs. Sripada Narasimham Brothers, Cocanada.
145. Mr. M. S. P. Rajes, Planter, Yercaud.
146. Mr. C. Stewart, Planter, Tharangel Estate, Thalapoya P.O.
147. Mr. B. C. E. Earle, Businessman, c/o Biany and Company, Madras.
148. Messrs. Western Indian Match Company Limited, Madras.
149. Messrs. Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company (India), Limited, Madras.
150. Sri V. R. Ramanatha Ayyar, Proprietor, Sri Ramakrishna Lunch Home, Madras.
151. Messrs. W. A. Beardsell and Company, Madras.
152. Messrs. Blue Mountain Estate, Limited, Madras.
153. Messrs. Asbestos Cements, Limited, Madras.
154. Messrs. Indian Sugars and Refiners, Limited, Hospet.
155. E. A. Sathar Sait Sahib, E. A. Watch Company, Madras.
156. Principal, Missionary, Medical College for Women, Vellore.
157. Messrs. Royal Cycle and Motor Company, Madras.
158. Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, M.L.C., Madras.
159. Sri T. T. Krishnamachari, Businessman, M.L.A. (Central), Madras.
160. Hon'ble Sir N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Businessman and Member, the Council of State, Madras.
161. Lady C. Balasundaram Naidu, Social Worker, Madras.
162. Mayor of Madras, Madras.
163. Sir Sidney Burn, Chairman, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
164. Mr. R. Castel, Consular Agent for France, No. 6/20, North Beach Road, Madras.
165. Sri Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, O.B.E., Mill Owner, Coimbatore.
166. Mr. M. Seshadri, Collector, Cuddapah.
167. Mr. R. P. Kapur, Additional District Magistrate, Malabar district, Calicut.
168. J. C. Griffiths, Sub-Collector, Coonoor.
169. Mr. T. A. Varghese, Collector, Trichinopoly.

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170. Mr. H. Keene, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Range, Ootacamund.
171. Mr. K. M. Unnithan, I.C.S., Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, Madras.
172. Mr. H. D. Latham, Commandant, M.S.P., Malapuram.
173. Sri Rao Bahadur P. K. Monnappa, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, Madras.
174. Rajah of Challapalli, Zamindar, Challapalli, Kistna district.
175. Mrs. C. Ammianna Raja, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Fort St. George.
176. Sri J. Sivanandam, City Rationing Officer, Madras.
177. Sri M. Sreenivasa Rao, Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble the Premier, No. 2/13, Sripuram First Street, Royapetta, Madras.
178. Mr. T. S. Swaminathan, Joint Secretary to the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Board of Revenue, Madras.
179. Mr. I. H. Usmani, Sub-Collector, Madanapalle.
180. Mr. B. Gordon, Manager, Eastern Bank, Limited, Oriental Buildings, Armenian Street, Madras.
181. Mrs. V. Lakshmi Ammal, M.L.A., Kallidaikurichi, Tinnevely district.
182. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
183. Sri V. Suryanarayana, Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Rajahmundry.
184. Sri A. Ramaniah, Executive Engineer, Bezvada.
185. Rao Bahadur N. J. Joseph, Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore.
186. Sri K. L. Rao, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Triplicane, Madras.
187. Sri Y. Padmanabhan, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Parvatipur.
188. Sri T. N. Raja Ram, District Board Assistant Engineer, Dindigul.
189. M. E. Hussain Sahib Bahadur, Assistant Engineer, Tungabhadra Project, Hospet.
190. Sri K. Lakshmiah, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Guntur.
191. Sri T. Duraiswami, Assistant Engineer, IV Circle, Guntur.
192. Sri Rao Bahadur P. K. Gnanasundara Mudaliyar, Member, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
193. Mr. A. Majeed, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Gudur.
194. Mr. Talat Baig Sahib Bahadur, Assistant Engineer, Highways, Nuzvid.

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195. Sri V. S. Sankaran, Deputy Postmaster-General, Madras.
196. Mr. H. J. Gassan, Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Madras.
197. Mr. T. K. Jones, Trade Testing Officer and Workshop Superintendent, Government of India, Department of Labour, Messrs. P. Orr & Sons, Madras.
198. Khan Bahadur Khaja Moideen Hussain Sahib Bahadur, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, East Godavari, Cocanada.
199. Sri D. D. S. Chetti, Deputy Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
200. Habib Bank, Limited, No. 304, Linghi Chetti Street, Madras.
201. Sri R. Surya Rao, Director, Reserve Bank of India, Madras.
202. Mr. A. D. Buckley, Imperial Bank of India, Madras.
203. Miss E. Morgan, Principal, Deaf and Dumb School, Palamecottah.
204. Science for European and Anglo-Indian Schools, No. 6, Village Road, Nungambakkam, Madras.
205. Mr. J. B. Trafford, Planter, Eddison Estate, Nilambur P.O.
206. Mr. W. B. Cooke, Planter, Selalipuram Estate, Valparai P.O.
207. 'Dinasari' Daily Newspaper, Poonamallee High Road, Madras.
208. Sri Rao Sahib M. Duraiswami Pillai, Public Prosecutor, Ramnad district.
209. Dr. P. Subbaroyan, Bar.-at-Law, Advocate, Whites Garden, Royapetta.
210. Mr. G. S. Marwah, District Transportation Superintendent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
211. Sri K. R. Ramanujam, District Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Rayapuram, Madras.
212. Sri B. Venkatachalam Pillai, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George.
213. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, M.L.A., Gulistan, No. 1, Moores Road, Cathedral P.O., Madras.
214. Sri D. K. V. Raghava Varma, Secretary, Madras Legislature, Fort St. George.
215. Sri K. M. Desikar, M.L.C., Valivalam post, Tanjore district.
216. K. Muhammad Hussain Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Advocate, Courtalam Road, Tinnevely town.
217. Mr. L. S. A. Jones, Manager, Messrs. Harrison and Crossfield, Contractors and Engineers, Madras.

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218. Messrs. Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, Chirala.
219. Messrs. Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Vizagapatam.
220. Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union, Madras.
221. O. S. Sathak Tambi Maricair Sahib, Merchant, No. 71, Sembudoss Street, Madras.
222. Mr. R. E. McLellan, Businessman, Messrs. Binny and Company, Madras.
223. Messrs. McDowell and Company, Limited, Madras.
224. Messrs. Heatley and Gresham, Limited, United Indian Life Buildings, Madras.
225. Sri Kokuldas Tulsidas, Merchant, Post Box No. 45, Coimbatore.
226. Messrs. Cherian Brothers, Planters, Madras.
227. Sri P. K. Narayana Ayyar, Merchant, Lakshmi Nivas, Palghat.
228. Messrs. Dunlop Rubber Company (India), Limited, Madras.
229. Messrs. South Indian Export Company, Limited, No. 4, McLean Street, Madras.
230. Mr. H. I. Wonfer, Director, Messrs. Parry and Company, Limited, Madras.
231. Mr. M. W. Lowder, Managing Director, Bombay Company, Limited, Madras.
232. Mr. J. S. Nicholson, Manager, Anamalais Ropeway Company, Limited, Attakatti P.O., Pollachi.
233. Messrs. India Tyre and Rubber Company, Limited, Madras.
234. Sri T. K. Narayanan, Lorry Transport Contractor and Cloth Merchant, Tellicherry.
235. Dr. (Mrs.) P. N. S. Ayyar, Medical Practitioner, No. 2-A, Murrays Gate Road, Teynampet, Madras.
236. Dr. M. A. Joseph, Medical Practitioner, Kotagiri, Nilgiris.
237. Dr. W. Happer, District Medical Officer, Madura.
238. Dr. B. V. Sundara Babu, Assistant Health Officer, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
239. Dr. N. R. Menon, Medical Practitioner, Poonamallee.
240. Capt. J. Packiam, Assistant Resident Medical Officer, General Hospital, Madras.
241. Dr. J. Ingram Cotten, Dental Surgeon, Milford, Coonoor.
242. Capt. T. S. Balasubramaniam, Medical Practitioner, Andi Street, Teppakulam, Trichinopoly.

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243. Capt. C. S. Vijayaraghavan, Municipal Doctor, Gopalapuram, Coimbatore.
244. Rao Bahadur Dr. T. Satagopan, Medical Practitioner, No. 14-A, Ritherdon Road, Vepery, Madras.
245. Dr. T. V. Sivanandham, Honorary Assistant Surgeon, Government Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore.
246. Dr. (Mrs.) Lilian Singer, Medical Practitioner, Kotagiri, Nilgiris.
247. Dr. C. S. Ramachandra Rao, Provincial Blood Transfusion Officer, King Institute, Guindy.
248. Dr. R. G. Cochrane, Missionary Medical College, Vellore, North Arcot district.
249. Dr. M. D. Anantachari, Medical Practitioner, No. 4/16, Sullivan Garden Road, Mylapore, Madras.
250. Major M. A. Nair, Medical Practitioner, No. 49, Poona-mallee High Road, Vepery, Madras.
251. Capt. K. M. Meeran Rowther, Civil Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital, Madras.
252. Capt. P. O. Oommen, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.
253. Capt. P. O. Kuriappan, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Hospital, Madanapallee.
254. Dr. M. A. Latif Khan, District Medical Officer, Chittoor.
255. Dr. P. K. M. Raja, Medical Practitioner, No. 4, Purasawalkam High Road, Madras.
256. Dr. S. A. Khani, Medical Practitioner, No. 63, Walajah Road, Madras.
257. Dr. R. N. Reddi, Medical Practitioner, Salpelt Road, Cuddapah.
258. Dr. Walter Ludnousky, Medical Practitioner, Race Course, Coimbatore.
259. Dr. T. K. Sundaram, Government General Hospital, Madras.
260. Sri V. Balakrishnan, Proprietor, Allied Mercantile Agencies, No. 12, Thambu Chetti Street, Madras.
261. The Raja of Vizianagram, Madras.
262. Mr. E. W. D. Jeffares, Businessman and Assistant, Messrs. Binny and Company, Madras.
263. Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S., Additional Secretary, Finance Department, Fort St. George.
264. Sri Swami Venkatachalam Chetti, Merchant, Thiyagarayanagar, Madras.
265. Sri K. P. Velu Pillai, Deputy General Manager, Road Transport, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly.
266. Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Limited, Pallavaram.

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267. Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A., Advocate, No. 96, Sandaipettai Street, Madras.
268. Mr. R. T. Tandon, Indian Government Trade Commissioner in Ceylon, No. 12, Sri Vikrama Road, Colombo, Ceylon.
269. Sri L. S. Karayalar, Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Fort St. George.
270. Sri A. K. Kunhiraman Nambiar, I.P., Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Mylapore, Madras.
271. Sri M. B. Sarangapani, Division Engineer, Telegraphs, Trichinopoly.
272. Sri G. F. Amalanathan, Assistant Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.
273. Dr. W. A. N. Marrow, Surgeon to His Excellency the Governor, Government House, Ootacamund.
274. Khan Sahib V. S. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Tanner, Palakarai, Trichinopoly.
275. Sri C. R. Srinivasan, Editor, Swadesamitran, Whites Road, Madras.
276. Sri P. H. Rami Reddi, C.I.E., Additional Regional Food Commissioner, White Lodge, Chetput, Madras.
277. Sri E. Jagannatha Rao, Managing Partner, Hope Timber Syndicate, No. 5, Sarangapani Street, Thiyagarayanagar, Madras.
278. Sri A. N. Parasraman, Minerva Educationist Publishing House, Halls Road, Madras.
279. Sri S. V. Subramanyam, Personal Assistant to District Superintendent of Police, Malabar district, Calicut.
280. Mr. J. D. Watson, Deputy Chief Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
281. Sri C. V. D. Upadhyaya, Officer in charge, Lignite Investigation, Cuddalore New Town.
282. Sri Linga Raju, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
283. Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur, M.L.C., Journalist and Skins and Hides Merchant, Pallavaram.
284. Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., Kamala Vilas, Paganeri, Ramnad district.
285. Sri Rao Sahib Dr. W. V. Perumal, Assistant Director of Public Health, No. 3/47, Royapetta High Road, Madras.
286. Sri T. Viswanatham, Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George.
287. Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George.
288. Brigadier H. N. Piroquet, Headquarter, Madras Area, Mylapore, Madras.
289. Indian Express, Mount Road, Madras.

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290. Major V. Hariharan, Municipal Health Officer, Coimbatore.
291. Mr. H. Gerry, M.L.A., Stanmore (Anamallai) Estates, Walparai Post.
292. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.

(2)

List of permits issued between 11th September 1946 and 21st November 1946 with details.

- A 1. Adi Raja Abdul Khader Sahib Bahadur, son of Sultan Adi Raja Mariamma Bibi of Arakkal Palace, Cannanore, Landlord.
- A B 2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Kunhiraman, High Court, Madras.
- A B 3. Hon'ble Justice Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, High Court, Madras.
- A B 4. Sir Henry Howard, Consulting Engineer to the Government of Madras.
- A B 5. Mr. C. R. F. Williams, Conservator of Forests (on leave), care of Chief Conservator of Forests, Egmore, Madras.
- A 6. Sri S. Krishna Rao, Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Southern Range, Coimbatore.
7. Capt. W. K. Buckley, A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Madras Governor's Camp, South India.
8. Sri N. Ramaiah Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch C.I.D., Madras.
9. Dr. K. Ramaswami, District Health Officer, Nellore.
10. Sri A. M. Saverinathan, Revenue Divisional Officer, Vellore, North Arcot district.
- B 11. Mr. J. R. de Chazel, I.P., Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Madras.
- B 12. Sri S. Ramanuja Ayyangar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch, C.I.D., Mylapore, Madras.
13. Mr. C. O. Coorey, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Fort St. George, Madras.
14. Mr. S. M. Hasan, I.C.S., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras.
15. Mr. B. A. Harvey, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, South Kanara-district, Mangalore.
16. Mr. A. E. D. Frederick, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, South Arcot district, Cuddalore.
- B 17. Mr. V. Ramakrishna, C.I.E., I.C.S., Regional Director of Resettlement, Madras.

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18. Sri Rao Sahib A. Venkataramanan, Deputy Chief Engineer (Irrigation), Chepauk, Madras.
19. Sri C. G. Reddi, Divisional Inspector of Factories, Chepauk, Madras.
20. Dr. S. E. D. Masillamani, Medical Officer for Health, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
21. Major K. Jayaram, Postal Superintendent, 6-A, Sriramnagar, Teynampet P.O., Madras.
22. Mrs. L. Raja Urs, Guindy Lodge, Guindy, Senior Commander, W.A.C. (I).
23. Rao Bahadur Lt.-Col. S. Paul, Professor, College of Engineering, Guindy.
24. Sri Mundukur, Agent, Imperial Bank of India, Pollachi.
25. Mr. L. S. Trasy, Branch Secretary, Union Life Assurance, 79, Sembudoss street, Madras.
26. Secretary, Christian Literature Society, Madras (Educational Publishers).
27. Bursar and Procurator, St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly.
28. Headmaster, Madras Christian College High School, Madras.
29. Elak Rubber Estate, Olavakkot (Planter).
30. Mrs. C. K. Short, Planter Nagalam, Yercaud.
31. Free Press Journals, Mount Road, Madras (Newspaper).
32. Sri P. Chandra Reddi, Crown Prosecutor, Nilakam Mehta street, T. Nagar.
33. Sri Diwan Bahadur V. Bashyam Ayyangar, Vardhini, Kilpauk, Madras (Retired Judge).
34. Sri Rao Bahadur S. J. Eapen, Chief Medical Officer, M. & S.M. Railway, Sterling Road, Cathedral P.O., Madras.
35. Khan Bahadur D. J. Batliwala Sahib Bahadur, Loco Works Manager, M. & S.M. Railway, Perambur, Madras.
36. Mr. R. D. Walter, Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, S.I. Railway, Trichinopoly.
- B 37. Mrs. H. Krishnamurti, Kesava Bagh, Whites Road, Royapetta, Madras (Social worker).
38. Dr. (Miss) E. Maduram, Superintendent, Government Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Triplicane, Madras.
- B 39. Rao Saheb Dr. K. S. Raju, Government Medical Officer, Hindupur.
40. Mrs. G. F. Seymoor, Dental Surgeon, Coonoor.
41. Capt. K. Satyanarayana, Andhra University, Physician, Maharani-peta, P.O., Vizagapatam.

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42. Dr. P. K. Kalyanaraman, Honorary Assistant Medical Officer, Government Hospital, Coimbatore.
43. Dr. K. S. Sanjeevi, 114, Mowbrays Road, Teynampet, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
44. Dr. G. V. Rajammal, Secretary, The Kasturba National Memorial Maternity Home, Singanallur.
45. Dr. M. Narayanan, Private Medical Practitioner, Telli-cherry.
46. Rao Bahadur Dr. A. K. Raghavan, Municipal Chairman, Palghat.
47. Dr. (Mrs.) F. Mathuranayagam, 30, Giri Road, T. Nagar, Madras (Assistant Surgeon).
48. Dr. N. Ramanathan, Honorary Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Hospital, Tanjore.
49. Dr. (Miss) B. Aranha, Assistant Surgeon, Women and Children Hospital, Egmore, Madras.
50. Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Arogyavaram, Chittoor district (Medical Institution).
51. Major W. H. G. Reed, District Medical Officer, North Arcot district, Vellore.
52. Dr. M. Gopalan Nair, Registered Medical Practitioner, Rose street, British Cochin.
53. Mr. Fred Kershaw, Manager, Cambodia Mills, Limited, Coimbatore.
54. Messrs. Liptons, Limited, 14, Perianna Maistry street, G.T., Madras.
55. Messrs. Richardsqn & Cruddas, First Line Beach, Madras.
56. Messrs. William Jacks & Co., Ltd., No. 37, Second Line Beach, Madras.
57. Sri Rao Sahib C. N. Suganadha Mudaliar, Kallai (Timber merchant).
- B 58. Chittoor Co-operative Wholesale Stores, Limited, Chittoor.
59. Mr. Fazl Karim Sahib Bahadur, Skins and Hides Merchant, Madras.
60. Coimbatore Central Co-operative Stores, Limited, Vysial street, Coimbatore.
61. Messrs. Tide Water Oil Co. (India), Ltd., c/o Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.
62. Mrs. F. Reynolds, Secretary to the Branch Manager, Burmah-Shell Oil Co., Ltd., Madras.
63. Sri Rao Bahadur V. K. Eradi, Timber Merchant and Railway Contractor, Chalapuram, Calicut.

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64. Sri A. S. Rm. Subbiah Pillai, Bazaar street, Turaiyur, Trichinopoly (Merchant).
65. Sri S. Ramanathan, Proprietor, Screen Prints, 8, Broadway, Madras.
66. Sri T. Raghavachari, Honorary Secretary, Co-operative Stores and Bank, Limited, 7, Sullivan street, Coimbatore.
67. V. Hameed Sultan Maricair Sahib Bahadur M.L.A., Negapatam.
68. Sri K. K. Subbamma Goundar, M.L.A., Kugalur, P.O., Coimbatore district.
69. Sri T. S. Pattabhiraman, M.L.A., Advocate, Tiruchengode, Salem district.
70. Mrs. M. N. Clubwala, M.L.C., Philroy, Nungambakkam High Road, Madras.
71. Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao, M.L.A., No. 3, Balfour Road, Kilpauk, Madras.
72. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi, M.L.A., Hanumantha Vilas, Krishnamachary Road, Bellary.
73. Sri N. Ranga Reddi, M.L.C., Cuddapah.
74. Sri R. Subbier, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Fort St. George, Madras.
- B 75. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi, M.L.C., Chittathurai village, Devikapuram Post, North Arcot district.
76. Sri M. K. Jinachandran, M.L.A., (Central) Landlord and Planter, Kalpatta P.O., Malabar district.
77. Srimathi Allam Sumangala Amma, M.L.A., Gadigai Buildings, Bellary.
78. Md. Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur M.L.A., Advocate and Government Khazi, Nellore.
79. Sri M. Thirumala Rao, Member, Council of State, Editor, "New Times," No. 2-A, Poonamallee High Road, Madras.
80. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
81. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
82. Sri S. Parthasarathy, No. 30, Luz, Mylapore, Madras (Director, Prithvi Insurance Co., Ltd.).
83. Sri P. Dharmadas, No. 2/200, Mint street, Madras (Proprietor, Karahi Confectionery).
84. Mr. C. E. M. Barret, Retired Textile Expert Coonoor.
85. Messrs. South India Motor Co., Mount Road, Madras. For demonstration purposes. (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department.)
86. Messrs. South India Motor Co., Mount Road, Madras. For demonstration purposes. (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department.)

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A 87. Mr. I. P. McFarlane, Assistant, Mercantile Bank of India, Madras.

88. Mr. T. J. M. Wilson, M.L.A., Advocate, Masulipatam, (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department.)

A 89. The Most Rev. Dr. Louis Mathias, Archbishop of Madras, Madras.

C 90. Sir P. T. Rajan, "Palayam House," Tallakulam P.O., Madura.

C 91. Mr. R. M. Mahadevan, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, Vizagapatam.

C 92. Sri S. Rajagopalan, Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Tanjore.

C 93. Sri V. N. Swami, Government Electricity Department, Vellore.

C 94. Sri Rao Sahib K. Muthukrishnan, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Chepauk, Madras.

B 95. Sri V. Ramakrishnan, Inspector of Steam Boilers, Rajahmundry.

96. Mr. C. G. Thurley, Deputy Director of Survey, No. 7, McNichol Road, Kilpauk, Madras.

B 97. Sri H. R. Sayoji Rao, Divisional Engineer, Highways, Bellary.

98. Sri C. Raghunathan, Additional Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

99. Sri Rao Bahadur M. A. Kuttalalingam Pillai, No. 3, Vaidirama Ayyar street, Tyagaroyanagar, Madras (Provincial Controller of Food Rationing).

100. Sri B. K. Sundaram, Municipal Health Officer, Ootacamund.

101. Sri C. N. Thirupuvanam, Divisional Engineer, Highways, Tinnevely.

102. Sri Rao Bahadur K. K. Menon, Assistant Collector of Customs, Madras.

103. Sri Rao Bahadur N. Venkataramayya, Court of Enquiry, Room No. 98, New Wing, Secretariat Buildings, Fort St. George, Madras.

104. Sri P. Viswanathan, Drainage, Superintendent, Corporation of Madras, No. 9, Thandavaraya Mudali street, Washermanpet, Madras.

105. Sri G. S. Rama Ayyar, Divisional Engineer, Pykara Fly System, Coimbatore.

106. Mr. R. C. S. Bell, I.C.S., Collector, North Arcot district, Vellore.

107. Sri V. K. Raman Menon, District Educational Officer, Chingleput district, Saidapet.

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108. Sri S. R. Mandalam, c/o Hercules Insurance Company, Dare House, Madras (Insurance business).

109. Mr. K. A. Anderson, c/o The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, P.B. No. 58, Madras (Bank official).

110. The Rev. C. R. Wierenga, Secretary, Reformed Church, Vellore.

111. Deaf and Dumb School, "Priory", Cathedral P.O., Madras.

112. Mr. Henderson, "Fairview", Kokkada Estate, Kotagiri (Planter).

113. Stanmore (Anamalai) Estates, Limited, Valparai P.O. (Planters).

114. The "Mail", Mount Road, Madras (Newspaper).

B 115. Sri Rao Bahadur V. T. Rangaswami Ayyangar, "Surabhi", Balajinagar, Royapetta, Madras (Advocate).

116. All-India Radio, Trichinopoly.

117. Messrs. Addison & Co., Ltd., Wellington (for demonstration and company's use).

118. Messrs. West Ramnad Electric Distribution Company, Limited, Rajapalayam.

119. Messrs. Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company of India, Limited, Post Box No. 157, Esplanade, Madras.

120. Sri B. Ramachandra Reddi, c.B.E., Mica Miner, Buchireddipalayam, Nellore district.

121. Mr. G. N. Tod, c.B.E., c/o Assistant Manager, Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.

122. Manager, Messrs. Rashid & Sons, Army Contractors, Renigunta.

123. Air India, Limited, Civil Aerodrome, St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.

124. Mr. H. W. Hutton, c/o Tea Estates (India), Limited, Coimbatore (Planter).

125. Dr. (Mrs.) Lilian Singer, Kotagiri, Nilgiris (Medical Practitioner).

126. Major G. B. Thomas, Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore, Madras.

127. Dr. P. Krishnaswami, No. 231, Poonamallee High Road, Madras (Medical Practitioner).

128. Dr. P. Balakrishnan, No. 220, Mint street, Madras (Medical Practitioner).

129. Dr. (Miss) U. Kareema Begum, No. 32, Old Jail street, Georgetown, Madras (Medical Practitioner).

130. Captain Korula John, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Gudalur, Nilgiris.

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131. Dr. A. E. Sundaresan, No. 7, Bishops Lane, Vepery, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
132. Major R. B. Reddy, Assistant Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras.
133. Dr. H. V. Kamalammal, Lady Superintendent, Child Welfare Scheme, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
134. Dr. C. Desikacharlu, No. 79, Gopathy Narayanaswami Road, Thyagaroyanagar, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
135. Dr. Lakshmi Swaminadhan, "Gilchrist Gardens", Chetpet, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
136. Lieut.-Col. J. A. Hamilton, c/o The Madras Chamber of Commerce, Post Box No. 35, "Dare House", Madras (Medical Practitioner).
137. Dr. H. A. Fernandez, Dental Surgeon, No. 42, Perambur Barracks, Vepery, Madras.
138. Sri S. C. B. Mazumdar, No. 49, Constable Road, Railway Quarters Colony, Perambur (District Electrical Engineer, M. & S.M. Railway).
139. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
- B 140. Sri B. Parameswaran, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
141. Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshamma, M.L.A., Zammingolpalli, Kistna district.
142. Hajee K. M. Ahmed Kutti Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Beach Road, Calicut.
143. Sri M. Venkataraju, M.L.A., Bapatla, Guntur district.
144. Sri D. Dorairaj Pandian, M.L.A., Elanji, Tenkasi, Tinnevely district.
- B 145. K. M. Rahimatullah Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A. (Central), Landholder, Anantapur.
146. Sri R. Ramakrishna Naidu, M.L.C., Perianaickenpalayam, Coimbatore.
147. Sri W. S. Srinivasa Rao, M.L.A., No. 11, Kalliamman Koil street, Arni, North Arcot district.
148. Sri M. Pallam Raju, M.L.A., Cocanada.
149. S. Jalaluddin Sahib Bahadur, Proprietor, Messrs. Jalal and Sons, No. 46, Rattan Bazaar, Park Town, Madras.
150. Mr. W. Watson, c/o Messrs. Binny and Company, Limited, No. 7, Armenian street, Georgetown, Madras.
151. Sri Rao Bahadur S. Seetharama Patrudu, Headquarters Deputy Director of Agriculture, Madras.
152. Dr. P. N. Ramasubramanian, Madura (Medical Practitioner).
153. Messrs. Trojan and Company, Madras (businessman).

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154. Dr. A. V. Avadhani, No. 137, Brodies Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
155. Sri Narasa Raju, Advocate, Madras.
156. Sri C. Subramanyam Chetty, Councillor, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
157. Sri K. Narayanan, Oppanakara street, Coimbatore (cloth merchant).
158. Messrs. Kalladi Kammappa and Brothers, Firewood Suppliers, Olavakkot.
159. Messrs. Kannaiyal Ishwarlal and Company, No. 253, Govindappa Naicken street, Georgetown, Madras (diamond merchants).
160. M. Sirajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Superintendent of Police, Railways, Madras.
- C 161. Sri M. Sivaraman, Mechanical Engineer, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
- C 162. Mr. G. E. Hoover, Merchant, No. 22, Mada Church street, Rayapuram, Madras.
- C 163. Zamindar of South Vallur, No. 12, Srikrishnapuram street, Royapetta, Madras (landholder).
- C 164. Mr. W. T. Williams, Managing Director, Gordon Woodroffe & Co. (Madras), Ltd., Madras.
165. Sir C. R. Reddi, Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, Waltair.
166. Sir Henry Howard, Consulting Engineer to the Government of Madras.
167. Zamindar of Andhra, Andhra P.O., Vizagapatam district (landholder).
168. Mr. V. Ramakrishnan, C.I.E., I.C.S., Regional Director of Resettlement, Madras.
169. Mr. J. R. Bett, I.C.S., Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore.
- B 170. Mr. A. S. Naik, I.C.S., Under Secretary to Government, Development Department, Fort St. George, Madras.
171. Sri K. P. R. Menon, Deputy Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.
172. Sri M. A. S. Jeddy, Prohibition Officer, Arni, North Arcot district.
173. T. T. P. Abdulla Sahib Bahadur, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Tirukkoyilur, South Arcot district.
174. Sri C. P. Subbiah, Deputy Chief Engineer, Madras.
175. Mr. C. R. F. Williams, Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund.
176. Sri R. Rangachari, Deputy Manager, Employment Exchange, Madras.

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177. Sikandar Pasha Sahib Bahadur, Income-tax Officer, Salem.
178. Sri K. S. Vaidianathan, District and Sessions Judge, Kurnool.
179. Sri P. T. Narayanan Nayar, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Coimbatore.
180. Mr. H. J. Godwin, Bank Manager, c/o Grindlay & Co., Ltd., No. 9, McLean street, Madras.
181. Dr. M. Damodaran, No. 2, Mantapam Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Educationist).
182. Mrs. S. G. Parthasarathi, "Heathning", No. 4, Pattulla Road, Mount Road, Madras (Lecturer, Queen Mary's College).
183. Theosophical Society, Adyar.
184. Mr. Thorne, Manager, Pierce Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut.
185. Major J. W. Haywood, c/o Messrs. T. Stanes & Co., Ltd., Coimbatore (Planter).
186. Mr. R. G. Pierce, Government Tea Inspector's Office, British Cochin.
187. Sri K. Srinivasan, Managing Editor, *The Hindu*, Mount Road, Madras.
188. Sri A. A. Nayar, Assistant Editor, *The Mail*, Mount Road, Madras.
189. Sri Rama Vilas, Limited, Mount Road, Madras.
190. Sri Bajrang Jute Mills, Guntur.
191. Mr. S. A. Minkley, New Hope Estate, New Hope P.O., The Nilgiris (Planter).
192. Sri P. Ananda Rao, No. 155-57, Poonamallee High Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Business Manager, X-Ray Institute).
193. Mr. A. C. King, c/o A. & F. Harvey, Limited, Madura (Mill official).
194. Mr. A. V. Thomas, c/o A. V. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Madras.
195. South Indian Flour Mill, No. 31, Govindappa Naicken street, Madras.
196. Sri Ramaswami Gounder, President, Co-operative Society, Tiruppur.
197. Messrs. Kanderia, Limited, Mint street, Madras.
198. Sri P. R. P. Kandaswami Chetti, Yarn Merchant, Gugai, Salem.
199. Sri Rao Bahadur P. Govinda Reddi, President, District Board, Nellore, Allur, Kovur taluk.
200. Sri C. C. Ghandy, Manager, Adair Dutt & Co., Ltd., Post Box No. 327, Mount Road, Madras.
201. Lieut.-Col. Pythan Adams, "Wichcombe", Kalhatti P.O., Nilgiris (Social worker).

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202. Sri S. P. Adityan, M.L.A. (Central), No. 5, Thanikachala Mudaliar street, Tyagarayanagar, Madras.
203. Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, M.L.A., No. 438/C, Tata-bad, Coimbatore.
204. Mohamed Razakhan Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., No. 55, Peters Road, Royapetta, Madras.
205. Sri S. C. Balakrishnan, M.L.A., Railway Feeder Road, Palni.
206. Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder, M.L.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Pollachi.
207. Sri M. A. Eswaran, M.L.A., No. 113, Kutcheri street, Erode.
208. Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.C., "Suthasthan", Beach Road, Tuticorin.
209. Sri R. Nathamuni, M.L.A., Naraningapuram P.O., Chandragiri, Chittoor district.
210. Sri Pydah Venkatanarayana, M.L.A., Zamindar and Banker, Cocanada.
211. Sri S. Paramananda Rayair, M.L.A., Kuruswami Rayair street, Porto Novo.
212. Major G. E. S. Stewart, District Medical Officer, Guntur.
213. Dr. N. A. Abraham, Badagara, North Malabar (Medical Practitioner).
214. Dr. G. Zackria, No. 16, Marshall's Road, Egmore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
215. Rao Bahadur Dr. T. S. Thirumurthi, "Sevagram", No. 1, Krishnamachari Road, Nungambakkam, Madras.
216. Lt.-Col. G. V. Satyanarayanamurthi, Medical Officer, Madras City Police, Madras.
217. Dr. Mrs. Sosa Philip, Woman Assistant Surgeon, Government Tuberculosis Institute, No. 22, Nowroji street, Chetput, Madras.
218. Major N. Krishnaswamy, "Srivas", R.S. Puram P.O., Coimbatore (Medical Practitioner).
219. Dr. L. K. Muthuswami, Medical Practitioner, Erode.
220. Dr. K. S. Ayyar, "Sundara", Thanikachalam Chetti Road, T. Nagar, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
221. Dr. K. V. Ramakrishna Rao, No. 3, Iyah Mudali street, Chintadripet, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
222. Dr. Arthur Daniel, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Vepery, Madras.
223. Sri R. Rajamanickam Mudaliyar, Taxi-owner, No. 6, Rajagopala Naicken street, Chintadripet, Madras (for taxi purposes).

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224. Mahamad Ismail Sahib Bahadur, No. 3, Hussain Ali Khan Bahadur First street, Peters Road, Royapetta, Madras (for taxi purposes).

225. Sri N. R. Purushothama Naidu, No. 5, Mowbray's Road, Mylapore, Madras (merchant).

226. Sri S. A. Sesha Ayyar, Chairman, Palni Municipality, Palni.

227. Major C. Raman, Central Jail, Cannanore (Jail Surgeon).

C 228. Sri E. V. Srinivasan, "Dvaraka", Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).

C 229. Sri K. S. Krishnan, No. 13-A, MacNichol's Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Chief Pilot Instructor).

C 230. Sri V. Kalidas, No. 1, Lodi Khan street, T. Nagar, Madras (Editor, *Anandavani*).

C 231. Dr. A. Vasudevan, Honorary Physician, Government Royapetta Hospital, Royapetta, Madras.

C 232. Sri Rao Bahadur C. Gopala Menon, Member, C.R.T. Board, "Romola", Spur Tank Road, Egmore, Madras.

C 233. Lt.-Col. V. B. Stork, General Manager, Messrs. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Madras.

C 234. The Rev. A. J. Boyd, Principal, Madras Christian College, Tambaram.

Explanatory note.—'A' denotes that a permit issued before 12th September 1946 was surrendered by the allottee and was reissued subsequent to that date to the person against whom the letters stands; 'B' denotes that a primary or a surrendered permit issued after 12th September 1946 was surrendered by the allottee against whom the letter stands and was reissued to persons marked 'C' at the last moment to avoid unfreezing.

(3)

List of permits issued between 22nd November 1946 and 15th January 1947.

1. Dr. P. B. Anangarachary, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
2. Messrs. Muller and Philips (India), Limited (Business Men), Madras.
3. Dr. T. M. P. Mahadevan, Reader in Philosophy, University of Madras.
4. His Grace the Archbishop of Pondicherry, Pondicherry.
5. Lieut.-Col. L. T. Wilcock, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.
6. The Most Rev. Mar Thoma Dionysius, Metropolitan Bishop of the Syrian Orthodox Mission in South India, Bishop's House, Hiruthayapuram, Trichinopoly district.
7. Bishop Abraham, Metropolitan of Malabar, Madras.

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8. Sri S. R. Nayudu, Divisional Engineer, Tanjore.

9. F. V. Arul, I.R., Deputy Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.

10. Sri P. Kuppuswami, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Madanapalle.

11. Sri Rao Bahadur P. Ramadoss, Collector of Ramnad at Madura.

12. Sri V. D. Masilamani, Revenue Divisional Officer, Devakottah.

13. Mr. C. E. Prager, Divisional Electrical Engineer, Vellore.

14. Sri P. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Assistant Engineer, Highways, Tadepalligudem.

15. Sri B. V. Krishna Rao, Commissioner, Hindu Religious Endowment Board, No. 42, Mowbrays Road, Teynampet Post Office, Madras.

16. Sri K. V. L. Narasimham, District Judge, Kistna district.

17. Mr. M. A. Mohajir, Inspector of Excise, Salem.

18. Sri B. S. Kesava Vittal, District Forest Officer, Chittoor.

19. Mr. B. W. Day, I.C.S., Provincial Controller of Food Rationing, Madras.

20. Sri A. Srinivasan, Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Nilgiris Subdivision, Ootacamund.

21. Sri K. Shivaram Ballal, Assistant Engineer, Highways, Coimbatore.

22. Sri V. Satyavagiswara Ayyar, Personal Assistant to the District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore.

23. Lieut.-Commr. B. K. Gupta, Mercantile Marine Department, P.B. No. 268, Madras.

24. Major H. A. Sujan, Deputy Regional Commissioner (Disposal), United India Life Buildings, Esplanade, Madras.

25. Mr. R. S. Brown, District Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Division, Ootacamund.

26. Mr. S. A. Iyengar, I.C.S., Additional District Magistrate, Vizagapatam.

27. Sri K. Sankaranarayana Rao, District Forest Officer, Pyrethrum Division, Nilgiris, Fernhill Post Office.

28. Sri T. N. Ramanathan, Resident Engineer, Guntur, Power and Light, Limited, Guntur.

29. Sri R. M. Kumaraswamy Gounder, Vice-President, District Board, Coimbatore district, Palladam Post Office.

30. Mr. E. R. Logan, Chairman, Municipal Council, Kodai-kanal.

31. Mr. H. J. Godwin, Bank Manager, care of Grindley Company, Limited, No. 9, McLean Street, Madras.

32. Sri T. G. Loganathan, Chief Cashier, Chartered Bank of India, China and Australia, Madras.

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33. Sri M. Mohanmall, Banker, 48, Nattupilliar Koil Street, Georgetown, Madras.
34. Sri P. Rangaswamy, Branch Manager, Prithivi Insurance Company, Limited, Peace Cottage, Saidapet, Madras.
35. Sri A. Subbiah, No. 289, Linghi Chetti Street, Georgetown, Madras (Insurance Manager).
36. Sri N. Ramarathnam, Proprietor, Madras Law Journal Office, Kaumudi, Warren Road, Bhimannapet, Mylapore, Madras.
37. The *Indian Express*, 100, Wallajah Road, Mount Road, Madras-2.
38. Reverend Albert Cappel, St. Mary's Church, Ootacamund.
39. Mother Superior, Presentation Convent, Madras.
40. Sri Rao Sahib N. K. Thirumalachari No. 11, Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras-4 (Advocate).
41. Sri K. Sivaramakrishna Rao, Principal, Hindu College, Masulipatam.
42. Khan Bahadur H. M. Abdul Rahim Sait, Landlord and Planter, Southwick, Ootacamund.
43. The Waterfall Estate, Ltd., Oriental Buildings, Armenian Street, Madras (Planters).
44. Mr. T. C. Hutchinson, Caroline Estate, Mango Range Post Office, Nilgiris (Planters).
45. Mr. R. H. C. Allen Kadalaparai Estate, Mudis Post Office, via Pollachi (Planters).
46. Sri S. Lingayya, Coffee Merchant, Main Road, Mettupalayam.
47. Sri A. L. Sahasranamam Ayyar, Banker, Palghat, South Malabar.
48. Sir G. K. Ranga Rao, the Raja of Bobbili, Bobbili.
49. Messrs. Nelson & Co., 12, Swami Pillai Street, Choolai, Madras (Businessmen).
50. Sri K. N. Narayanan Ayyar, Manager, Murugappa Agencies, Limited, 106, Armenian Street, Georgetown, Madras.
51. Co-operative Society, Tiruppur.
52. Sri S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar, Senior Steward, Madras Race Club, Guindy, Saidapet Post Office.
53. Sri V. Ramaswami Reddi, Sadem, Chittoor District.
54. Mr. J. Malvenan, Assistant Manager, South Indian Export Company, Limited, 4, McLean street, Madras.
55. Coramandel Company, Limited, Vizagapatam (Businessmen).
56. Sri K. N. Palanisami Gounder, Chairman, Municipal Council, Tiruppur.
57. Sri V. R. Radhakrishnan, Army Contractor, 8-E, Landen's Road, Kilpauk, Madras.

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58. Messrs. A. S. Krishna & Co., Tobacco Exporters, Guntur.
59. Sri V. M. Prakash, Assistant Works Manager, Ordnance Clothing Factory, Madras.
60. Sri Rao Bahadur S. Chellam Ayyar, Proprietor, Messrs. South Indian Saw Mills, Kallai.
61. Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, Arasaradi, Madura.
62. Mr. I. D. Edward, c/o Messrs. Pierce Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut (Business official).
63. Mr. J. J. Grant, c/o Madura Mills Company, Limited, Ambasamudram, Tinnevely district (Business official).
64. Messrs. D. C. Johar & Sons, Army Contractors, Wellington, the Nilgiris.
65. Mr. S. M. Syed Khader & Co., Tajmahal Beedi Factory, Madras.
66. Messrs. Syed Abdus Samad, Handloom Cloth Merchants, Jumma Masjid Road, Mangalore.
67. District Manager, Telephones, Madras District, China Bazaar Road, Madras.
68. Mr. P. Graham, c/o Imperial Tobacco Company of India, No. 8/9, Thambu Chetti Street, Madras (Business official).
69. Mr. P. H. D. Carmichael, Assistant, Binny & Co., Ltd., Madras.
70. Mr. A. M. M. Abdulla, Sappani Labhai Street, Triplicane, Madras (Businessman).
71. Coimbatore Pioneer Mills, Limited, Coimbatore.
72. Sri B. S. Murthy, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable the Minister for Labour and Industries, Madras.
73. Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
74. Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A., Advocate, No. 96, Sandaipettai Street, Madura.
75. Sri K. K. Subbanna Gounder, M.L.A., Kugalur Post Office, Coimbatore district.
76. Sri A. B. Shetty, M.L.A., No. 48, Harris Road, Mount Road, Madras.
77. Srimathi Bhupathiraju Rangarayya, M.L.A., No. 1, Coats Road, Theyagarayanagar, Madras.
78. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
79. Kalluri Chandra Mouli, M.L.A., Mopparu Post Office, Tenali, Guntur district.
80. Sri B. V. Subramaniam, Advocate, Mylapore, Madras.
81. Dr. G. S. Dugal, c/o The Punjab National Bank, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
82. Dr. C. R. Thiruvengadam, Assistant District Medical Officer, No. 6, Williams Road, Thichinopoly.

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83. Miss M. E. Hampton, acting Honorary Superintendent, Bethesda Lepper Hospital, Narasaraopet, West Godavari district.
84. Dr. K. Ramachandran, Lecturer in Anaesthetics, Stanley Medical College, Madras.
85. Capt. N. Samuel Reddi, Assistant District Medical Officer, Coanada, East Godavari district.
86. Dr. Abdul Sathar Ismail Sait, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Dindigul.
87. Dr. Mrs. Siebers De Valois, Head of E.N.T. Department, Missionary Medical College, Vellore.
88. Dr. H. M. Rao, Dental Surgeon, Mount Road, Madras.
89. Dr. A. S. Ramakrishnan, No. 497, Mint Street, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
90. Dr. T. Muthuswami, Private Medical Practitioner, Virudunagar.
91. Dr. B. H. P. Pai, Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras.
92. Dr. B. Sitaramayya, Assistant Surgeon Local Fund Dispensary, Samalkot, East Godavari district.
93. Dr. C. Raghavachari, No. 1, Lady Desikachari Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
94. Lieut.-Col. M. V. Ramanamurthi, Professor of Surgery, Andhra Medical College, Chatrajuvari Street, Vizagapatam.
95. Sri V. Guruswami, Panruti, South Arcot district (Businessman).
96. Sri M. N. Aswatnarayana, Hindupur.
97. Messrs. A. P. Chirukandau & Sons, Engineering Contractors, Chalapuram Post Office, Calicut.
98. Messrs. Madras Electric Tramways Company, No. 1, Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras.
99. Col. R. H. P. Cumming, Col. i/c, Administration Sub-Area, Coimbatore.
100. Sri N. S. Seshachalam, Assistant Traffic Superintendent, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly.
101. Dr. R. Venkata Rao, District Medical Officer, Kistna district.
102. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Kunhiraman, Judge, High Court, Madras.
103. Mrs. H. Krishnamurthi, Kelaya Bagh, Whites Road, Royapetta, Madras (Social worker).
104. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Khan Bahadur Yehya Ali, Judge, High Court, Madras.
105. Rao Sahib Dr. K. S. Raju, Hindupur (Civil Assistant Surgeon).
106. Sri C. Perumalawami Reddi, M.L.C., Chithathurai village, Devikapuram P.O., North Arcot district.

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107. Mr. K. M. Rahimtullah, M.L.A. (Central) Landholder, Anantapur.
108. Sri V. Ramakrishnan, Inspector of Steam Boilers, Rajahmundry.
109. Sri Rao Bahadur V. T. Rangaswami Ayyangar, Surabhi, Balajinagar, Royapetta, Madras (Advocate).
110. Sri H. R. Sayoji Rao, Divisional Engineer, Highways, Bellary.
111. Sri B. Parameswaran, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
112. Messrs. Kalladi Kammappa Bros., Olavakkot (Businessmen).
113. Mr. M. A. S. Jeddy, Prohibition Officer, Arni, North Arcot district.
114. Sri C. N. Thirupuvanani, Divisional Engineer, Highways, Madras.
115. Sri C. P. Subbiah, Deputy Chief Engineer, Highways, Madras.
116. Sri S. A. Sessa Ayyar, Municipal Chairman, Palni.
117. Mr. P. Sikander Pasha, Income-tax Officer, Salem.
118. Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.C., Sukasthan, Beach Road, Tuticorin.
119. Sri S. Paramananda Rayar, M.L.A., Kuruswami Rayar Street, Porto Novo.
120. Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, M.L.A., No. 438/C, Tatabad, Coimbatore.
121. Zamindar of Andhra, Andhra P.O., Vizagapatam.
122. Sri M. A. Easwaran, M.L.A., No. 113, Cutchery street Erode.
123. Dr. V. K. John, M.L.C., Dadnor, No. 7, Nungambakam High Road, Madras.
124. Mr. H. E. Wilson, Sales Supervisor, Caltex (India), Limited, No. 16, Armenian street, Madras-1.
125. Sri P. N. Menon, c/o Best & Co., Ltd., Madras (Business official).
126. Sri N. Ramiah Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Madras.
127. C. B. E. Williams, Conservator of Forests, Salem.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, the 13th February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

(MR. SPEAKER:—"The House will now take up questions left over yesterday. Question 122.")

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I have read out the answer* yesterday and a statement has been laid on the table of the House for the information of hon. Members."

* 122 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask what has happened to the Rural Water-supply Fund started, I understand, in the year 1937?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"A fund was started for rural water-supply in the year 1938. So far as rural water-supply is concerned, the Board of Revenue gives such amounts as the Collectors require for the purpose of sinking wells in the rural areas and the Collectors execute the schemes."

SRI K. P. KAMAKSHI CHETTIYAR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the ten-year scheme is an utter failure and the progress is dead slow and will the Government give an assurance that the rural water-supply schemes will be completed in the whole Province in three years?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"An assurance cannot be given by the Government that the rural water-supply scheme can be completed within a period of three years. Progress reports regarding the scheme are being sent from time to time for the information of the public and I do not think that the progress has been slow."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I enquire, Sir, whether instructions have been issued to Collectors to bear in mind the hamlets inhabited by Harijans in executing schemes of protected water-supply?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government propose to send out a circular to all the Collectors to expedite the scheme and bear in mind of course the needs of the Harijans as well.")

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—"In view of the fact that the Cumbum valley in Madura district is affected by epidemics

* Question No. 122 was put and answered on 12th February 1947.

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almost throughout the year, may I ask whether the Government will expedite the execution of the water-supply scheme without any further delay?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government have directed the Sanitary Engineer to prepare a composite scheme for the Cumbum Valley Panchayat Boards. The investigation will be undertaken and the suggestion made by the hon. Member will be borne in mind and the scheme expedited."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government consider the provision of Rs. 25 lakhs for water-supply to be adequate?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"If in the opinion of the hon. Member the sum allotted to the Rural Water-supply Fund may not be adequate, the Government will consider the question if more funds are necessary."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask if the Hon. Minister is aware that the Bhoze Committee specifically recommended that the provision of safe water-supply should receive the highest priority from the administration responsible for the well-being of the people?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government have fallen into line with the recommendations of the Bhoze Committee and they do feel that the question of giving safe water-supply in order to prevent diseases must have priority and preference over other schemes."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"In view of the fact that the needs of the Ceded districts are very large and the springs are not easily tapped because of the rocky nature of the soil that is encountered, may I suggest that adequate funds may be earmarked to cover at least 200 wells every year for each district and additional staff sanctioned for the purpose as work is very slow?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The question of giving adequate water-supply to the Ceded districts will be taken up along with the general question of supplying water for the rural areas."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government recognize the fact that amongst rural reconstruction and public health schemes, provision of protected water-supply comes first and foremost?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, Sir, I agree with the opinion of the Leader of the Opposition."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, my question was not answered. I asked for the earmarking of funds for the Ceded districts and the sanction of adequate staff for the purpose. The Hon. Minister's answer does not cover my question."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I could not give a proper answer to his supplementary question because the

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question was not audible and I could not understand it. Now that I am able to follow the question, I may say that a rural water-supply fund cannot be ear-marked for the Ceded districts in particular. As I have already stated, it forms part of the general question."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government of Madras are receiving grants from the Central Government for the development of rural water-supply?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"No, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it not the duty of the Government to see that backward districts come up to the level of the other districts and it is for that purpose I raised the question of ear-marking of funds?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The question will be investigated whether the Ceded districts are backward in the matter of water-supply and if they are found to be so, they will certainly be attended to."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that a protected water-supply scheme should be the first and foremost in any scheme of rural uplift, does the Government think that what they have been doing hitherto is sufficient to fulfil the needs of the Province in that respect?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government will go into that question, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Arising from the answer of the Hon. Minister to the question of giving special attention to the Ceded districts, may I know, Sir, whether the Government do not have records to show that so far as water-supply is concerned the Ceded districts are a backward area, and that it is not necessary for them to make any further enquiries in the matter?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"There are other districts besides the Ceded districts where the water-supply is not adequate. I have already said that the matter will be gone into. I shall place a progress report if a question is put."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is not the Hon. Minister aware that both in the matter of water-supply and the cultivation of foodgrains, the Ceded districts are very well-known for their backwardness, and that on account of this condition the districts have been considered to be famine districts all these years?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The question of drinking water-supply is entirely different from the question of irrigation for the Grow More Food Campaign. Therefore the question does not arise."

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SRI K. VARADACHARI:—" May I ask, Sir, if the Government would consider the advisability of issuing those special instructions which have been issued to the Collectors of Ceded districts to the Collector of Chittoor district also in respect of that part of the Chittoor district which was a part of the Ceded districts, namely, the Madanapalle Revenue Division and the Palmaner taluk of the Chittoor Division? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" If the hon. Member says that Chittoor district comes within the jurisdiction of Rayalaseema, the Collector will certainly be reminded of his duty."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I ask, Sir, why the water-supply scheme sanctioned by the Adviser Government for the Chodavaram taluk in the Vizagapatam district has not yet commenced working? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" In fact representations were made to the Government by the residents of Chodavaram with regard to their water-supply and the proposal is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" My question has not been answered, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Please repeat your question."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—" May I know the reason why the water-supply scheme sanctioned for this taluk during the Advisers' time has not yet commenced working? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" I have already told the hon. Member that it is under the consideration of the Government."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—" Is the Hon. Minister aware, Sir, that the Post-War Reconstruction Committee recognized the Ceded districts as backward districts? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" It may be. I am not aware of it."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" May I ask, Sir, if it is presumed that because there is water everywhere, there is good rural water-supply although the water is not protected and made free from contamination? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" No, Sir."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—" As the rural water-supply scheme is only with regard to the supply of drinking water, may I know whether the Government would give preference to places where the guinea worm disease is prevalent? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Yes, Sir."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—" The answer given by the Hon. Minister is very vague. May I ask the Government to tell us the number of villages to which protected water-supply is given this year? "

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THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Notice, Sir. I have already said that a report will be called for and placed on the table of the House for the information of hon. Members."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know whether it is a fact that a village with a population of 500 and less will not be provided with a well according to the present rules? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" There is no such rule. Wherever there is lack of supply of safe drinking water, such places will certainly be provided with water."

SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA:—" May I know whether the Government is sufficiently impressed with the necessity of providing protected water-supply to Mangalore, where there is filaria? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" A representation was received from the residents of Mangalore that filaria was rampant in that town and that a scheme to provide protected water-supply should be worked out. That scheme also is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I enquire whether there is any priority list in respect of water-supply? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" A compendium of provincial requirements has been drawn up wherein priority is given according to the necessity of each place."

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—" Are steps being taken to test water in the protected wells from time to time to ensure that it is fit for consumption by the rural population? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" If the water is found to be brackish, the test suggested by the hon. Member may be carried out."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether changing the order in the priority list according to the necessity that has arisen now is under the consideration of the present Government? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Sometimes it is done. Places which are far down in the compendium will be given precedence over others wherever there is demand."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" I think Mr. N. S. Varadachariar's question was not answered properly. His question was whether there was any arrangement to test the water in the protected wells from time to time to see if it is fit for human consumption."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Tests are not being carried out now, but the officers will be asked to carry out tests wherever necessary."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that pumping sets have not been

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supplied to the Calicut Municipality for its protected water-supply scheme, and enquire when they will be supplied? The work has been held up for the last three years?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"In fact, pumping sets are required for ever so many other municipalities. I can quote the instance of Pollachi where pumping sets had been ordered years ago. On account of lack of shipping accommodation, and the difficulty of securing the necessary pumping sets, pipes and other materials required to promote water-supply schemes, the Government were not able to carry out the schemes."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government as a rule, undertake the testing of water used by people in the various parts of the Province to see whether it is fit for human consumption?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, Sir, the suggestion will be carried out."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I enquire whether any representation had been received from the Dharmapuri Revenue Division for changing the priority list of water-supply?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Notice."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I enquire whether the Hon. Minister is aware that in Penukonda, the Divisional headquarters, drinking water is supplied in lorries every year?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Notice, Sir."

P. P. HASSAN KOYA SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether it is a fact that the pumping sets ear-marked for the Calicut Municipality and which arrived in Madras were snatched away by some other municipality?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I am not aware of it."

* 123 Q. to 135 Q.

Formation of Food Committees.

* 136 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the formation of Food Committees, much partisan spirit prevailed and no proper representation was given to different political sections and labouring classes and communities;

(b) how many of the Food Committee members are Congress and how many non-Congress;

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(c) whether it is a fact that the Revenue Divisional Officer, Guntur, has written to the Tahsildar of Guntur, inquiring why Mr. A. Ranga Rao, a Communist, was taken into the Food Committee;

(d) whether it is the policy of the Government to exclude the Communists from the Food Committees;

(e) whether it is a fact that in the formation of Taluk and District Food Committees through elections, no proper representation was or could be given to minority sections of political and labouring communities;

(f) what measures the Government propose to take to guarantee proper representation to all sections of thought both in District and Taluk Food Committees;

(g) whether the Government propose to increase the number of seats in the Food Committees in big cities and towns to ensure proper representation to all sections of people;

(h) whether the Government propose to give direct representation for City and Town Food Committees in the District Food Committees; and

(i) whether the Government are aware of the fact that during the formation of Village Food Committees, after publicly announcing the names of the members of the Committees by the concerned Tahsildars, the names are again changed?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—" (a) No such representation has been made to the Government.

" (b) The information is being called for. All the committees were formed only recently and the information has to be obtained in respect of more than 22,000 committees. It takes some time to collect it.

" (c) The name A. Ranga Rao seems to be a mistake for Sri N. V. Ranga Rao of Mangalagiri. It is not true to say that the Revenue Divisional Officer wrote to the Tahsildar of Guntur inquiring why Mr. Ranga Rao, a Communist, was taken into the Food Committee. The Tahsildar proposed the name of Sri N. V. Ranga Rao to Mangalagiri committee. This was objected to by the villagers before the Revenue Divisional Officer. The Revenue Divisional Officer asked the Tahsildar to report whether Ranga Rao was a native of Mangalagiri, what his status was, and whether he was an agriculturist or businessman. As it was reported that he had no interest at Mangalagiri and though he was living there, he absented himself from the village frequently, he was not finally selected for the committee.

" (d) No. It is not the policy of the Government to exclude the Communists from the Food Committees, nor any instructions have been issued by the Government to this effect.

" (e) The Government have no information. Members of the Legislatures are already ex-officio members of the Taluk and District Food Committees. In order to give adequate

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representation for minority communities and other important interests including labour, provision has been made for co-option of two members to the Taluk Committee, and up to five members to the District Committee.

"(f) In view of the answer above, the question does not arise. As regards village committees the intention of the Government is that they should consist of representatives and influential men in whom the villagers have confidence. The Government have issued necessary instructions to the effect that they should be representative of all interests and fair and equitable representation should be given to Scheduled Castes and Muslims.

"(g) Yes. In municipalities and panchayat towns, where statutory rationing is in force the existing Rationing Advisory Committees have been ordered to be enlarged as follows to perform the functions of village committees:—

- (1) Rationing Officer.
- (2) One or two representatives of wholesale dealers.
- (3) One or two representatives of retail dealers.
- (4) One representative of establishments.
- (5) One representative from each ward in the municipality or panchayat.
- (6) The resident members of Legislatures of the locality.

"(h) Yes. In the case of towns with a population of 50,000 and more the Rationing Advisory Committees have been permitted to elect one representative from its non-official members to the District Committee.

"(i) The Government have no information that the names of village committee members were changed by concerned Tahsildars after public announcement. If there were any such changes, they should have been due to complaints and orders passed on them, by higher authorities."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"With reference to the reply to clause (c), are the Government aware that Mr. Ranga Rao is the president of the labour union there and as such a representative person, and may I enquire whether his name has been purposely omitted due to the intervention of some interested parties?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are not aware. There was one Ranga Rao mentioned, about whom there is a detailed answer."

SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Government how many deaths have occurred in the food committee elections?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Government have no information."

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Are the Government aware that not even a single Harijan member has come into the taluk food committees?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are not aware, Sir."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that there are practically no Muslims in the taluk and district food committees except the local Muslim M.L.A.s and may I know what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are not aware. The second part of the question is hypothetical."

M. A. MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are the Government satisfied that the representation of minorities in the village, taluk and district committees is real and effective or is it not?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"As far as the Government are aware, their representation is real and effective."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact that the Government have issued orders to the Collectors of various districts to nominate persons to the district food committees?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Yes, the Government have issued orders."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is it a fact that for the Kistna District Food Committee, not a single Muslim, Harijan or Communist has been selected?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have allowed nomination of a few members to the district food committees to give representation to communities that are not already represented there."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in the instructions to the Collectors of districts regarding nomination of persons to these committees, have the Government asked them to appoint a particular set of persons?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"No. It has not been mentioned in the instructions that a particular set of persons must be nominated."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of nominating to the food committees the district board members of the locality from the minority communities?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Already there is provision that the local M.L.A.s and M.L.C.s are ex-officio members, and power is also given to nominate a few persons

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to represent any community not already represented. The Government have not thought fit to make any suggestion regarding district board members."

SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO:—"Is it not a fact that for the Guntur District Food Committee, two Harijans, two Christians, one Muslim and two ladies belonging to Harijan and Indian Christian Communities were nominated?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Since the hon. Member says that, and he comes from that district, that must be correct."

MOHAMED RAFEEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If, on proper enquiry, the Government are satisfied that there are no Muslims on the Taluk Food Committees, will they nominate one or two Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The suggestion will be considered, and the proper thing will be done."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the general grievances of the minorities including the Communists so far as these food committees are concerned, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to ask the Collectors to send a report community-wise of the members of the various food committees and place it on the table of this House?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is not correct to say that there is grievance on the part of a number of communities including the Communists. The Government do not think it necessary to call for a report."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether the Government have not received many such complaints regarding the composition of these committees, at least from the Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have received a few complaints, but I am not in a position to say about what particular matter the complaints are. They will be attended to."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I ask whether, between the supply officers and the food committees, there has been very little procurement and practically no supply to the village depots and that consequently the poorer sections of the population are going without food in the Kurnool district, and whether the Government would take steps to remedy this situation?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The hon. Member may remember that the Village Food Committee has nothing to do with supply. It is the Supply Officer who has to arrange supply to the retail ration shops. The Village Committees only supervise the work. As a result of a quarrel between the two, it cannot be possible that any retail shop does not get its supply."

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SRI KALLUR SUBBA RAO:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has any information from the Collector of Cuddapah that one Hanumantha Reddi was murdered on the day of the elections simply because there were two Hanumantha Reddis in the village of Guntur in the Pulivendla taluk of the Cuddapah district, because the Tahsildar nominated a member Hanumantha Reddi without father's name and the Hanumantha Reddi alive was declared a member of the committee?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It is a very good method of disposing of possible rivals. But the Government do not know about this fact till now."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the answer of the Hon. Minister that certain communities are already represented, I believe that the Government have in possession information to that effect. May I request the Hon. Minister to place the information on the table of the House?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If a separate question is put, I shall place the answer on the table of the House."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Is it not a fact that communal representation is not observed in regard to the constitution of Village, Taluk and District Committees?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Communal representation as such is not encouraged or observed. But all the interests of the village are expected to be fully represented."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister is satisfied from the working of Taluk District Committees, that they have done very real and useful work in the course of the last six months?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government are fully satisfied that they are turning out very good work."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister stated that the principle of communal representation is not observed with regard to the composition of these committees and he spoke of certain interests. May I know how he came by a definition of these interests?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"What I meant was this: if there is in a village a sufficient number of Muslims and Harijans and if they are left out when nominations are made, it is the duty of the Government to see that they are also represented so that the village may be effectively represented."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Can the Government say that they have not accepted the principle of communal representation with regard to these committees?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The answer is there; the hon. Member is free to think whether it is communal representation or effective representation of all interests."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it a fact that on account of the allegations against certain members of Food Committees that they were interfering or having something to do with ration shops, the Food Committees were dissolved?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If there had been complaints against any member that he was not a desirable man on the Food Committee, of course he might have been removed. Suppose one or two undesirable members got into the Food Committee, the Committee itself would not be dissolved; those members will be replaced by proper members."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether there was a recent case like that?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The necessity did not arise for a Committee to be dissolved for the sake of one or two men."

[SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know whether the Government is aware that Food Committees have converted themselves into Joint-stock Banks and as a result of that, the worst sufferers are Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government is not aware and such a thing cannot happen also."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the decision of the Government to see that various interests are properly represented on these Food Committees, what action has the Government taken with regard to complaints which have been received by the Government in that respect so far?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Whenever the Government have received complaints, they have been attended to and necessary changes have been made."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"With regard to the specific case, may I know what the Government has done with reference to the happenings in regard to the Kadayanallur Food Committee?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"It requires notice."

[SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"Is it the opinion of the Government that the Food Committees are successfully working?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"There is no doubt about it. They are working successfully."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to place before the House a statement as to the working of the Food Committees?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"If the hon. Member puts a separate question regarding that point and if necessary a statement will be placed before the House."

SRI A. RAYAPPA:—"May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has decided at all to visit the Ceded districts, especially Anantapur, and find out the working of the Food Committees and see whether bad foodstuff which is unfit for human consumption, is supplied?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"I shall take the earliest opportunity to visit the Ceded districts to see the quality of food that is supplied to the people. But that does not depend on the constitution of the Food Committee itself."

ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister knows that the Board of Revenue has sent instructions to the District Collectors that these Food Committees are merely advisory in character and if so, whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to issue instructions that they are also executive in their nature?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Food Committees are advisory and they are expected also to supervise. They are not really executive to a very large extent. However a report shall be called for and necessary attention paid."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"As it has been alleged that the Food Committees have turned into Joint Stock Companies for supply of food to the country, will the Government note the point and see whether there is any such misuse?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have no information and cannot state that they are working as Joint Stock Banks; there may be joint stock opinion about things. The Government shall take note of the point."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether all the Committees that have been formed in the province have been constituted in accordance with the Government Order issued under that head?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The presumption is that they have been formed according to the Government Order. Wherever there have been objections, they have been attended to."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"What is the period of life for these Food Committees—one year or more than one year?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The life of these Committees has not been definitely fixed."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"In view of numerous complaints from the mufassal districts, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of restricting the period of Food Committees to one year so that he might have opportunities of reconstituting the Food Committees of districts from which complaints come?"

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"That suggestion shall be considered."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before forming these committees, did the Tahsildar or whoever it may be, convene a meeting of the people of the village in that place and take their ideas regarding the members to be nominated to these Committees?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The instruction was that they must collect the villagers, take their opinion and nominate members; they have done so, I presume."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the Government is in possession of facts regarding things which have happened contrary to the instructions given by them and do they know that Committees have been formed without consulting people at meetings in the places concerned?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"Whenever there have been complaints, they have been attended to. The Tahsildar was given all instructions and in every case the presumption is that they have been carried out."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether in the case of the Chirala Food Committee, the Tahsildar decided the personnel at Bapatla, a place 12 miles away?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON:—"The Government have no information."

Number of Muslim officers in Malabar district.

* 137 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number, in Malabar district, of Assistant Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, Tahsildars, Revenue Divisional Officers, Taluk Supply Officers, Assistant Taluk Supply Officers, Deputy District Supply Officers, First, Second and Third-class Magistrates, District Educational Officers, District Agricultural Officers, District Veterinary Officers and District Health Officers; and

(b) the number of Muslims under each category?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement placed on the table of the House. The statement shows the state of affairs in October 1946."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that there is a very low—tragically low—percentage of representations of Muslims in the Malabar district in spite of the fact that they form one-third of the population there, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to redress their grievances?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The matter will be attended to after close examination."

* Printed as Appendix I on page 666 infra.

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Honorary officers in the Fire Service.

* 138 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of honorary officers who were working during the war in the Fire Service;

(b) how many of them were Non-Brahmans, Muslims, Christians and Brahmins;

(c) how many of them were appointed as Gazetted Officers and to which community they belong;

(d) the number of Gazetted Officers in the Madras Fire Service, the names and the community to which they belong; and

(e) whether it is a fact that three more officers are going to be appointed and if so, whether the communal Government Order will be followed?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) 79.

" (b) 11 Non-Brahmans, 3 Muslims, 10 Christians, 15 Brahmins, 1 Parsi and 39 Europeans.

" (c) Three of them have been appointed as District Officers (gazetted) in the Madras Fire Services. One belongs to the Andhra-Brahman community, another to the Non-Brahman community and the third to the Muslim community.

" (d) 18—their names and community are given in the statement placed on the table of the House.

" (e) The first twelve officers were appointed during war time. The last named six officers, have been appointed recently. All the six, excepting one are war service candidates. The posts of officers in the Madras Fire Services are not at present governed by any Statutory Service Rules and the communal rules do not apply to the filling up of vacancies reserved for war service candidates. However, now that the Fire Service has come to stay as a permanent feature of the Provincial Government's administration it is proposed to issue separate Statutory Service Rules for the service shortly when the question of applying all the rules including the communal rule to appointments in the service will be considered. The question of appointing some more officers is under consideration but no decision has been taken as to the number to be appointed."

Specialists in the Provincial Medical Service.

* 139 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) to place on the table of the House a list of senior specialists showing the date of their retirement and also stating

* Printed as Appendix II on page 667 infra.

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whether there are at present in the Provincial Medical Service junior specialists to take the place of the seniors when they retire; and

(b) to state whether Government are taking any steps to train officers in the Provincial Medical Service to take the place of senior specialists as and when they retire?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) A statement* showing the information is laid on the table.

“(b) The Government have taken certain steps in this matter. The question as to how many more should be trained can be decided only after the Madras Public Service Commission has selected candidates for regular appointment.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“In view of the starting of new Medical Colleges will the Hon. Minister for Public Health consider the desirability of training persons to take up senior specialists' posts, which I hope will arise very shortly?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I admit, Sir, that a necessity will arise to appoint well-trained senior specialists in the newly started colleges at Madura and Guntur.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that Provincial Medical Service men and men who have passed out of our Medical Colleges are capable of being trained for these posts, by deputing them to countries abroad?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The Provincial Government have already deputed those in service for specialization in certain subjects, so that when they return, they may be appointed for suitable specialists' posts.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“Will the Hon. Minister for Public Health give an assurance that she will not take unnecessarily I.M.S. men for these posts?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“When suitable provincial officers belonging to the Madras Provincial Medical Service are available, there will be no question of taking into consideration the appointment of I.M.S. officers. The question of abolishing the Civil Branch of the Indian Medical Service has already been taken up by the Secretary of State for India.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“Will the Government consider the desirability of appointing senior private medical practitioners as honorary specialists, if they are able to find suitable men from among private practitioners?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Yes, Sir, that proposal will be considered.”

* Printed as Appendix III on page 668-672 infra.

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government is not aware of the fact that senior men with capacity are available among the Provincial Medical Service men?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Senior medical men with specialist qualifications in the rank of the medical officers are not available, Sir.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I know whether it is a fact that several senior specialists' posts have been vacant during the last five years in the Andhra Medical College at Visagapatam?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Notice, Sir.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know how many Neuro-Surgical Specialists are there in this Province?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I want notice, Sir.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Will the Government be pleased to state whether they will consider specialists for posts merely on the ground that they belong to a particular service, or because they are specialists as such?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Certainly the fact that they are specialists in certain subjects will be given preference.”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—“May I know whether the Government will be pleased to see that more graduates of the Andhra Medical College will be helped to become specialists so that they can take the place of the seniors who are transferred to the Madras Medical College and other Colleges?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“That will be taken into consideration; it cannot be done straightway.”

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—“Are the Government aware that honorary specialists appointed in the mufassal hospitals are not attending to their work properly and regularly and will the Government enquire into the matter?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“If what the hon. Member says is true, a report will be called from the Surgeon-General.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In view of the fact that there is scarcity of specialists in most of the districts, may I know what steps the Government are taking in order to increase the number of specialists in this Province?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The Public Service Commission has been asked to prepare a list for making appointments from war-returned people. The list has not been submitted to the Government as yet and I dare say that there will be many specialists in that list.”

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Alleged sale of certain dynamos by the President, District Board, Guntur.

* 140 Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the President, District Board, Guntur, got the sale of certain dynamos approved at a low bid for his own use though the District Health Officer was not in favour of the sale;

(b) if so, how the Director of Public Health came to approve the sale ignoring the District Health Officer's view; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action against the Director of Public Health and the President, District Board, Guntur?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) One old cinema projector with its generator was sold in public auction by the President, District Board, Guntur, to one Sri P. Satyanarayana of Brodiepet and the sale was confirmed by the Director of Public Health as the offer was considered reasonable. There was no intimation from the District Health Officer, Guntur, to the Director of Public Health that he was not in favour of the sale.

“(b) & (c) Do not arise.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“May I know the relationship of a district board president to a dynamo?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“There is in fact no connection between a dynamo and a district board president, but the district board president was asked to auction out an old generator and an old cinema projector and in accordance with the direction of the Government, he put it to public auction.”

Specialist appointments in the Government Medical Colleges.

* 141 Q.—SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA (on behalf of Sri A. B. Shetty): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of specialist appointments in the three existing Government Medical Colleges are;

(b) whether any of them recently fell vacant; and

(c) whether there are suitably qualified persons in the Provincial Medical Service for filling such vacancies?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 139.

“(b) The following specialist appointments fell vacant:—

(i) Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Medical College, Madras,

(ii) Research Officer, Pharmacological Unit, Medical College, Madras, and

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(iii) Professor of Pharmacology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.

“(c) The first was a leave vacancy for a period of four months. The permanent incumbent has returned to duty on the expiry of the leave. The question of filling the post of Research Officer, Pharmacological Unit, Medical College, Madras, is under consideration. The post of Professor of Pharmacology, Stanley Medical College, Madras, is now held by the Professor of Pharmacology, Medical College, Madras, in addition to his duties as a temporary measure.”

Provincial Medical Officers for the new Medical Colleges at Madura and Guntur.

* 142 Q.—SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA (on behalf of Sri A. B. Shetty): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state whether sufficient number of suitably qualified Provincial Medical Officers are at present available for staffing the two newly started Medical Colleges at Madura and Guntur?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Two Professors and two Assistant Professors in Anatomy and two Professors and two Assistant Professors in Physiology are required for the first M.B.B.S. class. A qualified officer is available for appointment as Professor of Physiology. The post of Assistant Professors can be filled from the existing staff in the cadre of Assistant Surgeons. For the other posts, namely, two Professors in Anatomy and one in Physiology, qualified officers are not available at present. It is expected that a few officers will acquire the prescribed qualifications in the near future. Meanwhile temporary arrangements can be made. The question of the suitability of the officers will be considered when the time for appointment arises.”

Starting of a micaite industry at Gudur.

* 143 Q.—MOHAMED RAFAEUDIN AHMED ANSARI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are great possibilities of starting a micaite industry at Gudur;

(b) and if so, what steps the Government propose to take to start the industry;

(c) whether the Government, in view of the growing importance and value of mica, propose to replace the Mica Inspector by an officer of a higher cadre;

(d) whether it is a fact that the conditions of wages, water facilities, sanitation and housing accommodation of mica labourers are unsatisfactory; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to appoint a fact-finding committee of two or three members of the Legislature and representatives of the mica workers?

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) There are possibilities of starting a micanite industry in Gudur.

“(b) The Government understand that efforts are being made by private enterprise to start a factory under the name, the Micanite and Mica Products Company, Limited, at Gudur, for the manufacture of micanite and micanite products. In view of this there is no need for Government to take any special steps in this direction.

“(c) The Mica Enquiry Committee constituted by the Government of India to enquire into and report on all problems relating to the mica industry has envisaged the establishment of an Inspectorate of Mica Mines. The views of the Government of India on the Committee's recommendations are awaited and until they are received the *status quo* will continue.

“(d) It is reported that water facilities, sanitation, etc., for mica labourers are generally satisfactory. The adequacy or otherwise of the existing wages of mica labourers is being examined by the Government.

“(e) In view of the fact that the Central Mica Enquiry Committee has recently made exhaustive enquiries about the industry, there is no need for another Committee.”

Dearness allowance for co-operative employees.

* 144 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representations that the employees of co-operative institutions are not being paid dearness allowance on a par with the Government servants though the institutions have been paying all allowances to Government servants whose services have been taken under foreign service conditions?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“No specific representation to this effect has been received. Certain requests for bettering the service conditions of the non-official employees of co-operative institutions have been received and they are under examination.

“I have had three questions for the last ten days on this subject from the hon. Member and I have now repeated my answer.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“In view of the fact that the hon. Member has asked three questions on this subject, we shall pass on to the next question.”

Mill cloth for Malabar.

* 145 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of bales of mill cloth allotted to Malabar specially for “Id”;

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(b) the number of bales that actually reached Malabar;

(c) the number of bales that were actually distributed;

(d) the number of bales of mill cloth allotted to Malabar specially for Onam;

(e) the number of bales of mill cloth that actually reached Malabar for Onam; and

(f) the number of bales of mill cloth that were actually distributed for Onam?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“No special allotment was made for either of the festivals, Ramzan or Onam. What was attempted was to confine distribution to the members of the respective communities who observed the festivals to enable them to buy cloth for the festivals. The information required is furnished below:—

“(a) 410 bales.

“(b) 421 do.

“(c) 421 do.

“(d) 2,423 do.

“(e) 1,443 do.

“(f) 1,443 do.

“The comparatively large quantity available for distribution during Onam was due to the fact that the special efforts made to rush supplies for Ramzan bore fruit only after the festival was over. These supplies were available for distribution at the time of Onam which came off on 8th September 1946.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask, Sir, on what basis the quantities of cloth are allotted for each district? Is it on population basis or any other basis?”

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

Sale of communal lands and ‘A’ register porambokes.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that communal lands and ‘A’ register porambokes are being sold away by the Zamindar of Challapalli in his estate as his personal property, thus depriving the people of the villages of their rights in those lands;

(b) whether it is a fact that serious unrest prevails in zamindari villages like Kosuru, Palankipadu, Yeddanapudi, Kodali, Chinakallepalli, etc., in Challapalli estate because the zamindar has encroached upon their rights and is trying to sell away the communal land and ‘A’ register porambokes as private lands; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take action to prevent such acts by the zamindars?

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"(a) The Government have received complaints about the sale of communal lands by the zamindar of Chellapalli. From a report submitted by the Collector of Kistna, the Government understand that no poramboke land was sold in Palankipadu, Kodali and Chinakallepalli. Sales took place in Kosuru and Yeddadanapudi villages. The Collector is enquiring whether the sale in Kosuru is of poramboke land. The lands sold in Yeddadanapudi were three bits of poramboke land which are not required for the purpose for which they were originally set apart.

"(b) The Government are not aware of any unrest in these villages.

"(c) Under section 21 of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, any person occupying communal lands in estates for any purpose other than that for which they are so set apart, may at any time within 30 years be summarily evicted by the Collector in the manner provided by the Land Encroachment Act, 1905. Collectors have been asked to see that prompt action is taken under this section to evict the occupants of communal lands in estates."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is the Government aware that the police is going to the rescue of zamindars in occupying the land?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"No, Sir, I am not aware of it."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, whether the Government will be pleased to assume management of all these zamindaris and other estates falling under the Estates Land Act immediately, so that there may be no trouble between the zamindars and the ryots?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"This is too big a question to be answered just now Sir."

Alleged orders for stay of proceedings of a miscellaneous nature during war.

* 147 Q.—**SRI G. VENKATA REDDI:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Revenue Board during war period has passed orders to stay proceedings of a miscellaneous nature in the Revenue courts till the cessation of war; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to instruct the Revenue Board to cancel such orders?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"(a) & (b) The Board of Revenue has not issued any orders of the kind referred to."

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Repairs to tanks in Tiruvur taluk, Kistna district.

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

(a) the number of tanks in Tiruvur taluk, Kistna district, for the repairs to which estimates are ready and the number of tanks for which levels were taken; and

(b) whether and if so in how many cases notices had been served on the landholders and zamindars in Tiruvur taluk, Kistna district, for executing repairs to the tanks and whether and if so in how many cases further action has been taken on such notices?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"(a) Estimates were prepared for carrying out repairs to 50 irrigation works in the Tiruvur taluk under the Madras Irrigation Works (Repairs, Improvement and Construction) Act, 1943. Action can be taken under this Act only if there is scope for increasing the production of food crops. Out of the 50 works for which estimates were prepared, only 24 were eligible for action under the Act. Of these 24 works, action in respect of 11 had to be taken by the Public Works Department and in respect of the remaining 13 by the Revenue Department.

"The Muniyuru Public Works Subdivision in which Tiruvur taluk lies comprises a vast area and investigation of the tanks has to be carried out on Tank Restoration Scheme lines. The question of employing a special staff for carrying out repairs to the 11 works which are to be attended to by the Public Works Department is under consideration.

"(b) Administrative notices were issued in respect of all the 13 works regarding which action had to be taken by the Revenue Department. The proprietors agreed to execute repairs to six works. They executed repairs to two of them and the repairs to the remaining four works were under execution in September 1946. Statutory notices were issued in respect of six of the remaining seven works. The repairs for these works could not, however, be executed on account of rain."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We will now spend five more minutes on questions and finish them."

Amalgamation of Public Works Department and Highways Department.

* 149 Q.—**SRI U. PADMANABHA MALLAYYA** (on behalf of Sri A. B. Shetty): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with the Government for the amalgamation of the Public Works Department and the Highways Department; and

(b) if so, for what reasons?

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THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“(a) A proposal to this effect is under consideration.

“(b) There is at present acute shortage of engineers in the province and the proposal for an amalgamated cadre of engineers in the Public Works and Highways Departments, with one central agency for recruitment and allocation of engineers to the different departments, is being considered with a view to the employment of the available engineering personnel to the best advantage, in the development of the province.”

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—“Sir, in view of the paucity of engineers, may I ask the Government whether they will consider the desirability of entering into an agreement with the graduates that will come out of the Engineering Colleges, so that they may not take up service in other provinces?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“That is not possible, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, in view of the fact that there is a paucity in the number of engineers, as stated by the Hon. Minister, may I know whether the Government are taking any steps to increase the number as early as possible?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“I am unable to understand what the hon. Member means by number, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I thought the Minister was answering question 150.”

Alleged inadequacy of the Engineering staff in Kurnool district.

* 150 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inadequacy of the Engineering staff in the Kurnool district at present; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“(a) The Chief Engineers to Government have reported that the Engineering staff in the Kurnool district is adequate at present.

“(b) The question does not arise in view of the answer to clause (a) above. If there is any inadequacy of staff in the future, the Chief Engineer (General) will take suitable steps to meet the situation.”

Re-opening of the port of Point Calimere for foreign trade and communications.

* 151 Q.—SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to reopen the minor port of Point Calimere for foreign trade and communications; and

(b) if so, what are they?

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

“(b) The question of improving the facilities at Point Calimere with a view to opening it as a port for passenger and goods traffic is engaging the attention of Government and steps are being taken to obtain the necessary expert opinion. This Government are also in correspondence with the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon to make the necessary provisions in the Sea Customs Act, the Quarantine Rules, etc.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTIYAH CHETTIYAR of CHETTINAD:—“In the opinion of the Hon. Minister, how long will it take, Sir?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“I cannot say how long it will take. We have to deal with the Government of India and the Ceylon Government and do so many other things.”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTIYAH CHETTIYAR of CHETTINAD:—“In addition to Point Calimere, will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of improving the Tondi Port?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“Before seeing how far we shall be able to succeed in the matter of Point Calimere, we may not be able to take up the question of other ports, Sir.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“In his answer, the Hon. Minister has stated that he is dealing with the Government of India and therefore . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The Government of India and the Ceylon Government.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Yes; with the Government of India more than with the Government of Ceylon; and, therefore, he says it will take a long time. Why does he think so?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“Because, as between this Government dealing with the matter, and our dealing with the Government of India, there is the difference, which means some time.”

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—“May I know, whether the Government is aware that the Government of Ceylon has decided to reopen the ports of Jaffna to have communication with Point Calimere?”

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—“Sometime ago, I read some such news in a Ceylon newspaper and this Government have addressed the Ceylon Government for particulars.”

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Distribution of manure to poor ryots.

* 152 Q.—SRI G. VENKATA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the total quantity and value of the manure intended to be distributed to the poor ryots in each of the districts during the current year?

THE HON. SRI P. S. KUMARASWAMI RAJA:—“The value of the manure intended to be distributed to the poor and deserving ryots free of cost during the current year is Rs. 2,000 (rupees two thousands only) in each district except in the Nilgiris and Vizagapatam districts to which an additional grant of Rs. 2,000 each has been sanctioned. The quantity of manure distributed will depend on the area cultivated by the poor and deserving ryots eligible for the grant.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“At the request of Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, questions 153 and 154 will be taken up to-morrow. We will now pass on to question 155.”

* 153 Q. and 154 Q.—Postponed.

Opening of middle schools under the District Board, Guntur.

* 155 Q.—SRI A. KAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has refused to accord permission for opening the middle schools under the District Board, Guntur, on the ground that the financial position of the Board is not sound;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has issued orders contrary to his previous orders permitting the opening of new middle schools, ignoring the financial difficulties which he himself previously pointed out; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to examine the financial position of the Board with special reference to this matter and issue suitable orders?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“(a) No.

“(b) & (c) The questions do not arise.”

Creation of a Harijan Uplift Department.

* 156 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state whether the Government propose to create a separate Harijan Uplift Department under a Harijan Officer of District Collector's grade with District Harijan Welfare Officers of Gazetted rank to assist him to co-ordinate and speed up the scheme of Harijan Uplift?

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The matter is under consideration.”

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“May I know from the Government, how long it will take for them to come to a decision in this matter?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“As early as possible, a decision will be come to.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing Harijan graduates with political conscience and with social service?”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“The question of appointing labour officers in every district where the Government is going to start this department is under consideration; and the question of recruitment of Harijan graduates also will be considered.”

* 157 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“In view of the fact that there is an elaborate statement before the House, I request you to take up the question to-morrow, Sir.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“All right, the question will be taken up to-morrow.”

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

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* TREATMENT OF PERSONS DETAINED IN VELLORE CENTRAL JAIL UNDER ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1947. 12 noon.

MR. SPEAKER:—“Mr. P. Venkateswarlu has given notice of a motion under rule 36 for adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance. The motion is this:

‘About 120 persons detained under Ordinance I of 1947 are not treated well in Vellore Central Jail. They are not given proper and enough food; no allowance was granted to purchase their own clothing. Their families are starving as no family allowance is given. They are being locked up during nights. To ventilate their grievances, they have already gone on one day hunger-strike. They contemplate going on hunger-strike from March 1st onwards. If this hunger-strike were to materialize, it will be a national disaster. Hence I request the House to discuss this question of the treatment of detenus.’

I enquired of the Government Member and elicited the fact that they are not aware of the impending hunger-strike and further it is not a definite matter of urgent public importance. I therefore rule it out of order.”

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

MR. SPEAKER:—“I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated Fort St. George, the 12th February 1947, has been received by me from the Hon. the President of the Madras Legislative Council:—

‘In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Council Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1947), as passed by the Council on the 11th February 1947 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Assembly.’

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IV.—THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

MR. SPEAKER:—"The next item on the agenda is the debate on the City Municipality Bill."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons the Hon. Minister for Local Administration has stated that there is need for providing representation to the residents of the new areas which have now become part of the City. I can understand that. He has also stated that minorities and women have to get sufficient representation; but in so far as representation of the mercantile community is concerned, he has not given any explanation as to why he considers that the present representation should be curtailed. Sir, I echo the sentiments of Sir Stuart Town that a day would soon come when all thoughts of communal representation would go and reservation of seats would be abolished; but, situated as we are, I can understand the Minister's attempt to provide representation for the minorities. But in the case of merchants, I must bring to the notice of this hon. House that there are five seats now; and these five seats have now been reduced to two. Is it because, Sir, that mercantile interests have grown up much more now, that these seats are being reduced? I want to point out how the mercantile community forms a very important link in the production of the national wealth of this country. More and more business interests have come up now since the last representation was given to the mercantile community. It is a fact that is recognized in all countries that the merchants are a very important link. That is why, Sir, we get representation in the Port Trust, in the Railway Board and in the Improvement Trust. I have always said that the mercantile community is the backbone of society and Sir, even in England during war-time, mercantile men were put in charge of the various production drives. That was because the Home Civil Service was not able to arrive at urgent decisions in regard to the various problems coming up day after day. Sir, when stamp fees are raised, we go and ask the advocates for opinion as to how it will affect the litigant public. So also when trade interests come up before public bodies like the Assembly or the Corporation, the merchants must have a voice in dealing with such questions. For instance, when, say a tax is to be levied on timber, which comes into the City of Madras, the mercantile man knows whether it is desirable or it is not desirable. When the tax comes up for argument in a council, councillors who are people's representatives say 'well, it is all to the good. The merchant is going to pay the tax.' But I say, Sir, it is not so. It is the public that will have to pay the tax, and to that extent the man who has specialized in the trade gives the proper direction either in the City Council or in the Legislative Assembly.

"Again, Sir, I find that in the case of European representation, the Government have brought it down from six to two. I now see that according to Mr. Town, there is no European representation; because I understand from him that Indian merchants are also members of the Madras Chamber of Commerce. Now, Sir,

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if the Madras Chamber who, for all purposes, we took to be representing only British interests, get two seats, I say that the Indian mercantile community who are at least ten times as great as the Europeans, ought to get more. Instead of giving Indians more seats, the Government have thought it fit to bring it down to two seats. To give equal representation to two bodies with unequal numbers in these days of democracy, is, to put it mildly, most unjust. Even seats in the Constituent Assembly are allotted according to numbers. Sir, the Hon. Ministers have been making speeches all over the province; one Minister began condemning the middlemen; another Minister said that black-market thrives only on account of the merchants. Sir, we have always maintained that the merchant is not the real black-marketeer. It is the middleman that always does the black-marketing; for instance, if there is a car available, the middleman goes and buys the car and sells it at a fabulous price. It is so in the case of every article.

"These talks of the Ministers coupled with the restriction now proposed for representation in the City Council causes a sort of suspicion in the minds of the merchants that the administration is unfriendly to the mercantile community. As I said, Sir, the mercantile community keeps the pulse of public opinion and it is very uncharitable that the merchants, who are trying to do their best to improve the national wealth of the country and thus raise the standard of the people, should be dealt with so badly. 12-15 p.m.

"Sir, it may be said that whereas Europeans in the old days had only five seats, you have brought them down to two. If the Indian mercantile community were given less in the old days and the Europeans were given more, then it is a wrong which has got to be righted now, particularly at a time when we are depending on a popular Government.

"Sir, I think I have nothing more to say except this; there is a feeling of nervousness amongst the mercantile community, and they are feeling that the Government is against them and this feeling ought to go. I maintain that merchants have done their very best in supporting the present popular Government and that they would always be willing to support any reasonable measure. I say the merchant is a very important man who understands what the general public wants and who can give guidance now and then to the administrators. It is very unfair that the representation that is now had by the various Chambers of Commerce, including the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, should be reduced. If it is not possible for the Government to give more seats to that body, I appeal to them to see that at least the seats that they have now are retained, so that the Indian mercantile community can have its influence on the conduct of the proceedings of the Corporation of Madras."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIAR OF CHETTI-NAD:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, after all the much debated City Municipal Amendment Bill regarding the constitution of the Corporation Council has come up before this House. Personally, I feel,

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Sir, that this Bill need not be rushed through now. I could have understood it the Hon. Minister for Local Administration had introduced it some time last September or before the last Mayoral election. Now, Sir, by amending the constitution just at this period of the year, I think it will be interfering with the normal course to which the Madras citizens and the Councillors of the Corporation are accustomed to, because elections which are going to be held in April will be rather odd under this Bill. I would even now plead with the Hon. Minister that though he may pass this Bill to-day, he may consider seriously the question of deferring action being taken regarding elections to somewhere about August-September, in which case, he may have to extend the lifetime of the present councillors till about November, when normally the Mayoral election is held. Let not the Hon. Minister understand that I am putting forward a special plea for the present incumbent of the Mayoral Chair. Sir, we have been accustomed to extensions and as the Hon. Minister is aware, the Central Assembly has been extended for 14 years and that this Assembly itself was reconstituted after nine years and so these are days of extensions and expansive days. I do not think he will grudge a few more months' extension for, it would be a matter of convenience. It will not take more than a few minutes to put forward an amending Bill to extend the lifetime of the present council. I believe also that even without an amending Bill, this Government have power to extend the term.

"The main object of this Bill is the reconstitution of the council and we are not dealing with the other sections of the Act. In this connexion, I may mention here that there was a comprehensive legislation about ten years ago and I was the Chairman of the Select Committee which sat for about thirty days continuously in considering the provisions of that Bill. I, therefore, suggest to the Hon. Minister that though he may not bring forward legislation in regard to other matters, I would on this occasion urge upon him to consider seriously the question of amending the existing Municipal Act in view of the fact that it is more than ten years old and that now we have a City with a bigger area, practically double its previous extent. It may be necessary, Mr. Speaker, for the Government to consider the advisability of amending certain provisions of the existing Act and I hope that in due time, the Hon. Minister will come forward with a comprehensive legislation for amending the City Municipal Act. For, it should not be said, when we are dealing with this particular Bill, that the Government and the citizens of Madras are only interested in increasing the number of seats in the City Council from 45 to 65 though it is also necessary in the circumstances.

"If, Mr. Speaker, I speak on this occasion for special representation of communities and interests, I should not be accused of being partial to them. I only justify my statement by saying that this is an evil which has been continued for forty years and that it has not been proved as an evil in practical working for.

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I know the Councillors of the Corporation of Madras who represent various institutions and special interests have had the peculiar advantage of dealing with the problems that came up before the Corporation Council. It is an open secret that the Councillors representing the various divisions have necessarily to speak about their divisions: times without number, time and again, day after day we have seen that they always vote in a parochial manner. When the Council takes a vote on the divisional allotment, you find it is the European Group, the Indian Christian representatives and the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce that take a dispassionate view, and especially on financial matters, considering the availability of funds, they bring forth into the discussion a dispassionate view and sometimes, I may say, they were successful in bringing home to the members the reasonableness of their point of view.

"In regard to the representation of the various interests in the City Council, my hon. Friend representing the Indian Chamber of Commerce forcibly put before you the position of the mercantile community; they have a real interest in the Corporation, they contribute to the revenues of the Corporation to a very great extent. He gave the example of timber tax. It is not a tax on timber merchants but it is a tax on people who want to build houses. It is a tax just like the sales tax brought forward by the Hon. Sri C. Rajagopalachari in 1937 who was then Finance Minister. I submit that it should not be a tax imposed on those who want to build houses. Therefore, when such taxation measures are brought up before the Corporation Council, it is the merchants, who import large quantities of timber and it is not the people who purchase timber for purposes of house-building—though the tax may pass on to these people—it is the merchants who can effectively put forth the case of the mercantile community and I have no doubt, the Council will think twice before deciding the rate of tax and therefore justifying the usefulness of representation being given to such special interests. I would plead with the Government that the representation of the mercantile community should not be lowered.

"Sir, I am not going to put forward the plea of my British friends; they have conducted themselves usefully and effectively all these years in the City Corporation. I find that their representation has been reduced from six to two under the new Bill. I am very sorry for it. It may be that the European Group may not ask for more representation, but I shall not be sorry if they are given more representation than the two given, for, they have functioned in the past in such a manner that they deserve more representation. They have not shown any special favour to anybody and they have also considerable interest. I wish to strengthen my argument by pointing out how the representatives of the European community, the Indian Christians and the commercial interests have behaved themselves in the past. They have behaved themselves very well in the City Corporation. (Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'They have behaved well in the country also.')"

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My friend Mr. Gopala Reddi says that they have behaved themselves well in the country. What a pleasing statement coming from an ex-Minister of the Congress Government? He gives a good hit on the eve of their quitting India. It is very pleasing to hear Mr. Gopala Reddi saying that the Europeans had rendered a good account of themselves in the country. Such people are really dubbed as reactionaries, but I am very glad that my hon. Friend has joined their company and thereby removed the word 'reactionary' from our dictionary.

"Sir, Mr. Speaker, in the matter of representation, there are two questions to be dealt with; one is the total number of seats and the other is how to get the representatives elected. I find a distinction made here but let me sincerely hope that it is unwittingly done. That is the best way of appealing to the Minister to have it corrected. I find, Sir, the seats for the European community have been reduced. But, still they are asked to elect their representatives separately. Then, there are two seats for the Chambers of Commerce which include Trades Association and the Madras Chamber of Commerce and they are asked to elect their representatives separately. Here I find that all the five Indian Chambers of Commerce are jumbled together. All through, Sir, I think it is not conducive to harmonious working.

"Sir, it is very pleasing to see the resolution before the House not only by non-official members but by the Hon. the Prime Minister that there should be four linguistic provinces in this country and that it has a great prospect of being passed, particularly in view of the fact that the Leader of the House is going to sponsor the resolution in the course of the session. That being so, I consider it is desirable to have representation for the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the South Indian Chamber of Commerce and the other four or five Chambers of Commerce, for, the day is not going to be far off when the separation of the Province is going to take place and it is only fair that these various Chambers functioning separately are represented separately, in order that they may collaborate as much as possible; therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to see that separate representation is given to these separate Chambers. As a matter of fact, the Muslim demand is to have a separate seat for the Muslim Chamber of Commerce. I support this also.

"I find the representation given to the Anglo-Indian Association is for two purposes. That community is functioning properly through an association and they have got a proper representative body. My friend, representing the Anglo-Indian Group, Mr. Fernandez, has put forward effectively the reasons for the continuance of the seats instead of earmarking the seats in a division. Sir, the Anglo-Indian community is a compact community in the City and they can muster their strength at one rally and can discuss matters very freely in the association. With my knowledge of the association, I can confidently say that the association has been functioning usefully and effectively for the last fifty or sixty years. I therefore earnestly plead for the representation

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of the Anglo-Indian community for the association itself, instead of earmarking the seats for them in one of the divisions which will not be acceptable to the community.

"Sir, I do hope that the Government will consider these suggestions in a very sympathetic manner, for, I am making all these suggestions not in a parochial manner. From my experience of the working of the City Corporation I consider that the House should not fight shy of giving more representation to special interests and it is only by doing so, we will be balancing the representation on the City Council. I have no doubt that if the finances of the Corporation have in the past been looked after well, the representatives of the special interests have played a great part in the past and they will play a still greater part in the future. I am sure the Hon. Minister will give serious consideration to the various suggestions put forward in this House."

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the motion of the Hon. Minister for Local Administration because the principle on which this Bill has been prepared is in conflict with and adverse to the demands and aspirations of the Muslims of this Province. In the Bill a certain number of seats has been reserved for Muslims but election to these seats is to be not through the medium of separate electorates, which they have been demanding, but through joint electorates. I am glad to find that the Hon. Minister, being himself a member of a minority community, has recognized the necessity for communal representation. I wish he had gone a little further and recognized also the necessity of representation being granted to the minorities through the system of separate electorates.

"Mr. Speaker, I may point out that the late Moulana Muhammad Ali, whom the Hon. the Premier often quotes, thus declared even at a time when he was a Congressman, when presiding over one of the sessions of the Congress: 'Friends, let me tell you plainly that I do not consider it likely that for some time yet we can afford to dispense with separate electorates.' Look at his words, what did he say? He said that we could not 'afford to dispense with separate electorates.' Those were the words of one who was a Congressman at the time. Later on, he went on to explain what he meant by the expression 'sometime yet.' He explained that that 'sometime' would be a time when the minorities themselves would feel that there would be no necessity for such protection. But, Sir, I am afraid that such a time is not likely to dawn, particularly in a Province such as ours, where the major party is in such overwhelming numbers that they are in a position to crush the minority if they so wish and where in the words of the Persian poet, Omar Khayyam:

'The Moving finger writes and having writ,
Moves on; nor all our Piety nor Wit
Can Lure it back to cancel half a line.'

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Mr. Speaker, when in a Province such as this, the very reasonable and legitimate demand of the Muslims with reference to a simple matter, viz., that they should be afforded facilities for receiving their instruction through the medium of their own mother-tongue—a right for which the Congress clamoured all these years—is brushed aside by a Congress Government, may I ask, is it not pertinent on the part of the Muslims to be sceptical as to whether any justice will be done to them? In a Province like this where the major party is riding rough shod over the sentiments and aspirations of the Muslim community in regard to their educational advancement, one shudders to think what will be the fate of this community in the years to come. Mr. Speaker, is it then reasonable to say that our fears and apprehensions are groundless? It is because Muslims need some protection; it is because some method has to be devised whereby their rights can be safeguarded, that they wish for separate electorates and not because they are actuated by a fissiparous tendency.

"Sir, I understand that the Hon. the Premier is opposed to separate electorates because he says they promote what is called a 'fissiparous tendency'. But, I wish to ask, is it not a fissiparous tendency to seek to establish an Andhra Province out of the existing Province about which the Hon. Premier himself has given notice of a resolution to be moved in this House, when the Andhras and the Tamilians feel the desire for separation, despite the fact that they both belong to the Hindu fold, why should the desire for separate electorates on the part of the Muslims be deprecated. I ask why is it that although the Tamilians and Andhras have lived in this Province for centuries together, the latter should seek to part company with the former? What is the reason for this? When the Andhras demand a separate Province, I find that they are not condemned for their fissiparous tendency; but, when Muslims ask for separate representation, their claim is deprecated and deplored on the ground that it emanates from a fissiparous outlook. After all, when the Andhras who belong to the same culture, to the same religion, as the Tamilians, wish to separate, there can be no reason why the Muslims, whose culture, whose interests are so diverse from those of the Hindus, should not be allowed to seek representation through a system of separate electorates. There is a demand for separate existence and the recognition of their separate interests on the part of Andhras. If this should be conceded, why not then concede the right of the Muslims to have separate representation?

"The Lucknow Pact of 1916 which was made between the representatives of the Hindus and Muslims well known for their patriotism and vision recognized the principle of separate electorates. I do not understand why the Congress is not adhering to that agreement. It is because of the deplorable lack of accommodation, because of lack of vision, because of lack of co-operation and understanding on the part of Congressmen to-day that we find that regrettable, unfathomable abyss dividing the two major communities of the land. The only way, Sir, of cementing that

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cleavage is by the weaving of righteousness in the whole fabric of society. Justice and righteousness, we feel, will prevail with reference to Muslim interests when separate representation is given to them on important bodies. Mr. Speaker, it is a self-evident fact that a Muslim who is returned from a joint electorate will not have the courage to press the claims of his community for fear that he may not be elected on a future occasion. Hence, we want someone without mental reservations who can do justice to the Muslims undaunted by personal considerations. It was mentioned that if Muslims are not elected through joint electorate, they will not have a chance of becoming Chairmen of Municipal Councils and Presidents of District Boards."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Now, we are on the City Municipal Bill and not on the District Municipalities and Local Boards Bill which will be before the House to-morrow, and it will then be time to refer to that."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I am dealing with this point because Mr. Gopala Reddi adverted to it. With reference to the election of Muslims as Presidents of District Boards and Chairmen of Municipal Councils, I may state that a few Muslims can well afford to ignore these officers in the larger interests of the community as a whole. After all, the interests and well-being of the entire body of the people must be taken into account and not those of a handful who might be elected as Chairmen and Presidents of various bodies.

"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated that, in regard to civic affairs, no special communal considerations deserve attention and that all that is necessary for a member of the Corporation of Madras is to be endowed with a sense of citizenship and abundant commonsense. I concede the point that, so far as many of the civic amenities are concerned, the interests of the people of this City are common. It is true that in matters pertaining to roads, sanitation, lighting and water-supply, the interests of the citizens are not varied and that there is no such thing as Hindu water, Muslim drainage or Christian light. But, Mr. Speaker, I may point out that it is not merely drainage, water or lighting with which the Corporation of Madras is concerned. That body has to deal with other important subjects as well, particularly education, which affects the Muslims vitally. The Minister must acknowledge that there is such a thing as a Hindu school, a Muslim school. We have had enough experience of the Education Minister in this House to realize how the educational progress of the Muslims can be jeopardised if they are not vigilant. Education being a subject vitally affecting the well-being and progress of every nation, I am of the opinion that it is very necessary that suitable representatives of the Muslims should find their place in the City Corporation to look after their interests in this regard.

"In the Bill before us, I find that only four seats have been reserved for Muslims whereas on the population basis at least twelve seats should have been allotted to them. The result of this

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reservation, I may point out, will be that the minimum number fixed for the Muslims will become the maximum number for them because no other Muslim will be elected.

"I shall refer to another defect in the Bill and that is with reference to the seats reserved for women. I notice that three seats have been reserved for them but I do not consider that adequate. In this connexion, I am afraid I must differ again from Mr. Gopal Reddi who mentioned that there was no necessity to reserve seats for women at all. It is true that in 1936 four women were returned to the Corporation but since then the number of women in this body has been practically nil. As things stand to-day, there is only one alderwoman in the Corporation of Madras and she is a nominated member."

AN HON. MEMBER:—"That shows the interests they are taking in the Corporation of Madras."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"It is not a question of interest that women are taking, it is a question of opportunities and facilities that should be extended to them. I feel that if seats are reserved, opportunities for women will be greater. It is not every woman who is able to contest a seat against a man. The reservation of seats for women will assure to them the opportunity of contributing their quota to civic welfare. This I think will be good both for the men and women of this land. I may mention that Sir Maharaj Singh, when he visited this city the other day and was given a civic reception by the Mayor of Madras, strongly criticized the Madras Corporation for neglecting women and not giving them due opportunities to contribute their share to civic affairs. I am therefore glad that some seats are being reserved for women, but I am not satisfied with the number. The number three should be raised to five. I do not urge that women should be given representation on the population basis, for that would mean the allotment of 35 seats to them. My demand is modest. What I wish to point out is that it is necessary to give adequate representation to women in the Corporation of Madras, so that they may make their presence and viewpoint felt on a large body of men. It is with this end in view that I suggest that the number of seats reserved for women should be raised to five. With these words, Mr. Speaker, I oppose the motion of the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration."

* RAO SAHIB A. Y. S. PARISUTHA NADAR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the motion of the Hon. Minister is passed, there will be no chance for the Indian Christian community to have the right type of persons as their representatives. Though the present Congress Party has shown its sincerity towards the Indian Christian community in the recent elections by selecting the right persons to represent them, where is the guarantee that it will display the same spirit in the future? Where is the guarantee that any major party which will be in power will show the same spirit? Since we, the Indian Christians, form a small minority in this Province, we must necessarily always be at the mercy of

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the non-Christian majority community to give opportunities for our representations. So, if there is to be no separate electorates, there is always the lurking possibility for renegades from the community entering the local administration and the Legislatures, as our representatives through the help of non-Christian voters of the general electorate. If the Congress Party is really sincere that there should be unity among the various communities, what I would like to suggest is that it should not only allow separate electorates but also bring in more representatives from the Indian Christian community through the General constituencies. I am sure, Sir, that this course will bring in more unity among all communities. Sir, on the contrary, if the proposed amendment is passed, I can emphatically say that the Congress Party is encroaching upon the liberties and fundamental rights of the Indian Christians, of which Catholics form the majority. So, with great regret, I oppose the amendment brought in by the Hon. Minister."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have liked to congratulate the Minister but for the omissions in the amendments. The point for congratulation is he has reduced the number of seats for the commercial interests. Just now, we heard from the member representing the Chamber of Commerce that they are the backbone of the society and I am sorry to say it is they who have broken the backbone of our society during all this period. (A voice: 'Question'). No question. It will always be a question to you but to the people it will be a reality."

"By black-marketing and other activities they have lost the confidence of the people and as a matter of fact they do not even deserve the four seats which can be taken up with the general seats. Even though I feel happy for the fact that their number has been reduced but in reality they do not deserve even these four seats. What interest has the European Group got in India, particularly in the Madras Corporation? After all, their interest is only to remain here as long as possible and grab more profits from our land. Those two seats reserved for them can easily be taken away. Even with regard to the Indian Chamber of Commerce, they do not deserve the two seats allotted to them. I request the Hon. Minister to remove this in the Select Committee and give all the four seats to the populace. Now, as regards the total number of seats which has been increased to 66, I submit, Sir, it is not sufficient. The number should be increased because Madras City is growing in population and hence there must be sufficient and effective representation in the Corporation. The number of seats may still further be increased to 100. Or else Madras Corporation affairs will be like local politics of the Sind Ministry changing every day. To avoid such inconsistency, it is better to increase the number to 100."

"The next important thing, and as far as I remember no other member has raised, is adult franchise. Probably, the Hon. Minister has left this for consideration in his long-term plan. He has not explained what the long-term plan is. Elections are coming and

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going and this is not the first time I have made representations to the Government, to Congress members while they are occupying the Treasury Benches and running the administration of our Province but up till now they have not considered it necessary to introduce adult franchise. On so many platforms, they were advocating this adult franchise. I do not know what reply the hon. Members are going to give when they go to their constituencies. Perhaps they are satisfied with the present electorate, which means, if I am driven to that conclusion, that they represent only 14 per cent of the population. We heard complaints from Mr. Nagappa that his community has not got sufficient representation. Most of the population has not got votes. There is the property qualification and the educational qualification. You know how many people have the educational qualification in our Province and under these two heads most of our people are disenfranchised. The first and foremost duty of a popular Government is to bring in adult franchise. The Congress people were advocating adult franchise since 1935. The fact is that the Cabinet has not considered this subject up till now. Neither in the statement of objects and reasons nor in the speech of the Hon. Minister has any reference been made to this. What is the time they require for this? If they want assistance, people are willing to give them all help gratuitously. They were demanding this reform from the British long ago. When they are now in power and in a position to do so, they have failed to introduce this adult franchise. At least I hope this will be taken up as the first and foremost question by the Select Committee. If the principle of adult franchise is accepted, so many questions that have been raised by so many members would not have been raised at all. Now the Muslims are saying that they have only four seats whereas they should have twelve seats. When adult franchise is introduced, almost all the Muslims will be voters and they will have greater opportunities to send representatives according to their population. There is also the Scheduled Castes and other communities and even Indian Christians. There is a greater case for this reform. Instead of doing this, the Ministry is restricting franchise. In the previous session, I remember, the Minister for Local Boards stated that there was no time. Now it is nine or ten months since then. What I demand is that immediately they must introduce adult franchise. Then only we can think of other reforms. As regards the question of representation in the City Council, it has been discussed whether it is to be on joint electorates or separate electorates. Members representing the minority communities are demanding that there should be separate electorates. There is point in their demand that they must be effectively represented. Population should be the basis of representation. Separate electorates is not the only solution to get a proper representation.

"As a matter of fact, the interests of the masses are the same, whether Muslims or Hindus. There are so many places where workers and poor people are dwelling which are very bad. The same is the case as regards Muslim poor quarters. Common people are suffering, particularly under the class-dominated society.

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Under the extraordinary conditions, the condition of the poor people whether Christians, Muslims or Hindus is the same. The interests of the masses do not differ. If a Muslim member fights for the wants of the poor Muslim masses, he will inevitably and naturally be fighting for the other masses. In the Corporation it is only generally a question of civil liberties and rights; we may be agitating for fresh water-supply and there is nothing political in it. At least we can begin experimenting by giving them effective representation in the Corporation, that is joint electorates with proportional representation and I will explain this more clearly. We will take 10 per cent population or 5 per cent as the unit and then we go to the polls the minimum being guaranteed for each particular unit. The Muslims are 14 per cent and they will get 14 per cent of the seats without any competition.

"They will also have the opportunity of influencing the other 1 per cent votes. Everywhere discussion is going on regarding joint electorates and separate electorates. Everywhere you see minorities are demanding separate electorates. I see in this cry the sign that people are beginning to come to the forefront and they are being 'politicalised'. Everybody wants their interests to be safeguarded and there is no use your saying to them 'By means of joint electorates, you can have your interests better served.' They have experienced all these thirty years that through joint electorates their interests are not sufficiently represented and safeguarded. I, for my part, feel that if elections are conducted on the basis of proportional representation, i.e., joint electorates and adult franchise, most of our troubles will disappear. I will just explain my position with reference to the number of representatives of the various interests in this House. Those who secured 51 per cent of the votes run the administration and the others who got 49 per cent of the votes are eliminated and they do not possess the numbers commensurate with the number of votes polled in their favour. You cannot by any stretch of imagination say that it is only the interests of the 51 per cent of the voters that they have to serve. If you take the last elections into account, we have secured 33 per cent of the votes but I am the only person sitting in the House. You see the disparity between the representation afforded to the party and the number of votes polled in favour of that party. I can say with confidence that we are not representing the population as a whole but we only represent a fraction. The number of representatives that has been returned is too small considered alongside the number of votes polled for the party. If the principle of proportional representation is accepted every party and every group will find opportunity for making its view point felt. Therefore I suggest that this system of proportional representation with adult franchise must be introduced. In such an event, the Muslim League point of view will also be met in that they will get the number they are entitled to on the basis of their numbers and there can be a harmonious working in the Council. I am sorry to say that the members of the League party in this House oftentimes insisted on the fact that they belong to a communal party and that they belong to

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another nation. Mr. Jinnah, the leader of that party has repeated that that was a political party with definite political objectives. I do not know why then the members of the party should be saying on the floor of the House that theirs is a communal party. If we go into the history of the League we will find that it is not merely a communal party but it is a political organization. There is no use merely saying that they belong to another nation that will not bring salvation to this country. The organization must be a political organization. There is no use their saying that they will have nothing to do with other parties. I can bring to their notice a number of statements of Mr. Jinnah saying that other parties can exist even amongst the Muslim League. As a matter of fact, we find there are so many political parties in all democratic countries and India can be no exception to it. We must face our electorate on matters concerning political matters; parties should be formed on a political plane and not on communal plane. If our country is going to be divided into so many communal divisions, like Harijans, Indian Christians, Muslims and Hindus, there will be no salvation for our country. If we form into political groups and work for some definite political purpose each party represented according to its strength in the country, then only can it be said that we are working for the good of the masses. From the League benches, they were citing the instances of democracies in Europe. I may say that France and Yugoslavia have accepted the principle of proportional representation. In Yugoslavia there are so many real nationalities and they have found that proportional representation will give them the common ground for all of them to work for the welfare of the State. If on the other hand as we in this Province are saying each is to go his own way without caring for the other, that is not the way of salvation. Under the system that I have suggested, the advantage is that each party will approach the other group and the result is that the political sense of the people will also advance. Another point has been mentioned from the League benches is that they belong to a different nation. I am sorry to say that it is not a statement of fact because India is a multi-national country. So far as the Madras Presidency is concerned, there is the Tamil nation, the Telugu nation, the Malayalee nation and the Kannada nation. My hon. Friend Mr. Salam and I belong to the Andhra nation. What common ties have Mr. Salam and Mr. Koya to say that they belong to the Muslim nation. The much appropriate position is that Mr. Koya belongs to the Malayalee nation. The mere fact that both of them belong to one religion does not make for their belonging to the same nation. I belong to the Andhra nation and if to-morrow I change my religion and become a Muslim, I cannot belong to the Muslim nation. Mere oneness of religion does not give them a place in the same nation. I say that the claim of the Muslims that they belong to a nation is entirely wrong. A man may change his religion quite easily but he may not change his nationality so easily. Now we are developing as a nation. For instance the Hon. Speaker belongs to the Tamil nation."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"You please continue your speech."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"We may be divided into so many nationalities and it is developing. Whether each one is to remain in a single state or not, is a question to be decided by the people. For all that the idea I have suggested of running the elections on the basis of proportional representation is the correct way. That way will lie the salvation of our country. If this proposition is accepted, I think we will be laying a firm foundation for the unity of our country. According to the present plan, the Muslims and others think that they may not be properly represented and they feel unable to accept it. They will have no complaint if they get their representation according to their strength. I, therefore, suggest to the Hon. Minister that this suggestion might be considered in the Select Committee and a definite conclusion arrived at in the interests of the advancement of this country."

MAHIN SCHAMNAD SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, the main point about this amending Bill is whether the Muslims prefer joint electorate to separate electorate, in other words, whether the Muslims require their own representatives in the municipal councils or others returned in a general electorate. I feel, Sir, that unless the Muslims elect their own representatives, they cannot be said to represent Muslim interests. The majority party will elect only their own creatures who will be under their own influence and they will only support their cause. Why we want reserved seats for Muslims is because we want to strengthen our position. We are not likely to succeed in the contest in general seats as we are in a very small minority. In our district of South Kanara, there are six Food committees and no Muslim was elected to any of the taluk committees from the village committees. The reason was that in the village committees, there was no majority for the Muslims. I do not see the use of reserving seats for the Muslims unless there are separate electorates. In the general electorate, only Majlis and Nationalist Muslims will find a place and they will support only the majority party against Muslim interests and their presence will be dangerous to Muslim cause as they will merely strengthen the hands of the majority party. I, therefore, wish that no seats are reserved for the Muslims if there is no separate electorate. If the seats are reserved for them in a general electorate, it will be a weapon for the majority party—I mean for the Congress party—to induce Muslims to join the Congress. This is what happened at Mangalore. When the elections were to be held, the Congress people assured their help to two Muslims if they joined the Congress and they succeeded in winning them over to their side and they were elected to the Council with the help of the majority party. Of the one and a half lakhs of Muslims in South Kanara, these are the only two Congress Muslims in the whole district. They joined the Congress party not out of conviction or sympathy but only for getting seats in the municipal council. I may also say without fear of contradiction that none of us would be here if

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elections to this House were by means of the joint electorate; only Majlis and Nationalist Muslims would be here. The object of pressing for joint electorate is to bring the Muslims under the clutches of the majority party and to bring dissensions among the Muslims. Under that system if the Muslim League wants to get any seats, they will have to approach the majority party for their favour. I do not know why they desire to interfere with the Muslim affairs; why should they not allow the Muslims to manage their own affairs and why should they try to bring dissensions among them? They want Muslim unity. Unless there is unity among Muslims, how can there be unity between Hindus and Muslims. First of all they should try to have unity among Muslims. If the Muslims are united they will co-operate with the Congress to accomplish their object. All the troubles in India are due to the dissensions among the Muslims. If the Congress had tried to bring unity among the Muslims there would have been unity between Hindus and Muslims and the question of taking the Muslims into the Congress fold would not have arisen at all. Some hon. Members said here that joint electorate is for the good of the Muslims and for mutual friendship. I must tell them that Muslims know much better what is good for them, and they need not speak of independence and mutual friendship, unless Muslims have confidence in them. Muslims have no confidence in the majority party; I mean in public affairs. I do not mean in private life. I have got several Hindu friends in my village. They are all my good friends; even my kariasthan is a Hindu. As long as the Muslims have no confidence in the majority party the latter cannot compel them to vote for joint electorate. Finally I appeal to them to leave the Muslims for themselves."

1-15 p.m.

[P. P. Hassan Koya Sahib Bahadur] [13th February 1947]

fair to them. Secondly, Sir, the principle of communal representation seems to have been accepted by this House and the Hon. Minister. I can understand only two propositions. One is do not have any functional or communal representation, but have democracy in the strict sense of the term. Let every man have a vote. The second is that since the Muslim community has no connection whatever with the other communities, as we consider ourselves a separate nation, we should have our own right to elect our own representatives on the basis of separate electorates. But both these propositions are not admitted. I cannot understand the effectiveness of this via media measure that has been put forward. If there is any necessity, in the conditions that exist to-day, to see that minorities are properly represented, certainly that representation must be real, that representation must be substantial. There is no use in having four members in the Madras Corporation. If you want, and if you have the feeling that owing to the brute majority of the majority community, you should provide for the due representation of minorities, then the question is not whether you have four or six members; but whatever number of seats we should have on population basis, and whatever number we can reasonably claim by way of weightage, and those seats must be filled up by those who are responsible to and enjoy the confidence of, the minority community. If you are satisfied that Muslims must have a share in the administration of this City, then it must be provided that all those Muslims in the Council who are to protect the interests of the Muslim community must be those who are elected by them. That is a principle that we have been fighting for, and that is a principle that we are demanding not only in municipal councils and local boards but in all institutions by virtue of our right. Thirdly, Sir, a demand has been made on behalf of the mercantile community that they are not having due representation. I should certainly support the demand made by the representative of the Indian mercantile community, as they have a stake in the City, and as they have a share to contribute to the administration of this Council. I ardently believe and sincerely request the Minister that these matters may be properly considered in the Select Committee, particularly the question of Muslim representation. Sir, if we had not been preached to, and instructed as to what we want, if the majority community even at the beginning had given us our own right of independent living, our own right of guiding our own destinies, there should have been, in this country, greater mutual confidence and greater trust, which would have produced far better conditions than those that prevail to-day."

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(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister for Local Administration will now reply."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should like, in the first place, to express my thankfulness to all the hon. Members of this House who participated in the discussion of this Bill. Different and differing views have been put forward in connection with the principle underlying this Bill. But a democratic institution, a representative body like the present Assembly, will be untrue to its functions if it does not hear patiently and consider carefully every point of view which has been put forward on the question under consideration. (Hear, hear.) But, I would submit, Sir, that as a result of all these discussions, it has emerged that the principles underlying the Bill, the actual provisions which have been outlined in the Bill, are the best that could practically and possibly be put forward in the circumstances. The soundness of the principles, the necessity of and the practical experience of, the provisions have been brought out more clearly and established more firmly than ever before. In order to appreciate the provisions of the present Bill in a proper perspective, with your permission, Sir, I would give a short sketch of the previous legislation on this subject. The substantive Act under which the administration of the City Municipal Council is being carried on is Act IV of 1919. It was on the legislative anvil very shortly after the diarchic Government took office, as a result of the Montford Reforms Scheme. Under that Act, Sir, the constitution of the council consisted of 50 members, 30 elected by general divisions, eight seats to represent the commercial interests, three others to represent special interests, and nine nominations. In the actual working, the provisions of this Act were not found satisfactory, and in 1930 the Government appointed a committee to go into this Act, and to consider and to recommend necessary amendments. I would submit, Sir, the report produced by that Government committee is a document which is worthy of our commendation. For one thing, Sir, it had a distinguished personnel, and for another it was a committee which represented every shade and every party of political thought. Congress leaders like Messrs. Satyamurthi and Swami Venkatchalam Chetti, veterans of Justice Party like Messrs. Ramanaswami Mudaliar and Natesa Mudaliar, our esteemed Muslim friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed, that well known European member of the then Legislative Council Mr. F. E. James, and Mr. Conran Smith, who was for some time the Commissioner of the Madras Corporation, and who is latterly discharging important duties in the Government of India—These, among others, constituted the personnel of that committee. They produced, as I said, a report, which outlined a scheme of constitution for the Madras Corporation consisting of 68 members—50 from general divisions, and six for commerce (three for Europeans, and the remaining three for

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Indians). There were 12 reserved seats—four for Muslims, four for Adi-Dravidas, two for Indian Christians, one for Anglo-Indians and one for Europeans. Altogether the council consisted of 68 members. I would submit, Sir, a remarkable thing about this document is the proportion of elected general councillors as against special interests. As I said, there were altogether 50 plus 12 i.e., 62 general seats, and only six special seats for the commerce constituency. The other remarkable feature of this document is that these 12 seats reserved for the various communities are to be worked by a joint electorate. I would submit, once again, that this is a document which deserves our very careful consideration and support because it is a document which is the joint production of a common consensus of opinion of persons experienced in public affairs as well as in the affairs of the Madras Corporation. Subsequently, Sir, apparently, this record was hibernating in the archives of the Madras Government Secretariat for about six years, and in 1936 a Bill was brought before the then Legislative Council, which subsequently emerged as Act X of 1936. That measure of legislation, Sir, contained a few commendable features, and a larger number of undesirable features. For one thing it did away with nomination. In doing away with nominations it created special electorates for the Adi-Dravidas. Then again it increased the special representatives for the commerce constituency from 6 to 11. I believe, Sir, that is the first time when mercantile associations—the Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association, the Skin and Hide Merchants' Association, and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association—were given representation. By bringing in these special mercantile associations, the general number of seats for commercial representation was raised, as I said, from 6 to 11. I would submit that is the Act under which the present administration of the Madras Corporation is being carried on. The present Bill, in general principles and in specific provisions, is only an implementation, a belated implementation, of substantially the recommendations of the Government committee of 1930. It seeks to reserve seats for the minority communities, and it seeks to reduce commercial representation from its present number to a lower figure. It also provides joint electorates in the place of special electorates for the Adi-Dravidas. It also provides joint electorates for all the other minority communities. So, the present Bill is only an attempt to bring on the legislative anvil the recommendations substantially contained in the Government committee report of 1930.

"Now, Sir, in the course of discussion on this Bill, from among the view points put forward and ably presented by various sections of the House, three things have emerged. First, the question is asked 'Is reservation necessary?' Second, the question is asked, 'If so, should it not be by separate electorate; should it be by way of joint electorate?' Then is the last question in which everybody wanted more seats, larger representation, and

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increased weightage to the members of the community concerned. broadly speaking, Sir, these three aspects have engaged the attention of hon. Members. I would take these questions in their order. In the first place I would take the question, 'Is reservation necessary?' I agree with Messrs. H. S. Town, Gopala Reddi and others who have spoken in the course of the debate, that as an ideal in the final and ultimate scheme of things, reservation is not necessary. A time may come when in the administration of municipal affairs, in the statute books relating to local boards and municipal councils, there should be no reference to either Hindu or Muslim or Christian, but we should work together as common servants of the common people. That, no doubt, is an ideal scheme of things. From the days of Plato, philosophers and thinkers have outlined ideal schemes. But, for practical purposes to meet an immediate need, to meet urgent claims, these ideal schemes are unfit for immediate implementation, I would remind my hon. Friends of the saying of the great writer and politician John Morley, who said: 'politics is one long course of second best.' I admit, Sir, I put forward this reservation of seats for minority communities only as a second best thing and not as an ideal thing. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Why?) My hon. Friend asks me 'why'. The fears, the apprehensions, the outcries raised so loudly and so clamantly by my Muslim friends are themselves an answer to this question. Our Muslim friends, who are in a minority, are afraid of the Hindu community, the majority community. They are afraid as to what their position is going to be in the future Government of the country, and in the future local bodies and institutions. They are nervous, they are apprehensive, they are afraid, and they look forward with dim, dark, gloomy forebodings to the future. The majority community comes forward and says 'look here, my friend, we do not want to shut you out of our Government or local bodies; we shall reserve for you we shall guarantee for you, certain seats in the local bodies. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Is it only by reservation?) It is only by way of guarantee, it is only to dispel the fears and apprehensions which have been found in the hearts of the minority communities; that a certain minimum representation is provided for every community.

"The object of this reservation is not that there should be a Christian councillor or a Hindu councillor in the Corporation. It is to see that every section of the community, the entire people of the City take part in the City's administration, which is not a thing that belongs to any particular community. A Hindu, Christian, Muslim, Parsi, Jain or Sikh, every one of them is entitled to take part in the administration of the City. We are ensuring by this reservation that all these communities will join together, will put their heads and hands together in working the civic administration. This reservation is therefore only intended as a gesture of friendliness." (Interruption.)

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MR. SPEAKER:—"I hope hon. Members will not interrupt him."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"What I would therefore submit, Sir, is that this reservation is intended as a friendly gesture as an expression of goodwill and as a guarantee that every minority community is going to be represented in the Corporation Council and will take part in the administration of the affairs of the corporation."

"My hon. Friend Mr. Gopal Reddi again asked: 'Is there any necessity for reservation for women?' Well, Sir, election to the Madras Corporation took place about ten or eleven years ago and we have forgotten as to what really happened in those far off days. But I may say, Sir, that since February 1941, there has not been a single elected woman member in the Madras Corporation."

SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"That shows the apathy with which women Members are taking part in the City's administration."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"It may be the apathy of the women or it may be the unchivalrousness of the men in not putting up women candidates."

"Then I find that so far as Indian Christians are concerned, since 1942, after Mr. Jesudasan resigned there has been no Indian Christian representative on the Corporation."

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is an Indian Christian Alderman in the Corporation."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I do not refer to Aldermen. I am confining my remarks to the elected councillors of the City Corporation, Sir."

"I therefore submit that in the Corporation Council as it is constituted there is no elected woman councillor and there is no elected Indian Christian councillor. Only in order to prevent such a contingency and in order to ensure that such a state of affairs where a great section of women humanity is not represented in the Corporation, where an influential community, namely, the Indian Christian community is not represented, may not exist that these reservations are made. By this a minimum representation will be secured to them."

"My hon. Friends on the Muslim League benches object to reservation. They think that reservation is a sort of trap or a snare to draw them in and then do them harm. I would say that this is an unjustifiable, unwarranted apprehension. One of my friends from the Muslim League benches said: 'Why not leave the Muslims alone? Why do you interfere with us?' Why do you give any reserved seats for us and provide joint electorates for us?' Supposing as a hypothesis, I say there will be no reservation for Muslims, what will be the position. There will

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be the general divisions and there will be the joint electorates, and any member of the Muslim community who seeks to enter the Corporation Council, and who seeks to be elected as a member of the Corporation, will have to approach the joint electorate. I would ask in all sincerity, and in all humility, now possibly the position is worsened by our reservation of seats in the general electorates? If the reservation does not come in it only means that the Muslims will have to seek the suffrage not of their own community, but (if they want to enter the City Corporation) it will only be by canvassing the general divisions of the Corporation. Sir, by way of reservation, I give them this advantage that necessarily as a minimum, as a bare irreducible minimum, I guarantee to them four seats."

"I would submit, Sir, that I can understand Mr. Gopala Reddi objecting to reservation on the ground that it is not an ideal system, but I must confess that I am unable to understand the objections of my hon. Friends of the Muslim League for reservation."

"Well, Sir, I will proceed to deal with another aspect of the question, namely: 'If reservation is to be provided, should this be by way of joint electorate?' Various hon. Members have already referred to this question of the long and chequered history of joint and separate electorates. After all, this question of separate and joint electorates may have its importance in the political sphere. My hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. Lady Member, both referred to the Lucknow Pact and the hon. Lady Member went further and said that there was a sort of breach of faith on our part, now that we were introducing joint electorates for Muslims in our City Council in contravention of the Lucknow Pact. Well, Sir, it is absolutely unwarranted. The Lucknow Pact refers to two things (An hon. Member, Lucknow Pact). In the first place it refers to discriminatory legislation. That is, no legislation affecting any great community, Hindu or Muslim or Christian should be brought forward unless it secures the consent of a certain proportion of the representatives of that particular community. That is one thing. The other feature is that for the Central Legislative Assembly and the Provincial Councils—both of them I would remind you, are political bodies, solely and entirely political bodies—there should be separate electorates for election of representatives from the Muslim community. I would submit that it is a far cry to say that the present system of joint electorates for Muslims is in contravention of the Lucknow Pact. On the other hand I would say that it is an implementation of the implied understanding and the implied basis of the Lucknow Pact. The very fact that civic bodies like district boards, municipal councils, etc., were excluded—I must say deliberately excluded—from the purview of the Lucknow Pact implies an agreement that, so far as these civic bodies are concerned, the question of separate electorates

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was not pressed and put forward, nor was it agreed to. I therefore submit that there is a definite distinction, and a weighty distinction, made here between political spheres and civic spheres.

"I am grateful to the hon. Lady Member Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin for frankly conceding that so far as legitimate civic functions are concerned they are neither Hindu or Muslim nor Christian. It is an obvious and uncontroversial proposition. (At this stage Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin rose to speak.) I am not yielding, Sir. So far as the City of Madras is concerned, take the various divisions. Hindus, Muslims and Christians are all living together. Are they not living side by side? Can you dissect and mutilate any of these divisions and say this is Hindu, this is Christian and this is Muslim? In any street can we say that the Member for the Hindu house is so and so, for the Muslim house is so and so?

"I submit, Sir, that all the functions which my hon. Friend, the Lady Member (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin) herself narrated, namely, water, drainage, lighting and the various civic amenities, are common for all the common citizens of Madras."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"I referred to educational needs."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"My hon. Friend referred to the question of Education. Well, Sir, if I may respectfully say so, the hon. Lady Member (Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin) and other friends on the Muslim League benches are very much obsessed with the question of education. They see red in everything educational. So far as municipal politics are concerned, do you expect the City Corporation or the authorities of the City Corporation to follow an educational policy different from that of the Government? The policy regarding elementary education, secondary education, and higher education is one which will be worked out, chalked out, defined and implemented by the Government for the time being. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan has been a veteran Member of the City Corporation. I would ask him, Sir, whether it is possible for the Corporation to follow a different policy. Sir, I have myself been a Chairman of a Municipal Council for over ten years and Member for over two decades and I would say that so far as educational matters are concerned the policy of the municipal council will be the policy of the Government. The actual agency carrying out the policies would be the municipal bodies.

"Therefore, so far as education is concerned, no individual councillor, not even twelve Muslim Members if returned to the Madras Corporation can do anything. I would challenge my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan—supposing twelve Muslim councillors are there solidly in the Council Hall of the Corporation in the Ripon Buildings, Sir, could they alter the Education policy either of the Government or of the Corporation? If we make it twelve wards instead of eight wards it would be a futile addition.

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I would therefore submit, Sir, that this question is a minor question. This is a question which does not affect the major policies and immediate questions of administration, of the Corporation. Therefore, Sir, the question of education does not come in. If therefore the question of education does not come in, what remains? Only the common things, the common necessities and the common amenities of the common people of the City. Therefore it is not a question of dissection, or dissection or division street by street, division by division or any area or part of the City where Hindus, Muslims, Christians and others live together, move together, work together and serve together in the Madras Corporation. And they will continue to do so in the future years to come. That, Sir, is sought to be implemented by putting this Bill on the anvil.

"I should like to meet certain anxieties and apprehensions of my hon. Friends on the Muslim League benches. They ask 'Are Muslim councillors to be elected by Hindu majorities? If we are to be elected by Hindu majorities, will we not be the henchmen of the Hindu section of the division? Will we not betray Muslim interests? Will we not be untrue to our birth, tradition, culture and civilisation?' These are questions which have been propounded by various hon. Members. Sir, of the Muslim League benches. In answer, I would only point my finger of reverence to my respected Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, the representative in the Madras Corporation of Ward No. 31, (An hon. Member: 'An old bandicoot of the Corporation') and he is trying to burrow in and burrow in."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is bandicoot parliamentary, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"It was not the intension of the Hon. the Minister to wound the feelings of any Member. So the word bandicoot need not be taken seriously."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The remark was made only in a friendly way. Sir. I would ask my hon. Friends not to take this seriously at all.

"I would submit, Sir, that Ward No. 31 consists of 12,000 Hindus and 8,000 Muslims. I have taken figures. As regards electoral strength it is about half and half. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan has been serving on the Corporation for the last ten years and more. He was the Mayor of the Corporation also. My hon. Friend is an honourable man, an honoured public worker of the Province. Could it be said of Mr. Hameed Khan that he was untrue to the Muslims of the division? Could it be said of him, Sir, that he betrayed the interests of the Muslims of that division for the last ten years and more? (Some hon. Members: 'No'). Could it be said of Mr. Hameed Khan that he betrayed the interests of the Hindus in Ward No. 31?"

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he represented? Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan is a bodily refutation of the apprehensions, the fears and the arguments put forward by our Muslim Friends in this House.

"Now I come to some actual figures, because Sir, after all this question of separate electorate has now become a sort of dogma or creed round which feelings, sentiments, loyalties and passions have clustered together. But that is only in the political field. In the civic field. Sir, though my hon. Friend is a prominent member of the Muslim League, a front-bencher in this House, he still continues to be a true and effective representative of both the Hindus and the Muslims of division No. 31 of the City of Madras. I hope and trust, Sir, that for long years to come he will continue to serve like that on the Madras Corporation. (Hear, hear.)

"Sir, a question has been put to me: Could a majority of Hindus select a good Muslim? I submit that this question does not arise so far as the divisions of the Madras Corporation are concerned. I will give you the actual figures. In the last Corporation Council there were seven Muslim Councillors, five of them elected by general divisions, one of them elected by the Skin and Hide Merchants Association and one other, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Saveed, elected by no less an august body than the Senate of the Madras University. As regards four of these wards Nos. 6, 10, 30 and 31 (for the last of which my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan is a representative). I Will give the actual figures of voters below:—

Ward number.		Muslim voters.	Non-Muslim voters.
6	..	2,837	715
10	..	2,200	1,773
30	..	2,262	1,544
31	..	2,547	2,298

In all these four divisions Muslim voters are in absolute majority and in some of them they are in a cast-iron majority or if I may say so, in a fool-proof majority. If the Muslims there stand together and seek to elect true representatives of the Muslim interests, I submit that they are bound to succeed. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'Will the four seats be reserved there?') The policy of the Government is to reserve seats for minority communities in those places where they are the largest in numbers and have the greatest influence. If four seats are reserved in these four divisions, it means automatically that four Muslim Councillors will be returned from those divisions. Then four Muslim Councillors will be returned without reservations and there will be four plus four, eight, councillors. I will come to the population ratio later on, but on the facts I have given the fears and apprehensions expressed here are absolutely without foundation. There is no warrant for the apprehension that the Muslim Members will have to be elected by a Hindu majority in these

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four wards. They will be elected by the Muslim majorities, by the support (or the opposition) of the majority of Muslim voters. They will have a dominating and conclusive voice in the selection of the candidates for these four wards. Therefore, the fears and apprehensions nourished and cherished and expressed by hon. Members in this connexion without reference to the actual facts and figures pertaining to the electoral divisions of the Madras Corporation are entirely out of place."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, do I understand the Hon. Minister to say that Government would reserve these four seats for Muslims in those divisions where they are in a majority?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"As I said, the principle of the Government in the matter of reservation of seats for minority communities is that seats would be reserved only in those divisions where they are largest in numbers or influence."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Each of these divisions will have two members—one general member and one Muslim member."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"For these four divisions there will be four general members and four seats reserved for Muslims."

MR. SPEAKER:—"May I suggest to the Hon. Minister to point out that members of these minority communities may stand for election for the other general seats also?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I am coming to that. I am very thankful to you Mr. Speaker, for pointing it out to me. Yes, it can also be done over and above the eight seats which are given in a caste-iron fashion."

"Sir, My hon. Friend questioned the *bona fides* and the friendliness of the gesture we are making in the matter of reservations. I wish to point out that if we are going to have separate electorates, on a population ratio the number of seats to which they will be entitled will be less than eight. On the other hand, by this arrangement we guarantee eight seats and open out a possibility of their being returned in the general electorate as well. There is also proof of the fact that in the actual elections, the general electorates are prepared to show the same spirit of friendliness and fellowship which we have shown in the gesture contained in this Bill. In Ward No. 28, Mr. Abdul Khader was elected and you will be surprised to learn the actual number of Muslim and non-Muslim voters in that division. In Ward No. 28 from which my Muslim Friend, Mr. Abdul Khader, was elected; the number of Muslim voters was 359 against 2,650 non-Muslim voters."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He got elected through the votes of the Scheduled caste voters."

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Scheduled castes will take care of themselves."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The Hon. Minister did not hear me. I said that he was elected with the support of the Scheduled caste voters and not otherwise."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The Scheduled castes form part of the Hindu community and their support, I submit, is the support of the Hindu section of the ward. (Interruption from the Leader of the Opposition.) That is another matter. Therefore, Sir, taking the figures of Ward No. 28—359 Muslim voters as against 2,650 non-Muslim voters—I submit it is a complete proof of my statement that Mr. Abdul Khader came in by a large majority of Hindu votes. Even allowing for the possibility of one-fourth of the Hindu voters being Scheduled caste voters, the large majority of them are non-scheduled caste voters and I would therefore submit that Mr. Abdul Khader must have come in through a large majority of Hindu votes."

"Then I shall refer to Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, a member of the Muslim community who has been returned by the Senate of the Madras University in which the Muslims are not in a majority. I would therefore submit, Sir, that our Muslim friends are being given the fairest deal that could be given in the circumstances of the case. As I said, there are four divisions in which they will be automatically returned for the four seats reserved for them. There is moreover an opportunity for Muslims also being returned by the mercantile constituencies as there are many Muslim merchant princes in the City. They can come in through the Senate Constituency. They can also come in through any of the labour electorates. I would therefore submit that the possibilities of their full, fair and more than adequate representation in the Council are being fully ensured by this Bill. There is absolutely no foundation for the fears and apprehensions that Muslim candidates elected under the scheme of the present Bill will not be persons who represent true Muslim interests."

"Let us for a moment take up the position that Muslim Councillors or for the matter of that Councillors of any other minority community should secure an actual majority of the voters in a particular area for being returned to the Council. Is there any harm in that, I ask? On the other hand, is there not a distinct advantage? For however large the number of Muslims may be in a particular place, whatever the number of seats they may claim, they can never expect to be in a majority either in the Corporation of Madras or in any other municipal council except in the single town of Ambur. In no other city or town in this Province could Muslims hope to be in a definite majority by their inherent electoral strength. If in every local body in this Province—district boards, municipal councils and the Corporation of Madras—the Muslims, the Scheduled castes, the Christians and Anglo-Indians these minority communities are bound to remain minority sections of the local bodies for long years to come,

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is it not altogether good, is it not altogether an advantage if these representatives of the minority communities who are returned as Muslims, Indian Christians, Scheduled castes and Anglo-Indians enjoy the confidence and goodwill and support of the majority sections of the particular area of the particular council? It is only thereby that these Muslim, Christian, Anglo-Indian and Scheduled caste councillors will be able to serve their community well. It is only by securing the goodwill, the good offices and the friendliness and the support of the majority community that these minority community representatives will be able to promote the interests of their communities."

"Therefore, Sir, as I have said, far from it being an evil that representatives of minority communities should be returned to the local bodies with the support and goodwill of the majority sections of the people, it is all for their good. It is so even from the point of view of enlightened selfishness of the minority communities concerned."

"One word, Sir, as regards Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians, my hon. Friend from Madura said that Indian Christians should have separate electorates. And my hon. Friend representing the Anglo-Indian community also expressed his fears and apprehensions that the interests of the Anglo-Indian community would not be served by having joint electorates. It is high time Sir, that they disabused their minds. As that great Leader of the Anglo-Indian community, Mr. Frank Antony, has pointed out both in the Constituent Assembly and outside, the future of the Anglo-Indian community lies not in any fear, in isolation, in aloofness, or in separation or in looking to the West, but in considering themselves as children of the soil and looking to our own country and trying to promote the interests of the people in our own country. The time has come, Sir, when Anglo-Indians and Indian Christians should give up all ideas of aloofness and isolation and look upon themselves as the common soldiers and common servants of the country and align themselves with the majority in the country. Therein lies their safety, therein lie their future prospects. The future progress, the future prosperity and advancement of all minority communities lie along the path of co-operation with the majority communities in our country. (An hon. Member: 'There is no dispute about it.') For once at any rate! I think I have sufficiently dealt with the question of reservation of seats. Both as regards the necessity for and the advantages of reservation, the position is now more clear than what it was some time ago."

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"One question remains, and that is the adequacy of representation. I quite agree that every section is anxious to have as much representation as possible in the Council. My very enthusiastic Friend, Mr. Nagappa, is claiming a larger representation for the Scheduled castes, my hon. Friends of the Muslim community are asking for a larger representation, and my friends of the mercantile community also are asking for a larger representation. On the question of representation, I should like to mention the general

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principle which underlies the whole scheme of the present Bill. Under the 1936 Act under which the Corporation is now functioning, forty Councillors are returned from general constituencies and twenty Councillors from special constituencies. I would submit that the proportion of special seats to general seats is too large. These are days of democracy. This century has been called the century of the common man. Therefore it is desirable to broaden the basis of the constitution of the Council by enlarging the representation for the generality of the people and, if necessary, by cutting down the representation of special interests. So far as the representation of the commercial interests are concerned, I will refer to the Corporation of Bombay. Nobody can deny that the Corporation of Bombay is one of the premier institutions of India. Out of the 100 members of the Bombay Corporation, there are only two members representing commercial interests, one the Bombay Chamber of Commerce and the other the Indian Merchants Chamber. If Bombay, one of the premier commercial cities in the continent of Asia, with its country-wide commercial interests, is content with two members, are we not generous? Are we not giving commercial interests more than adequate representation? We are giving four members to represent commercial interests! I would also submit that Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti is a well-known leader of the commercial community in Madras. It cannot at all be said that Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti will in any way belittle the importance of the representation of the commercial interests in the Corporation Council. In 1936, when the Bill was under discussion in the Legislative Council, this is what he said. But before I quote the passage, I would personally like to associate myself with what has been said by Sir Stuart Town as regards the contribution made by the representatives of the commercial institution to the Corporation of Madras. It is true that they take a public-spirited view of the affairs of the Corporation. But I submit the times have changed. You have to move with the times. This is the age of the common man. Special interests and pocket boroughs should be abolished, and we should get into the larger arena. I would invite the merchant friends, the Muslims, and the Europeans to go out into the general constituencies. You are the persons who are rendering a great service, and occupying positions of power, influence and wealth in the City of Madras. Could you not obtain the suffrage of the common man? Why is it that you require a sort of pocket borough, a narrow, limited constituency for being returned to the Council? I would ask you to die as representatives of special interests to become resurrected as representatives of the common people, to lose your lives in order that you may be re-born as popular representatives of the City of the Madras. This is what Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti said in the course of the discussion on the Bill in 1936:—

'The divisions are no doubt increased from 30 to 40. There has been a large increase in the representation of institutions. The representatives of these institutions are always conservative; they do not help the popular cause; they are always swayed by considerations of their associations and groups. It is very desirable that the ratio of the elected majority should be further increased than what it is now.'

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This is exactly what the provisions of the Bill seek to accomplish. The number under the existing Act is 40 as against 20; under the provisions of the present Bill, it is 65 against 10. It is about one-seventh of the total as against the existing half. I submit the scheme of the present Bill is in the direction of enlightened advance and progress, as envisaged in the outstanding events of the past four years. Even in the course of the discussion on the 1936 Bill, Mr. Muniswami Pillai uttered a prophecy. He dreamt a dream and saw a vision: 'Now we are providing for separate electorates. A time will come, when they will have to be abolished.' The time has now come when the Scheduled classes will be returned not by any special constituency but by the general masses. Once again, I submit that there has been adequate representation for the commercial interests in Madras.

'I will answer the point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar. 'Suppose the question of taxing timber comes up. Is it not necessary that there should be a large number of mercantile representatives on the Council?' On the same ground, various associations, like the Hotel-keepers' Association, and the Cinema, Producers' Association, have been asking or representation in the Corporation Council. The Southern Indian Chamber of Commerce, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the Nattukkottai Nagarathars' Association, the Southern India Skins and Hides Merchants' Association and the Piecegoods Merchants' Association have been given representation. We have not taken away that representation, but we have put them together. It is a logical sequence of Mr. Muniswami Pillai's prophecy ten years ago, and I make bold to prophesy that in another ten years the representation given to special interests will have to be abolished. After all, age, antiquity and maturity of established institutions have certain claims, and out of consideration for these claims and in recognition of the good services rendered by them, they are given representation. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: 'What about the Muslim Chamber of Commerce?') I wish the Muslim Chamber of Commerce every success. It was not in existence in 1936. We allow a long period of time when it would take firm root in the soil, and put forth luxuriant foliage, flowers and fruits. In reply to my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopala Reddi, I say it is age and long establishedness that give a claim to the various associations for special representation. There is a Tamil Chamber of Commerce, and some other chambers of commerce will also come into existence in the course of years. For a period of ten years, if the Muslim Chamber of Commerce stands the test of time, takes roots and puts forth flowers and fruits, then is the time for Mr. Muhammad Ismail Sahib, probably as the Chief Minister, to bring forward a Bill in the Assembly to include a representative of the Muslim Chamber of Commerce in the Corporation Council. So far as this question of representation is concerned, I submit that adequate representation has been given to all the interests.

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" There was certain misapprehension as regards the population of Madras and the strength of the various communities. According to the 1941 census, the total population of the City of Madras is 874,632. Of this, Hindus form about 5½ lakhs, Muslims 191,000, Christians 49,119, and Adi-Dravidas about 118,708. The Muslims form about a little less than one-seventh, Adi-Dravidas a little over one-eighth, and the Christians about one-sixteenth. On this basis, Adi-Dravidas have been allowed five reserved seats, Muslims four reserved seats, Christians two reserved seats, and the Anglo-Indians one reserved seat.

" I should like to mention one other thing, with all respect to my Scheduled caste friends in this House. Among the Scheduled castes, there are various subdivisions—Adi-Dravidas, Arundatiyas, etc. By means of joint electorates, even members belonging to the sub-sections of the Scheduled castes have an opportunity of being returned to the Corporation Council. I understand that in the past elections, attempts were made by the members of the Arundatiya community and the Chakla community, who are in a minority among the Scheduled castes, to obtain representation on the Corporation Council. But every time they failed. Reservation and general electorates will give an opportunity to the deserving members of the minority sub-sections of the Scheduled castes for service in our local bodies. I would therefore submit that the representation given to the various communities is fair and adequate. Taking into consideration their right to contest general seats, and get returned, there is a fair and even generous treatment of the interests and communities concerned. I may also say that in the 57 elected municipal councils at present functioning, 120 councillors have been returned over and above the reserved seats. Nearly two councillors per municipality have been returned by the joint electorates. (M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur: 'May I know the total number of councillors in the province?' Notice.")

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" After all that the Hon. Minister has said, may I ask him why he wants this Bill to be referred to a Select Committee? "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" If my hon. Friend refers to the original motion given notice of by me, he will see in it that the Minister for Local Administration will move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once. But subsequently, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Muhammad Ismail, gave notice of a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. Out of deference to the Leader of the Opposition, I changed my opinion and agreed to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. That is why I am rather surprised to see that member after member on the Muslim League benches, including the Leader of the Opposition, rise and say: 'I oppose the Bill.' The motion is that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

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" Sir, my motion has been taken bodily verbatim from that of the hon. Leader of the Opposition. Simply to consent to the wishes of the hon. Leader of the Opposition and because of the respectful reverence that I pay to him, I adopted his motion to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. . . . "

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir. At first the Bill was very objectionable. Therefore I moved that the Bill might be referred to a Select Committee where it might be amended suitably. Now, Sir, on the floor of the House I oppose the Bill. We can change the Bill in the Select Committee only if we have our way. "

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" After all, explanations are only explanations and nothing more. There is only one other point that I venture to refer to. All the three points that emerged in the discussion—the question of necessity for reservation, the question of providing reservation by way of joint electorates and the question of the adequacy of the members allotted to various interests—are well-founded and will justify all the provisions embodied in the present Bill.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkateswarulu, raised the question of adult suffrage. I know time and again he has been trying to raise a discussion and debate on this question. I may tell him that this question definitely arises in the Bill which is coming up immediately after the present Bill, the Bill to amend the District Municipalities and Local Boards Act. I would submit that I shall be in a position to make a detailed statement as regards the question of adult suffrage in the course of discussion of that Bill, which is coming immediately after the present Bill. I commend the present Bill for the acceptance of the House and request that it may be referred to the Select Committee consisting of the hon. Members whose names I have read out already."

//SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" The Hon. Minister said that the Arundatiya community who form a section of the Scheduled classes was not represented on the Corporation of Madras. I may inform him through you, Sir, that my hon. Friend, Mr. Jagannatham, a member of the Upper House, has been on the Corporation Council for many years."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Sir, I thank the hon. Member for the information."

MR. SPEAKER:—" The motion before the House is
'that the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members of this House:—

- (1) M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
- (3) Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin.
- (4) Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.
- (5) Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai.

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- (6) Dr. D. S. Ramachandra Rao.
- (7) Sri G. Rajamannar.
- (8) „ M. Bapineedu.
- (9) „ M. Kanniappan.
- (10) Srimathi G. Ammannar Raja.
- (11) Sir Stuart Town.
- (12) Sri R. Venkatarreddi.
- (13) „ T. Viswanatham.
- (14) The Hon. Sri K. Bhashyam.
- (15) The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas (Mover). „

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—“ Under rule 78, I appoint the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas to be Chairman of the Committee. I wish to know when the Hon. Minister is going to submit the report of the Select Committee.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ The Select Committee report may be presented at the next meeting of the Assembly.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know when the Select Sommittte meeting will be held? ”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ That will be arranged by the Chairman of the Committee; he will give hon. Members necessary information; the Committee may settle its arrangements.”

V.—THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947, and move—

“ that the Bill be referred to Select Committee consisting of the undermentioned members:—

- (1) M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
- (3) Haji Moulvi Sinna Kaziar Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
- (4) Sri S. Nagappa.
- (5) Dr. M. J. Samuel.
- (6) Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal.
- (7) Sri K. Brahmananda Reddi.
- (8) „ N. M. R. Subbaraman.
- (9) „ K. A. Nachiappa Gounder.
- (10) „ V. S. Sankarasubramanya Mudaliyar.
- (11) Dr. U. P. Mallayya.
- (12) Sri H. Sitarama Reddi.
- (13) K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur.
- (14) The Hon. Sri M. Bakthavatsalam.
- (15) The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas (Mover). „

I would submit, Sir, that this is a very simple piece of legislation. The main purpose of this Bill is to ensure that larger representation for minority communities and for women”

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MR. SPEAKER:—“ Do ‘ women ’ come under ‘ minorities ’ ?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ I put them on a different category. The representation of minority communities in our municipal councils and local boards is not adequate. Individual cases where representation is very limited and to some extent inadequate, have been brought to the notice of the Government. Under the present Act, the total number of reserved seats for minority communities and for women should not exceed one-fourth of the total number of strength of the number of members of the local body concerned, the municipal council, the district boards or panchayats, as the case may be. It may happen that the minority communities, Muslims, Christians, Scheduled classes and women in a particular municipal or local board area may be more than half the total population. For example, in a city like Trichinopoly, the Muslim population and other minority communities put together may be nearly one-half of the total population. Even in such cases, minority representation has to be limited by the present statute to one-fourth of the total population. One-fourth of the total number of seats has to be allotted to all the various minority communities, Scheduled classes, Christians, Muslims and women. The difficulty lies in giving a certain amount of a fair proportion of representation. It is therefore sought by the provisions of this Bill to increase representation from one-fourth to one-third of the total strength; the total strength will be calculated by adding the same number of seats as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased. I submit that will give larger and adequate representation to various minority communities which are to be provided for in any particular locality. The main purpose of this Bill is to provide for the implementation of that object. Incidentally it asks for powers to postpone elections to be held under the present Act. General elections had to be held in August or September and the new members should have taken office on the 1st November under the rigid provisions found in the present Act. The main Bill seeks to take away that limitation and to provide that elections might be adjourned for some time and it provides that new members may be sworn in on a definite day to be notified. This is a very simple piece of legislation. This again is a gesture that the Government are anxious to provide for the needs and legitimate claims of minority communities. I would commend my motion to the acceptance of the House and move that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“ The principles of this Bill are the same as those of the other Bill. Without having any discussion I shall straightaway put the motion to the vote of the House, if the House agrees.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have again to do the unfortunate and unpleasant task of opposing the principles and ideas that are the basis of the Bill before us. The way in which the position which we have

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taken up on this question has been dealt with by some Hon. Members of the Government and the House is very unfortunate. I think, Sir, that proper consideration and due weight are not given to the contentions and earnest appeals of my hon. Friends on this side. The Hon. Minister asked what differences there are in civic matters between the Hindus, Christians and Muslims. Then he passed on to other arguments; other hon. Members of the House also repeated the same arguments. I am sorry that my hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, in spite of his mature experience and years did not read the matter more seriously than he did. He said that there is no difference at all between Hindus, Muslims, Christians and other communities in the matter of civic rights and civic affairs. I have alone the Christians, the Scheduled classes and other minorities.

"I shall confine myself to Muslims and the differences they have got with the majority community. My hon. Friend, Mr. Kaleswara Rao, asked me what differences there are in the matter of cleaning the streets, in the matter of lighting streets and constructing roads. There is difference. There is one way for Hindus and another way for Muslims. When we say we have got our differences, it does not mean that we differ in every possible things. There are things common to us and the majority community. For example, we have got two eyes and two legs. They have got also the same number of eyes and legs. These are things which are common to us. When we say there are differences we do not mean to refer to these things. That is why I complain that our contentions and appeals are not taken seriously. I say, even in matters civic, there is fundamental difference between Muslims and others. Take, Sir, for example of cleanliness of streets which our hon. Friends spoke of. Our Hindu friends think that cow-dung is a thing which cleans many impurities. But what is the idea of Muslims about it? They consider it to be dirt.

3-15 p.m. "Supposing, Sir, a municipal council says that it is going to make a regulation that the floors of all houses in the streets including a street wherein there is a masjid should be cleaned with cow-dung, then what will happen? Sir, these things do happen and I am going to mention them now to show why we want separate electorate and why we want Muslim representation on these local bodies.

"Now, Sir, let us take the question of a masjid or a temple. There are restrictions for the building of masjids. This very Madras Corporation, which is one of the enlightened municipal councils in the country thought it fit some ten years ago to put in a condition in one of the deeds which it then effected, that no mosque should be built upon a site which it sold to a Muslim institution. Sir, this is the state of affairs. We see temples appearing every day in every part of the City and in every part of the Province. We see them coming all of a sudden on public roads, on bridges, on pavements, before railway stations, in the centre of Government premises and in all sorts of places. The Muslims do

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not object to them. But the Muslims were restricted by a corporation from building a masjid on the land for which the Muslims had paid a price and which had been sold to them. This was the action, not of an ordinary municipal council; it was the action of the Madras Corporation. There are other similar things, Sir. If you want to understand why the Muslims want separate representation for themselves, you must go to some of the municipalities in the Province and see the state of roads in the localities inhabited by Muslims. You will then understand how many decades ago those roads had been put up and how long ago they were repaired. Why should it happen only with regard to the streets which are inhabited by Muslims?

"Sir, you know, even in the matter of food, there is difference. You know, Sir, that there is a thing called Halali meat. It is a vital matter for the Muslims. It is a question of food to them. Muslims have to slaughter the animals in a particular way if they are to partake of the meat. This has been recognized by all people hitherto, but now people have taken it into their heads and in this matter too there is interference with the Muslims. Sir, meat, which is non-halali, is being sold freely in all places and no distinction is made between that meat and halali meat. Suppose in a market in a town or in a village, people say that they will only have non-halali meat and that halali meat should not be sold there, because they have got a majority in that municipal council, then what can the Muslims of that place, do?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"Will the hon. Leader of the Opposition kindly let the House know, what halali meat is?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Halali meat is the meat of an animal which has been slaughtered in a particular way and it is only that meat which the Muslims can partake of. There are many other things like this in which difference exists between Muslims and others. If such restrictions are sought to be placed upon Muslims, they naturally ought to have their say and that say must be only by their real representatives and not by the representatives of the majority community. Sir, these are some of the things which I wanted to place before you to show that there really exists a fundamental difference between the Muslims and others and therefore the Muslims must have a right of representing these things before the civic body. With what result, of course, the future alone can say, but they must at least have the right of representing such of their affairs in which they differ so fundamentally from others.

"Sir, so much is said against separate electorate. But the principle of separate electorate has already been conceded by Congressmen in the case of certain other constituencies. I say, Sir, in the case of Muslims alone and in the matter of these local bodies, they refuse to extend that principle. Take for example, the labour constituency. Why should they have representatives elected only by labour? Then take the University constituency, Sir. Why should they be elected only by graduates? What difference is there

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between graduates and non-graduates? Is the difference between graduates and non-graduates any the less than the difference between the Hindus and Muslims? Then there are also many other constituencies where this principle has been conceded. This principle of separate electorate has been recognized not only in this country, but also in various other countries of the world. Therefore, Sir, it is too late in the day to question the principle of separate electorate. The only thing to do is that it must be viewed from the right point of view and extended to the field of civic affairs as well. I once again say to the Government that this separate electorate won't divide the people; on the other hand it will bring them together. Whether for the present or whether as a long-term policy, you have conceded that principle to others; then why deny the Muslims alone of their right of being represented by themselves? But then you will say that you have provided for reservation of seats for Muslims; that will not do. The question really is, whether Muslims elected by a majority of non-Muslims can effectively represent Muslims. They cannot. There may be a few constituencies where Muslims may be in a majority. The representatives elected by those constituencies may, to a great extent be real representatives of the Muslims. But what about other constituencies where the Muslims are not in a majority? Sir, even in the delimitation of constituencies, there are so many anomalies. There are many cases wherein anomalies do exist—and I know a certain number of them myself—but I shall mention only one such case.

“ In Ramnad there is a place called Kilakkarai. Almost bordering on Kilakkarai there is another place called Tiruppulani. In Kilakkarai, the Muslims form the majority of the population. Both Kilakkarai and Tiruppulani are far away from Ramnad. Now, Sir, Kilakkarai and Ramnad are clubbed together as one constituency, so that Kilakkarai where there is a Muslim majority, will not be able to have a majority of votes in that joint division. Tiruppalani which is a much smaller place than even Kilakkarai is constituted as a separate division so far as elections to the district board are concerned. Sir, why has this been done? Even where Muslims are in large numbers, and can influence the elections with the number of their votes, they are not given facilities to join together and the divisions are so arranged as to take away this weight of voting from them. The same thing has happened in some other municipalities also. Even in Madras there are some such divisions. There are, for instance, the Mirzapet, the Krishnampet and other divisions. In those localities Muslims are concentrated. But these localities where Muslims form the majority are scattered between various other divisions so that they could not form themselves into a separate division. This is another way, Sir, whereby the Muslims are not allowed to have the weight of their numbers.

“ Now, Sir, in view of all these things, and in order to set at rest all such fears and differences, there must be separate electorate and I say that that question has not been seriously considered by

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our friends. Where Muslims are concerned, they are not so seriously taken as they ought to be. Some hon. Members indulged in all sorts of flippant arguments. Where Muslim questions were concerned, even some of the Hon. Ministers, I should say, treated them lightly. So far as the question of education is concerned, we are treated lightheartedly. Even in the matter of local administration, we are treated lightly in this way.

“ Sir, we feel that our fundamental rights are not given the proper weight to which they are entitled. With such colleagues and with such partymen, even our Hon. Premier, with all the goodwill in the world and with all his great desire to do justice to every section of the people, even he is not able to do what he wants. Even in spite of the existence of such fundamental differences between his party and ours, I have found that the Hon. Premier had made an effort to understand our point of view and inclined to do justice to us. But it came to nothing. All these efforts, all this goodwill and all the desire came to nothing and I should say that it is so because of the atmosphere with which he is surrounded. Then what are we to do under these circumstances? The House and the Ministers have to answer.

“ Sir, coming to separate electorate, I say that it is too late in the day now, to say that separate electorate must go or that separate electorate must not be extended further. Sir, this principle had been recognized from the days of the Minto-Morley Reforms. It has been confirmed by the Lucknow Pact. If it had been wholeheartedly agreed to by both the communities, and if it had been put into operation in all possible fields, to-day you would not find me standing here and making such an earnest appeal to you about such a simple affair as this. You come to an agreement, Sir, 4 p.m. thinking that that is the best under the circumstances. You settle the matter that way. Then very soon after that, you try to unsettle it; you oppose it and then because you oppose it, there is misunderstanding. Then you say that all this misunderstanding is on account of this separate electorate.

“ Then again, Sir, you say that the more you give, the more the Muslims ask. I want to know what is the ‘more’ that has been given to the Muslims. They have been given this separate electorate; I want to put this question not only to this House but also to the world. Who was it that has been yielding and who is it that has been generous? Is it the Muslim nation or the Hindu nation? Take the very question of separate electorate. You gave weightage according to the Lucknow Pact to the Muslims in the minority provinces. At what price? The price is that the Muslims in their majority provinces had to lose their majority. In spite of the weightage that has been given to the Muslims in all the minority provinces, the Muslims can never hope to influence the deliberations of the legislative bodies even as we now find it here to-day in this honourable assembly. The majority of our Hindu friends are not affected by the weightage given to the Muslims in the minority provinces. What is the result so far as the Muslim majority provinces are concerned? They who were in a majority

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in Bengal and the Punjab have been reduced to a minority so far as legislative assemblies are concerned; so much so, even if they get cent per cent victory in their constituencies, they cannot form their own Ministries without the help of some other group. That is the price that the Muslims have paid. And where is the question of appeasement? When the majority community has got everything it wants, when we do not have some of our even fundamental, primary and elementary rights, when we say we want these, when we say that we want to be allowed to say our prayers on Jumma day, to which you say 'No', you keep on saying that the Muslims are always coming forward with more and more demands. That is the spirit with which we are met on these occasions, and that is the spirit with which even this question of separate electorate is being viewed by our friends.

"Sir, apart from this separate electorate, the Muslims too, as a matter of fact, sat with Congress friends over a long number of years, for decades, to find out whether there was any other formula which could be adopted under the circumstances. There were unity conferences, there were peace conferences, conciliation meetings. The Muslims did not boycott any of them; they also sat with our Congress friends and did their best to find out an alternative formula to this separate electorate scheme. They also went to London and attended all the three Round Table Conferences. There too this question was discussed; and what was the result? They could not find any other formula. All these years' experience could not produce anything else than this separate electorate, because separate electorate is so very natural, is so very reasonable and it is the only thing that will bring peace and amiability amongst the peoples that inhabit this country. That is why, Sir, you are not able to bring forward any other formula and there is no use refusing to see squarely this fact which I have placed before you."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"On a point of information, Sir, the hon. Friends of the Muslim group seem to have always thought of majority fear and majority rule. Such being the case, I want to know how separate electorate is going to help them, and not joint electorate or separate representation."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, that is based upon this fact. First of all, there is the one fact which cannot be denied by anybody, that the right of anybody cannot be snatched away by any other people, however powerful they may be. That fact is there first. Then, so as to live amicably, so as not to give room for any such attempt on the part of others, Muslims, their real representatives, have to be there, to represent to the concerned authorities, their fears, the injury that would be done to them by doing such and such a thing; and that is again based on the hope and belief that if the majority community is convinced or is made to understand that the Muslims have got such and such a view, they will come round. It is upon this basis we think that separate electorate and separate representation for Muslims will be beneficial to the Muslims as well as to the general

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body politic. Sir, here at times some of our friends say, as between the Scheduled castes and the Muslims—one of my friends raised this question in the House the other day—where is the chance for the others? This very question has, I thought, let the cat out of the bag. Our friends have been harping upon the contention that a Muslim or a Scheduled Caste man or a Christian will be as good a representative for the Hindus as a caste-Hindu himself can be. But then when the Muslims and the Scheduled castes want their rights of representation, the hon. Friend is very anxious they should not get away with large rights and privileges. That shows, Sir, the spirit with which they on the other side are viewing this thing. They not only want to have their own representatives, but also want to have control over the representatives who have to speak for Muslims. That possibility has to be eliminated and can be eliminated only through separate electorate.

"Sir, the question of minorities is not the sole monopoly of this country alone. There are minorities and there have been minorities in Europe as well. But there is a difference between those minorities and the minorities in our country. In Europe, there are minorities who differ from the majority on account of certain visible things, objective things such as race, religion, language and culture. And certain other people constitute themselves into minorities because they want that they must be separate from the other people. As an example here I may cite the Austrians. The Austrians have got the culture and more or less the same language as the Germans. However, after the last war, it was said that they wanted to constitute a separate State for themselves and it was constituted. Here in this country, the Muslims are different from our Hindu friends objectively as well as subjectively. We have got our own differences with our friends and we also want that these differences should not be obliterated because it is no good either for the majority community or for the minority community to obliterate them. These differences, it may look curious to you and to others, particularly to the western countries, have arisen on account of difference in religion. There is a fundamental difference between Islam and the Hindu religion. Islam says that everybody who is born in the world is equal, whereas the other religion says, or at least people act in such a way, or entertain the belief, that every one who is born in the world is born in a particular caste which he cannot change until he dies and goes out of this world. (The Hon. Sri T. Prakasam: No, Sir; that is not correct.) Sir, I do not know what the Hon. Premier means by saying that it is not correct. I cannot understand it. As I see things now, there are not hundreds of castes but thousands of castes, and these people do not inter-dine, they do not inter-marry and they do not have many things in common, which other people have, whether it is their religion or not, it is the actual fact and politics must take account of facts as they are. To-morrow perhaps they may change, but let politics also in that case change to-morrow. Sir, Islam recognizes all humanity as one, whereas the culture of our friends is based upon these distinctions as between man and man. If I

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remember aright,—I cannot quote the passage and I am not going to do it, but—in the opening chapters of the Bhagavad Gita it is said that any one who tries to confuse caste is the great possible sinner, he is an accursed man. Some such idea occurs in the Bhagavad Gita, that a man must conform to the caste and he must not try to confuse caste, must not try to obliterate castes.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I am very scrry, Sir, my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition refers to Bhagavad Gita. Bhagavad Gita is difficult perhaps to understand. Bhagavad Gita advocates only one religion for humanity altogether everywhere in the world and it is that thing that has been given to other religions.”

SRI N. S. VARADACHARI:—“Let me also rise to say that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is wholly wrong in his reference. Obviously somebody has misinterpreted the Bhagavad Gita, specially the first part to him. (An hon. Member: ‘He is making a speech, Sir.’) Not so; I only wish to point out that the Bhagavad Gita does not say it at all. And that Mr. Ismail Sahib has learnt through somebody who has half knowledge of this very important matter and has totally misinformed him. Let me tell my friend that it is totally wrong.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, the Hon. Premier said that I cannot understand Bhagavad Gita, my reply would be this: I thought, and I have been thinking all along, that these scriptures are for the guidance of mankind, mainly the generality of people. Therefore I thought I could understand Bhagavad Gita as much as I can understand any other scripture. Now that my hon. Friend says it is the monopoly of only a particular class of people to understand, I have nothing more to say.” (Laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER:—“He never said that; he did not mean to say it that way.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“My friend the hon. Mr. Varadachari said that I have thoroughly misunderstood and so on. I am prepared to show to him chapter and verse; and even now, I may tell him that I had this from a book which was given to me by a devout Hindu Brahmin Ayyangar friend of mine.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I must correct the hon. the Leader of the Opposition. He says he will quote from a book. If he sits with me, I will show him the passages from which he can understand what the Bhagavad Gita teaches. Bhagavad Gita teaches what Islam teaches, what Christianity teaches and what every other religion teaches. That is the main religion; and the others followed; it started it, and it gave this thing to others also what it taught.”

15 M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Well, Sir,
m. I am not a Pandit . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“We may leave Bhagavat Gita to itself and come to the subject under discussion.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“What I wanted to say, Sir, was, in actual life, we find as a matter of fact. (Interruption from the Congress Group: On a point of order, Sir. What is the possible connection between Bhagavat Gita and the local boards?) I am coming to that. Sir, I will request you to ask our hon. Friend to understand this. I said, we want separate electorates because we want real representation for the Muslims. We are a separate community because we are following and adopting a different religion, which is fundamentally different from yours. I wish to show how it is fundamentally different from yours and it does not require a genius to understand this. I speak as a common man to a common man. I thought anybody could understand these things and therefore, my point is that facts must be taken as they are. There are not only hundreds but there are thousands of castes and they are exclusive from one another. A Pandit from Benares has published a book in which he has counted about 5,000 castes in the Hindu body-politic. What they are doing to-day? They are not prepared to coalesce even among themselves. You speak of the Scheduled Castes being part of the Hindus, but what is happening to-day? The very simple elementary right of any man going to a place of worship, which is common to all the people of India, even that has been denied to them. Opening of some of the temples to them, not even all the temples, was being resisted.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“The hon. Member may come to the point.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, these are all very pertinent and very relevant to the subject. I say all this because it shows that there are differences between Muslims and Hindus in regard to their religious culture, way of life, their mental outlook and so many other things, and these differences must be taken into account, recognized and dealt with if there is to be amicability, amity and friendship between these two communities. You want this friendship; we, the Muslims, also want it and that is why, again and again we are harping on this subject. If such a friendship has to be established on a lasting basis, the differences between the two communities must be recognized and your friendship must be based upon that recognition. It is this point that I am urging. Other countries have done likewise. Take the case of Egypt. There is a small community called ‘Copt’ who form three or four per cent of the population of Egypt; they are a small Christian community. When the Egyptians wanted their independence from the ruling power, these Copts said that their rights must be safeguarded. How this question was dealt with in that Muslim country? The majority leader who represented more than 95 per cent of the population, called the leader of this minority community and asked him to formulate their demands and their demands were formulated according to which they wanted some percentage, say 7½ per cent, in the Parliament and 10 per cent in the services. But, what did the majority leader do? He told them that with a small percentage in the Parliament, Services

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and in the Military, their people could not be heard and they could not make other people understand their needs and therefore, their representation must be larger. He, on his own initiative, increased their representation from the original figure. That is how the Muslims dealt with this minority question and from that day forward—this was about thirty years ago—until now, we do not hear of the existence of any minority communities in Egypt at all. So, Sir, I may tell you that one need not be afraid of these words 'separate electorates' at all. Separate electorates alone will satisfy the Muslims, for one thing; secondly, it is a reasonable demand on the part of the Muslims because, it will only be giving them their real representation.

"Then again, the Hon. Minister for Local Administration said that education in this field is a minor question. We do not think so; we think it is a vital question because even the local bodies can in a way deal with the subject in a prejudicial manner so far as the Muslims are concerned. Whether they do it or not, the Muslims want to take care and see through their representatives that they get the education they want and that they are not interfered with in any sphere of public life, whether it is in the legislature, in the local boards or in the municipal councils.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend made so much of Mr. Hameed Khan having been returned by a joint electorate to the Corporation council and asked whether he has not been returned on so many occasions. For one thing there may be exceptions to the general rule and that only proves the general rule. I want to put this question. If Mr. Hameed Khan in espousing the cause of the Muslims, has offended the other members, what happens? He will not be elected on the next occasion, and they will try to find out other candidates. Has it not happened in this Province and other parts of the country? Therefore, Sir, when we are on this very important subject, where the Muslim are vitally concerned, these small factors should not be brought in to prove the case against us."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Leader of the Opposition is discussing the City Municipal (Amendment) Bill which has been referred to the Select Committee. So far as the present Bill is concerned, there is no change in regard to the election. The only provision that is brought in is the enlarged representation for minority communities. The joint electorates are already there and the Bill does not seek to change the position of the electorate. I think it is proper for the hon. Member to confine himself on the question of enlarging or not enlarging the representation of minority communities."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not think the Hon. Minister for Local Administration should be so sophisticated as that. I have not yet come to the proposal for enlarging local bodies; but I am only dealing with the first point, viz., the nature of the representation. We tried to make him understand on the previous Bill that separate electorate alone is

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the thing which will make these bodies work smoothly but he was not convinced of it. Now, I am trying to convince him that it is only separate electorates that can be effective and give real representation to the Muslims. I therefore appeal to him to reconsider his position. Therefore, I do not think what I have been saying is irrelevant. My only regret is that my hon. Friend has not been following me closely and not taking note of what I said. I said all these things in all earnestness thinking that they will receive the earnest consideration not only of the Minister concerned but of the whole Cabinet, because it is a question of life and death for Muslims. We want separate electorates in order to protect our culture, our way of life, our religion, so that we can live in peace with other communities.

"Coming to the question of the enlargement of these local bodies, I say that the Muslims have to be given their due representation according to the communal G.O. You may say, so many seats have been reserved for Muslims and others might come through general seats. In giving figures of the Muslim members of the various municipal councils throughout the Province, our friends have taken care to see not to give the total number of seats for the whole Province. Though I do not know the number, I know from the state of affairs prevalent in this Province, that it will not be anywhere near the number that is the due of the Muslims. For this purpose, I say, you should give separate electorates to the Muslims and allow them to elect their own representatives and then alone they will live happily. Sir, I have been elected by a separate electorate. My mind is not warned by any communal consideration; am I speaking only for the Muslims? Do I look only through the Muslim point of view? Why should you be afraid of separate electorates? That is the question, I want to put to you."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Why should you not have general electorates on that basis?"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will not be there because I have made my point clear. There is a fundamental difference between the Hindus and Muslims and the Muslims have got to protect their religion, language and everything. We want representation and that representation should be true representation and that true representation can be got only through separate electorates.

"The Hon. the Prime Minister has been a lawyer. When he was taking up the case of a party, I do not think, he would have advised the other party against whom he was contending in a Court of law to leave the selection of the counsel for the other party in his hands; he would never have done it. So Sir, it is a very natural demand that the Muslims put forward and even in regard to such reasonable demands, our friends look at us from a suspicious point of view. That is the difficulty now and that is the evil; I want them to disabuse their minds from such suspicion and only take this fact into consideration, viz., that what the Muslims want is real representation in all these local bodies.

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"Sir, coming to another aspect of the Bill, the Government propose to take power to dissolve the various municipal councils and to appoint Special Officers in their place. I say, Sir, it is a very undemocratic procedure which they want to adopt."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The general principles alone can be discussed now and not the details."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is this not a principle, Sir? I saw Sir, that these councils should be allowed to function until their successors are elected and the functions of these civic bodies should not be handed over to Special Officers, that is, to individuals. Whatever may be the present composition of these bodies, yet they are bodies, they are groups of men and they are any day better than single individuals. Even the Commissioners, who may be appointed as Special Officers, we know what they would be like. They would have been associating themselves with the parties in the municipal councils and they would be partisans. You want to conduct the affairs of the councils in the interregnum through these Special Officers. It is very very undemocratic to remove these councillors and entrust the administration of the affairs of the Council to Special Officers. Therefore, I would request the Government to reconsider the question and allow the councillors to function until the new elections take place. You need not have any fear in allowing them to go on for a few more weeks or months. Justice demands that these men, who are at present councillors should not be condemned like this and should not be hanged with one stroke of the pen. If, one or two councils are bad, there is no reason, why the whole lot of the councils should be condemned and abolished. It should be the other way. For the sake of the majority of the Councils against which nobody can have much to say—even the few bad councils, must be allowed to continue until the new elections take place. That is the real democratic way. On the other hand, if you think these councils do not suit your purpose and if you dissolve them simply because you have the power in your hands, you will be setting a very very bad example for the future because other people will try to meddle with these civic institutions as they please and will take this as a precedent which will not conduce to the best interests of public life of this Province. I would therefore request the Government not to stand on their prestige over this matter, but to reconsider the question and allow these councils to continue as they are, until the new elections are completed and the new members take their seats. So, Sir, these are the considerations and points which I am placing you and I request the Government to bear these in mind and see that they are given effect to."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The hon. Member representing the Textile Union of Madras will now speak."

4-30 P.M. SRI N. GOVINDASWAMI NAYUDU:—"சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது இந்தக் கூட்டத்தில் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கும், முனிசிபல் தேர்தல் மதவாரியாகவும் ஜாதுவாரியாகவும் பிரதிநிதித்துவம் வேண்டுமென்று கேட்கப்படுகிறது. ஆனால் தொழிலாளர்கள், உலகத்தில் நூற்றுக்கு 98 பேர்கள்

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இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு இன்று விவாதிக்கும் தேர்தல் முறையில் ஒரு பிரதிநிதித்துவமும் இல்லை என்று தெரிகிறது. அவர்களுக்கும் ஏறக்குறைய 100-க்கு 5 ஆவது அதாவது (5 Per cent) சதவீதம் இருக்க வேண்டும். ஏனென்றால் தொழிலாளர்களில் ஏறக்குறைய அநேகம் பேர்கள் சுகாதாரம் தெரியாதவர்கள் அப்பேர்ப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது அவசியம் அவர்கள் அதிலிருந்து சுகாதாரம் முதலியவைகளை தெரிந்துகொள்ளவும், தேடிக்கொள்ளவும் அது மிக அவசியமாக இருக்கும். சாதாரணமாக மதமானது பராமார்த்திக விஷயங்களை நாடிச்செல்லுகிறது. அம் மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அதிகமாக கேட்கிற காலத்தில் மத உணர்ச்சி இல்லாமல் எல்லா மதஸ்தர்களும் தொழிலாளர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். மத உணர்ச்சி இல்லாத தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு அதில் பிரதிநிதித்துவம் இல்லை யென்றால் அது பொருத்தமில்லை என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இந்த முனிசிபாலிட்டி ஆக்ட்டில் வடதொகுதி தென்தொகுதி என்று இரண்டு ஸ்தானங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. அதை மாற்றி அமைத்து நூற்றுக்கு ஐந்து பேராவது இருந்தால்தான் தொழிலாளர்கள் அவர்களுக்குள்ள விஷயங்களை சில வற்றை தெரிந்துகொண்டு அடைய செளகரியமாக இருக்கும் என்று தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய ரொப்பொழிவை முடித்துக்கொண்டு கிறேன்."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to find out from the Hon. Minister what exactly was the provocation for him to come forward with this Bill."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Larger representation of Muslims."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I see, Sir, from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the Government wish to validate all their orders which were passed most undemocratically. Then, the second thing which they wish to do is to delay the holding of elections on account of the fact that the electoral rolls are not proper and that they are defective and that the electoral rolls should be set right. So far as I know, Sir, in the City of Madras and in the Province, the Government have not taken any step to see that these electoral rolls are put in order; they are as bad as ever. There are some names of persons in the list who either are not alive or do not exist. Then Sir, the electoral rolls are not prepared in a scientific manner. The electoral rolls which have been used in the last Assembly elections are still being used. Thus, Sir, you see what amount of difficulty has to be experienced at the time of voting by the voters. I am sorry the Hon. Minister has not taken account of the existing difficulties so far as the elections are concerned. He ought to bestow his attention to his very important aspect, which has not been done."

"Then, Sir, the hon. Minister said that the most important aspect of his Bill is that it seeks to give larger representation to minorities than what has been done under the existing Municipal and Local Boards Act. At present it is 25 per cent and he seeks to raise it to 33-1/3 per cent as the maximum."

"Sir, my hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration waxed eloquent while speaking on the other motion. Sir, I can

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"I do not think that I should go the whole length on the question of electorate. I do believe that this is the most proper place when we can refer to a question of the nature of the electorate but having stated our case already on a former Bill I do not think any purpose will be served by repeating the thing. If there was any hope I would have tried to repeat and probably to improve upon it. I know nothing will have any effect on my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Local Administration, because he has made up his mind, I suppose, on very high principles, on principles of nationalism and high principles of bringing harmony between the various sections in this Province. Perhaps that is the object of his party. Separate electorates are rejected for the very good purpose, very good intention of bringing amity in this Province, but I do not agree, Sir, with flouting the most reasonable demand of a people living in this country, in this Province as a minority, not one minority but various minorities, the Muslims, Christians, Scheduled classes and I do not know the other parties here and other minorities, by not giving them the right to elect their representatives in the municipalities. My hon. Friend, Sri Kaleswara Rao, on a former occasion and the Minister himself tried to argue that there was no separate electorates because municipal matters were so common to all the communities that it did not need any separate representation. If that was so, my hon. Friend would have been logical enough to agree that there was no need for reservation at all."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Is the mike working?"

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is sometimes working and some times not, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then you may continue your speech."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to tell my hon. Friend that if he does not believe in separate electorates it was logical and the Minister for Local Administration was quite right when he said that without separate electorates there is no meaning in reservation."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I did not say that."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That was the meaning. That is what I understood. Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is the use of giving reservation and that too most inadequate representation without the right of a particular people sending in their representatives? Sir, various arguments can be advanced for proper representation even in a municipality. Then I want to know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister again, under these conditions when the electoral rolls are not properly prepared, when exactly he proposes to have the elections for the local bodies? These

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elections have been put off from one day to another and these elections have been supposed to be held in the month of April or May."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The electrician says that one side has fused and the other side may also fuse if we use the fans and mikes, and I, therefore, adjourn the House to meet again at 11 o'clock to-morrow."

VI.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

The Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1947) passed by the Council and received therefrom in the Assembly.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 137 asked by P. K. Moideen Kutti Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 13th February 1947, page 602 supra.]

Designation of the posts.	Total number of posts.	Number of Muslims
I. Revenue Department—		
(1) Revenue Divisional Officers ..	5	Nil.
(2) Tahsildars including Special Tahsildars etc. ..	12	Nil.
(3) Assistant Tahsildars ..	5	Nil.
(4) Deputy Tahsildars including Special Deputy Tahsildars, etc. ..	26	Nil.
II. Food Department—		
(1) Deputy District Supply Officers ..	2	Nil.
(2) Taluk Supply Officers ..	9	1 (on leave)
(3) Assistant Taluk Supply Officers ..	12	2
III. Home Department—		
(1) First-class Magistrates including the Additional District Magistrate and Additional First-class Magistrates ..	8	Nil.
(2) Second-class Magistrates ..	16	Nil.
(3) Third-class Magistrates ..	8	Nil.
IV. Education and Public Health Department—		
(1) District Educational Officers ..	2	Nil.
(2) District Health Officers ..	2	Nil.
V. Development Department—		
(1) District Agricultural Officer ..	1	Nil.
(2) District Veterinary Officer ..	1	Nil.

NOTE.—The question seeks for information about a few selected posts. Gazetted officers are liable to be transferred from district to district and there may be in a district a number of Muslims at one time and very few at another. As regards non-gazetted staff, there are several more posts both in the Revenue Department and in other departments. A statement showing the number of persons of each community holding the various gazetted and non-gazetted posts under the Government will be published by about March 1947. In that statement, the figures showing the number of gazetted officers and non-gazetted officers whose appointments and transfers are made on a provincial basis will be given for the Presidency as a whole and the figures for other non-gazetted officers will be shown separately for each Revenue district.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 138 asked by Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 13th February 1947, page 603 supra.]

Statement.		
Name.	Designation.	Community.
1 C. R. Hadingham.	Director of fire Services ..	(European.)
2 F.R.W. Birkett..	Chief Regional Fire Officer ..	(Do.)
3 G. G. Butcher ..	Chief Regional Fire Officer.	(Do.)
4 J. H. Gray ..	Chief Regional Fire Officer.	(Do.)
5 William Seed ..	Divisional Officer..	(Do.)
6 J. Cundall ..	Do. ..	(Do.)
7 H. Churchill ..	Do. ..	(Do.)
8 J. Cunningham ..	Do. ..	(Do.)
9 N. Jayaraman ..	Personal Assistant to the Director of Fire Services (approved probationer in the category of Superintendents in the Chief Secretariat.)	(Brahman.)
10 A. Radhakrishna-murthy.	District Officer ..	(Do.)
11 A.V.R. Sharma ..	Do. ..	(Do.)
12 B. B. Shastri ..	Do. ..	(Do.)
13 T. Gopalakrishna Rao	Do. ..	(Do.)
14 John Koshi ..	Do. ..	(Indian Christian.)
15 Md. Abdus Salam Mohajir.	Do. ..	(Muslim.)
16 K. P. Balakrishna Menon.	Do. ..	(Non-Brahman.)
17 S.A. Rasheed ..	Do. ..	(Muslim.)
18 A. P. Jesudasan..	Do. ..	(Indian Christian).

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APPENDIX III.
[Vide answer to starred question No. 139 asked by Sri A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 13th February 1947, page 604 supra]
List of senior specialists attached to the three Medical Colleges in this Province, their date of retirement, etc.

Serial number and appointment.	Name of the officer holding the post.	Date of his retirement.	(3)	(4)	Whether the officer mentioned in the previous column will be available for taking the place of senior specialists mentioned in column (2).	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
I. Non-clinical Departments.						
1. Professor of Anatomy, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. A. Ananthanarayana Ayyar, M.Sc.	12th May 1954	Nil.	{	{	
2. Additional Professor of Anatomy, Medical College, Madras.	Rao Sahib Dr. D. Sivagubramaniam, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.).	2nd April 1949.	(One officer is expected to take a higher degree in this subject shortly.)			Will not be available as he is required for appointment as Professor in one of the new Medical Colleges.
3. Professor of Anatomy, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. T. V. Mathew, M.Sc.	16th March 1951.				
4. Professor of Physiology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. M. A. Basir, Ph.D. (Edin.).	1st July 1952.	1	{	{	
5. Additional Professor of Physiology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. K. N. Krishnan, M.Sc.	17th September 1943.	(An additional officer is expected to qualify in the near future.)			Will not be available as they are required for appointment in the new Medical Colleges.
6. Professor of Physiology, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. (Miss) E. A. Michael, Ph.D. (Edin.).	4th December 1949.				
7. Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. A. S. Mannady Nair, Ph.D. (Edin.).	12th February 1949.	1	{	{	
8. Additional Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. D. Narayana Rao, M.Sc. (on leave).	15th July 1947.				Will not be available as he is required for appointment in the new Medical Colleges.
9. Professor of Bio-Chemistry, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. V. K. Narayana Menon, M.B.B.S. (not fully qualified).	31st August 1949.				
Professor of Bacteriology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. Y. S. Narayana Rao, M.B.B.S., D.B. (Lond.).	18th February 1954.	Nil.	{	{	
Professor of Bacteriology, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. N. G. Paridalai, M.D., Ph.D. (Edin.).	1st December 1951.	Nil.			Nil.

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12. Professor of Pathology, Medical College, Madras.	Rao Sahib Dr. D. Govinda Reddy, M.D.	1st June 1957.	1	Will not be available as it is proposed to appoint him as Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Medical College, Madras, vice Dr. A. Srinivasulu Nayudu.	
13. Professor of Pathology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. G. D. Valiath, M.D. (Path.).	29th November 1954.			
14. Professor of Pathology, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. T. Bhaskara Menon, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.P.	4th May 1953.			
15. Professor of Jurisprudence, Medical College, and Part-time Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Rao Bahadur Dr. A. Srinivasulu Nayudu, M.D., B.S.Sc.	Retired officer re-employed.			
16. Part-time Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. I. Bhoshana Rao, M.D. (Path.), temporary Civil Assistant Surgeon.	6th January 1959.	..	..	
17. Professor of Pharmacology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. J. C. David, Ph.D. (Edin.)	28th April 1951.	..	The question of recruiting a candidate direct for appointment as Professor of Pharmacology, Medical College, Madras, and the posting of an Assistant Surgeon to the post of Research Officer is under consideration.	
18. Professor of Pharmacology, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam.	Dr. V. Iswariah, M.B.C.P. (Edin.), F.R.F.S. (Glas.).	6th September 1953.			
19. Research Officer, Pharmacological Unit, Medical College, and Professor of Pharmacology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Vacant. (The Professor of Pharmacology, Medical College, Madras, is temporarily holding charge of the appointment of Professor of Pharmacology, Stanley Medical College, in addition to his duties.)	..			
20. Professor of Chemistry, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. P. Venkat Rao, B.A., M.B.B.S., M.Sc. (Forensic Chemistry).	20th October 1954.	..	..	

List of senior specialists attached to the three Medical Colleges in this Province, their date of retirement, etc.—cont.

Serial number and appointment.	Name of the officer holding the post.	Date of his retirement.	Number of qualified officers in the cadre available for appointment at present.	Whether the officer mentioned in the previous column will be available for taking the place of senior specialists mentioned in column (2).	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)

II. Clinical Departments.

21. Professor of Medicine, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Major S. Shone, M.D., M.B.C.P. (Lond.), I.M.S.	22nd February 1961.	I.M.S. appointment.		
22. Professor of Medicine, Medical College, Madras.	Lt.-Col. K. N. Pisharoti, M.D., M.B.C.P.	22nd August 1947.			
23. Additional Professor of Medicine, Medical College, Madras.	Lt.-Col. C. K. Prasada Rao, M.D.	23rd August 1951.			
24. Professor of Therapeutics, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. B. H. Padmanabha Pai, M.D.	20th December 1951.			
25. Professor of Therapeutics, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Dr. T. K. Raman, M.D.	20th January 1953.			
26. Professor of Medicine, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. P. Kutumbiah, M.D., M.B.C.P.	22nd November 1947.			
27. Professor of Clinical Medicine and Therapeutics, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. P. Arunachalam, M.D., M.B.C.P., T.D.D.	16th May 1953.			
28. Professor of Mental Diseases, Medical College, and Part-time Lecturer, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. J. Dhairyam, M.D. (Psychiatry).	17th November 1947.	Nil	Nil	
29. Professor of Surgery, Medical College, Madras.	Major F. A. B. Sheppard, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), I.M.S.	21st April 1959.			
30. Professor of Operative Surgery, Medical College, Madras.	Major Sangam Lal, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S. (Lond.), I.M.S.	25th September 1956.	I.M.S. appointments.		

A few of the officers mentioned in column (4) will have to be employed in the new Medical Colleges and the rest will be available for replacing the senior specialists.

....

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31. Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery, Medical College, Madras.	Rao Bahadur Dr. N. S. Narasimha Ayyar, F.R.C.S. (Eng.) and (Ire.).	20th April 1948.			
32. Professor of Surgery, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Major D. Kanagasabesan, M.S., F.R.C.S. (E.).	16th August 1949.			
33. Professor of Operative Surgery, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Lt.-Col. M. V. Ramamurti, F.R.C.S. (E.).	15th January 1954.			
34. Professor of Surgery, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Rao Bahadur Capt. M. G. Kini, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), etc.	5th August 1948.			
35. Professor of Operative Surgery, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. C. Raghavachari, M.S., F.R.C.S. (E.).	26th December 1957.	* 5		

A few of the officers mentioned in column (4) will have to be employed in the new Medical Colleges and the rest will be available for replacing the senior specialists.

36. Professor of Dental Surgery, Medical College, Madras.	J. B. Chenoy, L.D.S., M.C.S. (Eng.).	Retired Officer re-employed.	Nil	Nil	The Government have sanctioned the opening of a Dental School in the Government General Hospital, Madras, with a Professor and two Medical Assistants. The question of recruiting the staff for employment in the above posts is under the consideration.
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37. Professor of Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. P. V. Cherian, M.B.E., F.R.C.S. (E.), D.L.O.	9th July 1948.	2. (One in the Men's and one in the Women's cadre.)		
38. Professor of Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Vacant.				
39. Professor of Venereal Diseases, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. R. V. Rajam, M.S., M.B.C.P. (E.).	9th January 1949.	Nil	Nil	

List of senior specialists attached to the three Medical Colleges in this Province, their date of retirement, etc.—cont.

Serial number and appointment	Name of the officer holding the post.	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
						Remarks.
						Whether the officer mentioned in the previous column will be available for taking the place of senior specialist mentioned in column (2).
						The question of deputing two permanent Assistant Surgeons for post-graduate study in Radiology is under consideration.
II. Clinical Departments—cont.						
40. Professor of Radiology, Medical College, Madras and Lecturer in Radiology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. K. Manjunatha Rai, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.M.R. (Lond.).	20th July 1955.	Nil	..	Nil	..
41. Professor of Midwifery, Medical College, Madras.	Major G. B. Thomas, M.B.C.O.G., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), I.M.S.	28th January 1960.	15th November 1948.	Nil in the permanent Men's cadre. One Assistant Surgeon in Women's section with post-graduate qualification in Midwifery is available.	..	..
42. Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. M. Balakrishna Prabhu, M.D., M.B.C.P. (E.), M.M. (Lond.).	15th November 1948.	3rd December 1954.	..	..	..
43. Professor of Midwifery, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	Dr. R. K. K. Tampan, D.O., M.B.C.O.G., F.R.C.S. (E.).	3rd December 1954.	28th April 1948.	..	..	..
44. Professor of Midwifery, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Dr. R. G. Krishnan, F.R.C.S. (Ire.).	28th April 1948.	Retired officer re-employed. 1st September 1958.	..	..	..
45. Professor of Ophthalmology, Medical College, Madras.	Dr. K. C. Shankara Menon, D.O.M.S. (Lond.).	Retired officer re-employed. 1st September 1958.	1st May 1955.	..	..	..
46. Professor of Ophthalmology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.	† Dr. R. E. S. Muthayya, M.S. (Cph.), (On deputation out of India.)	1st May 1955.	..	..	..	..
47. Professor of Ophthalmology, Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatnam.	Dr. S. N. Gantayat, D.O. (Madras). (Not fully qualified.)	1st May 1955.	..	..	..	..

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† Major M. A. Nair, D.O.M.S. (Lond.), D.O. (Oxon), Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon, Stanley Hospital, is performing the duties of the Professor of Ophthalmology, Stanley Medical College, Madras, in addition to his duties, viz Dr. R. E. S. Muthayya on deputation out of India.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, the 14th February 1947.

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

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Adult education for women.

* 153 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the proposals of the Government for furthering the cause of adult education among women?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The matter is under the consideration of the Government.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I know how long the Government will take to arrive at a decision in regard to this matter?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“Till the reply to the questionnaire is received and the recommendations of the Committee appointed to go into the matter are received.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask whether the Government are affording facilities to the Indian Women's Civic Corps for promotion of adult education; if so, what facilities are being provided?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question.”

Construction of a new building for Government Islamiah High School, Trichinopoly.

* 154 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what progress has been made with regard to the erection of suitable building for the Islamiah High School, Trichinopoly;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Government for the construction of a new building for that school; and

(c) when the building for the above high school is expected to be ready?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“(a) It is proposed to utilize the existing buildings of the Government Headquarters Hospital, Trichinopoly, for the Government Islamiah High School, as soon as the hospital

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is removed to the new buildings under construction. It is not therefore proposed to proceed with the scheme for the acquisition of a site and construction of buildings thereon.

“(b) & (c) Do not arise.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask when the scheme is likely to take effect? The use of the words ‘as soon as’ in the answer is very vague.”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ When this answer was drafted, it was thought the department might be able to give this building; but there is some difficulty now raised by the Surgeon-General. The Government, therefore, is unable to give a more definite answer in the matter.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know, where the hospital is to be located? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ A grand new building is being constructed for the hospital.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I know, when that building will be ready for the hospital? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ It is more than I can say.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask, whether it is not the policy of the Government, not to construct new buildings? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ No, Sir. I think we are, at a furious rate, putting up many buildings.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask whether it is likely that this building for the Islamiah High School, will come up this year? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ I am afraid that is more than I can say.”

* 155 Q. and 156 Q.—Answered on 13th February 1947.

Labour schools conducted by the Labour Department.

* 157 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

(a) the number of labour schools conducted by the Labour Department for the last five years, the total number of pupils in them and the amount spent for free books and slates for the pupils, districtwar in our province; and

(b) the total number of scholarships given to pupils reading in schools for the last five years, and the total value of these scholarships, districtwar?

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“(a) & (b) The particulars * required by the hon. Member are placed on the table of the House.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“ In view of the passing of the Bill regarding the removal of civic disabilities, is it necessary to continue these labour schools? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ Although the Bill is going to be passed removing the disabilities of the Harijans, to ameliorate the condition of the Harijans, the schools and other amenities are quite necessary for the uplift of the Harijan community.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ It is seen from the statement laid on the table of the House that the Labour Department is functioning in only fifteen districts; what about the other nine districts? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ The Labour Department was started in 1925 and the Government have been extending the Labour Department from district to district. This year, after we assumed office, we are going to introduce the Labour Department in other districts where this department is not functioning.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ In these nine districts, the district of Cuddapah and Kurnool which are said to be especially backward have not been included and these are the districts in which the Labour grant ought already have been spent. May I know why? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ The hon. Member is informed that these two districts will be included from the next year.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ My question was why the amounts were not spent last year? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ It is a matter concerning the previous Government. The present Government has been in office only for the last nine months and ever since then, they have been seriously thinking about the question of the starting of Labour Department in the other districts where it is not functioning and I think my hon. Friend will take my answer as being sufficient.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“ May I know why there is such a great disparity between amounts spent for books and slates in the various districts, for North Arcot the expenditure is Rs. 6,150, Tanjore Rs. 4,113, and for East Godavari a sum of Rs. 35 only? ”

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—“ The need for any one district may be greater than the other districts. Most probably the reason may be on account of the fact that there has been no change of books for that year and the students were using the same books in the East Godavari district, but that in the other districts where greater amount of expenditure has been incurred the books were changed.”

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SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"Where there are district board schools, is it not highly desirable that in the interests of communal harmony to admit Harijan students after granting special scholarships in these schools?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"So long as a separate department exists and if the district board is going to take up the question of supply of books, the Government will certainly consider the matter."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know if Harijans are not admitted into other schools besides Labour schools and is it not desirable to consider the discontinuance of separate institutions for these people, in view of the recent legislation regarding removal of their disability?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"In view of the policy of the present Government, separate schools need not necessarily be continued. But the question is one of distances for the Harijan boys. The discontinuance of labour schools may be considered only when ordinary schools are located near cherries and Hindu and other boys go to those schools in addition to the Harijan boys."

✓ SRI P. KAKKAN:—"Is it a fact that Labour school teachers are not allowed to form unions?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"That is not correct. Recognition has been given to the present labour school organization by the Commissioner of Labour and district associations have also been formed."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I know how long will it take to abolish the Labour schools?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It will continue so long as the mentality and the attitude of the caste people is not changed."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know, Sir, the percentage of literacy of Harijans in the areas where the labour schools are?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Notice."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the mentality of all Hindus and of High caste people are changed and now they are willing to admit Harijans in every village?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is a matter of opinion. It is true that there is a great change in the minds of the educated and cultured people; but still in the remote villages there is little change and the Act which has been recently passed may bring about the change which is wanted by hon. Members."

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SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"It is not a matter of opinion. Is it not a fact, don't you feel and know by experience that when we enter any village, people are willing to take Harijan boys into caste Hindu schools?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I may agree with the hon. Member's views but even though the schools are open to Harijan boys they are afraid of getting admitted into a school which is maintained by caste people and that is why my idea is that the schools might be shifted to Harijan cheris so that the caste boys may go and study there."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know why when there is no special facility provided for the Harijan boys in the schools run by the Labour Department, the Labour schools should not be transferred to the district boards and managed by them instead of through a separate department of Government?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I have no objection to transfer the Labour schools either to the district boards or to the Education Department provided the schools are within the reach of Harijan boys. I have already said that when the ordinary schools are shifted to the Harijan cheris and if the caste boys are made to go there, then I shall have no objection to abolish this department altogether."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"May I ask whether there are any caste Hindu schools as such in our presidency?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"There are no caste Hindu schools as such. District boards are running schools mainly near caste people's quarters; there are very few near the Harijan cheris which are started by district boards. It is only the Labour Department which has about 2,000 schools near the cheris."

SRI B. S. MALLIKARJUNA RAO:—"Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to note that significantly enough, there are no Labour schools in the Vizagapatam district. Will he be pleased to take early steps for starting Labour schools in Vizagapatam district?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"It is true there are no Labour schools in Vizagapatam district because the Department of Labour is not functioning in that district. From next year the department will be started in that district and the schools if necessary will also be started. We are thinking of common schools and the Government policy is to start them. I do not think there will be any necessity for separate schools if the district board is going to shift the schools from caste people's quarters to the Harijan quarters."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will the Government kindly give an assurance that these Labour schools will not be disturbed until such time as the Harijans are satisfied that their educational needs have been fulfilled?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Most certainly. Govern-

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister would give an assurance that the amounts would be spent uniformly in all the districts instead of taking fancy for some districts and spending more upon them than upon the rest? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" The assurance asked by the hon. Member may not be given. Distribution of scholarship depends upon the number of applications that they receive from each district. If a particular district does not submit its application to the Commissioner of Labour, the money allotted for general purposes may be given to the other districts."

SRI K. RAGHAVAN:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that a large number of Harijan students were not granted scholarships this year? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Yes, Sir; not only this year every year a large number of applicants have been rejected for want of funds."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—" May I know whether there are any schools which are not admitting Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Of course theoretically there is no school which does not admit Harijans. But practically on account of the social customs and usage Harijans are unable to go and attend those schools, even though they are open to all communities."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether district board schools are not giving scholarships to Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Generally, Sir, they do not grant any scholarship. Recently during my tour I came to know that some hostels are being maintained by one or two district boards in the south for Harijans, whose names I do not readily remember now."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—" Sir, is the Government aware that the present condition of the scheduled class people is mainly due to their segregated life, without mixing with other people freely? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" A separate question may be put."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—" May I know whether district boards give free scholarships and also provide Harijans with slates and books and other requirements for their study? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I am not aware. As regards free scholarships, district boards have passed a resolution to admit Harijans freely. As regards books and slates, I am not aware."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Regarding hostels maintained by one or two district boards in the south mentioned by the Hon. Minister, are they maintained exclusively for Harijans, Sir? "

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THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" There is no definite information, Sir. But during my tours in the South I visited some hostels maintained by district boards giving six annas per head, especially in Tanjore and Salem."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Is it exclusively run for Harijans? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" Yes, Sir; because they are poor and so they are giving some money from the funds of district boards or funds placed in the charge of district boards by private individuals."

SRI K. RAGHAVAN:—" May I know whether Government will reconsider the case of Harijans, whose applications for scholarships have been rejected? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" As regards sanctioning scholarships to students a time was prescribed for receipt of applications, and those received within that time were considered by the Commissioner of Labour. Applications received after time were not considered. But this year, as a special case, the Commissioner of Labour considered even those applications received after the prescribed date. I do not think this year they will get any scholarship."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to find out which are the district boards that have got hostels for Harijans and what is the rate paid per head per day? "

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—" I will call for the information.")

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Will the Hon. Minister for Education seek inspiration from the Hon. Minister for Public Information as regards the solicitous attitude that he should have towards backward communities? "

(Laughter.)
No answer.

Mills on strike at Coimbatore.

* 157-A Q.—SRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire Coimbatore group of Mills remain closed from to-day due to the declaration of a general strike;

(b) if so, whether the Government took any measures to prevent the above strike; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take immediate and proper measures to have the strike settled at once?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) Yes, with the exception of one mill, which is reported to be working.

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"(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Press Note * on the subject, a copy of which has been placed on the Table of the House.

"(c) The Commissioner of Labour has been sent to Coimbatore to watch the situation. After the declaration of the strike neither party has sought the intervention of the Government for settlement of the dispute."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"May I know how much of yarn will this province lose in one day due to this strike?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the mill-owners financially are in a position to pay six months' bonus and still have a wide margin of profit?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I take the information from the hon. Member."

SRI K. T. KOSALARAM:—"Will Government bring in early legislation to assure reasonable minimum wages, proper increments and bonuses to workers so that the existing troubled situation may be solved in the interest of all in our province?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It is too big a question to be answered in a supplementary question."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"கோயம்பத்தூர் ஸ்டைக்கில் கவர்ண் மென்டார் தலையிட்டு அதில் ஏதாவது செய்யமுடியுமா?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Government are alert in the matter."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"Do Government consider taking over the management of the mills so that production may not be impeded during the strike?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It is also a big question to be answered in a supplementary question."

Communal clashes in the Province.

* 158 Q.—SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of communal clashes districtwar (Hindus v. Muslims) in the Province as from May 1946;

(b) how many places, where such clashes occurred, were personally visited by the Hon. the Premier and what are the places;

(c) whether the Hon. the Prime Minister was invited to Salem; and

(d) if so, whether the request was complied with, and if not, whether there was any special reason for not doing so?

* Printed as Appendix II, on pages 751-752 infra.

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THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) The Government must decline to answer this question as it will be against the public interest to answer it.

"(b) to (d) The following districts have been visited by the Hon. the Prime Minister:—

North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore and Malabar."

Duties of the High Commissioner for India in England.

* 159 Q.—SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state what are the duties performed by the High Commissioner for India in England for this Government?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The duties performed by the High Commissioner for India in England for this Government are shown in the appended list *."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"On a point of information, Sir, I want to know whether this is not a Central subject."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yes."

[The Hon. Speaker then read out section 302 (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, for the information of the House.]

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"Will Government ask the High Commissioner to send us periodical reports as to how we can improve our industry and trade with England?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I think Government should not make any such request to the High Commissioner. This Government and the people here must be able to know how to improve their trade and commerce." (Laughter.)

[* 160 Q. and * 161 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—"As the hon. Member, Mr. Anandan Nambiyar, is not present, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."]

Alleged ban on meetings at Golden Rock.

* 160 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any permission was granted by the District Magistrate of Trichinopoly to the Congress sponsored South Indian Railway Workers' Union to hold their meeting at Golden Rock while such permission was refused to the South Indian Railway Labour Union while there was a ban under section 144 in Golden Rock, in the months of September and October 1946; and, if so, why this discrimination was made; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there is still a ban on holding of meetings and processions at Golden Rock and Trichinopoly?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) On 14th September 1946, the Hon. Mr. Kurmayya, Minister for Information, visited Trichinopoly. The South Indian Railway Workers'

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Union expressed a desire to hear the Minister. The District Magistrate in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police exercised his discretion and decided to permit the meeting and in doing so, he was influenced by the fact that an address by an Hon. Minister would help to ease the situation.

“(b) Yes; the ban is against Communists and Communist-controlled organizations.”

Police action at Golden Rock.

* 161 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of victims of the Police action on 5th September 1946 at Golden Rock, who were treated in the Trichinopoly Headquarters Hospital and in the District Jail Hospital, both as in-patients and as out-patients;

(b) the number of those who received bullet wounds, the number injured by lathi charges, and the number dead; and

(c) the number of those who are still in the hospital (after 70 days of the attack) ?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“(a) Thirty-seven in-patients were treated in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Trichinopoly, and one hundred and nineteen out-patients were treated first in the Government Headquarters Hospital and then treated in the Central Jail, Trichinopoly, after they were remanded.

“(b) Sixteen received bullet wounds including five who died as a result of gun-shot injuries. One hundred and forty-three received injuries as a result of lathi charges.

“(c) One.”

Mosquito control campaign.

* 162 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether mosquito control campaign has been conducted in any of the municipalities in the Province;

(b) if so, what those municipalities are;

(c) since how long the campaign has been conducted in the municipalities;

(d) how much does each spend for that purpose; and

(e) what the result is of the campaign in each of the municipalities?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) to (e) A statement * is placed on the Table.”

* Printed as Appendix IV on pages 754-755 infra.

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SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Sir, from the statement placed on the Table of the House, I find, against Kurnool, it is said ‘Satisfactory’ and against some other places it is said ‘effective’, ‘fairly satisfactory’. May I know what is the difference between ‘satisfactory’ and ‘fairly satisfactory’?”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Refer to the dictionary.” (Laughter.)

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“I suppose it denotes the result of the anti-malarial work carried out in all those areas, and therefore it is said ‘satisfactory’, ‘unsatisfactory’ and ‘fairly satisfactory’.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know whether Government are aware that local bodies who carry on this work do it inadequately and thus the amount spent on it is rather wasted?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“Notice, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask, to make Kurnool town ‘fairly satisfactory’ instead of ‘satisfactory’, what steps Government will take?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“If the measures adopted in the Kurnool district, so far as anti-malarial operations are concerned,—I mean, if the progress is found to be unsatisfactory, Government will certainly consider proposals to obtain satisfactory results.”

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, I find from the paper laid on the Table of the House that the situation in Kurnool is ‘satisfactory’. May I take it from the Hon. Minister that this is due to the presence of Mr. Nagappa in Kurnool?” (Laughter.)

No answer.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask what steps Government are taking to secure an adequately trained personnel for tackling this problem?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The Director of Public Health has put forward proposals to train an adequate number of people to undertake anti-malarial operations.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Director of Public Health is empowered to attend to these urgent schemes without any orders from the Government as a precaution?”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The Director of Public Health cannot undertake to relieve the malarial pest unless and until reports are received from such places. Reports are received from time to time, and Government direct the Director of Public Health to pay particular attention to places from where reports are received.”

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SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Are Government aware that the activities of the Rockefeller's Institute on the Anamalais have brought malarial incidence to a very negligible percentage and will Government consider their course of action, here."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Possibly Government will take into consideration the suggestion made by the hon. Member."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know what prevents the Director of Public Health to direct local bodies who take inadequate steps in respect of eradication of malaria to carry out the work completely?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Notice."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"May I suggest that in view of the heavy incidence of malaria in the Ceded districts, a more radical method and a more intensive method of anti-malarial operations be advocated?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"In view of the fact that the result of the work carried out in the Ceded districts is classified as only 'satisfactory', will Government consider the desirability of executing the drainage scheme as early as possible?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Malaria is not peculiar to Kurnool alone. It is everywhere in the Province, and therefore when the general question is considered, the question of drainage for Kurnool will also be considered."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the proposal made in respect of the eradication of mosquitoes and malaria in Dharmapuri Revenue division?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Dharmapuri also will be considered, Sir."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Has the Minister classified mosquitoes into malarial and non-malarial, and, if so, will she give us an assurance, in view of 'Ahimsa' policy, that non-malarial mosquitoes will not be killed?" (Loud laughter.)

No answer.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the Government intend to establish an anti-malarial organization in this Province on the lines recommended by the Malaria Institute of India?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The suggestion will be considered."

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Licensing of nursing homes.

* 163 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal in regard to the licensing of nursing homes?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government are awaiting proposals from the Surgeon-General regarding the control of nursing homes."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are not aware that there exist in the City of Madras a number of nursing homes which can be designated neither as homes nor as places where nursing is provided?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I am not aware whether there are nursing homes existing which do not come under the category of nursing homes."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Minister is aware that the name 'nursing home' is a misnomer with reference to some of these nursing homes?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"May be so; may be a misnomer."

Recommendations of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee regarding medical institutions.

* 164 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Post-war Reconstruction Committee recommended that all medical institutions run by local bodies and the entire staff should be provincialized and that a corresponding arrangement should be made with regard to the public health staff and institutions; and

(b) whether the Government propose to implement the above recommendations of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee, and if so, when?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the district boards and municipalities do not observe the rules of the Public Health Act, and that public health has deteriorated considerably under the management of these local bodies?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"There are certain provisions in the Madras Public Health Act which are being enforced by the district boards and municipalities. They will be reminded of their duties to see that the provisions of the Madras Public Health Act are enforced more attentively."

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BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the Minister is aware that, according to the Public Health Act, each municipality should earmark 30 per cent and each district board 12½ per cent of its funds for public health purposes, but, that as a matter of fact, the municipalities earmark only 15.6 per cent and the district boards about 7.2 per cent of their income for the purpose?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"It is true, Sir, that a certain percentage of the income of the municipalities and local bodies is earmarked for public health measures, and my impression is that they are giving effect to that."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, Sir, how long it will take the Government to arrive at a decision in regard to the provincialization of the health services?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The Government have already put up proposals for the provincialization of all the hospitals—local funds as well as municipal—and a recommendation has been made by the Post-war Reconstruction Committee regarding this. It is a question of expenditure, and the Government are considering the proposals to be effected as early as possible."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that year after year more and more local fund hospitals are being taken over by Government?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Government have been, in fact, taking over, year after year, four or five hospitals belonging to the district boards and municipalities. The same policy is being continued."

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Audit department checks the accounts of the local bodies in respect of the percentage of money spent on public health as directed by the Public Health Act?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Notice."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is the intention of Government to accept the recommendation of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee regarding the provincialization of medical and public health institutions or to accept the recommendation of the Bhore Committee for establishing district and provincial health boards in the Province which would be to a large extent popularly elected? The two are different."

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"In respect of the recommendation of the Bhore Committee, a scheme is under the consideration of Government to set up what are known as primary units of combined health and medical services. The proposals are under consideration, and they will be given effect to."

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SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is there any proposal, Sir, before the Government to increase the number of hospitals, and also to establish mobile hospitals; if so, may we have details?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"There is no scheme at present to construct new hospitals. But there is a proposal to have mobile units in the proposed firka self-sufficient areas."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Is the Government aware that a scheme was sanctioned by Government ten or fifteen years ago for the construction of a Gosha hospital in Salem, and that the building has not been constructed, in spite of the fact that the present building has been condemned by Government?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The present Government is not responsible for having given effect to the scheme of building a Gosha hospital in Salem. The difficulty with which the Government is faced is the difficulty in securing materials and steel for the purpose of constructing hospitals; further, wages have gone up tremendously and they are phenomenally high. The Government feel that it may be difficult for some time to come to give effect to the building programme."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I take it, Sir, that in conformity with the recommendations of the Bhore Committee, provincial and district health boards are to be established in the near future?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Yes, Sir; this suggestion was made, and a resolution was passed, at the recent conference of Health Ministers. The Government are considering the question of setting up district health boards."

Boring sets for sinking wells.

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

(a) the total number of boring sets available in the Department for sinking wells; and

(b) how they are distributed in various parts of the Province for making them available for the ryots?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) The total number of boring sets available with the Department of Industries and Commerce is 139 of which 15 are power-drills and 124 are hand-boring sets. Of the 15 power drills, 14 are worked by steam engines and 1 is worked by Diesel engine.

" (b) The distribution of the boring sets is regulated with reference to the receipts of applications from the parties and the urgency of the requirements. The appended statement * gives particulars of the present distribution of the sets."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Do Government think that the number of sets, hand-boring as well as power-drilling, is sufficient for meeting the requirements of the Province as a whole?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"No, Sir."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then, Sir, do not Government propose to get more boring sets?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Yes, Sir."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"From the statement I find, Sir, that out of 15 power drills 5 are under repairs. May I know how long will it take to repair and supply as East Godavari and West Godavari and other districts are not having any at present?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I shall consult the Industrial Engineer and inform the hon. Member."

[Sugar factories in the Province.]

* 166 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the existing number of sugar factories in this Province is and their total output per year;

(b) where new factories are proposed to be started; and

(c) whether manufacture of yeast out of waste molasses is proposed to be started in any of the sugar factory centres?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) The existing number of sugar factories in this Province is 14 (fourteen). Their total production for 1945-46 was 52,710.31 tons.

" (b) New sugar factories are proposed to be started at the following places:—

- (1) In or near or between Tanjore and Trivadi.
- (2) Ramachandrapuram taluk (East Godavari district).
- (3) Hindupur, Anantapur district.
- (4) Mangalore, South Kanara district.
- (5) Kodaikanal road, Madurai district.
- (6) Chittoor district.
- (7) Udumalpet, Coimbatore district.
- (8) Anakapalle, South Vizagapatam district.
- (9) Between Musiri and Namakkal in Trichinopoly or Salem districts.

" (c) At present yeast is being manufactured by the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories, Limited, Nellikuppam. The question of manufacturing yeast at other centres will be considered."

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KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government are in a position to say that machinery for sugar factories could be brought from foreign countries in the near future?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that the sugarcane growers of South Arcot district are in a great dilemma due to the limited crushing capacity of the factory at Nellikuppam?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice. I shall certainly give all the information that is possible."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the new factories mentioned by the Hon. Minister are to be started or run by Government or by private agencies; and if by private agencies, by whom?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"There are applications from private agencies. The matter of running these industries by Government is also a matter for consideration."

[SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Will Government consider the desirability of establishing a sugar factory in any of the taluks of the South Arcot district where sugarcane is grown extensively?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Government will certainly go into the suggestion."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know, Sir, when these new factories will come into existence?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"As soon as everything is ready." (Laughter.)

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I point out to the Hon. Minister that it will not be possible for these factories to come into existence at least for the next two years?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I take the information from the hon. Member; but I shall see that it is speeded up."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether, in view of the great scarcity of sugar, Government will take steps to run the factories themselves in order to meet the sugar shortage?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"That also will be taken into consideration, Sir."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that sugar can be manufactured as a cottage industry?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Yes, Sir."

SRIMATHI V. LAKSHMI AMMAL:—"If so, will Government take steps to implement it?"

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KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—“Are Government aware that by taking over the running of factories, they will not increase the sugar production by that alone?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“That is a matter of opinion, Sir.”

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—“May I know, Sir, whether there is any scheme for the nationalization of sugar industry?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“That has already been answered, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“May I ask, Sir, whether Birlas and Dalmias are establishing any sugar factories in this Province?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I do not think so, Sir.”

SRI M. G. NATESA CHETTIYAR:—“May I know from the Hon. Minister what are the industries that are not considered fit for nationalization?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“It does not arise out of this question, Sir.”

Control of yarn export.

* 167 Q.—SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last Advisers' Government the Provincial Textile Commissioner has brought under his control the export of yarn made by the Indian-owned mills only and left scot-free the British-owned mills; and

(b) whether the Government propose to bring the British-owned mills also under the control of the Provincial Textile Commissioner?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) The answer is in the negative.

“(b) Does not arise.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Government is aware that there is a great agitation from the handloom weavers on account of the fact that they do not get enough yarn and in time and in a very direct manner?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of that.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister what steps the Government propose to take in order to give them relief immediately?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“We are taking as many steps as are necessary, for example, we are in correspondence with the Government of India, we are attending meetings of the

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Textile Ministers and putting forward the case of this Government very strongly. We are also helping them by other ways, viz., by extending the shift system and so forth in the mills to see that more yarn could be supplied. As I have already said, Mr. Speaker, when the textile policy is discussed in this Hon. House the Government will be in a position to give more information on this subject.”

SRI P. NATESAN:—“Will the Hon. Minister consider the advisability of opening in weaving centres Government Yarn Depots to give yarn to the weavers directly according to ration cards based on actual number of looms?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I will take this into consideration. I cannot answer this question with such short notice.”

Yarn supplied to Harijan weavers in Nellore.

* 168 Q.—SRI K. SHANMUGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the yarn supplied to the Harijans in Nellore district is hardly sufficient for three days in a month; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to supply enough quota of smaller counts of yarn at least to the Harijan weavers as the finer counts are not available?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) No. The yarn supplied to them is enough to keep them busy, like all other weavers in the Province, for not less than ten days in a month.

“(b) The question does not arise.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that most of the Harijans are not able to get their cards registered?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I do not accept the position stated by the hon. Member.”

SRI P. KAKKAN:—“May I know whether the Government has issued any order to the District Yarn Control Officers to give the permit cards to the individual weavers through the Weavers' Association?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I am not in a position to answer this at once. I want notice, Sir.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—“Will the Government be prepared to accept my statement if I prove it with facts and figures?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I shall certainly go into the hon. Member's statement.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Will not the situation improve if the Government gives up the quota system and eliminates the class of people who are responsible for the defective supply of yarn and also leakage?”

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"That is being considered actively, Sir."

SRI S. C. BALAKRISHNAN:—"How many licences for cloth and yarn business were issued to the Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Notice, Sir."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Is it a fact that the weavers who are also part-time agricultural labourers are excluded from the purview of the scheme for supply of yarn and if so will the Government take steps to remedy the defect?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I shall certainly look into the matter. I cannot give an off-hand answer now."

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Arising out of the answer, may I request the Hon. Minister to increase the quota of yarn given to Harijans so that they may have work for more than ten days in a month?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It is a big question. I shall certainly go into the matter sympathetically."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Do the Government issue permits for weavers or for any other people on a communal basis?"

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

[Arrest of people who come drunk into prohibition area.]

* 169 Q.—SRI S. NAGAPPA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have issued orders not to arrest people that come drunk to the prohibition area from the bordering areas?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"No, Sir."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"May I know if the Government has not issued such orders, how is it that many drunkards are found in the Prohibition area?"

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"The mere fact that certain persons go outside the Prohibition area and have a drink in the non-prohibition area and come back to the Prohibition area by itself does not constitute an offence."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"If that is the case, is not the purpose of Prohibition lost?"

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Because there have been a few cases of drunkenness it does not by itself prove that the purpose of Prohibition is lost. We are trying to see as far as possible that this evil is put down."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"In view of the information given by the Hon. Minister will the Government consider the desirability of making a law that even if a man drinks outside a Prohibition area and comes into the prohibition area, he commits an offence?"

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THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Even to-day there are two sections, one in the Penal Code and the other in the Town Nuisance Act under which drunkenness, if it involves annoyance to others and disorderly or riotous behaviour is an offence and the person can be charged by the Police and it is being occasionally done. Under the Prohibition Act there is no such offence."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"May I know from the Government when is a man drunk?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"When the matter comes up for decision as to what sort of drinking is to be treated as an offence it will be looked into."

ABDUL HAMMED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If the Government encourages drunkenness indirectly what exactly is the object of prohibition?"

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"The Government does not encourage drunkenness indirectly or directly."

SRI A. SUBRAMANIAM:—"குடித்து விட்டுவந்தால் அவர்களை தண்டிக்க அவர்கள் ஏதாவது ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்களா? சட்டத்தைத் திருத்த ஏதாவது அபிப்பிராயம் உண்டா?"

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—"Whether mere drinking outside the prohibition area and coming back into the prohibition area could be made an offence and under what conditions, are all being investigated into. I have asked for some information from the Central Provinces and Berar Government who I am informed have made similar acts an offence. The real difficulty is that mere drunkenness without a combination of annoyance or riotous behaviour if made an offence, may lead to harassment and abuse. Anyway I will see what can be done."

SIR STUART TOWN:—"I have always understood that alcohol remains in the human system for many months. Does that preclude me from going into a Prohibition area for many months?" (Laughter.)

Abolition of the Board of Revenue.

* 170 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have decided to abolish the Board of Revenue?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The Reorganization Sub-Committee of the Cabinet is examining the necessity for retaining the Board of Revenue in its present form and the question will be considered by the Government after the Committee has made its recommendation in the matter."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know when this Committee was appointed, for how long it has been considering this matter and how long will it take to finish its work?"

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THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"It was constituted about three or four months back and it may take about the same time more to finish its labours."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Do the Government realize that the Board is serving a very useful purpose?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"Yes, Sir, the Government are aware of that."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of continuing the Board of Revenue?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"I said that all these matters are under the consideration of the Government."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I may immediately inform the House that the Government does not propose to continue the Revenue Board."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask the Hon. Premier to take the House into confidence and let it know what exactly are the reasons for abolishing this Board?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The reasons will be stated later when it is matured."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether there is any correspondence going on between this Government and the Secretary of State on this matter?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Not so far as I can remember."

* 171 Q.—THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—"The answer to this question seems to be too long. I may therefore be permitted to place it on the table of the House on the next day."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The question will be taken up at the next meeting."

Minor ports on the West Coast.

* 172 Q.—SRI A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have framed any schemes for the improvement of minor ports on the West Coast including the ports of Mangalore and Malpe in South Kanara; and

(b) if so, when they propose to carry out these schemes?

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

" (b) In a period of about three years."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"May I know whether the ports of Cuddalore and Porto Novo will be open for traffic to the Straits Settlements?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The question is about the ports in the West Coast. The East Coast is far away from that, Sir."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am sorry I could not follow the answer of the Hon. Minister with regard to (b), whether he proposes to take it up after three years or whether it will be completed within three years."

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We hope to complete the scheme in three years."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know the nature of the improvements, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The improvements are:—

Calicut.—Strengthening of the existing piers, replacing hand cranes by electrically-operated or steam-driven cranes.

Tellicherry.—Forming roads and covering drains.

Mangalore.—Construction of a wharf wall opposite the railway siding. Forming roads on the south reclamation area.

Malpe.—Dredging a channel. Construction of a cargo-shed. Providing beacons with *Aga* light.

Coondapoor.—Construction of a wharf wall. Provision of *Aga* light.

Hangarkatta.—Construction of a wharf wall.

"Besides, we have addressed the Government of India to convert the Malpe port into a deep-sea port at the cost of the Government of India."

SRI M. BAPINEEDU:—"May I ask whether there are any such schemes for the improvement of minor ports in the East Coast or in the Northern Circars?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Again, Sir, it is a question about the East Coast."

SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR:—"What is the result of the proposal to amalgamate Porto Novo and Cuddalore?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask if the Government will be pleased to expedite these improvements and complete them earlier than three years?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"We shall try to do so, Sir."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask what is the amount left for minor ports?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"I should like to have notice, Sir."

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Road connecting Cochin and Ponnani ports.

* 173 Q.—P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the question of converting the "old Military Road" connecting Cochin and Ponnani ports into a pucca road?

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Yes. In the post-war road programme previously drawn up, provision was included for improvements to the road from Ala (on the Cochin Frontier) to Chowghat. The portion from Chowghat to Ponnani has not been maintained for a very long time. There is no proposal to improve it since it is lying on the foreshore of the sea, and since the cost of improvements and subsequent repairs to it will be prohibitive. It also serves very few villages. Hence an alternative road on the east of the Ponnani-Cochin canal which would serve more villages and connect Chowghat and Ponnani via Guruvayur was proposed in the original post-war road programme, referred to above. That programme has had to be curtailed since and a revised programme is being drawn up. Under the revised programme the construction or improvements of the roads mentioned above will be taken up in their due turn, having regard to all the circumstances, inclusive of the existence of the Ponnani-Cochin canal which runs parallel to the route and is navigable throughout the year."

P. K. MOIDEEN KUTTI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In view of the fact that the whole of the coastal area which is very densely populated is handicapped for want of very good roads, will the Government be pleased to expedite the matter?"

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—"Yes, Sir."

Muslim high schools for boys.

* 174 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Muslim high schools for boys in the Presidency;

(b) the places where they are located; and

(c) the body that manages each of these high schools?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" (a) to (c) A statement * furnishing the information is laid on the table."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask why only 11 high schools have been provided for Muslims by the Government and the municipalities in this Province although there are 24 districts in this Province?"

* Printed as Appendix VI on page 756 infra.

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Because in all the other districts there are other high schools which are providing education for Muslims also."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to explain what he means?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I think, Sir, that my answer is self-explanatory. In all the districts there are arrangements made for the education of Muslims also in the general schools themselves."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask if instruction in those high schools is imparted in Urdu to Muslim students whose mother-tongue that language is?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That question does not require a fresh answer."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are not the Government aware of the necessity and the demand for more high schools for Muslims?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"There is certainly demand for more schools. The Government is trying to meet it as far as possible."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of opening Government Muslim High Schools in the Nellore and Chittoor districts where the Muslims are backward in the matter of education?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Government will be glad to consider any such proposals."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask, how Muslim students who have studied up till the III Form in Urdu could prosecute their further studies in another language such as Tamil, Telugu or any other language which is not their mother-tongue?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am afraid this question has been discussed *ad nauseum* and does not require any further discussion now especially after a resolution has been moved in this House recently on which the hon. Lady Member has spoken for nearly one hour."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"The Hon. Minister has not given a specific reply at all."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Lady Member may await the reply."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask for how long we are to wait for a reply?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Till I may have an opportunity on the next non-official day when the resolution will come up."

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ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Does the Hon. Minister for Education realize that there is a good deal of appreciation on the part of the Muslim Members here of the very good change that we notice in him? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ It is very kind of the hon. Member, Sir.”

[* 175 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—“ As the hon. Member, Mr. Ananda Nambiyar is not present, this will be printed in the proceedings.”]

National Anthem of Britain in text-books.

* 175 Q.—SRI K. ANANDA NAMBIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the S.S.L.C. text-books for current year begin with the National Anthem of Britain; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to order the omission of the National Anthem of Britain from such text-books?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“(a) Yes.

“(b) The poem will be omitted from the text-books for the S.S.L.C. examination.”

Second-grade colleges in the Province.

* 176 Q.—BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the second-grade colleges in the Presidency and the places where they are located;

(b) which of the above colleges are Government institutions; and

(c) whether it is proposed to raise the Government College, Mangalore, to the status of a first-grade college?

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

- “(a) (1) Government Brennen College, Tellicherry,
(2) Government College, Mangalore,
(3) Voorhees College, Vellore,
(4) Malabar Christian College, Calicut,
(5) Zamorin's College, Calicut,
(6) Hindu College, Guntur,
(7) Islamiah College, Vaniyambadi,
(8) Madura College, Madura,
(9) Bhimavaram College, Bhimavaram,
(10) Veerasaiva College, Bellary,
(11) C. R. Reddi College, Ellore,
(12) S.R.R. College, Bezwada, and
(13) Lady Hope Municipal College (Women), Guntur.

“(b) Items (1) and (2).

“(c) No.”

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B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government have received many representations from the public of North Malabar that the Government Brennen College, Tellicherry, should be raised to the status of a first-grade College? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ Yes, Sir.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask what stands in the way of the Government raising this College and the Government College, Mangalore, to a first-grade College? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ It is mainly a matter of finance.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Government aware that the raising of the Brennen College, Tellicherry, into a first grade college does not involve an expenditure of more than 6 to 7 thousand rupees a year for the present? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ I am afraid the hon. Member is very incorrect in his estimate. I may inform him however that the matter is under consideration.”

MRS. C. AMMANNA RAJA:—“ May I know whether the Government have any intention of taking over the Lady Hope College? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ The hon. Member may put a separate question.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Is the Government aware that the raising of the Government Brennen College to first grade will help the higher education of Mappillas who are dependent upon that college so far as North Malabar is concerned? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ I take the information from the hon. Member.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“ May I ask, Sir, how the Government intend tackling the problem of providing greater facilities for higher education which will be required in the next academical year? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ This is a big question and the hon. Lady Member may put a separate question.”

SRI U. P. MALLAYYA:—“ May I ask whether the Government will consider the advisability of introducing B.T. course in the Government College, Mangalore? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ The matter is under consideration.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“ Will the Government consider sympathetically the question of converting the Brennen College into a first-grade college and come to a decision very soon? ”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“ Yes, Sir, very sympathetically.”

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Are not the Government aware of the great hardship felt by the students in getting admission to colleges and may I ask whether they will provide more colleges for these students?"

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

"I am afraid, Sir, I must make one thing clear. There is a Government Order which has been in existence which says that expenditure by Government on education should be concentrated on elementary education. The Government have not yet reconsidered that Government Order. The matter will be taken into consideration."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Is the Government aware of the fact that there is no college in the Chingleput district?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"There is a college in Tambaram."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I ask the Government to consider Tambaram as part of Madras and reply to my question?"

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

"I have to go by the geography of the place as recognized by the Government."

SRI P. NATESAN:—"May I know if the Hon. Minister realizes that more and more arts colleges will mean more and more unemployment?"

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

"I take it that it is a reply to the question put by another hon. Member on the opposition."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"May I ask whether the Government do not intend to establish any new college in the next academical year and not even raise any second-grade college to the status of a first-grade college?"

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

"The answer to the first part of the question is 'No.' The answer to the second part of the question is 'The matter is under consideration'."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"If the Government have no plans to start colleges of their own next year, will they support private managements who want to start colleges?"

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

"I am sorry that the Government is not in a position to give that assurance."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government aware of the fact that the problem of unemployment stands altogether on a different footing and in their efforts to solve the problem of unemployment the Government will not curtail facilities for education?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Minister has answered the question put by the hon. Member for the Indian Chamber of Commerce."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I should like to have an answer from the Government."

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

"The answer must come from another Member sitting opposite."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I ask whether it is not the policy of the Government to give education for education's sake so far as the people of this Province are concerned?"

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

"I think it is a huge question which cannot be discussed in a supplementary question."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"May I ask if Government have no plans for starting arts colleges, they have no plans to start technical colleges as well?"

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

"The technical colleges that we have already started are yet to be consolidated. The engineering colleges are in need of staff. The medical colleges also, if I may speak on behalf of my hon. Colleague, have to be consolidated before we could think of starting other colleges."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Though my question might have been answered by some other question put by another hon. Member of this House will not the Government state their point of view in the matter?"

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

"Certainly, Sir, if the hon. Member raises the question during the Budget we will answer the point."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government has realized that the public have changed their attitude in the matter of education and that people are getting educated in arts colleges not with the idea of Government employment but with the idea of getting themselves educated and better fitted for any walk of life and in view of this change of attitude on the part of the public will Government consider the necessity of increasing the facilities for arts education?"

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

"I do not think that this question needs a reply."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If it is the policy of the Government not to open more colleges or provide other facilities for students who have passed the S.S.L.C. examination, what steps have they taken to absorb them in other walks of life or provide them with any other kind of education?"

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

"This is too wide of this question and it does not arise from it. If the hon. Member brings up a separate question or a resolution the Government will be prepared to explain their point of view."

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KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—
“Is the Government aware that thousands of students are going to other parts of India for education?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am afraid, Sir, that again is an exaggeration. As far as Madras is concerned last year we provided 1,500 seats but only 900(?) were filled. So it was not a matter of want of seats last year.”

H. S. HUSSAIN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask if provision will be made in the Budget for the coming year for introducing B.T. course in the Government College, Mangalore?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“The matter is under consideration.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I ask Sir, if the Hon. Minister is in possession of knowledge of the policy of the Government so far as education is concerned, whether it is not right on his part to answer questions put to him on the point arising out of the answer he has already given?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I am prepared to give the fullest information, but if the information is on a matter of large policy which requires separate consideration, I think, Sir, the Government will be well-advised in asking hon. Members to put a separate question.”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of order, Sir, we are asking questions with regard to policies. We do not ask for details. It ought to be possible for the Hon. Minister to answer questions with regard to policy. Surely, Sir, the Hon. Minister should have formulated by this time a policy so far as Education is concerned. We do not ask for any details which would require notice?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Hon. Members should know that Government Members also should be given notice of questions. They cannot be asked off-hand to enunciate their policy. The Ministers should be given time to prepare their answers.”

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that the appreciative way in which he received the question of the hon. Member representing the Southern India Chamber of Commerce has made the Members apprehensive of the intentions of the Government with regard to this important question?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I will receive very appreciatively the suggestions made by the hon. Leader of the Opposition.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Is the Hon. Minister aware that it is the desire of the University that colleges should be first grade as far as possible?”

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“From what I know from some of the leading members of the University, they are slightly changing their opinion.”

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—“May I ask if the Hon. Education Minister has any sympathy for the poor Kurnool and Cuddapah districts and, if so, whether he would give ocular proof of it by starting colleges at least next year?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I have a great deal of sympathy, but giving ocular proof of it depends upon the financial position of the province.”

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the Government have realized that it is a fallacy to say that the multiplication of graduates in arts colleges is the cause of unemployment and whether they will increase the number of Arts colleges and not give effect to this fallacy?”

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
“I will be obliged if the hon. Member will put a separate question or move a resolution so that the matter may be more fully discussed.”

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

II.—ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I move—
‘that with a view to the filling up of the vacancy in the House Committee caused by reason of the resignation by Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal of her seat in the Committee, this Assembly do proceed to elect a member to the said Committee according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf by the Speaker.’”

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—“On a point of order, Sir. The House is discussing the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill. May I know whether this motion can be moved in the middle of the discussion?”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Notice of the motion regarding the election of a member to the House Committee has been given yesterday, and it is on the agenda. Where is the rule that it should not be moved?”

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—
“I rise to oppose the motion for technical reasons. I want to raise a debate regarding the conveniences provided for the members of this House. There is no other opportunity for expressing my views; that is why I take this opportunity. It is not that I oppose the election of a member. (Mr. Speaker: ‘Does the hon. Member want to make a speech?’) Only by opposing or supporting the motion, I can express my views.”

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MR. SPEAKER:—" May I suggest that we discuss this matter when we come to the budget? "

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—" Yes, Sir. I withdraw my opposition."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—" In accordance with the regulations framed by me under rule 152 of the Madras Assembly Rules for the holding of elections according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 4 p.m. today (14th February 1947) as the time within which nominations of candidates for election to the House Committee should reach the Secretary. The nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary. There will be an election if the number of candidates nominated exceeds one. In that event, the date of the election will be announced in due course."

III.—THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.—cont.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must say that the Hon. Minister, by providing in this Bill for an increase in the representation provided for minority communities, has given us an idea that he can get at least this much concession from his colleagues. If he were not there as a member of the minority community, possibly, instead of the increase, even the reservation of 25 per cent of the seats for minorities might have been eliminated. For that reason, we are thankful to him. By retaining the reservation and by increasing it, he has to a great extent recognized the need for the separate representation of minorities. Reservation of seats for the minorities arise from the feeling even on the part of the Hon. Minister that unless and until seats are reserved, there is not much possibility of the representatives of the minorities getting their due share or share to the extent of the reservation provided for. Having admitted that difficulty is always experienced by the members of the minority communities in getting adequate representation, would he not carry this admission to its logical conclusion and do away with the system by which the members returned to the reserved seats are elected in most cases by a majority vote of the communities other than the community for whom the reservation is made? "

" The Hon. Minister makes a very fine distinction between political institutions and local bodies. He is prepared to admit that separate electorates are necessary for election to the legislatures. (The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas: ' May be necessary. ') I know that he varies between ' are ' and ' may be ' because he himself has been elected to this legislature on the basis of separate electorates. I may point out to him that this is a distinction without difference. After all, is not a local body really a political institution? Does it not have power and authority? Has not the member of a local body, to the extent to

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which the local body has power and authority, to do his duty by the people of the locality? To that extent, a local body is a political institution, as much a political institution as the legislature, the only difference being that whereas the legislature covers the whole province, a local body covers a district or town. The argument put forward by my hon. friend in support of his view that there is a distinction between a legislature and a local body does not hold water and cannot stand a moment's scrutiny. The fact that my hon. Friend's party will, and has in the past, set up candidates for election to local bodies on a party basis will demonstrate to the world at large that they are no less political institutions than the legislature. Besides, he is aware that a municipality is known as a local self-governing institution. It is a more self-governing institution than even the legislature. Therefore, in my view, local self-governing institutions are more independent and more political than the legislature. When he agrees that separate electorates may be necessary for the legislature, he must accept the logical conclusion that separate electorates are even more necessary for the local bodies, because the representatives in the local bodies are directly in touch with the people in the local area whom they serve, whereas we, the members of this legislature can only have indirect contact with those who have returned us to this House. To that extent, the Hon. Minister was illogical and, as I said in the earlier stages, allowed his eloquence to override his logic. I would therefore appeal to him to see that this very essential aspect of the question is considered in the Select Committee and necessary changes introduced. If he cannot do it in this Bill, I would ask him to come forward with a comprehensive Bill at an early date, even before the next elections, if possible.

" Sir, I am sorry that the Hon. Minister even after the lapse of 12-30
8 months since the Government has come into being, has come p.m.
forward with such a small Bill covering only small aspects of the administration of local bodies. I think, Sir, that there is greater need for overhauling not only the City Municipal Act, which I suppose is necessary, but also the Local Boards Act even for administrative purposes not only for administrative purposes but also to bring these old Acts up to date. There are many anachronisms, many defects and many drawbacks which are responsible for delays in the administration and in regard to the powers of various bodies constituting the local bodies. We are not yet in a position to state clearly the powers of the Chairman of a Municipality, of the Commissioner of a Municipality and of the various Committees of a Municipality. The rules and provisions that are at present in the District Municipalities Act are old and antediluvian. They must be changed. I think it is high time that the Hon. Minister goes into the whole question and comes before this House with a comprehensive Bill to bring the District Municipalities Act and the Local Boards Act up to date.

" I wonder whether it is the policy of the Government to re-establish taluk boards which were abolished some time ago.

[Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur] [14th February 1947]

In an answer given to a question in this House the Hon. Minister gave us to understand, subject to correction, that it is the intention of the Government to re-introduce taluk boards. If that is his intention he may tell us in what shape and in what form he proposes to bring in a Bill. I wish he thought about these things and brought forward a comprehensive Bill. We especially on this side of the House are becoming more and more apprehensive on account of the way in which certain theories are adumbrated and certain theories of village government and village association are adumbrated and to some extent have been given effect to by the constitution of what are called village committees, various food committees and other committees. We wish to know what exactly are the functions of these committees and what exactly are the functions which have been taken away from the local bodies which were already in existence. Panchayat boards are there, municipalities are there and district boards are there. Taluk boards also may come into existence. The village committees, food committees and various committees which have been constituted come into clash with one another and are responsible for the dislocation of the real business of a local self-governing institution. I thought the Hon. Minister would have cleared the ground if he had come forward with a Bill; we might then know what exactly is the policy of the Government so far as local administration is concerned. I hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister will not precipitate action on this Bill when it becomes an Act, because the fundamental difficulty that the people of this province find with regard to the elections is the existence of very very cumbersome and incorrect voters' lists. In the first instance they have to be set right and make the elections real. There will be no real election with the existing voters lists. I would appeal to the Hon. Minister and to the Select Committee through you, Sir, which would be constituted to consider this Bill, to consider carefully that aspect of this Bill which seeks to appoint Special Officers as an interregnum between the going out of the old Council and the coming of the new Council. These are important points I consider necessary to draw the attention of the House, so that when the Select Committee report comes before the House it will be in a position to express its views categorically."

* SRI P. KAKKAN :—"சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன மந்திரி யால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கும் ஜில்லா போர்டு, நகரசபை சட்டதிருத்த மசோதாவை நான் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன். ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாக ஸ்தாபனங்கள் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு இன்னும் எவ்வளவு அதிகமான ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுத்தாலும் தரும். இந்நாட்டில் செல்வத்தை குவிக்கப் பிறந்தவர்கள் ஹரிஜனங்கள். இதுமட்டும் அல்ல. ஹரிஜனங்களுடைய மக்கள் சுபிட்சமாக இருக்கின்றார்கள். இதில் போட்டி லிஸ்ட்டில் இல்லை. இன்னும் லிஸ்ட்டில் இருந்த பெயர்களைக் கூட எடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். இன்னும் லிஸ்ட்டில் இருந்த இன்னும் போட்டிகள் லிஸ்ட்டில் அதிகம் இருக்கும்படியாக செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்படி இருந்தால்தான் ஹரிஜனங்கள் அதிகமான ஸ்தானத்தை அடைவார்கள். இதை சிந்தனை செய்து Select Committeeயில் பார்த்து இப்பொழுது கொடுத்திருக்கிறதைக்காட்டிலும் இன்னும் 1, 2 ஸ்தானங்கள் அதிகமாக கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

14th February 1947] [Sri P. Kakkan]

"நான் திருச்சி ஜில்லாவில் அரியலூர் டிவிஷனிலிருந்து எம்.எல்.ஏ. ஆக வந்திருக்கிறேன். அந்தத் தொகுதியில்தான் சென்னை மாகாணத்திலேயே அதிகமான ஹரிஜன போட்டிகள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அந்தத் தொகுதியில் ஒரே ஒரு அபேட்சகருக்குத்தான் ஜில்லா போர்டில் ஸ்தானம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தத் தொகுதிக்கு ஜனத்தொகை கணக்குப்படி பார்த்து இன்னும் 2, 3 ஸ்தானங்கள் அதிகமாகக் கொடுத்தால் மிகவும் நன்றாயிருக்கும்."

"கூட்டுத்தொகுதியைப்பற்றி சில வார்த்தைகள் சொல்லுகிறேன். அந்த முறை எப்படி ஏற்பட்டது என்பதைப்பற்றி சிலவார்த்தைகள் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஹரிஜன முன்னேற்றத்திற்காகவே மகாத்மா காந்தி அவர்கள் தன் உயிரையே பணயம்வைத்து தியாகம் செய்து கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறையை ஏற்படுத்தவேண்டுமென்று உயிர்போகும்வரையில் உண்ணாவிரதம் இருப்பது என்று ஆரம்பித்தார். அப்பொழுது இந்தியா மந்திரி காந்திஜியின் உயிர்போகவிருந்த தருணத்தில் கூட காந்திஜிக்கு உதவிபுரிய முன்வரவில்லை. ஹிந்துமத தலைவர்கள் ஸ்ரீமான் வி.ஜி. முனுசாமி பிள்ளை, டாக்டர் அம்பெட்கார், பண்டித மதன்மோகன்மாஸ்வயா முதலியவர்கள் சென்று ஹிந்து மதத்தின் பெருமையைக் காட்டி ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஹிந்து மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள். அவர்களை பிரியவிடக்கூடாது என்று காந்திஜியின் உயிரைக் காப்பாற்றி கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறையை அடைந்தார்கள். அதனால்தான் இன்றைக்கு இந்த மாகாணத்தில் எத்தனையோ கோவில்களை திறந்து விடுகின்றார்கள். இன்னும் அநேகம் கோவில்களும் திறக்கப்பட்டுவருகின்றன. ஹரிஜனங்கள் ஹிந்து மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் என்ற உண்மையை காண்கின்றோம். அன்றைக்கு தனித்தொகுதி கொடுத்திருந்தால் நாங்கள் இன்னும் தீண்டாதவர்களாகவே ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்போம். அதைச் செய்தது பெரும்பாக்கியம். நான்மட்டுமல்ல. என் சமூகமும் மகாத்மா காந்தியை வாயார வாழ்த்தும் என்பதைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். ஆனால் எதிர் கட்சித்தலைவர் அவர்களும் அங்கத்தினர்களும் தனித் தொகுதிதான் வேண்டுமென்றும் தாங்கள் மைனாரிட்டி என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இன்று அவர்கள் காங்கிரஸ் கொள்கை தெரிந்தோ தெரியாமலோ அவர்கள் கடைபிடித்துவருகிறார்கள். நாம் எல்லோரும் தேசத்திற்காக சிறைக்குப்போனோம். அதைப்போலவே அவர்களும் பஞ்சாப் மாகாணத்தில் சிறைக்குப்போய்விட்டார்கள் அதுமட்டும் அல்ல. சத்யாகிரகமும் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். இன்று அவர்கள் தெரிந்தோ தெரியாமலோ கூட்டுத் தொகுதி முறையில் கூட எங்களை பின் பற்றுவார்கள். Interim கவர்ன்மெண்டில் சேர்ந்துவிட்டார்கள். வருங்காலத்தில் கூட்டுத் தொகுதி முறைதான் வேண்டுமென்று ஆதரிப்பார்கள். இதை சிந்தனை செய்து பார்த்து நிச்சயம் இந்நாட்டுக்கு கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறைதான் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொல்வார்கள். எந்த ஜாதியும் எந்த மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாக இருந்தாலும் பரஸ்பர அந்நியோன்யமாக இருந்தால்தான் நாட்டிற்கு சேவை செய்யமுடியும். அவர்களும் சுபிட்சமாக இருக்கமுடியும். ஜாதிக் சண்டை ஏற்படாது. நாட்டிற்கும் சமூகத்திற்கும் கேஷமும் உண்டாகும். கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறைதான் நல்லது. ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது கார்போரேஷனில் அதிக ஸ்தானம் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். கொடுத்து அவர்களை முன்னுக்கு கொண்டுவரவேண்டும். சென்னை கார்போரேஷனில் ஜாதியாரியாக மேயராக வருவதைப்போல் ஜில்லா போர்டுகளிலும் பஞ்சாயத்துபோர்டுகளிலும் அவரவர்கள் எல்லாம் மாறி மாறி வரவேண்டும். ஹரிஜனங்கள் President ஆக வரவேண்டும். அதற்கு வேண்டிய முறையை கடைபிடிக்கவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் இந்த தீண்டாமை என்ற மனப்பான்மை, கெட்ட எண்ணங்கள் முதலியவைகள் போய் அவர்களும் நம்முடைய சகோதரர்கள், நம்மோடு பிறந்தவர்கள் என்ற உணர்ச்சி ஏற்படும். அதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் இந்தக் கூட்டுத் தொகுதி முறையால் நம் நாட்டில் எண்ணப் போன்ற ஊழியர்களுக்கு நிச்சயமாக நலம் ஏற்படும். அதனால் கூட்டுத் தொகுதிமுறையே நாட்டிற்கு நல்லது அது இல்லாவிட்டால் நாம் எல்லோரும் தனியாக பிரிந்து இருக்கவேண்டியதுதான். ஆகையால் நான் இந்தக் கூட்டுத்தொகுதியை ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இதை ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன

[Sri P. Kakkan] [14th February 1947]

மந்திரியும் Select Committee யும் யோசனை செய்து இப்பொழுது கொடுத்திருக்கிறதைவிட அதிக ஸ்தானங்கள் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தை நான் ஆட்சேபிக்கிறேன். ஏனென்றால் கூட்டு தொகுதி என்று அவர் கொண்டுவந்திருப்பதானது எங்கள் முஸ்லீம் சமூகத்திற்கே முற்றிலும் பிரதிகூலமாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு எத்தனையோ காரணங்களும் உதாரணங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. நான் சிலதை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். சகோதரர்களே, இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் திருவாடானை தாலுகாவில் மூன்று வார்டுகளாக பிரிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதில் ஒரு வார்டு முன்னாடி தொண்டி என்றிருந்தது. அப்பொழுது என் காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் அவர்கள் மெஜாரிட்டியாக வந்த காலத்திலேயே ஒரு முஸ்லீம் நண்பர் வந்துவிடுகிறான், அதை மாற்றியமைக்கவேண்டுமென்று திட்டம் செய்தார்கள். அது எப்படி என்றால் 13,000 வோட்டுகள் அந்த வார்டில் இருக்கப்பட்டதில் 7,000 வோட்டுகள் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கும் ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களுக்கு 5,000 சொச்சம் வோட்டுகளும் இருந்தன. ஒரு முஸ்லீம் என்பவன் வந்துவிடுகிறான் என்று அந்த வார்டை மாற்றியமைக்க வேண்டுமென்று இன்னொரு கிராமத்தை அதில் சேர்த்து, மங்கலக்குடி என்று ஒரு சிறு கிராமத்தை அதாவது இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் வடகோடியில் புதுக்கோட்டை ஏரியாவுக்கு அடுத்தாற்போல இருக்கிற கிராமத்தை வார்டாக்க ஒரு திட்டம் செய்தார்கள், முஸ்லீம்கள் ஜாஸ்தியாக இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அங்கே ஒரு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கூட முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு அளிப்பதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு இஷ்டம் இல்லாமல் அதை மங்கலக்குடி வார்டாக அமைத்துவிட்டார்கள். அதனால் ஒரு முஸ்லீம் நண்பரை தெரிந்தெடுக்க சக்தியற்றவர்களாகிவிட்டோம். சகோதரர்களே, இப்பொழுது வார்டை பிரித்து அமைத்துவிட்டதால் ஒரு முஸ்லீம் அன்பன்கூட வரமுடியாமல் இருக்கிறது. இப்படி இருக்கும்போது கூட்டுத் தொகுதி என்றால் ஒரு முஸ்லீம் பிரதிநிதி என்பவன் எப்படி வரமுடியும் என்பது அவர்களே யோசிக்கவேண்டிய விஷயம். இன்னும் அநேகம் வார்டுகளிலும் முஸ்லீம்கள் வரமுடியாமலிருக்கிற நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் முஸ்லீம்கள் அங்கம் வகிக்க முடியாத நிலைமையில் வார்டுகளை அமைத்திருக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு ஜில்லாவில் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஒரு பிரதிநிதி அனுப்ப முடியவில்லை என்றால் மேன்மை பொருந்திய காங்கிரஸ் கொள்கையை பின்பற்றி நடக்கப்பட்ட சில கெட்ட எண்ணம் கொண்ட பேர் அளவில் தேசிய முஸ்லீம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அவர் தியாகிகள் அல்ல. இந்த காங்கிரஸில் பற்றுடையவர்கள் அல்ல. அவர்கள் உத்தியோக மோகம் கொண்டவர்கள். உத்தியோகத்திற்காகவே அவர்களை காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் எங்களுடைய பிரதிநிதிகளாகிவிடுவார்கள் என்று மேதாவிகளே அறிவாளிகளே கேட்கிறேன். அது நியாயமா நியாயத்தைச் சொல்லும்படி கேட்கிறேன்.

12-45 p.m. “இதுமட்டுமல்லாமல் முஸ்லீம்களெல்லாம் இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் கீழ்க்கரையில் சுமார் 20 ஆயிரம் பேர்கள் வசிக்கிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம்கள் மேஜாரிட்டியாக உள்ள கீழ்க்கரையில் 20 ஆயிரம் இருக்கிற இடத்தில் ஒரு முஸ்லீம் பிரதிநிதிகூட ஒரு டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு போர்டுக்கு அனுப்ப முடியாத நிலைமையில் இருந்தால் எங்கள் சமூகத்திற்கு எப்படி நன்மை செய்யமுடியும். எங்களுடைய குறைகளை உங்களிடத்தில் சொல்லிக்கொள்வதற்கு எங்களுக்கு அதில் இடம் இருக்கவேண்டும். நாங்கள் உங்களிடத்தில் எங்களுடைய குறைகளை வந்து சொன்னால் அல்லவா நாங்கள் சொல்லுவதை நீங்கள் செய்து முடிப்பீர்கள். சொல்வதற்குக் கூட ஒரு பிரதிநிதி இல்லாவிட்டால் எங்களுக்கு நியாயத்தை எப்படி வழங்கமுடியும். 20 ஆயிரம் ஜனத்தொகையிருக்கிற இடத்திலிருந்து ஒரு நபர் வரமுடியவில்லை. இந்த டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு போர்டுக்கு அந்த விதமாக ஒரு பிரதிநிதி அனுப்பும்படியாக ஒரு வார்டு அமைக்கவேண்டும். இராமநாதபுரம் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டில் 15 ஆயிரம் ஜனத்தொகை உள்ளது. கீழ்க்கரை யூனி

14th February 1947]

[M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

யனில் 25 ஆயிரம் ஜனத்தொகை உள்ளது. அங்கே முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்கள்தான் இருக்கிறார்கள். கீழ்க்கரைக்கும் இராமநாதபுரத்திற்கும் 10 மைல் இருக்கிறது. அதில் திருப்பள்ளாணி என்று ஒரு புண்டி கேஷத் திரம் இருக்கிறது. அது சுமார் 2,000 ஜனங்கள் இருக்கக்கூடிய கேஷத் திரம். அது இராமநாதபுரத்திலிருந்து 4 மைலில் இருக்கிறது. என் சிநேகிதர் ஒருவரைக் கொண்டு வருவதற்காக அங்கே ஒரு வார்டு, கீழ்க்கரையிலிருந்து ஒரு முஸ்லீம்கூட வாழுடியாமலிருப்பதற்காக மெஜாரிட்டி ஹிந்துக்கள் இருக்கக்கூடிய ஒரு ஊரைச் சேர்த்து ஒரு வார்டாக அமைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதில் எங்கள் ஜில்லா போர்டு தலைவராக இருந்துவந்த இராமநாதபுரம் மகாராஜா அவர்களே அந்த வார்டிலிருந்து வருகிறார்கள். முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களுக்கு சுவதந்திரம் இல்லாமல் செய்து விட்டு ஒரு பெரிய ஐ.பீ.நீதர் பெரிய சக்கரவர்த்தி செல்வாக்குள்ள ராஜா அவர் செல்வந்தர். அவர்கள் கூட முஸ்லீம்கள் வார்டை பிரித்து அவர்களுக்கு சுவதந்திரத்தை அளிக்காமல் பறித்துக்கொண்டு விட்டார்கள். இந்த இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு போர்டில் நான் வெகு காலம் அங்கம் வகித்துவந்திருக்கிறேன். அப்பொழுது எங்கள் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு 4 ஸ்தானங்களை ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது. அந்த ஸ்தானத்தில் முஸ்லீம்கள் வரமுடியவே முடியாது, நான் நிச்சயமாக சொல்லுகிறேன். என் இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கும் என் சகோதர அங்கத்தினர்கள் இதை பூராவும் அறிவார்கள், உணர்ந்தும் இருக்கிறார்கள். இப்பொழுது ஒரு ஸ்தானத்தில் முஸ்லீம்களுடைய குறைகளையும் கஷ்டத்தையும் எடுத்துச்சொல்ல உரிமை இல்லாமல்போனது இந்தக் கூட்டுத் தொகுதியால்தான்.”

SRI S. NAGAPPA :—“May I ask the hon. Member to speak in Urdu?”

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—“தமிழில் வளர்ந்து தமிழில் பேசு தமிழில் வாழ்ந்துவருவதால் உருதுபேச முடியாது.

“முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு கூடியவரையில் சௌகரியங்கள் செய்யவேண்டும். நீங்களே எல்லா வற்றிலும் மெஜாரிட்டியாக உள்ளவர்கள் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் 4 ஸ்தானம் கொடுத்தாலும் எங்களுக்கு மெஜாரிட்டி பலம் இல்லாவிட்டால் உங்கள்கூட இருந்து நாங்கள் என்ன செய்து கொள்ளமுடியும். நாங்கள் நன்மை பெருவதற்காக ஒத்துழைப்போம். உங்களுடைய சகோதரத்துவத்தால் அமைதியுடன் வாழ்வோம். உங்களுடன் வருவதற்காக ஒரு நன்மை செய்யவேண்டாமா நாங்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளாக வரவேண்டாமா. வருவதை மறுக்கப்படும் நிலைமையில் இருந்தால் எங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவு கஷ்டங்கள் உண்டாகும்.

“இன்னொரு விஷயத்தைச் சொல்லுகிறேன். கல்வி விஷயத்தில் முந்தின காங்கிரஸ் கவர்ன்மென்டார் இருந்த காலத்தில் எங்கள் இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் நமது மேன்மை பொருந்திய மந்திரி அவர்கள் குமாரசாமி ராஜா அவர்கள் President ஆக அங்கம் வகித்தார்கள். அவர் காலத்தில்கூட ஆரம்ப பாடசாலைகளுக்கு முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு, மதத்துக்கும் மார்க்கத்துக்கும் சட்டத்திற்கும் கோட்பாட்டுக்கும் விரோதமான பாட புஸ்தகங்களை புகுத்தினார்கள். அப்பொழுதே மறுத்தேன். கூடியவரையில் எதிர்த்தேன். எனக்கு Support க்குக்கூட ஆள் இல்லை. நான் ஒருவன் என்ன செய்வேன். மற்ற நண்பர்கள் முஸ்லீம் என்று பெயர் வைத்துக்கொண்டு இருந்த காங்கிரஸ் நண்பர்கள் மூன்று பேர்கள் இருந்தார்கள். அந்த மூன்று பேர்களிடமும் கூட முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு மதத்திற்கும் மார்க்கத்திற்கும் விரோதமாக புஸ்தகங்களை புகுத்துகிறார்களே, அதை மறுக்கவேண்டாமா என்றும் சகோதரர்கள் நீங்களும் முஸ்லீம்களாக வந்திருக்கிறீர்களே அதை மறுக்கவேண்டாமா என்றும் கேட்டேன். முஸ்லீம் மதத்தை காப்பாற்ற “பொருப்புடையவர்கள் அதற்குக் கடைமப்பட்டவர்கள் நீங்கள் என்னை ஆதரியுங்கள் என்று கேட்டாலும் அவர்கள் அதெல்லாம் முடியாது, நாங்கள் காங்கிரஸ் கட்சியில் உள்ளவர்கள் அவர்களுடைய கோட்பாட்டிற்கும் திட்டத்திற்கும் அவர்கள் கமிட்டியில் பாஸ்பண்ணிக்கொண்டு வந்திருக்கும்போது அதை மீறிச்

[14th February 1947]

[M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

சொல்லவே முடியாது அதுதான் எங்களுடைய கொள்கை என்று சொல்லி விட்டார்கள். அவர்கள் என் இனத்தினர்களாக இருந்தாலும் கூட அவர்களும் என் பக்கத்திலுள்ளவர்களாக இருந்தாலும் கூட என்னை சபேர்ட்டு பண்ணி ஆதரிக்க யாரும் வரவில்லை. நான் என்செய்வேன். தலைவர் அவர்களிடத்தில் சொன்னேன். மெஜாரிட்டி பலத்தைக்கொண்டு ஒரு புத்தகத்தை பாஸ் பண்ணினால் அதை தலைவர் எடுக்கமுடியுமா! ரொம்ப நியாயம் தெரிந்தவர்கள் எல்லா வகுப்பினருக்கும் ஒத்தாசை செய்யும் தியாகி."

SRI N. M. R. SUBARAMAN :—"பாட புத்தகங்களை approve செய்ய ஒரு Text-book Committee இருக்கிறது. அதனால் அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்ட புத்தகத்தைதான் அரசாங்கம் வைக்கிறார்கள். புத்தகத்தில் ஏதாவது ஆட்சேபனை இருந்தால் அந்தக் கமிட்டியே எடுத்துவிடுவார்கள். நண்பர் கூறுகிற புத்தகம் அந்த கமிட்டியில் அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்டதா என்று கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன்."

SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"கமிட்டியில் அங்கீகரிக்கப் பட்டிருந்தாலும் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு விரோதமான புத்தகமாக இருந்ததால் தான் நான் அதை மறுக்கிறேன். அது மதத்திற்கும் மார்க்கத்திற்கும் திட்டத்திற்கும் விரோதமாக இருக்கிறது என்று நான் மறுக்கிறேன்."

SRI N. M. R. SUBARAMAN :—"மதத்திற்கு விரோதமாக இருந்தால் கமிட்டி அதை (prescribe) செய்யாது."

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"அப்படி அங்கே டிஸ்ட்ரிப்ட்டு போர்டில் அந்த புத்தகத்தை புத்தகத்திலிருந்து எடுத்துக் கொண்டு விடுவதற்கு அனுப்பாமல், கல்வியிலே ஏற்கனவே பிற்போக்கு அடைந்த முஸ்லீம்கள், மதத்தையும் சமூகத்தையும் விட்டுக்கொடுக்கமுடியாது என்று, பிள்ளைகளை பள்ளிக்கு அனுப்புவதை நிறுத்திவிட்டோம். பிள்ளைகள் படிப்பு இல்லாமல் சிலகாலம் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தார்கள். எங்களுடைய ஒரு பெரியாருடைய முயற்சியினால் நமது மேன்மை பொருந்திய கவர்ன் மெண்டார் அதை உணர்ந்து நிறுத்த பிள்ளைகளை பள்ளிக்குப் போகும்படி அனுப்பிவைத்தோம். எங்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதிகள் இருந்தால், எங்களுக்கு 1, 2 ஆவது இருந்தால் இதை எங்கள் தலையில் புகுத்த முடியுமா? எங்களை என் இப்படி கஷ்டப்படுத்தவேண்டும். ஆகையால் எங்களுக்கு கல்வியிலும் கஷ்டம் உண்டாகிறது."

"இதுவும் இல்லாமல் முஸ்லீம்கள் வசிக்கப்பட்ட கிராமங்களில் இந்த தனித்தொகுதி இல்லாதபடியால், எங்கள் பிரதிநிதிகள் இல்லாமல் இருப்பதால், அங்கம் வகிக்காமல் இருப்பதால் ரோடு வசதிகள்கூட நாங்கள் செய்துகொள்ள முடியவில்லை. ஒரு உதாரணமாக ஒன்றைச் சொல்லு. பாதசாரியாக செல்லுகிறவர்களுக்கு முஸ்லீம்கள் காவலாளிகளாக இருந்து வருகிறார்கள். அந்த இராமனாதபுரம் இராஜாவுக்கு சேதுபதி மகாராஜா என்று பட்டம் இருந்தாலும் கூட முஸ்லீம்களாகிய நாங்கள்தான் பாதுகாத்துவருகிறோம். அதன் காரணத்தைக் கொஞ்சம் சொல்லுகிறேன். காசியிலிருந்து இராமனாதபுரம் போகும் வழியில் அநேகம் ஊர்களில் ஏராளமான சத்திரங்கள், சாவடிகள், மடங்கள் அன்னதான சௌ புரம் ஜில்லா வரைக்கும் சுமார் 40, 50 சத்திரங்கள் வரை இருக்கும். விதமான செளகரியங்களும் இருக்கின்றன. அவைகளை பாதுகாக்கிறவர் வரத்து வசதி இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறது. அவ்வளவும் செல்வந்தர்களாகக் குடி அமைந்தபடி தர்மமாக செய்துவைத்திருக்கிறவர்கள். அதை யடைய, கேஷத்திரத்திற்குப் போகக்கூடிய மேதாவிகளும் சாதுக்களும் போக்குவரத்துக்கள் இல்லாமல் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். மேஸ்வரம்போகும் யாத்ரிகர்களும் சாதுக்களும் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள் கவலைப்

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படுகிறார்கள் அவர்களுக்கு செளகரியம் செய்து தருவீர்களானால் எவ்வளவோ நன்மையும் பெருமையும் தருமமும் ஆகும். நாங்களும் முஸ்லீம்கள் இந்த செளகரியத்தை அடைவோம்."

MR. SPEAKER :—"இன்னும் உங்களுக்குப் பேசவேண்டுமா?"

M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"ஆம். இன்னும் கொஞ்சம் இருக்கிறது."

MR. SPEAKER :—"இன்று வெள்ளிக்கிழமை யானதால் இப்பொழுது கூட்டம் கலையும்."

The house will now adjourn for lunch and meet again at 3 p.m.

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, எங்களுக்குத் தனித் தொகுதி வேண்டுமென்று சொன்ன காரணங்களில் இன்னும் சிலதை சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். நான் சேது மார்க்கத்திலே இராமேஸ்வரத்துக்கு செல்வவேண்டிய பாதையில் இருக்கப்பட்ட கஷ்டங்களை நிவர்த்தி செய்வதற்குக்கூட எங்களுக்கு லோசல் போர்டுகளில் டிஸ்ட்ரிப்ட்டு போர்டுகளில் ஒரு செளகரியத்தையும் தேடிக்கொள்ள முடியவில்லை. அந்த ரோடின் வழியாக சுமார் 20 வருஷங்களுக்கு முன் நமது மேன்மை பொருந்திய லோக குரு சங்கராச்சாரியார் சுவாமிகள் அவர்கள் இராமேஸ்வரத்திற்கு உவ்வழியாக சென்றார்கள். அப்பொழுது எங்கள் கஷ்டங்களை அவர்களிடம் தெரிவித்த பூடியில்லை. பதினாறு வருஷங்களுக்கு பின்னால் அவர்கள் அந்த வழியில் சென்றார்கள் அப்பொழுது நான் அவர்களைப் பார்த்தேன். எங்கள் கஷ்டங்களை சொன்னேன். அவர்களுடைய சிபார்சை தேடினேன். மேன்மை பொருந்திய மக்களே முக்யமான ஸ்தலத்திற்கு செல்வவேண்டிய பாதையிலிருந்தும் பெரிய செல்வவந்தர்கள் சிறப்பித்து வைத்த தர்மங்கள் நடைபெறாமல் தடைப்பட்டு இருக்கிறதே. இந்தப் பாதையை சீர்திருத்தம் செய்யவேண்டியது உங்கள் கடமையல்லவா. நீங்கள் எங்களுக்காக சிபார்சு செய்யுங்கள். உங்கள் புண்ய கேஷத்திரத்திற்கு போக நீங்கள் வழி தேடுங்கள். நீங்கள் மேன்மை பொருந்திய ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களுக்கு சீர்படுத்திக் கொடுக்க வேண்டிய கடமை உங்களுடையதல்லவா, நாங்கள் அதில் நின்று முஸ்லீம்கள் கொஞ்சம் செளகரியத்தை அடைவோம். மகானே, இதே செளகரியத்தை நீங்கள் செய்துகொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் அவர்களிடத்தில் சிபார்சு தேடினேன். அவர்கள் நீ சொல்வது உண்மை, நியாயம், என் பல்லக்கு தூக்கி வந்தவர்கள்கூட கஷ்டப்பட்டு கால் ஓடித்து கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள். இந்த ரோடை சீர்திருத்தம் செய்து வைக்க வேண்டியது ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களுடைய கடமை. தனித் தொகுதி இல்லாததாலும் எனக்கு support இல்லாததாலும் இந்த செளகரியங்களை செய்துகொள்ள முடியவில்லை."

MR. SPEAKER :—"ரோடு சீர்திருத்தம் டண்ணுவதற்கும் தனித் தொகுதிக்கும் என்ன சம்பந்தம்?"

M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—"தனித் தொகுதி இல்லாததால் எனக்கு support கிடைக்காததால் இந்த செளகரியம் செய்ய முடியவில்லை என்று ஒரு வாதத்திற்காக சொல்லுகிறேன். தலைவர் அவர்களே, அவர்களே வருத்தப்பட்டார்கள், கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள், சிரமப்பட்டார்கள். நான் அவர்களை வரவேற்று வழியனுப்பினேன். அவர்கள்கூட கடைசி வரையில் ஒத்தழைத்தேன். இது முக்யம், நல்ல மதப்பற்றுடையவர்கள் உங்களில் இருப்பார்களானால் இதை செய்து வைத்திருப்பார்களென்று அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். தாங்களும் தங்களைய அபிப்பிராயத்தை பொதுஜனங்களுக்கு தெரியப்படுத்த வேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக் கொண்டேன். எனக்கு டிஸ்ட்ரிப்ட்டு போர்டில் ஒரு தலையும் support-ம் இல்லாததால் நான் கொண்டு போன தீர்மானத்தை ஆதரிக்க ஒத்தாசை இல்லாததால் தனித் தொகுதி இல்லாததால் பொதுத் தொகுதியால்

[14th February 1947]

[M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

நாங்கள் கஷ்டப்பட்டதை, சிரமப்பட்டதை உங்கள் முன் சொல்லுகிறேன்: முஸ்லீம் சமூகத்தில் இருக்கப்பட்ட கஷ்டங்களையும் நஷ்டங்களையும் சிரமங்களையும் நாங்கள் எடுத்துச் சொல்ல ஸ்வதந்திரம் வேண்டாமா, உரிமை வேண்டாமா, எங்களுக்கு ஏனைய மதத்தினருக்கு இந்த உரிமையை கொடுத்துவிடவேண்டியது உங்கள் கடமை. சட்டப்படி மெஜரிட்டி உங்கள் கையில் இருந்தாலும் மைனாரிட்டிகளாக இருக்கிறவர்களுக்கு சலுகை காட்ட வேண்டியது உங்கள் கடமை. எங்களுக்கு சலுகை காட்டினால் இன்னும் புகழும் கீர்த்தியும் நன்மையும் சகல பெருமையும் தங்களுக்கு. நாங்கள் கஷ்டங்கள் என்னென்ன அடைகிறோம் என்று இன்னும் சில சொல்லுகிறேன். எங்களுக்கு support இல்லாததால் கல்வி திட்டங்களில் பலவிதமான கஷ்டங்கள் ஏற்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன.

“இன்னும் எங்கள் சிறு பிள்ளைகளுக்கு கொரன், அராபி, ஒதிக்கொடுக்க வேண்டியது எங்கள் கடமை. கல்விதான் முக்யம். மேன்மை பொருந்திய கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்களும் ஒரு சிறு விஷயத்தை பிரமாதமாக பேசிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொன்னார்கள். உலகத்திலேயே மிகவும் மேன்மையும் புகழும் சக்தியும் உண்டு பண்ணக்கூடியது கல்வி. நியாயம், நெறி, நீதி, ஒழுக்கம், அறிவு இவ்வளவையும் புகட்டக்கூடியது கல்வி. கல்வி இல்லாவிட்டால் ரொம்ப கஷ்டங்களை அனுபவிப்பார்கள். அந்தக் கல்வி, மார்க்க கல்வி, மதக் கல்வி. இதை முஸ்லீம்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் மட்டும்—ஹிந்து சகோதரர்களே, உங்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் இல்லை—முஸ்லீம்கள் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் தனிப்பட்டு ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட முஸ்லீம் சகோதரர்களாகிய எங்களுக்கு மதக் கல்வி கற்றுக்கொடுக்க திட்டம் செய்யுங்கள் என்று ஒரு resolution கொண்டுவந்தால் எனக்கு support இல்லையென்றால் என் சமூகத்திலே எப்படி நான் முன்னுக்கு வர முடியும்? எங்கள் மதக் கோட்பாடுப்படி எப்படி நடக்க முடியும்? அதற்குக்கூட எனக்கு support இல்லை. ஏன்? கூட்டுத் தொகுதி முறை இருப்பதால் தனித் தொகுதியிருந்தால், இந்த சட்ட சபையில் அங்கம் வகிக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் பிரதிநிதிகளாக அனுப்பப்பட்ட மாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு சபைகளிலும் எங்களுக்குத் தனித் தொகுதி இருந்தால் எங்களுடைய உரிமையை, சுவதந்திரத்தை அடைய சௌகர்யமுண்டு; எங்களுடைய குறைகளை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி உங்கள் மனதில் பதிய வைத்து நாங்கள் சௌகர்யம் பெற வசதிகள் உண்டு. பொதுத் தொகுதியானால் வாயார பேச முடியாத நிலைமை ஏற்படுகிறது. தனித் தொகுதி இருந்தால் நாங்கள் சில நன்மைகள் பெறலாம், சௌகர்யத்தை அடைவோம். மதத்தையும் மார்க்கத்தையும் சட்டத்தையும் திட்டத்தையும்”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ அப்பொழுது 20 நிமிஷம் பேசியிருக்கிறீர்கள், இன்னும் எவ்வளவு நேரம் பேசவேண்டும். அதிக நேரம் கொடுக்க முடியாது.”

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ நான் ஒரு வந்தான் இருக்கிறேன். இருபது, இருபத்தெட்டு வருஷமாக லோகல் போர்டில் அவஸ்தைப்பட்டவன், கஷ்டங்களை அனுபவித்தவன். ஆகையால்தான் தங்களை கொஞ்சம் நேரம் கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்கிறேன். சகோதரர்களே, மதக் கல்வி கற்றுக்கொள்ள ஒரு திட்டம் கொண்டு போனால் அதை ஆதரிக்க வேண்டாமா? நீங்கள் ஆதரிப்பீர்களானால் நாங்கள் ஏன் உங்களை எதிர்க்கிறோம். நியாயமான காரியத்தை என் சகோதரர்கள் ஏன் ஆதரிக்கக்கூடாது என்று கேட்கிறேன். அப்படி இருந்தால் நாங்கள் எப்படி முன்னுக்கு வருவோம். தனித்தொகுதி இல்லாவிட்டால் முனிசிபாலிட்டி, லோகல் போர்டுகள் முதலிய எந்த ஸ்தாபனத்திலும் அங்கம் வகிக்க முடியவே முடியாது. அவர்களுக்கு என்று ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட ஸ்தாபனங்களில் அவர்களுடைய வகுப்பினரையும் அவர்களுடைய மதஸ்தர்களையும், அவர்களுடைய உரிமைகளை பாதுகாக்கக் கூடியவர்களையும் தேர்ந்தெடுத்து அனுப்பக்கூடிய ஒரு சட்டத்தை நடத்தி வைத்தாலல்லவா ஒரு நியாயம், நீதி, நேர்மை ஏற்படும். தாங்களே மெஜரிட்டியாக இருக்கப்பட்ட ஒரு போர்டில் நாங்கள் மைனாரிட்டி. எங்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட கஷ்டங்களை எடுத்துச் சொல்ல உரிமை கொடுக்கவேண்டியது, சட்ட நிபுணர்களே, உங்களுடைய கடமை. ஆகையினாலே முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு மிகக் கேவலமான கஷ்டங்களும், துன்பங்களும், துயரங்களும் ஒவ்வொரு போர்டுகளிலும் ஏற்பட்டு விடுகிறது. அவைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்து அவர்களுடைய ஸ்வதந்திரத்தைப் பெற்றுக்கொள்ள அவர்களுடைய உரிமைகளை அடைய தாங்கள் தனித்தொகுதியை கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி இல்லாவிட்டால் எங்களை நீங்கள் புறக்கணித்து தள்ளி விட்டதாகுமெய்யொழிய நீங்கள் ஆதரித்து நியாயமான முறையில் எங்களுக்கு சுவதந்திரம் கொடுத்ததாக ஒருபோதும் ஆகாது. நீதிமான்கள், அறிவாளிகள் எல்லாம் சிந்தனை செய்து நியாயத்தை எங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். நம் தேசத்தில் சத்தியத்தைநிலை நாட்டுங்கள், ஒற்றுமையை கடைபிடித்து நடவுங்கள், மனச்சாட்சியை கைக்கொண்டு நியாயத்தை வழங்குங்கள். இன்னும் அநேக விஷயங்களை நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஆனால் தலைவர் அவர்கள் என்னை நிறுத்திவிடு என்று திட்டம் செய்தார்கள்.”

14th February 1947]

[M. R. P. Syed Muhammad Sahib Bahadur]

களும், துயரங்களும் ஒவ்வொரு போர்டுகளிலும் ஏற்பட்டு விடுகிறது. அவைகளை நிவர்த்தி செய்து அவர்களுடைய ஸ்வதந்திரத்தைப் பெற்றுக்கொள்ள அவர்களுடைய உரிமைகளை அடைய தாங்கள் தனித்தொகுதியை கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி இல்லாவிட்டால் எங்களை நீங்கள் புறக்கணித்து தள்ளி விட்டதாகுமெய்யொழிய நீங்கள் ஆதரித்து நியாயமான முறையில் எங்களுக்கு சுவதந்திரம் கொடுத்ததாக ஒருபோதும் ஆகாது. நீதிமான்கள், அறிவாளிகள் எல்லாம் சிந்தனை செய்து நியாயத்தை எங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். நம் தேசத்தில் சத்தியத்தைநிலை நாட்டுங்கள், ஒற்றுமையை கடைபிடித்து நடவுங்கள், மனச்சாட்சியை கைக்கொண்டு நியாயத்தை வழங்குங்கள். இன்னும் அநேக விஷயங்களை நான் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். ஆனால் தலைவர் அவர்கள் என்னை நிறுத்திவிடு என்று திட்டம் செய்தார்கள்.”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ Select Committee report வந்த பிறகு பேசலாம்.”

* M. R. P. SYED MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ தலைவர் அவர்களே, மேன்மை பொருந்திய மினிஸ்டர் அவர்களே, அங்கத்தினர்களே, எல்லோரும் உண்மையாக உங்களுடைய மனச்சாட்சிக்கு விரோதமில்லாமலே மைனாரிட்டிகளுக்கு நியாயம் செலுத்தும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அது நிற்க எங்களுக்கு தனித்தொகுதி கொடுக்க வேண்டுமெயல்லாது, பொதுத் தொகுதி என்பதை மறுத்து தனித்தொகுதியை கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அத்துடன் ஒவ்வொரு லோகல் போர்டுகளிலும் முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளிலும் வார்டுகளை பிரித்து முஸ்லீம் சமூகத்திற்கு பிரதிநிதி வராமல் மறுக்கச் செய்திருக்கிற வார்டுகளையும் சீர்திருத்தம் செய்து, தாங்கள் விசாரணை செய்து சந்தனை செய்து நியாயம் அளிக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இன்னும் ஒரு விஷயத்தை சொல்லுகிறேன். எங்கள் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதிகள் ஒவ்வொரு போர்டுகளிலும் ஒவ்வொரு ஸ்தானம் ஏற்படக்கூடிய முறையில் ஜனத்தொகைப்படி லோகல் போர்டுகளிலும் முனிசிபாலிட்டிகளிலும் ஜாஸ்தி கொடுக்கவேண்டிய ஸ்தானத்தை ஒதுக்கிக் கொடுக்கும்படியாகவும் கேட்டுக்கொண்டு நான் இதை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

SRI V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, 13-15 p.m.
rise to support the motion on the floor of this House for referring this Bill to a Select Committee. In doing so, it is not my intention to take much of the time of this House since the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in his elaborate speech dealt with the various provisions of the Bill that was on the anvil of this Assembly yesterday. I would like therefore to confine myself to a few points that relate to the objects of this Bill.

“ First of all, I am glad that the Government have understood what the opinion of the public was, that the electoral rolls were not prepared in a manner which would give votes to people who really ought to be voters, both in the municipalities and the district boards. This bill has made provision to bring in a large number of voters that were left out from the previous electoral rolls that were got up during the time of the Advisers' regime.

“ Secondly, Sir, it is contended in some quarters that the appointment of District Collectors as executive officers for district boards is not fair. I may say that according to present circumstances, it will not be possible to entrust the work and the fair management of affairs of the district board to anybody else than the District Collector.

[Sri V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [14th February 1947]

"Coming to the third point, Sir, i.e., as regards increased representation for the minority communities, I find in clause 3, that the Provincial Government have provided that they 'may, if they think fit, by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any local board in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3)'. I have been serving both in the municipalities and in district boards from the year 1919 and I know, Sir, that the representation that has been allowed for the scheduled castes is meagre, practically negligible. Except for a few district boards and municipalities, all the other municipalities and district boards were having only one member on the board, to represent the Harijans, whatever may be their population. This Bill, Sir, tries to give increased representation and that also only if the 'Government think fit' and they 'may' give representation in an increased percentage. Moreover, Sir, they have fixed the percentage of the minorities, all put together, and it cannot exceed one-third of the total strength of the board. Further they say that if they increased the number of seats for the minorities, correspondingly the strength of the board would be increased. This, I do not think, will meet the demand of the scheduled castes. As has already been pointed out on several occasions, the district boards serve the needs of the villages. The villages, as you yourself know, Sir, contain a large percentage of these unfortunate people, the scheduled castes. It is in the well-being of the district board and in the interests and the well-being of the poorer classes, that there must be a definite proportion of the representation of Harijans in the boards. I am sure, Sir, when the rules are made, the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government will consider the necessity to see that wherever the Harijans are in a good proportion of the population, the seats allotted to them are equal in proportion to their population. If this is not done, Sir, even in the one-third proportion that is sought to be given to the minorities, the Harijans will not be getting their due share.

"Sir, it is not my idea that now and then I should press forward the claims of the scheduled castes; but as it is admitted on all hands that it is the Harijans that are very low not only in the economic status but in other respects also, I have to refer to their claims now. Take for instance the health problem, water-supply and other amenities that are required for human existence, which are not now found in their hamlets. So, whatever it may be, I feel, Sir, strongly that the representation of Harijans in the district boards especially, must be increased in proportion to their population. With these words, Sir, I support the motion on the floor of the House."

* SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is really unfortunate that now I stand up to speak on the subject, as more or less the last member and I do not know whether some other Hon. Members will follow me. Still, I should like to have my say in this matter because

14th February 1947] [Sinna Kaziya Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur]

I am interested in municipal administration. Fortunately for me, the Hon. Minister happens to be a gentleman with long experience in municipal administration; as I am. Yesterday, the Hon. Minister said that he had twenty years' experience as a member and ten years' experience as a Chairman; unlikely for me, I have never been a chairman because I had a very great disqualification as I am a Muslim to become a chairman but to my credit I have been a municipal councillor for a period of 27 years continuously. I think I must be the oldest member at least in service or at least one of the oldest members in all the municipalities of this province. It is really unfortunate that such a simple subject has become a very complicated and controversial one. From my point of view and from the Hon. Minister's point of view, it has become a hard nut to crack. Anyhow, we have to find out a solution. Certainly, had I been a Minister, within two minutes, I would have granted this request to you, if I had been in your position and had you been in my position. After all, there should be some political tact, or you may even have it as political circumvention. What is it that we want? It is a very small matter, separate electorate. Do we want six or eight seats in your Ministry? Do we want anything more, or do we want to have some extraordinary thing which it is not possible for you to give? After all, it is as easy as anything and you can grant it very easily. The only difficulty is, you think you are powerful because you have a large majority with you. Sir, everywhere in this world and in every institution, there must be a minority and a majority party. Think for a moment; in democracy naturally majority must have coercive power, but such power is not given to minority under the democracy. Unless you treat the minority well and recognize the rights of minorities, I am sorry to say democracy will be a failure and it will end in anarchy. ('Hear, hear.')

"Now, coming to the Bill, Sir, we are in the year 1947, we are not in the year 1900. Neither can you circumvent us nor can we circumvent you. You may rest assured that every Muslim child born now will be a politician. Now politics need not be taught to a Muslim; every Muslim knows politics. What do we want? We want our share. We want that you should recognize our legitimate rights. That is all and nothing more do we want. Again, I should like to bring to your memory what happened on a previous occasion. I should like to thank Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar and also Mr. B. Gopala Reddi; they had the kindness to amend the Act and to grant free water-supply to the Muslims on my representation. I led a deputation in this connexion to them and thus all the masses of Muslims in this Province are to-day and thus all the masses of Muslims in this Province are to-day having free water-supply. We remember them still. Hindu-Muslim unity—can we purchase it, or can we import it? This is the best way to bring Hindu-Muslim unity. Give us something; live and let live. These tall talks and high-sounding philosophies will be quite all right for academic discussions; but your talks should be translated into action and you should make us trust you. Therein lies harmony and co-operation.

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"Now, Sir, let me explain to you whether it is necessary to have separate electorate. It is as necessary as you and I require three times or four times meals a day. It may be even more necessary. What is it? Of course, to see an elephant you do not need a telescope or a microscope. At least there is a department like the S.P.C.A. to prevent cruelty to animals; is there a department to prevent cruelty to the minority Muslims in this Province? What is the mentality of the non-Muslims in this Province in every nook and corner? What is the position of the Muslims; how are they being coerced, oppressed and suppressed and are being cornered in every place? Of course the Hon. Premier is aware of the fact as to how we have been teased and how patiently we have been conducting ourselves and how we only sought the help of the Government. That is the position.

• "Regarding separate electorate, of course the Hon. Minister said that he was going to reserve seats in those wards where the Muslims are in a majority. Sir, let me ask you, what about the wards? What about wards in municipalities where you do not have even a single ward with a Muslim majority? In the Madura Municipality, I should like to invite the kind attention of the Hon. Minister to this fact—out of the 29 wards there, there is not even one single ward where we have a majority of Muslims. The pity is this. Those shrewd municipal leaders in those days divided the wards in such a way that in the 18th ward, where we have only a total of 1,500 votes, there are only 100 Muslim votes and 300 to 400 Christian votes and about 1,000 Hindu votes. For that thousand votes, our Hindu friends are having a seat. The next ward, the 19th ward is the one from which I was elected. In that ward, you have 3,500 votes out of which 1,500 are Muslim votes and 2,000 votes are non-Muslim votes. Even in spite of our having 1,500 Muslim votes in that ward, we are not able to get elected; we are not able to get a real representative of the Muslims from that ward in spite of the fact that we have 1,500 votes. But in the ward where Hindus are having only 1,000 votes, i.e., the 18th ward, they can have elected without fear, a member of that community. That is how wards are being distributed. There are so many other instances where the Muslim community does not have a representative. I want to touch only one more point. Regarding the distribution of district board circles, I should like to say this. I am referring to the famous Tiruppullani, Kilakkarai and Ramnad. In Tiruppullani, you have 2,000 votes, in Kilakkarai, 20,000 and in Ramnad 15,000. There, the position is this. Tiruppullani is between Kilakkarai and Ramnad and it does not lie in a straight line connecting Kilakkarai and Ramnad. It is away by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 furlongs from the straight line. Now for Tiruppullani, having 2,000 votes, a seat has been allotted and Kilakkarai has been coupled with Ramnad and allotted one seat. Why not couple Tiruppullani with Kilakkarai or Tiruppullani with Ramnad? In either case one seat for the Muslims would have been assured. . . ."

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SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"On a point of information, Sir. Already they have a seat in the constituency and the hon. Member's statement is misleading and therefore I want to correct him."

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When you take the population into consideration, Kilakkarai has a right to have one seat for 20,000 Muslims. That is my contention and argument. I am sorry my friend has not properly understood me. When you have allotted a seat for Tiruppullani with 2,000 votes, why not allot a seat for Kilakkarai which has 20,000 votes? I ask the hon. Member to answer this question."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"The hon. Member says that there are only 2,000 votes in Tiruppullani."

MR. SPEAKER:—"A member should rise in his seat if he wants to raise a point of order. Is the hon. Member rising on a point of information or a point of order?"

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—"On a point of information, Sir. My hon. Friend says there are only 2,000 votes in Tiruppullani. According to area, seats are allotted. Though the population is thick, the area is very small in Kilakkarai. A Muslim seat as also a general seat have been reserved and for both these seats Muslims have been elected."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of explanation, Sir. What my hon. Friend, the immediate speaker, said is not correct. The complaint here is that Kilakkarai and Tiruppullani are contiguous areas but Tiruppullani has been taken away from Kilakkarai and Kilakkarai jumps from Kilakkarai to Ramnad and is coupled with Ramnad while Tiruppullani is left alone. From the point of view of the number of voters or from the point of view of contiguity, this delimitation is very unjustified and that is the point which my hon. Friend is trying to make out."

* SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Now, Sir, I submit that this is a question in which the interests of the Muslims are involved. May I know, are you more interested in the welfare of the Muslims than we? If you say, yes, I think the Hon. Minister must be a saint and should find his place in the jungle. (Laughter.) On the other hand, if you say, no, please try to understand us and follow us. It will not be below your dignity or respect to modify your views. As a lawyer, the Hon. Minister knows, even in a court of law, after a judgment is pronounced by the Judge, a revision lies to the same Judge. He then considers the revision petition and passes another order modifying his original judgment. Let us be outspoken and straightforward; after all we are here to live and let live. You should hear us. Of course we can convince persons who are open to conviction but we cannot convince hon. Members if they refuse to be convinced and so what is the use of

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my bawling out here. After all it is our demand; we want it; and without it, we cannot live. Can you say, Sir, that you and I are one—that is a long exploded theory—you and I can never be one either culturally, socially, economically or spiritually or even physically. (Laughter.) Sir, I am sorry I have got a bad throat . . .”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Because the hon. Member is tired, I think it is better he finishes soon.”

* SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am sorry Sir. You would have often noticed that I do not take up much time. Excuse me, Sir, this is a subject on which I can sacrifice anything because it is a question of life and death to us. If you think that you can safeguard our interests more than we can do, as I have already said, you must be a real saint and find your place in the jungle. If you are mistaken in that view, please adjust yourself and adapt yourself to circumstances and try to satisfy your conscience and hear us but do not refuse to be convinced. After all parliamentary sanity is the outcome of differences of opinion. It is only after we discuss and go on with deliberations, we come to a certain settlement. It is not going to be beneath your dignity or status to give what we want. What we want is separate electorates. So many persons may say we are one. These tall talks, these high-sounding philosophies may be all right for academical discussion. When a husband and wife may talk that they are one, friends talk they are one, but when we go to a railway station, we cannot travel by purchasing one ticket. In that sense, we are not one and we differ, but still we are one. What is unity—Unity in diversity. Likewise in the human world, there is unity in diversity. We have got diverse views and diverse qualities, but still let us be one. You say, we are one and you also say that Harijans are also one with you. Recently, you have thrown upon the doors of some temples to Harijans—I am afraid, they were forced into the temples—will you take us also and force us into your temples? In that sense, we are not one with you, nor are you going to allow us into your temples.”

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—“We will allow you if you become a Hindu.” (Laughter.)

* SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Recently, I read from the papers that a coffee hotel-keeper in Madura raised an objection whether he should allow Muslims. He referred the matter to the Government and it seems the Minister has not replied to him. When such a matter as the entering of a coffee hotel is denied so far as Muslims are concerned, how are you going to allow us into temples? Again, I say, these high-sounding philosophies and tall talks are fit only for academical discussion and will not serve any practical purpose.

“Now let us see how far we are one. What happened in Madura? In Tallakulam and Panangudi, what happened? You will shed tears, if I tell you that for no fault of theirs, Muslims

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were stabbed and murdered. There were so many cases of arson and looting. Unfortunately, the Muslims of Madura are a very small proportion of the population, about 2½ lakhs. The question is pending with the Hon. the Prime Minister and I do not know when he is going to dispose of it. Now, what was the fault of the Muslims? Do you think that simply because we are Muslims we are bereft of humanity? Certainly not. Political views have many phases. One may be a Congressman and another may be Leaguer. You should not think that Muslim Leaguers are the enemies of humanity. Of course the Hon. Minister may say that I have been elected from the ward for the last 27 years with a majority of Hindu votes. But again, I should like to repeat now we are in 1947 and not in 1943. We had the first battle in Madura in the year 1941 and the second Hindu-Muslim battle—not the battle of Panipet—we had in Madura was in the year 1946 and, God forbid, you are now paving the way for a third communal battle in Madura if you are going to have joint electorates. (The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas: ‘Question.’) You may rest assured that if there is a reserved seat, the Leaguers will approach and also the non-Leaguers—the so-called Nationalist Muslims—with the support of the Congress will contest and there will be a clash. That is what is going to happen. Now, I may tell you that instead of my being elected from my ward for the last 27 years, I will not be elected this year; that is sure and certain, because, there is a social boycott against me. I will give you proof of it. The Hindu taxi-wallahs do not bring taxis to me; my distant relations are selling away their flour mills and rice-mills because they happen to be my relations and they are socially boycotted. So, I cannot get even a single vote now. I do not know what the Hon. Minister is going to reply to my question that in Madura we do not have even a single ward where there is a majority of Muslims. Are you going to redistribute the wards so that there will be at least three or four wards having majority of Muslims? Yes, that is also possible, because, now in the Madura Municipality, for the last twenty years for instance, there is a ward with 6,000 Muslim voters and another ward with 1,500 voters. I have got more important material to put before the House and I hope hon. Members will not be impatient.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“You have taken already fifteen minutes, and I shall allow you only a few minutes more.”

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I have not come to the subject proper, yet, Sir. I may require about an hour more.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“It is not possible for me to allow you one hour. I will allow you only ten more minutes.”

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Then I am helpless. I am sorry I cannot sum up within that time.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“Since there are many more speakers, I fix ten minutes for each speaker.”

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3-45
p.m.

* **SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU** :—“ தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது விவாதிக்கப்பட்டு வரும் சென்னை ஜில்லா முனிசிபல் சட்டத்தை திருத்தியமைக்கவேண்டுமென்ற பிரேரணையை நான் முழு மனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இன்று பேசிய முஸ்லீம் நண்பர்கள் பலர் எங்களுக்கு தனித் தொகுதியே வேண்டும், பொதுத்தொகுதியால் பல இன்னல்கள் விளைகின்றன, அவைகளிலிருந்து காப்பாற்றிக்கொள்ள நாங்கள் எங்களுடைய சொந்த பிரதிநிதிகளை, உண்மையான பிரதிநிதிகளை தேர்ந்தெடுக்கவேண்டுமானால் தனித்தொகுதிதான் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கூறினார்கள். அதன் அர்த்தம் என்னவென்று எனக்கு விளங்கவில்லை. உண்மையான பிரதிநிதிகள் என்றால் அவர்கள் முஸ்லீம் லீகைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாக இருந்தால்தான் உண்மையான முஸ்லீம்களாக, தேசிய முஸ்லீம்களாக இருந்தால் அவர்கள் முஸ்லீம்களாக இருக்கமாட்டார்களா? ”

“ இரண்டாவதாக தனித் தொகுதியில் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டு வந்தால் தான் நாங்கள் எங்களுடைய தொகுதிகளின் நன்மைகளை அடைய முடியும் எங்களுடைய சொந்த நன்மைகளைப் பெற முடியும் என்று கூறுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்கள் கூறின வாதங்கள் எல்லாம் பொதுத் தொகுதியை ஆதரிப்பவ்வாக இருக்கின்றனவேயொழிய தனித்தொகுதியை ஆதரிப்பவ்வாக இல்லை. முடிவில் எங்களுக்கு தனித்தொகுதி வேண்டுமென்று கூறுகிறார்களே தவிர அவர்கள் சொல்லும் வாதம் புராவும் பொதுத் தொகுதியை ஆதரிப்பவ்வாகவே இருக்கின்றன. ”

“ எனது ஜில்லாவுக்குப் பக்கத்திலிருக்கும் இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள தொண்டியிலிருந்து வந்திருக்கும் எனது நண்பர் கான் சாகிப் அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். ஹிந்துக்கள் தஞ்சையிலிருந்து இராமேஸ்வரம் வரைக்கும் பல சத்திரங்களை கட்டி வைத்திருக்கிறார்கள், 5 மைலுக்கு ஒன்றாக பல இருக்கின்றன, அவைகள் எங்கள் மேல் பார்வையில் இருக்கின்றன நாங்கள் அவைகளை கவனித்து வருகிறோம் என்று கூறினார்கள். ”

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ On a point of order, Sir. Can the hon. Member refer to one of our members as Khan Sahib. It is an insult to our party. He is no more a Khan Sahib. ”

MR. SPEAKER :—“ இனிமேல் கான் சாகிப் என்று சொல்லாதேயுங்கள். அதை வாபீஸ் வாங்கிக்கொள்ளுங்கள். ”

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU :—“ அவர்களுக்கு கான் சாகிப் பட்டம் இல்லாவிட்டாலும் அவர்களை நாங்கள் எங்கள் பிராந்தியத்தில் கான் சாகிப் என்று தான் அறிவோம், கான் சாகிப் என்று அழைத்துத் தான் வழக்கம். அதனால்தான் நான் இதைக் கூறினேன். எவ்வளவு தூரம் ஹிந்துக்களும் முஸ்லீம்களும் ஒற்றுமையாக வாழ்ந்து வருகிறார்கள் என்பதற்கு அவர் கூறிய வாதமே ஒரு சிறந்த உதாரணமாகும். இன்னும் பல இருக்கின்றன. எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் கோம்பையில் ஒரு மரக்காயர் இருக்கிறார். அவர் இராமாயணத்தையும் மகாபாரதத்தையும் அருமையாக படித்து வியாக்யானம் செய்வார். மனப்பாடமாக படித்திருக்கிறார் அவைகளை. மதுரை, இராமநாதபுரம், திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லாக்களில் ஹிந்துக்களும் முஸ்லீம்களும் ஒற்றுமையாக வாழ்ந்து வந்தோம். ஒற்றுமையாக இன்னும் கிராம பிராந்தியங்களில் அப்படி வாழ்ந்து வருகிறோம் என்பதை இப்பொழுது எதிர் கட்சியில் வந்திருக்கும் நண்பர்கள் கூட நன்றாக அறிவார்கள். பிரசாரத்திற்காக இங்கு வந்து உட்கார்ந்துகொண்டு எங்களுக்குத் தனித்தொகுதி வேண்டும், ஒற்றுமை இல்லை என்று பேசுவதென்றால் அது சரியில்லை. உங்களை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன், கிராமங்களுக்கு வந்து பாருங்கள். எவ்வளவு பேர் ஹிந்துக்களும் முஸ்லீம்களும் அண்ணன் தம்பி, பாட்டன், பேரன், மாமன், மைத்துனன், என்று எவ்வளவு உறவு கொண்டாடிக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று அறிவீர்கள். இதை இப்பொழுது பேசிய என் நண்பர் சின்னக்காஜியார் அறியாமல் இல்லை. ”

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“ இவ்வளவுக்கும் காரணம்—இதை விளக்குவதற்காகத்தான் நான் இப்பொழுது பேச முன் வந்தேன்,—இத்தனைக்கும் காரணம் சமீப காலத்திலிருந்து தங்களைப்போன்ற நண்பர்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் வேறு ஹிந்துக்கள் வேறு, நாங்கள் separate nation, ஹிந்துக்கள் வேறு, nation என்று பிரிவுபடுத்தி ஒன்றுமறியாத கிராம மக்களை, சகோதரர்களைப்போல், தாயும் பிள்ளையுமாக, கண்டும் பசுவுமாக வாழ்ந்த மக்களுக்கு இடையே பிரிவினை மனப்பான்மையை உண்டுபண்ணியதே காரணம். இதைத்தவிர வேறு காரணம் ஒன்றுமே இருக்க முடியாது. அது மட்டுமில்லை. 1942-ம் ஆண்டுதான் என்னைப் போல் பலர் சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டார்கள். என்னை வழியனுப்ப என் நண்பர் ஒருவர் முருகய்ய நாடார் என்னை திருமங்கலத்திலிருந்து வழியனுப்பினார். 1945-ம் ஆண்டு 2½ வருஷங்களுக்குப் பின் நான் விடுதலையாகி வந்தபோது அவர் ஒரு குல்லாவை தரித்துக் கொண்டும் இருப்பில் கைலியைக் கட்டிக்கொண்டும் நின்று. என்ன முருகய்யா இப்படி இருக்கிறாய் என்று நான் கேட்டதற்கு இப்பொழுது என் பெயர் முருகையா இல்லை, குலாம் அப்துல் அஜீஸ் என்று சொன்னார். அதனால் அவர் வேறு nation என்று பாவிக்க முடியுமா? பழைய அப்பேரே என்று நான் அவரை கட்டித் தழுவினேன் அவர் வேறு nation ஆவரோ? நான் அவரை கட்டித் தழுவினேன் ஒரு சமூகத்தில் வாழ்கிற அவர் வேறு நான் வேறு? ஒரு ஊரில் பிறந்து ஒரு சமூகத்தில் வாழ்கிறவர்கள் தனியாக இருக்க முடியாது. பொதுத்தொகுதி மூலம் பல நன்மைகள் அடைய முடியும். உதாரணமாக மதுரை ஜில்லா போர்டில் ஜனத்தொகைப்படி 3 ஸ்தானங்கள்தான் முஸ்லீம்களுக்கு ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஜில்லா போர்டில் அப்படி இருக்க, நடந்த தேர்தலில், 1937-ம் ஆண்டுதான் எழு ஸ்தானங்கள் அவர்களுக்கு கிடைத்தன, காரணம் என்ன? பொதுத் தொகுதி மூலம் வந்தால்தான். அவர்கள் அத்தனை பேர்களும் எப்படிப்பட்டவர்கள். இதைத் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவேண்டும். ஹிந்துக்கள் வேறு, முஸ்லீம்கள் வேறு என்ற விரோத மனப்பான்மை அவர்களுக்கு இல்லை. ஹிந்துக்களும் தாங்களும் சகோதரர்கள் எல்லோரும் ஒன்று என்ற நேசமனப்பான்மையுடன் இருந்தால்தான் 3-க்கு 7 பேர் வரமுடிந்தது. இன்னும் விசித்ரமான ஒரு செய்தி கூறுகிறேன். எதிர் கட்சி நண்பர் தெரிந்துகொள்ளட்டும். எழு பேர் மைனாரிட்டியாக தனிக்கட்சியாக முஸ்லீம் கட்சியென்று அமைத்துக்கொண்டு இருந்திருப்பார்களானால் நான் பின்னால் சொல்லப்போகும் காரியங்கள் நடந்திருக்குமா? எழு பேரும் ஒற்றுமையுடன் எங்களுக்குத் தனிக்கட்சி வேண்டியது இல்லை. நாங்கள் எல்லோரும் தேசத்திற்காக பாடுபட வந்திருக்கிறோம் என்று ஒரே கட்சியில் சேர்ந்திருந்தால்தான் அவர்களில் ஒருவர் ஜில்லா போர்டு தலைவராக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட முடிந்தது. தலைவராக இருந்து திருப்திகரமாக மற்ற 24 ஜில்லா போர்டுகளை காட்டிலும் மிகவும் சிறந்த முறையில் ஜில்லா போர்டை பரிபாலனம் செய்து நல்ல பெயரை அடைந்தார், நண்பர் அப்துல் காதர் அவர்கள். இது மட்டும் அல்ல இப்பொழுது பேசினால் சின்னக்காஜியார் அவர்கள் நான் 20 வருஷமாக மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டி அங்கத்தினராக இருக்கிறேன், சேர்மனாக வர முடியவில்லை. அதற்காகவாவது தனித் தொகுதி இருக்கவேண்டுமென்ற அர்த்தம் தொனாக்குமாறு பேசினார். ”

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ நான் சேர்மனாக வரவில்லை என்று வருத்தப்படவில்லை. மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டி சரித்திரத்தில் முஸ்லீம் சேர்மன் கிடையாது. ”

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU :—“ மூன்று முறைகள்—மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டியில் காங்கிரஸ் கட்சி மெஜாரிட்டியாக இருந்து அதன் அதிகாரத்தை நடத்தி வந்திருக்கிறது. மூன்று முறைகளிலும் என் நண்பர் உங்களில் எவரையும்விட குறைந்த மதப்பற்று இல்லாத ஹாஜி மௌலானா சாகிப் அவர்கள் அதன் உப-தலைவராக இருந்து வந்திருக்கிறார். அவரை எந்த விதத்திலும் ஒரு குறைந்த முஸ்லீம் என்று கூற முடியாது. அவர் மெக்காவிற்கு சென்று திரும்பியவர் உங்களில் பலருக்கு இருக்க முடியாத தெய்வ பக்தி அவருக்கு உண்டு. எந்தக் கூட்டம் நடந்தாலும் இடையிலேயே எழுந்து போய் காலம் தவராமல் தொழுகையை முடித்துவிட்டு வருவார். ”

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SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—
“On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member cannot say that we are not so pious as the Moulana Sahib. It is objectionable. I had also been to Mecca and we are also pious.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“I will ask the hon. Member to withdraw what he has said.” நீங்கள் சொல்லுங்கள் அவர் எவ்வளவு பக்தியாக இருக்கிறாரோ அவ்வளவு பக்தியாக இவர் கூட இருக்கிறார் என்று சொல்லுங்கள்.” (Laughter.)

SRI K. RAJARAM NAYUDU:—“கனம் சின்ன கஜியார் அவர்களிடம் எனக்கு பரிபூர்ணமான மதிப்பு உண்டு. அவரை நான் என்றும் குறைத்து மதித்து கிடையாது. நான் முகம்மது மௌலானு அவர்களைப் பெருமை படுத்தி கூறியதிலிருந்து என் நனபரை குறைவாக பேசியதாக கருதுவது தவறு என்று அவர்களுக்கு யட்டும் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

MR. SPEAKER:—“10 நிமிஷம் முடிந்து போய்விட்டது. நீங்கள் உட்காருங்கள்.”

* BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to oppose the motion before this House. The main reason for my doing so is that the principle of this Bill is the same as that of the preceding one, viz., that joint electorates should be provided for Muslims. I do not wish to take up the time of the House by once again dilating on the need and efficacy of separate electorates for Muslims, because, this matter has been sufficiently discussed already. I wish to touch just one or two points referred to by the Hon. Minister yesterday in his speech.

“In the course of his speech, the Hon. Minister, when dealing with the question to which I adverted, viz., that it was essential that proper and suitable representatives of Muslims should be sent to various local bodies in order to safeguard the educational interests of that community, replied, that education was a minor question.”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—“On a point of information, Sir. I said, Education was a major subject to be dealt with by Government and the municipalities should only carry out the policy of Government. I never said it is a minor subject.”

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—“I heard the words ‘minor question’ and took down these words when the Minister spoke. I am afraid, I must disagree with him on this point. Education is not a minor question; on the other hand, it is a major question vitally affecting the well-being, the interests and the progress of every nation in the world. Further, the Hon. Minister mentioned that it was not the local bodies but rather the Government that formulated policies with regard to education, hence the views of the members of local bodies would not matter much with reference to this subject. It is true that in regard to formulating broad lines of policy, local bodies have no voice, but it must be remembered that it is the local bodies that implement to a large extent, the policy chalked out by the Government. It is they that devise ways and means of carrying out that policy, within their respective jurisdiction. Hence it is necessary that such representatives of the Muslims command the confidence of the community

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should have the opportunity of expressing their views in regard to the measures to be adopted by the local bodies in implementing Government policy. I shall give a concrete illustration. The Hon. Minister is aware, that the policy of the Government in this Province is to expand elementary education. It is the Government that has formulated this policy but it is the local bodies that are implementing the same; it is the local bodies on whom devolves the responsibility of selecting areas for the expansion of compulsory education. Complaints have reached us that discrimination is shown in various districts in regard to this matter and that areas where Muslims are in large numbers are usually neglected. To safeguard such interests of the Muslims it is essential that there should be present in the local bodies their true representatives who will not sacrifice the interests of their community for personal ends, in order to gain the favours of a majority party.

“Again, the Minister in reply to my reference to the Lucknow Pact stated that his pact was applicable only to political and not to civic bodies. But I wish to point out that local bodies, as they are constituted today, are veritable political institutions, especially by reason of the large powers vested in them. The Hon. Minister has himself been the Chairman of a Municipality and he knows that, as things stand at present local bodies exercise large powers. It may be that tomorrow many of their powers may be taken away from them, and I hope this will soon happen, but as matters stand at present, District Boards in particular wield enormous powers. In view of this and in view of the election to these bodies being held on political lines it is futile to deny that they are political institutions today. In fact, I may say that they constitute a sort of miniature Legislature. Such being the case, I am of opinion that the same rules that govern other political bodies should be made applicable to local bodies. Another point that I should like to urge is that it is the minority and not the majority that should decide as to what safeguards are necessary for the protection of the interests of the minority. This point was conceded by the former President of the Congress himself, who referred to it in one of his presidential addresses, which I had occasion to peruse only the other day. Such being the case, since the minority, viz., the Muslims of this Province, are demanding that the safeguard of separate electorates should be provided for them for protecting their legitimate rights and interests, it is but meet and proper that the Government should accede to their demands. It is stated that joint electorates would be conducive towards promoting understanding between the two major communities, but I am afraid under present circumstances in this Province it is futile to imagine that it would produce such a result, for in a Province such as this, where the majority party is in such preponderant numbers, the Hindus can afford to ignore and disregard the Muslims, even with joint electorates.

“There is one other point to which I wish to advert and then I shall close. I find that in the Bill large powers are to be conferred on the Government to enable it to do anything on any

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occasion to remove any difficulty that might arise. This I wish to point out is not at all desirable, rather it is dangerous to allow the executive to be possessed of such omnibus powers. Indeed, it is a violent departure from democratic principles that the executive authority should appropriate to itself such unlimited and unrestricted powers, and no democratic body should approve of such a course. The Government should visualise the difficulties, foresee the contingencies and make due provision for them in the Bill. The Hon. Minister may urge in defence that the provision is in accordance with certain precedent, but surely no precedent can make a wrong right. I therefore hope that the undesirable clause in the Bill will be deleted when it goes before the Select Committee. With these words, I oppose the motion."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved on the floor of the House. When I do so I should like to place before the House what the view is of the general public of this Province. Here the Hindus and Muslims are living like brothers not only in towns, but even in the villages unless new ideas and new propaganda is introduced in the village parts, as well as in the towns, in the name of the Muslim League that they are different people altogether, they do not belong to India itself and they belong to other countries; all their habits and customs are different just as was stated by the Leader of the Opposition sometime ago. According to their two-nation theory, they belonged completely to a different nation and they did not belong to the Indian nation." (Voice: 'Question.')

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"And yet we may belong to India."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"These are responsible for the troubles in the villages and in towns when elections take place. Well, Sir, people generally are willing to vote for the candidates who is prepared to sacrifice everything for the sake of the country. Whether he be a Muslim, Christian or Hindu, if he is prepared to sacrifice for the sake of the country and if he will work for the welfare of the people, they are prepared to vote for him. Well, Sir, those are the people who are called Nationalist Muslims. They may be Muslims. Similarly, there are Hindus who oppose the Congress. They are not prepared to sacrifice and they are not prepared to work for the benefit of the poor men of this country. People do not want to vote for them. When they do not get sufficient number of votes, it enrages the League members. They raise the slogan 'Religion is in danger.' Defeated in the election, he comes out with a big slogan that religion is in danger. Whenever elections come, people must decide on the merit of the subject in which he is going to work, on the merit of his service and what he is going to do for his constituency? That must be the slogan, Sir. But unfortunately for the past few years Sir, in 1910, if I remember well, the British people for their own advantage enunciated this idea of separate electorates. Ever

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since this was enunciated by the British Government in India for their own advantage, our people who are working for the cause of the country, whether Hindus, Muslims, or Christians were opposing this. They opposed this on every platform; in every aspect of human life they opposed this because they saw it was simply a slogan. You want separate electorates. If you enter into any body, not only municipal council, but even in the village panchayat union, what are you going to do, Sir? They will do the same thing like others who enter that body. Is there anything else to do? Certainly not. A town must be taken as a unit, a village must be taken as a unit, we have to work for the upliftment of the whole village or the town, as the case may be. That must be the motto. If they think like that, I hope this separatist tendency will go away and along with it the dissensions and troubles. One representative from Madura just now stated, Sir, 'Oh, if you want to have this joint electorate, what a great trouble it will be in Madura.' This whole mentality must change. If the candidates are there to work for the country, there will be no trouble. Votes will come of their own accord. People are now awake. This is not the year 1910, Sir. After 40 years people have awakened. Everybody knows what is an election, what is the vote. Therefore, by mere slogans people are not going to get puzzled. Therefore, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister for the stand he has taken when he introduced this joint electorate system with a privilege of reservation of seats. They have got an opportunity to contest for any ward or for any seat. In Salem, I may give an instance, there are Muslim seats reserved for Mussalmans, but wherever there are joint seats for Hindus and Muslims, Mussalman candidates generally come. Sometimes the Hindu candidates get defeated though Hindu votes are in a majority. In two places this happened, one in Salem Fort and another in my own ward. When Hindu and Muslim parties put their candidates, generally Muslim candidates succeeded. One seat is reserved for the Muslim but two seats they get by contesting for Hindu seats. It depends upon the candidate, how he presents his case to the voters. Simply, if he says 'I am a Leaguer, you must vote for me', they say 'No, Sir.' If he says 'I am prepared and willing to sacrifice for your sake; I will serve the people as a whole; then at once people might vote in his favour. The point always to be taken into consideration is that we have to live amicably. North India may get Pakistan or may not get it, that is a different matter. Here in this Province Muslims must live with us in Hindustan. They are bound to live or perish with us. Whatever is our fate, that is the fate of the Muslim friends also. Therefore, I will not take much time of the House, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER:—"You cannot take."

SRI P. KANDASWAMI PILLAI:—"Further, it is asserted that on population basis, they are entitled to twelve seats. At least if they agree that they are prepared to accept on population basis, well and good. But this they do not concede. Then they will say weightage for the minority. You must give us more.

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If they deserve two seats they will want four or eight because they are a minority and you must give them what they ask. Therefore, the giving of seats is nothing. The whole mental outlook must be changed. From the two-nation theory it must change to the nationalist theory. They must say 'I belong to India, this is my country, and I will serve this country.' I have not heard any of my hon. Friends of the Opposition say 'I am here to fight for the interests of the whole people.' They always talk of Muslim interests, as if only Muslims live in this country. No Congressman dared to utter a word that the Congress is fighting only for the Hindus. He will never say so. He fights for every individual in India, whether he be a Hindu, Muslim, Parsi or Christian. Therefore, with these few words I request all my friends in the Opposition to drop this two-nation theory and hand in hand with other communities work for the uplift of not only the local bodies but also the whole country."

* M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. Speaker, Sir, Members of the Government and hon. Members who support the Government or to be more correct those that create and recreate that Government may wonder why we on this side of the House persist in presenting a point of view which will never be accepted or conceded by them. We, as Muslims, believe honestly and sincerely in our point of view and therefore, continue to persist. You know, Sir, truth always persists till it is recognized by one and all. The Hon. Minister when moving the motion before the House said that he recognized the importance of the minorities in this Province and that he has brought this measure only with a view to give representation to the minorities. He said that he is showing a gesture—a gesture of good faith and goodwill. I welcome that gesture but I tell him 'Make that gesture full and complete.' He also said that minorities will also always be minorities in any of the constituencies in this Province. I quite agree with him. We do not contest that contention of his that minorities will ever remain minorities. In days gone by when the British Government selected some of the Indian representatives like Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar and Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer and sent them as representatives of this country to International Conferences and Conventions, hon. Members who are sitting before me have cried from house-tops that they were not the real representatives of the people. Were they not Hindus: did they not belong to respectable Hindu families; why did you say that they were not the real representatives of the people? The reason was you never had confidence in them. With equal emphasis, to-day we say that any representative who may be elected by the joint electorate system will not be the real representative of the Muslims. Therefore, we urge upon you that separate electorate alone will give us the real representatives who can represent our aspirations and our ambitions in the Councils of the Province.

"Separate electorates will be the only penance for all the ills of this country. When we talk about separate electorates, the

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Hon. Minister eloquently appeals to us in the name of nationalism to accept joint electorate. Sir, we do not subscribe to that nationalism because it is limited in scope and circumscribed. I can only give a small incident to the Hon. Minister for Local Administration because he is an Indian Christian. Some years ago, a family of Indian Christians became Hindu converts. The popular Premier of this Province sent them a telegram congratulating them. Sir, this may be a small incident; but that indicates the type and the brand of nationalism which you are preaching. What we say, therefore, is that we do not want to be submerged into this nationalism. You simply want us to get ourselves drowned in this nationalism. You are trying to create this brand of nationalism with a view to rivet with force the bonds subsisting between the communities so that you may have all the people together to carry on your freedom struggle. I say: 'You are doing this only with a view to help your own people and to help your own nation while the other nation must get submerged in that nationalism. To-day you are opening your temple doors; you are opening the House of God to the Harijans, to that community which, since the time of Manu, has been living almost on the fringe of society, even far away from the fringe of human society, in utter darkness and cold. Why? Political reasons are behind this move; I say, Sir, it is only for political reasons that you are opening the temple doors to them. Civilized nations are simply laughing at us asking 'Are there still people who for generations and centuries have refused entry to others even in the House of God?' You are placarding that in the newspapers. I am not quarrelling with that. My quarrel is that your brand of nationalism is not the type of nationalism we want. You do not want people who will not agree with you. You want people who will agree to go deep down into the depth of ignorance and indifference. You want that we should subscribe to your aspirations and ambitions. I have already said on the floor of the House that we are prepared to co-operate with you. But give us our legitimate right of sending our own representatives, the real people who can represent our aspirations and our ambitions. You have said that we are ever-lasting minorities in the councils of the country in the district boards, in the municipalities and in the panchayat boards. We are prepared to continue to remain minorities but allow us to express our opinion by allowing us to send our real representatives to the Councils. With these few words, I oppose the principle of the Bill now under discussion."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The debate on the motion will continue till five o'clock; then I will call on the Hon. Minister to reply. At about 5-30, I will put the motion to the vote of the House."

SRI M. KANNIAPPAN:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் டேனியல் தாமஸ் அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கக்கூடிய இந்த தீர்மானத்தை நான் முழு மனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். இன்று எதிர் கட்சியிலுள்ள நம்முடைய தோழர்கள் தனித்தொகுதி முறை வேண்டுமென்று பல தினங்களாக பேசினார்கள். அப்படி பேசும்போது உள்ளத்திலே அவர்கள் என்ன நினைக்கிறார்கள் என்று எனக்கு புரியவில்லை. இந்த தேசத்திலே கூட்டுத்

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* SRI D. KADIRAPPA:—“అధ్యక్షా, గవర్నరు మెంటువారు ప్రవేశపెట్టిన ఈ ఎమెండు మెంటు బిల్లును (Amendment Bill) సపోర్టు (Support) చేస్తూ, లోకల్ బోర్డు (Local Boards) ఉంటిగారు పంత త్వరగా ఈ Municipality, Corporation Municipal Local Board, District Board Amendment Bill ను తెచ్చి నందుకు వారికి వందనములాభించుచు నేను మనవి చేయన దేవునగా, ముఖ్యంగా, ప్రతి జిల్లాలోను సుమారుగా 50 మంది, 54 మంది మెంబర్లు జిల్లా బోర్డులలో ఉంటారు. వాటిలో సుమారు ప్రతి జిల్లాలోను 4 గురో, 3 గురో, లేక 5 గురో, మాత్రమే

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హరిజన మెంబర్లుంటారు. దాంట్లో నాలుగు తాలూకాలో మాత్రమే నలుగురు హరిజన మెంబర్లు వుంటారు తలిమ్మా 9, 10 తాలూకాలలో ఎవరు హరిజన మెంబర్లు వుండటానికి వీలులేదు. హరిజనులకు ఆయా తాలూకాలలో వారికి వుండేటటువంటి కష్టాలు, ఇబ్బందులు వెళ్ళుకోనే దానికి ప్రతి తాలూకాకు ఒక హరిజన మెంబరును నియమించ వలెనని గవర్న మెంటు వారికి మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. ఎందుకనగా ఇప్పుడు సాధారణంగా హరిజన మెంబర్లు చదవున్న వారైవుంటారుగాని వారిదగ్గర దుడ్డులేదు. దుడ్డులేనివారు అన్ని తాలూకాలలోను తిరుగుట కష్టమవుతుంది. మామూలుగా ఒక తాలూకా గుమారు 50 మైళ్ళుంటుంది. ఇట్లా అయితే ఒక్కొక్క హరిజన మెంబరు ఆ జిల్లాలో 100 మైళ్ళు, 150 మైళ్ళు తిరగవలసివుంటుంది. ఇంత దూరం చుట్టూ తిరిగి వాళ్ళ కష్టాలను, ఇబ్బందులను, తెలుసుకోవడానికి ఈ హరిజన మెంబర్లకు చాలా కష్టంగా వుంటుంది. అందువల్ల ప్రతి తాలూకాలో ఒక హరిజన సభ్యుడు వుంటే ఆ తాలూకాలో హరిజనుల కష్టములు, ఇబ్బందులు, తెలుసుకొని వాళ్ళకు కావలసిన సౌకర్యములను ప్రభుత్వంవారికి మనవిచేసుకోవడానికి వీలు గలిగియుండుటని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. తరువాత ఆ జిల్లాలో వున్న 50 చుంది మెంబర్లలో, నలుగురో, ముగ్గురో, హరిజన మెంబర్లున్నట్లయితే వారికష్టములను, ఇబ్బందులను మనవిచేసుకోవడానికి, వారి అవసర పనులను చేయించుకోవడానికి వీలండదు. ఎందుకనగా నేను 2 టెరమ్ (term) లు అనంతపురం డిస్ట్రిక్టు బోర్డు మెంబరు ((Anantapur District Board Member) గా వున్నాను. అప్పుడు ఆ జిల్లాలోని హరిజనుల ఇబ్బందులను తెలుసుకొనుట చాలా కష్టంగావుండేది. ఎందుకనగా నాదగ్గర దుడ్డు వుండదు. అందువల్ల జిల్లాలో హరిజన జనాభా సంఖ్య రెక్కవేయక ప్రతి తాలూకాకు ఒక హరిజన మెంబరును నియమించ మని గవర్న మెంటువారిని పారప చేస్తూ ఇంతటితో విరమించుచున్నాను. ”

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI :—“ అదృశ్యము, ఈ సందర్భంలో నేను కొన్ని ముఖ్యమైనటువంటి విషయాలు చెప్పదలచుకున్నాను. (Municipality) లోను తదితర స్థానిక సంస్థలలోను ఇదివరలో లేనటువంటి ఈ (Separate electorate) సమస్య ఇప్పుడు ఒక్కసారిగా వచ్చింది. భూహరణ- ఒక సంగతి మనవిచేస్తాను. నేను కొంతకాలం రిపోజిటన్ (Municipality) లో ముఖ్యంగా నూటికి 90 మంది మహిళుడియులు భన్తులువంటి (Fort Ward) కి (Councillor) గా వున్నాను. అప్పుడు ప్రత్యేక నిగ్రాహకవర్గాలు లేవు. అప్పుడు ఎక్కడా అవిశ్వాసంగాని, ఒకరియడం దురభిప్రాయంగాని లేదు. నేను అప్పుడు ఆ (Ward) లో భన్తులువంటి మహిళా వర్గాల (Worker) ఒకయత్నంవల్ల, సంతృప్తి సహాయంవల్ల (Councillor) కాగలిగాను. అక్కడ భన్తు మహమ్మదీయ సోదరుల సానుభూతి, సహాయమునా (Election) కు కారణం. వారు హిందూ మహమ్మదీయ భేదంలేకుండా సన్న (Election) లో గెలికించారు.

“ కాని ఒక్కసారిగా ఇప్పుడు ఈ (Separate electorate) అని మహత్తురీ
యలు అప్రధానికీ కారణం, ఎక్కడనుంచో వచ్చిన (Dictation) ల వల్ల, ప్రకారంవల్ల
అయివుంటుందని అనుకుంటున్నాను. ఈ (Separate electorate) వాతములేని
సోని మిథ్యావాదమని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. మహత్తురీయ సోదరులు, సోదరీమణులు
ఈ విషయం గమనింపగోరూను. ఈ (Separate electorate) విభాగం, ఈవేల
ప్రకారం నువ్వొక్క జాతీయ అధివృద్ధిని, విజయవ్యమునకును అవకాశాలని మనవి
చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ సంకల్పిత అధిపాయాలు, ఈ వావాలు, ప్రకారాలు ప్రకట
వంటివి చేకూర్చును, జాతులూను మన చేకంటెయొక్క, జాతియొక్క గౌరవమునకు,

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“ మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంలో మహమ్మదీయులలో ఇటువంటి సంకుచితభావాలు ఇదివరలో లేవు కాబట్టి మనమందిరము వికమత్యంతో సంచరించి మన జాతి అభివృద్ధికి, గౌరవమునకు పాటుపడవలయునని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. మన జాతీయ జీవనమునకు ఈ (Joint electorate) లు అక్షరాయి వంటివి. మనలో మనం జాతివేరాలు లేకుండా ఇట్టి సంయుక్త ప్రాతినిధ్య విధానం అంగీకరించి ఇతర దేశముల జాతిక మనం ఒకే జాతివారమని రుజువుచేయుట మంచిదని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. మన మద్రాసు రాష్ట్రంకు ఈ (Joint electorate) విధానం కాలానుచిదని కన్నవీక్షా మన స్థానిక శాఖా మంత్రిగారు ప్రవేశపెట్టడంచిన విషయం అంగీకరించాలని దని మన మహమ్మదీయ ధోష రులను ప్రార్థిస్తున్నాను.”

SINNA KAZIYAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“அதேமாதிரி ஒவ்வொரு இடத்திலும் மாற்றிக்கொள்ளலாமா? மெஜாரிட்டி விற்துக்கள் இருக்கிற இடத்தில் முஸ்லீம்களும், மெஜாரிட்டி முஸ்லீம்கள் இருக்கிற இடத்தில் முஸ்லீம்களும், மெஜாரிட்டி ஆகுமபடி மாற்றிக்கொள்ளலாமா?”

SRI V. PONNUSWAMI GOUNDER:—“கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் ஜனத் தொகை விதிதாசாரப்படி எல்லோருக்கும் கொடுக்கலாமா என்று கேட்கிறார்.

நியாயம், ஆனால் முஸ்லீம்கள் குறைவாக இருக்கிற இடங்களில் கூட அதிகமாக முஸ்லீம்கள் வரவிட்டிருக்கிறோம் என்பதை நான் பணிவுடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“தலைவர் அவர்களே, வாணியம்பாடியில் இன்னும் குறைகள் இருக்கின்றன. என்ன அது. போதிய இந்திய கிருஸ்தவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் கூட கிடையாது. ஸ்திரீ ஸ்தானமும் கிடையாது. திருப்பத்தூர் நகர சபைக்கு அந்த நகரத்தில் சுமார் ஆயிரம் பேர்களுக்குமேல் இந்திய கிருஸ்தவர்கள் இருந்தும் கூட அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு இடத்தில் ஒரு ஸ்தானமும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. இதையெல்லாம் செய்ய வேண்டியது மிக மிக அவசியம். வாணியம்பாடியில் வார்டுகள் கூட எக்கச் சக்கமாக இருக்கிறது. அவைகளை அந்த நகரத்திலுள்ள பிரமுகர்களைக் கொண்டு ஆலோசனைசெய்து தகுந்தமாதிரி பிரிக்க ஏற்பாடுசெய்யவேண்டிய தவசியமாக இருக்கிறது.

தவசியமாக இருக்கிறது.

“கிராமாந்திரங்களில் கிராம பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு ஏற்பாடு செய்யப் பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆனால் பழையகாலத்தில் எல்லாம் எவ்வளவு சிறிய கிராமங்களாக இருந்தாலும் எவ்வளவு குறைந்தவருமானம் இருந்தாலும் அங்கே பஞ்சாயத்தை ஏற்பாடுசெய்து கொடுத்திருந்தார்கள். இப்பொழுது ஆயிரம் ஜனத்தொகை ரூ. 100, 120 வருமானமும் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சட்டம் இருக்கிறது. அப்படி பார்க்கும்போது அநேக கிராமங்களில் வருமானம் குறைவாகவும் ஜனத்தொகை குறைவாகவும் இருக்கும். அந்த கிராமங்களில் பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளை ஏற்பாடுசெய்யவில்லை என்றால் அரசியலை அந்த கிராமத்தார்கள் தெரிந்துகொள்ளவே வழியில்லை. அரசியல் அனுபவமே அவர்களுக்கு அற்றுப்போய்விடுகிறது. ஆகையால் குறைந்த ஜனத்தொகையாக இருந்தாலும் குறைந்த வருமானம் உள்ளதாக இருந்தாலும்கூட, அவசியமென்று கோருகிற கிராமங்களுக்காவது பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டை ஸ்தாபனம்செய்துகொள்ள உரிமைகொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

“ அடுத்தபடியாக ஜில்லா போர்டு முனிசிபாலிடி தேர்தல்கள் இருக்கின்றன. இவைகளில் வோட்டுப்போட வோட்டர்கள் வெகுதூரம் நடந்து போகவேண்டி இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது 500 வோட்டர்கள் ஒரு பூத்தில் வோட்டசெய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள். இதை 500 வோட்டர்கள் இருக்கிற கிராமத்திலோ கிராமங்களிலோ ஏன் ஓர் இடத்தில் வோட்டுசெய்ய வசதிசெய்யக்கூடாது என்று நான் கேட்கிறேன். இதோடு இந்த வசதிகள் எல்லாவற்றையும் செய்தாலும்கூட கிராம பஞ்சாயத்துகளுக்கு சில அதிக மான அதிகாரங்களை தந்து கிராமங்களிலே சுய ஆட்சியை நன்றாக நடத்தி கிராமஸ்தர்களுக்கு வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கனம் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன மந்திரியாரவர்களை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

சுரீ ச. நாகப்பா :—“ Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion that is before the House; I not only support it, but I congratulate the Hon. Minister for having taken the bold step in order to give greater representation to these minority communities. I want to say just a few words only. For I had no idea of speaking on this to-day. But when I heard Mr. Majid speak, I was inspired to speak (laughter). My friend's speech was very emotional. But it was full of emotion and very little of reason. My friend wanted separate electorates, and I have replied to him enough the other day, having had experience in both electorates. To-day I want to tell him that it is the separate electorate that is responsible for the present state of bloodshed, chaos, arson, loot and all those things that are prevailing in the country. Not only that, Sir. These separate electorates are the result of the communal award. Ever since that, we have been divided into water-tight compartments, and we have been quarrelling like children, destroying our property, destroying ourselves. Not only that, it has been

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the cause for us to continue to be the slaves of a third party. It was the game of the third party to divide us. To-day we imitate our enemies and get ourselves divided and divided and allow ourselves to be ruled by others. I ask my friends, whether they be Muslims, Christians, or whoever they may be, to remember they are Indians first, and then they are others. Our difference is only on religion. Simply because you put on a different cloak you cannot be a different person. So, Sir, let me tell my friends, ask for your due quota and share, but do not ask for separate electorate.' I want to impress upon the Hon. Minister that every community must have an opportunity to have the executive post. If that is done—I think it is done, under a convention, in the Madras Corporation—it will solve the problem to a great extent. I have been repeating this argument on the floor of this House, and I hope the Hon. Minister will pay heed to it and do something in that direction.

"As regards the reserved seats, instead of clubbing reserved seats with general seats, I ask you, Sir, to divide the whole district, say, into 52 divisions and reserve a place for a particular community, and make the voters elect one candidate, whether he is a Hindu, Muslim, Harijan or Christian. By all means reserve seats and send in the minority community. But why do you want to club the reserved seat with the general seat and give an opportunity to the general seat candidate to make use of the reserved seat? I am saying this after having had experience of the joint electorate and separate electorate. The Hon. Minister was kind enough to raise the number of reserved seats for the minority communities from $\frac{1}{4}$ th to $\frac{1}{3}$ rd. I am not satisfied with this. The Hon. Minister himself was saying yesterday, in some places, if all the minority communities are put together, they would constitute more than half. In that case, are they to be given only one-third? I would request the Hon. Minister to amend the Act to give greater representation to these minority communities. I would request him to make it three-fifths instead of two-thirds, i.e., 40 per cent, and at the same time to give an opportunity to all the communities to hold the executive post. As regards the joint electorate, I have adumbrated and elaborated sufficiently the other day, and so I need not press upon it once again here. I would request hon. Members of this House, especially minority community members, to co-operate with the Government, and enjoy the joint electorate, and be responsible for the prosperity not only of their community but of the whole country. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

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p.m. * SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, இப்பொழுது ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன மந்திரி அவர்களால் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கும் தீர்மானத்தின் மீது சில வார்த்தைகள் பேச விரும்புகின்றேன். அதாவது இந்த தேசத்திற்கு முக்கியமாக வேண்டுவது கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறைதான் என்பதை நாம் யாரும் மறுக்கமுடியாது. காரணம் என்னவென்றால் இந்த தேசத்திலேயே எத்தனையோ மதங்கள் இருக்கின்றன, எத்தனையோ ஜாதிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அப்படி இருந்தும் கூட எவ்வளவோ ஒற்றுமையாக அநேக நூற்றாண்டுகளாக நாம் வாழ்ந்து வந்திருக்கின்றோம். ஆனால் சில அன்பர்கள் பேசுகிற காலத்தில் எங்களுடைய கலாசாரம் வேறு, மதம் வேறு, எங்களுடைய ஜாதி வேறு, என்பதாக பேசுகிறார்கள். ஆனால்

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இந்த தேசத்திலேயே இதுவரையில் நாம் எல்லோருமாக சேர்ந்து பல விதமான சீர்திருத்தங்களை தொகுத்து நாம் நடத்திக்கொண்டு வந்திருப்பதைப் பார்த்தால் இம்மாதிரி அவர்கள் கூறும் தனித்தொகுதி முறை வேண்டுவது அவசியமில்லை என்பதை நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகின்றேன். மேலும், ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட விஷயத்தை மட்டும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு நான் சொல்லிக்கொள்ள விரும்புகின்றேன். அதாவது இந்த தேசத்தில் குறிப்பாக இந்த மாகாணத்திலேயே 50 லட்ச வன்னியகுல கூத்திரியர்களும் அக்கினிகுல கூத்திரியர்கள் என்று சொல்லக் கூடிய பிற்போக்கு வகுப்புகளைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்குச் சரியானபடி பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கிடையாது என்பதை யாரும் மறுக்க முடியாது. அதைப்பற்றி எதிர்த்தும் பேசக்கூடாது என்று தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ள விரும்புகின்றேன். காரணம் என்னவென்றால் சட்டசபையில் ஹரிஜனங்களுக்காக 30 ஸ்தானங்கள் வழங்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் யாவரும் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். மூஸ்லீம்களுக்குக்கூட ஏறக்குறைய 20 ஸ்தானங்களுக்குமேல் இங்கு வழங்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்பதை நாம் மறுக்க முடியாது. அப்படி இருக்க 50 லட்சம் வன்னியகுல கூத்திரியர்கள் இருக்கிற இந்த மாகாணத்தில் ஏழு பிரதிநிதிகள்தான் இந்த சபையில் தற்சமயம் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை நான் வருத்தத்தோடு தெரிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன். ஆகவே அவர்கள் பெரும்பான்மையினர்களாய் உள்ள ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் பிரிக்கா வாரியாகவோ அல்லது வார்டுவாரியாகவோ அவர்கள் குறிப்பிட்ட அளவு அதாவது ஜனத்தொகையில் 55 சதவிகிதமாகவது அல்லது வாக்காளர் ஜாப்தாவில் 35 சதவிகிதமாகவது இருக்கும் பட்சத்தில் பிற்போக்கு எந்த வகுப்பினரைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் அதிகமாக அந்தத் தொகுதியில் இருக்கிறார்களோ அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் கண்டிப்பாய் வழங்கவேண்டுமென்பதாக இருக்கவேண்டும். பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினர் என்று சொன்னால் ஒரு வகுப்பைமட்டும் நான் சொல்லவில்லை. எந்த வகுப்பாக இருந்தாலும்கூட பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பார்களைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாக இருப்பார்களானால் அந்த பிரிக்காவிலாகிலும் வார்டிலாகிலும் அந்த குறிப்பிட்ட பிற்போக்கு வகுப்பினர் இருப்பார்களானால், அவர்களில் நூற்றுக்கு 35 சதவிகிதம் வாக்காளர் ஜாப்தாவில் இருப்பார்களானால் அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் வழங்கவேண்டும் அல்லது ஜனத்தொகையில் 55 சதவிகிதம் இருப்பார்களானால் அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் வழங்கவேண்டும் என்ற திட்டம் இருக்கவேண்டும். ஆகவே எதோ தனித் தொகுதி என்றே தனியாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்றே தனியாக கேட்கப்படுகிறது என்றே யாரும் சொல்லிவிடக்கூடாது என்று இச்சபையிலுள்ள கனம் அங்கத்தினர்களை நான் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். ஏனெனில் அவர்கள் இந்த மாகாணத்தில் நான் சொன்ன மேற்படி விகிதாசாரத்தில் பார்க்கிற காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு சரியான பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கிடையாது. கல்விகற்றிருந்தாலும் அவர்களை ஆதரிப்பார்கள் கிடையாது. ஒழுக்கத்திலும் அவர்கள் சிறந்தவர்களாக இல்லை, செல்வமுமில்லை. அவர்கள் மிகவும் ஏழ்மையாக இருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகங்களில் மிகவும் பிற்போக்கானவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே எல்லோரும் இதை யோசித்துப் பார்த்து அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவதும் ஒரு சலுகை காட்டியே தீரவேண்டும் என்ற கொள்கையை அரசாங்கம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்டுக் கொண்டு கூட்டுத்தொகுதி முறை இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை நான் வற்புறுத்தி என் வார்த்தையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I do not like to take up the time of the House except for one or two minutes just to voice the feelings of some of the backward communities. My constituency is predominantly populated by a community called the Setti-Balijas, which is equal to the toddy tapper community. In the three districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna, there are about 10 lakhs of these people. They are not having any proper representation in the local bodies. The days of nomination are gone, and we cannot bring that idea again in any Act which this

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Government can bring forward. Nor can they (Setti-Balijas) come in by general election in spite of the support of large-minded bodies like Congress. As a matter of fact, we tried. Of course we succeeded once or twice, and failed once or twice. Therefore, I think, a good purpose will be served by giving representation to Setti-Balijas, fishermen and others, by resorting to the system of co-option by all the elected members of the district boards and municipalities. One or two seats, according to their population, in the various districts might be fixed, and they may be given a chance to serve in those bodies to the extent they can. There is a precedent for this co-option in the elections to standing committees under Local Boards Act. I would place this idea before the Hon. Minister."

SRIMATHI K. LAKSHMI BHARATHI :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன மசோதாவை Select Committeeக்கு அனுப்புவதை நான் ஆதரிக்கிறேன். அந்த Select Committeeயாருக்கு ஒரு யோசனை சொல்வதற்காகத்தான் நான் பேசுவதற்கு முன் வந்தேன். இன்று எல்லோரும் மைனாரிட்டி நாங்கள். இத்தனை ஸ்தானம் வேண்டும், தலைமை ஸ்தானம் இத்தனை கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றெல்லாம் பேசினார்கள். நாட்டில் மெஜாரிட்டியாக உள்ள பெண்களாகிய எங்களுக்கு ஒவ்வொரு இடத்திலும் முனிசிபல் சபையானாலும், டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு போர்டானாலும் அங்கெல்லாம் ஸ்தானம் வெகு குறைவாக இருக்கின்றன. மதுரை முனிசிபாலிட்டியை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால், 36 ஸ்தானங்கள் என்று நினைக்கின்றேன். அதில் ஒரே ஒரு ஸ்தானம்தான் பெண்களுக்கு கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதே மாதிரி மதுரை டிஸ்ட்ரிக்டு போர்டில் 48 ஸ்தானங்களில் ஒரு ஸ்தானம் தான் பெண்களுக்கு ஒதுக்கி இருக்கிறார்கள் ஆகையால் தயவு செய்து பெண்களுக்கு, சரிபாதியாக இருக்கக்கூடிய பெண்களுக்கு, அதில் சரிபாதி கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் அவர்களுக்கு யோசனை சொல்லுகின்றேன். அது மாத்திரம் அல்ல அங்கே சேர்மன், வைஸ்-சேர்மன் இந்த மாதிரி இடங்களையும் ஒரு தபா ஆண்களுக்கு கொடுத்தால் மறு தபா பெண்களுக்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு என் வார்த்தைகளை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். "

* **SRI A. DEVANAYAGAIYAH** :—" தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி பேசவேண்டுமென்று நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. என் பழைய நண்பர்கள் இதில் பேசியதை பார்க்கும்போது இதைப்பற்றி இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகள் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று நான் நினைத்தேன். ஜாதி அபிமானத்தின்பேரில் தாங்கள் ஜாதியினருக்கு தனியாக தொகுதிவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிற கோஷ்டியில் என் நண்பரும் கலக்கிறார்கள் என்று பார்க்கிறபோது அதற்காக நான் வருந்தாமலிருக்க முடியவில்லை. இன்று நாம் எல்லோரும் தேசத்தில் ஒற்றுமை அவசியம். நாம் பெரும் பான்மையாக இருக்கிற சமூகத்தினர் தனியாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்பது தவறு, அவர்களும் நம்முடன் சேர்ந்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிற இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் இங்கே நமக்குள்ளேயே பிரிவுவேண்டும் எங்களுக்குத் தனித் தொகுதிவேண்டுமென்று கேட்பது அவ்வளவு தகுந்ததாக எனக்கு தோன்றவில்லை. காலத்தின் நிலைமைகளுக்கும் தேசத்தின் போக்குக்கும் இது தகுந்தவாறு இல்லை என்று நான் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள ஆசைப்படுகிறேன். ஆகவே நாம் அனைவரும் ஒன்றுபடவேண்டுமென்று கேட்கிற இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் நமக்குள் . . . " (Some interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" அவர்கள் சொன்னதற்கு பதில் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். (To the member speaking) அவர் ஏதோ ஒரு வார்த்தை சொல்லவேண்டுமென்கிறார்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" குறிப்பிட்ட வகுப்பினருக்கு தனியாக தனித் தொகுதி முறையில் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான்

14th February 1947] [Sri A. Subrahmanyam]

கேட்கவில்லை. அவர்கள் அதிகமாக இருந்தம்கூட அவர்களுக்கு சரியான படி பிரதிநிதித்துவம் இல்லை. ஆகையினால் அதிக வாக்காளர்களாகவும் ஜனத்தொகையில் அதிகமாயும் உள்ள பிரக்காக்களிலோ அல்லது வார்டுகளிலோ அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஸ்தானம் நீங்கள் வழங்கவேண்டுமென்றுதான் தரத்தியம். அதில்லாமல் தனியாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் கேட்கவில்லை. அதிகமாக இருந்தால் அந்த இடத்தில் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்."

SRI A. DEVANAYAGAIYAH :—" நண்பர் சொல்வதைக்கேட்டு நான் அவருக்கு ஒரு பதிலேச்சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். அவர்கள் கேட்பதைப்போல் நாம் கொடுக்க எந்த ஆட்சேபமும் இல்லை. ஆனால் சட்ட புஸ்தகத்தில் அப்படி கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று வகுப்பதைவிட நமக்குள் அதை ஒரு திட்டமாக அல்லது ஒரு முறையாக வைத்துக்கொண்டு ஜல்லா போர்டுகளிலும் மற்ற ஸ்தானங்களிலும் இந்த மாதிரி ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுப்பதில் ஆட்சேபம் இல்லை. ஆனால் ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபன சட்டத்தில் இதை அமைக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் எதிர்ப்போம். அந்த மாதிரி செய்தால் நமக்குள் இருக்கிற பல்வகைத் திறருக்கு காட்டி கொள்வதாக இருக்குமென்று தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளாமல் இருக்க முடியவில்லை. "

MR. SPEAKER :—" (To Sri A. Subrahmanyam). நீங்கள் சொல்லியாச்சு, அவரும் சொல்லிவிட்டார், மறுபடியும் மறுபடியும் பேச முடியாது."

SRI A. DEVANAYAGAIYAH :—" ஆகையால் நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒத்தமையை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு நமக்குள் பிளவை காட்டிக்கொள்ளாமல் இந்த நெருக்கடியான சமயத்தில் நாம் எல்லோரும் ஒற்றுமையாக நடந்து கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டு இந்த தீர்மானத்தை மனப்பூர்வமாக ஆதரிக்கிறேன்."

SRI A. SUBRAHMANYAM :—" கல்வியில், ஒழுக்கத்தில், பெரிய உத்தியோகங்களில் மிகவும் பிற்போக்கு அடைந்திருப்பதால் எங்களுக்கு ஸ்தானம் வழங்கவேண்டுமென்று மந்திரி அவர்களை கேட்டுக் கொள்கிறேன்."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had no intention of intervening in this debate but for some misleading statements made by the members of the Treasury Bloc including my friend, the Member from Vizagapatam, Mr. D. V. Ramaswami, for whom I have great respect. The other side has been making misleading statements and are persisting in doing so. I really very much regret that our point of view has not been appreciated by the other side. The Hon. Minister says 'We, Muslims, will be in a perpetual minority here.' I know we will be in a perpetual minority here. In some Provinces we will be so perpetually. So long as there is in entire India only one Government, we will be in a perpetual minority, and that is the reason why we want a partition of India. We realize that we will be in a perpetual minority in certain Provinces. We do not want to dominate over the other communities, being in a minority. But what we do say is let that minority be represented by its real members. We do not very much care for the quantity. It is the real quality we want. I desire to say that Muslims, if they are to be represented by Muslims, whoever they may be, should voice forth the real feelings of the Muslims. So, it will not hold good in the case of local bodies which are now sought to be captured by some political parties. I can understand if the elections to local bodies are left severely alone to be contested on merit, uninfluenced by political parties. But is the Congress going to say that it will not

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contest the elections in the local bodies? Already, I find in papers some Congress organizations have set up candidates to these local bodies. They want to capture local bodies. It is on that basis that the Congress wants to contest elections.

5 p.m. "I very much appreciate the proposition that as local bodies they may not decide any political principle and therefore they ought not to be contested by political bodies. In the legislative sphere political principles are involved and legislation takes place on those principles. Therefore political parties contest the elections to legislatures and that is the correct view. But in the case of local bodies whose activities are limited within the four corners of the enactments governing them there is no political principle involved and there is no reason why political parties should contest the elections to the local bodies. I cannot understand that. But if political parties want to contest elections to the local bodies just as in the case of elections to the Legislatures where recognized political parties like the Congress and the Muslim League (the only political party representing Muslims returned by separate electorates) contest the elections, the same rule must prevail in the case of elections to local bodies also, i.e., separate electorates must be conceded. If elections to local bodies are not interfered with by political parties, if political parties are not going to take part in the elections, I can understand my hon. Friend saying that councillors should be elected on their merits. So, Sir, it is wrong to say that while political parties may contest the elections, separate electorates should not be introduced. What really would happen in practice is that a political party would begin to manipulate even from the start; even in the preparation of the electoral rolls the political party having influence would see that the Muslims are reduced to a minority, although they would be in a majority if preparation of rolls is made correctly. At the second stage they may so delimit the wards as to make the majority of the votes of Muslims into a minority. At the third stage, reservation of seats may be made in the wards in which the Muslims are not in a majority. So, if a political party is contesting the elections, which is not proper according to me, because no political principle is involved, then necessarily it follows that there must be separate electorates for the true representatives of the Muslims, however few they may be. We do not care for the number. We care for the true representatives of the Muslims uninfluenced by anybody. We may not be able to succeed in elections for chairmanship or vice-chairmanship; we do not very much care. It is misleading on the part of our friends to say that we need not care for Muslim representatives to be elected by Muslims only. That is . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Hon. Minister will now reply. There is a meeting of the Cabinet at 5-30. I hope the Hon. Minister will be as brief as possible. I hope he will not take more than 20 minutes."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know when we are meeting again, Sir?"

MR. SPEAKER:—"On the 27th."

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M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I request you, Mr. Speaker, and I request the Leader of the House to support my request, that the last two days may be added up to the holidays to which he has already agreed because hon. Members have been thinking that they would be required to come here again only on the 1st of March. On that assumption only we even agreed originally to sit up to the 18th of this month and now . . ."

MR. SPEAKER:—"The Prime Minister has received a wire . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We quite appreciate that point. In view of that my modest request is that these two days of this month also may be added up to the holidays and the House may be adjourned to meet again on the 1st March."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Then we will have to sit in the hot season."

SOME HON. MEMBERS:—"Yes, we have no objection."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"May I submit, Sir, that these two Bills which are now being referred to a Select Committee have got to go through before the elections can be held. These are matters of urgent public importance and unless we have these Bills passed . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The elections, I may submit, Sir, need not be carried on in such a hurry. We have been waiting for the last eight months and one more month will not make much difference."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Twenty-seventh, I think. Sir, was properly fixed. Some little margin will be left for some of the work that is left incomplete now. I would certainly appeal to the Leader of the Opposition not to press for two days more."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Small mercies, Sir!"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"We have been always yielding in regard to all mercies."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are always yielding."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I request hon. Members to kindly see if they can agree to meet again on the 27th."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"I appreciate what the Hon. Leader of the House says, but at the same time, I fail to see the special urgency for these two Bills that are before the Assembly, if it is the main reason."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Not only that, there are other Bills also."

KUMARARAJA SIR MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR OF CHETTINAD:—"Nothing will happen because of not passing these two Bills. Even for the introduction stage three or four days have not been enough for the two Bills. Only the question of communal representation has been discussed during the last three or four days and

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some more days may be necessary. I do not think in the two days, 27th and 28th, we can get through even one Bill. I may even say from the way in which discussion has gone on for the last five days that I am pretty certain that it would be a miracle if one Bill was passed in two days. (Interruption.) I agree with the Hon. Minister that the matter has been thoroughly discussed and that he is not responsible for the delay. In a House like this it is impossible to foretell what will happen and the expectation of the Hon. Minister for Local Administration may not be fulfilled in spite of our goodwill in this matter. Therefore I would suggest that nothing would be lost by putting off for two days more. We will be starting the work quite fresh, in good cheer and in good atmosphere on the 1st March. After all the Budget is more important than the two Bills. The Hon. Minister was telling us something about the elections. There is much preliminary work to be done before holding the elections. If instead of the 27th and 28th of February the Bills are taken up at the end of March, the Corporation Council whose life has been extended only for 9 years is not going to deteriorate in a month's time. The preliminary arrangements for election can well go on and I can assure the Hon. Minister that our object is not to delay this Bill particularly and in effect there will not be any delay if the Hon. Minister goes on with the preliminary arrangements."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Yesterday I wrote a letter to the Leaders of Parties and they gave their consent. This is the letter I wrote to them: 'The Hon. Premier wants to go to Delhi on the 15th to attend the Food Conference. He has received an urgent wire from the Food Member of the Government of India, to be in Delhi on the 16th. So I suggest that the House may adjourn on the evening of the 14th and meet on the 27th February. This was circulated to the Leaders of Parties and they have put their signatures agreeing to the proposal. If they now go back on their words and change their mind every time, I am afraid I cannot . . .'"

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Please, Mr. Speaker. Please don't say that we are going back on our word."

MR. SPEAKER:—"Only when the Leaders agreed to that I told the House that we would meet again on the 27th."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Even at the very outset I said that I had agreed to your suggestion yesterday. But on further consideration and on representations from other hon. Members of our Party, this representation is made to you, Sir, I would again request you to reconsider your decision."

MR. SPEAKER:—"We can amicably settle."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We are always amicable."

MR. SPEAKER:—"I would like to know what the Leader of the House has got to say."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"When both of them are so persistent we shall have to agree, Sir."

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MR. SPEAKER:—"We shall then meet on the 1st March."

* THE HON. MR. DANIER THOMAS:—"Mr. Speaker, as I said at the outset, the provisions of the Bill are of a very simple and non-controversial character. It is only the result of a genuine desire and a sincere effort on the part of the Government to associate in the administration of our civic bodies a larger number of representatives belonging to the minority communities. It is obvious that such a gesture of friendliness towards the minorities cannot be objected to by any section of this Hon. House. I am glad therefore of the unanimous support that has been accorded to the main principles of this Bill from every section of the House."

"So far as the question of joint and separate electorates is concerned, I am reminded of the famous schoolmaster in Oliver Goldsmith, who, though vanquished, would argue still. I would submit, Sir, that the question of joint electorates was discussed and discussed thoroughly, put to the vote of the House, and decided upon by this Hon. Assembly in the course of the debate on the City Municipal Amendment Bill. This Bill does not in its ordinary stride take in the question of reservation in joint electorates or separate electorates. However, that point has been raised in connection with the provisions contained in this Bill also. So far back as 1930, the Bill to amend the District Municipalities and the Local Boards Acts was passed in this House, and it received support from every section of the House including the Muslim section. I would submit that during the last 15 or 16 years the system of reservation of seats for minorities in joint electorates has been working with a considerable measure of success and satisfaction and usefulness to every party and every section concerned in this Province. This question, Sir, is more relevant in the political sphere than in the civic sphere. An attempt has been made in the course of the discussions to-day to make out that municipalities also are in some measure, political bodies. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'Fully.') Sir, in this matter my Muslim friends appear to speak with divided voices. The hon. Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, and also my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, both asserted that municipal bodies are political bodies because they have large powers, and they are likely to exercise those powers in pursuance of political party principles. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the last speaker who said that municipal bodies are not political bodies. (Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur: 'I said they ought not to be political bodies.') I have got his statement recorded in my note-book. He said: 'No political principle is involved in the administration of municipal bodies.' I, therefore, submit, Sir, that there is a division of opinion even amongst the members occupying the Muslim League benches."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. My point was and I said that local bodies ought not to be made an arena for fights on political principles. But they are bound to be made so. That is what the Congress is doing, because it is going to contest the elections and

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is thinking of capturing the local bodies also. If they are bereft of all political influences, and they are left severely alone, this question of representation does not arise. But that is not what is actually taking place."

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I and my hon. Friend Mr. Baig understand each other very well. He says that the true function of local bodies—municipalities and district boards—is not political, and I would submit that that is the basis on which I put forward my arguments. The question of joint electorates in local bodies has not got that relevance which it might have with reference to political institutions. My friend Mr. Baig says: 'If local bodies are not truly political bodies, why is it that the Congress party should set up candidates for contesting all the seats for local bodies?' I would submit, Sir, it is well known and elementary principle, a principle which will be subscribed to by every section of the House, namely, that civics is the foundation for higher efforts and directions in politics. Civics is the foundation, and politics is the superstructure. The Congress party is interested in every side of the administration of this Province. They are interested in providing better amenities, happier cities, healthier conditions of living for every city, for every town, and every village throughout our Province. Therefore, both for the purpose of improving the amenities, conditions of living for the masses of the people of this Province, and also for training the future administrators, the future politicians, the future statesmen of this Province in the field of local administration, candidates are being set up for local bodies. That certainly does not mean that local bodies are being converted, or are being distorted from their legitimate and true purpose of civic function to political purposes. I submit the two things are entirely apart and aloof. My hon. Friends on the Opposition benches are losing sight of the wood because of the trees. One of the friends who spoke from the Muslim League benches said: 'Every Muslim now is trained. He thinks, talks, and works as a politician. Politics need not be taught to any Muslim at all.' That, Sir, is only a temporary phase; that is an immediate and present contingency. I would ask my hon. Friends to look ahead, to look forward, to look to the distant future, and not to allow the present and immediate difficulties to obsess, to distort, to divert them from the future advancement and progress of the great Muslim community itself. May I utter a word of warning, Sir? I would submit that life for the people of this Province would become impossible if political differences are to be carried into civic life. Already complications; murders, rioting, and other things are taking place as a result of the separation that has just now begun. If even in our politics and in our political affairs these differences are likely to lead to these riotings and these murders, I would ask you, if you press, if you insist, and if you should carry out to the last bitter end this division of Muslim, Hindu, etc., even in our civic administration, in the life of the towns and villages, do you mean to say that any Muslim tradesman or Hindu tradesman, any Hindu lawyer or Muslim lawyer, or

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any Hindu or Muslim following any avocation can carry on? They cannot carry on like that as a Muslim or a Hindu, but as a member of the general public having a common citizenship in a common country. I would again say, Sir, that if you carry this bitter principle of division of Muslims and Hindus not only in the political field in the Provincial Legislative Assembly and the Central Legislative Assembly, but also in our local bodies, in our municipalities and in our district boards, I submit that that will be a day of tragic misfortune for our country, and for the people of our country including the great Muslim community itself. Therefore I would appeal to the great Muslim community itself to look forward, to look ahead, and not to allow its immediate difficulties, the present circumstances, to cloud and obscure their vision of what is ultimately good. There is a saying that the spectator sees most of the game. You are involved in this question. You are involved in the pros and cons of these problems, and therefore you are not in a position to see for yourselves what is good ultimately for your own great Muslim community. Therefore, we who have a detached vision, who have no prejudice on this question, and have a dispassionate point of view, are anxious to associate more and more, the Muslims in the field of local administration. We have seen by actual working, by actual experience that the system of reservation of seats in a joint electorate is working for the benefit and good of the entire community including the great Muslim community as well. (Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur: 'Daniel again.') Yesterday I said that there was Mr. Hameed Khan in the Madras Corporation functioning very satisfactorily as a representative both of the Hindus and the Muslims. There is not one Hameed Khan in the Corporation, but there are seven Hameed Khans. And in the municipal councils of the Province there are 200 such Hameed Khans and I say it would be a slur on these 200 councillors, 77 of them elected for reserved seats and 123 of them returned for general seats by a majority of non-Muslim voters, to say that they are not true representatives of every section of the population by which they have been returned. On behalf of the Muslim community I would repudiate the slur if it is suggested even for a moment.

"Sir, as regards the adequacy of representation, you have only to take the figures of the population of this Province. There are 50 million people in this Province, of whom 2 million are Christians, 4 million are Muslims, 8 millions are Adi-Dravidas. These 4 million Muslims mean less than one-twelfth of the total population. Sir, the total number of municipal councillors in the 57 elected councils, now functioning in this Province is 1,200 and odd. One-twelfth of 1,200 will mean about 100 councillors. Sir, in these 57 elected councils there are 77 Muslim councillors returned by reserved constituencies and 123 Muslim councillors elected from general constituencies. On the whole there are 200 elected Muslim municipal councillors. Now, Sir, by means of the provisions of this Bill we are again endeavouring to associate a larger number of Muslims, a larger number of Harijans, a larger number of

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Christians also in the civic administration, and thereby the proportion of Muslim councillors to the total number of municipal councillors throughout the Province will be increased. I would therefore submit, Sir, that it is a very fair, more than fair, very adequate, and more than adequate representation that the Government has given to our Muslim friends throughout the Province. I would submit, Sir, that the services rendered by Muslim municipal councillors throughout the Province have been such that the Muslim community ought to be proud of it. Sir, there have been great men in our political field. Some of the great services which some of the political leaders have performed is in the field of local administration. Take Mr. Satyamurti. He has been a great political leader, but I think the one thing that will give a permanent niche for him in the hall of fame would be the Poondi Reservoir Scheme. Then take Sir Phiroz Sha Mehta. He was once the President of the Indian National Congress. But again the thing which will give him immortal fame is not his presidency of the Indian National Congress but the position which he achieved for the civic life of Bombay which will be an unfailing memory for ages. I would therefore tell my friends of the Muslim community that the sphere of local administration is a sphere in which they can come forward and render great and noteworthy services not only for the Muslim community but to the entire people of this Province. I, therefore, say that this question of joint versus separate electorates in the field of local administration may be taken to be a settled fact which cannot be unsettled. Therefore on the basis of joint electorates I would ask my Muslim friends to come and play their part in the field of local administration.

"Having said that, only one or two things remain to be referred to. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, asked 'why should there be dissolution of the municipal councils pending the elections?' He characterised it is undemocratic. It was also suggested that the appointment of Commissioners as Special Officers was intended to gain some illegitimate political object for the Congress party. I would submit, Sir, that out of 55 councils which are now functioning as elected bodies, nearly 40 have a Congress majority. I would remind the House again of the statement made by the hon. Lady Member, Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, who said that these councils exercise a great deal of power. Now Sir, if these 40 municipal councils in which the Congress party is in a majority are to function at the time of the elections and exercise the power which is vested in them—in times of elections these powers may even be stretched out a bit and extended even beyond their legitimate limits—but even within the legitimate limits of the powers entrusted to municipal councils, would it not be a distinct advantage for the Congress party? I submit, Sir, that it is only a self-denying ordinance, an ordinance by which we divest ourselves of power and authority at the time of the elections, and by that we leave a clear field, a fair field, and no favour; we clear the lists for a fair, honest and equitable fight at the elections, and it is for that reason we propose to have these

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municipal councils dissolved at the time of the elections. I would submit, Sir, far from being an undemocratic measure, far from being a measure intended to serve the political purposes of the Congress party, it is only the reverse of the position. It is intended to clear, to divest even our Congress party municipal councils of the power which they possess at the time of the elections. Sir, it is only for the purpose of having fair elections without any sort of influence, and without any possibility of influence from any side whatsoever.

"Again, the hon. Lady Member raised the question: 'Why reserve power for the purpose of meeting unforeseen contingencies in this Bill?' I would submit, Sir, that it is only intended for unforeseen contingencies which do not ordinarily arise in actual practice. My hon. Friend herself has had a good deal of legal training, and she is the wife of a distinguished Judge of this Province who has acted all along on precedents. It is only on tradition and on the basis of these precedents, that the whole judicial system of our administration is based. I submit, Sir, that it is only on the basis of precedents that this clause has been introduced in the present Bill. After all, a similar clause was introduced . . ."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know why this extraordinary steps of dissolving the councils at this juncture is being taken, Sir? It is not usual for the councils to be dissolved before the elections take place. Why is it that the Government propose to have an interregnum between the dissolution of the councils and the election, Sir?"

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I think, Sir, I should have been particularly obscure if I have not already made my position clear. I said that during the time of the elections there should be no possibility of having any sort of influence by any party whatsoever."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Probably I have not made myself quite clear, Sir. I want to know whether it is usually done in this matter. Leave alone the present. Was it ever done like this in the past? Are things like this being done in any other part of India or in any other country, i.e., that an interregnum is created between the dissolution of the councils and the new elections?"

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"In connexion with a discussion of this Bill my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition has ranged far and wide. Yesterday he overleaped the continent and went on to Egypt and not only that, he made also a research in the ancient scripture of Bhagavat Gita. To-day also he is referring to other countries. So far as other countries are concerned, I have no knowledge. I would submit that in the previous Act, i.e., before Act XXIV of 1942 came on the Statute book, there was a provision in the old District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts, by which the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer, as

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the case may be, can be authorised to hold office during the period of the election. That power has been taken away by Act XXIV of 1942, and thereby it is made a statutory obligation that on the day the old council goes out of office the new council must come into office. That is how the position has been changed since the introduction of Act XXIV of 1942. And that is why it has been rendered necessary to introduce this Bill, for the purpose of giving a fair field and no favour to every party including the minority parties which includes the Muslim League also.

"Reference has been made in the course of the discussions to delimitation of wards and also reservation of seats. I may assure my hon. Friends on the Muslim League benches that every consideration will be given by the Government to have a fair and equitable distribution of seats and reservation of seats in the various wards.

"Sir, reference has been made to backward communities. In this connexion I would say that I have been visiting some of the fishermen's Kuppams in the Madras City and I have found that they are as backward if not more backward than some of the depressed classes themselves."

5-30 p.m. SINNA KAZIAR HAJI MOULVI IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—
"Is the Hon. Minister going to adopt the same procedure for all the elections to be held in future?"

* THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The future is in the lap of the Gods.

"Some of the backward communities are more backward than the Harijans. It is the duty and the responsibility of the majority communities—I hope the various District and Town Congress Committees also will take note of this—to give more representation to backward communities, not by statutory reservation but by convention, by setting up candidates from such communities for election to the various local bodies. I believe in that way certain backward communities have already had representation on the local bodies, and if necessary, a large number of them may be brought to the service of local bodies.

"I do not want to take up more of your time. As in the case of the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, I have moved that this Bill also be referred to a Select Committee, in pursuance of the motion given notice of by the hon. Leader of the Opposition. In the matter of reference to the Select Committee, both of us are agreed. If only I had pressed my original motion, and accepted the motion of the Leader of the Opposition as an amendment, perhaps there would have been no discussion on this Bill at all. I move—

'that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

- (1) M. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.

14th February 1947] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

- (3) Sinna Kaziyar Haji Moulvi Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.
- (4) Sri S. Nagappa.
- (5) Dr. M. J. Samuel.
- (6) Srimathi V. Lakshmi Ammal.
- (7) Sri K. Brahmananda Reddi.
- (8) Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman.
- (9) Sri K. A. Nachiappa Gounder.
- (10) Sri V. S. Sankarasubrahmanya Mudaliar.
- (11) Dr. U. P. Mallayya.
- (12) Sri H. Sitarama Reddi.
- (13) K. M. Seethi Sahib Bahadur.
- (14) Hon. Sri M. Bakthavatsalam.
- (15) Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. SPEAKER:—"Under Rule 78, I appoint Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas as the Chairman of the Select Committee.

"When is the Committee going to submit its report? I suppose as early as possible."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Yes, Sir."

IV.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE-ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. SPEAKER:—"I have to announce to the House that Srimathi K. Laskhmi Ammal is the only candidate duly nominated for a seat in the House Committee. I hereby declare her duly elected."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on Saturday, the 1st March 1947.

[14th February 1947]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 157 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th February 1947, page 675 supra.]

(a) Statement showing the number of Labour schools, etc., districtwar.

District and year.	Number of Labour schools.	Total number of pupils.	Amount spent for books and slates.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			Rs. A. P.
Tanjore—			
1941-42	148	5,942	755 11 0
1942-43	146	5,488	1,000 7 8
1943-44	143	5,673	2,569 6 3
1944-45	144	6,156	3,918 1 6
1945-46	144	7,420	4,113 5 0
			12,356 15 5
Anantapur—			
1941-42	44	1,864	748 15 9
1942-43	43	1,744	647 12 3
1943-44	42	1,919	569 8 0
1944-45	43	1,974	517 15 0
1945-46	43	2,106	500 0 0
			2,984 3 0
Kistna—			
1941-42	42	1,665	249 14 6
1942-43	42	1,660	399 15 6
1943-44	42	1,776	448 4 6
1944-45	42	1,994	339 2 0
1945-46	43	2,241	400 0 0
			1,737 4 6
North Arcot—			
1941-42	88	4,957	1,754 12 5
1942-43	93	5,110	2,208 8 0
1943-44	106	5,510	3,649 5 0
1944-45	111	6,049	3,123 8 0
1945-46	131	8,333	6,150 0 0
			16,886 1 5
Chingleput—			
1941-42	105	6,007	1,807 12 6
1942-43	101	5,823	1,966 10 6
1943-44	100	5,501	1,894 7 0
1944-45	98	6,169	1,979 14 0
1945-46	99	7,848	4,193 3 0
			11,841 15 0
Bellary—			
1941-42	48	2,340	270 0 0
1942-43	48	2,302	417 6 0
1943-44	44	2,017	225 0 0
1944-45	43	2,216	248 8 2
1945-46	44	2,340	500 0 0
			1,660 14 9
Trichinopoly—			
1941-42	133	6,644	882 0 0
1942-43	124	6,470	689 0 0
1943-44	118	6,366	910 0 0
1944-45	115	6,756	1,188 0 0
1945-46	120	7,817	2,296 0 0
			1,995 0 0

APPENDIX

[14th February 1947]

District and year.	Number of Labour schools.	Total number of pupils.	Amount spent for books and slates.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			Rs. A. P.
East Godavari—			
1941-42	114	5,594	300 0 0
1942-43	112	5,679	185 6 6
1943-44	109	5,760	572 4 0
1944-45	109	5,784	1,460 15 9
1945-46	109	6,350	35 0 0
			2,553 10 3
Nellore—			
1941-42	74	3,770	999 13 0
1942-43	69	3,632	1,590 15 0
1943-44	68	3,548	1,698 7 9
1944-45	67	3,662	1,748 7 0
1945-46	67	4,567	4,000 0 0
			10,037 10 9
Guntur—			
1941-42	18	723	100 6 4
1942-43	18	1,001	327 8 5
1943-44	18	941	412 4 10
1944-45	20	1,012	505 12 6
1945-46	21	1,389	619 9 6
			1,965 9 0
South Arcot—			
1941-42	178	8,253	1,649 7 0
1942-43	171	7,685	1,557 14 0
1943-44	164	4,918	1,478 5 11
1944-45	155	5,160	1,280 6 9
1945-46	156	10,473	3,534 2 0
			9,500 2 8
South Kanara—			
1941-42	44	2,103	1,029 4 7
1942-43	46	2,058	1,124 6 9
1943-44	46	2,081	1,038 13 4
1944-45	46	2,132	1,164 15 5
1945-46	46	2,361	1,017 6 1
			5,374 14 2
West Godavari—			
1941-42	45	1,538	291 10 0
1942-43	44	1,746	299 13 6
1943-44	42	1,710	396 12 9
1944-45	42	1,744	409 13 8
1945-46	42	1,669	204 8 9
			1,602 10 8
Malabar—			
1941-42	41	3,727	1,129 0 0
1942-43	41	3,436	1,150 0 0
1943-44	38	3,286	1,074 0 0
1944-45	42	3,595	1,328 0 0
1945-46	42	3,635	3,384 0 0
			80,56 0 0
Madras—			
1941-42	6	494	461 0 0
1942-43	5	487	502 0 0
1943-44	5	476	445 0 0
1944-45	5	493	504 0 0
1945-46	5	535	728 0 0
			2,650 0 0

[14th February 1947]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 157 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th February 1947, page 675 supra.]

(a) Statement showing the number of Labour schools, etc., districtwise.

District and year.				Number of Labour schools. (2)	Total number of pupils. (3)	Amount spent for books and slates. (4)		
(1)						Rs.	A.	P.
Tanjore—								
1941-42	..	..	..	148	5,942	755	11	0
1942-43	..	..	..	146	5,488	1,000	7	8
1943-44	..	..	..	143	5,678	2,569	6	3
1944-45	..	..	..	144	6,156	2,918	1	6
1945-46	..	..	..	144	7,420	4,113	5	0
						12,856	15	5
Anantapur—								
1941-42	..	..	..	44	1,864	748	15	9
1942-43	..	..	..	42	1,744	647	12	3
1943-44	..	..	..	42	1,919	569	8	0
1944-45	..	..	..	43	1,974	517	15	0
1945-46	..	..	..	43	2,106	500	0	0
						2,984	3	0
Kistna—								
1941-42	..	..	..	42	1,665	249	14	6
1942-43	..	..	..	42	1,660	299	15	6
1943-44	..	..	..	42	1,776	448	4	6
1944-45	..	..	..	42	1,994	339	2	0
1945-46	..	..	..	43	2,241	400	0	0
						1,737	4	6
North Arcot—								
1941-42	..	..	..	88	4,957	1,754	12	5
1942-43	..	..	..	93	5,110	2,208	8	0
1943-44	..	..	..	106	5,510	3,649	5	0
1944-45	..	..	..	111	6,049	3,123	8	0
1945-46	..	..	..	131	8,333	6,150	0	0
						16,886	1	5
Chingleput—								
1941-42	..	..	..	105	6,007	1,807	12	6
1942-43	..	..	..	101	5,823	1,966	10	6
1943-44	..	..	..	100	5,501	1,894	7	0
1944-45	..	..	..	98	6,169	1,979	14	0
1945-46	..	..	..	99	7,848	4,193	3	0
						11,841	15	0
Bellary—								
1941-42	..	..	..	48	2,340	270	0	0
1942-43	..	..	..	48	2,302	417	6	0
1943-44	..	..	..	44	2,017	225	0	0
1944-45	..	..	..	43	2,216	348	8	9
1945-46	..	..	..	44	2,340	500	0	0
						1,660	14	9
Trichinopoly—								
1941-42	..	..	..	123	6,644	882	0	0
1942-43	..	..	..	124	6,470	689	0	0
1943-44	..	..	..	118	6,366	910	0	0
1944-45	..	..	..	115	6,756	1,188	0	0
1945-46	..	..	..	120	7,817	2,296	0	0
						1,660	0	0

APPENDIX

[14th February 1947]

District and year.				Number of Labour schools.	Total number of pupils.	Amount spent for books and stationery.		
(1)						(2)	(3)	(4)
						Rs.	A.	P.
East Godavari—								
1941-42	..	..	..	114	5,594	300	0	0
1942-43	..	..	..	112	5,579	185	6	6
1943-44	..	..	..	109	5,760	572	4	0
1944-45	..	..	..	109	5,784	1,460	15	9
1945-46	..	..	..	109	6,350	35	0	0
						2,553	10	3
Nellore—								
1941-42	..	..	..	74	3,770	999	13	0
1942-43	..	..	..	69	3,632	1,590	15	0
1943-44	..	..	..	68	3,548	1,698	7	9
1944-45	..	..	..	67	3,662	1,748	7	0
1945-46	..	..	..	67	4,567	4,000	0	0
						10,037	10	9
Guntur—								
1941-42	..	..	..	18	723	100	6	4
1942-43	..	..	..	18	1,001	327	8	5
1943-44	..	..	..	18	941	412	4	10
1944-45	..	..	..	20	1,012	505	12	6
1945-46	..	..	..	21	1,389	619	9	6
						1,965	9	0
South Arcot—								
1941-42	..	..	..	178	8,253	1,649	7	0
1942-43	..	..	..	171	7,685	1,557	14	0
1943-44	..	..	..	164	4,919	1,478	5	11
1944-45	..	..	..	155	5,160	1,280	6	9
1945-46	..	..	..	156	10,473	3,534	2	0
						9,500	3	8
South Kanara—								
1941-42	..	..	..	44	2,103	1,029	4	7
1942-43	..	..	..	46	2,058	1,124	6	9
1943-44	..	..	..	46	2,081	1,038	13	4
1944-45	..	..	..	46	2,132	1,164	15	5
1945-46	..	..	..	46	2,361	1,017	6	1
						5,374	14	2
West Godavari—								
1941-42	..	..	..	45	1,538	291	10	0
1942-43	..	..	..	44	1,746	299	13	6
1943-44	..	..	..	42	1,710	396	12	9
1944-45	..	..	..	42	1,744	409	13	8
1945-46	..	..	..	42	1,669	204	8	9
						1,602	10	8
Malabar—								
1941-42	..	..	..	41	3,727	1,120	0	0
1942-43	..	..	..	41	3,436	1,150	0	0
1943-44	..	..	..	38	3,286	1,074	0	0
1944-45	..	..	..	42	3,595	1,328	0	0
1945-46	..	..	..	42	3,635	3,384	0	0
						80,56	0	0
Madras—								
1941-42	..	..	..	6	494	461	0	0
1942-43	..	..	..	5	487	502	0	0
1943-44	..	..	..	5	476	445	0	0
1944-45	..	..	..	5	492	504	0	0
1945-46	..	..	..	5	535	728	0	0
						2,650	0	0

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(b) Statement showing the total number of non-residential scholarships for ordinary education granted to pupils reading in schools for the last five years (1941-42 to 1945-46) and the total value of these scholarships districtwise.

Serial number and district. (1)	Year. (2)	Number of scholar- ships. (3)	Amount. (4)	
			Rs.	A. P.
1 Anantapur	1941-42	109	1,396	0 0
	1942-43	94	1,709	0 0
	1943-44	116	1,924	0 0
	1944-45	119	2,003	8 0
	1945-46	91	1,609	0 0
		529	8,641	8 0
2 North Arcot	1941-42	343	4,024	0 0
	1942-43	475	5,484	0 0
	1943-44	391	5,009	0 0
	1944-45	300	3,735	0 0
	1945-46	297	3,787	6 0
		1,806	22,039	6 0
3 South Arcot	1941-42	304	2,823	0 0
	1942-43	346	3,508	0 0
	1943-44	366	3,477	0 0
	1944-45	268	2,961	12 0
	1945-46	360	3,551	0 0
		1,644	16,320	12 0
4 Bellary	1941-42	67	1,118	0 0
	1942-43	104	1,392	0 0
	1943-44	106	1,508	0 0
	1944-45	68	1,077	0 0
	1945-46	56	897	0 0
		401	5,992	0 0
5 Chingleput	1941-42	443	5,942	0 0
	1942-43	420	6,335	0 0
	1943-44	392	5,660	0 0
	1944-45	358	5,187	12 0
	1945-46	366	5,223	2 0
		1,979	28,347	14 0
6 Chittoor	1941-42	251	1,955	0 0
	1942-43	227	2,170	0 0
	1943-44	210	2,029	0 0
	1944-45	159	1,478	2 0
	1945-46	156	1,446	0 0
		1,003	9,078	2 0
7 Coimbatore	1941-42	208	2,148	0 0
	1942-43	247	2,826	0 0
	1943-44	204	2,555	0 0
	1944-45	208	2,398	0 0
	1945-46	165	2,129	12 0
		1,132	12,051	12 0
8 Cuddalore	1941-42	104	859	0 0
	1942-43	143	1,230	0 0
	1943-44	140	1,170	0 0
	1944-45	129	1,162	0 0
	1945-46	142	1,455	2 0
		658	5,866	2 0

14th February 1947]

Serial number and district. (1)	Year. (2)	Number of scholar- ships. (3)	Amount. (4)	
			Rs.	A. P.
9 East Godavari	1941-42	344	4,427	0 0
	1942-43	348	4,769	0 0
	1943-44	302	4,303	0 0
	1944-45	296	4,451	10 0
	1945-46	328	4,888	14 0
		1,618	22,839	9 0
10 West Godavari	1941-42	212	3,747	0 0
	1942-43	193	3,502	0 0
	1943-44	157	2,906	0 0
	1944-45	145	3,014	12 0
	1945-46	129	2,535	12 0
		836	15,205	8 0
11 Guntur	1941-42	165	2,814	0 0
	1942-43	199	3,714	0 0
	1943-44	188	3,336	0 0
	1944-45	179	3,074	15 0
	1945-46	143	3,779	0 0
		874	16,717	15 0
12 South Kanara	1941-42	77	1,285	0 0
	1942-43	162	1,023	0 0
	1943-44	64	1,032	0 0
	1944-45	55	852	4 0
	1945-46	71	1,335	3 0
		429	5,527	7 0
13 Kistna	1941-42	213	3,778	0 0
	1942-43	173	3,523	0 0
	1943-44	178	3,678	0 0
	1944-45	141	3,152	0 0
	1945-46	104	2,536	12 0
		809	16,667	12 0
14 Kurnool	1941-42	185	2,765	0 0
	1942-43	114	2,634	0 0
	1943-44	113	2,857	0 0
	1944-45	121	3,177	4 0
	1945-46	101	2,713	8 0
		634	14,146	12 0
15 Madras	1941-42	407	10,966	0 0
	1942-43	425	11,478	0 0
	1943-44	453	11,809	0 0
	1944-45	560	14,030	14 0
	1945-46	532	13,452	0 0
		2,877	61,735	14 0
16 Madras	1941-42	409	5,080	0 0
	1942-43	628	8,344	0 0
	1943-44	675	9,762	0 0
	1944-45	595	8,268	12 0
	1945-46	600	9,215	0 0
		2,907	40,669	12 0
17 Madras	1941-42	414	4,110	0 0
	1942-43	424	4,384	0 0
	1943-44	348	3,680	0 0
	1944-45	253	2,910	4 0
	1945-46	207	2,251	4 0
		1,646	17,335	8 0

14th February 1947]

(b) Statement showing the total number of non-residential scholarships for ordinary education granted to pupils reading in schools for the last five years (1941-42 to 1945-46) and the total value of these scholarships districtwise.

Serial number and district. (1)	Year. (2)	Number of scholar- ships. (3)	Amount. (4)	
			RS.	A. P.
1 Anantapur	1941-42	109	1,396	0 0
	1942-43	94	1,709	0 0
	1943-44	116	1,924	0 0
	1944-45	119	2,003	8 0
	1945-46	91	1,609	0 0
		529	8,641	8 0
2 North Arcot	1941-42	343	4,024	0 0
	1942-43	475	5,484	0 0
	1943-44	391	5,009	0 0
	1944-45	300	3,735	0 0
	1945-46	297	3,787	6 0
		1,806	22,039	6 0
3 South Arcot	1941-42	304	2,828	0 0
	1942-43	346	3,508	0 0
	1943-44	366	3,477	0 0
	1944-45	268	2,961	12 0
	1945-46	360	3,551	0 0
		1,644	16,320	12 0
4 Bellary	1941-42	67	1,118	0 0
	1942-43	104	1,392	0 0
	1943-44	106	1,508	0 0
	1944-45	68	1,077	0 0
	1945-46	56	897	0 0
		401	5,992	0 0
5 Chingleput	1941-42	443	5,942	0 0
	1942-43	420	6,335	0 0
	1943-44	392	5,660	0 0
	1944-45	358	5,187	12 0
	1945-46	366	5,223	2 0
		1,979	28,347	14 0
6 Chittoor	1941-42	251	1,955	0 0
	1942-43	227	2,170	0 0
	1943-44	210	2,029	0 0
	1944-45	159	1,478	2 0
	1945-46	156	1,446	0 0
		1,003	9,078	2 0
7 Coimbatore	1941-42	208	2,148	0 0
	1942-43	247	2,826	0 0
	1943-44	204	2,555	0 0
	1944-45	208	2,393	0 0
	1945-46	165	2,129	12 0
		1,132	12,051	12 0
8 Cuddalore	1941-42	104	859	0 0
	1942-43	143	1,220	0 0
	1943-44	140	1,170	0 0
	1944-45	129	1,162	0 0
	1945-46	142	1,455	2 0
		658	5,866	2 0

14th February 1947]

Serial number and district. (1)	Year. (2)	Number of scholar- ships. (3)	Amount. (4)	
			RS.	A. P.
9 East Godavari	1941-42	344	4,427	0 0
	1942-43	348	4,769	0 0
	1943-44	302	4,303	0 0
	1944-45	296	4,451	10 0
	1945-46	328	4,888	14 0
		1,618	22,839	9 0
10 West Godavari	1941-42	212	3,747	0 0
	1942-43	193	3,502	0 0
	1943-44	157	2,906	0 0
	1944-45	145	3,014	12 0
	1945-46	129	2,535	12 0
		836	15,205	8 0
11 Guntur	1941-42	165	2,814	0 0
	1942-43	199	3,714	0 0
	1943-44	188	3,336	0 0
	1944-45	179	3,074	15 0
	1945-46	143	3,779	0 0
		874	16,717	15 0
12 South Kanara	1941-42	77	1,285	0 0
	1942-43	162	1,023	0 0
	1943-44	64	1,032	0 0
	1944-45	55	852	4 0
	1945-46	71	1,335	3 0
		429	5,527	7 0
13 Kistna	1941-42	213	3,778	0 0
	1942-43	173	3,523	0 0
	1943-44	178	3,678	0 0
	1944-45	141	3,152	0 0
	1945-46	104	2,536	12 0
		809	16,667	12 0
14 Kurnool	1941-42	185	2,765	0 0
	1942-43	114	2,634	0 0
	1943-44	113	2,857	0 0
	1944-45	121	3,177	4 0
	1945-46	101	2,713	8 0
		634	14,146	12 0
15 Madras	1941-42	407	10,966	0 0
	1942-43	425	11,478	0 0
	1943-44	453	11,809	0 0
	1944-45	560	14,030	14 0
	1945-46	532	13,452	0 0
		2,877	61,735	14 0
16 Madras	1941-42	409	5,080	0 0
	1942-43	628	8,344	0 0
	1943-44	675	9,762	0 0
	1944-45	595	8,268	12 0
	1945-46	600	9,215	0 0
		2,907	40,669	12 0
17 Malabar	1941-42	414	4,110	0 0
	1942-43	424	4,284	0 0
	1943-44	348	3,690	0 0
	1944-45	253	2,910	4 0
	1945-46	207	2,251	4 0
		1,646	17,335	8 0

[14th February 1947]

Serial number and district. (1)	Year. (2)	Number of scholar- ships. (3)	Amount. (4)		
			Rs.	A.	P.
18 Nellore	1941-42	104	1,860	0	0
	1942-43	109	1,984	0	0
	1943-44	111	1,966	0	0
	1944-45	115	2,336	0	0
	1945-46	94	2,087	12	0
		533	10,233	12	0
19 The Nilgiris].. .. .	1941-42	249	4,468	0	0
	1942-43	271	5,447	0	0
	1943-44	306	5,917	0	0
	1944-45	308	6,876	7	0
	1945-46	237	6,074	12	0
		1,371	28,783	3	0
20 Ramnad	1941-42	211	2,810	0	0
	1942-43	302	3,075	0	0
	1943-44	206	2,937	0	0
	1944-45	231	3,324	0	0
	1945-46	209	3,012	6	0
		1,159	15,168	6	0
21 Salem	1941-42	475	4,174	0	0
	1942-43	610	5,169	0	0
	1943-44	666	5,425	0	0
	1944-45	625	5,216	14	0
	1945-46	480	4,248	12	0
		2,856	24,233	10	0
22 Tanjore	1941-42	237	3,180	0	0
	1942-43	245	4,854	0	0
	1943-44	366	5,068	0	0
	1944-45	356	5,215	4	0
	1945-46	353	5,385	13	0
		1,557	23,703	1	0
23 Tinnevely	1941-42	364	5,655	0	0
	1942-43	531	8,732	0	0
	1943-44	598	9,112	0	0
	1944-45	646	9,264	4	0
	1945-46	566	8,035	6	0
		2,705	40,798	10	0
24 Trichinopoly	1941-42	184	2,791	0	0
	1942-43	244	3,819	0	0
	1943-44	234	3,818	0	0
	1944-45	220	4,408	8	0
	1945-46	222	4,506	4	0
		1,104	19,342	12	0
25 Vizagapatam	1941-42	245	2,550	0	0
	1942-43	219	3,341	0	0
	1943-44	143	1,799	0	0
	1944-45	125	1,493	12	0
	1945-46	83	1,078	12	0

14th February 1947]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 157-A asked by Sri T. S. Pattabhiraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th February 1947, page 680 in supra.]

PRESS NOTE.

The mill-owners at Coimbatore announced the grant of a three months bonus to the workers in the Textile Mills in September last year. Representations were made to the Minister for Industries and Labour by the Coimbatore Textile Mill Workers urging the raising of their basic wages and for an increase in the quantum of bonus. The Minister for Labour met the representatives of the mill-owners and the Coimbatore District Textile Workers' Union in the last week of October 1946 and discussed the issues raised, but no settlement could be effected, as neither of the parties were willing to come to an agreement.

As the public are aware, the Government of Madras appointed a Court of Enquiry in July 1946, to examine the conditions of service of labour in the textile industry of this Province with a view to better the lot of the workers and its work is now nearing completion. However, in view of the fact, that the workers demanded an interim award with respect to wages, and an immediate decision on the question of bonus, the Court of Enquiry has appointed an adjudicator and asked to adjudicate on the questions.

The Adjudicator's award gave the workers at Coimbatore, substantial increases in the basic wages, which in 75 per cent of the cases were over 80 per cent of the existing wage, some getting 100 per cent or more. The Adjudicator also considered that the bonus already declared, viz., three months basic wages was adequate. At the same time he announced that the substantial increase in the basic wages would take effect from 1st October 1946 and that the retrospective effect thus given to the enhanced rates of wages would result in the workers getting another three months wages. These findings were accepted by the Government and the mill-owners have also agreed to give effect to the decisions of the Adjudicator.

The District Textile Workers' Union, however, persisted in their original demand for payment of six months wages as bonus instead of three months agreed to by the mill-owners, and issued a notice of strike from 13th January 1947.

It must be remembered that once the award is given by the Adjudicator and approved by Government it is final and binding on parties. After the present Government took charge, awards of Adjudicators have been respected in all cases. The Hon. the Prime Minister who was in Delhi about the time this dispute arose flew to Madras and then proceeded to Coimbatore. He met the representatives of both the parties on 12th January 1947 and tried his best to intervene and effect a settlement of the dispute, apart from the award of the Adjudicator which cannot be questioned by any one under the law. At the Prime Minister's request action

[14th February 1947]

Serial number and district.	Year.	Number of scholar- ships.	Amount.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS. A. P.
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	1943-44	111	1,968 0 0
	1944-45	115	2,336 0 0
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		1,557	23,703 1 0
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	1943-44	234	3,818 0 0
	1944-45	220	4,408 8 0
	1945-46	222	4,508 4 0
		1,104	19,342 12 0
25 Vizagapatam	1941-42	245	2,550 0 0
	1942-43	219	2,341 0 0
	1943-44	143	1,799 0 0
	1944-45	125	1,492 12 0
	1945-46	83	1,078 12 0
		815	9,261 3 0

14th February 1947]

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[14th February 1947]

was postponed pending further discussions at Madras. The parties met the Prime Minister in Madras on 17th January 1947, 18th January 1947, 1st February 1947 and 7th February 1947 and voluntarily agreed to discuss the matter further amongst themselves, the discussion covering not only the question of bonus but other matters affecting 'future peace in the industry'. The Prime Minister was glad of this decision and he desired the parties to come to a voluntary agreement. It was understood after the discussion on 7th February 1947 that the strike would be postponed to a date after the 12th February (to 13th or 14th) but the strike has however been declared on the 12th February. This statement is issued in order that the public may be aware of the circumstances that have led to the strike.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 159 asked by Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th February 1947, page 681 supra.]

Duties performed by the High Commissioner for India in England for this Government.

1. Payment in England of leave allowances, deputation pay and pensions of officers of the Indian Civil Service and of other civil services.
2. Payment of other civil pensions such as pensions of Judges under Article 543 of the Civil Service Regulations, India.
3. The conduct of all business arising in the United Kingdom out of the administration, in accordance with the rules from time to time prescribed by the Secretary of State in Council, of the General or any other existing Civil Provident Fund.
4. Payment in England of leave allowances and deputation pay of Military officers in civil employ.
5. Grant of extension of leave to officers on leave in England.
6. Issue of last pay certificates to officers on leave in England.
7. Disbursement of sterling overseas pay in England.
8. Provision of steamship passages for civilian personnel.
9. Payment of advances sanctioned for purchase of motor cars, etc., to be purchased in England.
10. Detailed arrangements in connexion with training in the United Kingdom or abroad under Standing Regulations of recruits or probationers selected under proper authority, e.g., Indian Civil Service, officers of the Education Department and students who are awarded scholarships by the Industries Department for study in foreign countries.
11. Arrangements in connexion with Civil officers (including Indian Medical Service officers in civil employ) on deputation or study leave from India or facilities therefor.

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12. Duties connected with Indian Students' Departments, now styled the Education Department of the High Commissioner's office.
13. Assistance to the Court of Wards in connexion with the transaction of its business in the United Kingdom. Such assistance will be required very rarely.
14. Arranging visits to engineering works in the United Kingdom or elsewhere in regard to all officers of the Engineering departments (viz., Public Works Department including Sanitary Engineering and Electricity departments) while on leave out of India.
15. Provision of facilities for officers to study Parliamentary practice and procedure in England or America.
16. Conduct of all business connected with the selection and recruitment in England of persons possessing special qualifications to fill appointments under the Government of Madras.
17. Recruitment in England of European subordinates, e.g., for the post of Garden Superintendent in the Government house and payment of advances, arrangement of passages, etc. This is only occasional.
18. Securing and arranging terms of service, pay, allowances, etc., for technical experts (Master Fisherman, etc.).
19. Purchase and supply of stores and inspection of stores purchased before shipment in cases where orders are placed directly by the Heads of Departments on the manufacturers or suppliers.
20. Advice as to the availability of apparatus required for the Medical department.
21. Payments for purchases made in England for His Excellency the Governor's band, Government House gardens, Government House cars, furniture, etc. Those are made by the High Commissioner under instructions from the Accountant-General.
22. Imports to India of cocaine, morphia, etc.
23. Conducting enquiries regarding fisheries and allied industries and securing samples of fishery products from abroad for initiating improved methods.
24. Securing suitable markets for fishery products.
25. Arrangements for the sale of Government Publications.
26. Supply to this Government of Parliamentary papers and stationary office publications.
27. Distribution of Government publications to departments, institutions and individuals in the United Kingdom to whom a regular supply is made.
28. Arrangements in connexion with exhibitions, industrial fairs, etc.
29. Transacting business relating to Royal Humane Society medals.

[14th February 1947]

30. Requests from Madras for and transmission to Madras of information or advice from public departments or public institutions in the United Kingdom.

31. Transacting business relating to letters of request.

32. All duties which fall within the province of the Official Agent to the Administrator-General.

33. Relief or repatriation of destitute persons (in and from the United Kingdom).

34. Preparing and forwarding the budget estimates of receipts and of expenditure in England and of the appropriation accounts for the Province as a whole and acting as disbursing officer.

35. Payments in England for such of the stores as are ordered by Government departments direct from the manufacturing firms in England.

36. Arrangements for the purchase and supply of cinchona bark.

37. Arrangements to hire or charter fishing boats or vessels.

38. Arrangements in connexion with payment of contributions under the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions Act during service in India of voluntary contributors recruited in United Kingdom.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 162 asked by Sri S. Nagappa at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 14th February 1947, page 682 supra.]

Statement.				
Name of municipality.	Whether mosquito control campaign has been conducted.	Since how long.	Expenditure per year.	Result of the campaign.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 Vellore ..	Yes	1943	Rs. 1,619	Mosquito nuisance has been decreased to a great extent.
2 Karaikudi ..	Do.	1939	3,500	Decrease in the mosquito population.
3 Srirangam ..	Do.	1935	2,780	Mosquito nuisance is minimised.
4 Mannargudi ..	Do.	1942	1,658	Satisfactory.
5 Chidambaram ..	Do.	1935	3,340	Fairly satisfactory.
6 Tanjore ..	Do.	1937	8,000	Effective.
7 Cuddalore ..	Do.	1937	7,500	Satisfactory.
8 Hospet ..	Do.	1937	5,000	
9 Mayavaram ..	Do.	1937	3,200	Mosquito nuisance abated.
10 Tiruvavur ..	Do.	1937	7,600	Reduction in mosquito nuisance.
11 Conjeevaram ..	Do.	1941	1,800	Minimised the mosquito nuisance.
12 Villupuram ..	Do.	1946	945	Mosquito nuisance abated.
13 Srivilliputtur ..	Do.	1945	3,000	Do.
14 Cuddapah ..	Do.	1939	625	Do.
15 Hindupur ..	Do.	1935	3,700	Do.
16 Tuticorin ..	Do.	1945	6,000	Satisfactory.
17 Kurnool ..	Do.	1938	450	Mosquito nuisance kept down.
18 Cannanore ..	Do.	1943	5,600	Some improvement.
19 Ellore ..	Do.	1941	4,000	Reduction in mosquito population.
20 Masulipatam ..	Do.	1935	2,000	Fairly satisfactory.
21 Negapatam ..	Do.	1937	2,500	Do.
22 Tenali ..	Do.	1942	1,500	Nuisance reduced.
23 Karur ..	Do.	1941	5,384	Relief from mosquito nuisance.
24 Berwada ..	Do.	1941	5,300	Mosquito nuisance under control.
25 Nellore ..	Do.	1941	5,300	

* On a small scale.

[14th February 1947]

Name of municipality.	Whether mosquito control campaign has been conducted.	Since how long.	Expenditure per year.	Result of the campaign.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
26 Trichinopoly ..	Yes	1938	Rs. 12,500	Mitigation of nuisance.
27 Calicut ..	Do.	1936	10,400	Mosquito breeding under control.
28 Tellicherry ..	Do.	1936	2,000	Considerable relief.
29 Cochin ..	Do.	1939	4,000	Do.
30 Tinnevely ..	Do.	1946*	..	
31 Erode ..	Do.	1936	3,800	Satisfactory.
32 Viridianagram ..	Do.	1946	20,000	Too early to say.
33 Devakottai ..	Do.	1943†	200	Decrease in mosquito nuisance.
34 Cocanada ..	Do.	1936	3,665	Marked reduction in mosquito breeding.
35 Chitacole ..	Do.	1944	6,900	Encouraging.
36 Gudiyattam ..	Do.	1946	400	Mosquito nuisance considerably minimised.
37 Anakapalle ..	Do.	1946	6,710	Perceptible relief from mosquito nuisance.
38 Bimlipatam ..	Do.	1945	1,500	Mosquito nuisance reduced to a great extent.
39 Ootacamund ..	Do.	1940 only	280	There was no need subsequently.
40 Guntur ..	Do.	1937	17,000	Incidence of malaria coming down.
41 Kumbakonam ..	Do.	1935	13,588	Incidence of filariasis has considerably gone down.
42 Salem ..	Do.	1937	9,650	Malaria incidence steadily declined and mosquito nuisance has been mitigated.
43 Vizagapatam ..	Do.	1925	11,100	Yielded good results.
44 Palacole ..	Do.	1946	2,800	Mosquito nuisance lessened.
45 Bellary ..	Do.	1944	1,300	Decrease in the incidence of malaria and breeding of mosquitoes.
46 Madura ..	Do.	1945	2,858	Outbreak of malaria controlled.
47 Nandyal ..	Do.	1946	400	Too early to say.
48 Ongole ..	Do.	1945	1,000	Decrease in mosquito nuisance.
49 Rajahmundry ..	Do.	1938	6,900	Mosquito nuisance reduced considerably.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 165 asked by Sri G. Venkata Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 14th February 1947, page 687 supra.]

Statement.				
District.	Hand-boring sets.	Power drill.		
Bezawada Division.				
Vizagapatam ..	11	2		
East Godavari ..	11	..		
West Godavari ..	8	..		
Kistna ..	6	1		
Guntur ..	4	..		
Nellore ..	3	1		
Bellary ..	4	..		
Kurnool ..	5	1		
Total ..	52	5		
Coimbatore Division.				
Malabar ..	5	..		
Coimbatore ..	8	2		
Salem ..	2	..		
North Arcot ..	10	..		
Chittoor ..	5	..		
Anantapur ..	6	..		
Cuddapah ..	1	..		
Total ..	37	2		

* Started only last month.

† On a small scale but stopped this year.

[14th February 1947]

District.	Hand-boring sets.	Power drill.
Tanjore Division.		
South Arcot	5	..
Tanjore	5	..
Trichinopoly	6	1
Ramnad	3	..
Tinnevely	4	..
Madura	6	..
Total	29	1
Madura Division.		
Chingleput	6	2
Under repairs at the workshop	..	5
Total	6	7
Grand total	124	15

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 174 asked by Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on the 14th February 1947, page 696 supra.]

Number of Muslim High Schools for boys in the Presidency.

(1) Name of the school.	(2) Place where located.	(3) Management.
1 Government Maslina High School ..	Guntur	Government.
2 Do.	Kurnool	Do.
3 Do.	Madras	Do.
4 Government Madrasa-I-Azam	Do.	Do.
5 Government Muslim High School ..	Vellore	Do.
6 Government Moplah High School ..	Malappuram (Malabar) ..	Do.
7 Do.	Kasargod (South Kanara) ..	Do.
8 Government Muslim High School ..	Trichinopoly	Do.
9 Municipal Muslim High School ..	Nandyal (Kurnool)	Municipal.
10 Do.	Cuddapah	Do.
11 Do.	Bellary	Do.
12 The Muslim High School	Triplicane, Madras	Aided.
13 Mashurul Uloom Muslim High School.	Ambur (North Arcot)	Do.
14 Islamiah High School	Melvisharam (North Arcot).	Do.
15 Do.	Vaniyambadi (North Arcot).	Do.
16 Do.	Pernambut (North Arcot).	Do.
17 The Muslim High School	Abiramam (Ramnad)	Do.
18 Hameediya High School	Kilakarai (Ramnad)	Do.
19 The Muslim High School	Melapalayam (Tinnevely).	Do.
20 Mayyalavia Madrasathur Muslim High School.	Mahe (Malabar)	Do.
21 Kasim's High School	Rajagiri (Tanjore)	Do.

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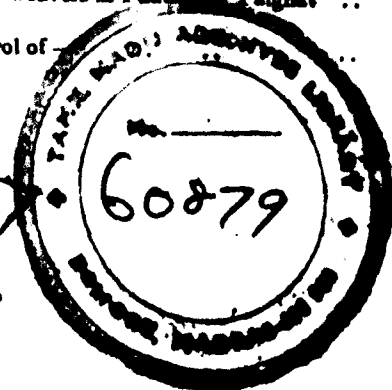
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தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பக துறைமுகம்,
எழும்பூர், சென்னை-600 008.

தவணைத்தாள்.

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